



September 2026

Year 9 Curriculum Overview - Autumn Term

Dear Families,

Our Year 9 students have started the year with great energy and focus. As they move closer to the transition into Key Stage 4, it's encouraging to see them taking increasing responsibility for their learning and personal development.

This letter provides an outline of the subjects and topics your child will be covering this term. At St Thomas More, we value the partnership between home and school, and your support continues to make a real difference.

Please see below for a summary of what your child will be studying in each subject, as well as ideas for supporting their progress at home.

Year 9 Term 1 Curriculum

Subject	Topics
English	The Story of The Gothic - Rebecca
Maths	Number - Negative Indices and Reciprocal - Standard Form - Reverse Percentages - Successive Percentage Changes - Error Intervals and Simple Bounds Algebra - Laws of Indices - Multiply Out Double Brackets - Factorising Quadratics
Science	Biology - Cell Biology
	Chemistry - Particle theory and its application
	Physics - Energy types and Transfers
Religious Education	Exploring Catholic beliefs about human dignity, the sanctity of life and moral decision-making, the role of Mary and other holy women in salvation history, and the influence of these today.
History	What impact did World War I have on Europe?



	- Why did Europe go to war in 1914 and what challenges did it bring? - Why were the Russian people so unhappy in 1917 and did the Revolution solve their problems?
Geography	Tectonics including volcanoes Tourism (mass and extreme)
French	Talking about what you do online Saying what you do to stay active Viewing habits Making plans to go out Talking about last weekend
Music	Blues & Jazz: Harmony & Tonality Reggae: Rhythm & Melody
Art	Artist Inspired Portraits • Skills & techniques drawing facial features • Exploring artists or movements linked to portraits • Developing portrait design ideas • Developing skills & techniques in producing the final outcome
Information Technology (ICT)	Python programming with sequences of data Media - animation
Food and Nutrition (12 week Carousel during the year)	Increasing complexity in cooking techniques Understanding food production
Design and Technology (12 week Carousel during the year)	Iconic Designer Clock
Physical Education	Invasion Games Dance, Gymnastics & OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities)
Wider Curriculum	• Keeping Safe - including knife crime and peer pressure • Sex and relationships - healthy relationships



[What your child will learn - School Website](#)

General Tips for Supporting Your Child's Progress

- **Support Organisation:** Help your child manage increasing workload and responsibilities as they begin to make choices about future subjects.
- **Promote Self-Reflection:** Encourage your child to reflect on their strengths and areas for improvement, and to seek help when needed.
- Keep up to date with assignments and assessments through their homework diary or Google Classroom.
- **Encourage Ambition:** Celebrate achievements and encourage your child to set personal goals for the year.

Parents' Evening (Online)

Year 9 Parents' Evening - Thursday 14th January 2027

KS4 Pathways Evening

Thursday 21st January 2027 - 5pm - 6.00pm

Assessment dates this academic year

Key Stage 3 Raising Achievement Plan (Preparing for Module 1 Assessment)

Monday 12th October 2026

Key Stage 3 Assessment Module 1:

Week commencing Monday 30th November 2026

Key Stage 3 Raising Achievement Plan (Preparing for End of Year Assessment)

Monday 19th April 2027

Key Stage 3 End of Year Assessment Module 2

Week commencing Monday 7th June 2027

If you have any questions or need further advice on how to support your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact us in school via the house email addresses below.

St Bernadette	St Catherine Laboure	St John Fisher	St Therese
STM-StBQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-StCLQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-stjfqueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-sttqueries@stm.bwcet.com



Thank you for your continued support in helping us provide the best possible education for your child. We look forward to working closely with you this term.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Tait
Assistant Head Teacher