

**Birch Wood Vale School  
Year 8  
Autumn Term 2020  
Curriculum Information**



Dear Parents and Carers,

We want to share with you the work being covered by Year 8 this term, so that you can talk to your children about their lessons and support them with any homework. We are looking forward to an exciting and busy term and we hope that the students will enjoy it.

<b>English / Literacy</b>		
Theme Parks		Analysing theme park leaflets and ride descriptions, in order to form and design the pupil's own creations. Focussing on descriptive writing and non-fiction structures.
Novel - Once		Once is about a Jewish boy named Felix on a quest to find his bookkeeper parents whilst living in Poland during WWII. Pupils will focus on plot and themes of the novel as well as using their skills for inference and deduction to analyse the writer's choices.
<b>Maths</b>		
<u>Number</u>		Review number skills including writing numbers in words, counting in 2's, 3's etc, rounding and place value.
<u>Using operations</u>		Using the 4 operations including addition, subtraction, multiplying and division with HTU.
<u>Time and Fractions</u>		Being able to identify fractions and represent fractions and using these skills to support telling the time using an analogue clock. To be able to tell the time using an analogue and digital clock.
<u>Money and decimals</u>		To identify coins and select correct coins when paying for items. To calculate change required. To use decimals notation when working with money.
Science	Nutrients	Describe the components of a healthy diet Explain the role of each food group in the body
	Food tests	Describe how to test foods for starch, sugar, and protein
	Unhealthy diet	Describe some health issues caused by an unhealthy diet
	Digestive system	Describe the structure and function of the main parts of the digestive system Describe the process of digestion
	Bacteria and enzymes in digestion	Describe the role of enzymes in digestion Describe the role of bacteria in digestion
	Drugs, alcohol and smoking	Describe the difference between recreational and medicinal drugs Describe the effects of drugs on health and behaviour Describe the effect of alcohol on health and behaviour

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	Metals and non-metal Groups and periods Charging up Circuits and currents Potential difference Resistance Magnets and electromagnets Photosynthesis Leaves Aerobic and anaerobic respiration Food chains Ecosystems	Describe the effect of tobacco smoke on health Explain how elements are classified as metals and non-metals Use patterns to predict properties of elements Explain how objects can become charged Describe how charged objects can interact Describe what is meant by a current Describe how to measure current Describe what is meant by potential difference Describe how to measure potential difference Describe what is meant by resistance Describe how magnets interact Describe how to represent magnetic fields Describe how to change the strength of an electromagnet Describe the process of photosynthesis State the word equation for photosynthesis Describe the structure and function of the main components of a leaf State the word equation for aerobic respiration Describe the process of aerobic respiration Describe the differences between aerobic and anaerobic respiration Describe what food chains show Describe how different organisms co-exist within an ecosystem
ART & Design	Under The Sea	Year 8 will be exploring a project inspired by the theme 'under the sea', during which they will explore a range of materials and build on previous skills acquired in year 7. They will have firsthand source inspiration to study and inspire their project, such as shells, sand, seaweed and beach rocks. They will work from secondary source images to produce a range of drawings

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		in pencil and pen. The year 8's will explore various art techniques such as printmaking, collage and painting – leading up to creating a 3D jellyfish out of modrock and material and a 3D 'under the sea' sculpture out of clay.
Cookery	Revisit kitchen safety Cooking with eggs	Students will revisit kitchen safety and uses of kitchen equipment. Moving onto cooking with eggs , looking at different recipes , introducing new ideas. Emphasis will be on healthy eating
PSHEC	Relationships	Students will learn to understand their emotions and feelings, and begin to process the experiences they have had. They will rebuild relationships and re-learn how to interact positively with others. Young people will be supported to engage with self-regulation strategies, which will help them to feel safe and calm.
	Community	Students will learn to understand the world we are now living in and to equip them with tools and strategies to help them process what is different and what we can do to help. To re-learn the routines and structures of the school community.
	Learning to Learn	Students will be given the opportunity to rebuild and re-skill themselves as learners in order to regain their confidence in learning.
	Well-being	We will support our students to explore their feelings, emotions and sense of well-being. This will enable them to acknowledge, accept and feel secure and positive in the world we now live in.
Performing Arts	Feelings & Emotions	Students will complete a project on different genre of music and discovering if they like it or not, talking about feelings , how it makes us feel and what it sounds like. Students will then complete a project where they can explore their imagination and express feelings by doing so.
RE	Pilgrimage	Students will develop basic knowledge in a way that allows students to see what beliefs mean in practice and links back to historical foundations of religion by looking at why certain places are considered to be sacred, and why people visit them. It will help them explain where some of the rituals and ideas stemmed from, as well as allowing them to make judgements on these rituals and beliefs. It will also develop an understanding of cultural differences around the world and how they link to key beliefs and practices. It will allow students to develop an awareness of similarities and differences between religions, different cultures and practices.
Computing	Esafety	Students will be focusing on how to stay safe when online. They will be looking at different social media sites and developing knowledge on the importance of keeping information private and being safe. Students will also be looking into how the Internet has its advantages and disadvantages.

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**Year 8**  
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	Use of IT	Students will be developing confidence in using a range of tools in Microsoft applications. Students will be creating a range of documents to help them develop their skills in using the programs. Students will also develop life skills which will support them in the future i.e. composing and sending emails.
PE	<u>Net Games</u>	Students are playing tennis this half term with Melton Tennis club coaches, on the tennis courts, learning the skills and rules of tennis. Students will develop skills such as bat and ball control, sportsmanship and teamwork. The unit will also provide students opportunities to take further roles as leaders, coaches and officials.
	<u>Health related fitness</u>	Students will be learning about various components of fitness through experiencing different methods of training and exercise. Students will also be learning about and undergoing fitness testing.
Humanities	Locational Knowledge	World's Continents World's Oceans Characteristics of countries in the UK Characteristics of the cities in the UK Characteristics of the surrounding seas World's countries focusing on North America

Useful websites:    [BBC Bitesize KS3](#)  
[My Maths](#)

We are pleased to help you with any questions you may have about your child.