



Key Stage 3 Course Guide

Courses delivered in 2017-2018



Introduction from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers and Pupils,

At Skinners' Academy, Year 7 & 8 pupils access a range of interesting academic subjects, all enhanced by our enterprise specialism. Key Stage 3 lasts two years with pupils choosing their GCSEs within the spring/summer term of Year 8. This is a year earlier than most schools and gives pupils the chance to get going with subjects they are most interested in from Year 9.

Curriculum Aims:

- All pupils know what they need to achieve to succeed in life
- Staff and pupils have high expectations and strive for excellence
- Learning and teaching takes place in a safe and purposeful environment
- Pupils are encouraged to have enquiring minds and seek opportunities to become global citizens
- Staff challenge and support pupils' paths to success

Curriculum Objectives:

- Creative and flexible approaches to learning and teaching
- Offering an innovative curriculum developed with the aspirations and interests of the pupils at the centre
- Making effective use of ICT and new technologies to motivate and inspire pupils
- Nurturing close partnerships with local and international organisations, giving pupils a wide range of opportunities to experience the world of work
- Providing opportunities for pupils to extend their learning outside of the formal curriculum, including a range of enrichment activities from Year 7

With best wishes, Yours faithfully,
Tim Clark, Principal

Subject Lessons Per Week

Subject	Lessons
English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
PSHEE	1
Art & Design	1
Computing	1
Design & Technology	1
Drama	1
Geography	2
History	2
Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)	2
Music	1
Physical Education (PE)	2
Religious Studies (RS)	1



English

Year 7

Pupils will study a range of drama, prose and poetry from the 19th century to the modern day. They will develop their reading and writing skills. They will be encouraged to read extensively and write creatively. They will also become independent critical learners.

Units:

- Storytelling – A Christmas Carol
- Conflict Poetry
- Myths and Macbeth

Year 8

Pupils will continue to study a range of drama, prose and poetry from the 19th century to the modern day. They will develop their reading and writing skills. They will be encouraged to widen their reading choices and expand on their writing skills.

Units:

- People & Places: Of Mice & Men
- Twelfth Night
- Poetry from Different Cultures

Mathematics

The belief that every pupil can succeed in mathematics, regardless of background and prior attainment, is fundamental to Mathematics Mastery, the programme we follow for in KS3 mathematics. The units covered allow pupils to develop a depth of understanding of the basic skills and prerequisites needed within mathematics.

Year 7

Unit 1: Place Value

Unit 2 & 3: Addition and subtraction

Unit 4: Addition and subtraction of decimals

Unit 5 – 8: Multiplication and division

Unit 9: Working with units

Unit 10: Angles

Unit 11 – 12: Triangles and quadrilaterals

Unit 13: Symmetry and tessellation

Unit 14: Understand and use fraction

Unit 15: Fractions of amounts

Unit 16: Multiplying and dividing decimals

Unit 17: Order of operations

Unit 18: Introduction to algebra

Unit 19: Algebraic generalisation project

Unit 20: Percentages

Unit 21: Handling data

Year 8

Unit 1: Primes and factorising

Unit 2: Add and subtract fraction

Unit 3: Positive and negative numbers

Unit 4: Sequences, expressions and equations

Unit 5: Triangles, quadrilaterals and angles in parallel lines

Unit 6: Length and area: Rallelograms and trapezia

Unit 7: Percentage change

Unit 8: Ratio and rate

Unit 9: Rounding

Unit 10: Circumference and area of a circle

Unit 11: 3D shapes and nets

Unit 12: Surface area and volume

Unit 13: Statistics

Science

Year 7

Within this subject, pupils will learn to observe, analyse and evaluate through laboratory practical work. They will learn how to solve basic scientific mathematical problems, draw graphs and learn to plan and organise their scientific work. Literacy will also be incorporated through the understanding and spelling of keywords.

Units:

- Cells
- Atoms and elements
- Acids and alkalis
- Energy and energy transfers
- The periodic table
- Metals and their uses
- Mixtures and separation
- Forces and motion
- Fluids
- Animal and plant reproduction

Year 8

Within this subject, pupils will develop their observation, analysis and evaluative skills through laboratory practical work. They will also develop their scientific mathematical and graph drawing skills. Literacy will continue to be incorporated through the understanding and spelling of keywords.

