



DUKE *of* KENT
SCHOOL

Curriculum Overview
Years 7, 8 and 9

Spring Term 2021



Year 7 Curriculum Overview

Spring Term

Art

The title of this term's project is 'The Microcosmos'. Pupils will be exploring the drawings of Victorian artist, explorer and scientist Ernst Haekle. They will gain an insight into Victorian culture and the scientific discoveries and theories of the time. Pupils will collect and resource their own subject matter exploring the theme of organic forms. They will explore these organic forms through drawing, with a focus on close observation of tone, detail, pattern and texture.

Computer Science

This term, Year 7 will be exploring Computational Thinking. This is broken down in four separate topics: Decomposition, Abstraction, Algorithm Design and Pattern Recognition. Furthermore, pupils will carry out a number of activities to help them develop their programming skills.

Design Technology

This term, we will complete the thermo forming, electronics and CAD for the night light. Then pupils will carry out a final quality and safety check before these go home. Following this we intend to design, prototype and make laser cut pop-up cards based around imaginative card designs that I first came across, sold on street corners of Vietnam.

Drama

This term we will explore Shakespeare's most well-known plays as pieces of theatre. We will foster an active and practical approach to Shakespeare by generating a performance actuated by the pupils, directed, designed, costumed etc. We will work to establish mood, atmosphere and develop his most well-known characters.

English

This term, Year 7 will be learning all about the art of persuasion! They will learn about how persuasive techniques are used in the media with a special focus on charities. In groups, the pupils will then have the opportunity to create a new cause and will create all of the persuasive material associated with this including: printed adverts, leaflets and a television advert. The term will end with each group presenting their charity in the form of a 'stall' to the rest of the year group.

French

Year 7 will continue practising the perfect (past) tense to talk about a trip they have been on. They will learn to give opinions in the past tense and transport vocabulary. They will then move on to describing their personality and that of their friends, using reflexive verbs again to say how they get on with people.

Geography

The study of plate tectonics and gaining an understanding of the inner workings of our planet remains a favourite among our pupils. We will delve into the earth to study plate margins, natural disasters and explore why people choose to live in such hazardous places.

History

Year 7 will continue their study of the Reformation, with a look at the mid-Tudor religious rollercoaster in the reigns of Edward VI, 'Bloody Mary' and Elizabeth I. This year we also look at the Africans who lived and died in sixteenth-century England, examining the works of authors such as Miranda Kaufmann (Black Tudors: The Untold Story).



Maths

We will be looking at decimals, metric units and rounding in the first topic. Next we are developing more algebraic notation including solving equations. After half term we will be revisiting percentages and looking at the position to term rule for sequences.

Music

This term Year 7 look at Form and Structure. They learn how to sing a 'call and response' song and explore ostinato accompaniments (rhythmic and/or melodic). They create and develop pieces in both ternary and simple rondo form, making connections between the structure and its impact on the listener. Pupils listen to a wide variety of styles, learning correct terminology for relevant genres and use music technology to compose their own piece of music.

Physical Education

The activities that pupils will develop their performance, knowledge and understanding in are Netball, Cross-Country/Fitness Training, Hockey, Rugby, Gymnastics and Dance. The focus will be to improve individual skills and techniques, activity specific fitness, knowledge and understanding of rules and tactics and prepare pupils for competitive matches/competitions. All activities will be under review and subject to guidance given by government and national governing bodies.

PSHE

The PSHE curriculum is broken down into three categories that are recommended by the PSHE association. These are Health and Wellbeing, Living in the Wider World and Relationship (RSE). Topics in the Spring Term focus on Puberty, Health and Wellbeing. These topics include: nutrition and diet, dangers of cigarettes, alcohol and drugs, puberty, mental health and FGM.

Religious Studies

Year 7 will spend the Spring term studying another religion, in this case Sikhism. The pupils will look at various details, from the sacred books and beliefs, to their food, their clothes, Gurdwara practices, traditions and way of life.

Science

The Biology topic will be Structure and Function of body systems, pupils will gain an understanding of major body systems such as the respiratory and skeletal system and how their structure relates to the job that they do. In Chemistry, pupils will study reactions, with the opportunity to carry out practicals and observe demonstrations, learning about key reaction types and how to write the corresponding chemical word and symbol equations. The Physics topic is Sound & Light, with pupils learning about waves, the properties of sound and light and how we hear and see.

Spanish

Year 7 will learn to say what they do in their free time. They will also learn their weather vocabulary. Grammar points will include conjugating regular verbs in the present tense, as well as the irregular verbs "jugar" (to play) and "hacer" (to do), and using a verb of liking followed by the infinitive.

