

Y7 Parent/ Carer Information Evening



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Responsibility

Vision – Be Exceptional



Tonight...



- Key dates for the year ahead
- How you can support your child at home
- How you can support your child in school
- What to expect from Year 7



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Welcome



Mr Goddard
Assistant Vice Principal

Mrs Saccomando
Learning Progress Manager

Mrs Alcock
SENDCO

Miss Bayliss
Pastoral Learning Lead

Ms Morgan
Assistant SENDCO



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Academic Progress and Key Dates



- **Data Collection 1** 12th October
- **Settling in Evening with Form Tutors** 6th November
- **Data Collection 2** 25th January
- **Parents' Evening** 29th April
- **Data Collection 3** 20th June



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Curriculum Design at Aston



- **The curriculum allows more flexibility**- students are timetabled in half year groups and can move between sets as and when their teacher feels appropriate for their academic progress.
- The curriculum design at Aston now allows students to have **equal access to curriculum** pathways, sets and opportunities moving through the school.
- The curriculum design **allows for academic changes** in your child as they mature through their secondary school journey.



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Y7 Curriculum



‘To ensure that the academy delivers an **ambitious curriculum** that continues to **raise aspirations and standards** for **all groups of learners** in every school year’

Core Subjects:

Maths

English

Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)

Ebacc Subjects:

Geography

History

Modern Foreign Languages (French or Spanish)

Option Subjects:

RE

PE

Music and Drama

IT

Design Technology (DT, Food, Art, Art Textiles)



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Assessment and Data Reports



- All students in Key Stage 3 (Y7,8,9) will be assessed using the same process way:
 - Classwork/ live marking- Assessment for learning, continuous in class
 - Milestone assessments in class (formative, low stakes assessments)
 - Summative Assessments at the end of a learning journey- approx 3 each year
- Data Reports will be sent out 3 times in Y7 where, for each subject they are studying, students will get the following:
 - Age related grade
(Age related; Approaching standard; Greater depth; Greater depth+)
 - Effort grade



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The Importance of Attendance

Mr Goddard
AVP



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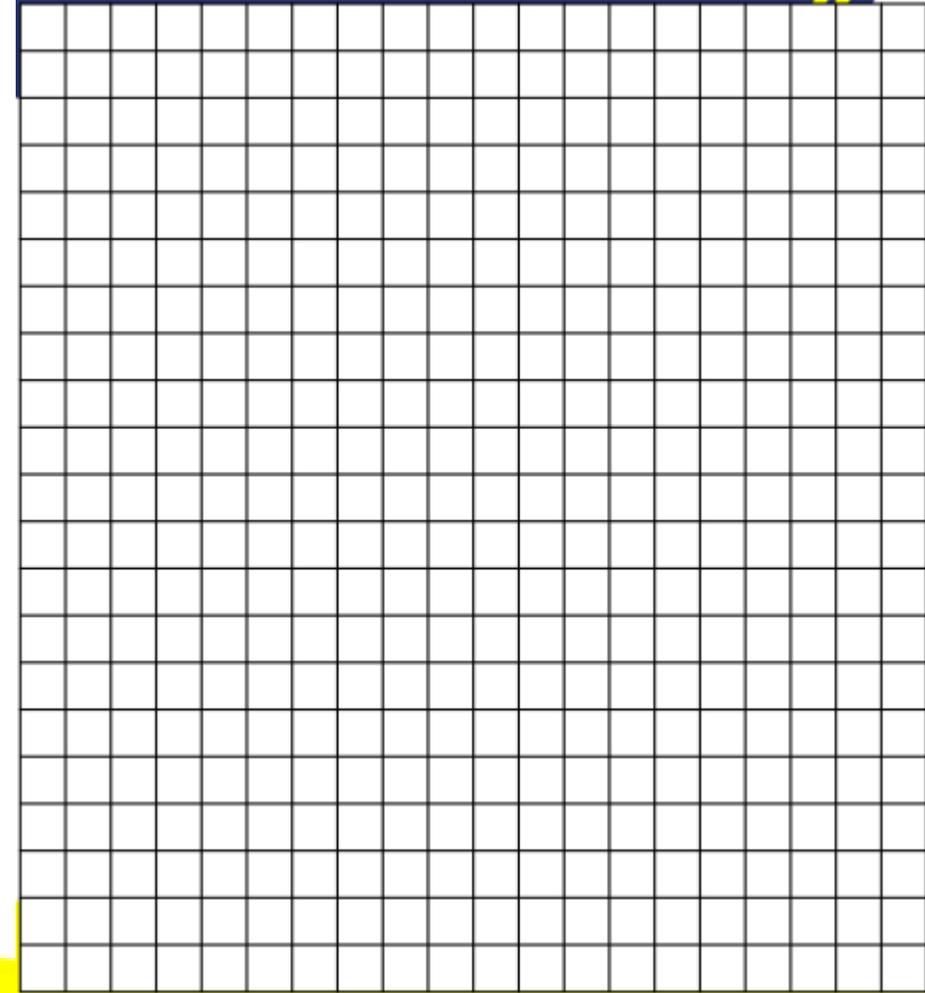
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100% Attendance



