



Woodrush

High School

Year 6 Transition

Student Subject

Booklet

2026-2027



Welcome!

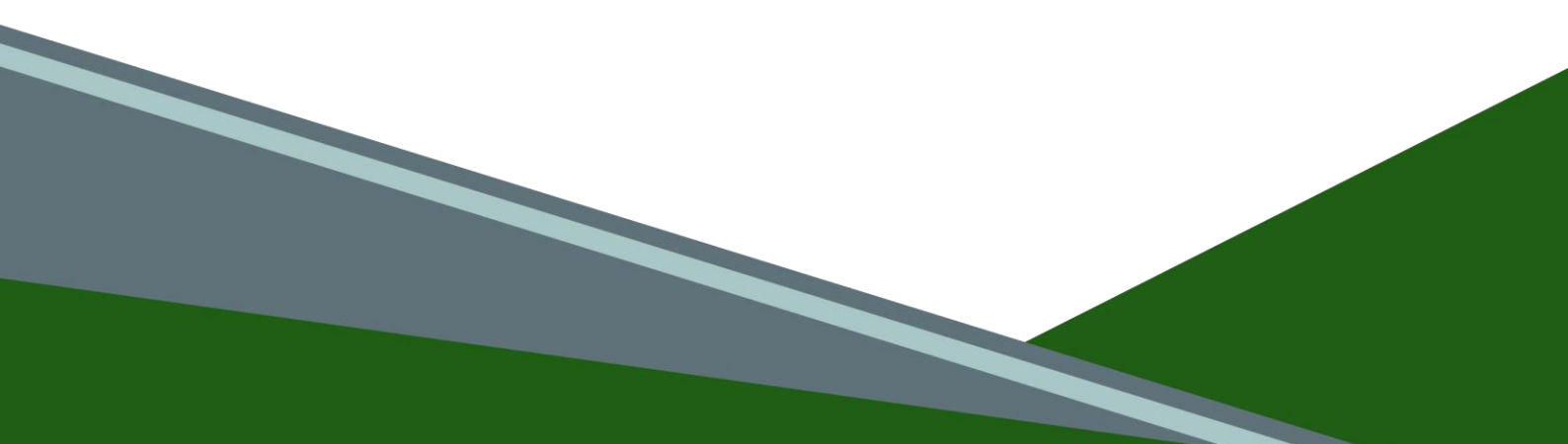
Hello future Woodrush student!

In this booklet you will find information about the subjects you will learn at Woodrush.

For each subject you will find...

- What you will learn about in year 7.
- Who could be teaching you.
- Fun and interesting activities for you to complete over summer.

In September, remember to bring in evidence of activities you have completed to show your form tutor and gain lots of achievement points!



Meet the Headteacher

Mr Barber - Headteacher



- My favourite topic to teach is anything relating to world politics. I am fascinated by how people and countries solve their differences.
- My favourite influential person is David Attenborough. A phenomenal broadcaster and advocate for the environment who, for me, has provided a voice for the natural world in a way no-one else has.
- My favourite quote is:
"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create ripples."
- Mother Teresa
- My likes are swimming, cooking, travel and outdoors.
- My dislikes are when people put others or themselves down.

A message from the Headteacher

Hello new Year 7,

We are delighted that you and your family or carers have chosen Woodrush. We very much look forward to welcoming you to our fantastic school in September.

We know that it is both an exciting but nervous time moving from primary school to secondary school. There are plenty of wonderful staff at Woodrush, including me, to help you all with this change - so you can settle in quickly and happily.

The school may be bigger, but this means that with more staff to help, more subjects to enjoy and, we hope as many - if not more - opportunities for you to get involved with clubs and gain new hobbies.

One of the most exciting aspects of moving to a new school will be the new friends you will make and the incredible staff who will work with you each day. We promise to inspire you, help you to achieve, and reward you for your efforts. There really is a world of opportunities that await each one of you and we cannot wait to share these with you.

Have a fantastic summer, and I look forward to meeting you all very soon.

Mr Barber



Woodrush Bingo

Instructions: Choose **at least 1 task from 3 subject areas** (or as many as you like!) from the bingo card below to complete. Bring your tasks in to show your form tutor and class teachers to get achievement points!

<u>English</u> - Research a famous poet or playwright and what they are famous for. Create a collage based on this. - Write a story where you are the main character. - Read a book from a genre that you wouldn't normally read. Write a review! - Pretend you are a journalist interviewing a famous author, poet or playwright. Write up your interview.	<u>Maths</u> - Research a famous mathematician and what they're famous for (Try Pythagoras or Fibonacci). - Make the biggest hole possible in an A4 sheet of paper – there is a way of being able to walk through it! - You have £5000 to plan your dream holiday – Don't forget travel costs, accommodation, spending money (using exchange rates), clothes etc.
<u>Science</u> - Make and label a model of a plant or animal cell. You can make your model using anything you like – from cardboard to cake! - You have been stranded on a desert island. You will need water to survive. Make a survival guide, describing how you would get drinking water. - Make a model or poster or video about the planets in our solar system. - Research a famous scientist who interests you and write a biography/make a video/make a poster about their achievements.	<u>Creative Arts</u> Find an artist that makes you smile! Try to copy their work and draw yourself in their style. Have a go at animation – download 'Stop Motion Studio' App and create your own 20 second animation that tells us something about you! - Download a music making app and start creating your own music. Ask your friends and family what they like about it, and how it could be improved.
<u>Modern Foreign Languages</u> - Choose a Spanish speaking country in South America to research. Create an information poster or leaflet, including: Population, Climate, Weather, Food, Traditions and Customs. - Create a brochure for a Spanish festival. Research it on the internet and include pictures and reasons why people should take part!	<u>Humanities</u> - Research the 'Domesday' Book to find out what it was used for. Make your own version by interviewing your relatives at home. - Learn how to read a map, with grid references, distance and compass points - Calculate your food miles and carbon footprint online - Create a food web for your local park
<u>Computing</u> - Research 5 famous computer scientists. Write a paragraph for each explaining who they are and what they contributed to the world. - Design your own phone. Draw what it would look like and say why you would want to have that phone.	<u>P.E</u> - Research your sporting idol and create a poster showing why they are such a good role model. - Write a sports article about a recent sporting event that you have watched. - Get active this summer - keep an activity/ exercise journal showing what you have done and enjoyed.
<u>Design and Technology</u> - Take a spoon from your kitchen and try and draw it exactly as you see it. Aim to add reflections, shadow and shading to make it look realistic. - Design your dream home – be as imaginative and creative as you can. - Make a paper aeroplane. Measure how long you can glide the aeroplane and then make adjustments to its design. Do this 3 times and see how far it flies!	<u>PSHE</u> - Create an infographic on celebrating people's differences and embracing diversity in our communities. - Create a campaign on how we can help the most vulnerable in our communities. For example, helping the elderly, homeless people, or poorly children. - Design an app on how to maintain good physical and mental health.



English



What will I learn about in year 7?

