

Year 7

Curriculum guide for Parents / Carers

2023-24



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ART

Overview

In Year 7, the art curriculum introduces students to a range of artistic techniques, materials, and disciplines. This will include drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. They will have opportunities to experiment with different media, tools, and processes, allowing them to develop their technical skills and artistic expression.

Your child will study:

- The Basic Skills in Art and Design
- How the Visual Elements are used in Art and Design
- How to use and apply Line Tone Colour, Texture, Pattern, Shape and Form
- How artists have used the visual Elements to create artwork
- How to take inspiration from the work of artists, designers, and crafts people

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Use a range of techniques to record their observations in sketchbooks, journals, and other media.
- Use a variety of techniques and media, including painting, print making.
- Become proficient in handling different 3D materials, such as clay and low relief.
- Analyse and evaluate their own work and other people's.
- Understand the history of art, craft, design, and architecture, including periods, styles, and major movements from ancient times to the present day

Your child will be assessed through timed responses in class, assess, and end of year examinations.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage your child to bring in equipment from home to help them make progress and create fantastic artwork in school. For example, drawing equipment such as 2B pencils and Fine Liners and anything that will support your learning.
- Encourage your child to bring in from home visual references that will inspire them, such as photographs, magazine cutouts and images from the internet.
- Encourage your child to visit art galleries or places of interest to enhance their learning.



Useful links:

<https://hardleyart.wordpress.com/the-formal-elements-in-art/>

[10 Most Famous Colourful Paintings - Artist](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2ammJpSiaY)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2ammJpSiaY>



If you need to ask a question about this subject, contact:
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COMPUTING

Overview

The Computing curriculum in Year 7 ensures that all students become confident and courteous users of technology and improve their digital literacy. It builds resilience and deepens students' knowledge of transferrable skills such as the diverse use of Microsoft Office and how this is used in everyday life. The Computing curriculum teaches students how to be kind and show courtesy when using social media for good, and aware of a diverse audience when using digital platforms and encourages all students the opportunity to learn through practical application.

Your child will study:

- E-Safety
- Office Skills
- Spreadsheet (formulas)
- Enterprise Project
- Python
- Game Maker

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand how to be safe online
- Improve desktop publishing skills creating a newsletter/article using Microsoft Publisher
- Develop spreadsheet skills such as formatting and basic formulas
- Understand how computers work
- Be able to write code

Your child will be assessed through timed responses in class, mock examinations, and end of year examinations.

How can you support your child at home?

- Look at computer generated content such as trailers with an appraising eye. What could be improved?
- Encourage the practice of ICT where possible if the software is available.
- Promote the understanding of information and look for untruths and bias.
- Encourage the questioning of data. Is it correct? Is it valid? Is it reliable?



Useful links:

[Online Python - IDE, Editor, Compiler, Interpreter \(online-python.com\)](https://www.python.org/doc/2.7/howto/ide/)



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DRAMA

Overview

The Drama curriculum in Year 7 ensures that all students become confident and courteous and creative performers and develop genuine enthusiasm, understanding and appreciation of the world of theatre. It builds resilience trialling both traditional and contemporary theatrical skills and techniques. The Drama curriculum encourages all students to let their imagination, personality and ambition shine through in their performance work.

Your child will study:

- Developing Skills and Techniques
- 'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens
- 'This is Bradford'

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand the basic skills and techniques used to produce practical work
- Reading, Analysis, Exploration of classic texts.
- Improvising, Devising, Creating from given scenarios
- Understand body, voice emotions
- Gain knowledge of local playwrights, directors, producers

Your child will be assessed through practical performances, mid-term assessments, and end of year examinations.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage your child to watch, read and engage in films, television drama, live theatre
- Actively encourage your children to visit a local theatre, to see a live performance
- Encourage the use of computers for research
- Encourage your child to perform at home to build confidence



Useful links:

[Vocal and physical techniques - Developing an idea - Drama - AQA - BBC Bitesize](#)



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ENGLISH

Overview

The English curriculum in Year 7 ensures that all students become confident and courteous communicators and develop genuine enthusiasm, understanding and appreciation of the English language. It builds resilience and deepens students' knowledge by engaging with the highest quality of literature. The English curriculum encourages all students to let their imagination, personality and ambition shine through in their writing.

