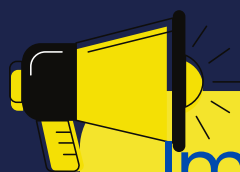
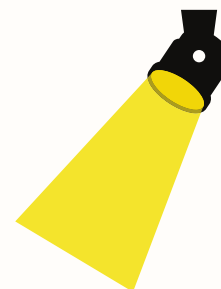


WBSpotlight

w/e 11th September 2026



Important information

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Arbor School Shop

We're excited to begin using Arbor for online payments, and will soon be introducing School Shop items that families can purchase directly through the platform. These items will be available via both the Arbor App and the Parent Portal.

To learn how to access and purchase items step-by-step, please visit the following guide:

[Purchasing School Shop items on the Parent Portal or Parent App - Arbor Help Centre](#)

What a week it's been!

Dear WBS Families,

After our first week back, we are delighted to say that the vast majority of students have made a fantastic start to the new academic year. They have returned ready to learn, demonstrating positive attitudes and representing William Brookes School with pride.

As we continue to establish our high expectations, I would ask families to speak with their children about the importance of respecting our school environment. Unfortunately, there has been some unnecessary damage to toilets this week, which is disappointing and unacceptable. We all have a responsibility to look after our school and ensure it remains a safe, welcoming place for everyone.

Our Year 7 students have made an exceptionally strong start to life at William Brookes School. They have settled in brilliantly, embraced new routines and shown great enthusiasm for learning. Thank you also to the parents and carers who attended our Home Learning Information Session this week. In this newsletter, you will find the parent letter that has been shared with families outlining our approach to supporting learning at home.

It has also been wonderful to see our School Parliament already hard at work. Members have met this week and have begun planning our new Academic Rewards Evenings, which will celebrate the achievements and successes of our students. We are excited to launch these events, beginning with our Year 7 Academic Rewards Evening on Tuesday 8 December.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to sharing more of our students' successes throughout the term.

Mrs Mincher Deputy Head Teacher

School calendar

18th Sept in school academic reward - Year 11

30th Sept @3.30pm Year 11 Parental/student Exam ready event

7th Oct - School open evening

8th Oct - School open morning from 9.30am

16th Oct - break up for October half term - school returns on 3rd Nov

9th Nov - Enrichment week Ks3/Yr 10 Work Experience/ Year 11

Mocks

25th Nov - Year 10 GCSE Preparation evening

8th Dec - Year 7 Academic reward evening

9th Dec - Year 11 PCE





What's new!



William Brookes School



Respect. Excellence. Friendship.

Healthy Body, Healthy Mind

Invitation to our...

OPEN EVENTS

FOR **SEPTEMBER 2027** ADMISSIONS



*Your 2027 admissions
journey starts here*



Visit our Open days

OPEN EVENING:

Wed 7th Oct | 4 - 6pm

OPEN MORNING:

Thurs 8th Oct | 9.30 - 10.15am
| 10.30 - 11.15am

We'd love to meet you at our open evening and open morning events.

To book your visit or to find out more scan the QR code, alternatively visit our website www.williambrookes.com or call on **01952 728900**

Extra Curricular



William Brookes School PE Department Lunchtime and After-School Clubs Autumn Term 2026



	Lunchtime (meet in <u>sportshall</u>)	After-School (meet at back of PE changing rooms)			Dance
Monday	Basketball	Year 11 GCSE revision			Elite Dance
STAFF	Mr Parkes	Mr Boak – room 220			Ms Leason
Tuesday	Badminton – GCSE PE students	Netball	Year 10 GCSE revision		Year 7-11 Dance
STAFF	Mr Boak	Ms Johnson	Mr Boak – room 220		Hannah Oldham
Wednesday	Badminton – all years				
STAFF	Ms Johnson				
Thursday		Year 7-8 <u>boys</u> football	Year 9-10 <u>boys</u> football	Girls football	
STAFF		Mr Parkes	Mr Boak	Ms Hennessy	
Friday					
STAFF					



Performing Arts After School Clubs 2026/2027



Day	Dance – Mrs Leason	Drama – Mr Henson	Music – Ms Adams
Monday	Elite Dance – DS2 (Start Date to be confirmed)	KS4 Drama Rehearsal	Jazz Band - 222
Tuesday	All Years Dance Club – DS2 Hannah Oldham	HSM Lead cast – Drama DS3 Week A KS3 Drama - Week B Starting 15 th September	HSM Lead cast – Singing 222 Week B Year 7 Choir Week A Starting 15 th September
Wednesday	NO CLUBS	NO CLUBS	NO CLUBS
Thursday	HSM Musical Full Cast Starting 10 th September in DS2 3:30-5pm	HSM Musical Full Cast Starting 10 th September in DS2 3:30-5pm	HSM Musical Full Cast Starting 10 th September in DS2 3:30-5pm

All Clubs run from 3:20pm-4:20pm

Music Lunchtime Rehearsals (13:40-14:10): Rock Bands – see Ms Adams for further details

HSM Full Cast Thursday rehearsal runs 3:30pm-5pm

High School Musical Shows – Week commencing 8th February 2027!

