

Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School



Let your light shine

Key Stage 3 Course Guide



Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School

The Mission Statement of Browndge St Mary's expresses our intention to ensure that all pupils are given the opportunity to fulfil their potential using their unique talents gifted to them by God.

We are committed to providing opportunities that allow **all** pupils to develop as independent, confident and successful learners with high aspirations who enjoy learning and make good progress. Through our Mission, we will develop pupils' personal and moral values based on our Catholic ethos, teaching them respect for other cultures, religions and ways of life and ensuring that all know how to make a constructive contribution to the local, national and worldwide community.

Our curriculum will deliver a broad, balanced, coherent and consistent programme of learning with clear and smooth progression routes designed to meet the needs, aspirations and interests of all learners.

Through creative, flexible and tailored approaches to teaching it will promote:

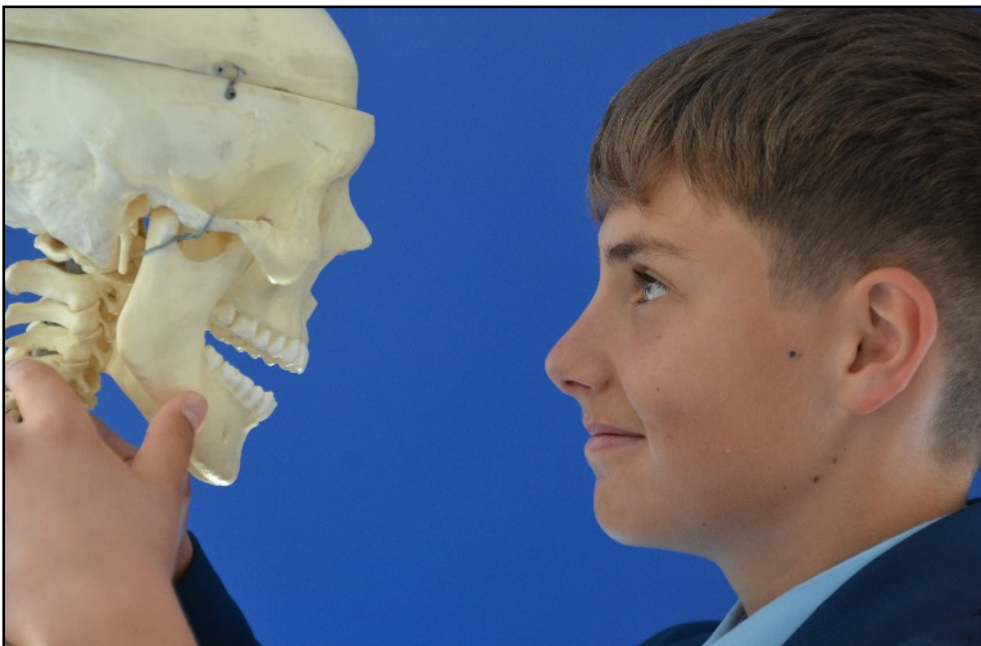
- high expectations and challenge for every child
- knowledge and understanding of core and foundation subjects
- mastery of intellectual, physical and social skills
- awareness of moral responsibility and the spiritual life
- understanding of the world of work and enterprise
- understanding of how British values are integrated into our Christian ethos

Our Key Stage three curriculum ensures that pupils in Year 7 and 8 experience a broad and balanced curriculum allowing them to extend their knowledge and understanding, as well as skills, in a range of academic, artistic, creative and sporting subjects and activities. Through offering a diverse subject offer, pupils make substantial and sustained progress where they are engaged, challenged and inspired to learn as they move through their school life



Key Stage 3 Curriculum Subject Allocation Hours per week

	Year 7	Year 8
Religious Education	2	2
English	3.5	4
Maths	3.5	3
Science	3	3
Computing	1	1
Expressive Arts (Art, Music, Drama)	3	2
Geography	2	2
History	2	2
Modern Foreign Languages (French & German)	2	3
Physical Education	2	2
Technology (Design & Food)	1	1
Learning for Life (inc Citizenship)	Each year group has 20 hours a year	



Year 7

Religious Education is central in enabling pupils to engage with the “big questions” in life. Pupils are given a foundation knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith and develop an awareness of the influence of religion on individuals, communities and society. Lessons will help pupils reflect spiritually, exploring their own beliefs and values.

