Catshill Middle School Year 8 Curriculum 2022.23

Curriculum @ Catshill

CHALLENGE OPPORTUNITY ACHIEVEMENT

Our curriculum

- prepares all pupils for a safe and successful future
- is engaging, challenging and relevant
- is National Curriculum compliant
- follows the locally agreed Worcestershire SACRE to develop religious education

Catshill Middle School Year 8 Curriculum 2022.23 Autumn Term 2022

Subject Area	Curriculum Overview
English	Learners study gothic literature and explore what makes an effective gothic text before creating their own piece of writing. They study the devices of poetry and focus on conflict poetry, undertaking a comparison of two pieces. The development of reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling is embedded in all lessons.
Maths	Learners study Number: prime numbers, significant figures and calculations, applying the four operations to integers, decimals and fractions. In Geometry, they focus on the properties of shapes and construction, interpreting plans and using scale. In Algebra, they simplify and manipulate algebraic expressions and rearrange formulae.
Science	Pupils study heat transfers, Particle Theory and the Periodic Table. They learn about different types of chemical reaction and use their understanding of the particle model to explain these.
Art	Pupils learn about the festival of the 'Day of the Dead'. They will focus on the work of Frida Kahlo and explore colour and pattern work, before creating portraits and ofrendas.
Computing	Pupils learn how to use Gantt Charts to show time management. They develop Internet research skills and work independently to produce a presentation of their unbiased findings using Google Slides, which is both self and peer assessed.
Design & Technology	Topics are taught on a rotation basis. Learners study World Food. They become competent in a range of cooking techniques, selecting and preparing ingredients; using utensils and equipment safely and are able to use their awareness of taste, texture and smell to adapt and create their own individual recipes.
Spanish	Learners are introduced to Spanish phonetics. They develop language skills and vocabulary through classroom instructions, greetings, numbers, food and Christmas celebrations.
Geography	Pupils develop physical, human and environmental geography through the study of India. Learners explore the history of partition, rural-urban migration and the monsoon season and its effects on the population of India.
History	Learners explore democracy in Britain between 1800 and 1920 and learn about the impact on local areas such as Dodford. They investigate why a sandwich was to blame for WW1 and discover the impact on medicine and international relations.
Life Skills	Learners explore how career opportunities are changing in the UK and identify the skills needed for a modern jobs market. They explore the concept of friendship and consider positive strategies for managing personal relationships. Through VIEW, they develop study skills and learn to manage a range of emotions.
Music	Pupils revisit keyboard skills, notation and composition, revising the interrelated dimensions of music whilst exploring hooks and riffs. Pupils will examine repeated musical patterns through western classical and popular music. Pupils will then move onto exploring the basics of melodic writing using the major pentatonic scale. They will learn how to write a catchy jingle to a given stimulus and explore music as a tool in advertisements.
PE	Pupils use a range of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in direct competition whilst playing games (e.g. football, netball, rugby and basketball). They apply the basic principles of attacking and defending and learn to analyse and evaluate performance.

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RE	Pupils have an opportunity to look at the beliefs of Hindus in the world today. They then study the subject of death and the afterlife from a variety of viewpoints. Space is given for all viewpoints to be respected.