English is split into the following units across the three terms:



Autumn: Personal and Local Identity

You will:

- Read and study the novel 'Ghost Boys' by Jewell Parker Rhodes, using this as an inspiration to write, and speak about your own identity and ambitions.
- Learn how to write analytically and discuss the writer's effect on the reader.
- Read poetry from a range of cultures.
- Write poetry with the theme of 'identity'.
- Read modern and 19th century fiction and non-fiction texts related to Birmingham.



Spring: Travel and Places

You will:

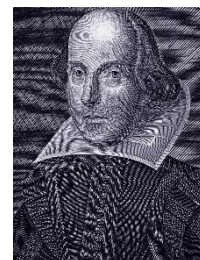
- Read and study the adventure novel 'Treasure Island' by Robert Louis Stevenson.
- Analyse and write non-fiction travel texts.
- Identify and use persuasive language.
- Read and analyse poetry from different places.
- Study a novel from a different context and understand why social context is important.
- Identify and discuss characterisation and themes in a novel.



Summer: Heroes and Villains/An Introduction to Shakespeare

You will:

- Study the play 'The Tempest'
- Write narrative texts inspired by the story. Find out about Shakespeare's life and the Jacobean context of the play.
- Understand what a hero is.
- Read texts about a range of heroes from the modern world.
- Write to argue and persuade using effective structure and a range of persuasive methods.



Meet the English Department

Mr James – English Teacher



- My favourite English topic is Creative Writing.
- My favourite Author is William Shakespeare.
- My favourite quote is:
"No amount of anxiety makes any difference to what is going to happen"
- My likes are Football, Golf and Mr Cook.
- My dislikes are Parsnips, Love Island and Snakes.

Mr Cook – English & Film Studies Teacher



- My favourite English topic is An Inspector Calls.
- My favourite Author is Fyodor Dostoevsky.
- My favourite quote is:
"The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."
- Nelson Mandela
- My likes are travelling to different places, learning new things and Mr James.
- My dislikes are fish.

Miss Roberts – English Teacher



- My favourite topic to teach is Macbeth.
- My favourite author is Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche
- My favourite quote is:
"Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall."
- My likes are reading, yoga and learning where words come from.
- My dislikes are coffee, running and Crocs.

Meet the English Department

Mrs Scotney – English Teacher



- My favourite English topics are spoken Language and Child Language Acquisition.
- My favourite Author is Roald Dahl, for his fantastic children's books, and Marcus Zusak for his novel 'The Book Thief'.
- My favourite quote is:
"You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think."
- Christopher Robin (A.A Milne)
- My likes are going to the theatre, eating out and entertaining my two children.
- My dislikes are getting up in the morning, unkindness and peanut butter.

Ms Blundell – English Teacher



- My favourite topic to teach is creative writing.
- My favourite author is Jane Austen or J.K. Rowling - it's too close to call.
- My favourite quote is:
"Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light." - Albus Dumbledore from Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
- My likes are sports, reading, travelling, watching movies, cooking and being creative.
- My dislikes are scary movies!

Mr Hands – English Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is poetry, especially unseen poems as I love to hear student's ideas!
- My favourite author changes all the time but at the moment I am really enjoying reading some of books and poetry by Akala.
- My favourite quote is:
"Don't judge, just listen."
- My likes are reading, teaching, listening to music, trying new foods, relaxing at home with my 2 cats.
- My dislikes are parsnips.



Meet the English Department

Mrs Roberts-Lawson – English Teacher

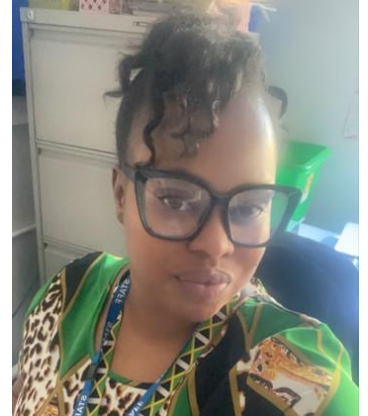
- My favourite topic to teach is 19th century novels- literature on a whole.
- My favourite authors are Shakespeare, Jane Austen and Charlotte Brontë.
- My favourite quote is:
"Work smarter not harder"

- Allen

Morgenstern.

- My likes are good manners and behaviour, mutual respect, fairness, positive atmosphere, an active environment, a free spirit, togetherness, laughter, having fun, to explore, adventure, spending time with my family, going to church, listening to music.

My dislikes are disrespect, negativity, injustice, unfairness and boredom.





The Maths course is made up of 5 main areas:

Algebra, Number, Statistics & Probability, Shape, and Ratio & Proportion.

What topics will I learn in Maths in Year 7?

- Number sense and calculations
- Expressions and equations
- Measures
- 2D shapes
- Perimeter and area
- Coordinates
- Factors, multiples and primes
- Fractions
- Brackets
- Angles
- Handling data and statistical diagrams
- Proportion
- Fractions, decimals and percentages
- Probability

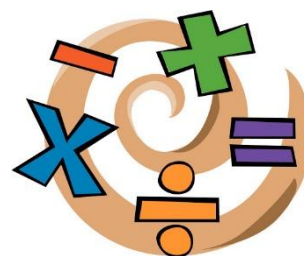
What key skills will I learn in Year 7?

- How to correctly and accurately use a calculator.
- How to use a protractor and a pair of compasses to draw and measure.
- How to think logically and solve problems.
- How to work well in a group and articulate your ideas.



What extra-curricular activities will there be?

- UKMT Junior Maths challenge for Year 7 and 8 students
- Number Day teacher treasure hunt
- STEM club
- Summer garden project



COMPUTING

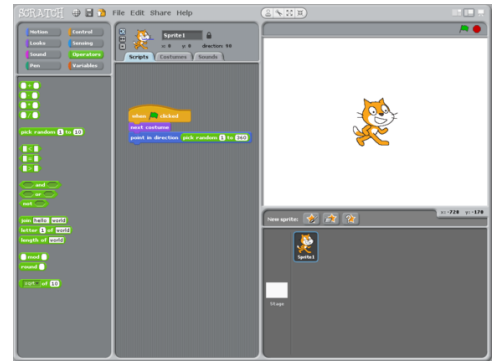
The Computing course is made up of 5 main areas:

- Impacts of Technology
- Modelling Data
- Networks from Semaphores to the Internet
- Programming in Scratch
- Using Media – Gaining Support for a Cause

What will I learn about in year 7?

Impacts of Technology

- Rules of the Computer Labs
- Cyberbullying
- Who are you talking to online



Modelling Data

- Identifying columns, rows, cells and cell reference
- Formatting a spreadsheet
- Using Functions e.g. Max, Min, Sum, Average, Count

Networks from Semaphores to the Internet

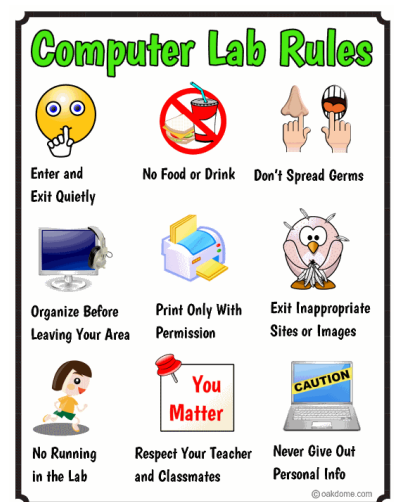
- Understanding Bandwidth and the Internet is used for
- The difference between Internet and World Wide Web

Programming in Scratch

- Creating a detailed Scratch World

Using Media

- Understand licensing of images and the rights behind images
- Create and evaluate digital content credibility



Meet the Maths & Computing Department

Miss Hendley – Head of Maths



- My favourite maths topic is algebra, especially solving equations.
- My favourite mathematician is Euler.
- My favourite quote is:

"If you always do what you always did, you'll always get what you always got"

- Henry Ford

- My likes are baking, reading and going to the cinema.
- My dislikes are heights, pigeons (especially when they flap!) and my alarm clock.

