

Year 7 Curriculum



The Curriculum at Summerhill is constantly evolving.

This document describes the curriculum for Year 7 in 2015-16: the Year 7 curriculum for 2016-17 will be slightly different.

Timetable allocations:

Subject	Number of periods per week	How the groups are organised
Art	1	Mixed-ability tutor groups
Computing	2	Mixed-ability tutor groups
Design Technology	3	Mixed ability groups
English	3	Mixed-ability tutor groups
French*	4	Mixed-ability tutor groups*
Geography	2	Mixed-ability tutor groups
History	1	Mixed-ability tutor groups
Maths	4	Groups organised by ability
PE	2	Mixed ability groups
Religious Studies	1	Mixed-ability tutor groups
Science	4	Mixed-ability tutor groups
Drama	1	Mixed-ability tutor groups
Music	2	Mixed-ability tutor groups

* a small number of students who are struggling with literacy in English take a Literacy Skills course instead of learning French

Enrichment Days:

In addition to the weekly timetabled lessons, there will be 7 Enrichment days during Year 7, covering PSHEE and Citizenship topics:

- Friendships
- Law & Order
- From Page to Stage
- Safety
- Diversity
- Healthy Eating & Self-Image
- Careers

Year 7 Curriculum: Art

Pattern: students experiment with pattern as they develop a decorated name tag

Drawing: students develop their observation and shading skills as they produce a drawing related to their theme eg a portrait

Painting: students produce a watercolour painting developed from their drawing eg a portrait in the Cubist style

Art History: students study the work of a chosen artist related to the theme eg Picasso

Year 7 Curriculum: Computing

Effective publications: creating effective digital content and evaluating existing content by focussing on the key areas of Font, Animation, Spacing, Text, Colours, Layout, Images and Background.

Hardware and Software: the components that make a computer system and the role that they perform; how software is created and stored.

E-Safety in a Digital Age: awareness of the need to be responsible for our actions and be aware of the actions of others via mobile devices and the Internet.

Programming with Flowcharts: a first introduction to programming simple scenarios such as traffic lights, burglar alarms and theme park rides, using flowchart symbols.

Small Basic: the syntax of Small Basic; creating apps using a text based programming language.

Data types: how digital information is stored and organised.

Boolean Logic and Queries: How data is stored in a database and can be retrieved; using Boolean logic to perform a range of queries.

Spreadsheets: creating formulas, manipulating figures and visualising data.

Year 7 Curriculum: Design Technology

General: how the design process has a direct influence on products they use in everyday life; how to use research findings to inform creative designs which will result in useful and innovative products; how feedback and evaluation will lead to further improvement in designs.

Graphic Products: how to use colour to enhance drawings by making them look more 3 dimensional and making them look like different materials; how to draw using isometric and two-point perspective techniques.

Textiles: how fibres are used to make fabrics; how colour can be applied to fabrics to create different effects; how textile patterns are made; different ways of adding embellishment to textiles products; how to use a sewing machine.

Food: food safety and hygiene; healthy diets and the nutritional values of different food groups; how to prepare and cook a variety of foods, which will include: weighing, knife and cleaning skills, as well as the use of all three areas of a cooker: hob, grill and oven.

Resistant Materials: how to use a range of workshop hand tools and machinery; how levers are used in products; how structures can be made to resist loads; how Computer Aided Design and Manufacture, including a Laser Cutter, can be used in modern manufacturing.

Year 7 Curriculum: Drama

Introduction to drama: group work skills; theatre terminology; different conventions and how these can be used in performance.

Devising: devising skills; Theatre in Education; using different drama conventions to tell the story of “Theseus and the Minotaur” for a primary school audience.

Physical Theatre: the performance style of Physical Theatre and using it to retell a story.

From Page to Stage: how scripted plays are brought to life; study two contrasting plays and perform an extract from each one.

Year 7 Curriculum: English

Exploring Modern Texts: Students will read a variety of texts and learn how to analyse themes and characters, using textual references to back up their ideas. They will build on creative writing skills as they recreate texts.

Shakespeare: After reading “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” students will analyse and reflect on sections of the play. They will learn about Shakespeare’s Theatre and write a guide to it.

Media Studies: Having been introduced to the key concepts of Media Studies, students will demonstrate their ability to analyse and create media texts.

Spoken Language Study: Students will study how language is used, collecting data and writing up their findings in a suitable form.