Units:

- **Exploring God:** Who is God for religious and non-religious people? What is the Christian Church? How does our school express its Christian ethos?
- **Exploring Festivals:** How do Catholics celebrate their faith during the Liturgical Year?
- **Exploring Scripture:** What is the structure and the importance of the Bible for different groups of Christians?
- **Exploring Easter:** What is the importance of Jesus’ death and resurrection for Christians?

Year 8

Pupils study salvation history, understanding the significance of the story of the Jewish people for Christians. Through the study of Catholic Christianity pupils will develop their ability to think deeply about ethical issues, deepening their awareness of their own beliefs and spirituality. This community of enquiry will prepare them for the academic challenge of GCSE Religious Studies.

Units:

- **Investigating Beginnings:** Study of Creation and The Fall; Stewardship; Covenant; Exodus and the Ten Commandments.
- **Investigating Forgiveness:** Study of conscience: King David; Jesus and forgiveness; Sacrament of Reconciliation; forgiveness as healing.
- **Investigating Jesus:** Study of the Prophets; Jesus as Messiah: historical evidence for Jesus; the Incarnation; Parables and miracles; Jesus and outcasts;

Throughout Year 7 and 8 pupils will develop a range of English literature and language skills through the study of a variety of drama, prose and poetry from the 19th century to the modern day. They will develop their reading skills through the promotion of independent reading inside and outside the classroom, using Accelerated Reader to monitor progress. Pupils will learn to craft their writing, adapting to specific audiences and purposes.

Year 7

Units:

- **Horror Writing, including:** Edgar Allan Poe, HG Wells and Anthony Horowitz
- **Modern Drama:** Our Day Out
- **The Globe Theatre:** Introduction to Shakespeare and the Elizabethan era
- **Romantic Poets and Environmental Poetry**
- **World Literature:** Stories from Different Cultures

Year 8

Units:

- **Modern Prose:** The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas
- **Non-fiction Texts,** including: Anne Frank’s Diary and other Holocaust texts
- **Study of Detective Fiction,** including: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- **Frankenstein:** the play and novel
- **Study of Chaucer as a storyteller**

Year 7

Our vision is that all pupils succeed in Mathematics, regardless of their starting point. Upon arrival at school, pupils are grouped based on weaknesses in their KS2 exams. Staff work with pupils to improve these areas first and foremost to ensure that students have the correct foundations to succeed in KS3. Pupils follow the Pearson scheme of work enabling pupils to focusing on their fluency, problem solving and reasoning skills, all of which are vital for success at GCSE.

Units:

- Analysing & Displaying Data
- Expressions, Functions, Formulae & Equations
- Graphs and sequences
- Calculating, Factors & Multiples
- Decimals & Measures
- Angles & Lines
- Transformations
- Measuring & Shapes
- Fractions, Decimals & Percentages
- Probability
- Ratio, Proportion & Multiplicative reasoning
- Perimeter, area and volume

Year 8

In Year 8 pupils build on the foundations of Year 7. We ensure that pupils revisit topics during 10 minute lesson 'starters' and for homework, this is to embed knowledge and encourage revision early.

