Year 7 - Curriculum Overview

Building foundations and sparking curiosity

Students **discover** new subjects, ideas and experiences through a broad and ambitious curriculum. They build strong foundations in knowledge and literacy, develop positive learning habits and grow in confidence as they begin their secondary school journey.

What will students learn in Year 7?

Tutor Time	• Enjoy six tutor-led novels: Trash, Wildlands, Private Peaceful, Once, Percy Jackson and A Monster Calls, immersing students in rich language and engaging stories. • Explore themes of adventure, empathy and belonging, developing vocabulary, comprehension and a love of reading. • Participate in weekly Great Debates, exploring topical issues, broadening cultural capital and developing confidence in expressing opinions and debating ideas.	**English**	• Study October October, The Bone Sparrow, nature poetry and Shakespeare's The Tempest. • Analyse language, structure, characterisation, context and writers' intentions, including character arcs and Freytag's pyramid. • Develop reading comprehension, evidence selection, creative and informative writing, grammatical accuracy and sentence variety.
Mathematics	• Develop fluency with directed numbers, decimals, fractions, percentages, primes, factors and roots. • Explore algebraic expressions, equations, order of operations, ratio, proportion, shape, angles, area and perimeter. • Interpret data and probability, solve problems and apply mathematical knowledge to finance and real-life contexts.	**Science**	• Explore particles, separation, the periodic table, acids and alkalis, energy, forces, human biology, health, ecosystems and space. • Learn to plan investigations, work safely in laboratories and develop practical scientific enquiry skills. • Apply knowledge through the Mission to Mars investigation and consider human impacts on the planet.
Geography	• Investigate St Austell as a distinctive place, local weather and climate, global biomes and the Nigerian rainforest.	**History**	• Explore medieval Baghdad, Christianity and pilgrimage, the Norman Conquest and the First Crusade.

	• Explore resource demand, tidal energy, coastal processes and management of the Jurassic Coast. • Examine fast fashion, product life cycles, globalisation and sustainable development.		• Investigate medieval kings and rebellions, climate and disease, the Reformation in Cornwall and Tudor global connections. • Use historical evidence and artefacts to interpret the past, including the English Civil War.
Spanish	• Learn to introduce yourself and discuss family, daily routines, home, school, local area and future plans. • Build accurate pronunciation, phonics, high-frequency verbs, present-tense grammar and adjective use. • Express opinions and reasons while exploring cultures and traditions across Spanish-speaking countries.	**Computing**	• Explore online safety, reliable information, copyright, computer hardware, software and computer architecture. • Develop practical skills in Word and PowerPoint and understand computer networks. • Use sequence, selection and iteration in block-based coding to develop and test games.
Religious Education	• Study Judaism, Christianity and Islam, including the experiences of young people practising these faiths in Britain. • Explore covenants, ceremonies, Jesus' teachings and the Five Pillars of Islam. • Consider religious practice today, antisemitism and anti-Muslim hostility.	**PSHE**	• Explore respectful relationships, friendships, bullying, consent, puberty, personal safety and wellbeing. • Develop emotional regulation, resilience, self-care, online safety and digital independence. • Investigate careers, aspirations, financial literacy, budgeting, online scams and leadership.
Physical Education	• Develop fundamental movement, sport-specific techniques, teamwork and understanding of rules. • Explore athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, football, fitness, netball, rounders, rugby and softball.	**Music**	• Explore East Asian music in Keys of the East, including pentatonic scales, pitch, notation and keyboard performance. • Study African musical traditions in Saharan Sounds, including drumming, pulse, rhythm and texture.

	• Learn about warm-ups, tactical decisions and outwitting opponents; sports vary by pathway.		• Develop composition, improvisation, ensemble performance, rehearsal skills and musical literacy.
Art	• Explore mark-making through a range of materials, techniques and processes, inspired by Vincent van Gogh and Helen Wells. • Develop colour knowledge and create a Cornish landscape inspired by André Derain and Alma Thomas. • Build practical skills in experimentation, visual expression and artistic decision-making.	**Drama**	• Explore mime, silent movies and slapstick comedy, developing physical expression, stock characters and storytelling techniques. • Develop vocal techniques, narration and performance skills to bring stories and fairytales to life. • Explore Matilda, using scripts, characterisation, status and power to create and perform engaging dramatic scenes.
Design & Technology	• Design and prototype Remarkable Rockets, drawing inspiration from existing products and the natural world. • Investigate materials and their properties through the Fantastic Fans project. • Use hand and machine tools to cut, shape and join materials, then test and evaluate finished products.	**Food**	• Explore healthy eating, the Eatwell Guide, food groups and balanced diets through Healthy Lifestyles/Hospitality Experience. • Develop kitchen hygiene, workplace safety, safe food handling and practical preparation skills. • Study sports nutrition through Life as an Athlete, including hydration, nutrients and meal planning for performance.