

# Year 7 Curriculum

## **Organisation of classes**

### Tutor Groups

On entry to Park View, your child will be assigned to one of eight tutor groups. We will be making use of the results of SAT's administered in the primary schools, as well as general information, to ensure that, as far as possible, the eight tutor groups are of similar ability. The eight groups will be further divided for curriculum purposes. Each tutor group will be assigned a named tutor who will support and monitor your child's educational and social development.

In Year 7, students will be taught in these mixed ability tutor groups for classes in subjects such as Physical Education, Humanities (History, Geography, Religious Education), Performing Arts (Music and Drama), Design and Technology (Art and Technology). Socially, this is helpful and creates a good working atmosphere for students who come from different primary backgrounds and who need time to integrate and adjust.

### **Inspiring Minds**

We have a skills approach to the following subjects:

- ❖ Humanities (Explore): History, Geography, RE
- ❖ Performing Arts (Perform); Drama and Music
- ❖ Design and Technology (Design): Art and technology

While maintaining the integrity of the subjects, Explore, Perform and Design will be delivered through four key skill areas:

- ❖ Resilience: Being ready and willing to lock on to learning
- ❖ Resourcefulness: Being ready, willing and able to learn in difference ways
- ❖ Reflectiveness: Being ready, willing and able to become more strategic about learning, to plan and review effectively
- ❖ Relationships: Being ready, willing and able to learn alone or with others

This approach is about teachers helping students become better learners both in school and out. It is about creating a climate or a culture in the classroom and in the school more widely – that systematically cultivates habits and attitudes that enable our students to face difficulty and uncertainty calmly, confidently and creatively. Students who are more confident of their own learning learn faster and learn better. They concentrate more, think harder and find learning more enjoyable. They do better in their tests and external examinations.

This approach will also prepare our students better for an uncertain future. Today's schools are educating not just for exam results but for lifelong learning so enabling students to take their place in society as happy and positive citizens.

Other subjects are taught in ability groupings or sets.

### Maths and Science

Setting in Maths and Science is based on KS2 test scores and assessment results. Groups are set 1 to 5.

## English, Languages, and ICT

Classes are organised in groups based on literacy skills as shown in KS2 SAT results and other assessment tests. Groups are set 1 to 5.

- All setting arrangements are reviewed regularly and there may be some movement of students between sets so that students can achieve their potential.

### **Student progress**

Student progress in all subjects is carefully monitored throughout Key Stage 3, our aim being to build on achievements made in Key Stage 2 in primary school.

### **Expectations**

Pupils are set targets in each subject. Targets represent the minimum expected to be achieved by the end of each year during Key Stage 3 and are based on Key Stage 2 SAT test scores in English, maths, and science together with Year 7 national tests taken in the first term. Pupils record their targets in their Organisers.

- Please note that by the end of Key Stage 3, an average child is expected to have reached Level 6 in most subjects, and at least Level 5.

### **Teacher Assessment**

- ◆ At regular intervals throughout the year, students complete assessment tasks in all subjects. These take a variety of forms: some are tests completed in school, others are completed at home and may involve extended writing or research. The task may test attainment in one or more skills for that subject.
- ◆ All common assessment tasks are completed by the whole year group and marked against common criteria based on the National Curriculum.
- ◆ Each student's completed common assessment task is assigned a National Curriculum level. eg Level 5.b

Each level is sub-divided as follows:

Next level

NC level .a	Understands most ideas in this level and ready to move to the next
NC level .b	Working well in this level
NC level .c	Starting to work in this particular level

- ◆ Students are told what they are doing well and how they can improve their work.
- ◆ Students should record their assessment results in their Organisers during the year. Progress is reviewed with tutors and subject teachers.
- ◆ If your child is performing exceptionally well, or if there are causes for concern, then we will contact parents during the year.

If parents have queries about assessment or progress, they should contact the Year 7 Co-ordinator in the first instance.

