



Curriculum Overview

Year 7 AP+ Autumn Term

September - December 2025

Form/ Year Group / Section Events	Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)	Computing
<p>Parents and Staff Drinks Evening: Friday 5th September. (18.45)</p> <p>Half-term begins: Friday 17th October (4.10pm) Half-term ends: Sunday 2nd November</p> <p>Year 7 Parents' Evening: Thursday 13th November Online (17.30 to 19.30)</p> <p>Year 6-8 Christmas Carol Service: Monday 8th December (6-7.30pm) St. Helen's Church, Abingdon.</p> <p>Term ends: Friday 12th December (12.00pm).</p> <p>PLEASE CONSULT THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR ALL SCHOOL EVENTS APS school calendar</p>	<p>Pupils will learn about the protected characteristics, diversity and inclusion and understand the reason that some characteristics are afforded legislative protection. They will explore racial, sex, disability and religious discrimination and will explore the harmful impact of stereotypes, prejudice and radicalisation.</p> <p>Pupils will consider the difference between calling something out and 'snitching' and identify why it is essential to call some things out and how to do so. They will explore cyber bullying and look at the immediate and longer term impacts on both the victim and perpetrator, identifying how to deal with situations as a victim and upstander.</p> <p>Pupils will explore different cultural manners and anti-social behaviour more widely in society.</p> <p>Pupils will look at the world of work and develop a broad understanding of different qualifications and routes into work.</p> <p>In addition to weekly lessons, pupils will have a workshop to explore, in an age appropriate manner, consent within friendships and relations and develop their own skills in mental and physical relaxation in a wellbeing workshop.</p>	<p>For the first half of the year pupils will work on a Dragon's Den type project. They will work collaboratively in groups to form their own business.</p> <p>Presentation skills: This term the pupils will decide on the nature of their 'business' and will be asked to present their ideas at the end of half term. They will choose the way they communicate their ideas by practising and extending the ICT skills learnt last year, e.g. Powerpoint, Google slides, videos.</p> <p>Creating a logo and slogan using Photoshop or similar: Using their ICT skills, they will need to create a logo and slogan for their business.</p> <p>Creating a cost model for their business using Excel: The pupils will use a spreadsheet to model costs and potential profit for their business.</p>
English	Mathematics	Science
<p>This term the pupils will study the following topics as part of their AP+ curriculum:</p> <p>Reading: Pupils will read the epic Anglo-Saxon epic poem 'Beowulf'. This is considered to be the oldest written text in English. Pupils will read a specially edited version of the poem but will be encouraged to read the full translated version by Seamus Heaney. Pupils will study the context and meaning of the poem whilst also exploring poetic features such as alliteration and metre. Later in the term they will read 'Call of the Wild' by Jack London. In addition pupils will read some shorter texts to foster comprehension skills. They will also have the chance to visit the school library regularly and read widely at home. Pupils will be expected to bring their own personal reading book into school on a daily basis, as there will be many opportunities when they will be asked to read independently.</p> <p>Writing: Pupils will respond to 'Beowulf' and 'Call of the Wild' through a series of written activities. They will also be introduced to text analysis.</p> <p>Spelling: Pupils will be assessed on their current spelling ability and will be given opportunities to revise or learn new words or spelling rules or patterns. They will also be expected to review and improve their own spelling with guidance.</p> <p>Punctuation and Grammar: Pupils will be given regular discreet revision or practice of a variety of punctuation and grammar rules and conventions. They will also be expected to review and improve their own punctuation and grammar with guidance.</p>	<p>Pupils will study the following topics: (topics are enriched for Set 1 and further reinforcement is given when required in Set 2)</p> <p>Number: Addition and subtraction of large numbers, decimals and fractions. Multiplying by 1 and 2 digit numbers and multiplying decimals by decimals. Dividing by a single digit with decimal and fraction remainders. Dividing by 2 digit numbers using factors and long division. Add, subtract, multiply and divide negative numbers.</p> <p>Properties of number: Recap the rules of divisibility. Write numbers as the product of primes and find Highest Common Factor and Lowest Common Multiple.</p> <p>Fractions: Find fractional amounts. Order fractions. Add and subtract mixed numbers. Multiply and divide simple fractions.</p> <p>Shape and Space: Explore angle rules and relationships in 2D space. Deduce/ calculate unknown angles in geometric figures.</p> <p>Measurement: Revisit and extend circumference and area of circles.</p> <p>Data Handling: Interpret and draw frequency diagrams. Apply angles learning to construct pie charts.</p> <p>Problem solving strategies with a particular focus on <i>working collaboratively</i> and <i>exploring & noticing</i>.</p>	<p>The pupils in Year 7 will study the following topics:</p> <p>Chemistry</p> <p>The pupils in Year 7 will study the following topics:</p> <p>The particulate nature of matter: They will investigate changes of state considering the melting and boiling points of substances and how they expand on heating. They will relate this to the particle theory.</p> <p>Chemical reactions: A substantial part of the chemistry syllabus will be covered, including different types of chemical reactions such as oxidation and decomposition. This will be followed by a study of the reactivity of metals. Investigative skills will be developed further.</p> <p>Metal reactions: The pupils will investigate the order of metals in the reactivity series and how this can be used to understand and predict metal reactions. This</p>