- ✓ Each square represents a school week.
- ✓ Square one is your child's first week in Reception.
- ✓ The final square is the week of their final GCSE exam.



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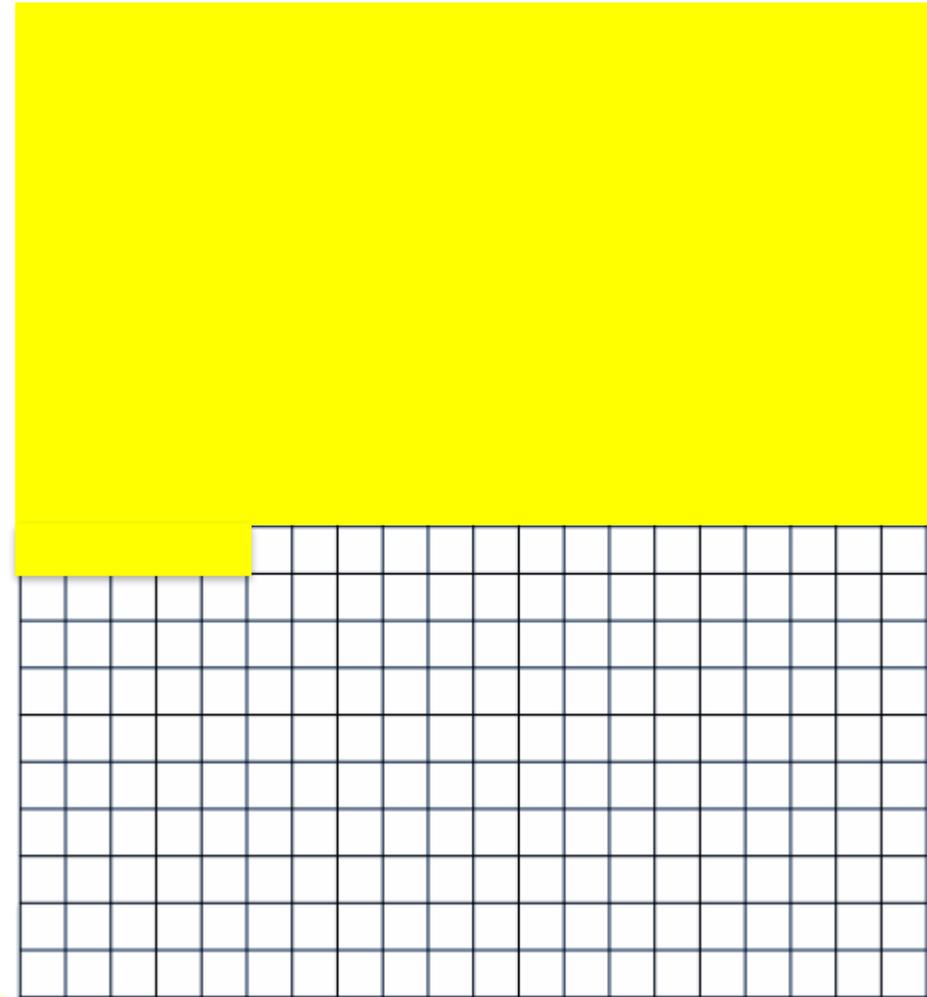
