



September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 8 Curriculum Information – Autumn 1

As your child enters their second year at Avonbourne Academies, we continue to build on the strong foundation laid in Year 7. To keep you informed and involved in their learning, we are pleased to share an overview of what your child will be studying this half-term across all subjects. This overview is designed to support productive conversations at home and help you feel connected to the learning taking place in school.

What will my Year 8 child be learning during Autumn 1?

Subject	Key Topics/Focus Areas
English	Students will study poetry on social justice, analysing form, structure, and literary devices. They will explore how poets present injustice, marginalisation, and calls for change.
Maths	Students will study powers, roots, and prime factorisation. They will also practise rounding and complete work on multiplying and dividing fractions and mixed numbers.
Science	Students will begin with the Earth and atmosphere, learning about the Earth's structure, different rock types, and the composition of the atmosphere.
MFL	Students will study holidays, using past, present and future tenses to describe travel experiences abroad.
History	Students will explore the Reformation, focusing on Henry VIII's break with Rome and the religious changes that followed.
Geography	Students will study population, exploring growth, decline, and how populations are distributed globally.
Art	Students will develop tone and mark-making skills, applying these to portraiture.
Music	Students will learn about popular music from the 1950s to the 1970s. They will perform melodies, riffs and chords on the keyboard and ukulele.
Religious Studies	Students will study Islam, exploring the Biblical narrative, the impact of Muhammad (pbuh), the Rashidun Caliphate, and Sunni-Shi'a differences.
PE	Students will develop performance, stamina, and leadership skills through sports including handball, health-related fitness, netball, basketball and badminton.
Dance	Students will develop physical performance skills inspired by <i>The Greatest Showman</i> . They will observe, analyse and practise effective techniques, applying them to class routines.

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Drama	Students will explore naturalism using extracts from <i>Eastenders</i> in the style of Stanislavski. They will focus on developing believable characters through performance.
D&T	Students will rotate through graphics, textiles, and food. Projects include making a mood light with CAD/CAM, weaving inspired by Tammy Kanat, learning macramé, and cooking bread rolls, lemon flan and stir fry.
PSHE	Students will learn about boundaries, consent and managing conflict in relationships.
Computer Science	Students will develop computational thinking skills. They will practise decomposition, abstraction and pattern recognition to solve problems efficiently.

You can find more about our curriculum approach and how we support all learners by visiting the link below:

[Curriculum Overview | Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academies](#)

If you have any questions about the Year 8 curriculum or how to support your child's progress at home, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

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