<p>Handwriting: Pupils will practise and be expected to use a neat, fluent, preferably joined up style of handwriting in their written work, certainly in their more formal writing. Handwriting will be linked to aspects of SPaG and other writing skills. Pupils will be expected to use a good blue or black pen for their formal writing.</p> <p>Speaking & listening: Pupils will be given opportunities and guidance on how to give their views clearly and articulately and also listen to and give feedback to their peers.</p> <p>Use of ICT: Although pupils will primarily complete tasks by hand, they will be given the opportunity to use ICT to draft and review and improve their written work.</p>		<p>will be followed by learning how to calculate the density of a material.</p>
<p>Geography</p> <p>This term the pupils will investigate the principal elements of weather and climate, including temperature, precipitation, air pressure, wind direction and wind speed. Pupils will discover how weather data is recorded and presented and will record their weather for a week. The principles of how elements of weather form are introduced including: why it rains, types of rainfall; air masses and types of weather systems that bring our weather – depressions and anticyclones. Pupils are introduced to the concept of climate, studying the climate of the UK using climate graphs, and climate maps to analyse data. Pupils will also continue to discover world climate zones and learn about the factors that affect climate – latitude, distance from the sea, altitude and prevailing winds. They will also look at the evidence for and impacts of climate change.</p> <p>The pupils will also continue to develop their locational knowledge of the UK, Europe and other parts of the World and Ordnance Survey map skills.</p>	<p>History</p> <p>Year 7 will be studying the late Saxon period, examining society and life ahead of the Norman invasion. They will consider the landscape ahead of 1066 and the competing powers for the English throne. Pupils will then take an in depth look at the Battle of Hastings and study the ways in which the Norman Conquest brought change to England during the reign of William the Conqueror.</p>	<p>Theology, Philosophy, Ethics (TPE)</p> <p>This term pupils will learn to begin to ask the bigger questions in life, making a distinction between philosophical questions vs other questions and understanding that philosophy is the love of wisdom. Pupils will have the opportunity to learn about a range of famous philosophers (from Ancient Greek to 20th Century) and spend time understanding Plato's Cave Analogy as a way of challenging what we truly know or do not know. During the unit, we will explore how philosophy links with ideas like: does God exist? Why does suffering happen? What is a soul and do they actually exist? Could there be a Fourth Dimension and would this matter?</p> <p>Afterwards, we will begin a unit on Hinduism where we will learn key concepts and ideas behind the faith, forms of worship, key stories, ways of celebration and impacts from culture. These ideas will help pupils to begin to understand core Hindu views and ideas, which will be expanded upon in our unit next term.</p>
<p>French</p> <p>To begin the term the pupils will revise and consolidate descriptions and how to introduce themselves. They then learn vocabulary for basic foods, meals and shopping for food, to include quantities and prices. The final topic of the module will cover the weather followed by a module test. The pupils then move on to cover parts of the body and general feelings.</p> <p>Grammar They will continue with conjugating regular verbs, with some useful irregular verbs and using the negative in the present tense. Pupils will also be regularly tested on the 4 main irregular verbs: être, aller avoir, faire</p>	<p>Latin</p> <p>Year 7 pupils will continue with their study of the Latin language and culture in the Roman Empire. New areas of study will include the dative case, the use of pronouns and how comparatives are constructed and translated. Pupils will also learn about how education operated in the Roman Empire and the use of public baths.</p>	<p>Core Skills</p> <p>Pupils will be working on skills which support their work within the English curriculum; reading, writing and speaking. The pupils are encouraged to use open, rather than closed questions to support conversation development. Reading-related skills will include clarifying and using unfamiliar vocabulary as well as phonic analysis for accurate syllabification and decoding. Higher skills will include prediction/ inference/ deduction. Pupils will also cover the key areas of spelling, grammar and punctuation in the Key Stage 3 programme of study.</p>
<p>Art</p> <p>This term the pupils in Year 7 will study: Portraiture and expression.</p> <p>The pupils will explore how facial features are constructed, and how physiognomy and mathematical measurements are used in creating a portrait.</p>	<p>Design and Technology (DT)</p> <p>Clocks: The pupils will work through the design process to create a working clock which suits a target market.</p> <p>They will be able to use CAD/CAM and have experience in using a laser cutter, cutting acrylic and also vinyl.</p> <p>The final product will need to meet a brief and follow a specification.</p>	<p>Music and Drama</p> <p>Music: Pupils will focus on music in Film, learning how music is used to enhance action on the big screen They will develop active listening skills, analysing scores and exploring the use of the main elements of music in context. Pupils will learn about and devise their own 'leitmotif' to create character</p>