Extra Curricular

Monday	1. Homework Club – book place via Arbor 2. Breakfast Club Library (20 places) book place via Arbor	1. 3:20pm - 4:20pm 2. 8.00-8.30am
Tuesday	1. Homework Club – book place via Arbor 2. Breakfast Club Library (20 places) book place via Arbor 3. KS3 Design and Technology Club	1. 3:20pm - 4:20pm 2. 8.00-8.30am 3. 3.20 – 4.00pm
Wednesday	1. Homework Club – book place via Arbor 2. Breakfast Club Library (20 places) book place via Arbor	1. 3:20pm - 4:20pm 2. 8.00-8.30am
Thursday	1. Homework Club – book place via Arbor 2. Breakfast Club Library (20 places) book place via Arbor	1. 3:20pm - 4:20pm 2. 8.00-8.30am
Friday	1. Breakfast Club Library (20 places) book place via Arbor	3. 8.00-8.30am

Year 11 Revision Masterclass Timetable

DAY	Lunch session ('Open Door')	After-school session
Monday	Religious Studies – Mrs Mincher's office/Meeting room 3 Further Maths 001 Mrs Caldwell Art – Mrs Abrahams Room 111	Business, Mrs Valentine. Room 206. 3:20 – 4pm Geography 205 Mrs Brooks 3:30 – 4:30pm Year 11 GCSE PE 3:20 – 4:15pm, Mr Boak, room 220
Tuesday	Science 13.45 - 14.15 Health and Social Care – Mrs Hennessy room 221 Maths 001 Mrs Caldwell	Science 3.30 - 4.00pm - Mrs Roberstons room Religious Studies – room 102 @4.20-5pm (After science) Year 10 GCSE PE 3:20-4:15pm, Mr Boak, room 220
Wednesday	History (Week B) 13:45-14:15 room 110 Miss Lane Geography 205 Break time Mrs Brooks	Staff meeting
Thursday	IMedia – Mr Beard room 221 Product Design, Mr Colburn. Room 011. Spanish, Ms Hayman. Room 226	Maths – London Breakout, Mrs Caldwell, Mrs Bright Product Design, Mr Colburn. Room 011. 3:20 – 4pm H&C – room 012 3:20 – 4pm
Friday	Geography – Ms Brooks room 205 Product Design, Mr Colburn. Room 011. French – Mrs Crowther. Room 227.	English – 3.30-4.30pm

Your Voice Matters!



Make a Difference

 Join School Parliament! 

Could you be the next voice of our school?

- ☒ Represent student views
- ☒ Help shape school decisions
- ☒ Make a positive difference



Application forms are available from your tutor.

☀️ School Parliament recruitment assemblies take place next week! ☀️



Curriculum

Keeping Up Curriculum

At William Brookes School, we are committed to ensuring that no student misses out on essential learning. Our Keeping Up Curriculum has been carefully designed to support every learner, and to reinforce the most important knowledge in each subject.

Teachers explicitly introduce this Golden Knowledge at the start of each lesson, and the lesson is then crafted to help students explore and understand it in depth. The Keeping Up curriculum will help to bridge the knowledge gap if absence occurs.

★ What Is the Keeping Up Curriculum?

- Catch-Up activities are also centred around this Golden Knowledge.

📅 How Can Students Access Missed Learning?

- If a student is absent—whether due to illness, an educational visit, or a sporting fixture—they can access the Keeping-Up Curriculum by using the Keeping-Up Curriculum spreadsheet.
- This spreadsheet is organised by subject and week of curriculum delivery. At the bottom of the spreadsheet, you will find tabs for all subjects studied in Year 7.
- Using your child's school timetable, locate the subject they missed. Then:
- Click on the relevant subject tab.
- Find the correct week (e.g., Week 3 for Maths).
- Complete the activities listed for that week to engage with the missed Golden Knowledge.

🏠 Supporting Home Learning and Revision

- The Keeping-Up Curriculum is also an excellent tool for additional revision at home, helping students consolidate their understanding.
- Fortnightly home learning quizzes are set to review Golden Knowledge, and students who have missed lessons can use the Catch-Up resources to complete these tasks confidently and accurately.

We encourage all parents to support their child in using these resources regularly, whether to catch up, revise, or reinforce learning.

Together, we can ensure that every student continues to make strong progress.



How to find the Keeping up Curriculum

Home - William Brookes School



Catch-Up Curriculum

Year 7 Keeping Up Curriculum

Year 8 Keeping Up Curriculum

Year 9 Keeping Up Curriculum

Year 10 Keeping Up Curriculum

Year 11 Keeping Up Curriculum

Accessing the Keeping Up Curriculum

Visit the William Brookes School website.

Select the Teaching & Learning tab from the main menu.

Click on Our Curriculum.

Scroll down to the Keeping Up Curriculum section.

Select the spreadsheet for your child's year group.

Open the spreadsheet and locate the subject required using the tabs at the bottom of the workbook.

Using your child's timetable, identify the subject and week of learning that was missed.

