



HIGHCLARE SCHOOL

U3 Curriculum Plan

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This curriculum plan includes an outline of the topics and themes studied in each subject throughout the year.

In addition to the subjects listed, Upper Third pupils have an hour long Enrichment lesson each week where they rotate round a variety of activities, and also two half hour sessions of Skills and Values.

The table below shows the time allocated to each subject per week.

Subject	Hours
Art	1
Design & Technology	1
Drama	1
English	3.5

Subject	Hours
Food & Nutrition	1
French	2
Geography	1
History	1

Subject	Hours
ICT / Computing	1
Mathematics	3.5
Music	1
Physical Education	2.5

Subject	Hours
PSHCE	0.5
Religious Studies	1
Science	3
Enrichment	1

All KS3 pupils have internal school examinations in all subjects (except Drama, PSHCE and PE) in the week before half term in the summer term.

We hope that you find the plan informative and useful.

Mr M Coles
Deputy Head of Senior School: Academic

Art

Autumn term

Exploration of theme 'Still Life'
Baseline Test
Tonal study of a drinks bottle
Introduction to the Visual Elements in Art
Drawing 3D Shapes
Line value and texture
Drawing in pencil, biro and ink
Pressure control and tonal variety
Mark making
Assessed work
Tonal study of a drinks can

Spring term

Exploration of the theme 'Cubism'
Space, shape, pattern and colour
The colour wheel
Colour Theory & Terminology
Flat colour, tints and shades
Acrylic paint techniques
Assessed work
Cubist still life of modern objects

Summer term

Exploration of the theme 'Pop Art'
Learning techniques for freehand sketching cartoon characters
Using basic Photoshop skills to create a repeat pattern
Assessed work
Pop art trainer featuring cartoon character (End of year Examination)

Key skills programme - the visual elements and design principles of Art.

Design & Technology

Autumn term

Introduction to DT
Prior experience.

Paper and Board
DT and our world.
Papermaking
Material sources and stock sizes.
Finishes and weights
Key fob

Paper and board

Book making
Marbling and book binding
6Rs and sustainability.
Mind-mapping
Designing
Modelling

Throughout the year: materials - properties and qualities

Spring term

Plastics
Health and safety in the work shop
Cutting and thermoforming
resistant materials

CAD
Taking and importing photographs.
Using Photopea

Summer term

Metal
Bookmark/coaster
Sublimation printing

Textiles
Machine skills
Health and safety
Open seams and finishes

Drama

Autumn term

Introduction to Drama
Confidence-building games
Bugsy Malone – scenarios, acting for an audience
Mime and setting the scene

Spring term

Characterisation
Developing gesture, facial expression and dialogue.
Acting technique

Summer term

Melodrama
Hero, villains and damsel in distress.
Devising a performance based around a cartoon

English

Autumn term

Transition unit
Baseline assessments in reading and spelling
Creative writing: short stories based on the theme of transformation
Reading of *Cirque Du Freak* by Darren Shan
House poetry competition
Class novel: *The Bone Sparrow* by Zana Fraillon compared to extracts from *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens

Spring term

Introduction to Shakespeare
Study of *Hamlet*.

Study of short stories from a collection of 'Sinister Stories'.

Explorations into creative writing and reading

Summer term

Explorations into creative writing and reading.
Persuasive and argumentative writing in non-fiction
Presentation to the class on a topic linked to the persuasive unit
.

Weekly spelling test of 10 spellings and grammar task. Independent reading.

Food & Nutrition

Autumn term

Introduction to Food and nutrition
Kitchen equipment
Safety and hygiene
Healthy eating
Measuring and weighing
Cookers – use of hob and oven
Heat transference
Christmas cookery

Spring term

Zones of heat in the oven
Cookers – use of grill
Storage of food
Nutrition
Energy giving foods
Costing and comparison
Eating less sugar
Easter cookery

Summer term

Practical examination – 1 star chef award
Cake-making methods

Practical demonstrations and practical skills lessons throughout the year

French

Autumn term

C'est moi
Introduction to French
C'est perso
Likes and dislikes
Describing yourself

Spring term

Mon collègue
School subjects
Telling the time
Mes passetemps
Sports and hobbies

Summer term

Taster sessions in German and Spanish
Studio découverte
The French Revolution

Geography

Autumn term

Thinking like a Geographer
Different types of Geography
Locational world map
knowledge.
OS map work introduction
Looking at different uses/types
of maps.
UK Place study with map skills
Political/physical maps of the
UK
4-figure grid references
Latitude and longitude
OS Map symbols
Showing heights on a map
Population and tourism in the
UK.

Spring term

Weather and Climate (with micro-
climate study on school grounds)
Weather and climate
Measuring the weather
Water cycle
Air pressure/depressions
UK climate
Global climates vs UK climate
Local climate study

Summer term

Settlement and Lichfield Fieldtrip
Work
Settlement site.
Factors for increased
urbanisation
Urban land use model.
Settlement hierarchy.
Settlement growth.
Shopping trends.
Place study: Lichfield field trip.
ICT-based work on field trip.