Your child will study:

- 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by William Shakespeare
- Autobiography
- Performance poetry
- 'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens
- 'Skellig' by David Almond

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand how to structure a written article and written speech
- Understand perspective writing
- Know how to write in a more sophisticated style
- Gain the skill of expressing emotion through poetry
- Know how to analyse language

Your child will be assessed through timed responses in class, mock examinations, and end of year examinations.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage your child to use the library and read a range of books and magazines
- Check your child's work, paying attention to spellings and punctuation
- Encourage the use of computers for research
- Encourage your child to write lists, ideas, and plans



Useful links:

<https://www.rsc.org.uk/>

<https://davidalmond.com>



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GEOGRAPHY

Overview

The Geography curriculum in Year 7 ensures that all students become confident and effective geographers. They will access the KS3 curriculum which will allow them to secure the key foundational knowledge and skills they need to make excellent progress and become enquiring citizens of the world which we all need to understand better. The Geography curriculum encourages all students to experience geography through a range of different resources.

Your child will study:

- Geography of the United Kingdom
- Russia & Africa
- Earthquakes and Tsunamis
- Challenges for our climate
- Map skills

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand how geographical processes interact to create distinctive human & physical landscapes that change over time.
- Become aware of the increasingly complex geographical systems in the world around them.
- Use geographical skills in analysing and interpreting different data sources

Your child will be assessed through timed responses in class, mock examinations, and end of year examinations.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage your child to use an atlas
- Encourage discussion around world events and their location.
- Encourage your child to watch documentaries with David Attenborough, Simon Reeves et al.



Useful links:

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone/>



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HISTORY

Overview

The History curriculum in Year 7 connects our ambitious Key Stage 3 curriculum with the content students have learnt in Key Stage 2. Students will study international, national, and local history throughout the year with a specific focus on events between 1066AD and 1603AD. Students will also develop history specific skills such as analysing sources of primary and secondary evidence. They will be investigating the causes and consequences of historical events and develop further understanding through explaining why different people interpret things in different ways.

Your child will study:

- What can historians learn about the Ancient Kingdom of Britain from evidence? (Connects with Key Stage 2 & Baseline test)
- What can historians learn about the kingdom of Mali?
- How did the Norman Conquest change life in Britain?
- How did religion affect people's lives in Medieval Times?
- What difference did the Black Death really make?
- How important was Henry VIII's break with Rome?
- Why did Elizabethans want to explore the world?

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand how to structure a written answer to an enquiry-based question
- Understand cause and consequence
- Develop answers by using sources of evidence
- Know the impact Religion had on Medieval society
- Recognise and explain differences in historical interpretations
- Study History from at least 3 continents
- Study content in line with the National Curriculum

Your child will be assessed through constant checking for understanding methods during lessons, multiple choice assessments in class, mock examinations, and end of year examinations.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage your child to use the library and read a range of books and magazines linked to the topics
- Encourage the completion of homework (set on Seneca)
- Visit historical locations such as Kirkstall Abbey & local castles



Useful links:

<https://www.senecalearning.com>



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MATHS

Overview

The Mathematics curriculum in Year 7 ensures that all students gain understanding of the key skills required for solving mathematical problems whilst fostering a desire to ask questions and understand more. They will focus on gaining the mathematical fluency and confidence that will enable them to build their resilience and persevere through challenges. They will develop a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts and use a variety of representations which will enable them to reason mathematically and apply their skills in contexts which they may encounter in day-to-day life.

