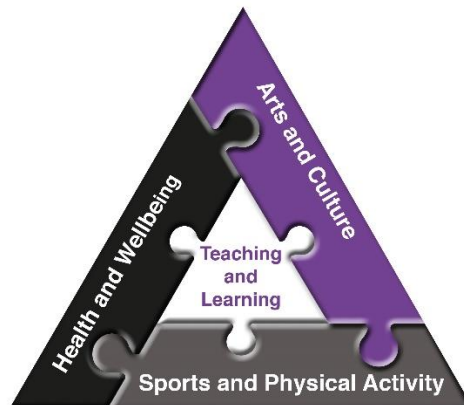


Year 8 Curriculum Booklet



We offer a rich and inspiring curriculum enabling each individual to explore their potential, build on their strengths and discover their passion.

We do this by embedding a culture of respect, responsibility, resourcefulness and resilience.

Our curriculum journey empowers students to make successful life choices and meaningful contributions to society.

Welcome to Year 8. This booklet outlines what you should expect to learn during Year 8.

For more information about what you should know at the end of each topic, please refer to our website: <https://www.newcollege.leicester.sch.uk/>

The following table shows the subjects that you will take in Year 8 and the number of lessons a fortnight you have for each subject:

Subject	
English	5
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Art	1
Computer Science	2
Performing Arts (Drama and Dance)	1
Design & Technology	2
French	2
Geography	2
History	2
Music	1
PE (practical and theory)	3
Religious Education	1

**Citizenship is taught through humanities*

** Personal development is taught during tutor time*



Year 8 Tutor Team

The Year 8 tutor team is here to support you throughout your time at New College Leicester.

Our email addresses are here, so that your parents can contact us if they need to:

8NNC	Ms Ncube	NNcube@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
8MIM	Mr Immins	MImmins@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
8PLE	Miss Lehane	PLehane@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
8JRO	Miss Robinson	JRobinson@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
8OCA	Mr Cadle	OCadle@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
8LOV	Mr Overy	LOvery@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
8MRO	Mr Robinson	Mrobinson@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
8SAS	Miss Abdul-Sattar	SAbdul-Sattar@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
8ZTM	Miss Myring	tmyring@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
Head of Year	Miss Wright	SWright@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
SLT Link	Mrs Rudge-Tezcan	erudge1@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk

Year 8 Homework

2023 – 2024

Homework **develops positive study habits and independent learning.**

Research shows that homework has a positive impact on progress. Homework has an impact by enabling pupils to undertake independent learning to practice and consolidate skills, conduct in depth inquiry, prepare for lessons or revise for exams. In addition, homework gives your parents a chance to see what is being studied in school and teaches you how to take responsibility for your part in the educational process.

- You should expect to receive homework weekly for Mathematics, English and Science
- You should expect to receive homework fortnightly for Computer Science, History, Geography, French and DT.
- Other subjects may set homework as appropriate
- You are also expected to read for 20 minutes each day
- You would usually be given a full week to complete your homework.
- Each homework should take you between 30 minutes and 45 minutes



English

Our year 8 course continues to build upon the foundations laid in year 7. Students begin the year by developing their narrative writing skills, focusing specifically on how writers’ craft their language and structure to manipulate and influence readers. These skills are continually shaped and honed throughout the year. As with year 7, our threshold and thematic concepts are embedded throughout, designed to deepen and broadens students’ expertise in English.

To assist students on their journey to becoming an expert reader, we continue to use the reading programme ‘Accelerated Reader’. Throughout year 8 students will read a variety of books that are linked to their reading ages which enables students to develop their explicit reading skills, inference and comprehension.

Term	Unit	Threshold Concepts:
Autumn 1	Creating Tension: Manipulating the reader	Context informs interpretation
		Writers use language and structure to convey meanings
		Standard English is vital in conveying confidence.
Autumn 2	The Gothic Novel: The Woman in Black	Writers use language and structure to convey meanings.
		Texts and content are selected and sequenced for specific meaning.
		Etymology, morphology and phonology is vital in decoding new material.
Spring 1	Voices of Conflict: Individual Perspectives in Conflict Poetry	Standard English is vital in conveying confidence.
		Writers use language and structure to convey meanings.
		Texts and content are selected and sequenced for specific meaning.
Spring 2	Finding your voice: Spark Speeches	Context informs interpretation
		Writers use language and structure to convey meanings
		Texts and content are selected and sequenced for specific meaning.
Summer 1	Exploring Shakespeare’s Language: Titus Andronicus/ A Winter’s Tale	Context informs interpretation
		Writers use language and structure to convey meanings
		Texts and content are selected and sequenced for specific meaning.
		Etymology, morphology and phonology is vital in decoding new material.
Summer 2	Synoptic Unit: Expectations of Gender	Context informs interpretation
		Writers use language and structure to convey meanings
		Texts and content are selected and sequenced for specific meaning.
		Standard English is vital in conveying confidence.