History

Autumn term

History Skills
The arrival of the Romans, Anglo-
Saxons and Vikings
William the Conqueror and the
Battle of Hastings
The Norman Conquest
Assessed essay task on the Battle
of Hastings

Spring term

The late Medieval era, topics
studied include:
The Magna Carta
The Black Death
The Peasant's Revolt

Summer term

Medieval life, areas studied
include:
Society
Religion
Entertainment
Castles
Warfare

ICT & Computing

Autumn term

E-safety and the ICT Agreement
Computer Systems
Python Programming part 1

Spring term

Python Programming part 2
Webpage design using HTML &
CSS programming part 1

Summer term

Webpage design using HTML &
CSS programming part 2
Advanced Scratch House
Competition

Mathematics

Autumn term

Angles and parallel lines
Addition & subtraction
Multiplication & division
Symmetry: line symmetry and
rotational symmetry
Types of number: Odd, even,
factors, multiples, primes, laws of
indices, prime factors, LCM, HCF,
squares, cubes, triangular
Sequences
Data: Tallying, frequency tables
for non-grouped and grouped
data, bar charts, pictograms
Geometry: triangles,
quadrilaterals, constructions

Spring term

Fractions: simplifying, addition
and subtraction
Decimals: Fraction decimal
equivalence, addition, subtraction,
multiplication, division, degree of
accuracy
Algebra and directed number,
formulae, simplification
Equations: Understanding of
equations, solving with single
operations, solving with two mixed
operations
Metric units: Converting metric
units of length, volume and mass

Summer term

Perimeter and Area
Changing between units of area
Averages
Frequency tables
Stem and leaf diagrams
Coordinates: Reading coordinates
from axes, plotting coordinates
Ratio: Simplifying, sharing in a
given ratio, ratio problems

Pupils are taught in form groups until October half term then set into an upper and lower set for Mathematics.

Music

Autumn term

Musical-theory baseline test
Find your voice! Singing for all,
including the teaching and
learning of the School Hymn
Introduction to the Elements of
music & patterns in music
Instruments of the orchestra

Spring term

Keyboard Skills
Scales & Melodies
Ensembles Music

Summer term

Musical Contexts
Improvisation
Blues Music
Examination preparation

Physical Education

Autumn term

Swimming
Netball
Hockey
Football
Rugby
Indoor Athletics

Spring term

Swimming
Indoor athletics
Health and fitness
Gymnastics
Netball
Hockey
Football
Rugby
Basketball

Summer term

Athletics – track and field
Rounders
Cricket
Softball
Tennis

PSHCE

Autumn Term

What is bullying
Anti-bullying
Gangs and other worrying things
E-safety

Spring Term

Human rights – the Equality Act
Refugees and asylum Seekers
Prejudice and the dangers of a
prejudice society
My identity

Summer Term

Friendships, hierarchy and peer
pressure
Puberty and mood swings
What is sex?

Religious Studies

Autumn term

Comparative Religion

- How did religion develop?
- Where are the religions practiced?
- What is religion all about?
- How do religions use symbols?
- What teachings do religions have in common?
- How do religious people express their faith?
- What practices do religions have in common?

Judaism 1

- What does it mean to be Jewish?
- How are Jewish people divided?
- How are Jewish people guided in life?
- Which books are special to Jews?
- What is the Jewish place of worship?
- End-of-topic assessment

Spring term

Christianity 1

- Is Christianity still important in the UK and the world today?
- Can one thing also be three?
- Is every child special when born?
- Can anyone perform a miracle?
- Key word assessment and why do people tell stories?

Christianity 2

- Two Greatest Commandments
- Love your neighbour/moral code
- Jesus man of peace or conflict?
- Life of Jesus – death and resurrection.
- Is Christmas just for Christians?
- End-of-topic assessment.

Summer term

Islam 1

- How did Islam begin?
- How did Islam grow?
- What are Muslim key beliefs?
- Where do Muslims worship?
- Key word assessment + how does Islam contribute to UK culture?

Hermeneutics (interpretation) of the Bible

- What is the Bible? Is it relevant today?
- Introduction to hermeneutics.
- Hermeneutics paired parable task (the good Samaritan)
- ICT paired hermeneutics task
- Hermeneutic paired presentation.

Science

Biology

Autumn term

Movement and Cells

A deep-dive into the human skeleton and an Introduction into the unit that makes up all life including the organelles and their functions. Students look at the adaptations of plant and animal cells and make links between features and survival.

Spring term

Plant biology and ecological relationships

This unit enables the learning of plant survival and the role of insects in establishing an ecological balance.

Summer term

Reproduction

Students look at both sexual and asexual reproduction. This unit primarily focuses on human sexual reproduction and the stages of pregnancy. Again this builds on previous 2 biology topics covered.

Chemistry

Particles and their behaviour

A unit looking at matter, states of matter and the interactions of particles with one another. A brilliant conceptual introduction that builds on KS2 science and gives students an increased literacy of the particulate building blocks of the universe.

Acids and alkalis

Students look at the characteristics and properties of acids and alkalis, and quickly advance to understanding the importance of the neutralisation reaction between acids and alkalis.

Chemistry of our universe

The topic of space enables students to understand the chemical structure of the Earth (including the rock cycle) and its place in the wider universe – students learn about day/night and seasons.

Physics

Forces

Students learn about speed and motion, and how contact and non-contact forces affect motion. They investigate practical situations involving forces including those involving resistive forces and Hookes Law.

Electricity and magnetism

Students learn about current and potential difference in a circuit as well as the underlying phenomena of resistance and its effect on current. Students investigate relationship between current and potential difference through a filament bulb, using ammeters and voltmeters to do so.

Energy

This unit enables students to discover the fundamental principles of energy and energy transfers. Students will examine the domestic use of electricity and evaluate sustainable management of energy resources to generate electricity.

Sound

This is student's first unit that looks at waves as a transfer of energy. Students learn about the link between wavelength and frequency, in particular looking at how this affects a sound. Linking to biology, students also learn about the structure of the ear and how the sound wave is detected and the information transmitted to the brain.

Light

Students investigate the properties of light waves including reflection and the phenomena of refraction. Students are challenged to explain how dispersion causes a spectrum (*rainbow*) to form and also look at how coloured objects are observed. Links are made to biology in relation to how light energy is detected and the information transmitted to the brain