Your child will study:

- Algebraic Thinking
- Place Value and Proportion
- Applications of Number
- Directed Number
- Fractional Thinking
- Lines and Angles
- Reasoning with number

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand sequences, algebraic notation and equality and equivalence
- Understand integers and decimals including fraction, decimal and percentage equivalence
- Solve problems with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
- Complete arithmetic and solve equations involving both positive and negative numbers
- Add and subtract fractions
- Understand geometric notation, construct and measure angles and be able to reason geometrically
- Develop number sense including estimation and other mental arithmetic skills, understand prime numbers, sets and probability.

Your child will be assessed through exam style questions and low stakes testing in class, mid-year and end of year examinations.

- Encourage your child to complete their online maths homework.
- Encourage your child to get involved in mathematical activities around the home and elsewhere. Examples could include shopping, managing money and measuring for cooking or DIY.
- Avoid negativity around mathematics. Praise effort, remind them it's ok (and expected) to make mistakes and try not to share any maths anxiety you may feel. Work together to understand topics they struggle with using online videos.



Useful link:

<https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/home-learning/year7>



If you need to ask a question about this subject, contact:
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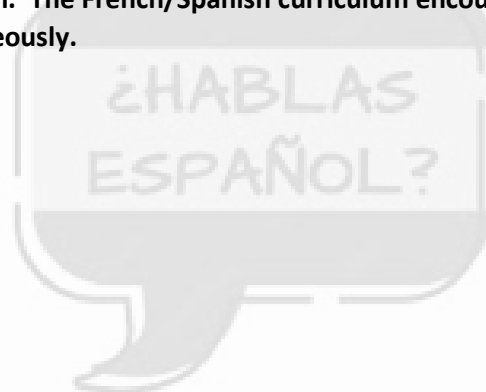
FRENCH/SPANISH

Overview

The French/Spanish curriculum in Year 7 ensures that all students speak confidently with good intonation and pronunciation. Students will have a strong cultural appreciation of the countries where French and Spanish are spoken. Students will be able to master key vocabulary and grammatical structures through modelling and practice be it orally, aurally or written. The French/Spanish curriculum encourages all students to use language creatively and spontaneously.

Your child will study:

- Phonology and describing myself.
- Describing my family and friends.
- Sports and free time.
- Communication and entertainment.
- Food and healthy living.
- Celebrations and festivals



What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand how to use phonics to pronounce words correctly.
- Learn how to greet people and talk about themselves.
- Learn about different Hispanic/ Francophone celebrations and cuisine.
- Be able to use the present tense and basic future tense expressions.

Your child will be assessed through vocabulary tests, extended pieces of writing with feedback, checkpoint assessments and formal assessments.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage your child to use their knowledge navigator.
- Check your child's work, paying attention to spellings and punctuation.
- Encourage the use of computers for research.
- Encourage your child to use the vocabulary learning techniques on the sentence builders.



Useful links:

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB>

<https://www.duolingo.com>



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MUSIC

Overview

The music curriculum in Year 7 ensures that all students become confident and creative musicians an understanding of how musical techniques and skills can be explored. This will be done through singing, listening, composing, performing, and developing music technology skills.

Your child will study:

- 'Find my sound'
- 'Traditional music'.
- Music Technology
- Performance 2 – skill development
- Music from around the world
- Album creation – Music project

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Play and perform confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts, using their voice, playing instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy of expression.
- Improvise and compose; and extend and develop musical ideas by drawing on a range of musical structures, styles, genres, and traditions.
- Use staff and other relevant notations appropriately and accurately in a range of musical styles, genres and traditions.
- Identify and use the interrelated dimensions of music expressively and with increasing sophistication including use of tonalities, different types of scales and other musical devices.
- Listen with increasing discrimination to a wide range of music from great composers and musicians.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the music that they perform and to which they listen, and its history.
- Develop a working knowledge and understanding of Music Technology software in order to record/sequence coherent musical outcomes utilising the software and features creatively and musically.

