



Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls Year 7 Curriculum Map: Spring Term 2024



The purpose of this curriculum map is to give you a general outline of what your child is learning in school during this term. We are hoping that this will allow you to support more effectively and further enable you to have an open dialogue about learning. Each department has made suggestions as to activities that will further support learning in their subject 'outside the curriculum'.

Subject	What we learn	Outside the Curriculum
Art	Colour theory: Students will continue to develop their understanding of the foundations of drawing and painting. This term they will progress to learn how to mix colours correctly by producing a colour wheel; this knowledge is then transferred to a final outcome influenced by Rousseau. Students will learn how to isolate, abstract and enlarge whilst applying colour theory to their work. Keywords: primary, secondary, tertiary, complementary, contrasting, harmonising, abstract, isolate, positive space, negative space, shade, tint.	Take a trip to the local galleries in and around Birmingham; www.bmag.org.uk . To develop drawing skills and creative confidence students can draw at home and also attend art clubs at school.
Computer Science	1. Flowcharts: Students will learn to use standard flow diagram symbols to represent a solution to a given problem. 2. Introduction to Programming using Scratch (non-textual approach): • Outputs • Variables • Inputs • Sequence • Selection (IF-ELSE statements) • Iteration • Conditionals • Designing Interfaces • Algorithms. Students will complete a mini project involving designing and creating a game using Scratch.	Scratch online: https://scratch.mit.edu/
Design	In Food & Nutrition students will be learning about food safety, hygiene and applying these rules in practical lessons. They will also study healthy eating by investigating the 5-a-day campaign and the Eatwell Guide and will apply their learning to the dishes they produce by making suitable adaptations to recipes. In DT students will analyse a range of existing products that support a phone/tablet. They will then design and manufacture their own using acrylic and timber connected by either nut and bolts or screw fixings. They will be using a wide range of traditional tools and modern processes such as laser cutting. They will then also design and make their own aluminium keyring or pendant. In Textiles, students study the safe use of the sewing machine investigating all of its functions including learning free machine embroidery. They look at Matisse and use this theme to explore colour and the application of paint onto fabric.	Students can collect information about 5 a day. Look at labels of the foods they eat and discuss as a family what small adaptations they could make to meals to make them healthier. Students could watch some episodes of The Big Fix or Better By Design on YouTube. These are fantastic insights into the world of DT. Wider research to include a variety of sources for example books; films and magazines will enable them to gain a greater understanding of how textiles manufacture has progressed over the centuries.
English	During the spring term, Year 7 students will be completing their study of a modern novel, with exploration of how themes and characters are presented and explored by writers. Students will have opportunity for creative writing 'in role', writing in the style of the author to create a missing chapter and one assessment will be introducing how to write analytically about how characters are created and presented. We have chosen the novel "Coral Boy" by Jamilla Gavin.	Students should make use of the school and public libraries to read a variety of texts and remember to use the book boxes provided for each form. The school librarian runs regular competitions and is always on hand to recommend new reads. There is a creative writing club and a reading club that run each week.
Drama	Drama students will be exploring William Shakespeare's Theatre and focusing on his play 'Macbeth'. The students will experiment with different types of staging. They will continue to develop their understanding of the key subject specific vocabulary and they will begin to use this terminology when they are evaluating their own work and the work of others.	Students can independently research the original performance conditions of Shakespeare's work. Take a trip to 'The Globe Theatre' in London.
French	During the Spring Term, students will further their knowledge of French phonics through the topic of leisure, including sports and activities, with a focus on the French-speaking world and sporting habits around the francophone world. Students will then end the term discussing aspects of everyday life, with countries, pets, family members, culminating with a description of where they live and their homelife.	Purchase a bi-lingual dictionary to support with homework and develop dictionary skills. Use online website such as www.linguascope.com and www.activelearn.com to revise and extend key vocabulary or www.languageonline.org.uk to secure grammar. Embrace the wide offer of movies and TV shows in French on streaming platforms.