Mr Compton – 2nd in Maths Department

- My favourite maths topic is vectors.
- My favourite mathematician is Alan Turing.
- My favourite quote is:

"Be curious, not judgemental"

- Walt Whitman/ Ted Lasso

- My likes are football and Italian food.
- My dislike is chocolate oranges.



Mrs Carr- Maths Teacher and Assistant Headteacher



- My favourite maths topic is any Algebra - I love quadratics.
- My favourite mathematician is Andrew Wiles, such an amazing mind!
- My favourite quote is:

"The only way to learn mathematics is to do mathematics"

- Paul Halmos

- My likes are climbing, shoes and being outdoors.
- My dislikes are cooking.

Mrs Raziq – 2nd in Maths Department

- My favourite topic to teach is anything to do with maths.
- My favourite mathematician is Pythagoras.
- My favourite quote is:

"If my mind can conceive it, and my heart can believe it, then I can achieve it."

- Muhammad Ali

- My likes are baking, spending quality time with loved ones and shopping.
- My dislikes are spiders, ironing and being stuck in traffic.



Meet the Maths & Computing Department

Mr Pollard – Maths Teacher & Head of Year 8

- My favourite maths topics are surds and indices!
- My favourite mathematician is Albert Einstein.
- My favourite quote is:
"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take"
– Wayne Gretzky
- My likes are inspiring children, Football (Liverpool), solving complex maths problems, watching MCU "stuff" and dancing to Whitney Houston.
- My dislikes are celery, shoelaces and when your feet touch seaweed when you're in the sea!



Mrs Bullivant - Maths Teacher



- My favourite maths topic is solving equations.
- My favourite mathematician is Sophie Germain.
- My favourite quote is:
"If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams"
– Roald Dahl
- My likes are dogs and being outdoors, especially at the beach.
- My dislikes are spiders and sharks!

Miss Sinclair – Maths Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is trigonometry.
- My favourite mathematician is Dorothy Vaughan.
- My favourite quote is:
"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

– Confucius

- My likes are cooking, comedy films, cycling, my dog.
- My dislikes are rock music, biscuits, running and horror films.



Miss Behan – Maths Teacher



- My favourite maths topic is algebra.
- My favourite mathematician is Pythagoras.
- My favourite quote is:

"A day without laughter is a day wasted"

– Charlie Chaplin

- My likes are travelling and socialising with my family and friends.
- My dislikes are spiders and rainy weather!

Meet the Maths & Computing Department

Mrs Dawson – Maths Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is algebra, especially simultaneous equations.
- My favourite mathematician is Alan Turing.
- My favourite quote is:

"What doesn't kill you makes you stronger."

- My likes are reading, knitting, sudokus and other logic problems.
- My dislike is tomato ketchup.

Mr Davis – Maths Teacher



- My favourite topic to teach is algebra.
- My favourite mathematician is Galois (he died in a duel, his Wikipedia is a fun read)
- My favourite quote is:

"Less chatting, more mathsing." – Mr Compton 2024

- My likes are maths, coffee and Aston Villa.
- My dislike is when students say how bad my handwriting is.

Mr Tall – Computing Teacher

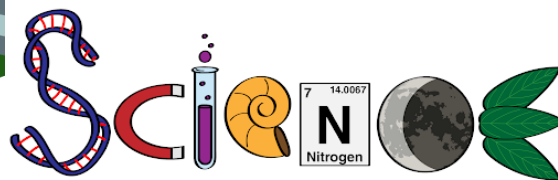
- My favourite topic to teach is Computer Science.
- My favourite computer scientist is Alan Turing.
- My favourite quote is:

"It is possible to commit no mistakes and still lose. That is not a weakness; that is life."

- Captain Jean-Luc Picard

- My likes are reading, Computers & Technology and fishing
- My dislikes are anything chocolate orange.





What will I learn about in year 7?

Science is split into units for the three Science subject areas – Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

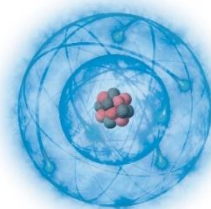
Biology is the study of living things, so you will learn about the basics that make living things be and stay alive.

- How cells make up living things and how to see them with a microscope.
- Your DNA and how that makes you, you.
- How humans reproduce to make new humans.
- How plants use the energy from sunlight to make their own food.



In **Chemistry** we learn about different chemicals, their properties and how we use them.

- Atoms, which are the smallest things everything is made out of.
- What makes something a solid, liquid or gas.
- Why some things can dissolve and how to separate different substances in a mixture.
- What makes something an element, compound or mixture.
- Different properties of metals and why we use them for certain jobs.



In **Physics** we learn about the rules that control the universe.

- Different forces – like friction, gravity and magnetism.
- The different ways that energy is stored and transferred.



What skills will I develop in Science?

- Practical skills – how to work safely with different equipment such as Bunsen burners.
- Maths skills – like drawing tables and graphs and calculating averages.
- Analytical and evaluation skills – looking at information and making decisions from it, figuring out what has been done well and how to improve



What extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities will I have?

- Science club - where you get to do extra experiments you won't get chance to do in lessons.
- Trip to the Big Bang Fair
- Every year during Science week we do special lessons based on the theme of that year.
-

Meet the Science Department

Miss Hollingworth – Head of Science



- My favourite science topic is what causes diseases and how we treat them.
- My favourite scientist is Charles Darwin.
- My favourite quote is:
"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, not the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is the most adaptable to change."
- Charles Darwin.
- My likes are coffee, camping and chocolate (Caramel nibbles to be precise).
- My dislikes are shellfish, spiders and long half terms.

Mrs Armstrong-Gardener– 2nd in Science Department

- My favourite science topic is light or human reproduction.
- My favourite scientist is Rosalind Franklin.
- My favourite quote is:
"You cannot teach a man anything, you can only help him discover it himself"
- Galileo
- My likes are cats, makeup, hot chocolate and obviously Biology.
- My dislikes are apricots, stubbing my toe, tea AND coffee.



Miss Westwood – Science Teacher



- My favourite topic to teach is organ systems.
- My favourite scientist is David Attenborough.
- My favourite quote is:
"Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known"
- Carl Sagan
- My like are dogs, dessert, cheese, F.R.I.E.N.D.S, fantasy football.
- My dislike are spiders, mushrooms and mess/clutter.