Navigate to the relevant week within the subject tab.

Complete the lesson activities, catch-up tasks, and linked resources to engage with the key learning from that week.

Year 7 Autumn Curriculum

ENGLISH

Welcome to WBS! Year 7 will start the year by exploring the idea of identity through autobiographical writing and then explore world poetry. We can't wait to hear all your incredible tales, discover your identities and hopefully some young bards too.

MATHS

The Year 7 White Rose Maths Autumn Term builds strong foundations in number and algebra. Topics include place value, integers, decimals, the four operation factors, multiples, primes, and fractions. Students are introduced to algebraic notation, simplifying expressions, and basic equations, promoting fluency and preparing them for advanced problem solving

SCIENCE

Year 7 students begin their science journey by learning investigative skills in "Working Like a Scientist." They then study Cells and Organisation to understand life's building blocks, followed by Particles and Matter to explore substance composition and behavior—laying a strong foundation for future scientific exploration.

HISTORY

Year 7 History students explore Britain's transformation during the Dark Ages and early Medieval period. They study the Norman conquest, feudal society, and the Church's power. The Crusades introduce them to religious conflict, helping them understand its historical roots and modern relevance through critical thinking and contextual analysis.

GEOGRAPHY

In the Autumn term year 7 will be introduced to Geography through looking at key concepts of place and space alongside skills such as using maps, collecting field data and presenting graphs. We will then introduce a range of geographical concepts from looking at maps at a range of scales from the global to the local.

RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

In RPE, Year 7 students will be introduced to the ways that the subject investigates truth. They will look at where the idea of religion started, how truth can be viewed in different ways and the methods of Theology, Philosophy and Social Science. This will mean investigating radioactive drinks, the Loch Ness Monster and even swapping shoes!

ART

This term, Year 7 students will study the Formal Elements of Art—starting with Tone, then Line and Texture. They will explore works by Giorgio Morandi and Albrecht Dürer, developing observational drawing skills from primary and secondary sources. Using varied media, students will learn techniques inspired by these artists, building a solid foundation in the essential elements shaping all art forms.

FRENCH

This term, Year 7 French students will be recapping some of the basic French that they will have already met at primary school, including giving personal details, expressing likes and dislikes, and learning basic greetings and common classroom vocabulary. They will also look at key French phonics and cover essential grammar points like regular "er" verbs in the present tense, parts of the irregular verbs "avoir" and "être", and learn language for describing a photo.

SPANISH

This term, Year 7 Spanish students will be introduced to Spanish phonics and basic conversation skills. They will learn to greet others, give personal information such as name, age, location, and personality, and ask simple questions. Lessons will also focus on using the verb "to be" and applying adjectives, building a foundation for future language learning.

PRODUCT DESIGN

Students begin with Health & Safety, identifying workshop hazards. They explore manufacturing processes including drilling, sheet metal forming, and plastic line bending. Through a Desk Tidy Project, they apply practical skills and develop confidence using tools. Students investigate timber, metals, and polymers, learning to classify materials and understand their physical properties. The term focuses on hands-on learning, safe practice, and foundational knowledge of materials and processes to prepare students for future design challenges.

MUSIC

This term, Year 7 students will explore rhythm, pitch, and melody to develop listening skills. They'll learn basic rhythmic and pitch notation, read simple musical parts, and perform percussion patterns in ensembles. Keyboard skills will be introduced, culminating in a short performance, building strong understanding of music's essential elements alongside key performance skills

PE

Year 7 students begin their induction into the school PE and Sports programme, exploring facilities and activities. Across three lessons per fortnight, they will rotate through basketball, gymnastics, girls' football, boys' hockey, swimming, and fitness. They will also take part in fortnightly inter-house competitions and have opportunities to join after-school clubs or try out for school teams

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Students begin by learning essential health and safety rules, including hob and knife skills. They study the 4Cs—cleaning, cooking, chilling, and cross-contamination—and explore the Eatwell Guide to understand balanced diets. Practical lessons include preparing fruit salad, pasta salad, and Bolognese sauce, helping students apply hygiene and safety principles while developing basic cooking techniques.

COMPUTING

Students begin by learning how to log in, use Microsoft Teams, and navigate core software applications including Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Email. They explore e-safety, fake news, artificial intelligence and smart searching, developing digital literacy and critical thinking. The term builds foundational skills in using technology responsibly and effectively, preparing students to work confidently in a digital environment. Pupils study computer systems, learning about hardware components, RAM and ROM, the CPU, and how performance is affected. They explore software types, storage devices, and binary concepts like bits and bytes, building understanding of how computers function and introduces key technical vocabulary and concepts.

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Year 8 Autumn Curriculum

ENGLISH

Welcome to the world of the supernatural! Year 8 will be kicking off the year by studying and writing their own gothic ghost stories, exploring how to use their creative writing skills to build tension and leave their audiences on tenterhooks. Then we'll continue the supernatural theme (with an added sprinkle of Christmas cheer) through our study of A Christmas Carol.