Units:

- Electricity and electromagnets
- Rocks
- Earth and space
- Sound
- Light
- Combustion
- Reactivity
- Ecosystems
- Genetics and evolution
- Unicellular organisms

PSHEE - Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

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.

2015 Government response: Life lessons: PSHE and SRE in schools | www.gov.uk

Year 7

Drawing and developing the individuals creativity 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
- Observational drawing
- Collage and drawing with scissors
- Ceramics
- Print making
- Visual literacy

Year 8

Year 8 is a continuation of Year 7 and covers a range of specialisms similar to a foundation course. Year 8 starts with portrait drawing, and then moves into a sculpture project involving perspective drawing. By the spring term pupils are given one final project to plan and design for, based around one of five units.

Units:

- Portrait painting
- Print making
- Sculpture
- Ceramics
- Mixed media

NB: within one lesson there could be up to 24-31 individual projects

Pupils will be introduced to three areas within Design and Technology. All pupils will spend a term in both Year 7 & Year 8 in each area, learning the theory, designing and making.

Year 7**Food Technology:**

- Diet & Health: Vegetable soup
- Nutrition: Cheese straws
- Food source and supply: Anzac Biscuits
- Heat Transfer: Stir fry
- Sensory Properties: Practical of choice

Resistant Materials:

Handmade book stand • Timber based materials • Wood joining • Designing for a client • Testing and evaluating • Preserving wood

Textiles:

Handmade cushion • Fibers to fabric • Cotton • Repeat patterns • Batik • Hand dyeing • Finishing Fabrics

Year 8**Food Technology:**

- Diet & Health: Carrot cake
- Nutrition: Fajita
- Processes & production: Macaroni cheese
- Technological developments: Hummus
- Food Science: Bread

Resistant Materials:

Handmade clock • Plastics • CAD & CAM • Smoothing Acrylic • Clock Mechanisms • Paper and nets • 6 Rs and the environment • Packaging

Textiles:

Handmade Placemat • Hand embroidery • Machine embroidery • Bias and binding • Finishing fabrics • Testing and evaluation

Year 7

Pupil will learn aspects of e-safety, which will help them identify and understand the uses of technology in a responsible and safe way. They will explore the use of computer models, handle binary numbers and use programming languages to solve computational problems. Pupils will also undertake a creative project that will provide the opportunity for them to use a range of software applications.

Units:

- Unit 7.1: E-Safety
- Unit 7.2: Computing Fundamentals
- Unit 7.3: Data and Algorithms
- Unit 7.4: Programming
- Unit 7.5: Information Kiosk
- Unit 7.6: Digital Assets

Year 8

Pupils will further explore e-safety topics to understand how to recognise inappropriate content, contact and conduct when using communication devices as well as how to report these. They will investigate computer components and how systems store and execute instructions. They will learn to use binary digits to manipulate text, sound and images. Pupils will develop programming skills and will undertake a creative project combining multiple editing software applications and techniques.

Units:

- Unit 8.1: E-Safety
- Unit 8.2: Computing Fundamentals
- Unit 8.3: Data and Algorithms
- Unit 8.4: Programming
- Unit 8.5: Film Story
- Unit 8.6: Digital Media

Year 7

Drama at KS3 has been designed to develop pupils' transferable skills and provide an understanding of Drama and Theatre. Pupils who progress through the creating, performing and responding criteria will learn effective planning, negotiation, innovation, cooperation, communication, interpersonal, resilience and problem solving skills. We offer a safe environment where pupils are encouraged to express themselves creatively and to develop their confidence.

Units:

- Introduction to skills
- Theatre history: Ancient Greece
- Scripted performer/director
- Scripted designer
- Devising skills
- Crystals story

Year 8

Pupils will continue to build and refine the skills necessary to create, perform and respond to drama. Pupils will further develop their scripting and devising work. Pupils who progress through the creating, performing and responding criteria will learn effective planning, negotiation, innovation, cooperation, communication, interpersonal, resilience and problem solving skills.

Units:

- Duologues & Skeleton scripts
- Macbeth
- Stimulus/Devising
- Scripted page-to-stage
- Mental health awareness: Didactic theatre
- MHA: Didactic Theatre continued

Geography

Pupils will be introduced to human, physical and environmental aspect of geography. Over the two-year course pupils will study various human and physical topics and how they interlink. Each topic will include case studies to give real life examples and facts. They will also take part in two field studies to collect data to interpret and use as part of a fieldwork assessment. Pupils will also use map, graph and statistical skills throughout the course to prepare them for KS4 geography should they pick it as a GCSE option.