Meet the Science Department

Mr Rayner – Science Teacher



- My favourite science topic is combustion.
- My favourite scientist is Martyn Poliakoff. He researches ways to make chemical reactions more environmentally friendly, and he looks like Einstein.
- My favourite quote is:
"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work"
- Thomas Edison (supposedly).
- My likes are Christmas and lots of other things.
- My dislikes are cats.

Mr Spencer – Science Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is chemical reactions.
- My favourite scientist is Dara O'Brian.
- My favourite quote is:
"Hard work beats talent - every single time."
-Kobe Bryant
- My likes are playing sports, going to the gym, karting and watching Formula 1, listening to music.
- My dislikes are roller coasters, mushrooms, thunderstorms.



Mr Deare – Science Teacher and Head of Year 11



- My favourite science topic is genetics.
- My favourite scientist is Amedeo Avogadro. His work which understood the differences between particles was originally dismissed before being proved correct, sadly after he died.
- My favourite quote is:
"Strive not to be a success but to be of value" – Albert Einstein
- My likes are Liverpool FC, football, volleyball, table tennis, squash and badminton.
- My dislikes are Manchester United FC!

Mr Roche – Science Teacher & Assistant Headteacher



- My favourite science topics are astrophysics and cosmology.
- My favourite scientist is Einstein.
- My favourite quote is:
"We are part of this universe, we are in the universe, but perhaps more important than both of those facts, is the fact that the universe is in us"
- Neil deGrasse Tyson
- My likes are tea and biscuits.
- My dislikes are cheese and rich tea biscuits.

Meet the Science Department

Mrs Sheedy – Science Teacher

- My favourite science topic is respiration or space.
- My favourite scientist is Professor Robert Winston.
- My favourite quote is:
"Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people."
- My likes are all things science related, Arsenal football club, Hamilton, days out with my children, sunny days gardening.
- My dislikes are any form of unkindness, such as deliberately leaving another person out of a group activity or the saying "Nobody cares"- No one can speak for everyone so don't say that!



Mrs Rehman – Science Technician

- My favourite science topic is the diagnosis and treatment of disease, particularly how laboratory testing, biochemistry, and medical research help identify illnesses and improve patient care.
- My favourite scientist is Rosalind Franklin.
- My favourite quote is:
"The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing." — Albert Einstein
- My likes include socialising with friends and family, and shopping.
- My dislikes include spiders.

Mrs Clive – Science Technician

- My favourite science topic is space.
- My favourite scientist is Marie Curie
- My favourite quote is:
"Nothing in life is too be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less" - Marie Curie
- My likes are anything that goes "whoosh"!
- My dislikes are bugs, all bugs!

History

What will I learn about in year 7?

In year 7 you will cover a huge range of topics covering nearly 500 years and countless different countries, religions and cultures.

Here are the topics you will look at this year:

1. How much did England change after the Romans left?
2. How did the Normans conquer and control England?
3. How did trade along the Silk Roads connect different parts of the world and change life for people?
4. What was life like in Medieval England?
5. How did the Reformation change religion and people's lives in England?

What skills will I develop in History?

- How to debate and put together an argument.
In history we learn how to use evidence and explanation to make a convincing point rather than just saying something because it sounds right!
- Analysing sources- We look at historical artefacts, interpretations and documents in all of our topics. The skills you will use here are the same ones used by police officers, judges, lawyers and journalists. In fact, there are very few careers where you will not need these skills.



What extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities will I have?

- Black country museum trip- To support with the Industrial Revolution topic we are running a trip to the Black Country Living museum where you will see the machinery, people and landscapes we learn about the classroom in real life!



What will I learn about in year 7?

Throughout year 7 you will learn about a range of different places and environments.

The topics you will study include:

Fantastic places: An introduction to some amazing places around the world to describe key features of these places whilst learning contemporary Geography

My Place: You will explore the human and geography of the UK by developing your map reading skills and then focus on the geography of our local city



Weather and Climate: You will learn about what creates our weather and how we can measure the weather. Within this topic you will have the opportunity to conduct a microclimate practical within the school grounds.

World Cities: You will learn about our world's population, the growth of megacities and how we can manage our cities to become more sustainable.

Ecosystems: You will learn about the various local and global ecosystems including Rainforests, deserts and deciduous forests before embarking on a summer project outdoors!

The Geography of food: You will explore what food miles are, where our food comes, why there are inequalities of food supply around the world and how we can solve this in the future.

What skills will I develop in Geography?

- You will develop your ability to form an opinion and debate with others and understand different viewpoints of geographical issues.
- Map skills – grid references, map symbols, measuring distance, height and compass directions.
- Graph skills – you will develop your graph creation skills and ability to analyse information presented by graphs and maps.



What extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities will I have?

- Trip to Birmingham botanical gardens as part of the ecosystems topic.

Meet the Humanities Department

Mr Reece – Head of Humanities



- My favourite History topic is the Tudors. So much today is influenced by what happened in this period of history.
- My favourite figure from the past is Elizabeth I, she was a very complex person...with black teeth!
- My favourite quote is:
"Suffer now, live the rest of your life like a champion"
- Muhammed Ali.
- My likes are dogs, time with my family, football, gardening and skiing.
- My dislikes are cream, daytime TV programmes and Liverpool FC.

Mr Wright – History Teacher & Associate Deputy Headteacher

- My favourite History topic is WW2 as it was a time of heroism, ingenuity and people supporting one another in the most difficult circumstances.
- My favourite figure from the past is... I don't really have a favourite individual, but I do love stories of ordinary people who do amazing things such as Denis Avey.
- The most inspirational person I have met is Sir David Weir, a man of perseverance and one of the greatest Paralympic athletes.
- My favourite quote is:
"Those who dare to fail miserably can achieve greatly."
- John F Kennedy



- My likes are all things Disney, my favourite character is Pluto! Watching football especially Arsenal. Dogs, I have a Labrador called George. My dislikes are mashed potatoes, bleurgh!

Mr McManus – History Teacher



- My favourite History topic is the Industrial Revolution. You can find evidence of it all around you in Birmingham!
- My favourite historical figure is Christopher Lee. He served in WW2, starred in Lord of the Rings and released a heavy metal album when he was 90!
- My likes are films, gardening and walking in the countryside.
- My dislikes are yappy dogs and rats.

Meet the Humanities Department



Mr Smith – Lead Geography Teacher

- My favourite Geography topic is Natural Hazards- I really enjoy teaching about volcanoes and earthquakes.
- My favourite person is David Attenborough because he is showing us the importance of protecting our planet!
- My likes are most sports, Middlesbrough football club, hiking, watching movies, cooking and holidays.
- My dislikes are snakes and rain.

Mr Cooper – Geography Teacher & 6th Form Careers Tutor

- My favourite Geography topic is 'urban environments' – cities and towns. It's a fascinating topic as urban landscapes are always changing. We're very lucky to be on the edge of one of the UK's fastest changing urban areas, Birmingham.
- My favourite city to visit is New York. I've been lucky enough to visit twice. The skyscraper landscape is amazing and I love the views from Battery Park.
- My likes are time with friends and family, watching and playing tennis, gardening, a cup of tea and visiting all kinds of museums.
- My dislikes are when I can't find enough time to fit in all of my likes.