MATHS

The Year 8 White Rose Maths Autumn Term builds number and algebra fluency. Students explore powers, roots, prime factors, fractions, decimals, percentages, standard form, and rounding. Algebra topics include simplifying, expanding, factorising, and solving linear equations. These skills strengthen reasoning and prepare students for more complex problem solving later in the year.

SCIENCE

In Year 8, students build on prior knowledge by studying Nutrition, learning about balanced diets and digestion. They then explore Waves, understanding how sound and light travel. Finally, they investigate Chemical Reactions, discovering how substances interact and transform through engaging, hands-on experiments—deepening their scientific understanding and practical skills.

HISTORY

So far, students have explored how Britain's society has evolved into the early modern period. This term, they'll examine Britain's global rise to power, beginning with Africa before European arrival. They'll uncover the complex legacy of the British Empire—its global influence, but also its roots in slavery and exploitation—encouraging critical reflection on its lasting impact.

GEOGRAPHY

In the Autumn term Year 8 will be looking at human geography at a global scale through consideration of development globalisation and BRICS nations. We will further build on the key geographical concepts and skills introduced in Year 7: place, interdependence, physical and human processes, environmental impact, sustainable development and culture, and diversity. We will also develop geographical skills in decision making, map reading and data interpretation.

RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

In RPE, Year 8 students will start by looking into the concept of God. Where is God? Who is he/she/they? This will lead into evaluating the Problem of Evil, and why a supposedly loving God would allow humans to suffer so much. The solutions include Free Will and Soul-Making, but are these solutions enough to overcome the Problem of Evil?

ART

This term, Year 8 students will study Portraiture, starting with a benchmark test to assess prior knowledge. They will create detailed self-portraits using mirrors and explore works by Alberto Giacometti, Andy Warhol, and Kathe Kollwitz to understand varied approaches. Students will develop skills in colour, monoprinting, and other techniques to produce expressive, meaningful portraits that demonstrate both technical ability and personal insight.

FRENCH

This term, Year 8 French students will learn to talk about breakfast, order food in a café, and describe their family and home. They will discuss what is in their town and explore Parisian culture. Grammar lessons will cover possessive adjectives, irregular present-tense verbs, and using "aller" to discuss future plans, developing both communication and cultural understanding.

SPANISH

This term, Year 8 Spanish students will focus on describing themselves and family members, (physical appearances, personality.) They will also learn how to describe their house and local area. They will cover the verb conjugations for "ser" (to be) and "tener" (to have), as well as the near future tense.

PRODUCT DESIGN

Students begin with Health & Safety, then investigate levers, cams, and mechanisms to understand motion and mechanical advantage. They explore timber box joints, evaluating the use of jigs in manufacturing. Through the Automata Project, students apply knowledge of forces and movement. The design process includes developing a brief, mind map, and specification to guide project work. This term builds foundational engineering concepts and encourages creative problem-solving through hands-on design and mechanical exploration.

MUSIC

In Autumn, Year 8 students will explore World and Popular Music to develop listening and analysis skills. They'll study rhythm and ensemble playing through Samba syncopation, extend pitch notation to bass clef, and build instrumental and keyboard ability. The term concludes with a short solo or ensemble performance, strengthening understanding of music's elements and practical skills.

PE

With increased PE time, Year 8 students will enjoy more inter-house competitions held fortnightly. They will also access 'options' lessons, choosing from a range of non-traditional sports and activities. Alongside this, three weekly PE lessons will develop technique and tactics in sports such as basketball, gymnastics, and swimming, giving students greater variety and opportunities to improve skills and performance.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Students begin with a refresher on health and safety, revisiting hob and knife skills. They study digestion and nutrients, learning how the body processes food and the role of macronutrients. Practical lessons include making bread, lasagne, and risotto, helping students develop more advanced cooking techniques while reinforcing safe food handling and nutritional understanding.

Computing

Students deepen their understanding of computer systems, exploring hardware, software, the CPU and the fetch-decode-execute cycle, building on knowledge from year 7 to understand component interoperability and developments in modern technology. They study binary and storage, learning how data is represented and processed. This term strengthens technical knowledge and prepares students for more advanced computing concepts and how to navigate changing technology in the real world. Pupils engage in physical computing using Microbits, programming devices with Python to create interactive outputs.

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Year 9 Autumn Curriculum

ENGLISH

In the modern world the dissemination of propaganda, fake news and disinformation is rife. Our year 9s will be breaking down some of the tactics used in propaganda and deciphering the difference between propaganda and legitimate news in order to be better prepared to spot them. They will then delve into the murky world of Sherlock Holmes and the genre of detective fiction.

MATHS

The Year 9 White Rose Maths Autumn Term consolidates and extends number and algebra skills. Students study integers, decimals, indices, standard form, and laws of indices.

Algebra topics include manipulation, expanding, factorising, and solving complex linear equations. Sequences with n th terms are introduced, alongside HCF, LCM, and prime factors, strengthening problem-solving and preparing for GCSE-level challenges.

