Citizenship Year 9	**Curriculum intent:** This curriculum ensures pupils: • Understand **democracy, government and law in the UK** • Develop **critical thinking, debate and evaluation skills** • Understand **rights, responsibilities and identities** • Gain **financial capability and real-life decision-making skills** • Are empowered to **take informed action in their communities**	**Curriculum Structure** **Year 8, 3 units, ~18 hrs, Foundations of citizenship** **Year 9, 3 units, ~18 hrs, Systems, justice, society** **Key Concepts Progression** **Year 8:** Rules, Fairness, Community; Democracy Basics; Participation **Year 9:** Systems, Accountability, Rights; Justice, Law, Identity; Critical Evaluation

Units	**The Legal System and Justice**	**Identity and Diversity**	**Money and Financial Decisions**
Interleaving	Revisit the difference between rules, laws and rights. Link rights of the accused to human rights and democracy. Return to concepts of fairness studied in Year 8 case studies. Connect justice outcomes to equality and discrimination concepts taught later in Year 9.	Revisit rights and responsibilities when discussing equality. Refer to legal protections and rights studied in Unit 1. Link stereotypes and prejudice to real-life legal cases. Encourage students to consider how communities are strengthened by diversity. Connect campaign design to active citizenship and social action from Year 7.	Revisit responsible decision-making from Units 1 and 2. Explore how laws regulate financial activity. Link financial inequality to discussions of equality and opportunity. Refer to government roles when discussing taxation and public spending. Draw connections between personal choices and wider economic impacts.
Knowledge	Difference between criminal and civil law Roles of police, courts and legal professionals Rights and responsibilities within the justice system Principles of fairness and justice	Factors that shape identity Benefits of diversity in society Impact of stereotypes and prejudice Protected characteristics and equality Active citizenship through social action	Sources and functions of money Managing a personal budget Prioritising spending Benefits and risks of saving Consequences of debt and borrowing Making informed financial decisions
Understanding	Students understand that laws exist to protect individuals, maintain order, and promote fairness within society. They learn that the justice system balances individual rights with public safety and that everyone is entitled to fair treatment under the law.	Students understand that identity is shaped by a range of factors and that diversity strengthens communities. They recognise the importance of equality, respecting differences, and challenging discrimination in order to create an inclusive society.	Students understand that financial decisions have consequences and that managing money responsibly helps individuals achieve their goals and maintain financial wellbeing. They learn the importance of making informed decisions about spending, saving and borrowing
Skills	Knowledge and Understanding; Explanation	Use of Sources of Authority; Analysis and Interpretation	Evaluation; Written Communication
Assessment	Learning is assessed in every lesson through a range of formative assessment strategies, including retrieval practice, targeted questioning, low-stakes quizzes, discussion activities, and written responses. Assessment information is used to identify misconceptions, adapt teaching, and support pupil progress.		