

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Art (Arts faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Harrington (charrington@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	Term 1 Insect's project, observational drawing, and link with artists, experimenting with media, printing. Term 2 Gargoyles; observational drawing, design clay gargoyle, producing clay piece. Term 3, Hundertwasser, looking at artists work and exploring his style and technique, experimenting with media.
How pupils are assessed	Each piece of work is graded in line with 9-1 grading system. Students are given formative assessment at the end of each project.
Support available in school and/or online	Show my homework, Instagram, Pinterest.
Homework information	Set regularly and usually to complete tasks started in lessons or to prepare for next lesson.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Visiting galleries, Instagram page, Pinterest
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Design Technology (Innovations faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Fothergill (kfothergill@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	<p>Greetings Card – (Graphics) Students learn graphical skills to design and make a greetings card.</p> <p>Jewelry Project – (Metals) Students learn complex practical skills and gain knowledge on the topic of metals.</p> <p>Storage Solutions – (Woods) Students gain theoretical knowledge and practical skills around the subject area of woods, wood joints and adhesives.</p> <p>Structures – (Structures) Students learn the importance of structures in everyday life and look at different parts of the subject; Inclined plane, gear ratio, forces, triangulation.</p>
How pupils are assessed	Students complete booklets which are marked in detail every six lessons. Students are also allowed to improve their work through the BOOST system. Students are also assessed on the accuracy and detail of their practical work whenever their work has been c
Support available in school and/or online	Miss Fothergill, Mr. Scarborough, Mr. Vickers and Mr. Dunning are available at breaks, lunchtimes and after school. There are also clubs for students to attend which are displayed in the form room.
Homework information	One project-style homework is set annually.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Taking an interest in Design and designers work by research and investigating modern and past designers work. Looking at products and how they work. Visiting art and design museums. Taking photographs of products that interest them. Talking to other people about new design and their own design work. Practice sketching, Watching relevant TV programs and reading news articles exploring the impact of advancements in Design and Technology.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Drama (Arts faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Wilson (jwilson@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	<p>Drama is a subject that requires a great deal of peer trust, and so it plays an important role in teaching communication, listening and empathy skills. Studying drama is demanding, and teaches pupils that success only comes from hard work. The skills that are learnt by studying drama are invaluable in later life. Below are some of the topics studied in year 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying • Scripts • Melodrama • Monologues • Hey There Boy with the Bebob – play text • Superheroes
How pupils are assessed	Through performing, creating and evaluating work using the new grade 9-1 framework
Support available in school and/or online	There are subject ambassadors who are around to help and the Drama studios are open at lunch times for students to rehearse. Assessment criteria are on Moodle.
Homework information	A piece of project homework is det during the year. This is an extended piece of work which is set in June in preparation for a Bright Day in July. Students are asked to complete a range of tasks over a 5 week period.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Each topic allows students to bring in resources, props, costumes from home to help further their skills. Students have the opportunity to attend a weekly KS3 drama club at lunchtime where they can develop skills in a more relaxed environment and also meet other like-minded enthusiasts of Drama. Students are also invited to be involved in school productions each year. Trips are available yearly on a first come, first served basis.
Other information	Students are given the opportunity for a subject ambassador role. Students complete an application form and then a few students are selected from this process. They are given roles such as running drama clubs, involvement in open evenings and taking part