Units:

- Number properties and calculations
- Shapes and measures in 3D
- Statistics, Graphs and Charts
- Expressions, Equations, Functions & Formulae
- Factors & Powers
- Percentages, decimals and fractions calculations
- Angles
- Number properties
- Sequences
- Fractions and percentages
- Probability
- Ratio
- Real life graphs
- Constructions, Loci, Scale drawings and measures
- Area and volume
- Straight-line graphs
- Transformations
- Probability

Year 7

In Year 7, pupils follow the AQA Key Stage 3 Science syllabus. This helps students meet AQA's Mastery Goals, 'Big Ideas' principle and Enquiry Processes. At Brownedge, we teach the curriculum with a hands on approach; ensuring many opportunities for practical activities. This will allow pupils to gain the skills, knowledge and experience required to be successful at GCSE, where the AQA syllabus is also studied.

Units:

- **Forces:** Speed and Gravity
- **Matter:** Particle model and Separating mixtures
- **Organisms:** Movement and Cells
- **Electromagnets:** Voltage and resistance and Current
- **Reactions:** Metals and non-metals and Acids and Alkalis
- **Ecosystems:** Interdependence and Plant reproduction
- **Energy:** Energy costs and Energy transfer
- **Waves:** Sound and Light
- **Genes:** Variation and Reproduction
- **Earth:** Earth structure and the Universe

Year 8

In Year 8, pupils will revisit the 'Big Ideas' studied in year 7 in a new context. The syllabus is designed to allow pupils to develop an understanding of a Big Idea by multiple interactions with the concepts. By connecting smaller ideas to more abstract thinking, students will be better prepared to apply these concepts when approaching an unfamiliar topic. Each 'Big Idea' contains four smaller topics that build in complexity. For example, the 'Waves', topic studied in Year 7 covered the more concrete topics of 'Light' and 'Sound', whereas in Year 8 it covers the more abstract concepts of 'Wave properties' and 'Wave effects'.

Units:

- **Forces:** Contact forces and Pressure
- **Reactions:** Chemical energy and Types of reaction
- **Organisms:** Breathing and Digestion
- **Electromagnets:** Magnetism and Electromagnetism
- **Matter:** Periodic table and Elements
- **Ecosystems:** Respiration and Photosynthesis
- **Waves:** Wave effects and Wave properties
- **Genes:** Evolution and Inheritance

Year 7

Year 7 focuses on drawing and developing individual's creativity and is central to everything we do. Every pupil has at least one area of art they can achieve in. We work to identify these areas, encourage independence, and risk taking in creating quality outcomes by all.

Units:

- The elements of art & design including the Colour Wheel and colour theory.
- Observational drawing including Perspective and Shading.
- Printing.
- Cultural Studies.

Year 8

Year 8 is a continuation of Year 7 and covers a range of specialisms to prepare pupils for beginning their GCSE course in Year 9. Building on skills developed in Year 7 pupils will explore a range of topics and outcomes whilst also learning how to develop ideas and analyse their own work and that of others.

Units:

- Observational Drawing (a continuation from the unit in Year 7)
- Painting Skills, including Wax Resist, Watercolour and Acrylic.
- Sculpture
- Graffiti and Public Art
- Cultural Studies

Computers are now part of everyday life and, for most of us, technology is essential to our lives, at home and at work. 'Computational thinking' is a skill that all pupils must learn if they are to be ready for the workplace and able to participate effectively in the digital world.

Our curriculum for computing at KS3 has been developed our pupils with the foundational skills, knowledge and understanding of computing they will need for the rest of their lives. Through the new programme of study for computing, they will learn how computers and computer systems work, they will design and build programs, they will develop their ideas using technology, and create a range of digital IT content. Pupils will study a three strand curriculum covering all aspects of computer science, digital design and ICT. Pupils are given projects whereby computational thinking is at their core.

