

Bishop Stopford School

faith | justice | responsibility | truth | compassion

***CURRICULUM
OUTLINE***

YEAR 7

2020 – 2021

Dear Parents

We believe the strong partnership built between school and home is a major reason for students' success at Bishop Stopford. This Curriculum Booklet is a key document to help you to support your child in his/her first year. It explains what Year 7 will be like in terms of lessons and other activities. We want students, of course, to learn far more than what is listed in this booklet: social skills, positive attitudes and other qualities are as important as developing subject knowledge. The wide range of extra curricular activities complements the timetable in developing these qualities.

Designated Curriculum	Number of lessons per fortnight (Lessons are 1 hour long)	Organisation
Art & Design	2	mixed ability
Computer Science	2	mixed ability
Design Technology*	4*	mixed ability
Drama*		
Foundation Learning	1	mixed ability
English	6	mixed ability
Geography	3	mixed ability
GRIT	1	mixed ability
History	3	mixed ability
Library	1	mixed ability
Mathematics	6	setting from September
Modern Languages	5	mixed ability
Music	2	mixed ability
Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education	1	mixed ability
Physical Education	4	mixed ability
Religious Education	2	mixed ability
Science	6	mixed ability
Tutorial	1	mixed ability
STEM Days	1 x 1 day	mixed

(Tutor groups consist of approximately 27 students)

*DT and Drama are taught in a carousel, with each block lasting between 7 and 8 weeks. Students will have 1 block of drama and 4 blocks of DT throughout the year.

Homework is an extension of the curriculum offered at school. It nurtures self-reliance, as well as giving opportunities to consolidate what has been learnt in lessons. Homework tasks will be set in line with the homework timetable and students record this in their planners. You are required to sign the planner once a fortnight. You can also use it to record any messages you wish to pass to the form tutor.

To allow students time to settle into school, homework will not be set in the first four weeks of term. In the spring term, students are set end of year targets, using the Bishop Stopford Assessment system. These will be set using Key Stage 2 prior attainment information and teacher assessments during the first term.

We will be pleased to respond to any concerns you may have about life in Year 7. Building on the good foundations laid at primary school, we look forward to making the year happy, successful and fulfilling.

Miss J Silverthorne & Miss E Findlay
Headteacher Pastoral Lead (Transition)

Faculty : Expressive Arts

Department : Art

Faculty Introduction:

The aim of the Year 7 scheme of work is to establish key skills, focusing on the formal elements within art - line/tone/texture/composition/scale/colour. A variety of different media and techniques will be explored, supported by observational drawing and artist research.

Modules to be covered in the year:

- Drawing techniques; introduction to the formal elements.
- Colour theory
- Analogous colour painting
- Landscape
- Critical studies: in depth artist research
- Exploration with a variety of media, e.g. paint, pastels, collage, ICT, print

Assessment:

- All projects assessed and recorded in individual student assessment booklets
- Verbal targets for improvement set throughout and formal assessment at the end of each project.

Homework:

Homework may not be set on a weekly basis but will usually amount to 3 hours per term. No homework will be set until autumn half-term.

Enhancement Activities:

- ELT-Independent study task
- Art Club
- Opportunity to have work displayed around school

Resource to be issued and arrangements for return:

Students are required to have the following items which can be purchased through the school:

B pencil
Blendable coloured pencils

Faculty : Technologies

Subject : Computer Science

Faculty Introduction:

A high-quality computing education equips students to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world. Computing has deep links with mathematics, science and design and technology, and provides insights into both natural and artificial systems. The core of computing is computer science, in which students are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work and how to put this knowledge to use through programming.

Building on this knowledge and understanding, students are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing also ensures that students become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.

Topics to be covered in the year will include:

- Components of a computer
- Computational Thinking
- Drawing & Manipulating Shapes
- Animation
- Computing foundations
- How the web works
- Designing an HCI
- An introduction to programming

Assessment:

- Students will be assessed using a mixture of teacher assessment and end of unit tests, depending on the topic.
- Students will be assessed against a new Computing Progression Pathway, which replaces the old National Curriculum levels.

Enhancement Activities:

- Lunchtime and after school computer use with Internet access.