SCIENCE

In Year 9, students enhance their practical science skills through hands-on experiments and analysis. They study Separating Mixtures using techniques like filtration and distillation. They also explore key Biological Processes, including Respiration and Photosynthesis. This blend of theory and practice deepens their understanding of chemistry and biology in real-world contexts.

HISTORY

This term students will learn about how Britain changed after WWII. We developed a welfare state, saw cultural change as society became more liberal, lost our Empire, made new connections with Europe, and faced terrorist 'Troubles' with Ireland. They will also learn about how the world changed because of the horrors of the Holocaust, with the development of universal human rights through a United Nations.

GEOGRAPHY

In the Autumn term, Year 9 students explore the geography of the Middle East, investigating its physical landscapes, natural resources, population and development challenges. They then study Iceland as a dynamic environment, examining its unique geology, volcanic activity and sustainable use of natural resources through engaging geographical enquiry.

RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

In RPE, Year 9 students will be studying whether the Bible is too outdated to be used or followed in our modern world.

This includes looking into issues of homophobia and patriarchy, using analysis of Bible texts and different Christian interpretations. They will also explore the values taught in the Bible, and see if these can still fit in with our modern British society

ART

Year 9 students will study Natural Forms, reflecting Art GCSE objectives. This term highlights Georgia O'Keeffe, focusing on her use of colour, tone, and composition to introduce abstraction. Students will experiment with varied tonal and coloured media, refining skills and identifying strengths. This foundation will guide their future media choices, supporting confident, informed decisions as the course progresses.

FRENCH

This term, Year 9 French students will focus on hobbies, leisure activities, and digital technology use. They will learn to discuss favourite programs, use time expressions including the 24-hour clock, and explore cultural differences between French-speaking Africa and Europe. Grammar lessons cover "aimer" with infinitives, forming questions, and revising the past perfect tense to describe past activities.

SPANISH

This term, Year 9 Spanish students will focus on food, eating habits and healthy lifestyles. Students will learn vocabulary related to mealtimes, dishes, healthy diet and ordering food in a restaurant, as well as ailments and getting fit! Grammatically, they will cover the present, future and past tense verb conjugations

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Students begin with Health & Safety, identifying workshop risks. They explore the design process through mind mapping, writing specifications, and developing initial ideas linked to a design brief. Materials investigation focuses on pewter, including its properties and the die-casting process. Students apply practical skills by casting a pewter keyring. This term builds creative thinking, technical understanding, and hands-on experience, preparing students for more advanced design and manufacturing challenges.

MUSIC

In Autumn, Year 9 students will study Popular music with a focus on Reggae, developing listening, analysis, ensemble, and arrangement skills. They'll explore techniques of a well-known Reggae song, create a bass-driven arrangement, and perform it solo or in an ensemble. This work strengthens performance, creative arrangement, listening, and appraising skills within popular musical styles.

PE

Year 9 will benefit from an increase in PE time this term, and will be excited to take part in fortnightly inter-house sport competitions.

They will also be looking in more detail at sports such as cricket, baseball, badminton and fitness in their first term. Like the other year groups, they will also benefit from 'options' lessons too, where they will get to select to try-out some new activities, including ones they may never have heard of, such as Kin-ball!

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Students begin by revisiting digestion and exploring dietary needs across life stages. They investigate special diets, including vegetarianism, allergies, and intolerances, and study the role of nutrients in maintaining health. Practical lessons include preparing chicken wings, pasta Provençal, and sweet and sour dishes, helping students develop confidence in handling meat and balancing flavours.

Computing

Students begin with app development using Thunkable, creating mobile apps that use phone features and solve real-world problems and understanding and appraising UI and UX and giving feedback. They then revisit Python programming, applying core concepts to more complex scenarios including nested loops, lists and functions to build on interactivity and data handling. Student also tackle GCSE level questions to apply computational thinking to prepare for how to structure long format answers.

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Year 10 Autumn Curriculum

ENGLISH

Year 10 begins GCSE Literature with An Inspector Calls, exploring post-war socialist ideals and themes like social responsibility and guilt. Next, they'll delve into the gothic world of Jekyll and Hyde, examining appearance versus reality. These engaging texts build literary understanding and provide a strong foundation for the wider English curriculum.

MATHS

The Edexcel Maths 2-Year Scheme Autumn Term builds number and algebra fluency for Higher and Foundation tiers. Students work with integers, decimals, fractions, percentages, and ratio. Algebra topics include simplifying, expanding, solving equations, and formulae. Higher tier adds indices and complex algebra. Both tiers emphasise problem-solving and reasoning, ensuring strong foundations for GCSE progression.

SCIENCE

Biology begins with Cell Biology, studying cell types, structures, and microscope use. Chemistry focuses on Atomic Structure and Mendeleev's Periodic Table. Physics covers Energy stores and transfers, applying concepts to real-life problems. A scientific calculator is essential for success. Having been introduced to GCSE content in Year 9, students should revise thoroughly for upcoming assessments in each science topic to ensure progress.

HISTORY

Year 10 History students continue studying the American West and the rapid migration that shaped the USA. They'll explore settler-indigenous tensions, the Indian Wars, and events like the Battle of Little Bighorn. This poignant course highlights the cultural devastation of native peoples, prompting reflection on the cost of expansion and the legacy of nation-building.

