



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a new school year. We hope you have had a wonderful summer break. The students have settled in well into their new tutor group and showed enthusiasm for learning coming back from their summer break. Thank you all for your support so far.

Our class are following the Aspire Pathway. This means they are learning subject specific content which is personalised to their strengths and needs. The table below gives an outline of topics, content, knowledge and skills that we will be looking at over the next term.

Maths	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Number Place Value and 4 Operations. Enterprise: Rickshaw Challenge. Money. Money Handling skills.	
English	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Transition writing task</u> Based on an extract from 'The Boy at the Back of the Class'. Norse mythology – Beowulf.	<u>Weather poetry</u> Linked to autumn/winter themes (e.g. fireworks).
PSHE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Personal strengths.	Feeling unwell. Feeling frightened/worried.
Reading	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>KS3 Fluency Pathway</u> Words of the week. Guided reading. Own choice, levelled book. Non-fiction articles. <u>Phonics Pathway</u> Pupils receive daily phonics sessions appropriate to their needs and module level using Ruth Miskin's Read Write Inc Fresh Start.	
Science	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Forces. Solids, liquids, and gases. Scientific enquiry.	Cells. Solvents, solutes, and solutions. Scientific enquiry.

Humanities	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Geography</u> ‘Our Local Area’ (Fieldwork) Explore and develop knowledge about the world, starting with the immediate environment and building. Students will explore the local area using first-hand observation and experience to enhance their awareness along with essential map skills and fieldwork.	<u>Geography</u> Ecosystems Explore the natural environment including rainforests, arctic tundra and deserts. It includes key concepts that involve both human and physical elements as well as threats to our planet.
RE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Who do Christians say made the world?</u> Explore religious stories of Christianity and discuss the meaning of importance. Students will be given opportunities to understand why they are important to believers.	<u>Who is a Muslim and how do they live?</u> Explore the key beliefs of Islam and the way they live.
ICT	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>File and Folder Management</u> Develop understanding and organisation skills. Students to create their folders for the new academic year (lesson 1). <u>Using IT in the real world</u> <u>Developing skills in PowerPoint</u> Explore and develop skills in using advanced tools in Microsoft PowerPoint. Students will be planning and creating an interactive multimedia product as part of their assessment.	
Art /Food /DT Rotation	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Food</u> Pupils will be introduced to basic Hygiene and Safety in the kitchen. Starting their taste education through using senses to explore foods. Theme; Sandwiches.	<u>Design</u> Village Life Part 1– develop designs and produce a prototype for a wooden toy based on a variety of themes; light house, tree house, caravan etc.
PE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>OAA/Team Building</u> 4 Lessons Min. Initial movement assessment made by teacher. Establishing rules and routines. Teaching Fundamental movement and communication skills. <u>Team Games</u> <u>(Capture the Flag)</u> Negotiating space, embedding rules and developing communication for team games.	<u>Invasion Games</u> Ball skills (Throwing, catching, rolling etc). Negotiating space and embedding rules. Developing communication for team games. Groups may cover 1 choice of sport or complete 2 intro’s over the term. <u>Functional Movement</u> <u>(Gymnastics)</u> Teaching fundamental movement through space – focus on strength, balance and co-ordination. Develop awareness of personal space and boundaries of touch. Modelling and begin giving feedback on performance.

Birch Wood Area Special
School
Class 7DP
Autumn 2025
Curriculum Newsletter



Music	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Ensemble performance.</u> African drumming. Focus on pulse and rhythm – call and respond.	<u>Singing.</u> Gospel.
Creative Arts and Language Rotation	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Moving Together</u> Exploring Dance Styles Exploring dance styles including Street Dance, Musical Theatre and Bollywood.	<u>British Sign Language</u> Travel Including countries, transport and directions.

If you are unsure about anything, please email us riversg@birchwoodschool.co.uk or jacksonk@birchwoodschool.co.uk . I am always happy to help you with any questions you may have about your child.

Thank you for your continued support,

Greg Rivers

Kim Jackson

7DP class teacher

Curriculum Lead for Science