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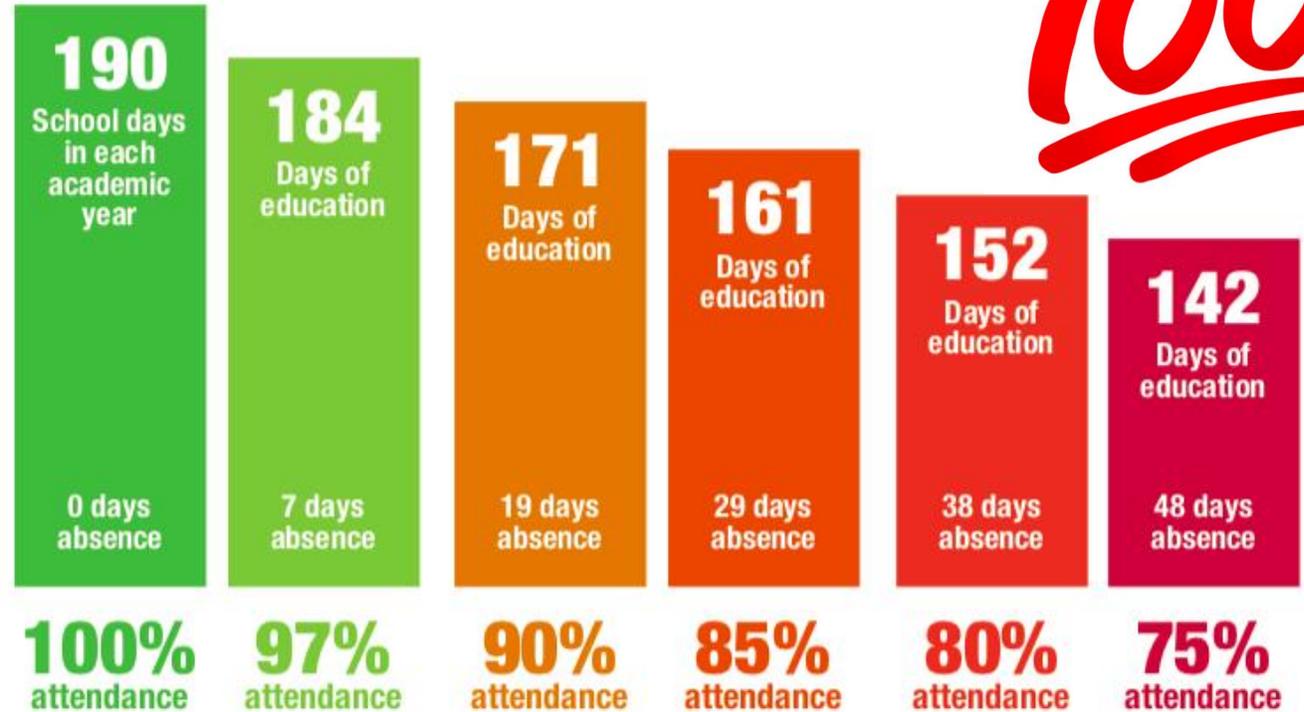
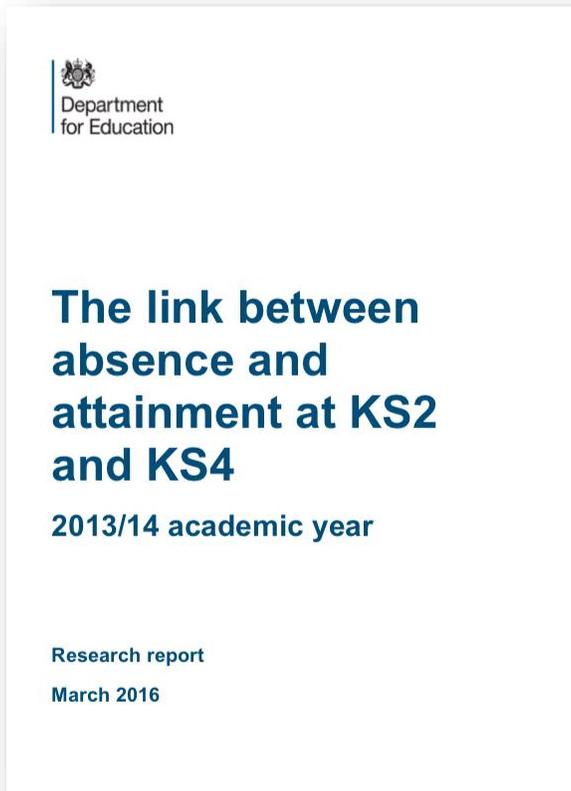
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The Importance of 100% Attendance



