

Stanborough



# Stanborough School

Curriculum Booklet  
Autumn Term 2021

Year 7

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**Grow and Succeed**

High Expectations | Mutual Respect | Quality Learning | Success for All

# Autumn Term Curriculum Booklet

## Year 7

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Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to introduce you to the Year 7 Curriculum Booklet for the coming term. This booklet contains everything that you need to know about the subjects your child will be studying, complete with details of any assessments and suitable websites that can be used to enhance and support learning.

This guide will help you to engage in conversations with your child about their time at school and their education. As their key role models, you have a large part to play, in not only helping them get to school every day and on time but also by supporting students to have the correct equipment for each day so they are prepared to learn. We also ask that you further support by ensuring the completion of their homework, on time and to a good standard.

As the Year 7 Pastoral Leadership Team, it is our job to oversee not only the pastoral care of your child but also the learning that takes place across the year group. In order to do this, we spend time dropping in on Year 7 lessons, seeing students at work and making sure that they are giving their best. Class Charts is a fantastic resource for staff to be able to communicate the positive steps your child is taking in their learning on a daily basis, as well as highlighting any difficulties students may have during the day. This is a system the pastoral team monitors very closely and we endeavour to communicate with yourself and your child to resolve any issues as soon as possible. Please do not think, however, that this only works one way. As a parent, we ask that you maintain an overview through your own Class Charts log-in. If at any time you have any concerns about a specific subject, or homework, please contact the class teacher or curriculum leader for that subject; details for all staff can be found on the school website. If you have any wider concerns about your child's progress, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance, or one of the Year 7 pastoral leadership team.

We hope you find this booklet useful and that your child enjoys their time here at Stanborough School.

Mrs S Humphries  
Assistant Headteacher

Miss A Wrangles  
Year 7 Leader

Mrs J Hall  
Deputy Year 7 Leader

### **CATS and LUCID Assessments**

Every year over 25,000 students in the UK and overseas participate in this assessment. GL processes this assessment data and creates reports for individual students, their parents and their teachers. The CAT4 Assessment was designed to identify the cognitive ability of students based on age appropriate expectations. Cognitive ability is a student's ability to reason with and manipulate different types of material through a series of verbal, non-verbal, quantitative and spatial ability tasks.

CAT4 results help us understand the potential for academic attainment. CAT4 scores provide 9-1 GCSE indicators which are derived from an analysis of CAT4 scores and GCSE examination results at age 16 from a nationally representative sample of around 91,000 students in 2019. As cognitive ability is not particularly curriculum related, the results will not be significantly influenced by a student's previous schooling or their subject knowledge. Students therefore do not need to revise or prepare for these assessments. Results will be shared with parents and help teachers to plan lessons, identify learning needs and adapt curriculum areas.

Students will be sitting a total of three 40 minute tests on 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and it is imperative that students attend school on these days. The tests are completed on a computer and students will need to use headphones. We would request that students bring their own headphones to school on these days.

More information on CAT4 Assessments can be found here:

<https://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/products/cognitive-abilities-test-cat4/>

As part of our dedication to ensuring that the needs of students at Stanborough school are identified early, we will be running a literacy screening program called LUCID during the same week.

This screening tool is used to assess the following skills: spelling, word reading, comprehension, comprehension speed, typing speed and handwriting speed.

Results will be shared with parents, teachers and our SENDCO who will use this information to inform year 7 literacy interventions.

Students with a score that is significantly below average will be screened again in year 9/10 to provide data for access arrangements in their Key Stage 4 mock and public exams.

A schedule for the CATS and LUCID assessments will be shared with you and your child nearer the time.

If you have any further questions about either assessment, please do not hesitate to contact [DKohls@stanborough.herts.sch.uk](mailto:DKohls@stanborough.herts.sch.uk).

### **Top Tips for Starting at Secondary School**

- Ensure, on a weekly basis, that your child has the correct basic equipment for school (ie. pens, pencils, ruler, rubber). If their supplies need topping up, then please ensure that this happens.
- Ensure your child has a watch and can tell the time – secondary school is all about being in the right place at the right time!
- Ensure your child has a working alarm clock. Punctuality is essential every morning.
- Agree a bed-time for school days and stick to it. Children cannot learn if they are tired.
- Check your child is dressed properly for school every day. This may include checking that your child has all the PE kit which they require for lessons.
- Name everything. Children can lose the funniest things.
- Set aside a particular time each day when homework is to be done. If possible, help and support your child as they complete their homework.
- Check your child’s bag every Friday. Letters may need a helping hand to get to you.
- Contact your child’s tutor as soon as you have any concerns.

And don’t forget.....never do anything regularly for your child that they are capable of doing for themselves.