Texts to be issued and arrangements for return:

No textbooks are issued for Computing. All resources (including the course textbook) are available on-line using a Dynamic Learning login that is issued to every student in September.

Faculty : Technologies

Subject : Design Technology

Faculty Introduction:

Within Key Stage 3, students follow a varied programme of study which covers all aspects of the National Curriculum.

Year 7 initial activities focus on introducing the subject and emphasising the importance of Health and Safety. Activities are designed to develop and enhance new and existing skills and abilities. Students will complete all modules of work on a rotational basis.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

- Health & Safety awareness
- STEM – (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)
- Product Design – introduction to working with wood & plastics
- Textiles– using the sewing machine and decorative techniques
- Food Preparation and Nutrition – food hygiene and production lines

Assessment:

- All work will be assessed according to the Bishop Stopford Assessment system.

Homework:

Within Year 7 homework comprises two set pieces for each project designed to both test and broaden a student's knowledge.

Enhancement Activities:

All students are actively encouraged to enhance the presentation of their work by the use of ICT. ICT facilities are available within the school at lunchtimes for this purpose.

Texts to be issued and arrangements for return:

Texts are not issued to students but are used during lesson time to support specific learning objectives as and when required.

Faculty : Expressive Arts

Subject : Drama

Faculty Introduction:

Drama in Year 7 is taught in a block on rotation with other subjects. It helps to develop students' communication skills and confidence.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

- Movement : an introduction to drama through sequencing.
- Using Physical Theatre
- "Odysseus and the Cyclops": creating narrative drama.

Assessment:

Assessment is based upon performance of practical work.

Enhancement Activities:

- Drama Club (weekly after school).
- All students have the opportunity to perform in front of other groups when presenting "Odysseus and the Cyclops".

Texts to be issued and arrangements for return:

Photocopies of "Odysseus and the Cyclops" and other part scripts will be issued by the teacher.

Faculty : English

Subject : English

Faculty Introduction:

All students follow a range of units of work covering the key skills of reading, writing, grammar and vocabulary and spoken English. A wide range of literature is at the heart of our work. In addition, students complete a reading record and have a library lesson once a fortnight, introducing research and information gathering skills.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

- Poetry: A study of a range of poems with the aim to develop close language analysis and comparison.
- Genre: A study of different stories and extracts leading to the production of an exciting story opening.
- The Novel: A detailed study of a modern novel.
- Non-Fiction Texts: A study of a range of non-fiction forms leading to analysis of a viewpoint text and the creation of a viewpoint piece of writing.
- Drama: A study of a play.

Assessment:

- Each unit has a summative assessment point.
- These assessments receive a level, and 'What Works Well/Even Better If' comments. They require a 'My Response Is' from the student.
- All students complete an end of year test to check overall progress.

Homework

Students will follow a programme of homework that aims to develop literacy skills and consolidate learning and skills developed in lessons. Students in Year 7 are expected to spend about 30 minutes per piece on their English homework.

Enhancement Activities:

- A variety of competitions
- Book Week, including visits by writers
- 'Chapter One' reading club
- Theatre visits are arranged where practical
- Carnegie shadowing

Texts to be issued and arrangements for return:

The 'class reader' will be loaned. Students will be required to pay for a replacement if it is lost. Students are required to have a green pen for correction work. A dictionary is recommended.

Faculty : Humanities

Subject : Geography

Faculty Introduction:

“Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future.”

Students are taught in mixed ability tutor groups for 3 sessions a fortnight.

Topics/Units to be covered in the year:

- Map skills
- Flooding
- Deserts
- Settlements

Assessment:

- 3 end of topic assessments using new BSS levels
- Effort graded 1 – 5 and whole class feedback
- End of year exam

Homework:

Homework tasks will include a variety of mediums. These will include research prior to learning, independent research tasks, planning for presentations or developing revision skills. There will also be extended writing pieces or completion of questions.

Enhancement Activities:

- Fieldwork in school
- Research and project-based work
- Extension exercises – student produced ICT presentations
- Geocaching

Texts to be issued and arrangements for return:

“Foundations” and “Geography Matters 1, 2 and 3”. All textbooks utilised are kept and used at school.