GEOGRAPHY

In the autumn term, Year 10 will study resource management, focusing on food, water, and energy issues in the UK, including agribusiness, water pollution, and future energy. They will explore global food distribution, causes and impacts of food insecurity, and sustainable food management for the planet, while developing strong home learning habits to support their understanding.

RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS GCSE RS

students begin with Theme B: Religion and Life. Ethical issues of Abortion, Euthanasia and Animal testing will be debated. They then study Christian Beliefs for Paper 1, covering key theological concepts such as incarnation, Trinity, salvation, resurrection, and judgement, building a strong foundation in Christian doctrine..

ART

This term, Year 10 will focus on a skills unit to build essential Art GCSE techniques, including photography, artist analysis, and presentation. Students will study Georgia Morandi to develop tone, form, and composition through still life, and explore Vincent Van Gogh's use of colour and texture in his still life works. Emphasis will be placed on creating original photography and working from personal imagery to help students achieve higher grades.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Year 10 students will investigate the principles of public health and examine the key challenges faced by society in promoting and maintaining health. They will explore the role of Public Health England in preventing illness and safeguarding the nation's well-being. As part of their learning, students will apply their understanding by designing a health campaign aimed at raising awareness of a specific public health issue.

PE

GCSE PE students begin by studying anatomy and physiology before moving on to training principles and fitness components, taught through both classroom and practical lessons. In practical PE, the year group will also take part in fortnightly inter-house competitions and select from a variety of sports, aiming to discover an activity they enjoy and can continue beyond school.

PRODUCT DESIGN

Students begin by exploring user-centred design, learning how to research user needs and develop products that prioritise functionality and experience. They apply these principles in the Bookend Project, where they design and manufacture a pair of bookends using appropriate materials and finishes. Alongside this, students develop their drawing skills through orthographic, isometric, and perspective techniques, improving their ability to communicate ideas visually and accurately in preparation for more complex design tasks.

HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Students begin by exploring the hospitality and catering industry, learning about different roles and workplace environments. They study food safety principles and basic nutrition, focusing on how to prepare and store food safely. Practical lessons introduce core cooking techniques, helping students build confidence in handling ingredients and equipment while understanding the importance of hygiene and compliance.

BUSINESS

Year 10 Business students will step into the entrepreneurial spotlight, working in pairs to develop innovative business plans with a hypothetical £10,000 investment. They will craft strategies, branding, and budgets, then present their ideas in a Dragon's Den-style event. This project will showcase their confidence, creativity, and teamwork while competing for top recognition and real-world business experience.

FRENCH

This term, students will be introduced to the GCSE course, focussing on a variety of topics, including personal information, daily life, and leisure activities. They will continue to develop their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with an emphasis on practical communication. They will also revisit the present tense of regular and high frequency irregular verbs, the past perfect tense with "avoir" and "être", and the near future, as well as recap the use of negatives.

SPANISH

This term, Year 10 Spanish students will focus on language related to sports and hobbies, free time, and expressing opinions. They will cover opinion verbs, irregular present tense verbs, the near future and preterite tenses. They will then move on to focus on travel plans and festivals from Spanish-speaking countries.

Computer Science

Students begin with key data representation and storage concepts. They explore memory types, secondary storage, and units of data. Binary and hexadecimal systems are introduced, along with character sets used in computing. Students also learn about data compression and its importance in digital systems. The term includes revision and an assessment to consolidate understanding. Alongside this, students study ethical, legal, cultural, and environmental concerns in computing, including digital inequalities and licensing laws.

Year 11 Autumn Curriculum

ENGLISH

In Year 11, students tackle Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, exploring ambition, power, and the supernatural. Alongside this, they continue the *Power and Conflict* poetry anthology, analysing themes like war, identity, and resilience. These texts challenge students to think critically, compare perspectives, and engage deeply with language, context, and the world around them.

HISTORY

Year 11 History students continue studying Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, 1060–1088. They explore Anglo-Saxon society, the Norman invasion, William's consolidation of power, and the lasting impact of Norman rule. This pivotal period, nearly 1,000 years ago, still shapes our language, politics, and culture today.

ART

This term is crucial for Year 11 as they complete their coursework, which counts for 60% of the Art GCSE. Focusing on AO2 and AO4, students will develop ideas toward a final piece to be completed in a 10-hour controlled assessment in December. This work will bring together their Year 10 studies, inspired by artists they've researched and their own chosen artist, incorporating personal photography to create a unique response to the landscape theme.

PRODUCT DESIGN

Students begin by working in teams to explore contextual challenges, then transition to personal investigations. They create mind maps and problem/opportunity pages to define their design focus. Theory lessons cover product analysis, helping students evaluate existing solutions. Pupils begin compiling their exam portfolio with initial analysis and research. This term builds independence, critical thinking, and planning skills, laying the foundation for their NEA work through structured investigation and design problem framing.