Geography	During the spring term students will study units on biodiversity and climate change. We will investigate food webs and chains, and how animals adapt to their ecosystem. Students will take an in-depth look at the characteristics and threats to two global ecosystems – The Arctic and Coral Reefs. In the second half of the term will look at the causes, effects and management of climate change.	Research what agreement was agreed at COP26 this year. What are the positives and negatives of this agreement? Consider what you can do to reduce your carbon footprint at home.
History	Students will continue to study significant 'Turning Points' in History, with a focus upon Black Death, Henry VIII and Elizabeth I	Watch or read 'Horrible Histories, 'Terrible Tudors'
Maths	In Number , we explore the concept of divisibility tests and work with the prime factor decomposition of numbers. Prime numbers will be a focus and a test for establishing if a number is prime will be explored. We will convert between fractions, decimals and percentages and also look at both fraction calculations and percentage increase and decrease problems. In Algebra , we solve equations, including those with brackets and with the unknown on both sides. We explore relationships between coordinates and plot graphs of linear functions. In Statistics , we look at the probability scale and start combining events, finding outcomes in lists and sample space diagrams.	All students have a log-in and password for the Dr Frost website through which they can find maths challenge papers, puzzles and further thinking questions. TEAMS will include student support booklets for each unit of work studied.
Music	In the first half term students will be looking at how an orchestra is put together and following this up with a trip to see the CBSO perform in Symphony Hall. We will then be exploring the elements of music and how these are used to construct a piece of music. After half term students will be studying Pentatonic Pieces , how 5 note scales are used to create music with a particular focus on the music of China. Students will be sharing existing knowledge about China and putting Music into its context. They will be learning to perform a Chinese folk melody on the keyboard and to read traditional Chinese numerical Music notation. Students will then compose a group piece using features of Chinese Music and use the Sibelius music computer program to develop and adapt this.	Join an extra-curricular music group (Gospel Choir, Chamber Choir, String Ensemble, Sinfonia, or one of the Wind Ensembles) If you haven't got a keyboard at home you may like to consider getting one – they are not too expensive and are a fun and easy way to develop your Music skills. Attend a live performance or concert: http://www.thsh.co.uk/events
PE	During the spring term students will follow a course that includes Dance, Netball and Badminton. Each unit of work will last for five weeks. Students will also have the opportunity to perform at the 'Evening of Dance' in February, following on from their work in dance lessons. In these activities, students will be introduced to the core skills of the sports and develop their knowledge and understanding of the rules and regulations governing the sports. In all activities students will continue to develop their leadership skills in the role of an official, judge or umpire. Students will get the opportunity to perform as well as develop their evaluation and analysis skills in all activities.	Look out for our extra-curricular activities weekly plan and join in some of the activities. Get involved on the Evening of Dance. Make sure that you are making every effort to take part in regular exercise. A minimum of 1 hour a day is recommended. Research different sporting activities to try out in our area. Visit the www.change4life website for ideas on how to improve your active, healthy lifestyle. Watch the videos, take the tests and work as a family. Watch top class performances live, on the TV or on the internet to help your own performance and to see how the officials and coaches carry out their roles. Listen to how the experts analyse performance. Feedback is vital to help you to learn. BBC Sports Academy has a wealth of information.
Religious Studies	In the first half of the term, students will be studying the life of Jesus . They will investigate various pivotal moments in his life, in order to understand his importance to Christians today. They will evaluate many different opinions on who Jesus was, and decide whether he was a miracle maker, a rebel, a moral teacher, or indeed the Son of God. In the second half of the term, students will be investigating the role of prophets within the three Abrahamic faiths. They will understand how each faith was founded and reflect upon the similarities and differences between the three religions. We will also discuss the importance of interfaith dialogue.	Construct a debate on who Jesus was at home, with different people taking different point of views as to who Jesus was: could he perform miracles? Was he just a political rebel? Was he a good moral teacher? Or does the evidence prove beyond doubt that he was the Son of God? Discuss at home – how can we see evidence that Britain is a multi-faith and multicultural society? Why is it important that faiths have dialogue with one another?
Science	In Physics , students will be learning about Forces. Students will look at the principles of contact and non-contact forces. They will look in more depth at speed, acceleration and magnetism. Students will develop their skills in carrying out and interpreting scientific investigations. In Biology , students will be working on the Reproduction topic. They will learn about reproduction in plants and animals and the changes that occur in their bodies during puberty. In Chemistry , students will be studying the big idea 'Substances and Properties'. They will learn how all materials are made up of either a single substance or a mixture of substances. All substances have distinctive properties that may be used to identify them or separate them from a mixture. They will separate a range of different mixtures in their practical sessions.	Visit Think Tank in Birmingham to explore different areas of chemistry and general science. There are also lots of exhibits at Think Tank that explore the physics of forces. Visit the Botanical Gardens and look at how the various flowers are used for plant reproduction. Look at materials in the home and discuss whether they are mixtures or pure substances. Identify where mixtures are solutions and when they are not.