

CLAIRES COURT SCHOOL



CURRICULUM STATEMENTS 2009 – 2010

YEAR 8

RESPONSIBILITY | RESPECT | LOYALTY | INTEGRITY



INTRODUCTION

YEAR 8



This booklet consists of a collection of curriculum statements, one for each of the subjects your son will be studying this coming academic year. Each curriculum statement outlines what will be taught in each term, lesson allocation and number of homeworks per week for that particular subject. It also indicates how your son's progress will be assessed.

In September all boys are given their homework timetable for the coming academic year. Each day your son should record any homework which has been set in his homework diary. Your son's form tutor will check his homework diary on a weekly basis and use it to communicate any concerns regarding homework. We ask that parents also check their son's homework diary on a weekly basis and use it as a means of communication with the form tutor regarding homework problems.

For most subjects, at least three times during the year we will be assessing Common Tasks (CT) – these are identical pieces of work for all students in a Year (Boys and Girls). The last Common Task is the summer examinations for most Year groups, but the other two are shorter units of work. Some consist of the end of unit tests within a subject text book, others require greater in-depth study and personal research. Once a specific CT is completed, then the department concerned will moderate the work produced to ensure consistency of marking and teacher response. The raw mark for a CT will be converted into a percentage, and this will be used to rank order all pupils in the year. In addition to identifying how well the whole year group is working, we will be able to identify those boys who are showing genuine scholarship potential, as well as those who may be finding the work too challenging. Finally, the CTs provide an obvious mechanism for quality control within teaching sets, whilst one would expect to see streamed groups vary in performance, those setted as mixed ability or by interest should show a similar range of responses.

If your son experiences any problems accessing the curriculum, please do not hesitate to contact his form tutor who will then pass on your concerns to the necessary member of staff.

John Rayer
Headmaster



ENGLISH



All pupils study English leading to Key Stage 3 of The National Curriculum. Pupils cover all the key skills each half term which include writing for a variety of purposes and in a variety of registers (creative writing, letters, poems, leaflets, adverts, reports etc.); reading and comprehension of prose, poetry and drama; speaking and listening; language skills (grammar, vocabulary, punctuation and spelling.)

Pupils in Year 8 are semi-streamed; 8A and 8B will be split into 8AB/1 and 8AB/2. The same will be done in 8C and 8D.

Pupils have 5 lessons per week taught by the same teacher and homework will be set twice per week. Each year group has at least one double period each week.

Progress is monitored by the use of homework assignments and the end of year examinations. In addition all pupils will do a common piece of writing in class each term. These will be assessed at national curriculum levels. Spelling will be tested on a weekly basis.

Main course book:

LONGMAN LITERACY OBJECTIVES 2 by Brown, Derry and Webb

Teachers will ensure that all aspects of The National Curriculum are followed each term, using units of work from the textbook and supplementing these with other units of work as appropriate.

Pupils will also read a wide variety of novels, short stories and plays suitable to their age group. Pupils are encouraged to use the school library and to write reviews of books they have read.

Autumn Term

- Unit 1 : Where it's at : Plan,draft and present
- Unit 2 : Childhood : Imagine : The Chimney-Sweeper / NSPCC 'Cartoon' storyboard
- Unit 3 : Childhood : Explore : Children seen and clearly heard
- Unit 4 : Childhood : Entertain : Angela's Ashes
- Unit 5 : Environment : Inform : Try to buy nothing
- Unit 5 : Environment : Explain : How to make a worm composter
- Unit 7 : Environment : Describe : The Iron Woman

Lent Term

- Unit 8 : Life choices : Persuade : Army recruitment
- Unit 9 : Life choices : Argue : Television
- Unit 10 : Life choices : Advise : All over the shop
- Unit 11 : Media : Analyse : Teenage kicks
- Unit 12 : Media : Review : Buffy the vampire slayer
- Unit 13 : Media : Comment : Sounding off

Summer Term

- Unit 14 : Relationships : Prose : You Don't Know Me
- Unit 15 : Relationships : Drama : Romeo and Juliet
- Examination revision and preparation
- EXAMINATION
- Examination review
- Unit 16 : Relationships : Poetry : She's Leaving Home

Contact: Mr OBJ Olivier - obo@clairescourt.com



MATHEMATICS



The pupils will follow the National Curriculum Syllabus supplemented by our own worksheets and investigations.

Year 8 pupils are banded into top sets AB1 and CD1, and lower sets AB2 and CD2.

The syllabus for Year 8 has been divided into eight topic areas. Each topic will be studied using the Key stage 3 Mathematics Enhancement Project textbooks 8A and 8B and Mymaths website. Each topic will be studied for a time not exceeding three weeks. Each class has 5 x 35 minute periods each week and 2 x 20 pieces of homework which can be in written form or online.