For further information, please contact Mrs Geraghty ageraghty@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Mathematics

At New College Leicester, we believe that all students can achieve in mathematics. However, it is important to recognise that some students take longer than others to acquire new skills. We allow some flexibility in the curriculum for students to progress at an appropriate pace. This means that the content will not be covered at the same time for each group.

Topic	Key content
Number Sense Multiplication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard algorithms for multiplication and division• The Distributive Law• Negative numbers• Multiplication and division of fractions and decimals• Estimation• Area of rectilinear shapes• Algebraic representation
Number Sense Indices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Powers and roots• Prime factor decomposition• Hierarchies of operation• Rational and irrational numbers• Surds• Laws of indices• Standard form
Number Sense Percentages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fractions, decimals and percentages• Percentage calculations• Percentage increase and decrease• Simple and compound interest• Reverse Percentages
Into the Unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Substitution• Rearranging formulae• Solving linear equations• Functions• Linear graphs
Sequences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arithmetic Sequences• Geometric Sequences• Quadratic Sequences• Fibonacci Sequences



Ratio	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The unitary method• Maps and scales• Conversion between metric units• Best buys• Proportion
Probability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The probability scale• Listing outcomes• Fractions, decimals and percentages• Sample space diagrams• Independent and mutually exclusive events• Tree diagrams• Relative frequency• Two-way tables• Venn diagrams
Geometry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Angles and lines• Parallel lines• Angles in triangles• Special quadrilaterals• Angles in polygons• Bearings

For further information, please contact Mr Anyon at manyon@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Science

In year 8, students will build on the foundations of knowledge from year 7. Students will focus on the building blocks for all scientific disciplines during the course of year 8. Students are encouraged to build on their practical ability fostered in year 7 to look at effective ways of analysing and using data and extracting information in a range of scenarios.

	Learning Cycle	Key Concepts
Autumn 1	Gas Exchange Heart and Respiration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inhalation, exhalation and gas exchange• Lung disease• Blood and blood vessels• Heart, aerobic and anaerobic respiration• Effect of exercise• Respiration in yeast
Autumn 2	Photosynthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structure of the leaf and transport systems• Diffusion and active transport• Fertiliser
Spring 1	Chemical Reactions Periodic table	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structure of the atom and atoms in a chemical reaction• Conservation of mass practical• Combustion and thermal decomposition• Group 1, 7 and 0• Properties of metals and non-metals
Spring 2	Rocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structure of the Earth• Sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks• Rock cycle• Ceramics
Summer 1	Force and Motion Forces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact and Non-Contact Forces• Resultant forces and Newton's laws• Distance-time graphs and velocity-time graphs• Gravity, weight and Mass• Friction, drag, stretching and squashing• Moments and centre of mass• Pressure
Summer 2	Electricity and Magnetism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circuits and symbols• Current, potential difference and resistance• Series and parallel circuits• Everyday electricity• Magnet, magnetic fields and electromagnets

For further information, please contact Mrs Bradley at sbradley@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Art

In Year 8, students will build on their foundations of knowledge and skills from year 7. Students will focus on Colour Theory to understand how manipulating this element can impact on their work. Students are encouraged to build on their practical ability, to take risks and experiment with a range of media both 2D and 3D. They will develop effective ways of analysing the work of others by comparing and contrasting different creative forms from diverse historical periods, cultures and times.

Term	Topic	Key Content	What you will know at the end of this term
Autumn	Colour Theory Painting techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify primary, secondary and tertiary colours.• Contrasting, harmonising, hue, saturation, neutral, monochromatic.	How to select and mix different colours, and apply these colour media to express different ideas. identify the key colour theory terms.
Spring	Fauvism landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparing old and contemporary Artists	How to interpret, compare and respond to different creative forms from diverse historical periods, cultures and times e.g. artists,
Summer	The Greenman 3D construction/modelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural awareness and understanding• Making and modelling process including health and safety	The difference between 2D and 3D media, Construction and modelling techniques

For further information, please contact Mr Thomas at jthomas@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk

Citizenship

In Year 8 Citizenship is taught through the Personal Development Curriculum. Other departments are also building citizenship knowledge through their curriculums.

