



HIGHCLARE SCHOOL

U4 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 this U4 pupils have two half hour session a week on Skills and Values, covering a variety of co-curricular content, such as Character Education and British Values.

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

| Subject | Hours |
|---------------------|-------|
| Art | 1 |
| Design & Technology | 1 |
| Drama | 1 |
| English | 4 |
| Food & Nutrition | 1 |

| Subject | Hours |
|-----------------|-------|
| MFL | 2 |
| Geography | 1 |
| History | 1 |
| ICT / Computing | 1 |
| Mathematics | 4 |

| Subject | Hours |
|--------------------|-------|
| Music | 1 |
| Physical Education | 2.5 |
| PSHCE | 0.5 |
| Religious Studies | 1 |

| Subject | Hours |
|---|-------|
| Science: Biology Chemistry Physics | 3 |

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.

In the case where a student has a clear aptitude for MFL, we also offer a second language using some of the flexibility in our Period 7 on the timetable, without impacting on their other subjects.

We hope that you find the plan informative and useful.

Mr M Coles
Deputy Head of Senior School: Academic

Art

Autumn term

Introduction to the theme 'About Face' and exploration of portraiture:

How to accurately draw and shade eyes

Drawing with pen and ink

Using mixed-media techniques

Assessed work

Mixed media eye with tear drips

Begin exploration of abstract and surreal portraits

Experimentation with techniques and materials including:

Collage, Splicing & Photomontage

Spring term

Continued exploration of surrealism, including photographic techniques & Photoshop

Proportions of the human face, and further exploration of drawing realistic facial features

Assessed work

Half realistic celebrity drawing

Summer term

Manga drawing mini project

Proportions of the human skull, and exploration of the skull in Art and Culture – including the Day of the Dead festival

Assessed

Day of the Dead inspired Skull design (End of year examination)

Design & Technology

Autumn term

Mechanical devices

Linkages, pulleys and gears

Wood, textiles, plastics

Moving toys

Designing and making a moving toy

Making a moving toy.

Workshop skills Complete toy task

Spring term

Plastics

Structures and 3d Printing

Jewellery

CAD/CAM

Summer term

Sketching and designing

Drawing for a purpose – revision.

Free hand, isometric and orthographic drawing.

Drama

Autumn term

Melodramatic technique and how to structure a pantomime.

Revising acting skills in a workshop context

Spring term

Pantomime and touring theatre

Devising a 20 minute pantomime in groups that will be taken to local primary schools in the Summer term

Summer term

Pantomime and touring theatre cont.

Final rehearsals, costume and theatre make up.

Performing at local feeder schools.

English

Autumn term

Baseline spelling and reading assessment.

Creative writing: dystopian fiction: eg: *1984*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *Examination Day*, *Sound of Thunder*.

Studying and writing a short story.

House poetry competition

Class novel: *Of Mice and Men*

Spring term

GCSE Language Skills: Fight For Freedom paper 2 skills. Range of non-fiction and argumentative writing.

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

Summer term

GCSE paper 1 skills: creative reading and writing skills.

AQA GCSE Power and Conflict poetry – *Ozymandias*, *Exposure*, *The Emigree*.

Spoken presentation to the class linked to the poems studied.

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

Food & Nutrition

Autumn term

Nutrients for good health
Meal planning
Macro - nutrients – Protein
Meat
Vegetarians
Alternative proteins
Macro – nutrients – Fat
Pastry making
Christmas cookery

Spring term

Macro – nutrients – Carbohydrates
How flour is made
Sauce making
Fibre
Bread making
Start of Food hygiene certificate

Summer term

Practical examination – 3 star chef award
Completion of Food Hygiene certificate

Practical demonstrations and practical skills lessons throughout the year

French

Autumn term

TV/cinema/reading
Activities online
Module on Paris

Spring term

Relationships
Clothes
Hobbies

Summer term

Holidays
Tourist attractions

Film study – Les Choristes

German

Autumn term

Present Tense
Imperfect Tense
Places in Town
Holiday accommodation
Weather
Perfect tense activities
Forms of transport

Spring term

TV habits
Films
Books
Film Study - Das Wunder von Bern
Opinions
Music

Summer term

Breakfast
Traditional German food
Healthy lifestyles
Food
Exercise

Geography

Autumn term

Earth's processes
Plate tectonics
Volcanoes
Earthquakes
Tsunami
Managing risks.

