

Course	Description
Additional MFL	Students wanting to continue with both languages (Spanish and French) during year 9 must choose the “ Additional MFL ” option. In this case, instead of having 3 lessons a week of one language, students will have two hours of each language a week. Please note that these are NOT GCSE course in year 9 and choosing to study two languages during year 9 does not commit a student to doing both languages at GCSE, but will provide them with a solid base in both of them in order to support their choices next year.
Art	Art enables students to be successful in building a wide knowledge of art including, portraiture, still life, print making, modelling, painting, digital art and drawing. Students will be able to reflect on their own work as well as exploring the work of both modern and traditional artists within different cultures and art movements. The main elements: line, colour, shape, form, texture, value and space, will become the foundation of their knowledge which will lead to being prepared to expand further at GSCE.
Computing	The Computing course has been designed to provide a solid basis of understanding and to engage learners to get them thinking about real world application. This is a course that has real relevance in our modern world. Students who select Computing will gain an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on “behind the scenes”. As part of this, they will become proficient at computer programming, developing critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills. It is a fun and interesting way to progress these skills, which can then be transferred to other subjects and applied in day-to-day life.
Dance	Year 9 is an opportunity to keep enjoying Dance whilst also preparing students for the exciting GCSE course. Students will have fun developing their choreography skills, whilst also enhancing their knowledge and understanding of key professional works and improving their performance skills. Practical and theoretical tasks are completed for each unit. Students will have the opportunity to select their own music, work in the style of their choice and perform solos, duets and group pieces. Students are encouraged to develop their critical appreciation skills both of their own work and of the inspiring professional works we will study.
Drama	The Drama course in Year 9 will provide students with lots of opportunities to perform, direct and design. You will continue to work practically whilst also exploring the social, historical and cultural contexts of different plays, styles and stimuli. Students will also enhance the key life skills of presenting, communicating, and will be encouraged to lead others in a group and develop their cultural capital. Students will be exposed to the enjoyment of live theatre whilst also developing their analytical skills ready for the 60% practical GCSE course.
Music	Music in Year 9 allows you to express your love of Music and develop your skills as a musician. Students will work creatively in small groups and independently. Students develop skills such as playing by ear and improvising, as well as composing. There is a strong focus on songwriting and band skills, as these are essential skills required at GCSE, in addition to listening and appraising a wide range of musical styles from the Western Classical Tradition, Popular Music and World Music. Students are encouraged to take part in Music extra-curricular activities such as band rehearsals, singing groups and keyboard groups and to learn to play their own instrument.
Business Studies (Introduction)	Think about last time you bought a chocolate bar and then think about all the different businesses that made it possible for you to buy it... The coco bean growers? The milk farmer? The packaging manufacturers? The delivery companies that move them to shops? The advertising agencies that produced their TV/Print adverts? Recruitment agencies that provide the staff? Thinking about all these stages allows you to begin to understand about what Business Studies is all about. Business is a major part of everyone’s life and anybody who has a good idea about how business works is at an immediate advantage in the future. The year 9 course provides an overview of key business concepts, including enterprise, marketing and finance. Using a mixture of project work, investigations/case studies and theory, we examine real businesses and consider the factors that contribute to their success or failure.
PE Theory	PE theory is an exciting opportunity to prepare for GCSE PE which will challenge and inspire students. New and contemporary topics will help students to develop a well-rounded skill set and prepare them for the exam course in Year 10, which is 70% theory overall. Topics in Year 9 will develop knowledge and understanding of the key body systems and how they impact on health, fitness and performance. They will also develop knowledge of psychological factors that can affect performers in physical activity and sport.