

Whalley Range 11-18 High School

A member of the Education and Leadership Trust



Year 8 Options 2019



Options for Year 9

This year we have decided to give you some choice about the courses you will study in Year 9. This will develop your skills further in these subjects to prepare you for your Key Stage 4 courses.

Humanities

Choose 1 from:

- History
- Geography

Expressive Arts and Design Technology

Choose 2 from:

- Art and Photography
- Music
- Drama
- Food and Cookery
- Textile Design and Materials Technology

You will make your choices during the academic tutorial on Monday 11th March with your parent/carer.

Humanities

Year 9 History

The Rise of the Machines - The Industrial Revolution

This will be a look at the appalling living and working conditions in Britain at the time of the Industrial Revolution. We will examine how conditions got so bad that disease and malnutrition led to an average life expectancy of only 19 years in cities such as Manchester. We will find out why factories treated its child workers so badly and think about what it would have been like to have been one of these workers. This includes a visit to Quarry Bank Mill at the start of the year.

Black Power – The Fight for Equality

Here you will look at the racism in America during the 1950s and 1960s. You will examine a variety of historical sources in order to produce a research-based project focusing on the lives of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X; two men who worked tirelessly and were finally assassinated, fighting to get equal rights for black people.

The Horrors of the First World War

Here we will investigate how the world became embroiled in the 'Great War' of 1914-1918. We will look at the terrible conditions soldiers in the trenches faced, including mud, sleep deprivation, lice, rats, 'trench-foot' and poisonous gas. This will include watching the Steven Spielberg film 'War Horse'.

Girl Power – The Fight for Women's Votes

This is an in-depth look at how women were treated during Victorian Britain, and the fight that took place to try and get equality. We will examine the work of the Suffragettes and the sacrifices some individuals made in trying to get women the vote.

Adolf Hitler and the Second World War

This unit will examine how Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party took over Germany in the mid-twentieth century. It will examine what happened during the Second World War, focusing on the civilians it affected.

The Holocaust

Here we will look at why Hitler's 'Final Solution' to what he perceived as the 'Jewish problem' took place. It will consider the conditions of the concentration camps, where approximately eleven million people lost their lives.

All topics will enhance your skills, including source-work, recognising bias and presenting arguments. They will also give you an excellent foundation should you go on to study history at GCSE.

Conflict and Tension

For those of you that opt for GCSE history, we will be starting the course during the last half term of Year 9. We start the GCSE course with a look at what happened between the two World Wars. This includes looking at how Germany was punished by the Treaty of Versailles and how the League of Nations tried to help create world peace. We then look at the rise of Hitler and the Nazis and how Hitler's foreign policy started World War Two.

Year 9 Geography

Global Fashion and Development

This will look into the importance of fashion in the development of certain countries. It will answer the question of where your clothes are made and by which companies. In addition, we will think about 'What is a sweatshop?'. When investigating globalisation we shall look at both the advantages and disadvantages of the effect this has. Finally in this topic, we will look at indicators of development, focusing on 'Lower Income Countries' (LICs) and 'Higher Income Countries' (HICs).

Living World

Here we will look at 'What is an ecosystem?'. Examples we will investigate include hot deserts and rainforests, considering the location, climate, plant and animal adaptation of each ecosystem.

Extreme Weather

In this topic we will be exploring wild weather conditions around the world, including hurricanes, tornadoes and flooding. You will learn how to interpret satellite imagery to track the path of a hurricane. You will find out how people cope with extreme weather events and changing weather conditions.

Urban Jungle

In this unit we will investigate HIC and LIC cities. We will focus on Salford Quays, past and present, and go on a field trip to explore the regeneration of this area.

Investigating Geography

In this unit you will be developing your geographical investigation and analysis skills. You will explore an issue happening in the world today, understanding how it affects people, and using your skills to make a decision which is the best for most people. These are the skills that you will use throughout your GCSEs, in all subjects – not just geography!

All topics build on existing skills, enhance new skills and provide an ideal preparation for GCSE.

We will begin the GCSE course during the fourth half term of Year 9.

Expressive Arts

Year 9 Art and Photography

In Year 9, art and photography are delivered as one subject, in a similar way to GCSE standards. This therefore gives you the opportunity to experience more independent ways of working and explore a wider variety of artistic skills. You will undertake three practical projects over the year and you will cover a number of materials and techniques, such as:

Within Art:

- Painting using acrylic paints
- Working in mixed media and collage techniques
- Using 3D techniques such as card construction or clay
- Developing skills in printmaking
- Introduction to photography
- Exploring the work of contemporary and historical artists

Within Photography:

- Portraiture
- Landscape photography (images of the natural world)
- Still life photography (images of natural and manmade forms)
- Documentary photography (photo journalism, narrative photography)
- Fine art photography (photographic installation)
- Photography that involves moving images (stop frame, short movies)
- Mixed media (mixing drawing, photography and collage to create individual responses).

The projects will have a range of themes for you to explore, using both artistic outcomes as well as photographic results. Below is an example of the various projects completed during the year.

Project 1 – Life in Technicolour

The first project will look at the work of contemporary artists. You will develop your own designs and experiment with texture and painting techniques as well as producing a range of photographs related to the world in which you live. You will look at the colours and textures that are around our daily lives.

Project 2 – Life through a Lens

You will have the chance in this project to respond visually to a theme by using photography and 3-Dimensional construction. You will use editing methods and

experiment with various photography techniques. You will also make a set that will be used to create an animation related to a theme of their choosing.

Project 3 – Independent Study

In the final project you will have chance to choose your own starting point. You will research your own topic and develop ideas towards a final outcome. You will be guided through the topic through workshops similar to the way a GCSE course is taught.