Mr Monk – Geography Teacher & Deputy Headteacher

- My favourite Geography topic is Glaciation – it's ground-breaking stuff.
- My favourite city to visit is Sydney.
- My favourite influential person is Ian Botham.
- My favourite quote is:
"I would go out tonight, but I haven't got a stitch to wear"
- The Smiths
- My likes are cricket, curry and family time.
- My dislikes are arrogance.



Meet the Humanities Department

Miss Coton – Geography Teacher

- My favourite subject to teach is ecosystems, specifically studying tropical rainforests and hot deserts.
- My favourite geographer and biggest inspiration is Sir David Attenborough! He has worked tirelessly over numerous decades as a broadcaster, writer and naturalist creating innovative educational television programs highlighting the beauty of the natural world and importance of protecting it.
- My favourite quote is:
"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." - Lao Tzu (philosopher)
- My likes are travel and have been lucky enough to have lived and worked in The UAE, Ghana, USA and Thailand! I enjoy keeping active, especially hiking and running in the countryside.
- My dislikes are spiders and snakes.



Mrs Cooke – Geography Teacher

- My favourite topic in Geography is weather and climate. Living in the UK we get to experience lots of different types of weather!
- My favourite quote is:
"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."
- Dr Seuss.
- My likes are baking, being outdoors, family time, my dog and cat.
- My dislikes are spiders, queuing and bad drivers.





What will I learn about in year 7?

Faith and Ethics is taught thematically. This means that you won't learn about each religion separately. Instead you will look at a range of topics and compare religious and non-religious views as you learn.



Beliefs and Practices

- Important people.
- Core beliefs
- Significant events

The Life of Jesus

- Who was Jesus?
- Why was he different?
- Why did people follow him?



Buddhism and the Environment

- The Buddha
- Core beliefs
- Application of beliefs to environmental issues and matters.

What skills will I develop in Faith and Ethics?

- You will learn about religious and non-religious facts and opinions. But more importantly, you will learn how to compare opinions and learn how to explain your own better.

What will I learn about in year 7?

In PSHE we explore three themes; relationships and sex education, health and wellbeing and living in the wider world. Below is a table which outlines what you will be learning about in each lesson.

Relationships and sex education	Health and wellbeing	Living in the wider world
• Friendship and empathy • Bullying and bystanders • Friendship challenges • Coercive friendships • Understanding changing relationships • Healthy and unhealthy relationships • Introduction to consent	• Puberty and emotional changes • Menstrual wellbeing • Testicular health • Taking care of the vulva • Managing change, loss and grief • Making disclosures	• Similarities, differences and peer influence • Roles in the family • Keeping safe • Managing conflict • Managing challenging content

What skills will I develop in PSHE?

- Self-awareness: recognising personal strengths, emotions and values
- Emotional regulation: managing feelings like anxiety, anger and frustration
- Empathy: understanding and respecting the feelings of others
- Building relationships: developing communication and teamwork skills
- Making safe choices: especially around smoking, alcohol and personal safety
- Problem-solving: practising how to make reasoned and informed decisions

What extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities will I have?

You will have the opportunity to join the Wellbeing Forum which meets regularly to discuss and act on how to develop happiness and wellbeing at Woodrush. There is also a weekly lunch time club which focuses on mental health at school. Here you can take part in a number of mindful activities.



Woodrush Wellbeing Club

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY LUNCH TIMES
FOR ALL STUDENTS

IN 115, MISS CHOUDHURY'S ROOM

COME JOIN US FOR SOME MINDFUL ACTIVITIES
AND A SAFE SPACE TO TALK ABOUT ANYTHING
THAT IS WORRYING YOU.



Join the Wellbeing Forum

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU ON BOARD TO HELP STEER
WELLBEING AT WOODRUSH.

ARE YOU CREATIVE?
ARE YOU A GOOD COMMUNICATOR?
ARE YOU A CHAMPION OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH?
ARE YOU AN OUTSTANDING MEMBER OF THE STUDENT BODY?
COME JOIN US.

Meet the Social Sciences Department

Miss Choudhury – Head of Social Sciences

- My favourite topic to teach is investigative techniques in crime.
- One of the people that most inspires me is Malala Yousafzai as she has spent her life fighting for equality and the right for girls all over the world to have an education.
- My likes are going to gigs, listening to music, discovering new vegan food and watching crime dramas.
- My dislikes are animal cruelty and injustices all over the world.



Mr Moss – Head of Social Sciences



- My favourite topic is media influences on behaviour; I am fascinated by how easily people are absorbed and manipulated by the social world around them.
- My favourite quote is

"If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito."

- Dalai Lama.

- My likes are football (watching or playing), spending time with family and friends, watching movies and biking.
- My dislikes are reality TV shows and mushrooms.

Mrs Struczynski - History & Health and Social Care Teacher

- My favourite history topic is anything 20th Century, but I particularly enjoy social history.
- I don't have one favourite historical figure but I love to research the lives of ordinary people, their experiences and what we can learn from them.
- My favourite quote is:

'Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try'