Spring term

Resource and Trade
Earth as a natural resource
Rocks and soils
Sustainable use of natural resources
International relations
Place study: Middle East trade and resources.
Population
Population recap
Population pyramids
The DTM model
Urban study methods.

Summer term

Place Study: China
Human Geography of China
Globalisation of China
Culture of China
Population study of China
Rural and urban contrasts
Physical Geography of China including tectonic hazards.

History

Autumn term

The First World War
The causes of World War One
Trench warfare
The Battle of the Somme
The end of the war in 1918

Spring term

The Inter-war years
The Treaty of Versailles
Democracy and dictatorships
The Depression
The rise of Adolf Hitler

Summer term

The Second World War
The causes and events of World War II including:
Appeasement
The Battle of Britain
D-Day
Hiroshima

Two assessed essays

Assessed group work

End of year examination

ICT & Computing

Autumn term

Website Design Project using Dreamweaver CC, HTML & JavaScript
Animation techniques

Spring term

Adobe Animate CC Animation project
Binary Numbers

Summer term

Microsoft Access Movie Database Project
Advanced Python programming challenge

Mathematics

Autumn term

Decimal places and significant figures for estimations
Upper and lower bounds
Reciprocals, recurring decimals
Probability: addition rule OR, multiplication rule AND, tree diagrams, two way tables, Venn diagrams
Percentages: Increase, decrease, multiplier method, VAT/Tax
Simple interest, compound interest
Ratio and proportion:
Simplifying ratio, division in a given ratio, direct and inverse proportion
Algebra: expanding and simplifying brackets

Spring term

Area and volume including:
Trapezium, arcs and sectors, prisms
Pythagoras theorem
Algebra: The subject of a formula, substitution, forming and solving equations, nth term, simultaneous equations, inequalities
Straight line graphs
Graphical representation of inequalities

Summer term

Solving quadratic equations
Transformations: reflections, rotations, translations and enlargements

Music

Autumn term

Film Music (elements of music, instruments of the orchestra, diegetic & non-diegetic music)
Music for a purpose
Sending a Message – BandAid!

Spring term

Music in Media – Jingles, musical influence, compositional skills and word setting.

Summer term

Songwriting
Free composition project to a selection of set briefs

Physical Education

Autumn term

Netball
Hockey
Football
Rugby
Badminton
Basketball

Spring term

Badminton
Volleyball
Health and fitness
Netball
Hockey
Football
Rugby
Basketball

Summer term

Athletics - track and field
Rounders
Cricket
Softball
Tennis

PSHCE

Autumn Term

Dressing appropriately

Body image and healthy living - nutrition and what makes a healthy diet?

Gangs and violence

E-safety

Spring Term

Politics and parliament in the United Kingdom.

Exploring human rights - looking at identity; immigration; race and prejudice; asylum seekers and associated legal implications

Prejudice and discrimination

Human rights – the Equality Act and the rights of the child

Summer Term

Appropriate behaviour

The age of consent - arranged marriage; FGM and CSE; control in relationships

Contraception and STI's

Careers morning – pupils take part in an information morning with visiting speakers.

Career stereotypes challenged

Cascaid Kudos – an introduction to the computer based programme focussing on careers.

Religious Studies

Autumn term

History of Christianity
How did Christianity begin?
Who is Constantine and the council of Nicea?
What is the Great Schism?
What happened during the reformation?
Who are the Quaker and the Amish?
How and why are some Christians persecuted?
End-of-topic assessment

Christianity 3

Why do Christians have eggs at Easter?
What do Christians believe about life after death?
Ecumenical movement.
The authority of the Bible.
The Gospels
Christian places of worship
Key word assessment and public worship

Spring term

Ethics 1
What is ethics? Is it easy to make decisions?
Is there any law that should not be broken?
The sanctity of life
Why does Nietzsche say that God is dead?
How should we make decision on what is right and wrong?
Key word assessment and what should we do with the runaway train?