Your child will be assessed through timed responses in class, mock examinations, and end of year examinations.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage a love of music
- Encourage your child to practise at home
- Encourage your child to engage with Bandlab
- Support any musical interests they have
- Take up instrumental lessons at school



Useful links:

<https://www.senecalearning.com>



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Overview

The Physical Education curriculum teaches students skills, techniques, and tactics of a wide range of sports. Students will learn about rules and regulations of these sports and also be given the opportunity to evaluate their performance and the performance of others. Students will be given the opportunity to become leaders either by delivering a warm-up or coaching partners or a small group in order to help them to improve.

Your child will study:

- Netball
- Football
- Rugby
- Trampolining
- Fitness
- Dance
- Gymnastics
- Hockey
- Cricket
- Athletics
- Tennis
- Rounders

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand the concepts of attacking and defending
- Understand how to outwit an opponent
- Understand positioning and the use of space
- Develop and apply the skills of individual sports and activities.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage your child to spend some time watching sport at home and try to recognize individual skills from their PE lesson.
- Your child will be expected to have full school PE uniform for each of their PE lessons. Please help by checking and reminding your child each time they have PE.



Useful links:

[You Tube clips of specific sports](#)



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PSHCE

Overview

The PSHCE curriculum in Year 7 ensures that all students develop a range of skills to keep themselves and others safe, happy, and healthy. They will develop a real sense of community and understanding of their place as an active citizen in the wider world. The PSHCE curriculum encourages all students to understand British values of respect, tolerance, law, and democracy which underpin our school value of kindness. Your child will study:

- Online safety (safe use of social media and how to report concerns)
- Positive relationships
- Understanding discrimination, prejudice and stereotyping and how to tackle it
- Links between mental and physical wellbeing
- Rights and responsibilities
- Skills needed for future ambitions

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand how to keep safe both inside and outside of school
- Understand the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, tolerance, mutual respect, and liberty.
- Learn how to spot positive and negative influences and how to manage influence
- Learn how to look after their own mental and physical wellbeing and how/where to seek support if needed
- Understand how to make informed choices about looking after our minds and bodies

Your child will be assessed through weekly multiple-choice quizzes and targeted questioning.

How can you support your child at home?

- Discuss and monitor your child's online activity, ensuring they feel confident to share any concerns they may have.
- Regularly check-in with your child's mental and physical wellbeing, encouraging them to share and discuss their thoughts/feelings
- Discuss current affairs at home, ensuring your child knows where to access accurate and reliable news sources



Useful links:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>



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RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Overview

The Religious Education curriculum in Year 7 encourages all students to ask challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God and what it means to be human. It helps students learn about and experience cultural and spiritual diversity around the world and in Britain, promoting a sense of belonging.

Your child will study:

- **Philosophical questions:** How did we get here? Is there an afterlife? Why does suffering exist?
- **Founders of faith:** Why is Abraham important to Jews? Why is Jesus important to Christians? Why is Prophet Muhammad important to Muslims? What are the origins of Hinduism? Why is Siddhartha Gautama important to Buddhists? Why is Guru Nanak important to Sikhs?
- **Religion and identity:** What makes up a person's identity? Why is identity important? Why is religion a key part of a believer's identity?

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Understand the difference between philosophical and journalist questions
- Evaluate philosophical questions from a religious and non-religious point of view
- Explain and evaluate the life and work of key figures in major world religions
- Understand the meaning of identity and what makes up a person's identity
- Develop analytical and critical thinking skills and the ability to work with abstract ideas

Your child will be assessed through timed responses in class, mock examinations, and end of year examinations.

How can you support your child at home?