On completion each topic will be assessed by the pupils sitting a Topic Test for that area of work. These test sheets will be marked and graded by the class teacher who will then discuss any problem areas with the pupils concerned. Pupils will sit a common task test each term.

In the event of emergency school closure, work will be set by the class teacher via the MyMaths website which can be found at www.mymaths.co.uk. Each pupil will be given log details for this site.

Note: The lower ability pupils might not necessarily cover the entire chapter in each unit of work as we will be working with them at their individual levels.

Autumn Term

Number (1)	Factors pages 27-44 (8A) Unit 2 Rounding and Estimating pages 63-80 (8A) Unit 4 Ratio and Proportion pages 114-126 (8A) Unit 7 Working with Fractions and Percentages pages 142-165 (8A) Unit 9
Handling Data (1)	Data analysis including finding the mean from frequency tables pages 81-93 (8A) Unit 5
Shape and Space (1)	Pythagoras Theorem pages 45-62 (8A) Unit 3 Nets and Surface Areas pages 94-113 (8A) Unit 6 Area and Circumference of Circles, Volumes of Cylinders pages 69-90 (8B) Unit 16

Lent Term

Algebra (1)	Brackets and Solving Equations pages 127-141 (8A) Unit 8 Formulae pages 1-24 (8B) Unit 12
Handling Data (2)	Probability of 2 events including Sample Space Diagrams and Tree Diagrams pages 166-188 (8A) Unit 10
Algebra (2)	Equations and Graphs of Straight Lines pages 34-51 (8B) Unit 14

Summer Term

Shape and Space 2	Bearings and Angles pages 189-204 (8A) Unit 11 Interior and Exterior angles of polygons pages 52-68 (8B) Unit 15 Similarity pages 130-151 (8B) Unit 19
Number (2)	Speed, Distance and Time pages 109-129 (8B) Unit 18

In the Summer term, two examinations will be set, one in which the use of a calculator will not be permitted and the other, the NFER assessment test. The end of year assessment grades will be based on the results of these examinations as well as the common task tests that the pupils have written throughout the year.

Contact Mrs J Myers - jum@clairescourt.com



SCIENCE 'Accelerated'



In Year 8 all pupils study Science in line with Key Stage 3 of the National Curriculum. The course is divided into units, each of which lasts approximately 3 to 4 weeks. Wherever possible, pupils learn by a “hands on” practical approach followed up by discussion and written work. Pupils use ICT in some lessons and are encouraged to use the internet for research and to present project work. The textbook used is Scientifica 8 for the Autumn term and Scientifica 9 for the Lent and Summer terms. During the year the pupils will have a science outing.

Pupils have 4 lessons per week taught by the same teacher and one homework. The units covered each term are listed below but not necessarily in the order shown. Laboratory safety rules are also considered.

Exercise books are marked every week. Progress is monitored by use of homework assignments and the end of unit test. During the summer term, the pupils will sit an end of year examination. Our learning platform can be found on www.taecanet.com

Autumn Term

9C Plants & Photosynthesis/ 8A Food and Digestion	Photosynthesis, Biomass, Roots, Why are plants important?/Balanced diet, nutrients, energy, digestion & absorption
8E/8F Atoms and elements, Compounds and mixtures	Atomic model, elements & equations. Mixtures, compounds, melting point, boiling point
8C Microbes & Disease	Bacteria, Viruses, defence systems & immunisation

Lent Term

9A Inheritance & Selection	Variation, genes, Breeding animals & plants, Inherited conditions
9E Reactions of Metals & their Compounds	Why are metals useful? Metals plus acids, Fizzing carbonates, Neutralisation, Preparing salts Why do metals tarnish? Comparing reactivity, The Reactivity Series, Metals in competition, Uses & sources of metals.
9I Energy & Electricity	Storing & using energy, Battery power, Generating electricity, Measuring voltages, Voltage & energy

Summer Term

9J Gravity & Space/9K Speeding up	Exploring the moon, A trip into space, Exploring the Solar System, Staying in orbit, Satellites at work/ Measuring speed, Speeding up, Changing speed, changing direction, It's a drag, Going up, coming down
9F Patterns of Reactivity	Why do metals tarnish? Comparing reactivity, The Reactivity Series, Metals in competition, Uses & sources of metals.
8B Respiration 9B Fit & Healthy/	Blood, respiration, breathing/ Skeleton, Muscles, Eating well, Unhealthy hearts, Smoking, Alcohol & Drugs/ Leaves

Parents can support their child's learning by testing them prior to class tests, encouraging them to watch scientific documentary programmes and discussing the content.