100



Research Report - Link between absence and attainment



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The Importance of 100% Attendance



Key points for Y7 Parents:

- Please get in touch if you are concerned that illness or injury may result in non-attendance; there is lots we can do to support your child remaining in school
- Year 9s will be working hard on new content in every single lesson; one missed day means 5 hours of lost learning
- Independent 'catch-up' will never match being in front of specialist teachers

100

**Attend
and
Achieve**



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Student Wellbeing

ASTON

What is Mental Health

Understanding what mental health is
Two things to remember from this session:

1. Mental health is different from mental illness.
2. We all need to accept the challenges in life and learn ways to cope with them.

Be the best we can be

What does the World Health Organisation say?

“Mental health is a state of wellbeing in which the individual realises their own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully and is able to make a contribution to their community.”

We can sum it up with...

“Mental Health is a state of mind that helps us to respond to challenges in life.”



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Student Wellbeing



Help and Support

- Talking to people can make a big difference. Make use of friends, family, teachers, form tutors and other staff in school.
- Remember to try to live a healthy lifestyle – get enough sleep, eat well and exercise.
- Use Kooth – they are available to support you.
- Don't bottle things up.

kooth

Free online counselling support for young people!
Discover everything Kooth has to offer

FREE COUNSELLING

DISCUSSION BOARDS

JOURNAL

KOOTH MAGAZINE

HELP ARTICLES

SELF-HELP TOOLS

Sign up for free at [Kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com)

The graphic is a colorful illustration for Kooth. It features a central figure in a blue coat holding a tablet. Surrounding this figure are various icons and text boxes: a speech bubble, a book, a person sitting at a desk, and a person on a laptop. The text 'kooth' is in a bold, lowercase font. Below it, the text 'Free online counselling support for young people! Discover everything Kooth has to offer' is written. There are five main categories highlighted in colored boxes: 'FREE COUNSELLING' (black), 'DISCUSSION BOARDS' (orange), 'JOURNAL' (pink), 'KOOTH MAGAZINE' (blue), and 'HELP ARTICLES' (blue). At the bottom, 'SELF-HELP TOOLS' is in a pink box. A small text box at the bottom right says 'Sign up for free at Kooth.com'.

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Extra Curricular Enrichment



Term 1 Extra Curricular Letter was sent to you on Friday 8th September with clubs starting from today.

This includes - Sports Clubs, Subject Clubs and House Activities.

A new letter will be sent to you at the start of each term with the new clubs and opportunities available.

All clubs are FREE and run from 3:10pm - 4:10pm with some fixtures slightly longer - please encourage your child to come and get involved.



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Core Subject Information

Maths, English, Science



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Y7 Maths Curriculum



Algebra

Statistics

Geometry

Number

Ratio

- In year 7 students will study a vast range of topics within our 5 golden threads.
- Topics will build on learning from Y6 and students will be exposed to lots of new learning especially in the Algebra strand. The topics belong to our 5 golden threads and they are mixed up throughout the year to help balance students exposure to the various areas of maths.
- The greatest weighting of lessons is around Number and Algebra.



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Y7 Maths Curriculum



Algebra

Statistics

Geometry

Number

Ratio

- Students are not just taught maths, they are taught the applications of the skills outside of the classroom and how they can be useful in everyday life and their future.
- Y7 students will have a full finance week in the final term of the year focusing on managing their finances and will conclude the week with a budgeting task.



