

Year 7 Curriculum Newsletter: HT3 January 2026

Subject	Overview
Mathematics	<p>Students will study the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphing Data: Students will investigate a range of statistical charts and diagrams used to analyse and interpret data. They will use these statistical diagrams to investigate lines of best fit and correlation, using this to make predictions about the data set. • Fractions, Decimals and Percentages: Students will build on their KS2 knowledge, developing fluency in converting between fractions, decimals and percentages. This will include looking at percentages greater than 1 whole. • Directed Number: In this module students will learn how to work with calculations that involve both positive and negative numbers. This will include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Later in the module, students will study how to apply order of operations to calculations involving negatives. <p>Homework: Homework will be set weekly on Sparx Maths, Monday to Monday.</p> <p>Assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ w/c 05/01/2026 – Rounding and Estimating End of Unit Assessment ○ w/c 02/02/2026 – Graphing Data End of Unit Assessment
English	<p>Students will study the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '<i>Welcome to Nowhere</i>': A novel by Elizabeth Laird, which is told from the perspective of Omar: a 12-year-old boy from Syria whose family are affected by civil war. • The war in Syria, the refugee crisis and students will develop empathy for these people who are in many ways just "like us". • Poetry and news articles linked to the themes in the novel, as well as some autobiographical writing from a range of writers, including Malala Yousafzei. • Home Learning: Each week students will be expected to achieve at least 20 points from completing vocabulary and grammar lessons on the Bedrock platform. <p>Formative assessment: HT 1- Word classes MCQ, quote explosion, annotated extract. HT 2 – Analysis of extract, quotations MCQ.</p> <p>Summative assessment: Analysis of extract with reference to the rest of the text.</p> <p>Homework: Bedrock Learning.</p>
Science	<p>Students will study the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cells and Systems: Students learn about the structure and function of cells, including eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells, cell membranes, genetic material, cytoplasm, mitochondria, ribosomes, chloroplasts, and cell walls. They also study the differences between animal and plant cells, such as the presence of chloroplasts and cell walls in plant cells. • Forces: Students learn about forces including balanced forces, contact and non-contact forces, and examples of forces in everyday life. They also study elastic properties, Hooke's Law, and pressure in solids, liquids, and gases. • Homework: Students will complete a fortnightly homework consisting of an 'Activation' activity relating to the 'can define' terminology, an 'Application' task relating to the 'students know' part of the curriculum and a 'Super Scientist' task which will be cross curricular to stretch the students beyond their science curriculum.
German	<p>Students will continue to study the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Festivals in Germany <p>Students will study popular festivals celebrated in Germany. They will look at how German culture celebrates Nikolaustag, Weihnachten, Karnival and Rhein in Flammen.</p>
Communication Studies	Students will study the following:

