

Year 7 Curriculum Overview: Autumn Term

SUBJECT	What are students studying in the Autumn term?
Art	Sculpture - texture and form: Students work with 30 materials to create structures inspired by plants. They will learn how to manipulate and form papier mâché over a maquette in the style of Adam Frezza and Terri Chiao's "Chiozza" series. Students revisit the skills they have learnt in previous unit this academic year to complete this piece.
Computing/IT	Using computers safely, effectively and responsibly: This unit increases students' awareness of the issues surrounding computer viruses, poor password security and their ever-increasing digital footprint. It also highlights issues surrounding cyber bullying and an awareness of online grooming. Introducing Spreadsheet: Understand how to write basic formulae in a spreadsheet, the concept of replication and the uses of relative and absolute cell referencing, how to name cells and ranges within a spreadsheet write a range of basic functions including SUM, AVERAGE, MAX, MIN, COUNT and IF, Understand how to use conditional formatting and how to use data in a spreadsheet to create graphs and charts.
Design and Technology	Introduction to Design & Technology Design and Technology carousel: The first half of the year students will complete a series of projects in product design (wooden die project) and CAD/CAM (2D designed maths stencil/ruler).
Drama	Topic 1: The 'Key Skills' unit introduces students to a number of key drama techniques and performance skills. Throughout the term students will gain an understanding of essential subject terminology and will be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to devise, perform and evaluate their own work throughout the year. Topic 2: A collaborative exploration of the fictional 'Darkwood Manor'. This unit fosters pupil's imaginative development and builds on key skills from the previous topic.
English	Welcome to English: This unit introduces the skills for the study of fiction, poetry and non-fiction texts at KS3. Students read extracts and short texts as a springboard for learning KS3 subject terminology and skills like annotation and they also practice creative writing. 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens: Students study this classic text with a focus on characterisation, comparison and persuasive writing skills. There is also a focus on understanding the historical context of the text, Victorian London.
French	Tout sur moi: Students learn to talk about themselves and others. They are introduced to personal pronouns, verb conjugation and adjective agreement. Mon collège: Students learn to talk about school. They are introduced to question forms and partitive pronouns (du/de la/des).
Geography	People, Place and Space: Students learn what Geography is and they are taught a range of map skills through studying different places. They start looking at the geography of the local area and build in scale to learn about the Geography of London, the UK, Europe and the wider world. Water World: Students learn about the water cycle and physical processes taking place in rivers. This helps them answer questions such as why are rivers

	important? What processes take place in river valleys and what landforms does this create? What causes flooding and how can it be managed?
History	<p>Power and Control in Medieval England: This unit begins a look at the Medieval period (1066-approx.1500) across the world. Students learn about The Battle of Hastings and how William managed to keep control of a newly conquered England. Students look at methods such as motte-and-bailey castles and the feudal system. Students focus on the skill of historical explanation, explaining how these methods helped William.</p> <p>Life in Medieval England: This unit continues to look at England after the Battle of Hastings and focuses on the impact on the people. We study key events of the period such as the Black Death and the Peasants Revolt. This term builds a foundation for future comparison with Medieval African Kingdoms and Islamic Empires in Term 2.</p>
Maths	Whole numbers and decimals, measures, perimeter and area, angles and 2D shapes (as part of Black History Month), expressions and formulae and fractions, decimals and percentages.
Music	<p>I've got rhythm: Students are introduced to note values (whole notes, minims, crotchets, quavers, semiquavers, semiquaver combinations), rests, ostinato and polyrhythms. Students perform in groups and produce group compositions.</p> <p>Keyboard skills: Students develop their keyboard skills and read musical notation (treble and bass clef). They start to read melodies and take part in solo and group performances, recitations and basic improvisations (Dorian mode).</p>
PE	<p>Welcome to PE: 'taster' sessions introduce students to the wide variety of activities they will encounter within the PE curriculum before they begin their first topic. Developing fundamental movement skills, becoming more competent in applying their techniques and skills across activities and being physically active. Fostering an understanding of how to lead a healthy active lifestyle, learn subject specific terminology, apply rules and strategies as well as an introduction to the broad extracurricular programme on offer.</p> <p>CAROUSEL 1: A focus on Basketball, Health Related Fitness and Dance.</p> <p>CAROUSEL 2: Further development of techniques and movement skills across Tennis, Netball, Athletics and Rounders.</p>
RE	<p>Introduction to religion and philosophy: Students look at the skills needed to study religion and philosophy and the difference between the two fields of study.</p> <p>Why People Believe in God: Students explore reasons why theists believe in God's existence and why atheists do not. There are two assessments: one evaluating whether religious experiences prove God, or the afterlife is real and the other evaluating whether it is possible to prove (or disprove) God's existence.</p>
Science	<p>Working Scientifically part 1: Students are introduced to the different components of a scientific investigation.</p> <p>Living Organisms: Students learn about different types of cells and how to use a microscope.</p> <p>Properties of Matter: Students learn about the key properties of solids, liquids and gases and changes of state.</p>