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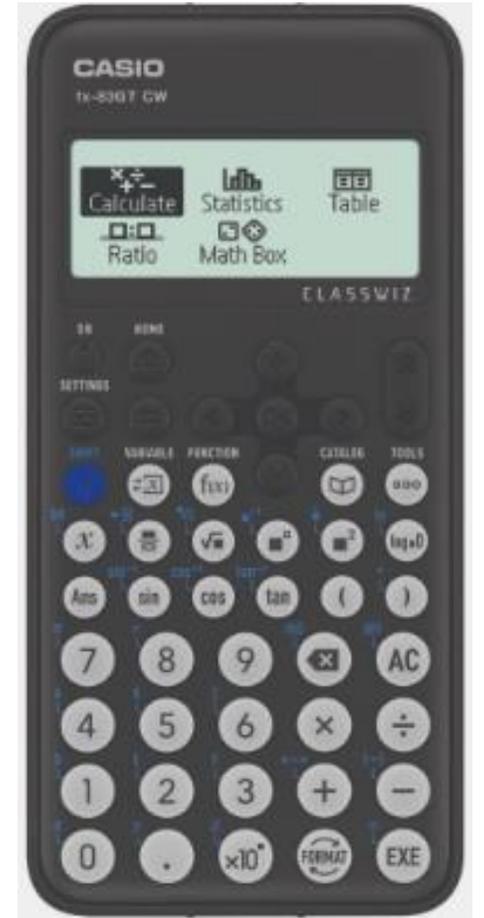
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Calculators

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- A vital part of the student equipment list is a scientific calculator.
- 2 out of 3 GCSE Maths Papers will require use of a calculator. Lessons, milestones and assessments will reflect this.
- It is an expectation that students bring their own calculator every day.
- We recommend the **Casio FX83GT CW** at most supermarkets [released July 2023].
- Students with the Casio FX83GTX or Casio FX95 do **not** need to purchase new calculators.



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How can you support your child in Maths



- Catch up with your child about what they're learning about, and it's ok if they're finding something tricky - maths can be very difficult.
- Maths homework is moving to an online programme called Sparx. They will be set weekly homework - check in with them how they're getting on. They will be able to use their books to help them complete this as it runs alongside our curriculum. There are 100s of videos to help improve student understanding if they are finding a topic particularly challenging or to help extend their knowledge further.
- Communicate with us, we're happy to help. Use our learning journey on the website to see where you're child is at and if you need any support with previous topics or something coming up then get in touch.



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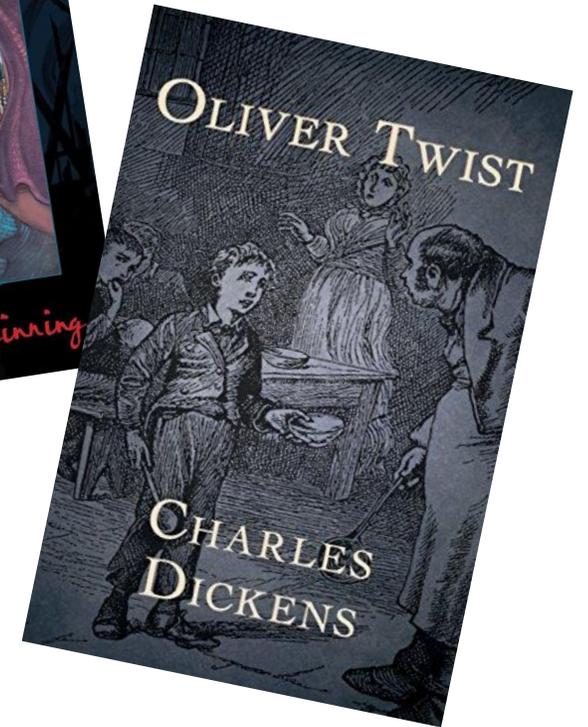
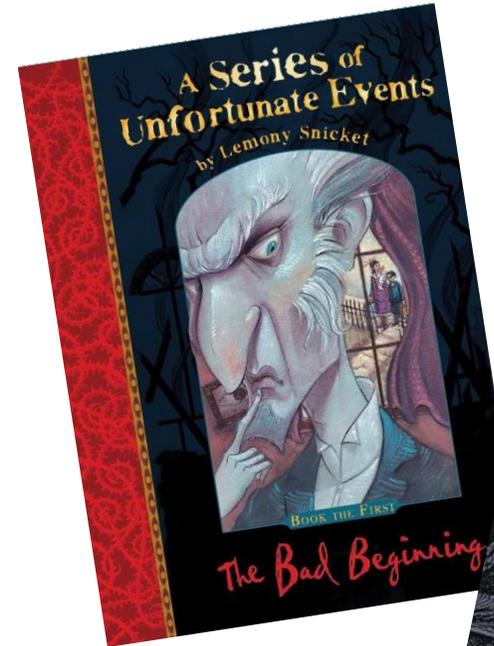
Y7 English Curriculum



Y7 Term 1 - Heroes and Villains

Y7 begin by exploring the novel 'A Series of Unfortunate Events' to build upon the skills they developed at KS2 - technical writing skills alongside their ability to understand how characters, plot, and writer's method are presented in a novel.

