



BloxwichAcademy
www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk

Year 8

Curriculum Guide

2016-17

Curriculum Allocation

Pupils are allocated to a tutor group in one of six forms. Each form belongs to one of four houses — Brindley, Stephenson, Telford and Watt. Each form group is set based on ability. Sets are reviewed during the course of each academic year.

The subjects they will study are; English, Maths, Science, Geography, History, Religious Education, Art, Drama, Music, Technology, Physical Education and Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE).

The academy operates a one week timetable of 25 teaching hours, each lesson lasts for 60 minutes.

Set	Hours allocated per subject														
	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1,2 & 3	Maths	English	Science	Technology	Geography	History	PE	Music	Drama	RE	Art	PSHE	Dance	French	

Total
25

Set	Hours allocated per subject													
	5	5	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4, 5 & 6	Maths	English	Science	Technology	Geography	History	PE	Music	Drama	RE	Art	PSHE	Dance	

Total
25

Mathematics

COURSE CONTENT

Place Value, Integers and Calculations
Perimeter, Area and Measure
Sequences and Functions
Collecting Data and Probability
Ratio and Proportion
Equations and Formulae
Calculations and Calculator Methods
Lines, Angles and Shape
Functions and Graphs
Construction
Interpreting Data
Fractions Decimals and Percentages
Transformations

USEFUL WEBSITES

www.mymaths.co.uk

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Mathematics is a core subject. The course aims to develop pupils' understanding in 3 strands - Numbers; Algebra; Geometry & Measure and Statistics.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Pupils are expected to bring their own equipment, including a calculator, to all classes.

EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Extra help is available to all pupils on request. Some pupils may be invited to additional support classes after school.

ASSESSMENT

Pupils will receive regular feedback through marking of exercise books.

Formal assessments will be carried out on a half termly basis. An effort and attainment grade is reported each half term. Maths basic skills tests are carried out every two weeks.

PROVISION FOR MOST ABLE

Most able pupils will also study:

- Volume of Cylinders and Cones
- Trigonometry
- Probability Tree Diagrams



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English

COURSE DESCRIPTION

English is a core subject. Pupils will access a personalised and challenging curriculum that embeds both the English National Curriculum and Assessing Pupil Progress. Pupils are given the opportunity to develop and improve skills taught in Y7. The aim is to deliver exciting and innovative lessons. Pupils cover a range of skills including all four sets of writing triplets prescribed through the curriculum, alongside texts that support and scaffold learning.

EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Spelling Bee
World Book Day
Educational visits
Extra Curricular clubs and events
Book Club
Journalist Project

COURSE CONTENT

Transition unity Y7 into Y8

A review of literature and grammar skills embedded within the study of 20th century fiction. Pupils gain an understanding of Shakespeare and the Elizabethan era through the study of a variety of extracts from play texts. Pupils will explore and analyse the language of Shakespeare, as well developing an understanding of language devices used in non-fiction writing.

Spoken Language Study

Pupils will explore multi-modal texts and the evolution of language, as well as considering and developing their own skills in adapting language to suit a range of audience and purposes.

Literature across the ages: *The Hobbit*

Pupils study prose chosen from the Literary Heritage. Pupils will develop their analytical skills, considering the impact of a variety of structural and grammatical features at word and text level.

Creative Writing

An opportunity to study and learn how to use a range of grammatical structures and vocabulary for impact and effect. Pupils will be constructing their own imaginative and creative texts.

Poetry from other Cultures

Pupils will explore how viewpoint and voice are created in a number of different poems and from a range of other authors. There will be opportunities to learn about other cultures through poetic form, structure and language.

Transactional Writing: Short Stories

A study of a number of short stories, narrative structure and narrative voice. Pupils will explore the author's craft and have the opportunities to create their own stories whilst developing their writing skills.

Drama

Pupils will study a modern play and develop an understanding of characterisation and plot through the study of a script, role play and other drama techniques during lessons.

ASSESSMENT

Each pupil has access to an individual Assessing Pupil Progress level descriptor appropriate for their level in the classroom.

Selected pieces of work are given effort grades and/or levels and pupils are offered diagnostic comments or targets based on their work.

During the year, pupils produce 6 pieces of work and are assessed cumulatively across each unit.

PROVISION FOR MOST ABLE

Throughout the year we aspire to provide extra curricular opportunities for our most able pupils.

This may be through workshop sessions or outside agents.

Within all KS3 Units of Work most able pupils have been identified with lessons differentiated accordingly to ensure maximum attainment.



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Science

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Science is a core subject at KS3. This course aims to give pupils the opportunity to develop and apply knowledge and understanding about the scientific world around them and aid them to develop skills of enquiry, communication and participation. They also explore current scientific events as well as planning, executing and evaluating a number of investigations. The relevance of science at a global, national, local and personal level can inspire pupils to develop enquiring minds and become successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve. The investigative and practical nature of the subject provides opportunities for pupils to explore and learn through various approaches. Science encourages pupils to think creatively and be resourceful through processing information, reasoning, questioning and evaluating, in order to solve a range of scientific problems.

ASSESSMENT

Pupils will receive regular feedback through the marking of exercise books. Formal assessments will also be carried out at the end of topics. An effort and attainment grade is reported each half term in line with whole school policy. End of Year examinations will be carried out in Term 3. Each unit will have mini assessments to cover a series of lessons in order for the pupils to learn as they go along.



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In addition, the science programme of study supports the development of essential:

- literacy skills, through reading and writing, focusing on scientific vocabulary.
- Spoken language skills, using scientific vocabulary and articulating scientific concepts clearly and precisely.
- Numeracy Skills, through obtaining, recording and analysing data.
- ICT skills, through using data and analysis, internet research and appropriate methods for communicating scientific information.
- S.M.C.S developing in the topics where points arise, such as social issues and the ethics of science in the past and present.

PROVISION FOR MOST ABLE

Teachers of most able pupils make provision in lessons to extend and enrich their learning.

COURSE CONTENT

Throughout the 3 terms the pupils will study the following topics on a rotation:-

Term 1

Life Support
Periodic Table
Heating & Cooling
Keeping Healthy

Term 2

Inside Materials
Light
People & the Environment

Term 3

Sound
Shaping Life
What's in Rocks
Forces (Moving Around)

USEFUL WEBSITES

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks3bitesize/science

www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/secondary/science