



Year 8 Curriculum Update

November 2022

Year 8 Key Dates 2022/23

Date	Event
Thursday 2 nd March 2023	Year 8 Parents Evening – an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with subject teachers and also catch up with your child's tutor
March 2023 (Exact dates TBC)	Year 8 'Curriculum Choices' information sent home and 'Curriculum Choices' assembly [see overleaf]
March 2023 (Exact date TBC)	Optional 'Curriculum Choices' Evening
Wednesday 19 th April 2023	Deadline for 'Curriculum Choices' forms to be submitted
Mon 19 th June – Wed 28 th June 2023	Year 8 assessment window– progress checks will be completed in classrooms as a review of learning for the academic year
July 2023 (Exact date TBC)	Year 8 subject reports sent home
Summer Term 2023	Curriculum choices processed and timetabled
July 2023 (Exact date TBC)	Confirmation of curriculum choices sent home
Termly	Year 7 progress reports sent home – these will include details of your child's attitude to learning and a snapshot of progress

Year 8 Curriculum Plans & Progress

Our website has lots of curriculum information, including copies of 'Long Term Plans' for all subjects [[LINK](#)] so that you and your child can see key aspects of each course.

We will be sending home a summary of your child's progress and attitude to learning for each subject they study via a termly 'Progress Report'. We have a dedicated email address should you have any queries about the curriculum or your child's progress [Y8Progress@venerablebede.co.uk]. In your email, please clearly state the name of your child, give a brief outline of your query and the subject it relates to – this will help us to forward your email to the most appropriate member(s) of staff.

Year 8 Assessments & Reports

Year 8 assessments have been scheduled in the summer term, as a final progress check of the knowledge and skills pupils have acquired in Year 8. The information from these, alongside ongoing assessment information gathered throughout the academic year, will inform end of year subject reports for Year 8 pupils.

Year 8 Parents Evening

We have scheduled Parents Evening for Year 8 during the Spring term of 2022/23 as a mid-year opportunity to discuss your child's progress with subject teachers and also a chance to catch up with your child's tutor.

Year 8 Curriculum Choices

Year 8 is an exciting time for pupils as, for the first time in their secondary education, they will begin to make some choices about the curriculum they will study in Year 9.

The Year 9 curriculum is designed so that pupils have the maximum amount of time and support to make wise and informed choices about the subjects they will go on to study in Key Stage 4, whilst also maintaining a broad and balanced curriculum. The model also gives Year 9 pupils an opportunity to have a “taste” of subjects which might be unfamiliar to them to help guide their future choices. Whilst the choices that they make in Year 8 will determine what they study in Year 9 – they will also go on to help inform their final curriculum choices about the subjects they will then take forward to the end of Year 11.

At the **end of Year 9**, your child will make their final curriculum choices to determine the subjects they will take forward in Years 10 and 11, through to certification. These are likely to be drawn from those they have chosen to study in Year 9 but are not necessarily restricted to those.

Please see key dates overleaf for a timeline of the Year 8 into year 9 curriculum choices process.

Year 8 Recommended Websites

To support learning and revision at home, we have collated some useful websites for the subjects your child is studying this year:

Subject	Recommended websites to support home learning and revision
English	English Bitesize A wealth of information to support the analysing of fiction/non-fiction, comparing texts, writing skills, understanding poetry and spoken language.
Maths	Corbett Maths A website, organised by topic, with lots of tutorial videos, questions (and answers!) and practice assessments.
Science	Cognito A website filled with YouTube video lessons, practice questions, flashcards to help memorise information and lots more. The website covers all three sciences - Biology, Chemistry and Physics – and even some Maths too!
Religious Studies	Religious Studies Bitesize Specific links to topics covered in Year 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Christianity [LINK]▪ Judaism [LINK]▪ Practices and Belonging [LINK]
Geography	Cool Geography A website full of useful resources to help study Geography - the world around us, our environment and the way that humans interact with their surroundings.
History	History Bitesize Specific links to some topics covered in Year 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ World War One [LINK]▪ World War Two [LINK]▪ The Industrial Revolution [LINK]▪ Inter-war Germany [LINK]
Spanish	Spanish Bitesize Covering key topics, phonics, games to enable practise, vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation support.