



Curriculum Overview

Year 7 AP+ Autumn Term

September - December 2026

Form/ Year Group / Section Events	Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)	Computing
Meet the form teacher for all parents, followed by drinks: Friday 11th September. (18.45) Year 7 scholarships and awards information evening: Tuesday 29th September Trip to Roman Baths in Bath: Friday 9th October Half-term begins: Friday 16th October (4.10pm) Half-term ends: Sunday 1st November Year 7 Parents' Evening: Thursday 12th November Online (17.20 to 19.50) Year 6-8 Christmas Carol Service: Monday 7th December (6-7.30pm) St. Helen's Church, Abingdon. Term ends: Friday 11th December (12.00pm). PLEASE CONSULT THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR ALL SCHOOL EVENTS APS school calendar	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. 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. Pupils will explore different cultural manners and anti-social behaviour more widely in society. Pupils will look at the world of work and develop a broad understanding of different qualifications and routes into work. 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.	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. 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. 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. Creating a cost model for their business using Excel: The pupils will use a spreadsheet to model costs and potential profit for their business.
English	Mathematics	Science
This term the pupils will study the following topics as part of their AP+ curriculum: 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. 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. 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. 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.	Pupils will study the following topics: 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. Properties of number: Recap the rules of divisibility. Write numbers as the product of primes; find Highest Common Factor and Lowest Common Multiple. Explore the function of indices. Fractions: Find fractional amounts. Order fractions. Add and subtract mixed numbers. Multiply and divide simple fractions. Shape and Space: Explore angle rules and relationships in 2D space. Deduce/ calculate unknown angles in geometric figures. Measurement: Revisit and extend circumference and area of circles. Data Handling: Interpret and draw frequency diagrams. Apply angles learning to construct pie charts. Problem solving strategies with a particular focus on <i>working collaboratively</i> and <i>exploring & noticing</i>.	The pupils in Year 7 will study the following topics: Chemistry The pupils in Year 7 will study the following topics: 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. 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. 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

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. 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. 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.		will be followed by learning how to calculate the density of a material.
Geography 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. 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.	History 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.	Theology, Philosophy, Ethics (TPE) 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? 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.
French 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. 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	Latin 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.	Core Skills The Autumn Term will help develop students' reading skills through the study of a class novel. The focus is on reading for meaning using a range of comprehension strategies including skimming, scanning, close reading, retrieval, inference, prediction, summarising and evaluating. Students learn how to locate and select evidence from the text, using quotations to justify their answers. Writing will focus on answering comprehension questions using evidence from the novel.
Art This term the pupils in Year 7 will study: Portraiture and expression. The pupils will explore how facial features are constructed, and how physiognomy and mathematical measurements are used in creating a portrait. 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.	Design and Technology (DT) Clocks: The pupils will work through the design process to create a working clock which suits a target market. They will be able to use CAD/CAM and have experience in using a laser cutter, cutting acrylic and also vinyl. The final product will need to meet a brief and follow a specification. The pupils will develop their evaluative skills considering their own opinions and that of others.	Music and Drama Music: Rhythm, Riffs & Loops - pupils begin to work as musical innovators: performers, composers, arrangers and sound experimenters, exploring how contemporary music is constructed from repeated rhythmic and melodic ideas. They investigate loops, riffs, hooks, ostinati and grooves and consider how

Case studies will include: local artist Carol Peace, Julian Opie digital portraiture, Chuck Close, and Japanese theatrical expressionism. Painting: Pupils will create a self-portrait using a media of their choice in relation to their contextual research. 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.	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.	relatively short musical ideas can be layered, varied and organised into a complete composition. Drama: As part of their Performing Arts lessons this term the pupils will revisit and strengthen key drama techniques from Year 6, including still image, thought-tracking, hot-seating, narration, flashback, split stage, physical characterisation, status and ensemble work. However, pupils are expected to apply these skills with greater control, maturity and atmosphere. The focus is on creating tension, shaping scenes clearly, sustaining serious character work and using performance techniques deliberately rather than simply including them.
Games	Physical Education (PE) & Swimming	Extended Project (EP) & Study Skills
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.	The pupils in Year 7 will develop their skills in the following areas: 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. Racket sports and evasion games. 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.	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.