

Overview of the Year 8 Curriculum

Head, Heart & Hand

The knowledge and skills we want our students to learn and develop at Malbank School is our core purpose. We continuously review our curriculum provision in Key Stage 3 to ensure that our students have the very best opportunity to make progress and be the best that they can be. Identifying what they need to learn and the order in which they learn knowledge and develop skills is key to this.

At Malbank, we believe that there should be clarity and consistency so that staff and students are clear on what knowledge and skills should be taught and learned in each curriculum area, academic year, topic and in each lesson.

To support with this, we have adopted a Head, Heart & Hand curriculum model which takes into account all aspects of the National Curriculum.

Head represents the key knowledge to be learned.

Heart represents the key personal skills that will be developed and also help students to understand the world around them.

Hand represents the key skills that will be developed as a result of the knowledge learned.

I am keen that you as parents and carers have the opportunity to share in the Head, Heart & Hand curriculum so that you have an awareness of what your children are learning about, what new knowledge they are covering and what new skills they are developing. Full details for each curriculum area can be found on our website www.malbank.com

I have included a topic overview at the end of this letter so that you can see what topics your child will be covering this term in each curriculum area, so when if like my children they tell you that they did nothing in school that day you will be able to ask about specific topics.

Please remember, that these are overviews and sometimes topics may take a little longer or not as long to get to grips with, to secure the knowledge and skills needed to move on.

I hope that this information is useful. If you have any concerns over how your child is progressing please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's Progress Manager or the Key Stage 3 team.

Yours Sincerely,

Janine Edwards – Deputy Headteacher

Year 8

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
Art	Introduction to landscape art	Plastic pollution in the ocean and the work of contemporary British artist Kurt Jackson
Dance	Development of the concepts which are important to Dance	Development of the concepts which are important to Dance
Drama	Theatre in Education	Urban legends
English	How do people use the power of the written word to try and change the world?	How do people use the power of the written word to try and change the world?
Geography	Population – using China and Mexico as case studies	Ecosystems
History	Religious change in the 16 th Century	Gloriana – Was Elizabethan England a golden age?
ICT	Organising for the web – Planning for the World Tour	Organising for the web – Planning for the World Tour
Maths	Area and volume Number	Statistics, graphs and charts Decimals and ratio
French	Holidays	Celebrations and festivals
German	Holidays	Media
Music	How to be a Great Composer: 1. The Black Note March 2. Melody	How to be a Great Composer: 1. The Black Note March 2. Melody
PDL	Health and Wellbeing: Drugs and alcohol	Health and Wellbeing: Emotional wellbeing
PE	Indoor: Badminton Trampolining Outdoor: Handball Football Netball	Indoor: Badminton Trampolining Outdoor: Handball Football Netball
Reading to Learn	Using a range of texts to gain a wider knowledge of the world and how literature plays its part. Students will also gain an appreciation for reading and practice a range of comprehension skills	Using a range of texts to gain a wider knowledge of the world and how literature plays its part. Students will also gain an appreciation for reading and practice a range of comprehension skills
RS	Judaism	Buddhism
Science	Energy transfer Contact forces Work	Light Magnets Electromagnets Wave effects
Spanish	Holidays	Free time
Technology	DT - Product analysis using ACCESSFM Materials Graphics Practical - making a finger joint.	DT Programming and electronics Ergonomics/Flight Project

	<p>Food - Product analysis using ACCESSFM Textiles - Product analysis using ACCESSFM Fabric construction</p>	<p>Food Cooking various recipes including pasta sauce, carrot cake and chicken nuggets Textiles Design and make activity</p>
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