

Parents Guide to Year 9



Information about all the subjects studied in

YEAR 9

What to expect and how you can help your child succeed.

2016-2017

Key Dates in Year 9

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2016/17

Mid Term Holidays						
Term	Term Begins	Terms Ends	Begins	Ends	Term Begins	Term Ends
Autumn 2016	Thursday 1st September	Friday 21st October	Monday 24th October	Friday 28th October	Monday 31st October	Friday 16th December
Spring 2017	Tuesday 3rd January	Friday 17th February	Monday 20th February	Friday 24th February	Friday 27th February	Monday 7th April
Summer 2017	Monday 24th April	Friday 26th May	Monday 29th May	Friday 2nd June	Monday 5th June	Friday 21st July

IMPORTANT DATES:

Interim Report Issued - 17th November 2016

Year 9 Options Programme Starts 4th January 2017

Options Fair - 19th January 2017

Year 9 Examinations - 14th-28th February 2017

End of Year Report Issued - 24th March 2017

Year 9 Parents' Evening - 27th March 2017

Final Options Deadline - 31st March 2017

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Head of Year: Mr. C. M. Fuge

Pastoral Support Officer: Mrs. R. Thomas

School Website: www.penyrrheol-comp.net

Twitter: [@Penyrrheol](https://twitter.com/Penyrrheol)

Presentation of Work

1. Work must be presented neatly at all times.
2. Always write in blue or black pen.
3. Drawings or diagrams must be done in pencil but labelled in pen.
4. Always write in your neatest handwriting.
5. Lay out your work like this:

Classwork/Homework

Date

Title of Work

6. Put numbers or letters of questions in the margin.
7. Write on the top line of every page and start near the margin.
8. Write on every page. Don't leave big gaps.
9. No Tipp-Ex. Cross out with one straight line. Don't use brackets instead of crossing out.
10. No graffiti.

It is your responsibility to copy up work missed due to absence and ensure your work is complete.





English

Head of Department: Miss. K. Jones

What will your child study in Year 9?

Each half term, pupils will focus on a different theme in which they will encounter a variety of fictional and non-fictional texts.

Reading

Some texts will require very little reading but others will need more in-depth reading and will be more challenging. The texts will require different approaches and responses.

Writing

Some of the writing tasks will require a brief response whilst others will focus on extended writing. Pupils will write a variety of different text types, for example, descriptive, narrative, in-structional, informative and persuasive texts. Pupils will work on effective organisation of ideas in their writing but they will also be expected to write with grammatical accuracy and correct spelling; 50% of the marks will be given for spelling and grammar.

Speaking and Listening

Pupils will be involved in pair / group discussions.

How will your child be assessed?

Term	Theme	Key Task
Autumn Term (1st half term)	Prom	Writing: Creating an argument - A formal letter to Mr Tootill and a short report to consider alternatives to the school prom.
Autumn Term (2nd half term)	Novel	Reading: Close reading of the text, analysing the writer's intentions.
		Writing: A short narrative response. Speaking and Listening: : Individual presentation based on the themes of the novel.
Spring Term (1st half term)	News Desk	Reading: Close reading of non-fiction text.
		Writing: Writing an article for a specific audience and purpose.
Spring Term (2nd half term)	Shakespeare	Reading: Close reading of the presentation of a character.
		Speaking and Listening: Assessed group discussion.
Summer Term	Travel and Adventure	Writing: A brochure to persuade readers to visit a chosen area - A descriptive opening.

English Continued

How can you support your child?

- ◆ Making sure that all homework (written in diaries) is completed
- ◆ Reading with your child several times a week and talking about what you have read
- ◆ Having plenty of reading material at home such as books, newspapers and magazines
- ◆ Going through the spelling of words and testing your child on difficult words
- ◆ Having a dictionary and thesaurus available for use at home
- ◆ Discussing work that is being done and offering ideas and suggestions
- ◆ Checking through written work and helping your child with punctuation, spelling and gram-mar
- ◆ Helping your child use the internet for research purposes.

English trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 9

These change each year but might include: author visits, writing workshops, theatre visits and occasional trips when relevant. Past trips have included a visit to the Harry Potter Studios.



Maths

Head of Department: Mrs L. Maclean Quin/Mr. P. Bedford

What will your child study in Year 9?

Year 9 Maths builds on the work done in previous years. As your child starts Year 9 it is important to realise that they will be expected to remember and use work and skills studied in Years 7 and 8. This may require some revision if your child has not retained the work.

It is **VERY** important that the books from Years 7 and 8 are kept safe as they will be needed to revise from during the year, at the end of the year and also in the years to come. Everything done in maths can be in the GCSE exam in Year 11 and pupils will need to look back on all of the work to prepare for those exams.

Due to the fact that there are now two GCSE exams in Maths, we are planning to cover all the work for the numeracy GCSE during Year 9 and Year 10. This means that pupils will sit the GCSE Numeracy exam in the Summer Term of Year 10 and then start preparing immediately to sit the Maths GCSE in the Summer Term of Year 11. All the content of the Numeracy exam is included in the Maths exam also which is why the Numeracy exam will be sat prior to the Maths exam. Each qualification is assessed with two exams, one calculator and one non-calculator. They are separate qualifications so do not have to be sat at the same tier of entry.

Both GCSE Numeracy and GCSE Mathematics are offered at three tiers of entry.

Higher Tier
Grades A* to C are available. This course is designed for pupils aiming for A and A* grades.
Intermediate Tier
Grades B to E are available. This course will be suitable for most pupils.
Foundation Tier
Grades D to G are available. There is an obvious disadvantage to this course as a grade C isn't available. However, it may be that your child hasn't developed enough mathematically yet to sit the Intermediate Tier and may run the risk of not getting a grade at all if they are entered for it.

It is vital that your son/daughter works hard in Year 9 so we can assess their ability and make the correct judgement about their Maths set for Year 10.

Classwork will not be marked by the teacher as it will be marked in lessons as part of self and peer assessment. If your child is away when a piece of work is marked then make sure that they borrow a book or booklet to mark it, asking the teacher if there is a problem. Your child's book can be asked for at any time to check that it is up to date and organised and marking will be monitored in this way.

If your child's teacher wants to mark a specific piece of classwork for assessment, this work will be in the back of your child's book, along with any homework.

How will your child be assessed?

Assessment will be in the form of module tests done throughout the year, one per half term. These will be marked by the teacher. Pupils will complete a self-assessment following the test to identify areas of weakness.

Maths Continued

These tests will be stored in school as evidence of Teacher Assessed Levels.

February/March - pupils will sit an exam with all the work covered before Christmas in it. Pupils will need to revise for a considerable length of time for this test even if they have done well in all topic tests as they may forget work. *A revision homework will be set in January to help pupils to prepare.*

May - The Numeracy procedural and reasoning tests will be sat in May. The results of these tests should be in school by July and will form part of our assessment of the best tier of entry for the Numeracy GCSE in Year 10.

Mid June - pupils will sit their end of year exam with ALL the work covered during the year in it. A revision list of topics will be provided to ensure thorough revision. This exam will be in two parts: a calculator paper and a non-calculator paper. This exam is extremely important to reviewing the set your child is in going into Year 10 which could affect their tier of entry for the Numeracy exam at the end of year. This exam is done in maths classes so is not on the school calendar as dates cannot be set so far in advance.

Although homework marks are recorded, we cannot use these as an assessment of your child's level as they are not done under teacher supervision. However, pupils with good homework marks generally perform better in exams due to the fact they will have revised work in completing homework to a good standard.

How can you support your child?

- ◆ Help your child learn their tables if they are not confident. This can be done by writing them out, chanting them and then testing them out of sequence. If your child can only answer a question like 6×8 by counting up 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 48 then they are not fluent enough to be fully confident.
- ◆ If your child is away from school, ensure that work is copied up straight away by borrowing another pupil's book or booklet. After the work is copied up your child can ask the teacher for help if it is needed.
- ◆ Encourage your child to "have a go" and show methods without fear of being wrong. Fear of failure is a big barrier to learning in Maths.
- ◆ Ensure they have the correct equipment including a Scientific Calculator (preferably a Casio).

