



Year 7

World Class Studies

2023/24





Year 7 World Class Studies 2023/24

What is World Class Studies?

At Finham Park, students are able to study a wide range of subjects and courses. Alongside the usual traditional courses, we offer all Year 7 students the chance to experience an enhanced curriculum by choosing 2 subjects, along with Mandarin, from a choice of 5 in the World Class Studies programme. These subjects have been carefully chosen to enable Year 7 students to:-

- Experience areas of the curriculum in a new and different ways;
- Develop new skills that will enable them to develop as better learners;
- Develop their love of learning;
- Experience subjects they might not usually have the opportunity to take until Key Stage 4.

We believe this programme will not only supplement their learning but also give them a valuable 'taster' of subjects they might consider choosing later in their Finham career. Students will have one World Class Studies lesson per week. They will study their first option choice will over the Autumn Term, their second option across the Spring Term and their third option in the Summer Term.

How to Choose: The Options Process

Year 6 into Year 7

All students starting Year 7 in September 2023 will choose 2 subjects , plus 2 Reserve Choices, in case they can't be allocated all of their first choices. As part of the programme, all Year 7 students will study Mandarin for one term. Please be aware that due to the constraints of class sizes, ICT facilities and the complexities of timetabling staff and students we cannot guarantee any student all of their first choices and may need to allocate a Reserve Choice.

Please state your preferences using the form on the school website or scan the QR Code below.

Please complete all the information carefully on the form, including your 2 main option choices and your 2 Reserve Choices. The deadline for submitting your form is **Friday 7th July 2023** If you are unable to complete the form online please contact the school for a paper copy. Please note that after this date we will make the choice of subjects for students who have not submitted a form.

<https://finhampark.com/wcs-form/>





The 5 Option Choices Available for World Class Studies 2023/24

Drama - Theatre in Education

Microbit Programming

Discovery

Philosophy for Children

Film Studies

Mandarin

Mandarin – Chineasy?

This subject option is compulsory for all Year 7 students.

Why study Mandarin?

The People's Republic of China is only just over 60 years old, but is rooted in a civilisation that spans thousands of years. Learn about this rich culture, the festivals Chinese people celebrate and the huge economic progress of today. How do young people in China spend their time? How can I make friendships and business relationships with Chinese people?

In Mandarin lessons you will learn some useful introductory phrases and how to write simple characters.

In a world where China is having a greater economic, social and cultural impact you will get a head start as you learn about this fascinating country's language and culture.

What will I learn?

Year 7

- Greetings and introductions
- Numbers to 99
- Colours
- Family
- Zodiac story and New Year
- Food and Drink
- Culture
- Review of greetings and numbers
- Introducing yourself
- Dates and days of the week
- Nationality
- Chinese festivals
- Families
- Occupation
- Time
- Chinese crafts



How will I be assessed / know how I am doing?

Learning is informally assessed throughout the course with regular reviews of previous learning.

Drama - 'Theatre in Education'

Do you want to be part of a working Theatre Company, creating, directing and acting in your very own performance?

Why study Drama?

You will be working as a theatre company to create a drama performance aimed at primary school children.

Through this course you will learn how to create effective "Theatre in Education" which is a type of drama that teaches younger students about an issue of your choosing.

By taking Drama you will develop your collaboration and leadership skills as well as learning to create, direct and act. Performing your work will also help to develop your confidence and communication skills.

What will I learn?

You will learn:

- How to work as a team with new people
- How to develop your leadership and collaboration skills
- How to engage an audience in performance
- What 'Theatre in Education' is and how it is used
- How to create and deliver a project from the page to the stage

What will I do?

You will:

- Take part in a variety of fun and practical workshops to develop your communication and team-work skills
- Create a piece of drama from scratch
- Film your work so you can watch it back and celebrate your achievements

How will I be assessed / know how I am doing?

We will share our performances regularly and use verbal feedback to push your play forward. Peer and self-assessment will help you to boost the quality of your work with stickers awarded for hard work and energy!



Computing : 'Microbit Programming'

"Be a tech pro of the future with the BBC micro:bit. The digital world is your oyster."

Microbit programming is for you if you're a fan of all things computing. If you're the kind of person who enjoys a challenge and is a fan of solving problems in a logical and computational way this is for you! The BBC Microbit is a mini computer which you can program to perform a variety of different and fun tasks it has a built in LEDs, Inputs and an Accelerometer all of which you can use in the programs you create. You can build programs around the themes of logic, programs, games and fitness programs using online software to interact with the Microbit device.

You will learn:

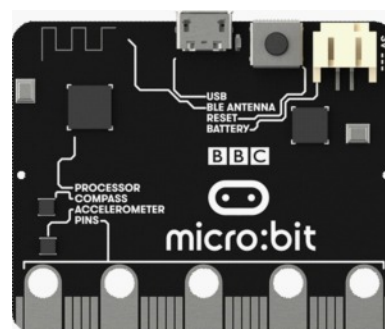
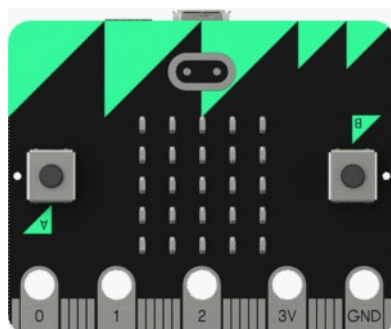
- The principles behind coding the Microbit
- How to create working programs using the on-board systems and controls of the Microbit
- The logic and computation thinking behind programming
- How to work effectively with other students to achieve a common goal
- How to work independently in order to solve problems
- Use cloud based tools alongside desktop software

What will I do?

