

Year 7 Curriculum outlines

English

The course is broken down into three key areas of the National Curriculum: reading, writing and speaking & listening. Aspects of the National Literacy Framework are delivered in all three of these areas.

Students will be given opportunities to develop their skills in speaking and listening through role-play and improvisation, as well as small group and whole class discussions. They will read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and write about their distinctive features. Students will also be given the opportunity to study media texts and use ICT facilities. All students will spend thirty minutes each week on individual reading in class, with this reading being recorded in their Organisers. In addition to writing pieces centred on literary texts, students will also be equipped with the skills necessary for their own creative writing.

All aspects of speaking & listening, reading and writing will be supported by basic skills teaching in line with the requirements of the National Literacy Framework. One lesson per week will be spent improving basic skills.

Homework will be set regularly and will be of a varied nature. It will range from individual research and private reading to the drafting and re-drafting of written pieces.

Mathematics

The year is characterised by the gradual development of mathematical reasoning and more formal procedures building on the understanding of patterns, structures and relationships gained at earlier stages. In particular, students will have the opportunity to develop:

- (a) their skills of reasoning so as to use and apply mathematics with increasing confidence to solve real life problems.
- (b) a greater understanding of number
- (c) a competence with formal algebra and the use of a range of formulas
- (d) a greater understanding of two and three dimensional shapes and the use of measures
- (e) their understanding of data handling and analysis.

Teaching follows the National Numeracy Strategy.

Homework is set on a regular basis and is essential for reinforcing concepts and for the development of understanding whilst also providing students with the opportunity to develop their own study skills. The amount set and its nature may vary but all students should spend at least 40 minutes per week on independent study

Science

Year 7 are following a new programme of study leading to SAT Tests in Year 8. Cells, Energy, Forces, Particles 1, Interdependence and Particles 2, are the topics covered in Year 7.

Class work and homework tasks involve a range of learning activities including research, presentation, practical work, numerical work and written work. Students will work as individuals, in pairs and in larger groups. During lessons, Exploring Science Texts are available for students to use. To help with homework tasks all students are given their own copy of the KS3 Science Review Guide.

Modern Languages

In Year 7, all students will study French.

The course is designed to develop language and communication skills and build on the experience students have had in Primary French. Pupils will study a variety of topics such as daily routine, the environment and leisure, at the same time as learning grammatical structures through the application of language. They will also have the opportunity to gain an insight into the culture of France through their studies and through working with one of our foreign language assistants.

Students will be engaged in a range of activities such as language games, pair and group work, presentations, research activities, thinking skills and role plays. A variety of homework tasks will be set once a week and will reinforce work undertaken in the classroom.

The Language Club runs once a week and provides pupils with an opportunity to learn different languages, gain an insight into different cultures and encourages pupils to apply their language skills by entering regional and national competitions.

Information Communications Technology

All students follow a course based on the National Strategy for ICT Capability. They will be given the opportunity both to develop new skills and to build on those they have acquired at Key Stage 2, using generic applications such as presentation using power-point, word-processing, spreadsheet, desk-top publishing and data bases.

All students will undertake the Park View Computer Driving Licence (internally certified qualification) in the first term to introduce them to ICT communication methods that they will use throughout their time at Park View Community School.

Physical Education

In Year 7 all classes in physical education are of mixed ability and some are of mixed gender, gaining access to two, one hour lessons per week. In games, students will participate in basketball and rugby football or netball. They will also have the opportunity to improve their hitting, throwing and catching skills in a course designed to lead on to cricket, tennis, rounders and softball. All students participate in dance and gymnastics to help with their aesthetic and creative development. The final area of activity that the students experiences is athletics.

Homework will **not** be set on a regular basis, though at present we do offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities, ranging from clubs to inter-class competition and then on to higher levels of participation.

With all groups in each year we do try to increase their understanding of the activity, as well as their practical ability. However, an important aspect of the work is to try to raise students' self-esteem through allowing them different way of "succeeding".

Continuous assessments are made for each area of activity with regard to the student's practical ability. The students keep a record of their progress and set their own targets for further improvement.

We must stress that the only way a student may miss a Physical Education lesson is with a note written in the student organiser explaining the reason. Without this note, your child may well be asked to take part in the lesson. If a student is injured or ill they must still bring their PE kit and take part in the lesson in a different way.

PSHE Programme

Year 7 students follow a programme which includes strategies for settling into a new school, learning to live with others, how to deal with bullying and skills for learning and health related topics. They are also involved in a citizenship education programme and environmental projects. In addition to this, during the 15 minute morning tutorial the students are encouraged to reflect on current events or use the opportunity for wider reading