Ethics 2

Should we treat animals as equals?
Is pacifism possible in today's world?
How should we treat the poor?
Should the death penalty be allowed?
The environment and stewardship.
End-of-topic assessment

Summer term

Philosophy 1
The argument from design.
The argument from first cause
Why did Descartes doubt everything?
What did the Masters of Suspicion believe about religion?
Key word assessment and are the New Atheists right about faith?

Philosophy 2

What do people in the UK believe?
Can evil exist in a universe created by God?
ICT paired task and presentation (2-3 lessons)

Science

Biology

Autumn term

Cell Biology: Students learn about the structures of eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells, Cell specialisation and differentiation and develop their procedural knowledge of microscopy.

Organisation: This unit looks at the human digestive and respiratory systems and link these to the composition of blood and associated non-communicable disorders including Coronary Heart disease. Students will be introduced to plant tissues for the first time also.

Spring term

Communicable diseases: This unit builds on the unit of cell biology and examines the diseases caused by bacteria, viruses, fungi and protists and their core method of control. The human defence system is also covered as well as the way vaccines work to increase immunity.

Bioenergetics (Photosynthesis): Students build on their KS3 understanding of this topic by looking at the factors that control photosynthesis and methods of investigation.

Summer term

Bioenergetics (Respiration): This unit makes links to photosynthesis but looks at the differences between aerobic and anaerobic respiration and how exercise causes changes to the body as a result of the impact on metabolic reactions.

Human coordination and response; Students are introduced to homeostasis in relation to both chemical (hormones) and electrical (nervous system) responses.

Chemistry

Atomic structure, elements and the Periodic Table: This crucially important unit explores the fundamental nature of matter in relation to atomic structure and builds on KS3 learning by explaining trends in the periodic table by linking to differences between elements in a group. Understanding how ideas regarding the periodic table are important in this unit also.

Chemical bonding (pt 1): Students learn about ionic bonding.

Quantitative chemistry: Using and advancing their understanding of atomic and molecular structure, students look at atomic and formula mass, the conservation of mass during chemical reactions and finally learn about the 'mole' as a quantity.

Energy changes: This unit looks at exothermic and endothermic reactions

Chemical bonding (pt 2): Unit consolidates learning on ionic bonding and study covalent and metallic bonding.

Chemical changes: This expansive unit allows students to study chemical reactions in terms of oxidation, reduction, displacement and the reactivity series. Students also look at reactions involving acids and bases (neutralisation) before looking at the role of electrolysis as a method of separation.

Physics

Energy: A unit that lays the foundations for the rest of physics, students will learn about energy stores, transfers and conservation. The unit advances students beyond their prior knowledge by looking at energy as a quantity that can be calculated depending on its store – gravitational, kinetic and elastical.

Electricity: Students learn about current in a circuit in relation to the rate of charge flow and how resistance reduces this flow. Students investigate different resistors and their affects on a circuit.

Some GCSE Science topics are covered in the U4 and where appropriate GCSE required practicals will be completed.

Particle model of matter: Building on the topic of energy and KS3 forces, students learn about density and changes of state and internal energy of molecules.

Atomic structure: In this topic, students look at ionising radiation types of alpha, beta and gamma. Students learn about their relative ionising abilities and their penetrative properties. How particles cause contamination and how unstable atoms decay is also covered.

Forces: This unit examines contact and non-contact forces in relation to vector and scalar properties and students learn how to resolve forces acting on an object.

Waves: Students will learn about differences and examples of transverse and longitudinal waves as well as their general properties. They will then progress to learn about the electromagnetic spectrum, considering the uses and dangers of the different regions.

Spanish

Autumn term

My life

- Opinions about activities
- Describing friends
- Nationalities
- Places in a town
- Using near future tense

Free time

- TV programmes
- Types of films

Spring term

Free time

- Complex, justified opinions about films
- Making arrangements to go out
- Making excuses
- Technology (comparatives)

Holidays

- Describing a past holiday (where went/ activities/weather/ accommodation)
- Preterite tense & imperfect tense
- Booking a hotel room
- Making a complaint
- Spanish festivals

Summer term

Healthy living

- Body parts
- Illnesses
- Food & healthy eating
- Giving advice on lifestyle
- Issues facing young people (preterite & conditional tense)

Our planet

- Environment
- Global problems – local solutions
- Global citizenship
- Homelessness

Film studies – Voces Inocentes