Callington Community College Curriculum Overview - Year 9 - 2025/26

Year 9	Autumn 1	Autumn 2		Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1		Summer 2
English	**Power and Conflict - The best within**	**Power and Conflict - The best within**	WEST COMMON ASSESSMENT 1	**Power and Conflict - Controlling the narrative**	**Power and Conflict - Controlling the narrative**	WEST COMMON ASSESSMENT 2	**Power and Conflict - Exposing social injustice**	**Power and Conflict - Exposing social injustice**
Maths	**Geometry** Students apply Pythagoras' Theorem, similarity, and congruence to calculate lengths, justify reasoning, and solve geometric problems in practical and theoretical contexts.	**Probability** Listing all possible outcomes of events, calculating theoretical probabilities, and using fractions, decimals or percentages to represent likelihood in real-life and mathematical contexts.		**Algebra** Identifying and generating non-linear sequences, recognising patterns and rules. Students perform algebraic manipulations, including simplifying expressions and rearranging formulae, applying these skills to solve problems	**Proportion & Geometry** Interpreting and solving problems involving direct and inverse proportion. Using trigonometric ratios to find unknown sides or angles in right-angled triangles.		**Number & Statistics** Calculating with numbers in standard form and using index laws. Plotting and interpreting non-linear and real-life graphs to solve contextual problems.	**Algebra** Building on prior algebra skills, students learn to manipulate quadratic expressions by expanding, factorising, and simplifying, laying foundations for solving quadratic equations
Science - Biology	**Organisation and the digestive system** Students describe the structure of the digestive system and explain the process of digestion, including using models to explain how enzymes break down food into absorbable molecules.	**Organising animals** Students describe the components of blood and their functions, explain the structure of the heart, and outline how the heart pumps blood around the body, including the roles of valves and blood vessels.		**Non-communicable diseases** Identifying lifestyle risk factors contributing to non-communicable diseases, explaining their impact on health, and evaluating how behaviors like diet, smoking, and exercise influence disease development and progression.	**Communicable diseases** Students describe microorganisms that cause communicable diseases, explain how they spread, and how human defense mechanisms such physical and blood borne defenses protect against pathogens		**Preventing and treating disease** Students explain how vaccinations stimulate immunity, describe the role of antibiotics in treating bacterial infections, and evaluate drug treatments, understanding their uses and limitations in preventing and managing diseases.	**Organising plants** Students identify plant tissues and organs, explain their roles, compare xylem and phloem functions, investigate water and nutrient transport, and evaluate how plant structures support effective transport systems.
Science - Chemistry	**Atomic structure** Describing the structure of an atom, identifying subatomic particles (protons, neutrons, electrons), explaining their charges and positions, and relating atomic structure to element properties.	**The periodic table** Students describe the structure of the periodic table, explain how elements in Group 1 and Group 7 are arranged by atomic number, and analyse trends in their reactivity and properties		**Structure and bonding** Students describe the states of matter—solid, liquid, gas—and explain how particle arrangements and movements differ. They understand ionic, covalent, and metallic bonding, compare their structures, and relate bonding types to properties like melting points and conductivity.	**Displacement reactions** Using the reactivity series to predict displacement reactions, explaining how more reactive metals displace less reactive metals from compounds, including metals reacting with metal salt solutions.		**Making salts and neutralisation** Explaining and predicting how acids react with metals, metal oxides, or metal carbonates to produce salts and water through neutralisation, and writing balanced chemical equations for these reactions.	**Energy changes** Describing and explaining energy changes in exothermic and endothermic reactions, using practical experiments to measure temperature changes and investigate energy transfer between reactants and their surroundings

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Science - Physics	**Energy stores and transfer** Describing different energy stores and explaining energy conservation during transfers, including kinetic, thermal, chemical, gravitational, elastic, and nuclear energy	**Energy transfer efficiency** Students explain how energy is transferred and dissipated in systems, calculate power, and evaluate the efficiency of appliances by comparing useful energy output to total energy input.	**Energy transfer by heating** Students describe energy transfer by heating, understand specific heat capacity through calculations and experiments, and analyse how energy is used and conserved in homes to improve efficiency.	**Energy resources** Students explore different energy resources, evaluate renewable and non-renewable sources, understand global energy demands, and assess environmental impacts including pollution and sustainability challenges.	**Molecules and matter** Explaining and calculating density, describing properties and changes of states of matter, and exploring specific latent heat through practical investigations, calculations, and real-life examples.	**Electric circuits** Students describe and calculate electric charge and current, explain potential difference and resistance, and compare series and parallel circuits. Investigate circuit behavior through measurements of current, voltage, and resistance using practical experiments.
