



Brannel School Year 8 Curriculum Overview

Year 8 is a year of growing confidence, deeper questioning and expanding knowledge. Students build on the foundations of Year 7 to strengthen understanding across all subjects while developing greater independence, curiosity and ambition. This guide outlines what students will learn this year, how subjects connect, and how we support them to grow academically, personally and socially

What will I learn in Year 8?

Tutor Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen organisation, independence and positive routines. Develop reading fluency through daily tutor-led reading. Deepen wellbeing and character skills through the Personal Development Passport. Continue to be Ready, Respectful and Safe every day. 	English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore Victorian context, letters and social attitudes. Study <i>Oliver Twist</i> and analyse character, theme and writer's intentions. Develop non-fiction writing about identity and voice. Read, perform and analyse scenes from Shakespeare's <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>.
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build fluency with vectors, transformations and FDP conversions. Strengthen algebra through expanding, factorising and forming expressions. Develop confidence with graphs, sequences, ratios and percentages. Apply geometry in circles, area, volume and angles in parallel lines. 	Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen laboratory skills and working-scientifically techniques. Study the respiratory system, chemical reactions, electricity and metals. Explore Earth structure, reproduction, waves, magnets and evolution. Complete an independent investigation applying scientific enquiry skills.
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore physical processes that shape Earth's landscapes. Investigate conflict, peace and geopolitical tensions. Study the Middle East and its physical/human geography. Learn about glacial and coastal processes and complete fieldwork enquiry. 	History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study the Industrial Revolution in Britain and Cornwall. Explore colonialism, global empire and transatlantic enslavement. Investigate civil rights movements and social change. Examine migration and multicultural Britain.

Brannel School Year 8 Curriculum Overview

Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use past tense (preterite) to talk about holidays and past events. • Describe towns using comparatives, superlatives and directions. • Talk about sports using stem-changing verbs and three time frames. • Strengthen pronunciation, vocabulary and cultural awareness. 	Computing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create digital games using events, variables and logic. • Strengthen computational thinking with abstraction, decomposition and flowcharts. • Build text-based programming skills in Python. • Learn about networks, online communication and cybersecurity.
RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore Hindu beliefs about reincarnation, karma and liberation. • Study Sikh beliefs, identity and community practice. • Learn Buddhist teachings on suffering, mindfulness and modern practice. • Evaluate how belief shapes human behaviour and worldview. 	PSHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about risks, substances and responsible decision-making. • Understand discrimination, rights and respectful behaviour. • Strengthen digital safety and critical thinking online. • Explore body image, healthy lifestyles and future careers.
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refine skills in invasion games including movement, tactics and teamwork. • Build fitness, strength, control and coordination through gym and dance. • Develop accuracy, timing and strategy in net/wall and striking/fielding sports. • Improve running, jumping and throwing in athletics. 	Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore cultural masks and symbolism across world cultures. • Study artists such as Yusuke Asai and Kimmy Cantrell. • Develop mask designs using symbolism, form and annotation. • Construct a 3D mask and apply surface decoration and pattern.
Drama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore <i>Curious Incident</i> through physicality, movement and ensemble skills. • Study Melodrama and use exaggerated character and staging techniques. • Create devised theatre using Brecht's techniques and social messages. • Build confidence performing and justifying creative choices. 	Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop rhythmic fluency, syncopation and chord patterns. • Explore polyrhythms and learn early music-technology skills. • Perform, compose and record using DAW software. • Study conventions of Rock and Rock 'n' Roll.

Brannel School Year 8 Curriculum Overview

Design Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop drawing, idea generation and specification writing.• Learn manufacturing skills including joints and accurate assembly.• Improve products through refinement, finishing and evaluation.• Study timber properties and develop CAD modelling skills.	Food Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deepen understanding of nutrition, energy and ingredient function.• Prepare a wide range of increasingly complex dishes.• Study food choice, provenance, seasonality and food miles.• Build independence through planning and evaluating practical work.
--------------------------	---	-----------------------	---