With Homework: If your child is finding a homework task difficult, you can help in the following ways:

- ◆ Encourage them to look in their books and online for any examples or information they may have forgotten. If it is a My Maths task, make sure they are using the lesson button at the corner of the homework task.
- ◆ Encourage them to do the question first and then ask you to check it, rather than you telling them what to do. You will then be able to see where they have gone wrong to home in on where they are getting stuck.
- ◆ Make sure they understand that homework is an opportunity to research and revise so all questions should be attempted. If they get them wrong then the teacher will go over any misconceptions in class with them.
- ◆ Encourage them to try the homework as they get it! Far too many pupils leave it until the night before or even the morning it is due in.

It is very tempting as a parent to sit and help too much which ultimately doesn't develop the skills your child needs to cope with the new Maths curriculum. However, by following these guidelines you are reinforcing the principles we follow in school which will be very beneficial to your child.



Science

Head of Department: Mrs. S. Goulden

What will your child study in Year 9?

We aim for all pupils to enjoy their scientific experiences and achieve an excellent understanding of our subject. We are passionate about science and aim for all pupils to achieve their potential by the end of Key Stage 3. In Year 9, your son/daughter will be studying:

Chemistry	Physics	Biology
Chemical Patterns Displacement Reactions Elements and Compounds The Period Table	Balanced Forces Moving Energy Work Done Insulators	Being Healthy Inheritance Respiratory System Drugs

All of our laboratories are equipped with interactive whiteboards and an excellent range of resources to also promote essential literacy, numeracy and ICT skills.

Your son/daughter will improve their thinking skills by:

- Conducting a series of enquiries within the above topics that will develop your son/daughter's planning, analysing and reflection skills.
- Developing their thinking tools and learning strategies as part of teaching and learning.

How will your child be assessed?

All Year 9 pupils are taught in set classes. Pupils progress in is monitored closely. Pupils are set again at the end of Year 9 using enquiry levels (and the Year 9 summer examination result).

How can you support your child?

- Look through your son/daughter's exercise book with him/her. Encourage your child to complete any unfinished work, improve the presentation of their work, and to discuss the concepts he/she has studied. This will help with test revision.
- Emphasise the importance of completing quality homework on time. Feel free to help your son/daughter, or contact our department if he/she is experiencing difficulty.
- Please ensure that your son/daughter copies up work missed if he/she is absent from school.
- Help your child to develop study skills when revising for tests and examinations. Buying a Key Stage 3 revision guide can help – these can often contain glossy diagrams and questions to help your son/daughter to test their understanding.
- Encourage your son/daughter to understand the world of science beyond school. There are many books and internet sites available to fuel your child's imagination. Visits to Techniquest and local museums also help to develop an inquisitive nature.

Art

Head of Department: Mrs. V. Hine

What will your child study in Year 9?

All pupils in Year 9 have the opportunity to study Art for 3 hour lessons in the two week timetable. Pupils in Year 9 continue to develop their artistic skills by experimenting with a range of media, techniques & processes. Pupils will focus on symmetry within their drawings and applying detail and tone to their work. Pupils learn to Express and communicate ideas and feelings where their performance is continually assessed. Pupils are involved in evaluating their own and each other's performance, and in setting targets for their own development.