They also move on to study biographical writing linked to heroes and villains, with a focus on real life heroes and fictional villains in the work of Charles Dickens



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Y7 English Curriculum

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Y7 Term 2 - Setting - Place and Time

Y7 continue by exploring myths and legends over time, including ancient Greek myths and religious myths. All of this is aimed to build their cultural understanding while making cross curricular links with other subjects. The texts are challenging and provide opportunities for developing vocabulary and independent reading skills.

They also study the History of English by exploring how English, as a language, has changed over time due to invasions and different ways of life.



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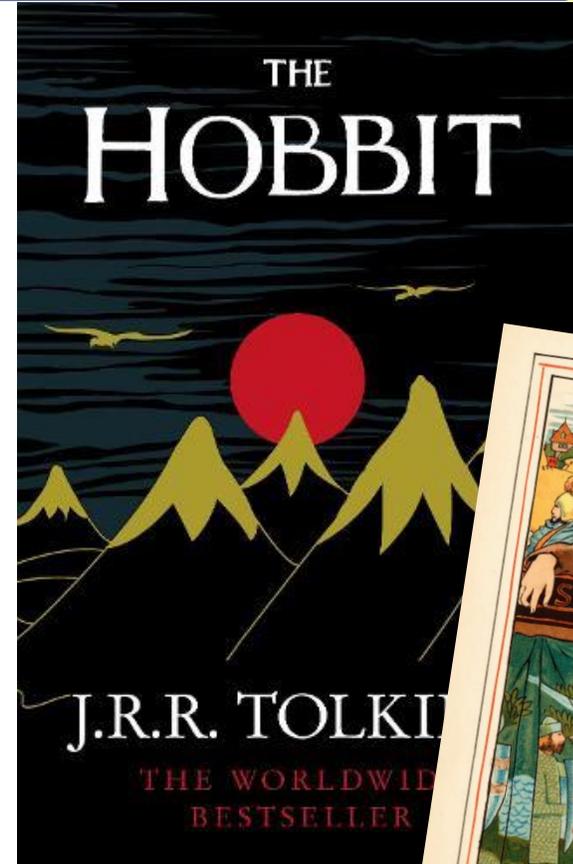
Y7 English Curriculum



Y7 Term 3 - Journeys - Plot

Y7 ends with students studying a modern novel with a five part plot structure. They study either 'The Hobbit' or 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief'. This narrative study helps to develop students' analysis of character and writer intent while also honing other key skills, such as comparison, creative writing, and textual analysis.

Students will also study narrative poetry, with a choice of either Sir. Gawain and the Green Knight or The Lady of Shalott/The Rime of the Ancient Mariner. This unit provides opportunities to explore how narrative poetry presents character through poetic form and poetic devices.



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Y7 English Curriculum



Reading

One English lesson per week is called 'Reading'.

In this lesson, 10-15 minutes are dedicated to students reading a pre-selected excerpt from a text to try to promote reading for pleasure.

Time is devoted to the discussion of this text

EPlatform - Students log in with their school username and password to access a virtual library



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How can you support your child in English?



Reading - every text type - novels, short stories, comic books, packaging, formal letters, newspapers, leaflets, online - blogs, reviews, biographies, autobiographies, 21st Century English forms

Sharing their English work with you at home

Theatre visits/ visiting places of note linked to English - author's houses/museums

Discussion with class teachers about areas of strength and improvement

Spoken language - promoting wider discussion - debate, persuasion, developed answers