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 English (English faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Cooke (lcooke@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	Poetry – Conflict Shakespeare – Speeches Persuasive Writing – Dragons’ Den Creative Writing - Crime Novel – The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas Drama - Face
How pupils are assessed	Pupils are assessed using the AQA GCSE mark scheme for Reading, Writing and Spoken Language. Grades are on the 9-1 framework.
Support available in school and/or online	Pupils can see their English teacher during break or lunchtime for extra support if needed (pupils need to arrange this by prior request). Useful websites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC Bitesize KS3 English • Spellzone • Fun English Games
Homework information	One project-style homework is set annually. In year 8, pupils will complete 'The Pen is Mightier than the Sword'.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Reading a variety of texts as part of the ‘Rushcliffe Reads’ programme.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Food & Textiles (Innovations faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Lacey (tlacey@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	<p>Food – Apply knowledge of healthy eating through cooking, be aware of the health implications of an unhealthy diet, be able to adapt recipes to make them healthier, understand the function of ingredients and test the success of dishes using sensory analysis.</p> <p>Textiles – Develop a range of textiles skills; such as applique, couching, pocket making, machine and hand embroidery to apply when making a stationery set.</p>
How pupils are assessed	Through the development of practical skills and assessment of knowledge of the theory work related to practical. Key assessment objectives are the ability to adapt recipes successfully in line with current dietary recommendations and sensory evaluate dish
Support available in school and/or online	Pupils can come and use the computer facilities in Room 102 to complete homework for the subject. Teachers are available to support classroom learning on request.
Homework information	Homework is set regularly to reinforce and extend learning.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Cook at home to develop culinary skills and confidence.
Other information	Pupils are expected to provide ingredients from home, a clean apron and a container to take their cooking home in. Textiles equipment is all provided by the school. Sewing Bee and Bake off clubs on Tuesday after school.

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 French (Languages faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Van der Velden (pvandervelden@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	Introduction to French Describing self and others School subjects, food and opinions Free time My town and holidays
How pupils are assessed	Regular listening, reading, speaking and writing assessments
Support available in school and/or online	http://www.linguascope.com http://www.languagesonline.org memrise quizlet
Homework information	Homework is set weekly.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Listening to French songs, researching lyrics, reading French comics, watching French films and producing reviews. It is vital that students keep revising from their grammar and vocabulary book.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Geography (Humanities faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Barraclough (tbarracclough@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	Population and Migration including; growth, demographic transition model, population policies, economic migration and refugees. Water on the Land including river; profile, processes, landforms and flooding. Ecosystems including; biomes, food chains, tropical rainforests and hot deserts. Crime including; types, figures, mapping crime, crime prevention, designing out crime and blood diamonds.
How pupils are assessed	In each topic there is a knowledge test and a levelled application of knowledge assessment. Pupils are assessed on the grades 9-1 framework.
Support available in school and/or online	BBC bitesize KS3 (http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrw76sg) has some very good summary resources. Geography resources can be found in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC). Teachers are available to offer extra support as required. Students need to arrange a suitable time with their teacher.
Homework information	One project-style homework is set annually.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Summarising notes at the end of topics as part of revising for end of unit assessments. Read newspaper articles and watch documentaries appropriate to the topics we study.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 History (Humanities faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Jenkins (sjenkins@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	<p>What is power? Some of what we cover is listed below.</p> <p>Elizabeth</p> <p>Gunpowder plot and the English Civil Wars (Wars of the Three Kingdoms.)</p> <p>Empire</p> <p>Slavery</p> <p>Civil Rights</p> <p>Industrial Revolution</p> <p>An introduction to the first ‘industrial war’ (World War I)</p>
How pupils are assessed	In school assessment throughout the year using the grades 9-1 framework.
Support available in school and/or online	Pupils can see their teacher for additional help.
Homework information	One project-style homework is set annually.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Compile revision materials throughout the course. Summarising notes at the end of topics as part of revising for end of unit assessments. Read articles and watch documentaries appropriate to the topics we study. Follow us @ks3hist for links to documentaries etc.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Information Technology (Computing faculty)

Course leader	Mr Salmeron (asalmeron@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	Understanding Computers (Boolean Logic, Binary etc.) Digital Imaging (Photoshop etc) Spreadsheets Modelling HTML and Web Design Animation
How pupils are assessed	All units feature end of unit tests which focus on key concepts and Technical knowledge. Where units also feature practical work, final assessments will be an aggregate of the end of unit test and the performance in the practical element. Pupils are asses
Support available in school and/or online	All Teaching and learning resources, presentations and activities used in the classroom are available in the Moodle area for the course.
Homework information	Homework is set fortnightly.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	E-Chalk (Accessed through Rushcliffe Moodle- student Resources) has a plethora of interactive exercises to help with understanding of computer science topics such as Boolean Logic, Binary and Network Hardware. For HTML, students will learn to create a website purely from code in an editor. Notepad or Notepad ++ are freely available editors.
Other information	All Rushcliffe students are entitled to a free copy of Microsoft Office for use at home. They will receive a link through their school email.