All projects build on your existing skills developed through Year 7 and Year 8. The course will give you a strong foundation towards the GCSE art and design and photography courses and will also develop your skills in independent learning and creative responses.

In this option you have the chance to develop new skills in photography. Photography gives you the opportunity to look at the world through different eyes and explore the environments in which we live through the lens of a camera.

You will work through a variety of questions based on researching photographers, past and present, and the development of ideas, using ICT skills and Photoshop in the production of a portfolio of your images. The portfolio will be yours to keep and maybe used as the introduction to GCSE photography, if you decide to pick it as an option in Year 10. It is a great resource to use in the future, e.g. interviews.

If you need any help and advice regarding this option then please talk to Mr Leigh-Dalton or Mr Forman.

Year 9 Drama

If you opt to study drama in Year 9 you must be prepared to work with a range of different people throughout the year to create a high standard of performance work. You will creatively explore a range of themes and scripts using a variety of dramatic skills and techniques. You will be provided with opportunities to build team working skills and confidence in front of a live audience.

Shakespeare

You will learn about the plot, characters and themes of a Shakespeare play such as 'Romeo and Juliet' or 'Macbeth'. You will create devised work as well as using scripted scenes to experiment with Shakespeare's language. You will also have the opportunity to prepare and perform a short monologue to give you a taste of an audition process.

Christmas Pantomime

This is a light-hearted scheme of work running up to the festive period. You will be introduced to a non-naturalistic Melodramatic style of acting to create mini pantomime performances. You will explore different fairy tales and experiment with your voice and physicality to create over exaggerated characters to entertain an audience.

Theatre in Education

You will be introduced to the importance of research to create an educational piece of theatre about a specific topic that you feel passionate about. The aim of this scheme of work will involve using different acting skills and techniques to raise awareness of specific important issues in society.

Contemporary text

You will explore a modern scripted play. You will be introduced to the ideas of famous theatre practitioners which you can then apply to your own rehearsal process. You will develop a range of different acting skills such as memorising dialogue, blocking, annotation and exploring different stage layouts.

Conflict

You will explore a range of historical and modern day stimuli based around conflict. You will use a wide range of KS4 Drama techniques to create devised work as well understanding how to stage script extracts. You will learn how to successfully build dramatic tension using a variety of skills such as stage combat.

Using stimuli to devise

You will explore different stimuli and look at previous exam board tasks to understand how to create a drama performance from a specific starting point (stimulus). You will be introduced to a range of different devising techniques to ensure your ideas are original and presented in a sophisticated way to entertain an audience.

Year 9 Music

In Year 9, music takes on a whole new dimension.

You will have the opportunity to play a wider range of instruments such as bass guitar, ukulele, drum kit, steel pans and keyboards. You will develop your understanding of how to put together performances in a group, as well as on your own.

You will be taught how to compose your own music electronically, using Logic, Garage Band and Sibelius software packages.

Through a range of different projects you will learn about the roles and impact of music in different cultures, reflect on how music is used in the media, look into the history of music and how it has influenced modern day artists, as well as learning about the music industry.

Assessments will take place through a wide range of tasks that may include group band performances, solo performances and presentation of sound tracks that you have created.

Throughout Year 9, you will be developing skills that will support music in Year 10 and 11 in a creative, fun and practical manner. You will have more opportunity to join extra-curricular music lessons.

For more information speak to your teacher.

Topics covered include:

- World Music
- Variations through Sibelius
- Music history – including pop music
- Song writing
- Band skills
- Music theory
- Music industry

Design Technology

Year 9 Food and Cookery

Being able to cook is a really important life skill and once mastered it is quick, easy, enjoyable and, most importantly, fun.

The one year course will aim to develop and teach you a wide range of basic home cooking skills with a professional touch. You will learn how to choose fresh ingredients, how home cooking is better value for money and how to correctly prepare, cook and present food in a hygienic, organised and safe way.

Through practical food preparation you will learn and be able to apply knowledge about nutrition, eating for health and the function of ingredients. The course will also provide you with opportunities to carry out food science investigations and research how a wide variety of foods are grown and produced.

The products you will make will include a wide range of savoury and some sweet dishes: main meal dishes like curry, lasagne, stir-fry, dough products, cakes and pastries.

During practical lessons you will be assessed on your planning, lesson organisation, safety, hygiene, correct use of equipment and cooking skills, as well as presentation of finished products.

There will be lots of opportunities to create and develop your own dishes and this will support the understanding of some of the key skills and understanding needed in the KS4 Food course.

Over the course you will have opportunities to take part in Master Chef-inspired invention tests. These will help you to understand the vast links between food learning and the world of work.

Year 9 Textile Design and Materials Technology

In Year 9 you will experience and develop design and making skills through working with textiles and resistant materials.

During the course you will:

- Learn how product and textiles designs have been developed.
- Learn a wide range of making techniques using a range of materials and equipment.
- Learn different methods of presenting product and textiles design ideas.
- Become confident in using a range of equipment, techniques and processes including CAD and CAM.
- You will master product construction, textile design techniques and manufacturing processes.

Textiles design and materials technology is about using your imagination to solve problems that will include creating real world solutions.

You will work on individual and group tasks to build up a portfolio of design skills that will enable you to progress to a Key Stage 4 course in either design textiles or design technology.

Why choose a design-based course?

The role of a designer is an exciting and highly creative one. You will have the opportunity to take an idea from concept to a final outcome. The course will help to develop a vast array of skills that colleges, universities and employers are looking for, like creativity, logical thinking, problem solving and the ability to work independently and as part of a wider team.

This is a practical subject where you will learn through doing and it will give you an insight in to a wide range of careers such as architecture, home interior design, furniture design, fashion design, theatre set design, costume design, engineering and manufacturing.