Contact: Mrs R. Selzer –rls@clairescourt.com



FRENCH



All pupils study French in line with Key Stage 3 of the National Curriculum. The course is divided into modules, each of which lasts approximately half a term. The course offers a lively, communicative approach, underpinned by clear grammatical progression.

Course book: Expo Rouge 2 and workbooks Pupils have 4 lessons per week and 2 pieces of homework lasting approximately 20 minutes.

Progress is monitored by use of homework assignments, mini tests which are carried out on a one-to-one basis, and the end of module tests. During the summer term, the pupils will sit an end of year examination testing all four skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. Pupils are not setted.

Autumn Term

Module 1: Talking about families

Talking about jobs people do

Talking about where people live

Describing the weather

Describing a typical day

Module 2: Talking about last weekend

Talking about yesterday evening

Talking about TV programmes you have watched

Talking about where you went

Talking about events in the past

Lent Term

Module 3: Making and reacting to invitations

Making excuses

Talking about clothes

Shops and shopping

Understanding a longer text including mixed tenses

Module 4: Talking about food

Talking about French food

Preparing for a party

Shopping for food

Eating at a restaurant

Summer Term

Module 5: Talking about countries and languages

Talking about holidays

Describing a holiday centre

Talking about a past holiday

Finding information about a holiday destination

Module 6: Talking about your friends

Talking about pocket money

Talking about gadgets

Present, past and future

Hopes and wishes

Parental support: Parents can support their child's learning by ensuring that homework is completed and regularly testing them on vocabulary and grammar.

Contact: Mrs Marion McKechnie - mjm@clairescourt.com



GERMAN



In Year 8 pupils who have chosen German have 2 lessons per week and one homework of approximately 30 minutes.

The language is taught through the four key skill areas of speaking, listening, reading and writing, using a highly communicative approach and following the text book Echo Express 1.

Pupil progress is monitored regularly through vocabulary tests, topic tests and class work and homework exercises. At the end of the course there is an examination which tests each of the four key skills.

Course Content:

Autumn Term

Personal Information

Name, age, where you live, alphabet, things in the school bag, birthdays.

School

Subjects, timetable, break foods, uniform, German schools.

Lent Term

Family and Friends

Family members, appearance, characteristics, pets.

Free time

Sports, hobbies, time phrases, making arrangements.

Summer Term

Life at Home

Where you live, rooms in a house, describing your bedroom, expressing opinions.

Town and Country

Learning about German towns and cities, places in a town, directions, snack food and drink, Summer holiday plans.

Parental Support: Parents can support their child's learning by ensuring that homework is completed on time and regularly testing them on vocabulary and grammar.

Contact: Mrs Marion McKechnie – mjm@clairescourt.com



SPANISH



In Year 8, Students have decided to study Spanish and have 2 lessons a week throughout the 3 terms. They are taught through the four skill areas of Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking using a lively, communicative approach.

Regular use is made of DVD, videos, tape players and worksheets. Students also use the text book **Listos 1** to support their learning. They receive 1 homework a week of approximately 30 minutes, which is marked on a weekly basis and given a numerical or letter grade.

Student's progress is monitored regularly via vocabulary quizzes and end of topic tests, which are kept in each student's individual files. There is also an end of year summer examination to assess student's ability.

Autumn Term

Bienvenidos	Greetings, items in your ruck sack, personal information, days of the week, months, classroom objects, alphabet, classroom questions and instructions
--------------------	---

Lent term

Tu y Yo	Countries and nationalities, say where you live and where you are from, family, animals and personal descriptions
----------------	---

Summer Term

Vamos al Instituto	School subjects, likes and dislikes, opinions, time, mealtimes, food, describing your school and transport, regular present tense verbs
---------------------------	---

Parental Support: Parents can support their child's learning by ensuring that homework is completed on time, regularly testing them on vocabulary and grammar and by encouraging them to use the language whilst on holiday in Spain or South America.

Contact: Mrs Marion McKechnie – mjm@clairescourt.com



ART



RATIONALE

All pupils in Year 8 study Art in line with Key Stage 3 of the National Curriculum. Each individual programme of study is thematic and introduces the pupils to an assorted range of media and techniques with close reference to the work of artists, both past and present, in order to develop their own individual skills.

