

BRITANNICA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

## Secondary Curriculum Overview

### Summer Term 2018

### Year 7

#### ENGLISH

This term will be a busy one, in English, for Year 7 as we will be starting an exciting new topic looking at film genre and media. The final part of the year we will move onto exploring short stories, learning about how narratives are structured and put our learning into practice with writing our own short stories. Alongside these units pupils will also continue to develop their understanding of non-fiction texts through their class novel and their own independent reading, whilst also focusing on developing their literacy skills in spelling, grammar and punctuation.

#### MATHEMATICS

This term students in year 7 will study a combination of Geometry and Statistics. In Geometry, students will learn about coordinates and working in all four quadrants, they will identify congruent shapes and learn how to transform shapes using rotation, reflection and translations. In statistics students will investigate averages and explore ways to summarise, analyse and compare sets of data. They will finish the term by working on a World Cup project where they will construct and interpret graphs as well as selecting appropriate graphs and charts. The information they gather will be presented in a creative way around the school.

#### SCIENCE

Year 7 scientists will be studying a range of different topics on the physical, chemical and life sciences. Firstly, they start learning about different states of matter. The main goal is to understand abstract concepts such the particle theory. Secondly, they will study forces and motion and their effects. They will learn the difference between contact and non-contact. And they will conduct different experiments to investigate speed and acceleration. Lastly, they will learn that organisms inherit features and that environmental factors also cause variation.

#### HISTORY

Year 7 historians will be having an action packed term as they look at the story of Genghis Khan. His remarkable journey takes his family from having almost nothing to conquering huge tracts of land in Asia and Europe. We will be investigating how their superior fighting tactics helped them do this. We will also look in detail at the Mongolian campaigns in China and Europe. We have already fun learning about his early life and I'm they will be even more amazed to hear how he manages to build such a huge empire.

## **GEOGRAPHY**

This term students are studying tourism. This will involve using graphs to show how tourism patterns have changed over time as well as investigating what makes some tourist destinations more attractive than others. Finally students will consider how tourism as an industry can become more sustainable.

## **MUSIC**

This Term students will continue with their unit on Caribbean Music and their discovery of Calypso and Reggae music. They will be demonstrating the application of skills and techniques to create, perform and present a well-known Calypso tune as well as creating additional lyrics. Peer and self-assessment will be part of this process.

## **DRAMA**

This term year 7 will be working independently to both perform and write their own monologues. We will be focusing primarily on the art and discipline of building a character and developing that character ready for an assessed performance. In the latter half of the term year 7 will be looking at making their own silent movies to follow on from their melodrama unit.

## **ART**

In the summer term students will work in groups and small teams working on a variety of design briefs and design problem solving briefs. They will take on the role of set designers to plan designs and construct sets and props for a live stage production.

## **FRENCH**

During this term in French, the pupils will study the language related to describe and write about animals (pets, wild animals, farm animals). They will also complete a presentation about themselves. Towards the end of term they will be able to talk about the world around them, to give and justify their opinions, to ask and answer simple questions and to write simple sentences. Their grammar coverage will include colour agreement and adjectives, some irregular verbs, (to have, to wish, to be), past tense and articles.

## **MANDARIN**

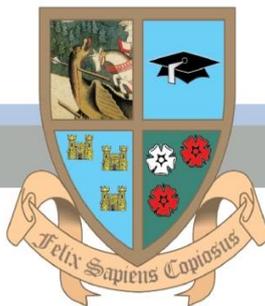
Topics in Level 1 include time expression, daily routines, means of transportation, colours, clothing and body parts. Students will reinforce the use of Pin Yin system, the character strokes and stroke order. They will start to communicate in basic sentences both in speaking and writing.

Topics in Level 2 include hobbies (music, sports, dances), vegetables and fruits, three meals a day, and eating out. Topics in Level 3 include hobbies, subjects of study and school facilities. Level 2 and Level 3 students will continue to expand their vocabulary on various topics and study characters at various levels. They will learn some more complex sentence structures and cohesive devices to enrich the range of sentences they produce. They shall be able to read aloud short texts written in characters and to produce short paragraphs to topics covered.

The curriculum for native speakers is adapted from China's national curriculum for Chinese Language and Literature for this age group. Students will study narrative texts and learn to use a range of rhetoric devices in their writing.