The National Curriculum requirements for citizenship can be found here: <http://https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-citizenship-programmes-of-study>

Topic	Key content	What you will know at the end of this term
Democracy and Government: <i>The operation of Parliament, including voting and elections, and the role of political parties</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does the political system work?• Who runs the country• How is the government organised?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I can describe what a political system is and a key difference between parliament and government• I know who runs the country and could say what the Queen and the Prime Minister does• I can explain the term 'budget' and describe the role of the government

Through Citizenship at New College Leicester, you have many opportunities to get involved with active projects and campaigns that benefit others. Our students have made a real difference to the lives of others, we support national charities, actively engage with calendared events such as Parliament Week and Human Rights Day. We have built strong relationships with our MP and local councillors who visit the school and we organise visits to learn more about our democracy and place in the world.

We have a strong Student Parliament leadership team that anyone may join. The Student Parliament represents student voice at our school and works for positive change. They have taken part in Select Committee sessions, gathering evidence with members of the House of Lords. They have appeared on BBC East Midlands, worked with Universities of Leicester and Middlesex to help to drive forward issues that concern our community. Our Student Parliament is recognised and members have consistently been short listed for the Lord Lieutenant Leicestershire Award.

For further information, please contact Mrs Shortland at sshortland@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Computer Science

Year 8 students are re-introduced to the school systems in addition to E-Safety with an emphasis on social networking. Moving on to the Internet and Networks, students begin to understand how the internet works and how it differs from the World Wide Web (WWW). There is an investigation into the use of binary to communicate with a computer, including the presentation of images and how sound is played.

Students get the opportunity to create a Webpage, with simple understanding of HTML and CSS, learning how to adapt a page using TAGs and CAGs. The year finishes with the students creating a Digital Presentation on a given subject using PowerPoint.

Term	Topic	Key content
Autumn	E-Safety, Using computers and the internet, My Digital World	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What to trust online• Search Engines• Copyright• On Line dangers• Cyber abuse
	Internet and Networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Networks - advantages• The differences between the internet and the WWW.• URL and Domain Names• Networks – The limits and advantages of communication• Protocols• Network security
Spring	How data is represented in computers: Binary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Binary what is it – conversion• Adding binary numbers• ASCII Characters and Code• Images and Cryptic pictures• How is sound played on a computer.
	HTML – CSS Web Page development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HTML and CSS• CSS Backgrounds and images• DIV tags, page sections and CSS• CSS Layouts• Full webpage creation and assessment
Summer	Hardware and Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Role of the operating system• Software• Digital footprint• Appropriate software use• Data Collection and Analysis



	Digital presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is a Digital presentation• What is a master slide?• How to create a digital presentation• Creating a digital presentation to a set scenario (use of technology)• Evaluation and improvement
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For further information, please contact Mr Mitson at kmitson@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Design and Technology

The teaching of Design and Technology at Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) allows students to gain vital skills in all aspects of Design and Technology. Each year students rotate around all four Design and Technology subject areas: Engineering, Textiles, Hospitality and Design Technology. Students spend 10 weeks in each area.

During practical lessons students are taught a wide range of both traditional craft skills and use of specialist equipment and machinery. As well as practical lessons students will take part in theory lessons giving them the opportunity to develop their knowledge of materials and design processes.

Below are the projects students will complete in year 8:

Year 8	Topic	Key content
Food	Intermediate Cookery Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health and safety in the kitchen• Knife skills, including different cuts• Kneading and shaping• Handling raw meat• Time management
Textiles	Artist inspired Pencil case	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health and safety in a textiles room• Using a sewing machine• Decorative Techniques• Seams, Hems and seam allowances• Paper patterns
CAD	CAD Drawings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health and safety in the CAD room• Technical drawings• Using CAD (computer aided design)• Producing an orthographic drawing
Product Design	Super Dog	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health and safety in the workshop• Timber• Using different machinery in the workshop safety• Exploring wood joints and Joints which allow a product to move• Reading an engineering orthographic drawing and producing a product from it.

For further information, please contact Mrs Bryce at dbryce@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



French

In Year 8, we continue with a curriculum designed around Extensive Processing Instruction. We build on the skills acquired in Year 7 and work towards fluency in three new themes that are appealing and relevant to our students. Students who particularly enjoy MFL lessons are also able to choose Spanish as an expressive arts pathway option going into Year 9.