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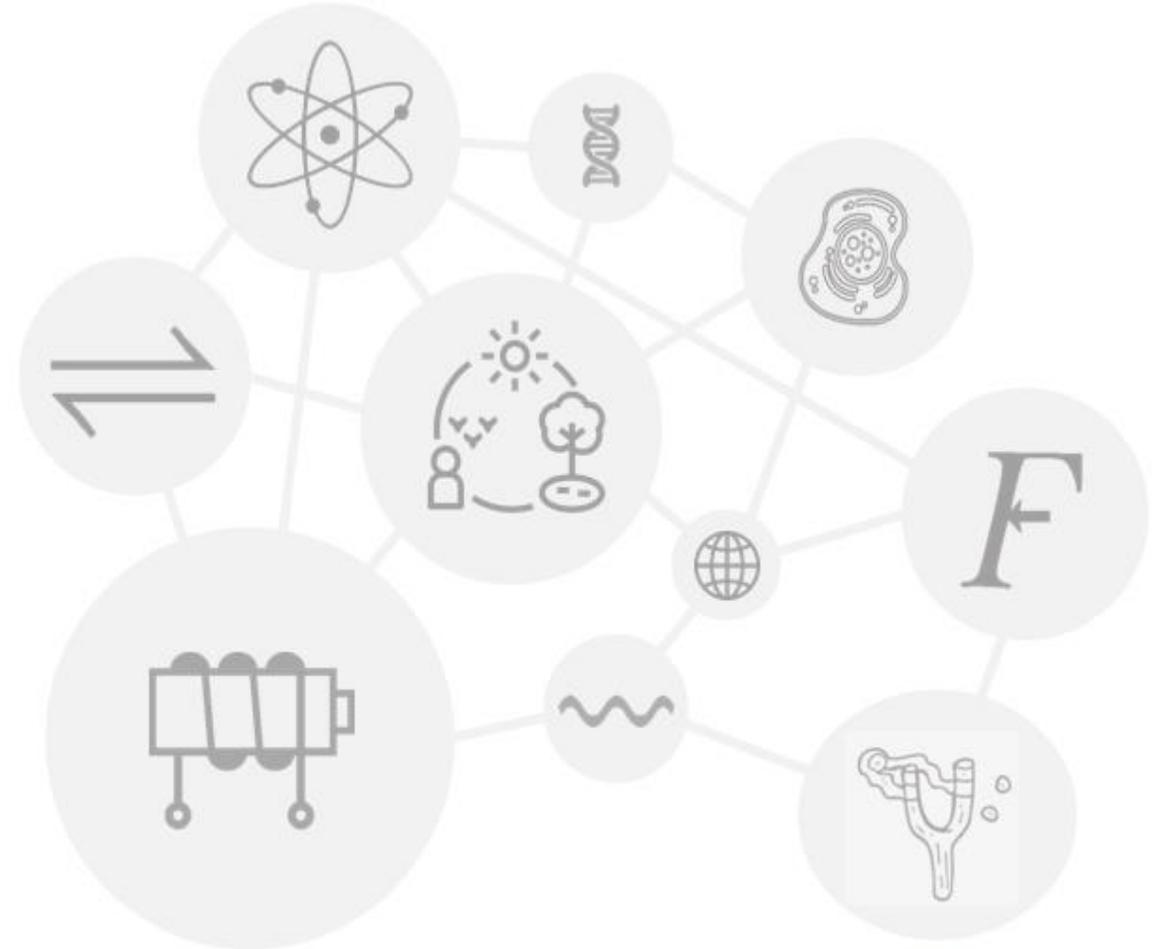
Y7 Science Curriculum

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Knowledge and skills structured around the 10 Big Ideas in Science

- What effect do human have on our global ecosystem?
- How can you make water safe to drink for everyone?
- Why do you get a static shock on a trampoline?

Opportunity to develop scientific practical skills to enable them to be informed and confident scientists.