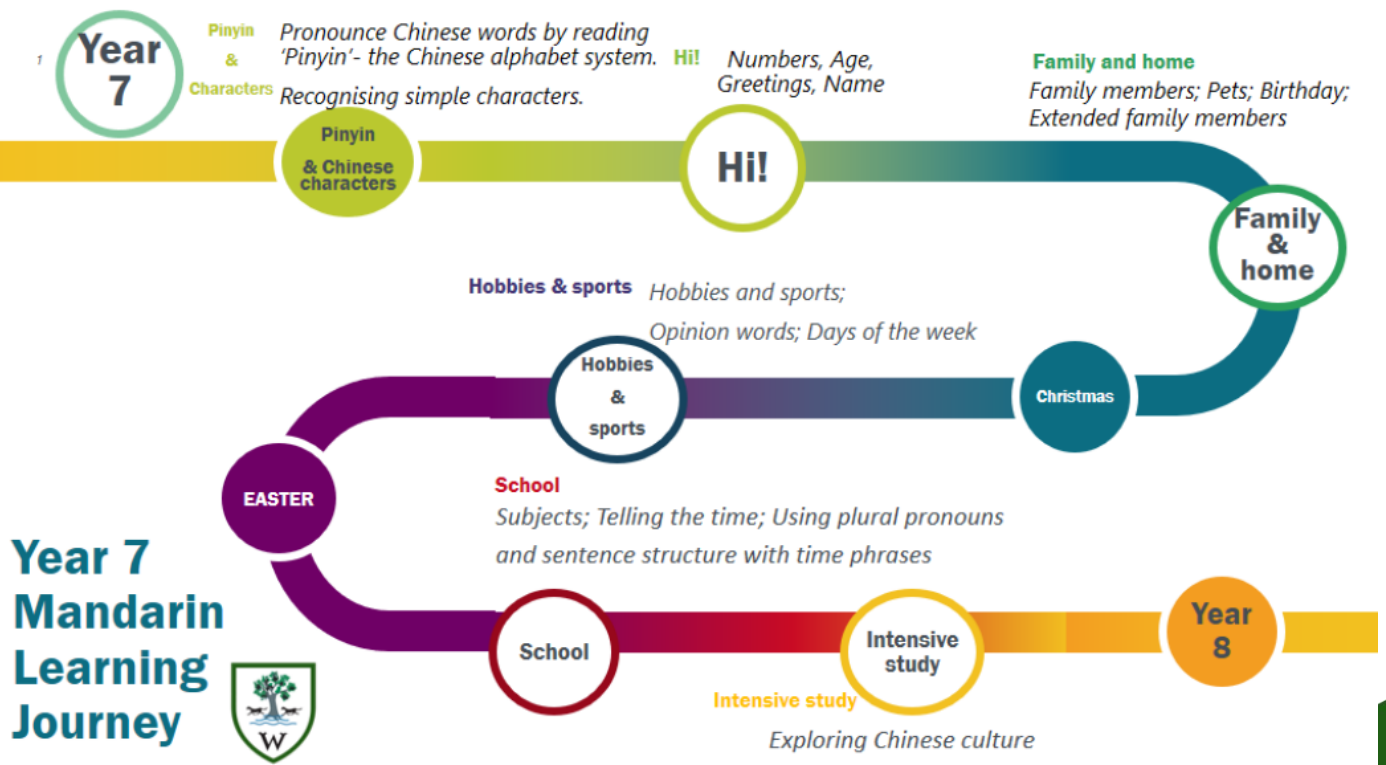
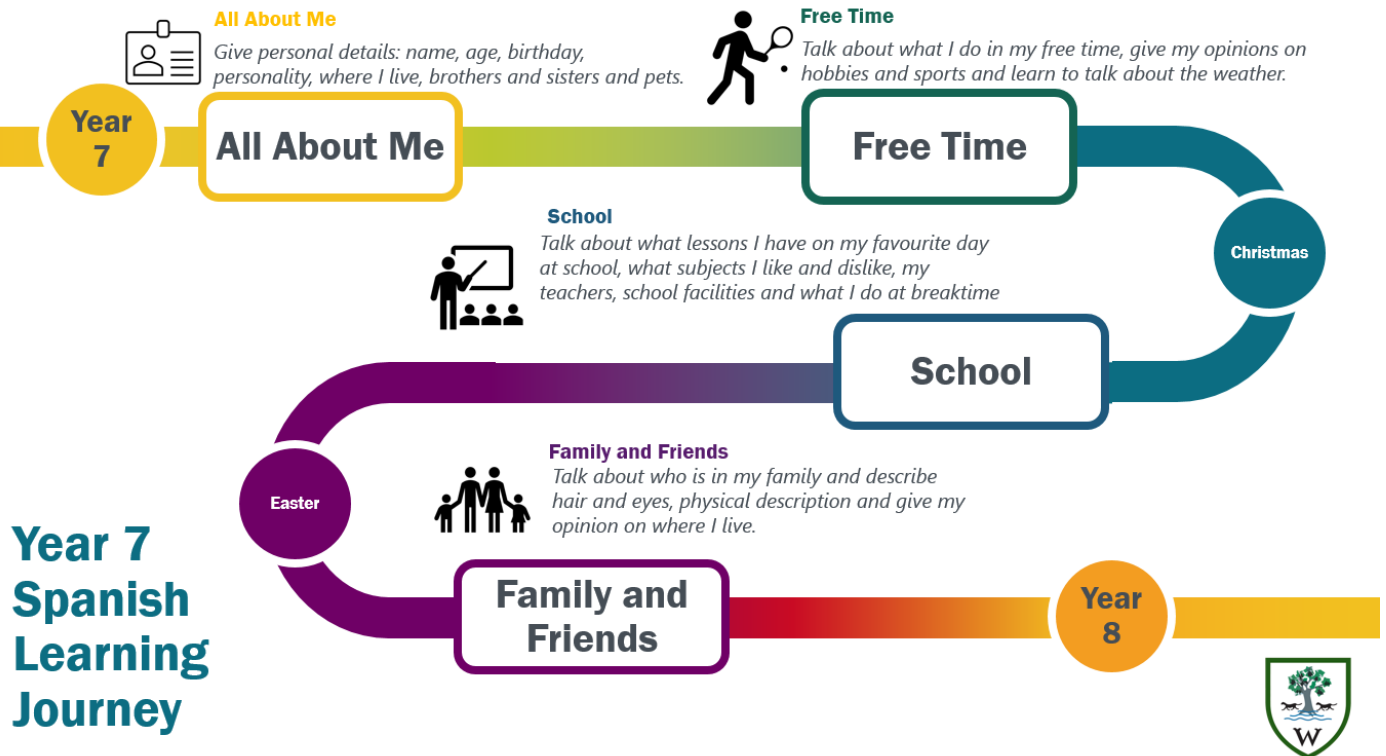
-JFK

- In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, baking, drinking coffee and taking part in quizzes.
- My dislikes are slugs and tea.





At Woodrush most students will study Spanish in year 7 – although one group of students will get to learn Mandarin!



Meet the MFL Department

Mrs Monk – Head of MFL



- My favourite topic to teach is food and drink.
- I wish I knew how to speak Italian and Welsh.
- My favourite quote is:

"You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think."

- A. A. Milne

- My likes are the beach, taking photos and my family.
- My dislikes are slugs!

Mrs Lloyd – Head of MFL

- My favourite topic to teach is holidays.
- I wish I knew how to speak Italian.
- My favourite quote is:

"Laughter is timeless, imagination has no age, and dreams are forever."

- Walt Disney

- My likes are Spanish food, my cat and travelling.
- My dislikes are spiders!



Mrs Stafford – Spanish Teacher & SENCo



- My favourite topic to teach is grammar and I enjoy teaching through games.
- I wish I knew how to speak Welsh – just to understand their phonics!
- My favourite quote is:

"If you live to be a 100, I want to live to be 100 minus one day so I never have to live without you."

- A. A. Milne

- My like is chocolate.
- My dislike is being cold.

Meet the MFL Department

Miss Osborne – Spanish Teacher & Transition Coordinator

- My favourite topic to teach is food or body parts.
- I wish I could speak Italian or Russian.
- My favourite quote is:

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

- Confucius

- My likes are going out to eat with friends, running and city breaks.
- My dislikes are cold weather and watching films (especially really long ones).



Mrs Chen – Mandarin Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is Chinese culture.
- My favourite quote is:

"Have a good start in the year means spring is important; Have a good start in the day means morning is important."

"一年之计在于春，一日之计在于晨"

- My likes are playing board games and cooking.
- My dislikes are heavy metal music and Super Mario.





What will I learn in Year7?

Design and Technology (DT) is split into 4 different specialist areas which you will study in year 7: Product Design, Graphic Design, Food and Nutrition and Textiles.

Product Design is the study of how products are designed and made.

Within this area of DT you will:

- Learn how to create designs from scratch.
- Discover how to use tools and machinery in the workshop.
- Learn how to identify different properties of materials.
- Use the computers to create digital designs.