- Pupils have one double lesson per week plus one homework.
- **Homework** is set after each lesson and the pupils have a week in which to carry it out. Homework is intended to reinforce skills learnt in class and as a means of accessing visual information and research. Homework is checked and marked weekly.
- An effort grade and an attainment grade are given at the end of each half term and end of term period.
- Progress is constantly monitored and assessment is ongoing throughout the project. Work is marked in accordance with the Departmental Marking Scheme and a record of marks will be kept.
- ICT is used for coursework in school and at home where computers and appropriate software are available. Pupils are able to use their word processing skills to produce written work, and the Internet can be used as a research tool to develop the current topics, in order to widen the students' knowledge and understanding of the subject.

COURSE CONTENT

Pupils are introduced to the concept of the 'Basic Elements of Art' - line shape, colour, tone, form and pattern. This is done by reference both to the natural and to the manmade world. Particular attention is drawn to the importance of observation when producing artwork in order that pupils may appreciate the true nature of objects which are before them. Throughout the year reference is made to the work of artists both past and present. For example the concept of colour is explained with the aid of the work of Pop Artists, colour mixing is demonstrated by referring to the work of Cartoonists and tonal awareness is assisted by the study of black and white photographs, particularly those of the photo-journalist mood, light and atmosphere can be portrayed by adept use of tone and colour and the pupils are helped to understand how they might apply similar ideas to their own work.

- Texture, pattern and line are all elements which are introduced in this year and pupils are shown how by careful and appropriate use these elements may be practised in their own artwork.
- An awareness of shape and form is also an important feature of the course and the pupils learn how they can most effectively give a 3 Dimensional appearance to a 2Dimensional image.
- The pupils also have the opportunity to practise imaginative composition during their end of term project in the final part of the year.
- This project in the summer term encourages the pupils to begin working for themselves. They are expected to produce preparatory work alongside their final piece of coursework. This should include sketches, ideas, experiments with colours and awareness of the basic elements (tone, line, pattern etc). The final piece should be of good quality and indicate an input of time and effort.

- Discussion at all stages is actively encouraged and work is reviewed at the end of most lessons. Only by talking about their work will the pupils become familiar with language and specialised terminology.
- At the end of each project, the complete set of work will be assessed and discussed. It will be mounted and displayed.
- At the end of each project, the complete set of work will be assessed and discussed. It will be graded and this mark will constitute the half term or end of term grade which is reported to parents.
- The final piece for each project is deemed to be the Common Task Piece and will be given a percentage mark.

COURSE OUTLINE

<p>Autumn Term Pop Art and the Cartoon Image</p>	<p>Reference to Pop Art imaging in popular culture, packaging, advertising and comic strip images. Artists – Lichtenstein, Warhol and comic artists. Media – Paint and pencil, ICT Photoshop.</p>
<p>Lent Term Pattern and Texture</p>	<p>Reference to a selection of the following:- tribal decoration, Cultural Design, MC Escher, natural and man-made pattern, surface treatment and design. Media – Fine line pen, printing and rubbings</p>
<p>Summer Term Personal Project</p>	<p>Thematic based project which involves personal research and development culminating in a final piece of work carried out in a medium of the pupil's own choice.</p>

Contact: Mrs Jan Price – jcp@clairescourt.com



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY



All pupils have access to Design and Technology. They are given the opportunity to work in Graphics and Resistant Materials. They will continue to develop their graphical skills. A wide range of projects will enable them to further their design and practical skills. Emphasis on health and safety is paramount when working with tools and machinery.

Pupils have one double session lasting 70 minutes per week and one piece of homework of approximately 30 minutes.

Progress is monitored through projects and homework and written examination in the summer term

Commendations are given to reward good work progress.

Autumn /Lent Term

Module Graphics Duration 5/6 weeks

Objectives: Use of 2D and 3D graphical techniques. Further work in Oblique, Isometric, shading and texture.
Introduction of Orthographic drawings.

Module: The Snapper Project Duration: 9/10 weeks

Objectives: Making own decisions as to design and practical task
Further development of practical skills on working with metals
Forming and finishing metals using a variety of equipment
Working with Enamel as a decorative medium
Recap of skills and revision for examination.

Lent/Summer Term

Module: Practical Project (Picture Frame) Duration 8/10 weeks

Objectives: Resistant Materials (Plastics – Acrylic)
Designing of project, develop ideas and skills. Testing and evaluation.
Correct and safe use of tools and machinery.

OR

Summer Term

Module: Practical Project (Storage Unit) Duration 9/10 weeks

Objectives: Resistant materials (Wood/Acrylic)
Develop design skills through ideas and finding solutions
Develop practical skills further through different methods of
Constructions and use of tools and machinery
Testing and evaluating

Contact: Mr Roy Delpech – rcd@clairescourt.com



DRAMA



Drama is compulsory for all Year 8 students. Through engagement in drama, pupils will apply their imaginations and draw upon their own personal experiences. Their increasing knowledge and understanding of how the elements of drama work will enable them to effectively shape, express and share their ideas, feelings and responses, making use of language, space, symbol, allegory and metaphor. Pupils will use drama to communicate through the language and conventions of theatre. This will result in all pupils gaining access to one of the great forms of human expression. As pupils develop confidence and control of the medium of drama, they will be able to communicate shared understanding and tell stories using dramatic form. Assessments are made on their ability to apply performance and/or other production skills through the creation and realisation of drama.