SCIENCE - THE BIG IDEAS



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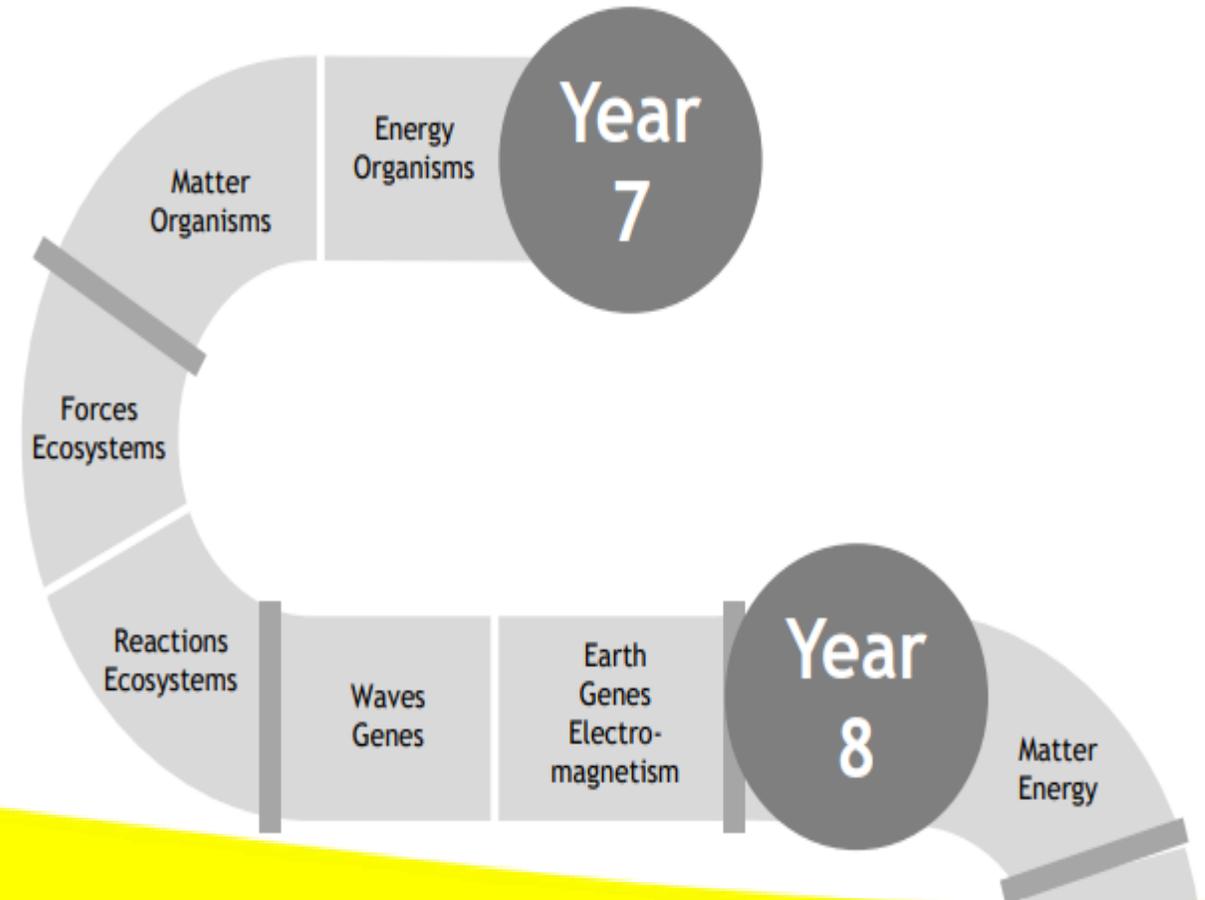
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How can you support your child in Science



- Discuss their learning with them- asking how does what they've learnt link to the world around them
- Support them completing their Home learning Quizzes through Google Classroom
- Review your child exercise book and use it to quiz them on what they have learnt about



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All Subject Curriculum Plans



- Browse through the school website for the individual curriculum plans for your child this academic year.
- All students are responsible for their own exercise books and will be taking them home to support with home work and revision- ask your child about their learning compared to the curriculum plan.
- <https://www.astonacademy.org/page/?title=Subject+Areas&pid=55>



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General support at home



- Discuss your child's learning with them- use the curriculum journeys as a starting point (website) and complete *'Things I have Learnt In Today's Lesson'* in the planner
- Ensure your child has the correct equipment needed for school
- Check your child's planner for home learning, deadlines and communication from Form Tutor
- Encourage your child to develop good study habits- ask about Milestones and Summatives and offer to quiz them by using their exercise books.
- Encourage your child to attend extra curricular and enrichment activities outside of class.



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Parental Support



- **Pre-Loved Uniform**
- **Free- school meals** Free school meals – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- **Family Support-** They can offer a wealth of family support or can signpost out to other agencies if they are unable to help Family Support – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Contact us at Info@astonacademy.org



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