Geography	**Climate change or climate emergency?** This focuses on the natural causes of climate change and the role of humans in accelerating global warming, looking at far away	**What is the future for the Middle East?** A synoptic study of an incredibly diverse region, understanding how physical geography, cultures and resources have shaped the fortunes of Middle East countries	**Will everyone love to be beside the seaside?** Physical processes such as erosion, transportation and deposition play a crucial role in determining how coasts are managed and will change in the future	**Is Russia a prisoner of Geography?** A modern study of Russia's political and cultural characteristics and how biomes and environments have shaped the country's development	**The Living World** The first unit of GCSE geography with a focus on local ecosystems, tropical rainforests and cold tundra landscapes of Alaska.	
History	**How and Why have attitudes to witches changed over time?** A breadth study examining witch persecution over time. Case studies help students understand historical people, ideas, and societal attitudes, while reflecting on the causes and consequences of persecution throughout history.	**How did the people allow the Holocaust to happen?** This investigation examines the origins of the Holocaust in Germany and wider Europe from 1918 to 1945, focusing on how discrimination against Jewish people and other minorities led to the events of 1942–1945. Using contemporary evidence and personal stories, students explore these historical circumstances and their modern significance.	**How did the people allow the Holocaust to happen?** This investigation examines the origins of the Holocaust in Germany and wider Europe from 1918 to 1945, focusing on how discrimination against Jewish people and other minorities led to the events of 1942–1945. Using contemporary evidence and personal stories, students explore these historical circumstances and their modern significance.	**Which event of the Cold War brought us closest to the brink of destruction?** This study will consider the post-WWII European foundation of the Cold War and then broaden to demonstrate the worldwide impact of the conflict. A few case studies such as Cuba and the Vietnam war will be investigated to better understand the complexities of this 50 year conflict. Importantly students will also consider the legacy of the Cold War and its impact today.	**Which event of the Cold War brought us closest to the brink of destruction?** This study will consider the post-WWII European foundation of the Cold War and then broaden to demonstrate the worldwide impact of the conflict. A few case studies such as Cuba and the Vietnam war will be investigated to better understand the complexities of this 50 year conflict. Importantly students will also consider the legacy of the Cold War and its impact today.	**How far do we agree with David Olusoga about Civil Rights in Britain?** The country and world will live in is a diverse and multi-faceted place; using Olusoga's work as a foundation for the investigation, students will investigate a series of case studies which exemplify the changing nature of Civil Rights and migration in the UK.

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Spanish	**Talking about the weather. Advanced approach to describing actions in the present and past tenses.** Irregular verb conjugation in the present and past ("hacer", "ir") and present continuous.	**Advanced description of events in the past, present and future (holidays)** Whole conjugations (irregular and regular) present continuous, reflexive pronouns; possessive adjectives.		**Giving advanced opinions about a range of contents (food, culture, holidays, sport and free time activities).** Direct and Indirect object pronouns. "Gustar" type verbs.	**Talking about health.** A recapitulation of all the contents seen so far, structured around the topic of health.		**Talking about charity events.** A recapitulation of all the contents seen so far, structured around the topic of a range of social topics (migration, climate change .	**Advanced description of events in the past.** An introduction to the imperfect tense in all its forms, including irregular verbs to describe past events in detail.
Art	**Abstraction** Students explore abstraction through drawing to music, using expressive mark-making techniques to visually interpret sound. They will experiment with materials to respond emotionally and physically to rhythm and mood. The unit culminates in creating an abstract design based on a chosen musical theme, developing skills in composition, colour, and non-representational imagery.				**Coasts** Students explore coastal landscapes through traditional and experimental techniques. They begin with observational drawing and studies of natural forms, supported by artist and contextual research. Using a variety of materials, they develop skills in acrylic painting, experimenting with texture and colour. The unit concludes with a final expressive coastline painting that reflects both technique and personal interpretation.			
Food & Nutrition	**Nutrition and Special Diets** Students study nutrition for special diets like allergies, intolerances, and sports needs. They adapt recipes such as gluten-free pizza and dairy-free smoothies, learning kneading, baking, and blending while safely substituting ingredients to create inclusive, balanced meals..			**Food Science** Students explore ingredient functions and cooking chemistry with recipes like bread and meringues. They learn techniques such as whisking, folding, and simmering, while developing sensory evaluation skills to assess texture, taste, and presentation, enhancing precision and timing.			**International Cuisine and Cultural Awareness** Students investigate global cuisines by preparing dishes like Thai curry and Mexican enchiladas. They learn marinating, stir-frying, and flavour layering, explore food provenance and culture, and develop creativity and confidence adapting recipes for dietary needs.