Term	Topic	Key content
Autumn	Local Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is and isn't in your local area?• What can you do in your local area?• Opinion on your local area. <p>By the end of this term, students will be able to: give a detailed description of where they live using modal verbs and opinions to communicate with increasing fluency.</p>
Spring	Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Digital Life (near future)• Film & TV <p>By the end of this term, students will be able to: discuss film and TV viewing habits with reference to the future.</p>
Summer	Future Plans & Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What you eat & drink• What you have eaten and drunk recently• Eating Habits <p>By the end of this term, students will be able to: talk about food and drink including their dietary requirements.</p>

For further information,

please contact Mr Hepworth-Adcock at jhepworth-adcock@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Term	Topic	Key content
Autumn 1	Brilliant Biomes	<p>What local and global factors determine where biomes are distributed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate and weather • Local and Global influences. • Climate graphs • Biome distribution • Africa • Russia • The Middle East
Autumn 2	Land of Ice – Glaciers	<p>How do glaciers impact on our world?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ice age • Glaciers distribution • Line graph – glacial retreat • Challenges • Processes TED • Glacial landforms • Interpreting OS maps • Solutions to reduce GHGs
Spring 1	Supply and Demand – Fuelling the Planet	<p>Why should countries diversify their energy mix?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy categories • Distribution and consumption • Water Scarcity • FITE Vs VASO • Sustainable communities
Spring 2	Local Fieldwork Study	<p>Where does information come from and is it useful?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of fieldwork • Primary vs Secondary • Quantitative vs Qualitative • GIS • Classifying data • Bipolar survey NCL • Data presentation • Risk Assessment • Designing an investigation
Summer 1	Interconnected World – TNC's and Globalisation	<p>Why am I part of a global community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalisation • Compound graph • TNCs



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advantages & Disadvantages • Mining and Mobile phones • Nike • Sustainable practice
Summer 2	Oceans on the Edge	<p>Why does the coastline change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beaches – Multipurpose • Human and Physical processes • Advance & retreat • Conflict of interest • The Environment Agency • Oil Spills • Plastic Pollution • Conservation of the ocean

For further information, please contact Miss Smith at jsmith1@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk

History

Year 8 history focuses on the international aspects of our History and how these events are still relevant to our lives today. Students will already have practise in key historical skills and these will be continued to be built upon through the year.

Term	Topic	Key content
Autumn	Empire Slavery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why were empires founded? • Case study – India under the British Empire. • What was Africa like before Europeans arrived? • How was Britain involved in the slave trade and how was slavery abolished?
Spring	Protest Ideas that changed the world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is protest and how have people protested throughout history e.g. the French Revolution, Death Penalty, Apartheid? • How have key ideas and technology changed the world around us e.g. algebra, communism, the internet
Summer	World War One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was WW1 inevitable? • How was it fought and why is it remembered as the Great War?

For further information, please contact Mr Creissen at lcreissen@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Music

In Year 8 students are exposed to ensembles and different instruments that ensures the key skills and knowledge are secure and ready to progress into year 9. Students develop their understanding and knowledge of world music

Technology skills are built on from year 8 and further band work is looked at through reggae understanding how melody and harmony work together. They will appraise the music and by the end of year 8 produce 3 performances or productions.

	Topic	Key content
Autumn	House production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) by working on an electronic dance music arrangement• Understand the key features of a DAW.• How to input midi, mix and present a final piece of music using a computer.
Spring	Reggae	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Build on ensemble skills through reggae music• Understand Reggae music and the context• Explore the rhythmic elements found in the different instrumental parts
Summer	Sounds of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop composition and improvisation skills through Hindustani• Recognise and use different timbres through listening and production• Explore melody, rhythm and ornamentation through improvisation and Bhangra production

In addition to their school Music lessons, students are also able to sign up for instrumental lessons. These lessons are free of charge. We are offering instrumental lessons in: Piano, Violin, viola, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Clarinet, Flute, Percussion and vocals.

For further information, please contact Miss Tutty at gtutty@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Performing Arts (Dance and Drama)

Students continue to study both Dance and Drama in year 8. Students have one lesson a fortnight. Students rotate between subjects at three points during the year: (approximately) October half term, Christmas and Easter.