Autumn Term –

Improvisation Revision of vocal and physical projection. Characterisation.

Vocal or Physical
Projection.

Performance Skills Mime exercises. Mime: video sequence. Introduction and
Vocal and Physical demonstration. Master and Servant – devising and rehearsing. Status
Projection.

Performance Skills Mime, basic spatial awareness. Video sequence rehearsal,
Spatial Awareness performance and discussion.

Performance Skills Monologues- introduction and plan.

Lent Term

Performance Skills Introduction to Drama Form. Characterisation, monologues,
and performance. Assessment by discussion.

Performance Skills Synchronisation: movement. Synchronisation: mirrors
Physical Projection Performance and discussion.

Performance Skills Revision of spatial awareness. Group work and discussion.
Spatial Awareness.

Performance Skills Synchronisation. Performance. Assessment by discussion.
General. Spontaneous synchronisation.
Design Masks

Summer Term

Performance Improvisation Sounds of silence. Time management. Problem solving.
Group Work

Technique and
Performance Skills Shakespeare

Contact: Mrs Maggie Olivier - mco@clairescourt.com



GEOGRAPHY



In Year 8 Geography is taught in the four form groups. They all receive three 35 minutes lessons per week (1 hour 45 minutes per week) and one homework is set per week (as dictated by the timetable). The National Curriculum forms the basis of the programme of study in Key Stage 3.

At the end of each module the pupils sit a module test or complete a 'common task'. These along with homework assignments form the basis of their assessment. Parental support in helping the learning of key words is always appreciated.

The department aims through fieldwork to improve our pupils understanding of their physical and human environment and the need for environmental protection and conservation. In Year 8 the pupils spend a day in September at Lulworth Cove, Dorset.

Term	Content/Module (each module lasts for approximately six weeks)
Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Coasts: The work of the sea and weathering on our coasts and how people manage this. Includes fieldwork at Lulworth Cove. Chapter 1 pages 4 – 23 'Horizons 2' Common Task: Lulworth Cove Project ➤ Tourism: What is tourism?, how surfing is linked to lifestyle and fashion, making tourism sustainable. Chapter 6 pages 104 – 123 'Horizons 2' Common Task: End of Unit Test
Lent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Weather Interactive: How the weather affects us, weather patterns and weather forecasting. Using ICT for a weather enquiry. Chapter 3 pages 44 – 63 'Horizons 2' Common Task: ICT weather enquiry ➤ Limestone: The scenery formed by limestone, how these landscapes are used and managed. Chapter 5 pages 84 – 103 'Horizons 2' End of Unit Test
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Living Space: Settlements, their functions, how they change and shopping habits. Chapter 2 pages 24 – 43 'Horizons 2' ➤ Revision for Summer Examination

Contact: Mrs Nerys Jones – nej@clairescourt.com



HISTORY



This year you will be studying...

The Making of the UK: England 1500-1750. You will be looking at how the Tudor and Stuart monarchs ruled the country, at how religious belief and practice changed, and how religion influenced both politics and the lives of English and other European people. You will also look at how changing ideas on how England should be governed led to Civil War.

AUTUMN TERM

- The Tudors
Henry VIII and the extension of royal power over the Church
Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I: change and continuity in religion.
Elizabeth I and the problems of monarchy.

LENT TERM

- Plots against the government.
EITHER The threat to royal power posed by Mary, Queen of Scots.
OR The Gunpowder Plot.
- The Stuarts.
The 'Divine Right of Kings' versus the increasing power of Parliament
Conflict between King and the Commons, leading to Civil War
Main events and battles of the English Civil War
A soldier's life in the war
The effects of the war on civilians; men, women and children
- Visit to the National Army Museum.

SUMMER TERM

- The capture, trial and execution of King Charles I
- Cromwell's Interregnum
Politics and life in Cromwell's England
- The Restoration 1660 and 'Glorious Revolution' 1688
Charles II
The Great Plague and Fire of London
James II and William III and the revolution of 1688

Methodology

Class lessons, group work when appropriate e.g. re-enactments. The students are not setted. An outing for the whole year group in the Lent Term to The National Army Museum, London.

Textbook: School History Project *Rediscovering the Making of the UK.*

Support materials and worksheets are used, plus additional classroom sets of books.

