



Sandbach High School

and Sixth Form College

Our Academy, Our Future

REPORT INFORMATION 2014 YEAR 7

COURSE CONTENT

ART

During the course of this year your daughter will be introduced to a foundation course in art. The aim is to provide her with an armoury of skills and techniques that she can build on and transfer throughout key stage three and four.

Unit 1

This unit is broken into two parts and is firstly aimed at developing key skills through a variety of task-based activities, exercises and contextual research. This unit will challenge and increase your daughter's observation and drawing skills by recording a variety of visual stimulus with both accuracy and expression. To support them with the development of this piece they will look to such artists as Jasper Johns, Ben Nicholson and Peter Blake.

Unit 2

Your daughter will be given the opportunity to interpret and make a visual connection with all the visual elements and associated key words for example, pattern, repeat, line, shape and colour. You daughter will be given the creative opportunity to utilise their new knowledge, skills and understanding into a more 3 dimensional or constructional piece of work.

DANCE

Every year 7 pupil has one lesson of Dance during the two week timetable. During these sessions our aim is to develop pupil's creativity, technical Dance ability and their understanding of the subject. Throughout the year the pupils take part in workshops based on a variety of different themes. We have introduced pupils to key Dance vocabulary, how to create meaningful motifs in response to a variety of stimulus and watched professional Dance works.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

The work in this subject involves a variety of Design and Making tasks where pupils are introduced to a range of skills, materials, equipment and ICT. The modules include Textiles, Food, Product Design, Engineering and Graphic Design. The report is based on the last completed module.

DRAMA

In Year 7 students develop a range of basic skills from which to draw across KS3, such as physical theatre, simple scripted work, character creation and storytelling. After a baseline assessment in September, physical and vocal characterisation skills are developed and students are assessed in making, performing and responding to drama, the latter of which is generally in written format. Practical work undertaken includes projects based around a haunted house, bullying, and Greek theatre. Students are encouraged to work cooperatively with their peers and through this we aim to increase the confidence of those students who are a little shy and develop the performance and leadership skills of those who are more confident. Students are taught specific drama skills, including those of a technical nature, and are encouraged to be creative, reflective and considerate. Students identified as talented in Drama will have opportunities to develop new skills and participate in more challenging activities.

ENGLISH

Since September the course has included a transition unit that covers biographical writing, a genre study where students investigated the conventions of fairy tales and a fiction study, looking at a specific novel. Following this, students have explored the media through newspapers and advertising and now pupils are moving onto modern poetry and analysing staging and drama texts in a unit focused on a modern play script. The final unit of work will be focused on language across time, by using Chaucer's 'The Canterbury Tales' as a springboard for students to learn about the origins of their language and how women have been presented by different authors throughout history. Both reading and writing skills have been developed significantly throughout these units of work and formally assessed in controlled assessments.

FRENCH

This pupil has completed her first year of French, which is her National Curriculum language. The course has involved the use of the language in the following contexts; free time, daily routine, plans for the weekend, personal identification, family and telling the time.

GEOGRAPHY

The course this year has covered the following topics: A Geography Transition Unit, Ordnance Survey Map-work skills, Settlement, Coasts and The Changing Diversity of the British Isles. There are Levelled assessments completed every half term on the above topics and a summer examination is based on the work covered throughout Year 7.

HISTORY

The course this year has been concerned with the following topics: Initially a unit is undertaken on local History, followed by The Roman Empire; The Medieval Realms: Britain 1066 to 1500. Skills which have been assessed include: knowledge and understanding of history; an awareness of the different ways in which the past has been interpreted and how accounts of the past differ for many reasons; the ability to handle historical sources and form judgements about their reliability and value.

ICT

ICT/Computing

The government changes to the curriculum mean that the pupils will now be studying Computing alongside ICT. All pupils study Computing for one period per week. Throughout the year a number of new and exciting units will be taught to the pupils. The year involves a mixture of computing, traditional ICT and Creative Media. The units:

- Hardware/Software and presentation design - This unit includes: an introduction to hardware looking at input, output and storage devices; application software and design skills for developing presentations.
- Programming (using Scratch) – This unit looks at the basic principles of programming and the pupils develop a racing game using selection, sequence and iteration.
- Spreadsheets – This unit teaches the pupils basic formatting, formulas and functions using spreadsheet software.
- Control – The pupils are introduced to control systems and learn how to use Flowall to develop real life systems for zebra crossings and traffic lights.
- Introduction to Binary – The pupils are shown how computers store and process using binary code. They look at basic binary to number conversions and 2 bit image (black and white) storage.
- Boolean logic (using Databases) – The computing principles of AND/OR/NOT are taught to the pupils. This enables them to filter and sort a database using basic queries.
- ESafety and Video Editing – With the internet and mobile technologies expanding, pupils are taught how to keep their personal details and themselves safe using technology. They also look at Cyber Bullying. During this units video editing will also be taught and the pupils will produce a video sequence from scratch.

MATHEMATICS

Since September the following topics have been covered: Sequences, functions and mappings, estimating and column methods, fractions, decimals, percentages, perimeter, area, averages, probability, expressions and equations, angle calculations, rounding, BODMAS, ratio, constructions, transformations, data collection and interpretation, pie charts, negative numbers.

MUSIC

During Year 7, pupils are introduced to key musical concepts such as rhythm, pulse and melodic notation. Lessons are as practical as possible, with all pupils learning to perform on a glockenspiel, as well as singing. Topics covered this year include writing a melody and African Music.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

During the year the pupils have been faced with a number of new situations and challenges in Physical Education. The course has included gymnastics, games, athletics, swimming and health education.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In Year 7 pupils explore a number of the world religions, namely Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Hinduism. We also explore Humanism, comparing the non-religious world-view to the religious world-view. Pupils will learn about the founders and leaders of the religions, key sources of guidance, places of worship, important life rituals and popular festivals. Pupils are encouraged to compare the different religions and consider how different beliefs might impact on the daily lives of people.

SCIENCE

Since September your daughter has been taught the following topics: cells, reproduction, variation, classification, habitats, food chains and webs, particles, acids and alkalis, forces, energy and Space. How science works skills are reinforced in all topics. Her current attainment level is an average of a variety of assessments taken during the year and her end of year exam.

SPANISH

This pupil has completed her first year of Spanish, which is her National Curriculum language. The course has involved the use of the language in the following contexts: free time, daily routine, plans for the weekend, personal identification, family and telling the time.