



St Bede's

Catholic School  
& Sixth Form College  
Lanchester

# WELCOME TO ST. BEDE'S



## YEAR 7 CURRICULUM BOOKLET

2018/2019

# WELCOME

Here at St. Bede's Catholic School and Sixth Form College we aim to provide the very best for all of our students. Last year our stunning GCSE and A' Level results were testament to the hard work and dedication of the staff and students at the school. With a pass rate of 72% of students gaining English and maths combined at GCSE and many of our Sixth Formers going on to the very best universities, we are rightfully proud of our excellent achievements.

Moving from primary to secondary school is an important step in the lives of children and their families. At St. Bede's we have a thorough programme in place to ensure the transition process for all students runs smoothly.

We want students who choose St. Bede's to get used to the organisation and routines of their new school with ease. The transition programme therefore provides activities for students to develop new friendships, become more familiar with the school's layout and feel more confident about starting Year 7.

We aim to enrich students' learning experiences in secondary school by equipping them with the practical skills and knowledge to make sure they are confident to access all of the positive opportunities and challenges that they will encounter post-transition.

## Important Dates:

Admission deadline: Wednesday 31st October 2018  
*Apply online at [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)*

Local Authority makes offers of place to parents: Friday 1st March 2019

Transition outreach visit (to feeder primary schools only): March 2019

English and Maths outreach visits (to feeder primary schools only): June 2019

Non-feeder Transition Taster with maths and English: June 2019

New Intake Days and Parents Evenings: Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th July 2019

## Year 7 Curriculum

At St. Bede's we recognise each child's individual needs, and as such will tailor the curriculum accordingly so that all students can make progress throughout their time with us.

Our curriculum is constantly being reviewed to ensure we provide the best for each student, therefore this document should be viewed as an example as to what the curriculum may look like; developments take place regularly.



# RE

## What Is RE?

Religious Education is a really exciting subject because it gives you the opportunity to think about yourself, focussing on the beliefs and morals that you have and where they come from. In RE, you get to discover lots about Christianity, the history, beliefs, teachings, people, worship and lots more. You are given opportunities to compare Christianity with other religions and think about the influence of religion on societies and individuals. RE is great because you get the chance to really think and to ask (as well as answer!) some really big questions like 'Why am I here?' and 'What is the meaning and purpose of life?'

## What Will I Study In RE?

The topics that are studied in Year 7 include community, the birth of Jesus and the Bible. You will go on to look at Membership and Stewardship where you will think about your role looking after the planet for God.

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have two lessons of RE each week.

# ART & DESIGN

## What Is Art & Design?

Art and Design will help you to develop your imagination and creativity. During the year you will work in 2D and 3D, using a range of materials and techniques. This could include: drawing, painting, printing, collage, textiles, cardboard relief, sculpture, ceramics, papier mâché and found materials.

## What Will I Study In Art & Design?

You will study three different topics during Year 7, one per term.

### Autumn Term:

Identity - you will develop drawing and painting skills, appreciating work of other times and cultures.

### Spring Term:

Timeline - Identity and natural forms - developing 2D and 3D skills

### Summer Term:

Natural Forms - you will develop your landscape skills by using different techniques and media.

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have one Art lesson per week.

# DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

## What Is Design & Technology?

Design and Technology is all about developing your problem solving skills. You will be designing and making things, from scratch and looking at solutions to problems. For example:

“How can I make a caterpillar toy wiggle?”

“How can I make a pop-up card, pop-up?”

You will sometimes work as part of a team to solve these problems or you might be working on your own, however your teacher will be on hand to offer you help and advice.

Design and Technology is a really fun subject because you will be doing so many different things.

## What Will I Study In Design & Technology?

You will start off by developing your practical and design skills. You will be working with different teachers throughout the year making/doing different projects. Some of the projects are:

Food – nutrition and me

Product Design – clocks

Textiles – pocket tidies

You might make more than one thing whilst you are with a particular teacher. For example: in food you will make four or five different dishes over the course of twelve weeks.

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have one lesson of Design and Technology each week.

# ENGLISH

## What Is English?

English is one of the most important subjects you will take at school because the ability to read and write to a high standard will help you across all of your other subjects. As we build on the Literacy lessons from your primary school, your lessons here will still include all of the things that you've enjoyed in the past as we study novels, drama, poetry and a whole host of non-fiction texts; experiment with different styles of writing; and enjoy different speaking and listening activities.

## What Will I Study In English?

In Year 7 you will study biographies and other texts that focus on childhood experiences, you will explore a range of media and non-fiction texts and poetry and you will enjoy looking at some of Shakespeare's brilliant plays. You will also be given the chance to develop your love for reading in all things English!

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You'll have four lessons of English per week.

*Some students will receive extra Literacy lessons each week.*



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The teachers want only the best for you, and that is what they give.

”

# GEOGRAPHY

## What Is Geography?

Geography is about understanding our world. It is looking at the interaction between the physical and human environment. 21st century geography sometimes means changing our perspectives. With Geography Club you can get involved with the discussion of topical issues and explore sustainability at St. Bede's.

## What Will I Study In Geography?

You will study three topics:

- Mapping Britain - you will interpret maps and develop skills including using grid references.
- Africa - within this topic you will explore the physical and human geography of Africa.
- Weather & Climate - you will analyse weather maps and charts and investigate extreme weather events.

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have two lessons of Geography each week.