Equipment: Students will need pens, pencils, crayons, scissors and gluestick. They should ensure that they bring their books to every lesson.

Lessons: 3 lessons (1 double, 1 single) plus 1 homework per week.

Marking and Assessment: work is marked weekly; a mark out of 10 is given. Tests are set by individual teachers at the end of a topic. End of term grades are based on the aggregate of these term and test marks. In addition, periodic 'common tasks' are set across the year

group in order to assess the development of the students' skills and understanding. These tasks might be a piece of extended writing or a source based exercise, prepared beforehand and completed in class. There is a short exam on the year's work in the Summer Term.

Homework: will usually take the form of a written exercise, to last approx 20-30 minutes. From time to time a Taecanet task may be set (see below, Use of ICT).

Use of ICT: We encourage the students to use home PCs appropriately to enhance work set e.g. to word process homework, to make posters using IT skills if such a task has been set. However PC use is not compulsory. Home PCs can also be used if research is set for a homework. Most topics are well supported by the department's video library.

We also make use of appropriate History tasks available on Taecanet. This is a web-based system of interactive activities for schools. The tasks support the curriculum and can be accessed both in school and at home using the student's individual password.

How parents can help: Out of school visits to appropriate historical sites, encourage the students to read history books e.g. 'Horrible Histories', watch appropriate TV programmes, discuss what they have seen and the past in general; all this encourages students to see that History is still all around us, part of what we are. Test learning homeworks, especially before exams.

Contact: Mrs Jenny Wilding - jaw@clairescourt.com.



ICT



In Year 8 students will be working on a scheme of work to provide them with ICT extended competencies in a range of software packages delivered via practice and regular assessments. They will work on the school network, each having their own terminal, login code and password.

The software used will be principally Microsoft Office 2003™. They will use the Internet to help search for data and images connected to topics for both ICT classes and other subjects. Appropriate use of the Internet will be emphasised in terms of accessing and acknowledging sources of data and also for the students own personal safety. Other software such as Inspiration (mind-mapping) will be revised.

Correct use of the network, other equipment and health and safety aspects will be reinforced rigorously throughout the year. During the year ICT theory will be included relating to input/output features, types of software and the use of ICT in the day to day environment. Emphasis will be placed on matching the software to be used against the piece of work to be undertaken (both for ICT and other subjects).

There will be one double lesson of 70 minutes per week for classes 8A and 8B. Classes 8C and 8D will have 2 lessons per week for half of the year in rotation with Drama. Students' work will be stored on the school server with a hard copy (where necessary) stored in their own files in the classroom. Some topics will be reinforced via DVDs. There will be regular progress assessments with an end of session practical examination in either the Lent or Summer Term form for classes 8C and 8D, or Summer Term for 8A and 8B.

Autumn Term

- 🖥️ Refresh use of ICT room, access to network and storage areas, housekeeping, rules for appropriate usage of room and network.
- 🖥️ Revision of storage media transfer of files and folders.
- 🖥️ Advanced word processing skills using automated features, leading to good quality document production.
- 🖥️ Assessment of advanced word processing and document production skills.
- 🖥️ Advanced MS Publisher™ skills.
- 🖥️ Adding manipulated graphic to MS Publisher.
- 🖥️ MS Publisher™ assessment.
- 🖥️ Retrieving and manipulating digital images.

Lent Term

- 📖 Revision of previous year's work in Excel™ (formulae and graphs).
- 📖 Advanced formatting features, "if" function, conditional formatting, filtering and multiple sheets.
- 📖 Assessment on advanced Excel™ features.
- 📖 Revision of mind mapping software to represent lesson notes, adding web and graphic links.
- 📖 Revision of mind mapping software as a revision tool.
- 📖 Advanced PowerPoint™ features, transition, timing, animation, master slide features and action buttons.

Summer Term

- 📖 Revision for end of year practical assessment
- 📖 Practical assessment (May)
- 📖 Extending databases, creation of a database in Access™.
- 📖 Extra validation features, advanced searches, queries and reports.
- 📖 Analysing and mapping a given basic internet site
- 📖 Planning a simple internet site with text, graphics and links
- 📖 Creating a simple internet site with text, graphics and links
- 📖 Housekeeping and completion of any outstanding work and assessments.

Contacts: Mr G Miller - gmm@clairescourt.com or Mrs P Carr – puc@clairescourt.com



LATIN



In Year 8, those who have chosen to study Latin follow the Cambridge Latin Course.

This course places an emphasis on learning the language through reading, studying grammar and learning vocabulary as it occurs in the stories.