## **P.E AND SWIMMING**

This term students will be developing their skills within a number of different games and activities. Firstly year 7 and 8 boys will be working on their fitness. They will begin by testing their fitness and the taking part in a variety of different training methods including circuit training and continuous training. The activity block will finish by the boys retesting their fitness to see if they have made any improvements. Year 7, 8 and 9 girls will taking part in a dance unit. The girls will explore different styles of dance, learning set routines and choreographing their own dances. They will work individual, pairs and groups to create short motifs and sequences. The Year 9 boys will have the chance to develop their Swimming skills as we move onto the next topic. We will be specifically looking at body position, arm movement, leg kick and breathing for freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke. Alongside stroke development students will also be refining their diving technique, ability to submerge underwater, treading water and sculling skills.



BRITANNICA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

## Secondary Curriculum Overview

### Summer Term 2018

### Year 8

#### ENGLISH

In English this term, Year 8 will begin by exploring aspects of media, considering how different technical aspects affect the telling of a story through film. In the final part of the term, Year 8 will finish the year with working on narrative writing, focusing on short stories; learning about how to tell interesting and exciting stories and working on developing their own original narrative. Alongside these units pupils will also continue to develop their appreciation of texts through their class novel and their own independent reading, whilst also focusing on developing their literacy skills in spelling, grammar and punctuation.

#### MATHEMATICS

This term Year 8 will continue to study elements of three of the four main maths topics. In Algebra, students will be plotting graphs of equations that correspond to straight-line graphs in the coordinate plane and being able to recognise, sketch and interpret graphs of linear functions and simple quadratic functions. In Geometry students will discover Pi and many of its uses, starting with basic circle vocabulary and going so far as finding areas of sectors, arc lengths and volumes of cylinders and troughs. Statistics will be a main part of this term since the year will finish with 3 Statistic modules which include looking at probability diagrams with Understanding Risk, followed by Measuring Data and Presenting data.

#### SCIENCE

Year 8 scientists will be studying a range of different topics on the physical and life. Firstly, they will study ecology, they will learn about adaptations, food chains, and food webs. They learn the importance of biodiversity and how we can stop organisms becoming endangered. In the physical sciences, year 8 will study Sound and Light. They will study how cameras and the human eye work. They will conduct experiments to study how light is affected by a plane mirror and different lenses.

#### HISTORY

Year 8 have an exciting term lined up in history as they explore the origins of the Russian Revolution. The oldest remaining monarchy in Europe topples and is replaced with Communism. We will meet fascinating people, such as Grigori Rasputin, as learn about the ideas of Karl Marx. There is plenty of source material for this topic which makes it really interesting to study. This includes propaganda cartoons and video footage from the time. Year 8 will continue to analyse the effectiveness of these sources. These skills become more important as they move through secondary as well as being a great way of improving their proficiency in English.

## **GEOGRAPHY**

Students are studying the topic of weather. This will involve them learning about why weather happens and changes, by studying air masses, air pressure and different rainfall types. They will also consider the best ways to accurately measure weather and attempt to make their own weather instrument! Finally students will consider the causes, effects and responses to extreme weather hazards such as tropical storms.

## **MUSIC**

This Term students will continue with their Unit on Latin America Music and their discovery of Latin beats with Samba music. They will be demonstrating the application of skills and techniques to create, perform and present a Samba piece looking at the structure and individual parts. Students will create their own call and response. Peer and self-assessment will be part of the final assessment process.

## **DRAMA**

Year 8 have a busy term in Drama, we have just finished our unit on 'Forum Theatre' and we move quickly into 'Devising Theatre.' This complicated discipline will have our students creating original drama with a variety of stimuli for inspiration. In the second half of the term we will be focusing on writing and performing monologues. We will look at the process of building and characterising a three dimensional character and prepare monologues for a practical assessment.

## **ART**

In the summer term students will work on larger scale group mural size paintings, further developing their own personal interest within their chosen theme and research. Students are encouraged to explore further and in more detail one of the formal elements in art.

## **SPANISH**

During the summer term, Year 8 pupils will learn how to talk about a past holiday, giving their views, all using our new past tense: *el preterito*. Skills in focus will be how to link sentences to avoid repetition, and using the preterite tense correctly. Later in the term they will learn how to meet and greet an imaginary exchange family formally and informally, and also talk about how a recent journey was. They will be using the verb *ser* to describe character and the verb *estar* to describe people's mood. They will also study how to discuss relations between family members.

## **FRENCH**

During this term in French, the pupils will study the language related to clothes and weather. They will also start to talk about weekend activities. Towards the end of the term, they will be able to talk in French about what style they like, what you wear in different weathers and on different occasions, what they are doing during week end. Their grammar coverage will include present tense of different verbs (regular, reflexive verbs, useful verbs) and possessive articles.