Year 7

Units:

- **Can we program a computer to think?** Algorithms and Computational Thinking using scratch
- **Did Charles Babbage invent the computer?** Computer hardware and software
- **Is the Internet the WWW?** Theory of the Internet and introduction to html
- **Was Pong the FIRST ever computer game?** Programming using the BBC Microbit
- **Can educational computer games be fun?** Programming theory

Year 8

Units:

- **Do you have a digital footprint?** Online safety
- **What is the most-used language on the planet?** Binary and beyond
- **Can Siri think?** Programming using Python
- **Can you crack this code?** Computing theory through the eyes of people of the past
- **Virtual pet** Programming using GameMaker

Year 7

Food Technology

Units:

- Food hygiene and personal safety
- Healthy lunchbox project, looking at the eatwell guide
- 8 healthy tips to healthy lifestyle

Resistant Materials

Units:

- Health & safety in the workshop
- Exploring Materials
- Polymers with focused practical project earphone wraps.
- CAD/CAM & extrusion - methods of Production
- Ferrous & Non Ferrous Metals
- Hardwood & Softwood
- Fibres and Textiles with focused practical tasks - keyring, weaving, reinforcing

Year 8

Food Technology

Units:

- Introduction to Food Science, looking at what happens to food when we cook and apply heat.
- Introduction to basic catering skills within a simple kitchen setting.

Resistant Materials

Units:

- Health & Safety in the Workshop recap
- Understanding Motions & Mechanisms - cams, gears, levers, pulleys with focused practical project Pull-String Puppet.
- Forces and Structures with focused practical tasks build a bridge
- Emerging Technologies- Sustainable energies
- Scales of Production-manufacturing processes

Across the Drama curriculum pupils develop key skills, the basics of which are listening, co-operation and concentration. Performance work allows them to develop their confidence as well as their vocal and physical skills. They will be introduced to different dramatic techniques such as freeze frame, thought tracking, hotseating, angels & devils and conscience alley. In addition they will be encouraged to explore different styles of performance. Some of the units covered are issue based allowing pupils to reflect upon the world around them and issues that may be relevant to their lives.

Year 7

Units:

- Introduction to Drama/Advert Theatre
- Matilda
- Our World: Evacuation of Children during World War 2 & Modern Displacement
- Shakespeare: Macbeth
- Bullying

Year 8

Units:

- Homelessness
- Truancy
- Introduction to GCSE: Devising Theatre

In this dynamic and ever changing world pupils will be taught about the interconnections between the physical, human and environmental world we live in. Over the 2 year course pupil will study a range of topics which will be interlinked to each other and the core geographical skills needed for success at GCSE ; A01 Knowledge , A02 Understanding of process, A03 Application to the real world A04 geographical skills . They will be taking part in lots of decision making exercises to become better problem solvers, interpreting a range of sources including data and be constantly looking at real life case studies to keep the topic up to date and relevant.

Year 7

Units:

- My world (Core geographical skills)
- Wicked water (Rivers and flooding)
- Too many people ? (Population and migration)
- The Eden project (Ecosystems)
- Connecting classrooms (Ghana and development)
- We are all going on a summer holiday (Tourism)

Year 8

Units:

- Who wants to be a weatherman ? (Weather and climate)
- Risky World (Tectonics)
- Cracking Coasts (Coastal landscapes)
- Saving the Planet (Resource management)
- Urban Splash (Urban change)
- World of Sport (Globalisation)

Year 7

Pupils cover a range of depth studies and theme studies. Pupils will focus on skills such as chronology, source analysis and creating an argument.

Units:

- Medieval Depth Study
- Religious change and continuity Theme Study
- The French Revolution Depth Study
- The Civil War Depth Study
- The Empire Theme Study

Year 8

Pupils cover a range of topics, interleaving previous topics and leading into Modern History. Pupils will focus on skills including source analysis, historian interpretations and justifying significance.

Units:

- Power and Parliament Theme Study
- The Industrial Revolution Depth Study
- The Holocaust Depth Study
- War and Peace Theme Study (including World War I, World War 2, Cold War)
- The Slave Trade and Race Relations Depth Study

Schools have a statutory duty to promote young people's wellbeing and statutory responsibilities to provide a curriculum that is broadly based, balanced and meets the needs of all pupils. Under Section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and the Academies Act 2010 such a curriculum must: promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and prepare pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

A good PSHEE education provides young people with both the knowledge and skills to manage their lives, make the right decisions and thrive as individuals and members of society. High quality PSHEE is also essential to keeping pupils safe and healthy, inside and outside the school gates. Young people today face unprecedented pressures posed by modern technology. Good quality PSHEE can provide them with the information they need to stay safe and build resilience against the risks of exploitation or radicalisation. At its heart, good PSHE supports young people to make informed choices.