- Discuss issues covered with your child
- Ensure all homework is completed on time
- Contact key staff with any concerns
- Encourage your child to use revision websites
- Watch the news and keep up to date with topical stories



Useful links:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zh3rkqt?scrllybrkr=4447fb07>



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SCIENCE

Overview

The Science curriculum in Year 7 ensures to empower curious minds enabling our students to become scientifically literate and critical thinkers providing them with knowledge and skills to excel in skills in STEM fields and beyond. All pupils are taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes, and uses of science. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge and concepts, pupils are encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They are encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

Your child will study:

- Scientific skills.
- Levels of organisation in animals and plants.
- Changes of state.
- Energy stores and transfers
- Separating Techniques
- Forces and Speed
- Acids and alkalis
- Digestion

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Build upon their scientific knowledge learnt at primary school.
- Demonstrate skills needed to work as a scientist including planning investigations, using scientific equipment correctly and problem-solving.
- Understand and connect a range of scientific ideas in subject disciplines of biology, chemistry, and physics.
- Apply mathematical knowledge to presenting and analysing scientific data.
- Use modelling and abstract ideas to describe scientific phenomena.

Your child will be assessed through timed responses in class, half termly tests, mock examinations, and end of year examinations.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage your child to use the recall fact sheet on the school website.
- Use class charts to ensure all homework is completed on Seneca.
- Encourage your child to make flashcards and revision maps to recall knowledge.
- Use computers to research lesson topics.



Useful links:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/znng4d2p>
<https://docbrown.info/ks3science.htm>
<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>



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TECHNOLOGY

Overview

The Technology curriculum at BBEC builds on the KS2 DT and Mechanisms curriculum and aims to deliver excellent outcomes through the development of the creative, technical, and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world. The curriculum allows students to design, make and evaluate a range of products which are relevant and useful. Students learn to cook a repertoire of savoury dishes which they can cook again at home and for others.

Your child will study:

- Food
- 3D Studies
- Textiles

What knowledge, skills and understanding will your child gain by the end of Year 7?

Your child will:

- Learn to cook a range of dishes such as Breakfast muffins, Chicken Chow Mein, Quesadillas, Sicilian Pasta bake, Pizza twists and more.
- Design, make and evaluate a culturally themed cushion using a range of hand and machine embroidery techniques, for a set brief.
- Design, make and evaluate a block-bot with electronic elements, for a set brief.
- Understand and apply key knowledge about the work of famous designers, artists, craftspeople, and chefs.

Your child will be formally assessed in both half term 1 (specification and design ideas/ dish 1) and half term 2 (final outcome/ evaluation/ dish 2) of the rotation.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage your child to complete Technology homework as this will directly feed into the lessons they do in school
- Encourage your child to help with the Food shop, so that they become familiar with a range of fresh and packaged foods
- Encourage your child to demonstrate their practical cooking skills at home



Useful links:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/design-and-technology-ks3-explain-this>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/chopping-and-basic-knife-skills-kids-kitchen>



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HOME LEARNING

At BBEC we believe every child should be given the opportunity to engage in home learning. Not only will it help with their schoolwork, it will embed good habits for future learning and success.

Home learning activities will be planned to link to classroom learning. Revision and retrieval activities may be set as part of this. Home learning booklets may be provided for some subjects, as well as online learning platforms such as SparxMaths and Seneca.

To help engage students in their learning, all home learning will be monitored. Students completing home learning will achieve a positive recognition stamp for completing a piece of homework on time, in full and to a good standard. This will lead to rewards in school assemblies.

We recommend that your child completes their home learning in a quiet place, allowing them to concentrate fully on their home learning activity. At BBEC, an after-school Home Learning Club can be accessed, in the school library. A member of staff will be present to help your child with their questions and ideas. Encouraging your child to attend this club will help them to take ownership of their learning which will enable them to become independent learners.

Individual teachers set home learning through Class Charts, an online recording platform for home learning. Parents and students are able to view the activities which have been set. Your child will be shown how to use Class Charts upon their arrival in school in September.

KS3 Home-Learning Timetable

| Subject | Home Learning |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| English | One home learning per week |
| Maths | |
| Science | |
| MFL | |
| History | One home learning every fortnight |
| Geography | |
| Art | |
| Technology | Home learning twice every half term |
| RE | |
| Music | One home learning every half term |
| IT | |