Design & Technology	**Banksy-Style Artwork – CAD Stencil and Canvas Frame** Students research Banksy's art and design detailed stencils using CAD software. They laser cut stencils, build wooden frames with mitre and finger joints, stretch canvas, and apply paint through stencils to create framed street-art-inspired pieces.				**Pocket Tidy with Foldable Smartphone Arm – CAD, 3D Printing, and Metals** Students design a compact pocket tidy with CAD, including spaces for keys, an AirTag, and a foldable phone arm. They create 3D-printed prototypes, study metal properties—focusing on aluminum and metal types—and apply finishing techniques to enhance durability and aesthetics.		
Music	**All About the Bass** This unit teaches Bass Clef notation and the role of bass lines, including riffs, walking bass, broken chords, arpeggios, and Alberti bass. Pupils develop skills in performance, composition, improvisation, listening, appraisal, critical thinking, creativity, communication, and resilience through rehearsal and self/peer assessment.			**Repetition in Music** This unit explores repeated musical patterns—hooks, riffs, and ostinatos—across styles. Pupils develop skills in identification, performance, composition, and critical listening, enhancing musical vocabulary and notation (treble and bass clefs), while fostering creativity, communication, resilience, and reflective practice through individual and group work.			**Music and the Moving Image** This unit explores how music enhances film by supporting mood, character, action, and narrative. Pupils study soundtracks' emotional impact through harmony, tonality, motif, and instrumentation, then compose and perform original scores collaboratively, developing creativity, composition, performance, and critical listening skills.

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Drama	**Blood Brothers** This unit introduces *Blood Brothers*, exploring themes of love, class, conflict, superstition, and fate. Through practical drama, students develop characterisation, structure, and physicality using techniques like freeze-frame and hot-seating, examining how upbringing influences choices, while building empathy, creativity, and critical thinking.	**Too Much Punch for Judy** Students explore Verbatim Theatre through *Too Much Punch for Judy*, using real interview words to create authentic performances. They develop Physical Theatre skills—movement, levels, slow motion—to portray the crash and aftermath, and create news reports and monologues, fostering empathy, teamwork, and reflection on real-world issues.	**Adverts & Persuasion** Students explore how drama persuades audiences by studying adverts and persuasive techniques. They devise original, imaginative performances, creating memorable slogans and characters. Through tasks like pitching ideas and making humorous adverts, students develop improvisation, characterisation, stagecraft, public speaking, teamwork, and critical thinking skills.	**The Language of Shakespeare** Students explore Shakespeare's works through practical drama, interpreting scenes from *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Tempest*. They develop skills in characterisation, devising, and vocal delivery, building confidence with Shakespearean language and understanding historical context. The unit culminates in a performance, fostering creativity and collaboration.	**Design in Drama: Shrek the Musical** Students explore theatrical design through *Shrek the Musical*, developing practical skills in costume, set, lighting, and sound design. They learn to convey character through costume choices, create and annotate set designs, and use lighting to establish mood and symbolism. In sound design, students plan and layer effects to shape the atmosphere. Working collaboratively, they create a cohesive design concept for the "Welcome to Duloc" scene, deepening their understanding of how backstage roles combine to bring a production to life.
Computing	**Physical Computing** Students build on Python skills to program the BBC micro:bit, exploring its LED display, buttons, sensors, and GPIO pins. They create and debug interactive programs, connect external devices like controllers and robots, and develop problem-solving skills. The unit deepens understanding of physical computing and the integration of hardware and software.		**Data Representation** Students explore how computers represent and process data using binary, covering text, numbers, images, and sound. They learn binary-decimal conversion, bitmap storage, image resolution, colour depth, compression techniques, and digital sound sampling, including sample rate and resolution, building essential digital literacy for modern computing.		**Communicating Software Concepts** Students explore visual communication methods in software and game design, using storyboards and comic strips to plan narratives and gameplay. They create original storyboards with Comic Life, learn Photoshop skills like sketching and colouring, and develop an understanding of narrative structure, audience awareness, and professional design workflows. This unit builds creative and technical skills essential for expressing digital ideas effectively.
PE	**Cognitive** - More complex tactics and strategy across a range of sports. A wide range of more complex technical models for skills across a range of sports and activities. **Creative** - Different compositional techniques A range of more advanced discrete skills within each activity. Improvise. Experiment. Invent. Respond creatively. Show originality. **Personal** - The individual is responsible for their own journey and success. Reflection leads to identification of ways to improve. Doing the same thing repeatedly will give the same results. **Physical** - Make adjustments to technique efficiently when required. Perform a wide range of advanced skills with consistency in pressure situations. **Social** - The structure of a physical activity session/event. Methods used to motivate/inspire groups/individuals. Considerations to make when planning a session.				
PSHE	**Mental and physical Health**		**Healthy Relationships**		**Living in the Wider World**
RS	**Are my beliefs weird?**			**What do Buddhists Believe?**	