Autumn Term – Spring Term (Sep - Feb)	Sweets
Within this unit students are given the opportunity to explore various materials and techniques related to the theme sweets. Students will draw from direct observation focusing on 3 dimensional shapes looking at cylinders and cubes. Students will apply detail to their work and will develop painting skills focusing on blending and application of paint. The contemporary artist Sarah Graham will inspire students. Sketchbooks will be used to develop ideas where they will draw various logos of famous brands and learn how to draw various shapes of different sweets. The final outcome is to produce a detailed painting of sweets focusing on form, tone and pattern. All students will become involved in assessment for learning during the project where they will record peer and self-assessment in sketchbooks which they can reflect on during learning.	
Spring Term – Summer Term (Feb - Jul)	Natural Forms
Within this unit, students are given the opportunity to develop specific skills for recording from observation focusing on producing various leaf drawings and bug drawings. Students will investigate the formal elements of Art and experiment with a range of different materials. Students will record their observations and develop ideas by learning about the elements of Art through line, tone, colour and symmetry based on natural forms. They will develop ideas and intentions by working from first-hand observations, experience, inspiration and imagination. The outcome for this project is to produce a ceramic beetle and leaves ceramic tile. All students will record their levels and have a target of what is required in order to improve. All students will also comment on their progress where information will be stored in sketchbooks where students can reflect on their learning.	

All pupils will need to have basic art equipment for their lessons: Various shading pencils HB, 2B, 4B, eraser, sharpener, glue, coloured pencils, black sharpie & alphabet stickers or transfers.

How will your child be assessed?

Within each project introduced the pupils will apply numeracy within their work to develop artistic abilities and mathematical skills. They will also complete literacy tasks and evaluate their learning to improve literacy skills. All pupils record their learning regularly and set targets in order to continue to develop and meet their end of year target level. Students will also be involved in peer assessment, group assessment and self-assessment during lessons.

How can you support your child?

- ♦ Visit art galleries & museums to increase their knowledge of Art.
- ♦ Watch Art documentaries to increase knowledge of artists.
- ♦ Ensure your child is spending quality time on their homework & provide essential art equipment
- ♦ Encourage internet research of various artists and cultures.





Design & Technology

Head of Department: Mr. M. Rees

What will your child study in Year 9?

At Key Stage 3, pupils should be given the opportunities to build on the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired at Key Stage 2. They should be taught to design and make products by combining their designing and making skills with knowledge and understanding in contexts that allow them to make decisions based on the values that underpin society, helping them to become active and informed citizens.

The pupils should be made aware of human achievements and the big ideas that have shaped the world. They should be encouraged to be enterprising and innovative in their designing and making while having regard for sustainability and environmental issues in the 21st century.

Pupils will experience the broad nature of Design and Technology. Pupils will deal with several factors in their experiences; Health and Safety, CAD/CAM (computer aided design, computer aided manufacture) Resistant Materials, Compliant Materials and Food. Pupils will follow rotational courses and visit each teacher who delivers their specialism within the subject. All pupils will follow the same format in each aspect of the subject, to aid the learning experience. It is vital pupils are equipped with the basic equipment during lessons and any homework set is completed on time.

How will your child be assessed?

Each course is individually assessed by the specialist teacher. All pupils will sit an end of year exam which covers general Design and Technology elements.

How can you support your child?

- ◆ Showing an interest in the work they are doing in Design and Technology – the subject has changed massively since you were in school!
- ◆ Speaking about items in the news of a technological nature – this helps to develop an interest.
- ◆ Help with homework and stress the importance of producing the best work of your child's ability.

Drama

Head of Department: Mrs. A. Williams-Sheaf

What will your child study in Year 9?

In Key Stage Three Drama focuses on developing skills that will allow each pupil to gain confidence in their abilities as an individual, work effectively as a team and gain a deeper understanding of the world using performance skills, dramatic forms and theatre skills and techniques.

Pupils will be involved in schemes of work that will explore and develop the following skills:

Making
Pupils will be observed and assessed in lessons on the contribution of ideas that demonstrate understanding of skills and techniques which lead to finished presentations and the ability to work well with others.
Performing
In assessed tasks, marks are awarded for ability to perform characters using voice, movement and facial expressions. Marks are also awarded for using dramatic techniques and theatre styles, good use of space and for effective communication with other actors and with the audience.
Evaluating
This takes place when work is presented in lessons. This involves the ability to reflect and comment on own and others' work. This may be done verbally or in writing. Performances are evaluated by pupils by commenting on what was effective and why, and what could be improved and how.