Year 7

Units:

- Rights and Responsibilities
- What is British Identity?
- Diversity, Tolerance and respect
- Caring for our country
- What is the Law?
- Safe behaviour including E-safety, road and transport safety
- Bullying and homophobia
- Staying healthy including personal health, exercise and mental health
- Careers and IAG
- Disability awareness
- Managing money

Year 8

Units:

- British Values
- Diversity, Tolerance and respect
- Public Services, the Law and Jury
- Safe behaviour including E-safety and personal safety
- Just saying no – Drugs
- Staying healthy including healthy eating, exercise and mental health and wellbeing
- Stewardship and caring for the Environment
- Family life
- Careers and IAG
- Managing money

Learning for Life

Pupils will cover a range of topics and language skills in order to be able to communicate in the target language (French or German) and understand the target language culture. Pupils will be formally assessed at the end of each unit of work. These assessments will include a mix of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

Year 7

French

Units:

- Topic 1 - Town and Country
- Topic 2 - Sports and Hobbies
- Topic 3 - Myself and My Family
- Topic 4 - My school

Year 8

French

Units:

- Topic 1 - Holidays
- Topic 2 - House and Home
- Topic 3 - Healthy Eating and Illness
- Topic 4 - Sports, Free-time and Media

German

Units:

- Topic 1 - Town and Country
- Topic 2 - Sports and Hobbies
- Topic 3 - Myself and My Family
- Topic 4 - My school

Modern Foreign Languages

Year 7

Year 7 Music covers all aspects of music, focusing particularly on the elements but in a practical way, using performance and composition to build a fundamental understanding of music.

Units:

- **Voiceworks:** Understanding how we sing and the different vocal features we can use.
- **Notation:** Understanding correct musical notation and the use of the stave. Note names & note values
- **Rhythm & Pulse:** Time signatures, bars, beats and developing an understanding or rhythmical devices.
- **Form & Structure:** Understanding how music is put together structurally, using Binary, Ternary and Rondo Form.
- **Night & Day (Elements of Music):** Developing understanding of the elements of music and how they are used to develop emotion and feeling in music.
- **Variations:** Continuing use of elements and understanding how we can use variations to make music more interesting. Development of creativity, timing and performance.

Year 8

In Year 8, students are given the opportunity to increase their ensemble skills and use a number of different modern instruments to create their own bands and explore different genres and styles of modern music.

Units:

- **Popular Song :** A unit that develops creativity, timing, notation skills, and full understanding of all the Elements of Music.
- **Reggae:** Exploring Syncopation and rhythms to build on Rhythm and Pulse from Year 7. Cross-curricular Link to Geography
- **Blues:** Understanding of chords, bass line, structure and development of improvisation

Year 7 & Year 8

Pupils will take part in a range of competitive sport, other physically demanding activities as well as being given aesthetic opportunities to express themselves. This will allow pupils to become more physically confident in a way that supports their health and fitness. The games and activities pupils take part in will help build character and embed the schools' Mission Statement.

Pupils are taught to:

- use a range of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents
- develop their skills, techniques and performance in competitive sports
- work in a team, building on trust and developing skills to solve problems
- analyse their progress and demonstrate improvement to achieve their personal best
- take part in competitive sports and activities inside and outside of school through community links or sports clubs

Units:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| • Football | • Athletics |
| • Netball | • Rounders |
| • Dance | • Cricket |
| • Gymnastics | • Handball |
| • Rugby | • Basketball |
| | • Tennis |





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