Form Teacher Email Addresses:

Mrs Coackley – Year 7 Coordinator
ecoackley@dokschoo.org

Miss Francis:
efrancis@dokschoo.org

Mr Monk:
bmonk@dokschoo.org



Year 8 Curriculum Overview

Spring Term

Art

Pupils will explore a series of design and clay construction techniques based on their drawings and intaglio prints from last term. They will also respond to the ceramics work of Kate Malone and Grayson Perry. They will use Perry's work to better understand ideas based, conceptual art.

Computer Science

Year 8 will learn how data is understood and represented by a computer. We will focus on how images and sound are represented using binary. Furthermore, we will create a 3D model and learn how to program this model for a potential game.

Drama

Over the coming term Year 8 will learn the key elements and background of Melodrama. They will practically explore the nature of indicative acting, melodramatic reactions and plot characteristics of melodrama. By using a melodramatic text, they will discover how to use the acting space effectively through blocking and story structure. Focusing on understanding character and developing individual performances.

Design Technology

Once we have completed our STEM drone challenge, pupils will move on to creating their own imaginative ideas for a shop design to catch the attention of locals and people passing through. As part of this, pupils will consider a range of areas from branding through to architectural design. To promote their proposal to a client, pupils will produce an architectural scale model using foam core board and other compliant materials.

English

In the first half of the Spring term, pupils will be studying 'Different Cultures' poetry. They will have the opportunity to learn about how writers use various poetic devices in a range of poetry and will consider the effect that is created. In the second half of the term, the pupils will be studying the famous Shakespeare play 'Romeo and Juliet'. The term will end with them debating 'Who is responsible for the deaths of Romeo and Juliet?'

French

Having used modal verbs to talk about their talents, Year 8 will study superlatives (how to say who is the best, worst etc.) and will study a Francophone country before the holidays.

Geography

The study of people and places always captures the imagination of our pupils, especially when placed in the context of poverty and development. We will study areas of the world of great privilege and great hardship.

History

This term Year 8 will look at the 'Merry Monarch' (Charles II) together with the Great Plague (1665) and Fire of London (1666). We will compare the challenges of the Plague with the current pandemic. We will also consider the status of women, medicine of the time, and the deposing of King James II by his daughter Mary and her Dutch husband William in the 'Glorious Revolution' of 1688.

Maths

All groups will be looking at plotting straight line graphs, finding the area and volume of various shapes and exploring sequences. In addition, set 1 will be investigating Pythagoras' theorem, plotting quadratic graphs and solving simultaneous linear equations. Both set 2s will study different ways of displaying and analysing data and develop their skills at solving algebraic equations.



Music

This term Year 8 look at improvisation. The unit develops pupils' ability to identify, explore and make creative use of musical devices found in jazz and blues. Pupils learn some basic approaches to improvisation, looking at the history of it within classical music, through to modern versions, such as hip hop, rapping etc. They develop blues scale motifs within a 12-bar blues, improvise using chord/scale relationships and apply that understanding by developing patterns in a diatonic sequence.

Physical Education

The activities that pupils will develop their performance, knowledge and understanding in are Netball, Cross-Country/Fitness Training, Hockey, Rugby, Gymnastics and Dance. The focus will be to improve individual skills and techniques, activity specific fitness, knowledge and understanding of rules and tactics and prepare students for competitive matches/competitions. All activities will be under review and subject to guidance given by government and national governing bodies.

PSHE

The PSHE curriculum is broken down into three categories that are recommended by the PSHE association. These are Health and Wellbeing, Living in the Wider World and Relationship (RSE). Topics in the Spring Term focus on Health and Wellbeing. Topics covered include: Personal Development/ Target Setting, Self Confidence, Managing Behaviour, Teenage Pregnancy, Vaping, Stereotyping/prejudice, First Aid, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy.

Religious Studies

Year 8 spend the Spring term studying another religion, in this case Judaism. The pupils will look at various details, from the sacred books and beliefs, to their food, their clothes, synagogue practices, traditions and way of life.

Science

Year 8 will learn about how important Ecosystem Processes are to different areas of the world. This will focus on areas such as plant minerals and food chains. Subsequently, they will learn about separation techniques used in Chemistry focusing on areas such as filtration, evaporation and distillation.

Spanish

Year 8 will describe their village or town and learn how to arrange to meet up with someone. They will learn weather phrases and recap the future tense to say what they are going to do at the weekend.