How will your child be assessed?

Work is marked in levels for each area of assessment e.g.:

Making Level 4- Performing Level 4+ Evaluating Level 3+

An overall level is then awarded at the end of each assessment which would consider all three areas.

For the above it would be Level 4. Formal assessment takes place every term and targets are given for areas of improvement.

How can you support your child?

Parents/guardians can assist the development of their child's work by discussing the content of each lesson and debating topical issues and current affairs in order to build confidence, improve communication skills and form opinions.

Drama trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 9

We attempt to take theatre trips whenever possible and/or host visiting theatre groups. Pupils may also have the opportunity to participate in our annual School Production which is staged in the week prior to the October Half Term break.





French

Head of Department: Mrs. C. Young

What will your child study in Year 9?

The Year 9 course involves oracy (speaking & listening), reading and writing through purposeful and entertaining activities which build up language learning gradually. Topics studied include:

En Voyage	Ca Va?
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talk about travel plans 2. Understand signs at a station 3. Buy a train ticket 4. Say what must or should not be done 5. Understand travel information 6. Travel by air, coach and boat 7. Describe a recent day out 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss clothes and what to wear 2. Describe people's appearance 3. Talk about parts of the body 4. Say how you feel and describe what hurts
En Famille	Au College
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduce people 2. Ask and answer questions when staying with a French family 3. Talk about what you have done recently 4. Talk about presents and souvenirs 5. Say goodbye and thank you 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe your school 2. Talk about the school day 3. Describe how you travel to school 4. Talk about morning and evening routines 5. Give opinions about school subjects and aspects of school life 6. Say what you want and don't want to do

Pupils in the Intermediate Sets follow the Salut! Course and topics studied include:

- Talk about yourself and family, Talk about hobbies, Discuss daily routine, Make social arrangements, Talk about parts of the face and the body, Say what's wrong with you, Say what you eat
- Learn about shops and buy food.

How will your child be assessed?

Year 9, are regularly assessed in class through all four skills; reading, writing, speaking and listening. They will also have learning home works.

How can you support your child?

- Testing vocabulary and numbers.
- Assisting your child in using the dictionary.
- Making your child aware of French products in the supermarket.
- Using www.languagesonline.org.uk

French trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 9

There is a lunchtime language club which pupils are encouraged to attend.

Geography

Head of Department: Mr. M. Hyndman

What will your child study in Year 9?

Atlas skills, day-night and seasons	Sustainability
Around the World	Development
Natural Regions – deserts, rainforests, artic and savannah	

How will your child be assessed?

Pupils are assessed using a variety of strategies including:

- ♦ Extended writing tasks
- ♦ Location map tests
- ♦ Numeracy and literacy exercises to provide a best fit level.

How can you support your child?

- ♦ Encourage your child to be more sustainable. Walk rather than drive or use public transport. Recycle glass, paper, aluminium cans and other household items. Start a compost heap or join an environmental organisation.
- ♦ Watch geography programmes on the Discovery Channel or mainstream television especially those on deserts, rainforests, artic or savannah.
- ♦ Use an atlas to find the exact location of holidays and how you got there.
- ♦ When travelling by car use an atlas and ask them to follow your route.

Geography trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 9

Pupils in the past have enjoyed visits to subject related places such as Big Pit, Blaenafon/Cardiff Bay, Dartmoor National Park and the Eden Project. These change annually. In March, pupils will enjoy a fascinating presentation by local environmentalist Phil Williams.





History

Head of Department: Dr. C. J.Rees

What will your child study in Year 9?

WALES AND BRITAIN IN THE INDUSTRIAL AGE c. 1750-1918

The Agricultural Revolution	The causes and consequences of the Industrial Revolution
Working conditions in factories and mines	Developments in the field of transport
Popular protest and the fight for parliamentary reform	The British Empire
The causes of the first world war	The civil rights movement in America in the 1950's and 1960's
The First World War: recruitment, trench warfare, The Battle of the Somme, The Home Front, The end of the war.	

