



Highclare School

U4 Curriculum Plan

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

Subject

Autumn term

Spring term

Summer term

Art

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 and Photoshop

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

Assessed work
Half realistic celebrity drawing

Proportions of the human skull, and exploration of the skull in Art.

Exploration of Day of the Dead festival through illustration and printmaking.

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

Mini project on Photography, focussing on composition.

Design & Technology

Unit 1 – Textiles (Cushion Covers)

- Needs of the User
- Product Analysis
- Mood boards
- Colour Theory
- Other research techniques
- Design Brief and Specification
- Design Ideas
- Design Development
- Modelling

Unit 1 - (cont)

- Planning
- Materials preparation and sampling
- Dyeing
- Manufacture
- Evaluating, Testing and User feedback on final product

Unit 2 – Table Lamp Project

- Needs of the User
- Product Analysis
- Design Brief and Specification

Unit 2 – (cont)

- Design Ideas
- Design Development
- Modelling
- Additional circuit theory
- Soldering
- Circuit testing
- Fault finding and rectification
- Planning
- Manufacture
- Evaluating, Testing and User feedback on final product

Drama

Melodramatic technique and how to structure a pantomime.
Revising acting skills in a workshop context

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

Pantomime and touring theatre cont.
Final rehearsals, costume and theatre make up.
Performing at local feeder schools.

Subject

Autumn term

Spring term

Summer term

English

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*

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

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

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

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.

Food & Nutrition

Food safety
Functional properties of ingredients
Advice for healthy eating

Eggs
Dairy
Factors affecting food choice
Packaging and the environment
Where and how ingredients are grown

Convenience food
Where and how ingredients are grown
Food waste

Practical demonstrations and practical skills lessons throughout the year

French

Talking about hobbies

TV programmes /films
Reading
Internet
What you did yesterday evening

Culture: Christmas in France, MFL
House Christmas card competition

A visit to Paris

Tourist activities in Paris
Saying when you did things
Understanding information about a tourist attraction
Where you went and transport

My identity

Personality
Relationships
Music
Clothes
Your passions

Where I live

Describing your town
Describing your home
Meals
Buying food and quantities
Talking about an event

Healthy Living

Body parts
Benefits of sport
Healthy eating plans
Plans to get fit

Culture: Film study – Les Choristes

Subject

Autumn term

Spring term

Summer term

German

Holidays (Ich leibe Ferien!)

Places in Town
Holiday accommodation
Weather
What you did on holiday
Forms of transport

Grammar: present and imperfect tenses / perfect tense with haben & sein

Media (Bist du ein Medienfan?)

Films and TV programmes
Books
Discussing screen time
Grammar: Perfect tense/ modal verbs wollen and sollen / prepositions with dative case

Food and Healthy lifestyles (Bleib gesund)

Breakfast
Understanding recipes
Traditional German food
Healthy lifestyles

Grammar: verbs essen & nehmen/ Du form of imperative/ verb müssen /
School trip (Klassenreisen machen Spaß!)

Understanding rules
Daily routine
Understanding and giving directions
Describing a festival

Grammar: dürfen and müssen/ reflexive verbs / Imperatives/ adjectival endings

Going out (Wir gehen aus!)

Clothes and style
Making plans to go out
Getting ready to go out
How the date went

Grammar: adjective endings after 'a/an'/ word order with wenn / using werden to form future tense / time-manner-place)

Culture: Film Study - Das Wunder von Bern

Geography

Earth's processes

Structure of the Earth
Pangea and plate tectonics
Volcanoes
Earthquakes
Tsunami
Managing risk.

Resources and Trade

Natural resources and Water
Aral Sea Case Study
Energy
Sustainable use of natural resources
Solar Power and Case Study
International relations
Place study: Middle East human and physical geography, trade, resources and oil.

Coasts

What is a coast
Coastal processes
Erosion, transport and deposition
Erosional features
Depositional features
Managing the coastline – hard and soft engineering.

History

The First World War

The causes of World War One
Trench warfare
The Battle of the Somme
The end of the war in 1918
Two assessed essays

The Inter-war years

The Treaty of Versailles
Democracy and dictatorships
The Depression
The rise of Adolf Hitler
Assessed group work

The Second World War

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

Subject

Autumn term

Spring term

Summer term

ICT & Computing

Website Design Project using HTML, CSS & JavaScript
Animation techniques
Experience AI – an introduction

Adobe Animate CC Animation project
Binary Numbers

Promote Your Product ICT challenge - end of Key Stage project

Mathematics

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

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

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

Music

Ensemble – playing in an orchestra and awareness of tempo
Music for a purpose
Sending a Message – BandAid!

Film Music (elements of music, instruments of the orchestra, diegetic & non-diegetic music)
Introducing the 'classics'

Songwriting
Free composition project to a selection of set briefs

Physical Education

Netball
Hockey
Football
Rugby
Badminton
Basketball

Badminton
Volleyball
Health and fitness
Netball
Hockey
Football
Rugby
Basketball

Athletics - track and field
Rounders
Cricket
Softball
Tennis

Subject

Autumn term

Spring term

Summer term

PSHCE

Dressing appropriately
Body image and healthy living -
nutrition and what makes a healthy
diet?
Gangs and violence
E-safety

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

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

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

Islam 3
Prophets in Islam
Angels in Islam
Holy books and Islam
Eid-ul-Fitr
Eid-ul-Adha
Key word assessment and Ashura

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

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)

Subject

Autumn term

Spring term

Summer term

Science: Biology

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Physics

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

Subject

Spanish

Autumn term

My holidays (Mis vacaciones)

Talking about a past holiday
What activities you did
Describing the last day
Saying what the holiday was like

Grammar: preterite or regular
AR/ER/IR verbs

All about me (Todo sobre mi vida)

Mobile phone usage
Music preferences
TV programmes
What you did yesterday

Grammar: Revise present tense/
comparatives/ using present and
preterite together.

Spring term

Mealtimes (¡A comer!)

Opinions about food
Describing mealtimes
Ordering a meal
Future plans
Giving an account of a party

Grammar: wide range of opinions /
negatives / usted/ustedes/ near future
3 tenses together

Plans for going out (Qué hacemos?)

Arranging to go out
Making excuses
Preparing to go out
Clothes you are going to wear
Talking about sporting events

Grammar: me gustaría + infinitive / querer
and poder/ reflexive verbs/ this and these/
using three tenses

Summer term

Holiday plans (Operación verano)

Holiday homes
Activities you will do
Asking for directions
Summer camps

Grammar: comparative/ superlative /
imperative / 3 tenses

Culture - Film studies – Voces
Innocentes (El Salvador civil war)