

Apr
2024



Welcome to the exciting world of the Undershaw Curriculum!

We are exceptionally proud of the forward-thinking curriculum that we offer our students from Key Stage 2 through to Post 16 at Undershaw.

From thematic and Project-Based Learning (PBL) to a wide range of exciting Level 2 qualifications and opportunities, we know that it is our high quality curriculum coupled with our innovative teaching that ensures our students thrive and achieve fantastic outcomes.

Students at Undershaw engage in a wide range of learning activities both in and beyond the classroom, developing essential life-skills as well as a love of learning.

Undershaw 

Curriculum Pulse



I hope you enjoy reading about the exciting learning that we will be doing this term at Undershaw and the ways in which the Skills Builder framework is woven throughout the curriculum at every key stage.


I look forward to sharing the Thematic and Project Based Learning work with you at the end of term.



Vic Walker
Deputy Headteacher
(Academic)



The key text for reading and English is 'How to Train your Dragon', and we will also be exploring poetry and journalistic writing. In Science we will be investigating Viking food production methods versus modern production of dairy foods and learning how to identify, describe and classify micro-organisms. We will also be visiting Butser Ancient Farm to immerse ourselves fully in the Viking way of life!

KS2 Homework
Timetable 



Farm to Fork

During this topic, we will be exploring the lives and times of Vikings in History, Geography, Science and English. In History they will explore Anglo-Saxon Kings, including King Ethelred II and how the Kings shaped Britain for the future.

KS2






Year 8: What role does STEM play in Theme Parks?

The project-based learning topic 'What Role does STEM play in Theme Parks' has started with a trip to LegoLand, where students experienced an exciting project launch. Elsewhere, Year 8 students will be exploring poetry from other cultures in English, learning about the industrial revolution in History and studying chemical reactions, coasts and spreadsheets in Science, Geography and Computing.

In the Creative Arts, students will be excited to learn about pop art with Chloe, where they will be working on their own self-portraits. In Music, they will continue their band work, and in Drama, Stephanie will be focusing on musical theatre skills while they continue to work towards the very exciting performance of the 'Pirates of the Curry Bean'.



Year 8 Homework
Timetable 


KS3

Year 7 PBL: 'How do we Plan An Undershaw Olympics?'

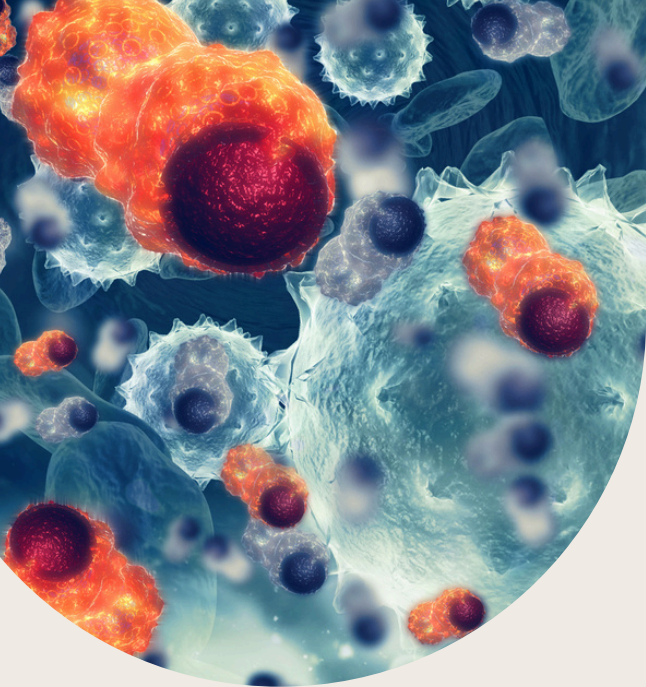
This term's PBL is 'How Do We Plan an Undershaw Olympics?' Students will be working on this project in a range of subjects including English where they will explore the subject 'sporting legends' in History, and PE. This will all come together in a project that will be linked to our sports day later on in the summer.

In the Arts, students will have lots of opportunities for creativity as they will be creating Zentagle bugs in art with Chloe, band pieces in Music with James and devising original pieces based on mystery pictures in Drama with Stephanie.

In Maths, students will be learning about sequences and place value, and in Science they will be very excited about the space topic.