### **What About Learning?**

Our aim at Stanborough is to provide a high standard of education for all students so that they can realise their full potential.

This is reflected by our 4 principles:

High expectations

Mutual respect

Quality learning

Success for all

At Stanborough, we have high expectations of our students. One of the best contributions parents/carers can make to the learning process is to reinforce this by taking an active interest in the work that a student is completing both at school and at home.

It is also important that students get as fully involved as possible in school life. Joining a sports team, an after school club or standing for the School Council are all ways that students can feel part of the wider school community.

Speaking to your son/daughter about their work, asking them about their lessons, praising them for good performance and discussing with them any issues arising at school has a major impact on student enthusiasm and interest. Your child will get homework in most of their subjects. As a school, we would ask you to take an active interest in the homework given, how it is completed, and the feedback given to the student when it is marked.

Whilst we encourage our students to be independent learners, this can take a little time. It is vital that students feel that they have the necessary support and confidence from teachers and parents/carers as they develop as learners.

If you have any questions about the progress of your child at Stanborough then please do not hesitate to contact the school.

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## English

### Curriculum Leader – Mr P O'Connor

#### What will your child be studying?

'The Graveyard Book' by Neil Gaiman.  
Autobiographical Writing.

#### What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

The Graveyard Book - Explore how Gaiman begins his narrative  
Biography – pupils write an autobiographical extract

#### How can you help?

Encourage your child to read a range of fiction novels and autobiographies. Help them to research authors that they like.

Take an active interest in your child's homework and use Class Charts, as well as planners, to help your child organise their workload.

Help your child to proofread their work carefully for errors and to make the necessary corrections.

Presentation of work is a key ingredient to success! Look through their work regularly and praise them for neatness, as well as content.

Have a dictionary and thesaurus accessible for your child to use.

In everyday conversations, practice using challenging words to expand their vocabulary.

#### Supportive Websites/Resources

The whole of the BBC website is a useful resource – [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

Share your writing! [www.figment.com/books](http://www.figment.com/books)

AAA-Spell – [www.aaaspell.com](http://www.aaaspell.com)

## Mathematics

### Curriculum Leader – Mr S Modi

#### What will your child be studying?

Strengthening and extending basic number skills

Working with algebra

Perimeter, Area and Volume

Exploring decimals

#### What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Key Assessment 1, W/c 29 November

Details of this will be provided on ClassCharts in October. Students will be tested on topics learnt until the Key Assessment.

#### How can you help?

Your child will be set one piece of homework every week. An electronic version of homework sheets will be uploaded on ClassCharts, along with any additional instructions. Some homework might be set on a maths website.

Please check they have completed their homework to a high standard and encourage them to check their working and take pride in their presentation.

Encourage your child to practise 'times tables' and mental arithmetic e.g. when shopping

Encourage your child to ask for help when they need it. KS3 maths club operates after school one day per week in one of the maths classrooms. It is open to all students for additional help and homework support, and to students wishing to challenge themselves with extension work.

Please make sure your child always has a complete set of equipment for every maths lesson – pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, protractor, calculator.

#### Supportive Websites/Resources

Collins Connect (login details will be provided by teachers)

[www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk) – login: stanborough, password: adding

[www.vle.mathswatch.co.uk](http://www.vle.mathswatch.co.uk) (login details will be provided by teachers)

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)

[www.nrich.maths.org.uk](http://www.nrich.maths.org.uk)

[www.mathsisfun.com](http://www.mathsisfun.com)

Newspapers – Sudoku / Number Puzzles / Code Breakers

## Science

### Curriculum Leader – Mrs S Lockyear

#### What will your child be studying?

Cells and Body systems

Particles

Forces

#### What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Students will complete a task set by their teacher on each topic in which they will receive feedback to support their progress. The first assessment will fall approximately five weeks into the autumn term and then approximately every 8-10 lessons throughout the year.

#### How can you help?

Ensure that your child completes all homework.

Encourage your child to ask questions when unsure of work covered within lessons.

Support them in preparing for the assessments by accessing the revision websites and completing the revision tasks set by their classroom teacher at least a fortnight before the assessment.

Support your child by encouraging them to use resources available on kerboodle including the on-line text book.

#### Supportive Websites/Resources

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/science/>

- a series of revision resources, quizzes and tests.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/topics/secondary.shtml#science>

- short videos covering a series of topics.

<http://www.educationquizzes.com/ks3/science/>

- series of quizzes.

<http://www.kerboodle.com/users/login>

- Worksheets, interactive quizzes, tests, on-line text books

## Art, Design & Technology Curriculum Leader – Miss A Barnard

### What will your child be studying?

This term, students will get the chance to explore one of our exciting Design and Technology subject specialisms as well as one lesson of Art a week.