FRENCH

This term, Year 11 French students will focus on holiday activities, including sports and cultural visits. They will explore travel, transport, accommodation, and free-time topics, expressing preferences with complex reasons, giving and following directions, and discussing personal holiday experiences. Grammar lessons cover using three time frames, key conjunctions, and the imperative to give clear instructions.

MATHS

Year 11 students follow the Edexcel 2-year scheme, preparing for November mock exams in both tiers. Higher tier focuses more on algebra, while Foundation emphasises number and ratio. The mocks cover most topics, with two exams in halls and one in class, supporting readiness for final GCSE assessments.

GEOGRAPHY

In the autumn term, Year 11 will study economic change, including measuring development, causes and consequences of uneven development, and strategies for growth, with a focus on Nigeria. They will examine the UK's postindustrial economy and explore hazards, comparing earthquake impacts in rich and poor countries. Strong home learning and revision will be essential for achieving high grades.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

At summer term's end, Health and Social Care students examined influenza and other viral infections, exploring transmission, symptoms, and Public Health England's role in prevention and control. In autumn, they will analyse target audiences, create strategies to prevent outbreaks, and plan and deliver a health campaign raising awareness of viral threats, enhancing understanding of public health challenges and responses.

HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Students investigate catering operations and business planning, learning how establishments meet customer expectations. They review food hygiene legislation and health and safety protocols. Practical tasks involve producing dishes using complex techniques, with a focus on professional standards. Pupils begin preparing for formal assessments by applying their knowledge to realistic catering scenarios.

SPANISH

This term, Year 11 Spanish students will continue to focus on healthy lifestyles (ailments, improving well-being.) Students will move on to the topic of school (typical school day, students, teachers, studies, how you would change the school, past school visits) and using future, conditional and past tenses, questions and negatives.

SCIENCE

In Biology, students are completing paper 1 Bioenergetics and moving to paper 2 Homeostasis. Chemistry lessons cover electrolysis before progressing to quantitative chemistry. Physics is concluding Forces and starting Motion. Students should review any missed lessons and begin revising Year 10 paper 1 content to prepare thoroughly for November Mocks, ensuring a strong understanding across all science topics.

RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

Year 11 RS students will study Islamic beliefs and practices, learning new vocabulary, Arabic terms, and Qur'an quotes. Topics include Prophets, Angels, Holy Books, predestination, and life after death. This leads into Islamic Practices, focusing on the Five Pillars of Islam, helping students understand core beliefs and how they shape Muslim life.

PE

GCSE PE students will complete coursework on improving performance in a chosen sport and resume classroom lessons covering physiology and socio-cultural influences, including commercialization. In practical PE, Year 11 will have fortnightly double lessons, offering opportunities to participate in off-site activities. This approach balances theory and practical experience, helping students consolidate knowledge and enjoy a range of engaging sporting experiences.

BUSINESS

Students explore business growth strategies, including organic and external expansion. They examine marketing decisions, focusing on the marketing mix and meeting customer needs. Financial topics include sources of finance and interpreting financial data. Students analyse organisational structures and effective people management. Real-world case studies support understanding of strategic decision-making. This term builds on prior knowledge from Theme 1, preparing students for final exams through applied learning, evaluation skills, and exam technique development.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Students focus on algorithms and programming fundamentals. They learn how to design efficient algorithms using flowcharts and pseudocode, and explore key concepts such as sequencing, selection, and iteration. Programming fundamentals are revisited and extended, including data types, variables, inputs, outputs, and control structures. Students apply these skills through practical coding tasks, preparing for both the theory and programming components of their final assessment. Emphasis is placed on problem-solving and computational thinking.

Home learning Letter



Dear WBS Families,

Thank you to those parents who joined the Seneca Home Learning meeting on Tuesday this week.

To ensure a smooth launch of the Seneca programme—which will be used for all home learning tasks from Monday 15th September—we have attached a short Parental Guide to help you navigate the platform. You may also find the following short video useful:

<https://www.loom.com/share/1c4ccbb864634281a96866ac87c70869?sid=71532ec2-f08b-4283-8bdd-43c1f39ce787>

Please note parents must use the email address they have provided to the school. This will automatically link your account with your child or children at WBS. All parents have been sent an invitation to join Seneca; if you have not yet connected, please use this invite to do so.

This week, all students have attended an assembly explaining how to use Seneca and outlining our expectations moving forward. On Friday 12th September, Year 7 students will receive an A5 Student Guide and a card with their password to access the platform.

If your child is experiencing difficulties accessing Seneca, please direct them to their tutor who can reset their password, or refer to the instructions in the Student Guide attached.

Following the meeting, we have also attached the presentation which provide a detailed explanation of the programme's frequency and what to expect. Seneca also offers additional booster subscriptions on top of the school-purchased Premium package. These include Exam Boost, Amelia AI, and 1-2-1 tutoring. These are completely optional and not required for students to access or complete their home learning. Any adverts shown on the platform can be closed by clicking the 'X' or by navigating elsewhere. My advice would be to clear and ignore these extras, as I do not believe students require them—but of course, this is your choice.