Poetry: Not only will students read poems, they will write poetry using a range of forms and structure and will begin to analyse poems.

Writing: Students will learn how to write in a variety of forms, for different audiences using punctuation and vocabulary with improved accuracy.

Year 7 Curriculum: French

Bonjour: Practice of the key new sounds in the French language to develop pronunciation and develop awareness of the sound and spelling relationship

All about me and my family: how to give key information about self and interests; how to talk and write about family; how to describe people

My interests: how to speak and write about sports and interests; how to give opinions on a range of topics: school subjects, leisure activities, TV programmes.

Culture: some of the geography of France and where else in the world French is spoken; the main tourist sites of Paris; some key characters from popular French culture: the little Prince, Tintin, Asterix and Obelix.

Grammar: how to conjugate verbs in the present tense; how to make sentences in the future tense to express holiday plans

Year 7 Curriculum: Geography

Ordnance Survey Map Skills: Using the local 1:25000 scale map, students will learn how to use grid references, measure distances, give directions and read contours. They will draw cross sections and use photographs alongside maps.

Transport/Water: A study to include developments in transport and water management with their associated problems and planning issues.

Settlement: A study of settlement and site and the problems that occur in large settlements. Students will plan and build a model village.

Local fieldwork: An investigation around the school site on the topics of map-work and/or local climates

Kenya: To help students to understand what life is like in a developing country.

Eco-systems: A study of different eco-systems to examine environmental

Year 7 Curriculum: History

What Is History? An introduction to the concepts of chronology, the use of sources, the importance of research and the need to communicate

The Roman Empire: why the Romans wanted an empire, how they gained it, how they controlled it and finally why they lost it

The British Empire: why the British wanted an empire, the impact the British Empire had on the countries under its control, the impact the British Empire has had on British society today, how and why countries gained their independence and the concept of the Commonwealth.

Year 7 Curriculum: Maths

Number: how to apply the four operations (+, -, ×, ÷); recognise and use relationships between operations; use concepts and vocabulary of prime numbers, factors and multiples

Fractions, Decimals and Percentages: how to interpret fractions and percentages as operators; interchange between fractions, decimals and percentages; carry out the four operations with fractions and decimals

Algebra manipulation: how to use and interpret algebra manipulation, substitute numerical values into formulae and expressions; simplify and manipulate algebra expressions

Properties and Construction: apply the properties of angles at a point, on a straight line, or vertically opposite; understand and use the alternate and corresponding angles on parallel lines

Statistics: interpret and construct tables, charts and diagrams including frequency tables, bar charts, pie charts and pictograms for discrete data; use and interpret scatter graphs; recognise correlation

Year 7 Curriculum: Music

Bridging the Gap: using music from Africa to introduce and reinforce basic concepts of pulse, rhythm and pitch.

The Overture: introducing standard notation and keyboard skills, developing the ability to play different parts using both hands simultaneously. A well-known television theme forms the basis for this work.

Form and Structure: introducing composing skills. Composition of a piece of music in two contrasting sections showing development of rhythmic and melodic ideas as well as drones and ostinato patterns.

Music for Dance: exploring how musical styles change over time. This includes learning and performing a piece of music from Tudor England using recorders

Telling a Story: composition of a piece of music which tells a story without using words but links characters and events by using motifs

Year 7 Curriculum: PE (Boys)

Athletics:

Cricket:

Football:

Outdoor Adventurous Activity:

Rugby:

Swimming:

Year 7 Curriculum: PE (Girls)

Athletics:

Dance:

Netball:

Outdoor Adventurous Activity:

Rounders:

Swimming:

Year 7 Curriculum: Religious Studies

Who am I? Reflection on what makes us unique and how we fit into the wider community.

Believing in God: an investigation into the characteristics of God.

Religion and Poverty: a comparative study of religious teachings on views regarding wealth and poverty.

Religion and the Environment: secular and religious views on the importance of preserving the environment.

Year 7 Curriculum: Science

Cells: their structure and function; how they are adapted to their job and organised in bodies.

Humans as Organisms: human reproduction.

Plants and Ecosystems: plant reproduction; the interaction between all living things and the environment.

Separating mixtures: methods to separate mixtures.

Chemical changes: how substances can be acid or alkali.

The Earth and the atmosphere: the Earth's structure; rock types.

Classifying Materials: states of matter.

Energy and matter: energy transfers; generating electricity.

Forces in motion: speed; forces, moments and elasticity.