Faculty : Humanities

Subject : History

Faculty Introduction:

Students are taught in mixed ability groups in Year 7. The focus in Year 7 is on conquest and invasion in the British Isles and Medieval history.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

- **Conquest and Invasion:** Celts, Romans, Saxons and Vikings
- **Medieval Realms:** including 1066 events and consequences; castles; life in a medieval village; the murder of Thomas Becket.

Assessment:

- Specific assessments are given using the Bishop Stopford assessment system
- Targets for improvement

Homework:

Some homework may be research, planning or revision; some will be finishing extended writing tasks or assessments.

Enhancement Activities:

- Research and project-based work on local castles.

Texts

“Contrasts and Connections”. Books are kept and used at school.

Library

Introduction:

Library lessons give all students the chance to become familiar with the operation of the library and the resources it contains. Fortnightly library lessons develop independent learning and effective research skills. Students are also encouraged to read for pleasure, and given the opportunity to borrow books and have some time for private reading.

Topics to be covered in the year will include:

- Library orientation – using the fiction and non-fiction resources including familiarisation with the Dewey classification system, library catalogue and printer.
- The skills needed to use the Library independently and effectively.
- Resources in the Library and how to use them, including research skills.
- Different genres of fiction, how to choose fiction and reflect and review what they have read.
- The opportunity to be introduced to new authors and titles and the time to enjoy choosing and reading books themselves.

Enhancement Activities:

- The opportunity to use the Library after school for homework, research and private reading.
- Book events, including author visits.
- Reading groups and literary activities.
- Shadowing the shortlisted Carnegie Award books.
- Accelerated Reader
- Chess, scrabble and art table available on selected weekday lunchtimes.

Texts:

- Items are loaned for three weeks and can be renewed free of charge.
- A replacement charge is made for lost or damaged resources.

Faculty : Mathematics

Subject: Maths

Faculty Introduction:

At the start of Year 7, students are placed into ability groups according to their Key Stage 2 SATs results and an internal test. During the year they are regularly tested and may move groups. Students are taught in four broad ability sets covering topics to differing depths ranging from GCSE grades 0 - 3.

Scientific calculators and maths equipment must be bought by all students and brought to all lessons.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

- Whole numbers, decimals, fractions
- Negative numbers
- Algebra, co-ordinates, angles, symmetry
- Areas, perimeter, volume
- Mean, mode, median and range
- Charts and graphs
- Probability
- Investigations and problem solving

Assessment:

- 4 formal tests.
- Student movement between groups based on formative teacher assessment.
- Regular assessment in class (e.g. practising mental arithmetic skills, homework marking and oral work).
- Targets for improvement given where necessary.

Homework:

Homework is set for 20-30 minutes per week

Homework is generally further practice/consolidation of the topic covered in class, so usually needs to be completed by the next lesson.

Maths Help is available weekly for extra assistance with homework or classwork.

The school have a MathsWatch subscription. Each student will have a password and login provided at the beginning of the year. MathsWatch can be used for homework, revision or enrichment.

Enhancement Activities:

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activities which develop problem solving skills.
- Extension activities for more able mathematicians.
- The most able mathematicians enter the UK Junior Mathematical Challenge.
- MathsWatch and Maths Help.

Texts to be issued and arrangements for return:

Students may use a textbook in the classroom. A separate homework book may be issued, or with some groups worksheets are given for homework.

If issued, homework books must be returned in the summer term.

Faculty : Expressive Arts

Subject : Music

Faculty Introduction:

Students develop their musical skills through a series of topics which allow them to cover the National Curriculum. All topics are taught with an integrated approach to the three disciplines of performance, composition and listening and appraising.

Topics/Modules to be covered:

- Bridging Unit - elements of music (rhythm, pitch, tempo, vocal work, timbre, structure, texture and dynamics)
- Keyboard skills – 5 finger technique, adding bass notes and chords
- Ensemble performing – the lion sleeps
- African Music – rhythm and drumming, intro notation
- AABA Structure – how music is organised, repetition and contrast
- minor scale, mood music
- Short 'set works', listening, performing, keywords and context

Assessment:

- Continual assessment using the Bishop Stopford Assessment system.
- Targets for improvement identified through verbal and/or written feedback.

Homework

No homework is set in Year 7.