Year 7 Homework
Timetable 





Year 9 Homework Timetable

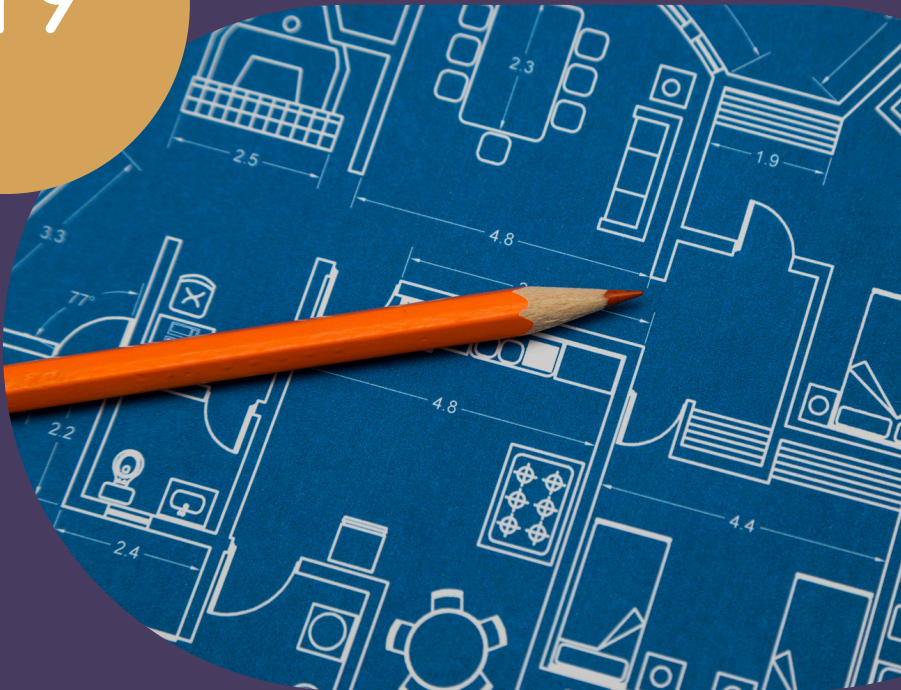


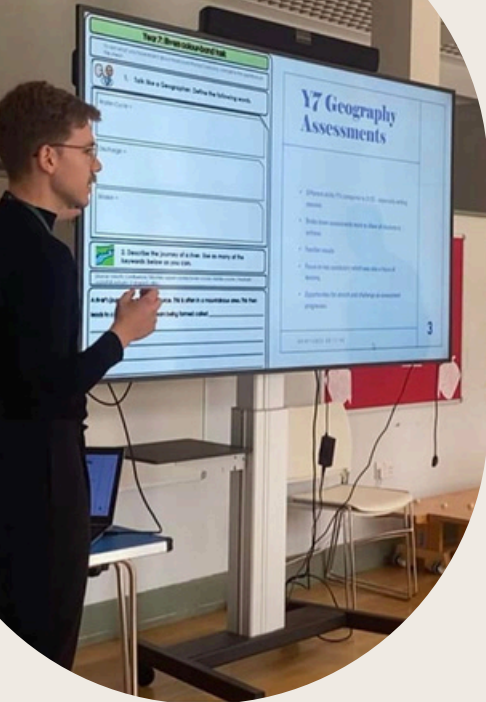
Yr9

In English and Drama this term Year 9 will have an introduction to Shakespeare and the monologues and duologues of Romeo and Juliet. In Maths they will be reasoning with proportion and in Science they will be studying cell biology.

In History, students will continue developing their understanding of the Holocaust and antisemitism, and they will be looking at physical computing in computing with Ginny.

James will be introducing atmospheric and film music and students will also be working on their own compositions this term. In Art, they will explore architecture and abstract art.





The Undershaw Way

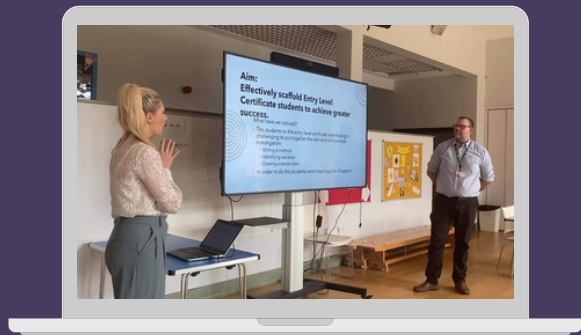
The 'Undershaw Way' is a consistent approach to lessons in all subjects and year groups. In every lesson, teachers will:

- Ensure that there is always a focus on the positive, building trusting relationships and encouraging a growth mindset,
- Use modelling consistently to show students what learning outcomes look like
- Share the structure of the lesson and learning i.e. using task management boards or a written structure for the lesson which is visible for all students.

As well as sharing our curriculum, we are also keen to share with parents the ongoing work we do as a teaching team to continuously improve our SEND teaching expertise.

Last year we focused on strategies to support our students with cognition, processing and retrieval, and it was fantastic to bring together the best of our practice at our TeachMeet in June.

This year, we have started to bring together our strategies to ensure a consistent approach to lessons at Undershaw as the foundation upon which we build the adapted provision and resources to meet the needs of students.



Throughout the year, we will continue to work in professional learning communities to research and implement best practice, sharing our work amongst ourselves and with other excellent centres for SEND education. We are keen to share this work with parents and encourage you to get in touch if you would like more information about our teaching and learning practices.



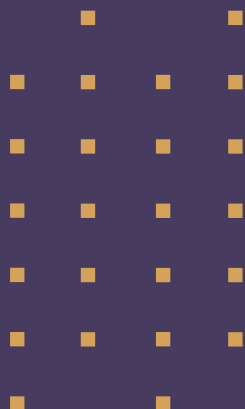


We hope you've enjoyed this update...

For information about the topics being covered in Key Stage 4 and Post 16 for the GCSE and BTEC qualifications, please see our full curriculum overviews on the school website here:

Curriculum overview
KS4 Core

Curriculum overview
KS4 Options



Undershaw

In association with:



We hope you have found this a useful overview of what we are learning this half-term, and we look forward to sharing our learning and outcomes with you. If you have any questions, or wish to discuss your child's curriculum in more detail, please email using this link:

Vic Walker
Deputy Headteacher
(Academic)



Undershaw
Education