	<p>-Activist Academy: In this topic students will discover ways in which young people can stand up for what they believe in. Students will begin to understand how to challenge the beliefs of others as well as sharing their own beliefs. Throughout the term, students will look to activists such as David Attenborough as a springboard for their own mini activist projects.</p> <p>-Assessment: Students will be assessed on the quality of their oral contributions to their Public Service Announcement.</p>
Geography	<p>Students will study the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is it always wet in the North? In this topic students will look at Weather and Climate across the UK and will start to understand how and why certain weather patterns occur. Students will complete a microclimate enquiry of Hodgson Academy and will discover which factors affect temperature, windspeed and rainfall. - Assessment: Students will complete an end of topic assessment before half term
History	<p>Students will study the following:</p> <p>How was the power of the King and church challenged in the medieval period?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why were there no Medieval queens? 2. Why did Henry and Thomas Beckett fall out? 3. How did Thomas Beckett die and what were the consequences of this death? 4. Are historical interpretation of John justified? 5. What was the Magna Carta and how did it impact the power of the King? 6. How was parliament established? 7. What was the Black Death? 8. What were the Consequences of the Black Death? 9. Why did the Peasant's revolt in 1381? 10. What were the consequences of the Peasants Revolt? 11. Why was the church so important in the medieval period? 12. What were the crusades and why did people go on them? 13. What was the 3rd crusade? 14. What was the legacy of the Crusades? <p>Assessment: End of unit assessment on key concepts and events.</p>
Religion, Ethics and Philosophy	<p>Students will study the following:</p> <p>Enquiry Question: What does it mean to belong?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is it to be a Muslim? - To know the five pillars of faith and understand how they are important for supporting a Muslim's faith. • How do Muslims connect? - To know what the significant features are in a mosque and its role within the community. • What does Islam look like? - To know the different types of Muslim dress from around the world. • Culture vs Religion – To learn the differences in cultures, traditions and beliefs around Islam. • How do British Muslims embrace British values? - To learn about the daily lives of Muslims in modern Britain. • Assessment: The assessment for this unit consists of a set of broad and extensive set of multiple-choice questions, 3 exam style 2 marks questions and 2 extended exam style 4-mark questions.
PSHE	<p>Students will study the topic of Managing Change, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting to know people, what is a community, careers and your future, sleep and relaxation, financial education and handling transition points in life.
PE	<p>Students will study the following:</p> <p>Girls: Badminton/Football (set 1) or OAA/Football (Set 2)</p> <p>Year 7 Boys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr McCann X class - Netball, Cross Country and Badminton • Mr Ingham and Miss Sanderson X class - Badminton, Cross Country and Football • Mr Webb and Mr McCann Y class - Netball, Cross Country and Badminton

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Ingham and Miss Sanderson Y class - Badminton, Cross Country and Football
Design and Technology	<p>In Half Term 3 students will be completing the following projects...</p> <p>In the 'Create' project students will study the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic sketching skills – 2D and 3D sketching • Developing initial ideas for a clock – Using some of the 2D and 3D sketching techniques learned during the baseline project students will develop ideas for their clocks using their famous designer as inspiration. <p>In the 'Food & Nutrition' project students will study the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy eating and nutrition, including how to have a healthy balanced diet. • Students will prepare and cook Breaded Chicken Nuggets, Banana Oatmeal Muffins, Macaroni Cheese, and Vegetable Spring Rolls. <p>In the 'Skills' project students will study the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are designing and making a maze game. • Students will be researching different types of movement (linear, reciprocating, rotary and oscillating). • Students will be researching different mechanisms (gears, pulleys/belt drives, cams and levers), identifying the different types and examples of how they are used. <p>Assessment</p> <p>Design skills completed in the Create and Skills projects will be assessed in Design Technology. Extended writing task on how to have a healthy balanced diet in Food & Nutrition.</p>
Art Textiles	<p>Students will study the following:</p> <p>Landscape Art half term 3 tasks include -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artist analysis – Vincent Van Gogh • Completing a study of 'Wheatfield with Cypresses' • Completing a textile piece based on the above to include a range of textile techniques – batik, embroidery and couching. <p>Assessment: Students are marked on their sketchbook and homework pieces.</p>
Music	<p>In Music, students will study the following:</p> <p>Pupils will study the unit 'Rhythm, Metre & Tempo'</p> <p>-They will learn about rhythmic notation, a variety of tempos, time signature and metre</p> <p>For those more advanced they will study more complex tie signatures and rhythms</p> <p>- Pupils will continue to develop their knowledge of melodic notation and will build on this with rhythmic notation including rests</p> <p>-Pupils will continue to develop their keyboard skills, not only playing using melodic notation but also now rhythmic notation</p> <p>-They will take part in a rhythm performance and compose their own</p>
Computing	<p>Students will study the following:</p> <p>Understanding, practicing and creating spreadsheets using Microsoft Excel. Students will be learning the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spreadsheets • Mathematical Formulae • Mathematical Functions: Spreadsheet project start • Chart Design and Elements • Column and Bar Charts <p>Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will create their own spreadsheet while using formulae, functions, charts.