Enhancement Activities:

- A wide variety of choirs and instrumental ensembles are open to all students throughout the year. (Those students who take instrumental lessons are expected to attend at least one choir or ensemble).
- Song for Peace
- Creative Worship – termly year group singing in Eucharist/assembly
- Carol Service
- Girls and boys choir – open to all
- Ukulele magic – open to all
- Bungoma Eucharist - Jambo
- End of term concerts
- African Drumming Workshop

GRIT

Introduction

GRIT is a brand new invention for us in Year 7. It is an hour a fortnight where students develop resilience and teamwork as part of a bigger focus on wellbeing. We believe if students build resilient habits of mind from Year 7, and really understand the benefits of teamwork, this will pay dividends as they move through school.

Lessons are active, away from a traditional classroom, and students are encouraged to solve problems, face up to challenges and support each other in doing so.

Topics to be covered:

Term 1:

- Teamwork
- Identity
- When Things go Wrong
- Building Resilience

Term 2:

- Core values and resilience

Term 3:

- Emotional Intelligence
- Bridging to Year 8
- Learning Skills

Faculty : Personal, Social and Health Education

Subject : PSHE

Faculty Introduction:

PSHE helps students to develop inter-personal, communication and social skills. Topics are divided between:

- A tutorial led by the students' form tutor.
- Personal, Social and Health Education lessons, taught by a member of the Personal, Social and Health Education team.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

Personal, Social and Health Education

- Personal safety
- Citizenship
 - Community Challenge
 - Getting on with others –Anti-bullying
- Health Issues
- Puberty

Tutorial

- Personal and school organisation
- Getting on with others
 - Friendship and feelings
 - Bullying
 - Bungoma
- Discussions on progress
- Everyone reading in class (ERIC)
- Assembly preparation
- Careers, coping with change
- Making effective transitions
- Decision making
- Self-Awareness
- Healthy Living

Assessment:

- Community Challenge – Citizenship assessment.

Homework:

Students complete a Community Challenge as homework from Feb to May. They will be required to complete a service to a community of their choice during this time. How much time the students spend will vary, but it is hoped that they will give up at least two hours of their own time during this period.

Enhancement Activities:

- Visiting speakers

Faculty : Physical Education

Subject : Physical Education

Faculty Introduction:

PE helps students to develop positive associations with physical activity, acquire skills and apply tactics, evaluate and improve performance, gain knowledge, understand about fitness and health and develop their personal qualities.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

- **Body Management:** health related fitness and dance
- **Games Activities:** hockey, football, rugby, netball, rounders, cricket, basketball, handball, badminton, tennis and softball
- **Athletics Activities:** athletics

Assessment

- Assessment in line with other practical subjects
- Short and long term reports
- On-going self, peer and teacher assessment in lessons

Homework:

No homework is set for Year 7 PE.

Enhancement Activities:

- All Year 7 students have the opportunity to attend a five-day residential course where they experience a variety of outdoor and adventure activities.
- School teams are organised in all the major games and activities, with practices mainly at lunchtimes and matches after school.
- Teams are entered in the district cross-country and athletic championships. Talented students are put forward for selection at district / county level.
- Inter-house competitions – various activities
- Level 3 School Games (winter and summer) in some activities.

Faculty : Humanities
Subject : Religious Education

Faculty Introduction:

Students develop knowledge, skills and understanding, evaluating religious responses to personal and ethical issues.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

- The Life of Jesus
- Hinduism
- Judaism

Assessment:

- End of module tests, using the Bishop Stopford Assessment system
- Effort Grade A-E
- Targets for improvement

Homework:

Homework is set for 20 minutes per week. Use of ICT to complete homework is encouraged.

Enhancement Activities:

- Experiential learning eg making home shrines in Hinduism.
- ICT used to create project work (e.g. pilgrimage brochure).
- Faith day: meeting representatives of a range of faiths.

Texts to be issued and arrangements for return:

Text books are available for lessons but are not taken home. Electronic version available through Kerboodle.

