



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



The purpose of this “curriculum map” is to give you a general outline of what your daughter is learning in school during this term. We are hoping that this will allow you to support your daughter more effectively in her studies and further enable you to have an open dialogue about learning with your daughter. 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’ – The term is focused on Colour theory which will be explored through the critique of Henri Rousseau’s work. Students will continue to develop their observational drawing skills and further cement their understanding of composition and the formal elements.	Visit as many Art galleries as you can: Birmingham has several excellent galleries all within walking distance (BMAG, IKON, ARTLOUNGE). Walsall is also well worth a visit to admire a range of Still Life Art work which will excite and inspire. Visit the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford or the Natural History Museum. www.prm.ox.ac.uk . BMAG also exhibit art from other cultures.
Drama	In Drama students will be exploring a range of new dramatic techniques and conventions through Process Drama. Students will be developing their understanding of the dramatic skills actors use to communicate meaning. They will also be embedding their key Drama terminology as well as, developing their communication skills when responding to performances in lesson.	If possible, look for opportunities to explore your child to Shakespeare in performance, particularly any comedies. The RSC in Stratford runs holiday clubs with activity days and workshops, and there are also a number of film versions of Shakespeare’s comedies. <i>Be aware of the risqué nature of some of these; you may wish to check the content and rating first to be sure that it is age appropriate for your daughter.</i>
English	In English students will be completing their study of Shakespeare’s <i>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</i> . There is an emphasis on performance and watching the play being performed in order to help students understand how Shakespeare creates humour. We will also be exploring some of the more technical aspects of Shakespeare’s writing, including his use of metre as well as imagery and characterisation. Our last unit focuses on narrative writing with a focus on journeying. Students will have the opportunity to read a range of extracts and texts, as well as crafting their own creative responses.	Students may enjoy watching performances and adaptations of <i>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</i> . It can help if they see different versions and consider why different choices might be made. In their private reading, they could consider stories, biographies and autobiographies about journeys, making good use of the school library and their own local community libraries.
French	Before moving on to Spanish in the second half of the term, students will focus on the topic of their local area, describing their town, saying where they go at the weekend. They will also gain transactional knowledge by learning how to invite someone out, and ordering drinks and snacks before finally learning about the near future.	Use online website such as quizlet.com , bbc bitesize to revise and extend key vocabulary and www.languagesonline.org.uk to practise verb tenses. Reading French books/ magazines in the school library and language classrooms. Stream francophone music and watch French-speaking series available on streaming platforms. Read age-appropriate French books and comic books.
Spanish	Claro 1 Unit 1: Getting to know the Spanish-speaking countries of the world; giving basic greetings; introducing one another (name, age and birthday); saying the alphabet; learning vocabulary for colours and classroom items.	Use the online websites www.kerboodle.com and www.linguascope.com to practise reading and listening to the material learned in class. Outside of lessons, have a conversation in Spanish with friends from time to time. Borrow Spanish magazines from the school library.
Geography	In the first half term students will focus on the physical processes of rivers, investigating how they change from source to mouth. This will include studying how a river erodes, transports and deposits material, and the features created through these processes such as waterfalls and meanders. Students will also study the causes, effects and management of river flooding. In the second half term students will study a unit about sustainability – looking at the impact our human actions are having on the planet, and how we can sustainably manage these.	Students could research flooding events in the British Isles in the last 10 years. They must also watch out for relevant news articles about flooding; its causes, effects and its management. They can also discuss with friends and family if anyone has been a victim of river flooding. How can you be more sustainable at home? Conduct an audit of your families recycling, water use and electricity use. Create a plan to be more sustainable and implement it.
History	The focus will continue to be on ‘Turning Points’ from the sixteenth century to the twentieth century. Students will have the opportunity to consider the reign of Elizabeth I, the impact of the English Civil War 1642-46 and the Suffragette campaign.	Why not watch the movie ‘Elizabeth’ starring cate Blanchett or ‘Suffragette’ to support your understanding of the topics studied in class. Visit Aston Hall as an example of how the gentry lived during the Stuart era.
Computing	In the first half term we will cover Computer Systems . Students will learn about computer hardware, including input, output devices, and the internal components of a PC. Students will also study types of software and how the internet works. In the second half term students cover Cryptography . They will learn about encryption and the different types of ciphers including Ceasar cipher, Keyword cipher, Vigenère cipher and the number replacement cipher.	Use https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zxb72hv/revision/1 to revise hardware and https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zcxgr82/revision/1 to revise software.