# HISTORY

## What Is History?

History helps us understand who we are and how we got here. As an historian we will investigate aspects of the past to understand why things happened and be able to use that information to solve problems today and in the future.

History strengthens our ability to research, argue, debate and listen to other points of view, as well as enabling us to make informed decisions.

As you study History you will become increasingly inquisitive and develop a thirst for knowledge and understanding.

## What Will I Study In History?

During Year 7 you will study a range of periods and themes including:

- The Norman Conquest
- The Early Middle Ages
- Medieval times
- The Tudors
- The Reformation
- The Stuarts

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have two lessons of History each week.

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

## What Is Computer Science?

Computer Science is a very practical subject that includes lots of different types of activities, these range from computer programming through to website design and animation.

Computer Science lessons are fun and enjoyable but they are also challenging and they will require you to think carefully.

Computer Science will give you the skills you need to be successful in whatever subject or job you might be working in.

## What Will I Study In Computer Science?

You will study a range of topics including:

- Basic ICT Skills
- E-safety
- Website Design
- Programming
- Scratch

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have one lesson of Computer Science per week in a computer suite.

# MATHEMATICS

## What Is Mathematics?

At St. Bede's, we want to develop, maintain and stimulate your curiosity, interest and enjoyment in Mathematics. We will develop your understanding of mathematical concepts, principles, methods and vocabulary.

We want you to see where Maths fits into everyday life and how it relates to you outside of school too. Maths is something that you will find yourself using, even when you don't realise it! It might be when you're buying things at the shops, reading the time, planning a holiday....

Most importantly, we want you to enjoy Maths and to never be afraid of 'having a go'.

## What Will I Study In Mathematics?

There are four main strands in Maths that you will cover during Year 7. They are: Number, Algebra, Shape and Handling Data.

As a subject, maths often involves building on skills that you have already learnt, so you will have the opportunity to consolidate what you know and then build on it.

Some examples of the topics you will cover are:

- Fractions, decimals and percentages
- Probability
- Algebra, using letters for numbers
- Areas of various quadrilaterals
- Properties of numbers
- Negative numbers

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have four Maths lessons each week.

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English is brilliant at St. Bede's. We have an amazing drama group available to anyone of any age and we put on fabulous plays and shows.

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# MFL

## What Is MFL?

MFL is the study of modern foreign languages. Today many employers are looking for people with skills to communicate in a foreign language. In addition the study skills you learn in language lessons will help you with your other subjects too: communication, independence, analysis, thinking skills, logic skills.... The list is endless!

Our lessons are fun and engaging and the teachers are highly qualified. We believe in giving you the chance to develop all four skill areas of language learning (writing, speaking, listening and reading), whilst giving you a sound knowledge of how grammar and language is constructed.

## What Will I Study In MFL?

In Year 7 students will study either French or Spanish. Lessons are designed to help you grow in confidence and to develop communication skills while improving your knowledge of grammar.

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have two lessons of MFL each week. Some students will receive extra support with Literacy and other skills during this time.

# MUSIC

## What Is Music?

Through studying Music you will be able to participate in and enjoy music. Music is a popular part of everyday life and brings enrichment and enjoyment to all. Can you imagine a world without music?

## What Will I Study In Music?

- Rhythm and pitch
- The elements of music
- Ukulele music
- Film music
- Classical music

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have one music lesson per week. If you play an instrument you will also receive one instrumental lesson per week.

# PE

## What Is PE?

In Year 7 students will follow a range of physical activities that will aim to improve existing skills, develop new skills and enhance understanding of a healthy and active lifestyle.

There are a wide range of competitive and extra curricular clubs available throughout the year.

## What Will I Study In PE?

Students will follow a wide range of activities addressing the following themes:

- Outwitting Opponents (Games)
- Accurate replication of actions (Dance & Gymnastics)
- Performing at maximum levels (Athletics)
- Identifying and solving problems (Orienteering)
- Exercising safely and effectively to improve health and wellbeing (Fitness)

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have two lessons of PE per week. Lessons are generally taught in all girl / all boy groups.

# PSHE

## What Is PSHE?

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education. Whilst not a statutory subject at the moment we believe that it offers skills that are vital for success in the future.

## What Will I Study In PSHE?

- Within the curriculum, students will look at many themes falling into the following categories - Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Living in the Wider World. Lessons will explore such topics as healthy lifestyle; how to stay safe physically and emotionally; how to manage emotions within a range of relationships; respect for self, and others and the importance of responsible behaviours and actions.

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

PSHE will be taught for one hour a week broken in to two sessions during Period 4 and delivered by their Form Tutor and other relevant professional external agencies.

# SCIENCE

## What Is Science?

How do we define Science? According to the dictionary, the definition of Science is "Knowledge attained through study or practice."

Here is a thought from a famous scientist:

"An experiment is a question which science poses to Nature and a measurement is the recording of Nature's answer."

*Max Planck (1858 - 1947)*

## What Will I Study In Science?

You will follow three themes across the year:

### Term 1

- Cells
- Infections and response
- Plants
- Atoms and the periodic table
- Chemical analysis
- Energy
- Matter

### Term 2

- Organ Systems
- The Earth and its resources
- Electricity and magnetism
- Waves
- Forces and motion
- The Earth and beyond

### Term 3

- Genetics
- Ecology
- Chemical Reactions
- Organic Chemistry

## How Many Lessons Will I Have?

You will have three lessons of Science per week.



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We get the chance to go to places we've never been to before and enjoy ourselves whilst we learn.

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For specific enquiries please contact:

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