Year 7

- Introduction to map skills and where in the world project
- River and the water cycle
- Settlement, shopping and fieldwork
- Weather and hazards
- Ecosystems
- Global warming

Year 8

- Development
- Globalisation
- Tectonic and hazards
- Changing places and regeneration fieldwork
- Population
- Tourism

Modern Foreign Languages

Pupils will cover a range of topics and language skills in order to be able to communicate in the target language (French or Spanish) and understand the target language culture. Pupils study units within the broad modules of 'Me, family, and friends', 'Home, school life and jobs', and 'Leisure and free time. 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

- Unit 1:** All about myself
- Unit 2:** My family and pets
- Unit 3:** My school
- Unit 4:** My house and area
- Unit 5:** Daily routine
- Unit 6:** Free time

Year 8

- Unit 1:** Holidays
- Unit 2:** Clothes and shopping
- Unit 3:** Jobs
- Unit 4:** My town and local area
- Unit 5:** Food and healthy living
- Unit 6:** Travel

History

Year 7

pupils learn about their personal history as well as the history of Hackney. Skills such as inference and importance will be focused on to provide pupils the skills they need to tackle international history.

Units:

- What is History
- How do Historians do History?
- Personal History
- History of Skinners'
- How much has Skinners' Academy changed?
- Investigating the Skinners' company
- History of immigration

Year 8

Pupils learn about the events that start with the Gunpowder Plot and lead on to the execution of Charles I. Pupils will learn to make valid judgements and learn to handle sources and artefacts from the period. Pupils will also think carefully about how to provide evidence in their answers.

Units:

- The Gunpowder Plot
- James I and Divine Right
- Why was Charles so unpopular?
- Whose side are you on?
- Long Term Causes of the Civil War
- Short Term Causes of the Civil War
- Life on the Battlefield
- The Trial of Charles I
- The execution of Charles I
- Cromwell: Hero or Villain?

Music

Pupils focus on the core skills of performing and composing as well as developing their skills in music reading and aural analysis. Listening, singing, and clapping will be used to develop aural awareness and the ability to read and write music.

Year 7

Year 7 pupils will all take an instrumental lesson and attend an hour-long ensemble session. This will develop their performance skills, musical awareness, ensemble ability and understanding of notations.

Units:

- Singing/performing using keyboards and percussion
- Reading/writing notes & rhythms on the staff.
- Steel band/samba band performance
- Composition project - pupils develop an understanding of structure, texture and harmony.

Year 8

Year 8 pupils will be given the opportunity to continue to take an instrumental lesson and attend an hour-long ensemble. This will further develop their performance skills, musical awareness, ensemble ability and understanding of notations.

Units:

- Sequence the James Bond theme for a film trailer.
- Continued development of large ensemble skills
- Composition of a piece of Impressionist or minimalist music in the style of Debussy or Reich, using notation scoring software.

Physical Education (PE)

Year 7 & Year 8

Pupils will take part in a range of competitive sport and other physically demanding activities. 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 values such as fairness and respect.

Pupils are taught to:

- use a range of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents
- develop their skills, techniques and performance in competitive sports
- take part in adventurous activities which present intellectual and physical challenges
- 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 | • Table tennis |
| • Rugby | • Basketball |

Religious Studies (RS)

Year 7

RS is an important subject, as it develops pupils knowledge and understanding of the religions and beliefs that make up our contemporary society. In Year 7, pupils will study four major world faiths. Through the study of religion and ethical issues, pupils will be made aware of our existence in an era of globalisation and an increasingly interdependent world.

Units:

- Introduction to RS
- Christianity & Forgiveness
- Islam and guidance
- Buddhism and life
- Hinduism and experience
- Citizenship

Year 8

Pupils will study two additional major world faiths and further develop their knowledge and understanding on faiths which they learnt in Year 7. Religion and belief for many people form an essential part of their culture and identity. The influence of religion on society and public life is continuously brought to our attention via widespread media coverage.

Units:

- Sikhism and the 5 K's
- Judaism and daily life
- Understanding Christianity
- What does Buddhism teach?
- Islam
- Citizenship