Pupils have 3 lessons per week and 1 homework, which is usually a discrete exercise to translate or a vocabulary list to learn.

Written translations are marked for accuracy, vocabulary is tested on a Latin to English basis and grammar is tested orally, all the marks contributing to a percentage which is shown as a half-termly grade. During the summer term, there is an end-of-year examination.

Cambridge Latin Course Book 2

Autumn

Ch. 13 VOLO & POSSUM (Present)

Present Infinitive

Ch. 14 Agreement of Adjectives

POSSUM (Imperfect)

Ch. 15 Relative Pronoun (Nominative & Accusative)

Questions with NUM & NONNE

Lent

Ch. 17 Genitive Case

Ch. 18 Gender: agreement of adjectives

Summer

Ch. 19 HIC and ILLE; Imperatives;
Vocative Case

Ch. 20 Present Participles
More pronouns

Parental Support

Any help with the learning of vocabulary, Latin to English, would be beneficial.

Also a check that the students have completed their weekly written work would be helpful.

Contact – Mrs. Andrea Brown - anb@clairescourt.com



MUSIC



Through the key components of Music – Performing, Composing, Listening and Appraising- Year 8 pupils will study the following topics. Each topic will last for half a term and involve practical tasks being carried out using keyboards and other instruments, where relevant.

Autumn Term

VARIATIONS

This unit develops pupils' ability to recognise, explore and make creative use of musical devices found in Variation Form

EXPLORING HARMONY AND THE BLUES

The unit develops pupils' understanding of harmony and its use in music. Introduction to the blues.

Lent Term

JAZZ IMPROVISATION

This unit develops pupils' ability to identify, explore and make creative use of given musical devices to create intended effect.

EXPLORING HOOKS AND RIFFS

This unit develops pupils' ability to identify, explore and make creative use of given musical devices to create intended effect.

Summer Term

PROGRAMME MUSIC

This unit develops pupils' ability to identify, explore and compose music that portrays animals, objects and scenes from nature.

THE OVERTURE

This unit develops pupil's ability to recognise and compose within the genre of the overture.

HOMEWORK TASKS This will be set when it is relevant to the topic being covered.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE. Each composition is marked after it is played to the class. An attainment and effort grade is given for each piece according to the school's marking policy. This is written on the pupils' assessment sheets and recorded by the teacher.

PARENTAL SUPPORT: Please help your son to meet homework deadlines. If your child receives musical tuition please encourage him to practise regularly.

Contact: Mr A Roach - anr@clairescourt.com



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



The Year 8 Physical Education programme is heavily geared towards the re-emphasis of the standards and values introduced in Year 7. These include :-

- i) The code of conduct
- ii) Correct dress and appearance for a variety of sports
- iii) Changing and hygienic standards
- iv) The development of self-respect and respect for others
- v) The need for strong self-discipline

Some of the courses provided will be new. Some will extend and further develop those provided in Year 7. These therefore will include :-

- i) The extension and development of a general fitness programme.
- ii) Coaching sports that will have ball skills and dexterity
- iii) Further development of racket skills.
- iv) Continuation of athletics
- v) Continuation of swimming, survival and life-saving

Pupils have one double lesson of 70 minutes a week.

The programme is made up of six half a term courses.

Autumn Term :-

Health Related Fitness (6 weeks)

- Cardio-vascular fitness – introduction of interval training.
- Cardio-vascular fitness (cont'd) – continuous running – fartlek.
- Speed and agility – Illinois test and 50-metre sprint.
- Strength and power – Local muscular endurance – circuit training.
- Power and spring – Standing broad jump and sergeant jump.
- Flexibility – Sit and reach – Hurdler's position, etc.

Basketball (6 weeks)

- Ball control and dribbling – control, speed, reverse, retreat, through-the-legs.
- Ball control (cont'd) – 1-2 stop – jump stop- pivoting.
- Passing – overhead – javelin – dunk –
- Shooting – jump shot – reverse lay-up – scoop lay-up.
- Rebounding – off the board and ring – defensive and attacking rebounding.
- Game situation – half-court press – defensive and attacking positions – wing guards, playmakers , pivot, etc.

Spring Term :-

Hockey (5 weeks)

- Clothing – equipment – safety rules - Grip – dribbling skills – stick-work .
- Passing – push pass – trapping and stopping the ball – reverse stick.
- Passing (contd) – hit pass – long pass – shooting – trapping high pass.
- Passing and shooting (contd) – Reverse stick –
- Game situation using push pass only.

Badminton (5 weeks)

- Revision of short and medium hitting – drop shot rallies – mid-court rallies.
- Short and long service – half-court games.
- Overhead hitting – short, medium and long – smash, clear and drop shot.
- Backhand play – Backhand serve – backhand smash –
- Various games – round-the-clock – doubles – scoring system.