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Mathematics (Mathematics faculty)

Course leader	Mr Bonella (jbonella@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	This is the second year of a 5 year scheme of work. All that we do here at Rushcliffe is to develop the problem solvers of the future. We understand that the topics that the students study may not be used by them after their time here at Rushcliffe. That is why we truly believe in developing each pupils ability to problem solve and use the medium of mathematics to do this. We also understand that many of our student are highly academic and therefore ensure that this scheme of work challenges all pupils. This year is about ensuring that the foundations are dug as deep as possible. We do not aim to teach students a multitude of skills but instead focus on ensuring that they are masters of the foundations of mathematics. Details of the topics covered are available on Moodle.
How pupils are assessed	Pupils will complete half termly exams and an end of year exam. These will be completed in class. These, as well as our professional judgement, we use to inform pupils progress.
Support available in school and/or online	Please always come and see your teachers if you are stuck at any break or lunch. Mymaths.co.uk – all pupils have a unique login. Vle.mathswatch.co.uk – for questions and videos when you get stuck.
Homework information	Homework is set weekly; homework will be electronic (e.g. mymaths or mathswatch) every other week.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Nrich.org – for problem solving maths.
Other information	Pupils are expected to bring to school: a scientific calculator, protractor, ruler and it would be beneficial if they had a pair of compasses. Pupils are also expected to make notes, add corrections and mark their work in a green pen; these green pens are

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Music (Arts faculty)

Course leader	Mr Barraclough (mbarraclough@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	In Year 8, students will cover the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film Music • Chords & Melody • Reggae • Group Composition • Rhythms of the World: African Drumming • Whole Class Ensemble
How pupils are assessed	Students are assessed based on the new 9-1 Framework. This prepares students for studies at Key Stage 4 and will give a strong indicator of potential GCSE outcomes. Much like at GCSE, students are assessed on performance, composition and listening.
Support available in school and/or online	Students have the opportunity to perform in a range of ensembles, which range from complete beginners with no previous musical experience to more advanced ensembles. Performance and rehearsal spaces are available within the department at most break and lunch times. Students can check the relevant boards within the department for availability.
Homework information	One project-style homework is set annually.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	The department offers a range of performance opportunities throughout the year, as well as a music tour in a different country each year. Previous tours include Belgium and Italy. Rushcliffe Music Department offers the following ensembles: orchestra; percussion group; guitar group; swing band; jazz combo; choir; stage band; brass ensemble; wind ensemble.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Physical Education (Physical Education faculty)