	Atoms, Elements and Compounds: Students learn about elements and the periodic table, compounds and mixtures, including practical methods for separating mixtures.
Spanish	Mi vida: Students learn to talk about themselves and others. They are introduced to verb conjugation and adjective agreement. Mi tiempo libre: Students learn to talk about free time. They are introduced to opinion phrases and the present tense.

Year 7 Curriculum Overview: Spring Term

SUBJECT	What are students studying in the Autumn term?
Art	<p>Mark-making skills: This foundation unit teaches students how to use different grades of pencils effectively to create a wide range of marks. Students look at several artists who are known for their fluent or adventurous mark-making and respond to these artists by using pens, pencils, pastels and chalks. Drawing from observation and visual recordings of real-life objects are the focus. Mark-making using collage is also taught; skills required for this are cutting, ripping and gluing as well as selecting various types of paper to create a realistic representation of an object.</p>
Computing/IT	<p>Understanding Computers: A theoretical unit covering the basic principles of computer architecture and use of binary. Students will cover binary to decimal conversion and vice versa.</p> <p>Small basic: An introduction to programming in a textual language. It starts by introducing Turtle graphics, leading into the use of variables and loops. Simple programmes using the Text window are used to introduce input, output and selection.</p>
Design and Technology	<p>Design and Technology carousel: Over the year students will complete a series of projects: product design (wooden die project), textiles (educational cushion project), CAD/CAM (2D designed maths stencil/ruler), food and nutrition (healthy lunch box snacks)</p>
Drama	<p>Topic 1: This unit explores the plot and key scenes from Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Through the term students will be challenged with understanding, learning and performing a key extract from the play. Topic 2: The World Theatre Unit allows students to explore and gain an appreciation of various theatre styles and traditions from across the globe. Students will look at: Traditional Chinese theatre, African Theatre, Greek Theatre and Indian theatre.</p>
English	<p>'The Outsiders' by S.E. Hinton: This is an exciting and popular novel that explores growing up in America in the mid-twentieth century. As students read this text they explore characterisation, novel structure and intertextuality. We use the text as a springboard for close analytical writing on extracts, exploring language choices and their effects, and writers' intentions. Students also have a chance to develop their creative writing by writing in character.</p>
French	<p>Mes passetemps: Students learn to talk about their hobbies. They talk about information technology using regular –er verbs and sports they play using jouer à. They are introduced to sentences with more than one verb (e.g. aimer + infinitif)</p> <p>Ma zone: Students learn to talk about their area and what there is to do. They are introduced to à + the definite article.</p>
Geography	<p>Urban Issues and Settlement: Students investigate the following enquiry questions: Where do settlements develop and why? What are the causes and consequences of growth and urbanisation? What challenges does this create for city authorities?</p> <p>The Natural World: Students will investigate the following enquiry questions: What are ecosystems? Why do countries have different climatic zones and biomes? How do humans use ecosystems and what threats are they facing?</p>

History	<p>African Kingdoms: This topic explores different African kingdoms of the Middle Ages (Ghana, Mali, Benin etc.). This allows students to compare with knowledge of England from the Autumn term. Students will look at leadership and governing as well as what life was like for the citizens.</p> <p>The Islamic Golden Age: Students explore the Arab world looking at life and the impact on science and technology in a similar period to England and Africa. Students examine the growth of the Islamic Empire and the discoveries and inventions of the period. There is a focus on the importance of the City of Baghdad.</p>
Maths	Ratio and proportion, whole number calculations, graphs and statistics.
Music	<p>Music through time: Students will experience medieval music, chant, drone, melody, folk music improvisation, group performance and group composition.</p> <p>Music of the Mande empire: This unit covers narrative with musicians as historians, cyclic rhythms, rhythmic and melodic ostinato, group performance, the role of the Griot as storyteller and basic improvisations.</p>
PE	<p>Developing fundamental movement skills: becoming more competent in applying their techniques and skills across activities and being physically active. Fostering an understanding of how to lead a healthy active lifestyle, learn subject specific terminology, apply rules and strategies as well as an introduction to the broad extracurricular programme on offer.</p> <p>CAROUSEL 1: A focus on Basketball, Health Related Fitness and Dance.</p> <p>CAROUSEL 2: Further development of techniques and movement skills across Tennis, Netball, Athletics and Rounders.</p>
RE	Leaders of the Abrahamic faiths
Science	<p>Nutrition and digestion – students learn about the major food groups and how humans break these down</p> <p>Acids and Alkalis – students learn about characteristics properties of acids and alkalis, the pH scale and the reactions of acids and alkalis</p> <p>Mixtures – students learn the scientific principles behind separating mixtures</p> <p>Forces - students learn to identify different forces and how forces interact with objects</p>
Spanish	<p>Mi insti: Students learn to talk about school. They are introduced to definite and indefinite articles.</p> <p>Mi familia y mis amigos: Students learn to describe others using the third person. They practise the verbs ser, tener, estar.</p>