Summer Term :-**Athletics (5 weeks)**

- Revision of running styles – long and middle-distance – sprinting.
- Sprint start – Various sprints – 100 and 200 metres.- relay take-overs – baton changing.
- Long and triple jumps – sail, hang and hitch kick (for some)
- Shot putt and discus throw – Silvester turn – chassis step.
- Introduction to javelin throwing – safety rules –grip and preparation - standing throw – cross-step.

Swimming (5 weeks)

- Basic revision and extension of front crawl.
- Breast stroke
- Back crawl
- Butterfly
- Survival and life-saving

Contact: Mr M Turner - jmt@clairescourt.com



RELIGIOUS STUDIES



In Year 8 pupils will be looking at the **New Testament** and discussing the many and various issues that it raises. During the year we will be studying Jesus' life and his ministry in Galilee as a healer and teacher. We will be using The Good News Bible as our main source, supported by worksheets and videos.

Autumn Term

An Introduction to the Gospels and the structure of the New Testament.

Who was or is Jesus? How and what we learn about him.

Through his Teaching;

The Parables of: The Sower and the seed;
 The Unforgiving Servant
 The Good Samaritan;
 The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin
 The Prodigal Son;

Through Significant events in his life:

Advent
John the Baptist: his birth and his message.
The Message of Christmas.

Lent Term

Jesus' Baptism: Baptism today and its significance
Jesus' temptations: What are the temptations that we face?
Jesus chooses his friends: What qualities do we look for in a friend?
 People we admire. Self Sacrifice

Holy Week:

Palm Sunday The Saviour
The Last Supper; Institution of Holy Communion
 The betrayal, agony in the garden of Gethsemane and Jesus' trials.
The crucifixion; Why did Jesus die?
 How is his death understood?
 Good Friday today.

Summer Term

The Resurrection: Mary Magdalene by the garden tomb
Other Appearances: Doubting Thomas
 The Road to Emmaus

Revision for Examinations.

After Examinations:

Individual topic work on:
The **Miracles** of Healing, Nature, Exorcism and Raising to Life.
We have one 35 minute lesson per week and a weekly homework. Pupils are assessed on progress in lessons, responses to weekly homework and their performance in class tests and the yearly examination.

Contact: Mrs Ann Pitts – acp@clairescourt.com



STUDY SKILLS



The study skills curriculum is designed to allow pupils to understand varying issues that are relevant to them via the medium of newspapers, comprehension, self-directed learning and discussion.

Every half term will see the start of a new topic area, however the literacy and reading skills that are taught remain consistent throughout.

Autumn Term

Influences of the media on public opinions

Newspapers and comprehension

Lent Term

Learning about Government and Politics

Learning about a different country

Summer Term

Revision techniques ready for the exam

JOPA including public speaking and project work

The boys will produce projects rather than carry out homework assignments.

Contact: Mr Justin Spanswick - jms@clairescourt.com



PSHCE YEAR 8



All pupils study PSHCE (Personal, social, health and citizenship education) for approximately 35 minutes a week, during their Form periods. They are taught by their Form Tutors with specialist input, including outside speakers when necessary. Assemblies delivered by the Head of Year reinforce these issues.

The units covered each term are listed below, but they are not necessarily taught in that order, to allow staff to tackle specific issues as they arise or are concerns for certain year groups.

The course is based on: **21st Century Citizenship and PSHE, Book 2** by Eileen Osborne & Stephen Yates. Films, leaflets, posters etc are used to support the discussions.

Autumn Term

Target setting Class contract and expectations document	Using discussion followed by pupils completing individual forms. Discuss contract and expectations.
Relationships	Boyfriends, girlfriends. Sex education and keeping safe – contraception. Class discussion and group work.
Marriage and family life	Understanding the role and importance of marriage and explore the nature and value of family life. Dealing with the death of a loved one.
Christmas	Hampers and charity work

Lent Term

Target revision and setting	Review of the previous term, setting goals for Lent term.
Safety in and out of school	Recognising avoiding and dealing with potentially dangerous situations.
Lifestyle choices	Looking at some of today's trends in eating habits. Examining the reasons why relaxation is an important part of a healthy lifestyle.
Charity week	Preparation for 3 for 3 charity week (form activities).
Personal Hygiene	Link with health

Summer Term

Preparation for examinations	Revision timetable, revision techniques, expectations during examinations.
Post exam target setting	Review of examination results
JOPA	Junior Outdoor Pursuits Award

Contact: Mr Justin Spanswick – jms@clairescourt.com