Course leader	Mr Crawley (lcrawley@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	<p>Sports Education</p> <p>Invasion Games</p> <p>Net/Wall Games</p> <p>Fitness</p> <p>Outside providers</p> <p>Striking and fielding</p> <p>Dance and Gymnastics</p>
How pupils are assessed	Pupils are assessed at the end of a unit of work based on skills and application in a game situation .Attitude and effort. The PE department will use a best fit model when assessing pupils and not just based on the activity they have recently done.
Support available in school and/or online	Pupils are encouraged to attend clubs and sports practices after school. One and one support is provided when needed. Some of the more able and non-participates act as coaches to support peers.
Homework information	Homework is not set in this subject.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Sports team and clubs after school. Pupils may be asked to plan a warm up. Look at Youtube to plan a drill/skill.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Reflections (Humanities faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Moran (mmoran@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	Where Do I Fit In? Inspirational People Wealth and Poverty Rights and Responsibilities Buddhism & Sikhism – Key beliefs and practices
How pupils are assessed	In each topic area there is an assessment of knowledge and skills.
Support available in school and/or online	Reflections resources can be found in the LRC as well in classrooms 114/115 Individual teacher support is always available. Students can arrange this in advance with their teacher; they are always welcome.
Homework information	Homework is set fortnightly.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Talk outside school (ie at home, with relatives, friends) about what they have learned in lessons and ask for alternative views in order to further develop understanding and empathy. Compile revision materials throughout the course. Learn Key Words at the end of topics This is useful revision for end of unit assessments. Read newspaper articles and watch movies/documentaries appropriate to class topics.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Science (Science faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Williams (vwilliams@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sound 2. Plants and their reproduction 3. Breathing and respiration 4. Unicellular organisms 5. Combustion 6. Periodic table 7. Metals and their uses 8. Fluids 9. Energy transfers 10. Earth in space
How pupils are assessed	At the end shorter topics, students complete a test, which is marked, and students are asked to respond to feedback in a ‘boost task’. In longer topics, students complete a ‘boost task’ mid-way through the topic to review learning formatively and then an
Support available in school and/or online	All topics within the year 8 course are scaffolded with worksheets in lessons, text books and resources available to download on moodle. Differentiated tasks within the scheme of work mean all students can have their objectives or outcomes differentiated to suit their learning needs.
Homework information	One project-style homework is set annually; the year 8 homework is based around the theme of eco-homes.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	<p>Students that wish to extend their learning are encouraged to consider the wider context of what they are studying and explore its real life applications. They can do this by doing some extra reading.</p> <p>The following websites contain up to date science news that will allow them to search for articles that are of interest:</p> <p>http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science_and_environment</p> <p>https://www.theguardian.com/science</p> <p>https://www.sciencedaily.com/news</p>
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Spanish (Languages faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Barcherini (sbarcherini@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	<p>Self and Family</p> <p>Food and Drink</p> <p>Free Time and Technology</p> <p>Local Area</p> <p>Environment</p> <p>Holidays and Tourism</p>
How pupils are assessed	<p>3 main assessment points: reading, listening, speaking and translation skills.</p> <p>Half-termly writing challenges.</p> <p>Regular vocabulary tests.</p>
Support available in school and/or online	<p>https://www.memrise.com/ for topic specific vocabulary</p> <p>https://quizlet.com/en-gb for topic specific vocabulary</p> <p>http://www.wordreference.com/ useful and reliable online dictionary</p> <p>http://www.spanishdict.com/ for translation and verb conjugation</p> <p>http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/ for grammar and verb conjugation</p> <p>http://www.linguascope.com/ for topic based activities and vocabulary</p> <p>http://www.edugas.co.uk/qualifications/spanish/gcse/ for online resources, sample assessment materials and examination information</p>
Homework information	Homework is set weekly.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Using the websites as suggested above. Revision of vocabulary and grammar in the students' grammar books. Wider listening and reading through songs, radio, youth magazines, cartoons etc online.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Spanish (cultural studies) (Languages faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Barcherini (sbarcherini@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	Spanish: Self and family, food and drink, clothes, free time and technology, travel and transport Cultural studies: Social skills, literacy skills, spanish culture (customs and traditions, food, football, housing)
How pupils are assessed	Spanish: Exams in Speaking, reading, listening and writing Cultural studies: Portfolio of evidence
Support available in school and/or online	https://www.memrise.com/ for topic specific vocabulary https://quizlet.com/en-gb for topic specific vocabulary http://www.linguascope.com/ for topic based activities and vocabulary
Homework information	Homework is set weekly.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Using the websites as suggested above.
Other information	

Course Summary 2017-18: Year 8 Spanish (dual linguists) (Languages faculty)

Course leader	Mrs Barcherini (sbarcherini@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk)
Exam board, course code and link	-
Key themes / topics taught	Self and Family Food Holidays and tourism Clothes Working in at least 3 tenses
How pupils are assessed	3 main assessment points: reading, listening, speaking and translation skills. Half-termly writing challenges. Regular vocabulary tests.
Support available in school and/or online	https://www.memrise.com/ for topic specific vocabulary https://quizlet.com/en-gb for topic specific vocabulary http://www.wordreference.com/ useful and reliable online dictionary http://www.linguascope.com/ for topic based activities and vocabulary
Homework information	Homework is set weekly.
How pupils can extend their learning outside lessons or at home	Using the websites as suggested above. Revision of vocabulary and grammar in the students' grammar books. Wider listening and reading through songs, radio, youth magazines, cartoons etc online.
Other information	