

Key Stage 3 Curriculum Structure

Please see * below concerning possible changes in Year 7 for 2015/16.

In Years 7, 8 and 9, students are divided into two cohorts (cohort A and cohort Z). In each cohort, students are grouped according to their ability. This provides two roughly equal ability groups at each level, one in each cohort – A1 and Z1, A2 and Z2 etc.

A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	

Students are setted independently from the above in Year 7 for mathematics. From the beginning of Year 8, students remain in the above classes for English, science, the humanities and arts subjects but they are grouped by ability independently for mathematics and languages. This gives the flexibility to provide for the different combinations of strengths and weaknesses of individual students.

The period allocations for each subject within the 50 period 10 day timetable cycle are as shown below:

Curriculum for Years 7, 8 and 9

Year	Mathematics	English	Science	French	Second Language	Additional Literacy	Technology	Religious Education	Geography	History	Art and Design	Music	Drama	PSHEE	Computing	Physical Education
7A1-3, 7Z1-3	6	5	5	5	4	-	4	2	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	4
7A4, 7Z4, 7A5	6	5	5	5	-	4	4	2	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	4
8A1-3, 8Z1-3	6	5	5	4	4	-	4	2	3	3	4	2	2	1	1	4
8A4, 8Z4	6	5	5	4	-	4	4	2	3	3	4	2	2	1	1	4
9A1-3, 9Z1-4	6	6	6	4	4	-	4	2	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	4
9A4, 9Z4, 9A5	6	6	6	4	-	4	4	2	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	4

Languages

In Year 7, all students take French as their 'first' language. All students in 7A1-3 and 7Z1-3 and some from 7A4 and 7Z4 take a second language. Students in 7A1/2 and 7Z1/2 can choose from Spanish, Japanese or Chinese. Students in 7A3 and 7Z3 choose from either Spanish or Japanese. There are short second language taster courses during the first term and then students are asked to choose which of these languages they will take for the remainder of Key Stage 3. Those who take one language study French in Years 7, 8 and 9.

* Changes for Year 7 in 2015/16

In light of recent changes to the end of Key Stage 2 assessment, it is most likely that Year 7 will be taught in mixed ability groups for terms 1 and 2 (up to Christmas). This will enable us to gain a better picture of the relative strengths of each student in order to achieve more accurate ability grouping. Mathematics setting will continue to be carried out soon after the start of the year.

These changes will affect the way in which the choice of languages is offered. An update to clarify the arrangements for Year 7 in 2015/16 will be posted on the school website by 24 October 2014.