- Work with the online program editor to build programs
- Run programs on the Microbit
- Solve problems using hardware inputs and outputs
- Work with others to develop more complex programs

How will I be assessed / know how I am doing?

- The complexity of your finished programs
- How well your programs solve the task
- Your ability to work effectively with other students
- Your ability to problem solve more complex problems with the Microbit



Discovery

Why study Discovery?

Have you ever wondered how you can make a building earthquake proof? Have you ever wondered how bath bombs work? Have you ever wondered if we can live in buildings submerged in water? In Discovery you will be able to answer some of these questions by exploring Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths strategies to help you solve such problems. You will be able to test and model modern materials to understand the techniques used throughout history and in present day. Through experiments and analysis, you may even discover the solution for the future!

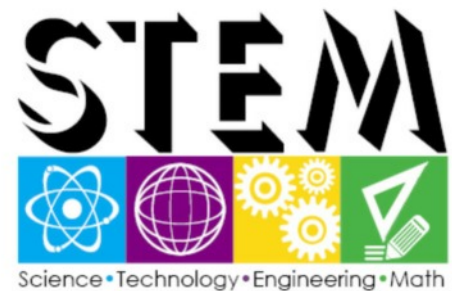
What will I learn?

- Communication skills
- Research skills
- Real world applications of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths
- Challenge your thoughts about STEM
- Why we use certain materials and not others
- Understand the advantages and disadvantages of STEM strategies
- Understand current issues affecting STEM

What will I do?

You will be:

- Researching materials that could be used
- Performing experiments to test materials
- Creating and analysing data
- Creating your own solutions to real-world STEM problems
- Evaluating designs
- Working in groups to plan and adapt solutions



How will I be assessed/know how I am doing?

Assessments are informal and based on the creativity of your groups' designs across all lessons. You will be able to evaluate your own products as well as others. Feedback is given to you throughout the course as you test materials and products that will influence your design choices. The final product will go through a variety of tests to see if your group has solved the STEM problem given to you.



Philosophy for Children (P4C)

What's it really like to think about deep, challenging questions?

Why study Philosophy for Children?

Philosophy for Children is ideal for students who have an enquiring mind and want to investigate key questions about our life and our existence, such as:

- How do I know what is the right thing to do, and the wrong thing to do?
- Can I **prove** that I am awake right now? What is my reality?
- What is the point of life, and what am I going to do with mine?
- What makes a person a person? Could a robot ever be counted as a person?

These are all questions you will discuss and reflect on as a class.

You will be introduced to different ideas and thoughts beyond your own. You will develop a philosophical mind and will begin to think beyond the obvious, to listen and evaluate and to form your own opinions.

What will I learn?

You will:

- Consider questions about life you may not have thought about yet.
- Reflect on your own ideas and the reasons for having these.
- Develop the confidence to ask questions and challenge ideas and investigate new ones.
- Improve your communication skills.
- Co-operate with others and explore ideas different to your own in a respectful manner.

What will I do?

You will be part of class discussions where you will develop your thoughts and questions on a variety of philosophical issues. You will produce creative and written tasks which reflect these discussions, and will watch a number of media clips and films which will provoke debate and thinking. You will also have time to personally reflect on your ideas and opinions.

How will I be assessed / know how I am doing?

During lessons you will complete work where you can reflect on your learning, and can explain the new ideas you have encountered and how you may have begun to think differently. By the end of the course you will have a completed portfolio of creative tasks, written reflection and workbooks.



Film Studies

The Film-Making option will teach you many skills revolving around creating audio-visual meaning through film, and forms an excellent foundation for learning more about Film and Media production later in the school. You will develop creative thinking skills, and effective ways of ways of creating imaginative solutions for those times when you think your mind has gone blank.

This option is ideal for those who want to get into film or media; for those who would eventually like to have a creative job; for those who like working in a group environment, and for those who want to get stuck into digital film and audio technology!!

What will I learn?

You will learn:

- How to organise the workflow behind a film project;
- How to story board and script a film;
- How to use film recording equipment;
- How to edit audio and video footage

What will I do?

You will:

- Take part in a variety of problem-solving creative activities
- Analyse the techniques used in an existing short film sequence of your choice
- Plan to recreate that film sequence through scripts and storyboards
- Film and record your footage
- Edit and present the final product

How will I be assessed / know how I am doing?

This is a paperless course. You will be assessed informally on the ability to reproduce a film sequence as closely as possible, and your ability to handle technology. You will formally evaluate your final products. Your teacher will give you feedback every week on your progress, and how you can improve your skills even further.

Students will compete with other student groups across the MAT to get their film nominated for the Finham Film Festival prize, and winners can also be entered for national competitions thereafter, as a springboard for potential careers in the media.





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