Maths	In Algebra , we solve double-sided equations and construct our own equations to solve problems. We also look at sequences, their types and generalisation into algebra. In Geometry , we work with a variety of angle rules, including angles made within a set of parallel lines, proving the angle sums for both triangles and quadrilaterals. In Number , we work with both fractions and percentages in a wide range of non-calculator problems. We also work with ratio and proportion. In Statistics , we collect and analyse data through averages and range. We look at different ways to display data, including tables, bar charts and pie charts. Towards the end of term, we will launch the use of the calculator and investigate its main functions.	www.dr frost maths.com also has a wide range of extension content. Corbett Maths contains questions, challenges and videos linked to the curriculum coverage. All students are entered for the Junior Maths Challenge in the final week of April: practice questions are seen in class but full papers can be accessed in Dr Frost.
Music	In the first half term student will be studying music from Medieval times through listening, performing and composing. They will learn about the instruments used, the purpose of music in the era and musical techniques such as organum and drones. In the second half term students will be looking at advertising in Music and how music could be used to market and sell a product. They will be looking at sonic logos, jingles and other methods in which music is used in adverts. To finish the year students will be continuing to develop performance techniques at a level appropriate to their skills. In most cases, but not exclusively, this will be based on keyboard skills.	If students do not have access to a keyboard or piano at home you may consider purchasing one (although this is not compulsory!!) The main keyboard used in school is the Yamaha YTP-220, which retails for about £90. Students are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular music groups to develop their performance skills. I would also encourage parents to take their children to watch 'live' music performances in a variety of styles. Birmingham has a huge amount of live music from a wide range of cultures and styles. Listen to a wide variety of music on the radio, and try out new styles that may not be familiar to you!
DT Food Textiles (Rotation)	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.
PE	This term's work focusses on developing skills in both athletics and rounders. The students will experience a range of events in athletics from both track and field, looking at technique and performing at maximum levels. This will be preparation leading up to Sports day. Rounders will focus on key striking and fielding skills and the students can look forward to an inter house rounders competition. Students will also be looking at how well they can take on different roles within the physical activities that they are participating in, how well they can identify strengths in performance and areas for improvement.	Join one or more of the extra-curricular clubs on offer for summer sports in school. We have new clubs this year that include cricket and rugby. Try and increase the amount of regular exercise that you do. For example, play tennis, rounders, badminton, football, handball etc. with family and friends in the park. Start walking (faster/further!), jogging, cycling, swimming, rowing etc. Look out for your chance to represent the school at the Sutton Schools' Athletics Championships, the Sutton Schools rounders tournament or the Sutton Schools cricket tournament.
Religious Studies	During this term students will be investigating the difference between materialism and spirituality, and questioning what in life brings happiness. They will then study Buddhist beliefs about happiness, and develop their own opinions as to whether they believe Buddhist teaching and practice is successful in bringing about happiness. In the second half of the term students will be working in groups on an exciting project called ' <i>Religion in Family Life</i> '. This will be a project where students work together to research and make a final presentation. Each group will design a family and students will present how the family's religion affects the lives of the family members. There will be a focus on Judaism in this unit. The project contains some formal RE teaching, some independent research and some drama.	Discuss at home whether in modern times we have become too materialistic and less spiritual. Is there a growing trend towards spirituality in the West? Try a mindfulness meditation together as a family, and feedback on how it felt. Speak to friends and family about how religious belief affects their lives. Look out for examples in everyday life such as food rules, festivals, family celebrations etc.
Science	In Biology this term students will be looking at classifying organisms into their groups and then looking at how organisms depend on each other in their habitats. We will also look at how organisms are adapted to be successful in their habitat and how this leads to evolution by natural selection. In Chemistry this term students will be studying chemical reactions. This will include lessons on identifying chemical changes and physical changes, followed by a series of lessons regarding different types of chemical reactions. We will use word equations to represent these changes. In Physics this term students will be learning about Space, especially our Solar system. This will include what causes night and day, the seasons, phases of the moon and eclipses. We will also study the planets and their orbits as well as the size of the solar system and the universe.	For Biology , students could complete a survey of the local environment and identify the differences between species of plants and/or animals that they see. The reasons for those differences could then be explored. A visit to the botanical gardens would also allow them to look at plant adaptations and classification. For Chemistry , students could look for chemical and physical changes in the world around them and describe how they know it is a chemical or physical change. For Physics , students could look at the night sky. A trip to a place in the countryside well away from light pollution will reveal a much more spectacular vista of stars. A simple pair of binoculars or telescope used at night will make stars appear brighter and give an impressive view of the moon. Phone apps such as SkyMap will allow students to find Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, then observe them in the night sky.