As our confidence and skill in using Seneca grows, we will share how you can use its additional resources to support revision and academic challenge. Thank you for your continued support.

Claire Mincher
Deputy Head Teacher

You said. We Did.

RSHE Policy Consultation

Overview of Parent and Carer Feedback



**WE DID
IT!**

RSHE Policy Consultation: Parent Feedback

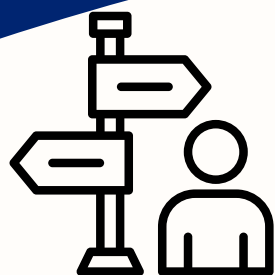
Thank you to all parents and carers who took part in our recent consultation on the revised RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) Policy. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with most respondents feeling comfortable with the proposed changes and recognising the importance of preparing young people for the social, emotional and online challenges they face today.

Parents were particularly supportive of the inclusion of learning around healthy relationships, consent, safeguarding, online safety, mental wellbeing and the impact of social media. Many also welcomed the school's proactive approach to addressing harmful attitudes and promoting respect

A number of valuable suggestions were received, including increasing focus on topics such as coercive control, critical thinking, online influences and equality. Parents also highlighted the importance of ensuring that information remains evidence-based and age-appropriate.

Some families requested further reassurance around how sensitive topics will be taught and emphasised the importance of transparency regarding lesson content. These views will help shape our ongoing planning and communication with families.

Overall, the consultation demonstrated strong parental support for the revised policy, with families recognising the importance of equipping young people with the knowledge and skills they need to stay safe, healthy and informed in modern society. We are grateful for the thoughtful feedback provided and will continue to work closely with parents and carers as the policy is implemented.



Careers and Destinations



At William Brookes School, we are committed to helping students make informed decisions about their future education, training and career pathways. Our Careers and Destinations section provides students and families with information, guidance and support to help them plan their next steps.



School Leaver Roadshows

Hello,

As you have now started Year 11, we want to ensure you make an informed decision about what happens when you leave school. The choices available to you include full-time education, apprenticeships, and employment. The range of education and training is vast and, as well as choosing subjects, possible careers, and university routes, you also need to understand the levels and types of qualifications on offer.

To help you navigate your many options, we are organising **two one-stop shop opportunities** to explore your options (including travel and financial information) for when you leave school. This is the tenth year we have provided events of this kind and 75% of previous attendees have rated them either "Very" or "Extremely" useful.

Cineworld, Shrewsbury | Monday 21 September 4.00-7.30pm

Book at <https://shrews.co/SLRSY>

voco by IHG, Telford | Saturday 26 September 9.30am-12.00noon

Book at <https://shrews.co/SLRTE>

These will both have with **stands and representatives** from local colleges, sixth forms and other training providers available to discuss what they can offer you after school. There will also be the opportunity to attend a presentation about all the options open to you when you leave school including **A levels, T Levels, vocational courses and apprenticeships**.

Places are offered via timed arrival, and **you and a guest** are invited to book a suitable slot. These are available on a first-come-first-served basis through the booking links above. This event is always very popular and to ensure as many school leavers can access it as possible, we will be **restricting guest numbers to one per pupil** to make sure we have enough space for you to speak to everybody. If there is a specific reason you need a further person accompanying you, please get in contact using the email address below.

Booking will be open whilst places remain available, but please do book early as these are very popular! Please email events@shrewsbury.ac.uk for assistance.

Shrewsbury College School Visits

In addition to these events, teams from Shrewsbury College will be visiting schools throughout Year 11, providing information and support, and dates of Open Events and Taster activities.

I hope you will be able to join us and look forward to welcoming you very soon.
Yours sincerely,

Mike Needham – Director of Communications Admissions & Marketing

Shrewsbury College

Welsh Bridge Campus, Shrewsbury, SY1 1RX

T Reception 01743 653000 www.shrewsbury.ac.uk

What's on at The Edge

What's On at The Edge Arts Centre



The Three Degrees
Iconic Vocal Group
Thursday 10 Sep 7.30pm
£32



Wellington (Telford) Brass Band
for Jon Hayward Memorial Trust
Friday 11 Sep 7.30pm
£15 (under 18 £10)



FiddleBop
Gypsy Jazz
Saturday 12 Sep 7.30pm
£15



Monday Night Cinema
Midwinter Break (12)
Monday 14 Sep 7.30pm
£6 (concessions £5)



André Rieu
Viva Maastricht! (PG)
Thursday 17 Sep 7.30pm
£12 (concessions £10)



The Joe Masterson Trio
Top quality Jazz
Friday 18 Sep 7.30pm
£15



Our Star Theatre presents
The Three Musketeers
Saturday 19 Sep 7.30pm
£15



Monday Night Cinema
Save The Cinema (12)
Monday 21 Sep 7.30pm
£6 (concessions £5)

The Edge Arts Centre at William Brookes School

Box Office: Penny-Farthing, 5 The Square, Much Wenlock

Buy online at ticketsource.co.uk/edgeartscentre

Ticket line 0333 666 3366 during office hours

Join our mailing list at edgeartscentre.com