**Art :** Colour theory and the formal elements

**Graphics :** The application of design elements and illustration to effectively communicate ideas

**Three Dimensional Design :** The making of a functional and aesthetic product through practical skills and CAD/CAM programming

**Photography :** The creative application, manipulation and process of recording the world through the lens of a camera

### What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Progress update reports will provide you with an accurate assessment of your child's attainment. Students will receive ongoing feedback lesson by lesson but will also receive written formal feedback at the end of each term.

Please check out our faculty twitter page to see what our talented students are up to in lesson!  
@stanb\_ADT

D&T – End of project outcome  
(Last week of the Autumn Term)

Art – Sketchbook Review  
(week before PU1)

### How can you help?

Supporting students with homework projects to ensure that tasks are submitted by the deadline date, please see Class Charts to view homework set.

Encouraging your child to pursue their creativity outside of lessons to build on fundamental skills that will aid progression in Art, Design and Technology disciplines.

Helping to prepare students with relevant materials and equipment.

### Supportive Websites/Resources

Any of the websites of the major art galleries in the world contain large numbers of examples of works of art that can be inspirational to students.

Here are some examples:

[www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)

[www.abcgallery.com](http://www.abcgallery.com)

[www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint](http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint) - (the Web Museum for Art)

Follow 'Stanborough Art' on Pinterest to find inspirational artists and art resources

## **French**

### **Curriculum Leader – Ms F Fletcher**

#### **What will your child be studying?**

French pronunciation and phonics - Learning what it means to know a word from recognition, to pronouncing, spelling and using the word in a sentence. Grammar - Useful verbs in the present tense – avoir, être, faire. Vocabulary - to discuss topics such as family and friends, physical description and personality. They will also learn useful classroom language and expressions to communicate in the classroom in French.

#### **What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?**

Unit 1 & 2 – Describing things and people

#### **How can you help?**

Encourage your child to practice phonetics, learn vocabulary and spelling regularly.

Supporting students with homework to ensure that tasks are submitted by the deadline date, please see Class Charts to view homework set. Ensure their exercise book is kept neat and tidy.

Please make sure your child always has a complete set of equipment for every French lesson – blue or black pen, green pen, pencil, ruler, whiteboard pen, French dictionary, highlighter pen.

#### **Supportive Websites/Resources**

[www.Memrise.com](http://www.Memrise.com)

<https://stanfrench.wixsite.com/French>: password: StanFrench

Quizlet

Duolingo

Follow '@StanMFL' on Twitter

## Geography

### Curriculum Leader – Mr H Fraser

#### What will your child be studying?

Students will study 5 key areas of geography that aim to build on what they will have encountered during their KS2 learning journey at primary school. Areas of study and a description of their content is outlined below:

Geographical investigation subject area	Content
What is geography?	An overview of what geography is and the geography of the UK and the world, along with key skills required to be a good geographer.
Weather and climate	Pupils will learn about the differences between weather and climates and what causes and influences it locally, regionally and around the world.
The power of nature	Pupils will learn about the role of the water cycle and how it influences rivers, and how rivers change landscapes and impact people in different places.
Population and settlement	Pupils will learn about why people settle in certain areas and how and why populations change over time in different places.
Unstoppable China?	Pupils will learn about the physical geography of China and how this has shaped its population over time before looking at what the future of China might look like.

#### What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Assessments will include tests and extended projects. Terminology tests will take place on a regular basis to make sure pupils are familiar with key geographical language, whilst homework may also be assessed.

#### How can you help?

We use the Hodder Progress in Geography book and a copy available at home would be beneficial but not essential. Any up to date atlas would also be useful. However the main way you can help is by discussing current events with your child which will encourage an interest in the world around them.

#### Supportive Websites/Resources

Apps – Wunderground weather app, Survey-123, any stop-motion recording app

Webstes – Digimaps for schools (contact [hfraser@stanborough.herts.sch.uk](mailto:hfraser@stanborough.herts.sch.uk) for login details),

Ordinance Survey, [Stanborough Hums Website](#) : Password: geography2016, [KS3 BBC – Bite Size](#)

## History

### Curriculum Leaders – Mr D Norris and Mrs E Stamp

#### What will your child be studying?

An introductory unit on core History terms and skills

- What is History?
- Chronology
- Problems with evidence

Medieval Britain 1066-1509: Anglo Saxon and Norman England

- What was England like before 1066?
- The Norman invasion
- How the Normans changed England

Medieval Britain 1066-1509: The Crusades

- Medieval Religion
- What were the Wars of the Cross?
- What did the Crusades do for us?