	Topic	Key content
Autumn Term	Dance Jazz Dance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn repertoire from a music video• Develop and practice rehearsal techniques• Learn about the development of the Jazz dance style• Explore, select and develop appropriate content for a Jazz dance• Understanding, developing and apply key performance skills
	Drama West Side Story The Musical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn scripted extracts from repertoire• Analyse relationships and conflicts to represent on stage.• Explore vocal skills to develop characterisation• Understanding, developing and applying key performance skills• Develop stage combat to create realistic action moments• - Perform and appreciate performances in the style of musicals
Spring/ Summer Term	Dance Contemporary Dance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyse Matthew Bourne's The Car Man• Learn repertoire from The Car Man• Explore and create content that communicates meaning• Develop content using a range of dynamic qualities, spatial designs and dance relationships
	Drama Devising theatre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn steps to take when devising a performance• Explore dramatic techniques: tableaux, slow motion, passing the focus and thought tracking• Explore how to use improvisation to develop creative performance ideas• Develop performance using a range of techniques

For further information please contact Miss Shaw at eshaw@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk or Ms Brown at kbrown@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Personal Development

In Year 8 Personal Development is taught during tutor time.

	Key content
Autumn	Relationships, sex and health education <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The similarities, differences and diversity among people.• The impact of stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination on individuals• Consent is freely given, that being pressurised, coerced or manipulated is not giving consent.• The law relating to sexual consent
Spring	Drugs, alcohol and associated risks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The personal, social risks and consequences of substance use and misuse including occasional use H27• Manage the influence of drugs and alcohol on decision making within relationships and social situations• The concepts of dependence and addiction including awareness of help to overcome addictions
	Media Literacy and Digital resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make decisions on different media and digital content• To recognise the influence of extreme views on people's attitudes and behaviours• Strategies for protecting and enhancing their reputation online• How online and social media outlets can exaggerate or share inaccurate information
Summer	Relationships <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Similarities, differences and diversity among people• Develop conflict management skills and strategies• Recognise bullying and its impact in all forms• How to maintain and manage positive relationships including online• Qualities and behaviours exhibited in wider society Citizenship <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the British Values and where have they come from?• How does the political system work?• Who runs the country?

For Further information, please contact Mrs Kopicki at skopickiy@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Practical PE

In Year 8 students will develop their knowledge, understanding and application of the core and advanced skills in a variety of sports. Students will spend 4 lessons on each activity.

In Year 8 students will have the opportunity to participate in swimming, handball, football, netball, rugby, gymnastics, trampolining, badminton, tennis and rounders.

Theory / BTEC Sport

In Year 8 students will have 1 theory lesson a fortnight. Across the year students will learn about nutrition, benefits of exercise and barriers to participation and fitness and training. Students will also be able to make links between practical and theory lessons such as when learning about sports leadership.

Please see the table below of the KS3 BTEC Sport curriculum (please note dates/terms are approximate).

Term	Topic	Key content
Autumn	Nutrition Components of Fitness, Training and Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carbohydrates• Fats• Protein• Athletes' diets • Muscular endurance• Aerobic endurance• Muscular strength• Speed• Flexibility• Power
Spring	Benefits to exercise and barriers to participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical, social and mental benefits to exercise• Barriers to participation (cost, time, access, cultural barriers)• Methods to address the barriers
Summer	Leadership Celebrating Leicester	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skills of a leader• Qualities of a leader• Practical leadership • Sport in Leicester• Racial equality in Sport

For further information, please contact Miss Clark at eclark@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Religious Education

Our curriculum is taught with a mixture of linear and thematic learning, giving students the chance to learn, use and compare new concepts as well as enhance their understanding and skills in the wider world. These transferable skills will support at Key Stage 4.

	Year 8	Key content
Autumn Term	Religious views to creation and God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • What is cosmological revolution • Arguments for and against God • Religious views to creation
Spring Term	Exploring Islam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Islam • Origins of Islam • Life of Muhammad • The Quran and 5 pillars • Muslim prayers • Mosque • Ramadan and Eid • Hajj
Summer Term	Meaning of life/ early life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is` sanctity of life? • What is euthanasia? • What is IVF? • What is genetic engineering? • What is the purpose of families?

For further information, please contact Mr Mistry at amistry@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk

Wider Curriculum

We also have lots of exciting additional activities that students can get involved with this year.

Year 8 are activities are as follows:

- Archery
- Art Club
- Badminton
- Band
- Choir
- Cooking
- Curve Young Company
- DIY
- Dodgeball
- Drama
- Football
- Freestyle Gymnastics
- Just Dance
- Moving Together Dance
- Netball
- Production
- Rounders
- Rugby
- School Show
- Textiles
- Trampolining

For further information, including days and times, please refer to our website <https://www.newcollege.leicester.sch.uk/wider-curriculum/609.html>