As a result of studying History, pupils will develop the ability to:

- ♦ Explain the causes and consequences of events
- ♦ Examine and evaluate evidence
- ♦ Be aware of different points of view in History
- ♦ Research and investigate topics
- ♦ Communicate in ideas in a variety of ways

How will your child be assessed?

Your child will undertake 4ASSESSMENT TASKS, designed to test and improve their historical skills: -

1. October – The Agricultural Revolution 1700-1900
2. December – How Britain changed from 1700-1900
3. February – Interpretation work on the Peterloo Massacre 1819
4. April – A research project on Life in the Trenches

How can you support your child?

- ♦ Check through your child's written work and help with spelling, punctuation and grammar
- ♦ Stress the need to write full detailed answers.
- ♦ Provide plenty of reading materials such as 'All Quiet on the Western Front'.
- ♦ Encourage your child to use the internet for research purposes.
- ♦ Encourage your child to develop an inquisitive nature and a desire to seek answers.

History trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 9

The History Department has run several trips to the First World War Battlefields, incorporating visits to Ypres in Belgium and the Somme region as part of the Year 9 studies.

I.C.T

Head of Department: Mr. R. Marks

What will your child study in Year 9?

The focus for Year 9 pupils is preparation for the GCSE ICT and Computing specifications in Year 10. Pupils will take time to familiarise themselves with higher level skills and utilise these when producing a large scale business project. They will also start to work more electronically with less paper handouts and more computer based templates.

TASK 1: Pupils are asked to create and interrogate a Travel Agents holiday database from a basic text data file. They will learn field naming conventions, data types and complex queries.

TASK 2: Pupils will spend time reviewing a range of business documents and create their own 'House Style' for their Travel Agents. They will achieve this by initially creating a logo and business card.

TASK 3: Pupils will create an animated web banner utilising their travel agent logo. This will be converted into a GIF.

TASK 4: Pupils will then create a mood board to assist with their website design. The mood board will feature image and text research and hexadecimal colour references to be used on their website

TASK 5: Pupils will create a PhotoStory video using their research, to promote the travel agency. They will record voice-overs, layer background music and learn some basic video editing skills in preparation for using this video on their website.

TASK 6: Finally, pupils will bring together the multimedia skills they have learned throughout the topic to create a website for their travel agency. This will make use of professional web-editing software. Whilst doing this, they will learn some basic HTML coding, how to use hexadecimal colours and make a website accessible to all users.

Important skills in this year's scheme of work are to learn new multimedia techniques, to respond effectively to peer assessment and to gain an understanding of the basic concepts of a programming language. These skills will give pupils an experience of integral parts of the GCSE ICT and Computing specifications.

How will your child be assessed?

Pupils' overall ICT levels are derived from classroom and homework tasks that they complete throughout the year. Pupils will also sit an end of year test that contributes to the feedback they receive on their final Year 9 report.

How can you support your child?

Parents can help by making sure pupils read the instructions on each homework sheet carefully before completing them. Assistance for parents can be found online at <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

ICT trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 7

There is an ICT Club each Wednesday at lunch time where pupils get the opportunity to practise programming, games design and lego robotics.





Music

Head of Department: Mrs. L. Phipps

What will your child study in Year 9?

- Learning to perform vocally and on a variety of instruments including keyboard, ukulele, guitar and percussion instruments.
- Learning to compose for a variety of instruments including the voice.
- Learning to listen critically to a wide range of music from various styles, eras and backgrounds. This includes classical, rock, pop, blues and various world music
- Learning to develop ICT skills using iPad software packages

Topics covered in Year 9 include:

Film Music	Theme and Variations	Christmas Music
Textures in Pop Music	Britpop	Cerddoriaeth o Gymru / Music of Wales

How will your child be assessed?

There is a class assessment at the end of each half term where the pupils will perform the piece they have been working on.

How can you support your child?