Graphic Design is the study of visual elements and using lettering and imagery to communicate information and ideas.

In Graphic Design you will:

- Learn fundamental drawing skills.
- Learn how to create 3D Designs.
- Be creative.
- Learn how to use Digital Design software to create original ideas.



Food and Nutrition is the study of Food. In food and nutrition you will:

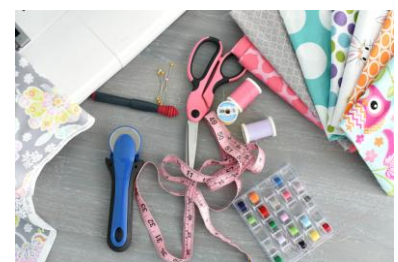
- Learn how to cook and prepare food safely.
- Create a range of different recipes.
- Learn a range of cooking techniques.
- Discover new specialist food equipment.



Textiles is the study of fashion design and textile products.

In Textiles you will:

- Work to a brief to create unique and original designs.
- Learn a range of textile techniques.
- Learn how to make a textiles product.
- Learn about Fashion and Textile Designers.



What skills will I develop in year 7?

You will learn how to work safely and independently in a range of different specialist rooms such as the Food Technology room and the woodwork room. You will gain useful knowledge and fundamental skills that will allow you to create an exciting range of practical outcomes.

What extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities will I have?

In DT we run a gardening club and we are currently setting up a jewellery club where you get to make items such as metal rings and pendants.

Meet the Business, Design & Technology Department

Mr Borg – Head of Business, Design & Technology



- My favourite topic to teach is Digital Design. Especially Inkscape because it allows students to be really creative.
- My favourite graphic designer is Saul Bass.
- My favourite quote is:
"A wise man once said nothing at all."
- My likes are music, travel and design.
- My dislikes are cold weather.

Mr Sahota – Business Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is Data Representations.
- My favourite computer scientist is Alan Turing.
- My favourite quote is:

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in day out"
- Robert Collier

- My likes are keeping fit, I enjoy playing football and rugby and most sports and enjoy reading and listening to music.
- My dislikes are cabbage and rice.



Mr Hughes – Business Teacher



- My favourite topic to teach is marketing mix.
- My favourite computer scientist is Alan Turing.
- My favourite quote is:

"If you do things well, do them better."

- Anita Rodrick

- My likes are sport, various martial arts and music.
- My dislikes are rain and cold days.

Meet the Business, Design & Technology Department

Mr Griffiths – Product Design Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is Structures and Material Technology.
- My favourite designer is Jonathan Ive KBE – A British industrial, product and architectural designer who worked for Apple and helped design the iPods, iPhones and Apple computers.
- My favourite quote is:

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world"

- Mahatma Gandhi

- My likes are taking my children to the park and teaching them about engineering. Being creative! Trying new things and learning about new technologies, reading, riding my mountain bike.
- My dislikes are making mistakes and not being able to do something right the first time – but I will, try, try and try again until I get it.



Mrs Crawley – Food Technology Teacher



- My favourite topic to teach is bread making.
- My favourite celebrity chef is Hugh Fearnley Whittingstall.
- My favourite quote is:
"There is no such thing as failure, just different degrees of success."

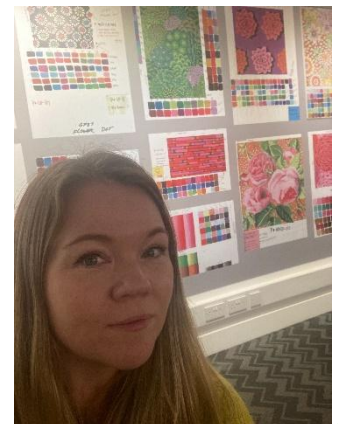
- My likes are baking, gardening and reading.
- My dislikes are rudeness, impatience and prawns.

Mrs McGee – D.T. Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is art textiles.
- My favourite designer is Alexander McQueen.
- My favourite quote is:

"In order to be irreplaceable one must always be different." - Coco Chanel

- My likes are the beach, pattern, colours and yoga.
- My dislikes are sprouts and unorganised mess.



Meet the Business, Design & Technology Department

Ms Bird – DT Technician



- My favourite thing about Woodrush is the friendly environment, green spaces and lots of fun things to do in DT.
- My likes are being out in nature, exercise classes, gardening, painting, drawing and family time.
- My dislikes are strong squash and milky tea.

Miss Randle – DT Technician

- My favourite topic is anything fun and practical.
- My favourite quote is:
 "Seize the day!"
 - Poet Horace
- My likes are walking my dog, listening to music and shopping.
- My dislikes are spiders!





What will I learn about in year 7?

You will learn the foundation skills of what makes a successful artist by studying the visual elements through:

- Edibles
- Illustration
- Minibeasts



Whilst studying these themes you will learn about:

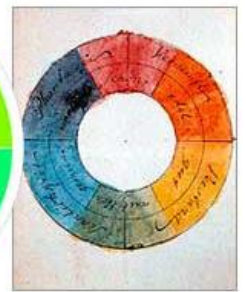
- Observational Drawing Skills
- Colour Theory
- Some key influential artists
- A HUGE range of materials
- Photography
- Printmaking
- Expressing our emotions
- Communicating through image
- Critically evaluating our work for improvement
- Celebrating our successes



1776
Harris



TODAY



1810
Goethe

What skills will I develop in Art?

- Expressing our emotions
- Developing our own ideas
- Experimenting with a range of materials, techniques and processes
- Recording observations through sketches, photography and annotation.
- Communicating through image
- Critically evaluating our work for improvement
- Celebrating our successes



What extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities will I have?

- Year 7 Art Club – creating a range of artworks that we couldn't explore in class – looking at Group work, Large scale, installations, and generally having lots of fun!
- Whole School Musical – this takes place every 2 years and is due to start in 2022 and Art club will help to produce the set and props for this.
- We also offer National Competition opportunities throughout the year for students to get involved with.



What will I learn about in year 7?

You will learn how to play lots of different instruments, including:

- Ukuleles
- Djembe Drums
- Samba Percussion
- Keyboards



Whilst using these instruments you will learn about:

- The Musical Periods
- The elements of music
- The orchestra
- Music from other cultures
- Reading and writing notes



What skills will I develop in Music?

- Performance skills – you will learn pieces of music and play them back to your teacher.
- Composing skills – you will learn how to create your own music and compose to a theme.
- Listening skills – you will learn how to listen to different pieces of music and how to write about them using the musical elements.

What extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities will I have?

- Severn Arts Instrument Project – you will be given the chance to learn a brand new classical instrument, practise as an ensemble and take it home to practise.
- Woodrush Voices – Our school choir, performs in the school concerts and concerts in the community too.
- Year 7 Pop Band – creating music in a group on your instruments.
- Whole School Musical – this takes place every 2 years and is due to start in 2022.
- Learning a musical instrument – You have the option to learn a musical instrument in school with a visiting instrument teacher at an additional cost. See the school website or email scoughlin@woodrush.org or jonacko@woodrush.org for more information.