Spring Term 2023

Subject Area	Curriculum Overview
English	Learners study a range of fiction novels. They explore the author's craft - plot, structure, characterisation and themes - before closely analysing an extract and producing their own piece. Learners move on to Shakespeare, either Romeo & Juliet or Macbeth, and study characterisation & themes before producing a written analysis on one of these. The development of reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling is embedded in all lessons.
Maths	Learners investigate probability and ratio, applying these to real contexts. They solve problems using % change and calculate exactly with fractions. In Algebra, they study algebraic rules and learn to calculate the nth term of linear sequences, before solving linear equations using graphs. In geometry, they derive and use the sum of angles in a triangle.
Science	Pupils study the significant processes of living organisms: digestion, breathing, respiration and photosynthesis. They investigate magnetic materials, learn how electromagnets work and are used and study static electricity.
Art	Pupils explore art through wartime. They will consider the work of famous artists such as the Nash brothers, Nevinson, Otto Dix as well as Picasso. They will independently present sketchbook work and also turn realistic images into abstract images.
Computing	Pupils develop their understanding of spreadsheets, learning how to format these, use formulae and import files and data from other applications. They use Microsoft Access to create forms, input data and then filter this to create queries and reports.
Design & Technology	Topics are taught on a rotation basis. They develop a range of sewing techniques to be able to recreate a food package in felt. Using the sewing machine and hand sewing to learn how to make templates, embroidery stitches and applique.
Spanish	Learners develop Spanish phonetics. They develop language skills and vocabulary through body parts, colours, animals and family.
Geography	Pupils look at climate change and assess the historic changes to the earth's climate and compare these to the current enhanced climate changes. Learners use historic evidence and compare data trends to establish climate change and the how we can best adapt to the changes that will occur.
History	Learners explore what the Cold War was in an overview of Capitalism vs Communism, looking at an overview of several key conflicts. Learners then study ife in Nazi Germany and the impact of the Holocaust on various groups. Learners have an opportunity to witness Holocaust survivor testimony.
Life Skills	Continuing to explore relationships, pupils learn about the implications of sexual activity. They then explore the importance of rules in a civilised society & of the consequences of breaking these. Through VIEW, build a knowledge of all cultural diversities and learn to appreciate alternative viewpoints through exposure to a range of controversial issues.
Music	Learners explore the music of the southern states of America covering slave trade, plantation workers, blues and jazz artists, musical conventions and theory. They learn to improvise, arrange, compose and perform using primary chords, the blues scale and syncopation, on keyboard, voice and ukulele.
PE	Pupils learn about the components of health and fitness and how this relates to their performance. They evaluate their performance in a range of games. Pupils take part in outdoor and adventurous activity challenges both individually and within a team, specifically developing their orienteering skills.

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RE	Pupils will be studying different forms of art that have been influenced by spiritual beliefs. Pupils will produce a piece of art based on their own beliefs.	
	Pupils will be encouraged to respect other viewpoints and also reflect on their own beliefs. Pupils will look at agnostic and atheist belief structures.	

Summer Term 2023

Subject Area	Curriculum Overview
English	Learners study contemporary play scripts and their features. The study of a play script focusses on monologues and alternative endings as well as drawing comparisons with Shakespearean plays before beginning preparations for high school transfer. The development of reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling is embedded in all lessons.
Maths	Pupils calculate and problem solve using fractions, percentages and ratio. They calculate perimeters and areas of 2D shapes, including circles, and calculate volumes of prisms. They plot graphs of equations and interpret these. In Statistics, they interpret, analyse and compare data sets, use scatter graphs and recognise correlations.
Science	Learners consider human impact on climate and natural resources. They study forces and learn to calculate speed and pressure, whilst developing skills in data presentation and interpretation.
Art	Pupils explore Indian customs and traditions through artwork. They create a sketchbook page on the artist Anish Kapoor and experiment with patterns based on mehndi.
Computing	Learners extend their knowledge of Python Programming and create a series of games using the Microbit. They study web design and how HTML is used both in raw format and through the use of software to create web pages. They apply their knowledge to create a series of webpages about a set theme.
Design & Technology	Topics are taught on a rotation basis. Pupils undertake research and learn to use a variety of workshop tools in order to design and make a shadow box frame with a LED light up circuit. They will learn how to construct and attach wood to create a frame with a variety of joints as well as understanding how to assemble a copper tape circuit to light up their design.
Spanish	Pupils learn to create sentences using negatives. They develop language skills and vocabulary through likes & dislikes and sporting/social activities. They explore Spanish speaking countries and learn about life in Costa Rica through the eyes of a child.
Geography	Pupils explore the geography of the UK's coastline. Learners study the different coastal protection management schemes and assess the pros and cons of each method. Pupils consider the challenges facing communities affected by coastal erosion by researching and debating the best methods to protect these communities.
History	Learners consider why the Middle East is regularly in the news and judge how this area has shaped the world we live in. Learners then frame their own enquiry question about any period of history and develop a presentation to show to their classmates about their own historical interest.
Life Skills	Pupils consider personal risk and safety, learning the basics of First Aid. They the reflect on the importance of a range of skills needed to succeed in both high school and future life. Through VIEW, they build a knowledge of diversity and human rights, with a focus on gender & disability and then learn to value, build, and actively participate in their local community, developing responsibility and citizenship.
Music	Pupils consider what makes a good song. They study song-form, common features and composition techniques before writing, performing and recording their own composition.

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	PE	Pupils participate in a range of athletics activities including sprinting, long distance running, hurdles, jumping and throwing. Through cricket and rounders, they use a range of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in direct competition.
	RE	Pupils will explore whether happiness is the most important thing in life. Finally, pupils will explore the idea of Christian environmental protection. This will compare Bible accounts with human actions today.