- Encouraging them to learn an instrument through the in-school peripatetic service (Strings, Woodwind and Brass)
- Encouraging them to participate in one of the many extracurricular ensembles
- (Junior Choir, Woodwind Group, String Group, Orchestra, School Production)
- Enabling them to practice on a musical instrument at home
- Listening to your child singing and make helpful comments
- Attending concerts that your child is performing in
- Encouraging them to listen to a broad range of music
- Taking them to performances of live music (musicals, rock concerts, classical concerts, festivals etc.)

Music trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 9

The department organises a wide selection of extra curricular activities including girls and boys choirs and music clubs for keyboard, guitar, strings and woodwind. Pupils get the chance to perform at both the Summer and Christmas concerts and some have the opportunity to participate in the annual school production.

Physical Education

Head of Department: Mrs. A. Heard
Teacher in Charge of Boys: Mr. A. Clapperton

What will your child study in Year 9?

Pupils are taught a range of activities in each of the National Curriculum areas:

Competitive Activities **Outdoor & Adventurous** **Health & Wellbeing** **Creative Activities**

Participation

Encourage your child to participate in every lesson with the correct kit. Send a letter in an envelope if they are too ill to participate. Usually if they are fit enough to be in school they can take part in P.E. Lessons.

Effort

Whatever your child's ability it is important that they participate with the maximum effort in all lessons. It doesn't matter if you can't do a forward roll as long as you try.

Safety

Accidents in PE can be avoided by the following rules:-

- ♦♦ All trainers must be tied up properly
- ♦♦ No jewellery to be worn. Please provide tape for earrings which cannot be removed.
- ♦♦ All instructions given by PE teachers are concerned with safety.
- ♦♦ Encourage your child to listen and carry out the appropriate instructions.

How will your child be assessed?

Pupils are awarded a National Curriculum level based on their performance and knowledge across all the areas.

How can you support your child?

Ensure your child has the correct P.E. Uniform/Kit (Available from Picton Sports and Sew & Sew):

Girls:	P. E. T-shirt (Blue and white with badge), shorts/skorts, sports socks. rugby shirt (optional), swimming kit, trainers (not school shoes) .
Boys	Football boots, Towel (if outside lesson), P. E. T-shirt, shorts/skorts, sports socks. rugby shirt (optional), swimming kit, trainers and football boots.

P.E. trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 9

Full programme of 5x60 activities, available during and after school.

Full range of sports teams and training opportunities. Competitive matches and inter-school tournaments.

Our own on-site Rugby Development Officer who arranges regular training and fixtures.

Sports Tours are also organised.

Squad members of ANY team, are expected to be reliable and committed

Twitter: @penyrheolPE





Religious Education

Head of Department: Mrs. L. Picton

What will your child study in Year 9?

Through the course pupils will be engaging with fundamental questions, exploring religious beliefs, teachings and practices and expressing personal responses. Year 9 Pupils will go on to study:

Human Experience	Relationships and responsibility – Persecution and Prejudice, Holocaust – Anne Frank, Martin Luther King and Racism, Belonging – Celebration, Meaning and purpose of life – Good/Evil, Questions about God and Suffering. The journey of life – pilgrimage e.g. Yad Vashem, Lourdes.
Human Identity	The nature of God/ the Soul, Good and evil
Search for Meaning:	Knowledge and experience of the non-material/spiritual

How will your child be assessed?

Pupils will be given opportunities to develop their skills and their knowledge of Christianity and other principal religions. Through the course pupils will be engaging with fundamental questions, exploring religious beliefs, teachings and practices, expressing personal responses.

Specific level assessments throughout the year may include: The Holocaust – Where was God?
Martin Luther King – Civil Rights, Human Identity, Suffering moral/natural.

How can you support your child?