Meet the Creative Arts Department

Mrs Coughlin – Head of CArts

- My favourite topic to teach is Film Music, I love John Williams' film scores, they are epic!
- My favourite musician is...It changes all the time, but I often enjoy listening to older music and I love the music of Sam Cooke.
- My favourite quote is:
"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything"
- Plato
- My likes are the seaside, running, listening to music and singing my heart out
- My dislikes are anchovies and people pushing in a queue.



Mrs Martin – Head of CArts

- My favourite topic to teach is Art but in particular Ceramics, which is clay!
- My favourite Artist is Grayson Perry! I love how he uses the world around him to inspire his work!
- My favourite quote is:
"Art is not what you see, but what you make others see!"
-Degas
- My likes are....fun! I love to have fun! Yoga, Sunshine and Food - in all its forms!
- My dislikes are.... When people stop themselves from experiencing something before they have even tried it! And mopping the floor!



Mrs Lee – Art Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is ART!
- My favourite Artist is Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama because of her beautiful, awe inspiring sculpture installations.
- My favourite quote is:
"Everyone discusses my art and pretends to understand, as if it were necessary to understand, when it is simply necessary to love."
- Claude Monet
- My likes are family, friends, my dog Archie, music, sunshine and mushrooms!
- My dislikes are rude people, lack of respect and celery.



Meet the Creative Arts Department

Mrs Bridgen – Art Teacher

- My favourite topic is history of dance.
- My favourite quote is:

"failing to prepare is preparing to fail"

- Benjamin Franklin

- My likes are health and fitness, kindness, listening to music.
- My dislikes are laziness and people who are unkind.



Mrs O'Mahoney - Art Teacher

- My favourite topic to teach is ... ART!
- My favourite Artist is typography artist Kate Moross, because I like her sense of fun and use of colour, fonts and pattern.
- My favourite quote is:

"Creativity Takes Courage"

- Henri Matisse

- My likes are cake, cake & CAKE!
- My dislikes are people who are mean and tell lies!



Ms Onacko – Music Teacher & Head of Year 7

- My favourite topic to teach is Romantic Music (this doesn't mean it's all to do with love!) - There are so many interesting, beautiful and strange stories associated with this genre of music.
- My favourite musician is Sergei Rachmaninov (pianist and composer) and Robert Smith (guitarist and singer).
- My favourite quote is:
"Music is enough for a lifetime, but a lifetime is not enough for Music"

- Sergei Rachmaninov

- My likes are Music (obviously), hot sauce and dogs.
- My dislikes are jelly, because the texture is horrible!





What will I learn about in year 7?

In Physical Education there is a sport or activity for everyone. The PE curriculum will provide you with numerous **opportunities** to **participate** and **perform** to your best in.

You will develop and use a range of **tactics** and **strategies** to overcome opponents in direct competition through team and individual games: **badminton, basketball, cricket, football, netball, rounders/softball and rugby**.

You will develop your **technique** and improve your **performance** in other competitive sports: **athletics** and **gymnastics**.

You will perform **dances** using advanced dance techniques within a range of dance **styles** and **forms**.

You will have the opportunity to take part in **outdoor** and **adventurous activities** which present intellectual and physical challenges and be encouraged to work in a **team**, building on **trust** and developing skills to **solve problems**, either individually or as a group

In PE lessons you will analyse your **performances** compared to previous ones and demonstrate improvement to achieve your personal best.

What extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities will I have?

- There are termly inter-house sports competitions for you to be involved. The PE department also run a variety of teams and clubs.
- The school regularly competes in the Redditch Schools Partnership sports competitions and festivals.
- Students will have the opportunity to be selected to represent the School, District, and County in a variety of sports.



It has been fantastic to see current and past students compete for their Houses, School, District, County with some going on to represent their country in international competitions such as the Olympics.



Meet the P.E Department



Mr Maidment– Head of P.E.

- My favourite sports to teach are Badminton and Football.
- My favourite sportsperson is Daley Thompson.
- My favourite quote is:

"Everything in moderation"

- My likes are adventures and travel.
- My dislikes are sprouts.

Fitness Challenges Scores:

1. Agility (10x5m shuttle run):	16.45
2. Coordination score (alternative hand throw and catch):	30
3. Flexibility score (sit and reach):	3pts
4. Muscular endurance (30 second press-ups):	30
5. Muscular Power (standing long jump):	2.06m
6. Speed (speed bounce):	90

Mr Holtom – P.E. Teacher

- My favourite sport is football.
- My favourite sportsperson is Michael Jordan .
- In my free time I play football, golf, racketball, padel tennis.



Miss Capaldi – P.E. Teacher & Head of Year 10



- My favourite sport to teach is Netball.
- My favourite sportspeople are Dina Asher Smith and Jonny Wilkinson.
- My favourite quote is:
"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take"
- My likes are hockey, chocolate cake and holidays
My dislikes are moths

Fitness Challenges Scores:

Agility (10x5m shuttle run):	245
Coordination score (alternative hand throw and catch):	20
Flexibility score (sit and reach):	10
Muscular endurance (30 second press-ups):	12
Muscular Power (standing long jump):	1m.98
Speed (speed bounce):	60

Meet the P.E Department

Mrs Holtom-Brown– P.E. Teacher and Deputy Headteacher

- My favourite sport to teach is Netball.
- My favourite sportsperson is Jessica Ennis-Hill.
- My favourite quote is:
"Everything happens for a reason"

- My likes are chocolate!
- My dislikes are cockroaches!



Fitness Challenges Scores:

1. Agility (10x5m shuttle run):	15.45
2. Coordination score (alternative hand throw and catch):	28
3. Flexibility score (sit and reach):	10pts
4. Muscular endurance (30 second press-ups):	20
5. Muscular Power (standing long jump):	1.55m
6. Speed (speed bounce):	60

Mr Taylor – P.E. Teacher & Director of Pastoral



- My favourite sports to teach are Cricket and Rugby.
- My favourite sportspeople are Andrew Flintoff and Maro Atoge.
- In my free time I play Cricket and Rugby.
- My favourite quote is:
"Nothing matters very much, and few things matter at all"

- My likes are off piste skiing and seafood.
- My dislikes are untidiness/mess

Fitness Challenges Scores:

Agility (10x5m shuttle run):	235
Coordination score (alternative hand throw and catch):	28
Flexibility score (sit and reach):	3
Muscular endurance (30 second press-ups):	30
Muscular Power (standing long jump):	1.96m
Speed (speed bounce):	62

Mr Bowen – P.E. Teacher & Head of Year 9

- My favourite sports to teach are rugby or badminton.
- My favourite sportsperson is Lewis Hamilton.
- My favourite quote is:
"Failure is the first step in the path to success."
- My likes are the outdoors, exercise, socialising, spending time with family, dogs.
- My dislikes are chaos, last minute changes, people not reaching their potential/performing to their best.

Fitness Challenge Scores

Agility (10x5m shuttle run):	325
Coordination score (alternative hand throw and catch):	30
Flexibility score (sit and reach):	15cm
Muscular endurance (30 second press-ups):	25
Muscular Power (standing long jump):	2.8m
Speed (speed bounce):	22