<p>Art History/Artists: Pupils will explore the history of portraiture and the reasons portraits were made through the ages from photography to symbolism and the use of colour. Case studies will include: local artist Carol Peace, Julian Opie digital portraiture, Chuck Close, and Japanese theatrical expressionism.</p> <p>Painting: Pupils will create a self-portrait using a media of their choice in relation to their contextual research.</p> <p>Drawing ; Caricatures - These have been widely used to create a sense of expression. Ralph Steadman and Sebastian Kruger are two artists renowned particularly for their depiction of celebrity portraiture. Features and how to compile them to build a portrait.</p>	<p>The pupils will develop their evaluative skills considering their own opinions and that of others.</p> <p>Pop-up cards: Looking at the work of Robert Sabuda and Matthew Reinhart, pupils will use this as inspiration when creating a range of pop-up Christmas cards. They will focus on graphic design skills and also paper engineering.</p>	<p>representations and will compose their own underscore to a short scene from Star Wars.</p> <p>Drama: As part of their Performing Arts lessons this term the pupils will be completing a unit of study based on 'The Lost Valley'. These lessons will take students on a journey through a lost world in which they encounter both physical and mental challenges. Pupils will develop collaboration and mime skills as well as learning about character creation.</p>
Games	Physical Education (PE) & Swimming	Extended Project (EP) & Study Skills
<p>Football and rugby: Pupils will develop their skills and play small sided games; run with / without the ball; tackling, develop their positional play; and learn the rules and basic principles of football. All of the pupils will participate in inter-house matches and/or inter-school matches. They will follow the Under 12 FA Continuum and U12 RFU framework.</p>	<p>The pupils in Year 7 will develop their skills in the following areas:</p> <p>Physical literacy: Pupils will learn how and why physical activity can benefit them both physically and mentally, whilst developing their fundamental movement skills. Pupils will also explore a variety of training methods and their uses.</p> <p>Racket sports and evasion games.</p> <p>Swimming Water survival: Towing. Non-contact & contact. Rescue techniques. Life-saving. Front Crawl: Development of existing skills including in focus on their arms, breathing, and turns.</p>	<p>Over the course of the term the pupils will follow a programme of study in which they will learn to consider, research and reflect on how best to produce an independent study project. During the first half term they will explore different realistic and achievable topics or ideas that could be used for the project. They will learn the importance of organisation and time-keeping needed to carry out their project. They will learn to do a literature search, and how to collect, analyse and present their data. In the second half of term they will begin their research and use the time to improve and reflect on how to use the data gathered.</p>