- Encouraging your child to use the library for reading material and for research.
- Helping your child to use the internet for research and revision purposes.
- Encouraging your child to write full detailed responses, particularly with evaluation answers and level assessments.
- Testing your child on the spelling, punctuation, grammar and meaning of key words words e.g. Anti-Semitism, Holocaust, Civil Rights, Discrimination.
- Ensuring that set homework is completed on time and revision is carried out for set tests/examinations
- Ensuring there are no pieces of unfinished work in your child's book.
- Helping your child to read any written material they find difficult
- Encouraging your child to undertake novel reading on certain topics to enhance literacy skills for example Anne Frank, Martin Luther King.
- Discussing work that is being done and offering ideas and suggestions e.g. 'Never Again' – Holocaust Day 27th January in Britain, a warning in History; Civil Rights.
- Encouraging discussion of other beliefs and a tolerance of a different world religion.

R.E. trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 9

Pupils visit the Imperial War Museum. This visit includes the Holocaust exhibition and they even meet survivors, as part of their study on Persecution and Prejudice, linking into their level assessments.

Spanish

Head of Department: Mrs. C. Young

What will your child study in Year 9?

Year 9 Spanish will be taught using the MIRA course book. These are fun, engaging and inspiring language lessons.

Topics of study include:

Hola	En el Instituto
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introducing yourself2. Numbers3. Understanding the concept of masculine and feminine	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. School subjects and teachers2. Likes and dislikes3. Food
Mi Familia	En Casa
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Brothers & sisters2. Higher numbers3. Family4. Animals5. Appearance and character.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Describing your house and where you live.

How will your child be assessed?

Pupils will be assessed on their oracy, reading and writing skills throughout the year.

How can you support your child?

- ♦♦ Testing vocabulary and numbers.
- ♦♦ Assisting your child in using the dictionary.
- ♦♦ Making your child aware of Spanish products in the supermarket.
- ♦♦ Using www.languagesonline.org.uk



Welsh

Head of Department: Mr. N. D. Binding

What will your child study in Year 9?

In Year 9, pupils build on the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired in years 7 and 8. The demands of both the oral and written activities should ensure the development and extension of each pupil's ability as a communicator of Welsh in speaking, listening viewing and writing. Work will focus on sport and talking about others.

As such, pupils will be given a wide range of reading material and will deal with texts that are of increasing difficulty for pleasure and interest and in order to find information. Each pupil will be encouraged to develop and articulate personal opinions about texts read and the topic of sport in the first term and a half.

How will your child be assessed?

October	Oracy - Pair/Group task on sport Reading - Comprehension task on Jake Writing - Poetry response: "Mam, dw i'n bôrd."
January	Oracy - Book review/synopsis Reading - ERW comprehension tasks based on two reading books on sport Writing - Sports essay
April	Oracy - Personal presentation Reading - TBC Writing - A sports game review /report

The KS3 National Curriculum Welsh Second Language levels are made up of the following weightings:

Oracy tasks are 60%, reading and writing tasks are worth 20% each.

How can you support your child?

- ♦♦ encourage your child to follow the 3 R's:
 - Record** - It is essential that pupils record the subject (Cymraeg), the task set (as written on the board by the classroom teacher) and the date for handing in the gwaith cartref
 - Routine** - Do encourage a regular set time for homework completion. Quite often, learning work will be given for a vocabulary test or a conversation.(sgwrs)
 - Result** - Homework is an opportunity for pupils to prove their understanding of the work covered in class and to improve their own individual performance.
- ♦♦ Complete homework by the due date
- ♦♦ Testing him/her when revising
- ♦♦ Checking his/her book for neatness, for progress being made and for staff comments.
- ♦♦ By ensuring that his/her bag is ready for each day with the correct books and equipment.
- ♦♦ Use the Welsh that he/she knows at home and to watch S4C occasionally!
- ♦♦ Show your child the following keyboard shortcuts for using Welsh letters:
 - Hold down the ALT button and type in the numbers on the right hand side of the computer keyboard. The number lock must be on.
 - â = ALT + 0226 ê = ALT + 0234
 - î = ALT + 0238 ô = ALT + 0244
 - û = ALT + 150

Welsh trips and/or extra curricular activities in Year 9

Year 9 have the opportunity to attend the St. David's Day Festival Weekend in Disneyland, Paris in March.

Twitter: @penyrheolWelsh

Notes