#### What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

##### Baseline assessment

Assessing historical terminology, skills and concepts

##### Why did William win the Battle of Hastings?

Assessing causation essay writing

#### How can you help?

Check student's Class Charts to see when they should have Homework and check it's being completed with adequate effort.

Read through work with students and ask them questions about it – encourage them to jot down questions and queries.

Make sure they understand assessment criteria and feedback.

#### Supportive Websites/Resources

[www.schoolhistory.co.uk](http://www.schoolhistory.co.uk)

'Horrible History' Series

## IT & Computing

### Curriculum Leader – Mrs M O'Connor

#### What will your child be studying?

Students will complete two units of work.

In the first half term, students will explore the power of online communication and how to stay safe online. Students will understand how to use digital tools responsibly and the legal implications of online publishing. Students will also develop their research techniques, using search tools more effectively and being able to make judgements on reliability. Students create their own digital posters to show others how they can be safe online.

In the second half term, students will complete a graphics design unit. This unit will teach students how to use IT in a business context. Students are given a product/service which they have to promote using a variety of digital media. Students will explore how graphics are used in the real world, producing their own graphic products using bitmap and vector tools.

#### What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

##### Online Safety assessment

wb. 18/10

##### Digital Design

Students are assessed on their final digital graphic products, created using a graphics software package.

wb. 13/12

#### How can you help?

To discuss the possible dangers when online and ways to protect themselves.

Encourage your child to explore different types of real world examples of graphics and logos e.g. DVD covers, posters.

Make your child aware of different, good layouts, in comics/magazines and how design is linked to the intended audience.

Check homework is being done regularly.

#### Supportive Websites/Resources

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

## Music

### Curriculum Leader – Mrs E Jackson

#### **What will your child be studying?**

Rhythm & Notation – learning note values and names.

Melody – learning note pitches and playing an Irish Folk melody on the keyboard

Pictures at a Gallery – using Art to inspire pieces of Music composed at the keyboard.

Listening Skills – be able to describe music using musical language.

#### **What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?**

Melody: Performance: Lesson 7

Fundamentals: Listening and Appraising: Lesson 8

Gallery: Composition: Lesson 12

#### **How can you help?**

Encourage students join music extra-curricular activities. This term this will be in year bubbles with a variety of music covered each week. In the short term this will be a combination of singing and instrumental music, but when advise changes we will return to our usual wide extra-curricular provision.

Support students in having instrumental or vocal lessons.

Encourage students to listen to a wide variety of music and discuss it with them.

Sing! Encourage your children's creativity and efforts in making Music. It is unlikely to be right first time, but with time, practice and support they will improve.

#### **Supportive Websites/Resources**

[www.dsokids.com](http://www.dsokids.com)

[www.stanboroughmusic.com](http://www.stanboroughmusic.com)

Radio stations/music television channels (all types)

## Physical Education Curriculum Leader – Miss E Bowen & Mr P Harris

### What will your child be studying?

**Boys :** Rugby, Football, Gymnastics, Health related fitness, Athletics, Striking & Field games.

**Girls :** Netball, Dance, Badminton, Health related fitness, Athletics, Striking and Field games.

There will also be lots of opportunities to get involved in extra-curricular activities in football, rugby, girls' football, netball, dance, basketball, badminton, cross country running, cricket, rounders, ultimate frisbee, fitness training, tennis and athletics.

### What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Initial testing takes place at the start of the year for two weeks.

There will also be a practical assessment at the end of each block of work.

### How can you help?

By encouraging students to be physically active in the evenings and at weekends

By taking an interest in sport covered by the media.

By ensuring that students are properly prepared for all PE lessons with the correct kit, footwear and protective equipment such as shin pads and gum shields.

### Supportive Websites/Resources

[www.pe4u.co.uk](http://www.pe4u.co.uk)

[www.uksport.gov.uk](http://www.uksport.gov.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/sportsacademy](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sportsacademy)

Reading the sports pages of newspapers

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## Religion, Philosophy and Ethics Curriculum Leader – Mr R Collinson

### What will your child be studying?

The six main world Religions – Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, Hinduism, Buddhism.  
The basics of these six main world religions  
Beliefs and practices  
Identity and belonging

### What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Beliefs and Teachings Assessment  
w/b 18/10/21

### How can you help?

Help your child to learn the table of basic facts on world religions.  
Ensure your child completes all homework.  
Encourage your child to watch the news regularly.  
Help and provide access to internet/library resources.  
Encourage an open, unprejudiced approach to other faiths and beliefs

### Supportive Websites/Resources

[stanborough.wixsite.com/repe](http://stanborough.wixsite.com/repe) - The Departmental Website  
[www.bbc.co.uk/religion](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion) - BBC Religion and Ethics Homepage



Religion, Philosophy & Ethics  
Stanborough School