Year 7 Curriculum Overview: Summer Term

Information to follow in the summer term.

SUBJECT	What are students studying in the Autumn term?
Art	Colour and Painting: Colour theory is explained to students starting with primary, secondary and tertiary colours and moves onto complimentary and harmonious colour pairings. Students are taught how to mix colours from the primary colours and how to gain better brush control in their work. Students create a final painting based on maps and thinking about their journey into school.
Computing/IT	Animation: an introductory unit to stop-motion animation. Students are introduced to how stop-motion animation is created and work in pairs to plan and design a storyboard for a given scenario. Students then create characters using modelling clay and then they will be creating their animation.
Design and Technology	Technology carousel: The summer carousel will be textiles (educational cushion project) and food and nutrition (healthy lunch box snacks).
Drama	Topic 1: This unit introduces year 7 students to the 16th century, Italian theatre form ' Commedia dell 'arte '. Through the term, students will learn about this new style of theatre and its influence on modern forms of theatre, whilst also being able to develop their improvisation skills. The half term will culminate in a devised performance assessment. Topic 2: This unit looks at the genre of Musical Theatre through an exploration of ' Hairspray '. Students will rehearse key extracts from the play whilst also considering the wider social issues presented within the plot.
English	Comparative poetry: Students read a range of poems by different authors, practicing the skills of annotation and using accurate subject terminology. The focus of this unit is on the skill of comparing poems analytically, identifying similarities and differences in two texts and writing about them with accuracy. Gods and Monsters: Students explore classical myths that inform our study of literature further up the school, for example the stories of Helen of Troy, Pandora and Medusa. Students are encouraged to make links between these stories and others they are familiar with and explore the symbolic significance of these stories.
French	Mes vacances: Students learn to talk about their holidays. They can explain what they would like to do and discuss their holiday plans. They learn about noun forms, reflexive verbs and the near future tense.
Geography	Life on the Edge Great Pacific Garbage Project
History	Medicine, Health and the People: Students explore how medicine has changed from the ancient period to the present day. Students will examine the changes and elements of continuity in prevention, causes and treatments of disease. They will explore key events such as the Black Death, the creation of the first vaccination and antibiotics. Historical Fiction: Explores the curriculum links between History and English – developed alongside a member of the English team to ensure consistency in

	literary ideas examined. Students will use the knowledge from this year to create their own fictional piece that is historically accurate.
Maths	Equations, Factors and multiples, Money week and Probability. Year 8 content on Whole numbers, decimals and Measures, perimeter and area.
Music	Chords & Melody: Song performance, chords (UKE) and melodies (vocals) Song Writing: Song Writing (chords, harmony, arrangement)
PE	Developing fundamental movement skills: becoming more competent in applying their techniques and skills across activities and being physically active. Fostering an understanding of how to lead a healthy active lifestyle, learn subject specific terminology, apply rules and strategies as well as an introduction to the broad extracurricular programme on offer. CAROUSEL 1: A focus on Basketball, Health Related Fitness and Dance. CAROUSEL 2: Further development of techniques and movement skills across Tennis, Netball, Athletics and Rounders.
RE	The Nature of God: Students explore this across Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism and Hinduism. They look for commonality of beliefs across the religions and practice becoming more confident with specific religious vocabulary. Leaders of Abrahamic Faiths: Students study the lives of Abraham, Jesus and Muhammad and how those religions started.
Science	Electricity ad Magnetism Earth and atmosphere Ecology Space
Spanish	Mi ciudad: Students discuss their town, eating out, and weekend plans. They are introduced to the verb querer and the future tense.