Faculty : Science

Subject: Science

Faculty Introduction:

In Year 7 there is an emphasis on applications and experimentation, which leads students to a deeper knowledge and understanding of science.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

- Cells
- Particle Model
- Energy
- Ecosystems
- Mixtures
- Muscles and bones
- Forces
- Current electricity
- Atoms and elements
- Sound
- Acids and alkalis
- Reproduction

Assessment:

- End of block tests (3 per year), using the Bishop Stopford Assessment system
- Effort graded A-E
- Targets for improvement identified
- Practical investigation work
- Weekly homework

Homework:

Homework is set for 20 minutes per week. It is generally further practice/consolidation of the topic covered in class. In addition, students are expected to use time at home to formally assess key work and assessments.

Enhancement Activities:

- Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) Activities
- Information and additional homework tasks are available on the VLE

Texts to be issued and arrangements for return:

A KS3 revision guide can be purchased from the Science Faculty. Additional workbooks are available.

Faculty : Modern Languages

Subject : Spanish

Faculty Introduction:

Students follow four modules.
There are also opportunities for independent reading and ICT skills.

Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

- Introducing yourself and others and giving likes and dislikes.
- School subjects, opinions and the school day.
- Freetime activities and technology.
- The town – what you can do there and directions.
- Holidays.
- Extension reading and cultural topics.

Assessment:

- 2 common assessments per year.
- 4 end-of-module assessments.
- Targets for improvement identified.

Homework:

Homework is set for 20 minutes once a week.
There is an emphasis on vocabulary learning, followed by vocabulary tests.
Students will be using the on-line website Quizlet.

Texts to be used:

“Viva 1” used in class on a needs basis. Students will need to bring their own bi-lingual dictionary to lessons. They will have the opportunity to subscribe to a Spanish language learning magazine.

Faculty : Wider Curriculum

Department : Foundation Learning

Faculty Introduction:

The Foundation Learning programme is in two sections:

ICT Skills

From getting to grips with the school's Virtual Learning Environment (Firefly), using the school's email system to creating PowerPoint presentations and spreadsheets. The programme will help students to become familiar with the ICT systems used by the school.

Bishop Award (Year 7 only)

The Bishop Award is an innovative new program designed to stretch and challenge Year 7 students to step out of their comfort zone as they try new things and develop their skill set. We believe that this will improve your confidence, aptitude and academic success.

Modules to be covered in the year:

- Firefly – the school's VLE
- Folders and Sub-folders
- School email
- Use a search engine
- Create a PowerPoint
- Create a business letter
- Create a spreadsheet
- Create an A4 newsletter

Assessment:

There is a short digital assessment at the end of each Foundation Learning lesson.

Year 7 students will also have their progress on the Bishop Award monitored during the Foundation Learning lessons.

Homework:

No homework is set during Foundation Learning lessons – Year 7 students are expected however to acquire evidence for the Bishop Award.

Enhancement Activities:

The 'Bishop Award' is designed as an enhancement activity.

Resource to be issued and arrangements for return:

All resources are available on Firefly. Students will be provided with headphones each lesson.

STEM Days

Students take part in one technology day to 'join up' their learning in the technology subjects (Design and Technology, Maths and Science).

On each of the days, students take part in a variety of activities which enables them to make links between the subjects and enhance their own learning.

Learning takes place in teams and will be themed.

Office Runner

Each student in Year 7 spends one day working with in the main office, supporting Reception duties. This is a service to the school and is very much part of our community ethos. Students practically demonstrate one of our core values by taking responsibility in wider school life.

During the day, students are likely to go to areas of the school they have not visited before (eg Sixth Form, Reprographics), meet members of staff they do not already know, and gain a wider understanding of how different areas of school work together to provide their education.

Through the activity, we aim to develop students' confidence, resilience and communication by

- enabling them to undertake activities which they would not normally do, and
- placing them in situations where they are individually responsible for tasks which are an essential part of school life.

Enhancement Activities

Trips and Visits: Voluntary Contributions

The viability of trips and visits is entirely dependent on parents recognising their value, and therefore supporting them with voluntary contributions. There is no obligation to contribute, and students will not be deselected because of a lack of parental contribution. However, information regarding trips or visits will state processes for cancelling a trip and returning monies, should the school not receive sufficient voluntary contributions for the activity to go ahead. Consideration for students facing financial hardship will be detailed in any information issued.

Notes