Form Teacher Email Addresses:

Mr Green:

mgreen@dokschool.org

Mme Fellous:

lfellous@dokschool.org

Mrs LaCroix:

llacroix@dokschool.org



Year 9 Curriculum Overview

Spring Term

Art

Having completed a term of observational drawing using a variety of techniques, media and processes, pupils will go on to create a visual response to the work of an artist, culture or movement. This pupil led project will involve individual research, visual response and a written reaction in order to communicate a personalised understanding of their chosen artworks.

Computer Science

This term, Year 9 will learn all about how networks operate. This will involve focusing on the different types of networks available and the security involved in setting up a new network. Subsequently, we will learn about cybersecurity and how to stay safe online.

Design Technology

Pupils have designed, modelled and developed a product for sale in a local shop. They will be completing the CAD element; before working on the electronics, thermoforming and other practical skills, to complete their creative and imaginative design. Their aim is to ensure that their design is suitable to catch the attention of someone's eye, when glancing into a shop window.

Drama

For the first half of the term, Year 9 will explore how to communicate a traditional fairy tale with their bodies, using theatre practitioner Frantic Assembly's non-naturalistic, physical approach. The second half of the term will focus on the real life story of Derek Bentley and Christopher Craig's robbery of a warehouse, which culminated in Bentleys hanging in 1953. The pupils will be expected to base their characterisations on thorough research of these key characters as well as using theatrical drama strategies, such as Forum theatre, hot seating and role play.

English

This term, Year 9 will be learning all about media! This will be a useful starting point if your child wishes to study Media Studies in the future. The pupils will learn basic media terminology and will analyse a range of film posters and trailers. During the course of the term, the pupils will have the opportunity to devise their own idea for a film and will create a printed film poster, a trailer and will write an extended analysis on both.

French

Year 9 will move on to the topic of holidays. Grammar points covered will include a recap of all tenses covered so far, as well as using multiple tenses together. Throughout the year, Year 9 will be accumulating evidence for their GCSE in French. Assessments for the FCSE qualifications will continue.

Geography

We will continue and complete our study of natural hazards, following the GCSE specification at a pace that suits Year 9 pupils. Next up will be a look at the challenges facing urban environments the world over, with particular focus on Lagos, Nigeria and London, England!

History

This term pupils will consider the aftermath of WWI and the associated rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party, including what life was like in Nazi Germany. Pupils will examine the subsequent causes and key events of WW2. Before the end of term, we will start to consider 'Crime and Punishment through time c1000-present' which is one of our GCSE topics.



Maths

Pupils will start the term by investigating the impact accuracy of measurements has on calculations and then revisit percentages including finding simple interest. After briefly introducing the idea of vectors (to be explored further at GCSE) we will look at different types of real life graphs e.g. travel graphs. We will finish the term recapping on area and volume calculations before moving on to some more complex multi part questions before studying linear equations and graphs.

Music

This term, Year 9 look at music and media. The unit develops pupils' ability to recognise that music enhances a visual image or sells a product, and to compose their own examples. They explore how music can convey ideas and communicate messages in a range of media. They identify how personal responses to music can be influenced by environments and by the use of musical elements and resources. They will then compose music for a scene from a film or an existing advert.

Physical Education

The activities that pupils will have an option to develop their performance, knowledge and understanding in are Basketball, Netball, Cross-Country/Fitness Training, Hockey, Rugby, Gymnastics & Dance. The focus will be to improve individual skills and techniques, activity specific fitness, knowledge and understanding of rules and tactics. All activities will be under review and subject to guidance given by government and national governing bodies.

Science

The Biology topic will be disease, in which pupils will study examples of communicable and non-communicable disease. In Chemistry, students will study ionic, covalent and metallic bonding and structure. The Physics topics will continue with Energy, looking at renewable and non-renewable resources before moving on to Electricity.

PSHE

The PSHE curriculum is broken down into three categories that are recommended by the PSHE association. These are Health and Wellbeing, Living in the Wider World and Relationship (RSE). Topics in the Spring Term focus on Health and Wellbeing. These topics include: Keeping to Rules, Growth Mindset, Developing Interpersonal Skills, Exam Stress / Managing Anxiety, Selfie Obsession, Self-Harm, Discrimination/Prejudice, Acid Attacks, Consequences of Alcohol and Responsible Health Choices.

Spanish

Year 9 will learn vocabulary about clothes and demonstrative adjectives. They will debate whether or not uniform is a good thing and use comparatives to do so. They will practise their shopping conversation.

Form Teacher Email Addresses:

Miss Vickers:

jvickers@dokschool.org

Mrs Tattan-Robb:

gtattan-robb@dokschool.org

Mr Wyllie:

awyllie@dokschool.org