## **MANDARIN**

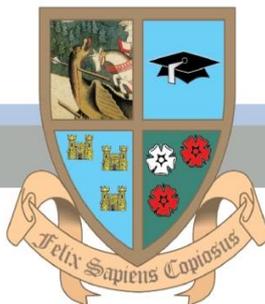
Topics in Level 1 include time expression, daily routines, means of transportation, colours, clothing and body parts. Students will reinforce the use of Pin Yin system, the character strokes and stroke order. They will start to communicate in basic sentences both in speaking and writing.

Topics in Level 2 include hobbies (music, sports, dances), vegetables and fruits, three meals a day, and eating out. Topics in Level 3 include hobbies, subjects of study and school facilities. Level 2 and Level 3 students will continue to expand their vocabulary on various topics and study characters at various levels. They will learn some more complex sentence structures and cohesive devices to enrich the range of sentences they produce. They shall be able to read aloud short texts written in characters and to produce short paragraphs to topics covered.

The curriculum for native speakers is adapted from China's national curriculum for Chinese Language and Literature for this age group. Students will study narrative texts and learn to use a range of rhetoric devices in their writing.

## **P.E AND SWIMMING**

This term students will be developing their skills within a number of different games and activities. Firstly year 7 and 8 boys will be working on their fitness. They will begin by testing their fitness and the taking part in a variety of different training methods including circuit training and continuous training. The activity block will finish by the boys retesting their fitness to see if they have made any improvements. Year 7, 8 and 9 girls will taking part in a dance unit. The girls will explore different styles of dance, learning set routines and choreographing their own dances. They will work individual, pairs and groups to create short motifs and sequences. The Year 9 boys will have the chance to develop their Swimming skills as we move onto the next topic. We will be specifically looking at body position, arm movement, leg kick and breathing for freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke. Alongside stroke development students will also be refining their diving technique, ability to submerge underwater, treading water and sculling skills.



BRITANNICA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

## Secondary Curriculum Overview

### Summer Term 2018

### Year 9

#### ENGLISH

In English, year 9 will focus on concepts within media and how they are interpreted and presented to an audience. In the final part of the year, year 9 will explore short stories, developing their analytical and original writing skills; looking ahead to the IGCSE course in English, perfecting some of the skills required for the year 10 English course. Alongside these units pupils will also continue to develop their understanding of texts through their class novel and their own independent reading, whilst also focusing on developing their literacy skills in spelling, grammar and punctuation.

#### MATHEMATICS

This term Year 9 will continue to study elements of two of the four main maths topics. In Algebra they will learn to solve, in simple cases, two linear simultaneous equations in two variables algebraically and find approximate solutions to simultaneous equations using a graph. Whilst in Statistics they will calculate the probability of independent and dependent combined events, including using tree diagrams and other representations, and know the underlying assumptions and also interpret and construct tables, charts and diagrams, including tables and line graphs for time series data and know their appropriate use.

#### SCIENCE

Year 9 starts strong with a chemistry topic about the reactivity series, they will conduct a series of experiments to determine the order of reactivity for certain metals. They will also study new materials such as plastics and polymers. During the physics unit, they learn how to use pressure, for example in dams and hydraulic systems. They will finish their Key stage 3 career with a summative assessment of all the studied topics.

## **HISTORY**

Year 9 will be looking at the origins of the Cold War this term. They will look at the differing ideologies of capitalism and communism to understand why the USA and USSR hated each other so much. We will look at how the Allied powers dealt with Europe in the aftermath of World War 2. How they controlled Berlin is an interesting example which will be considered. The cold War then spills out into Cuba and Korea. This topic is part of the IGCSE course and as such it effectively prepares the pupils for year 10, should they decide to continue with history. A lot of time will be spent of iGCSE style questions so that if they continue with the subject they will be in a strong position when they come back in August.

## **GEOGRAPHY**

Students are studying the topic of Development this term. This will involve students debating which development indicator is the best for Geographer's to decide how developed a country is as well as learning about what are the different methods countries can become more developed such as trade, aid and reducing debt.

## **MUSIC**

This Term students will continue with their unit on the world music of Africa Music and their discovery of African instruments and rhythm. They will be demonstrating the application of skills and techniques to create, perform and present a Hatsiatsia, where each part creates a cross rhythm using African styled instruments. Peer and self-assessment will be part of the assessment process.

## **DRAMA**

Year 9 will be focusing on Monologues and building a character this term, following on from their introduction to Brecht unit we will be exploring how important good characterisation is. In the second part of the term we will be studying some examples of 'Theatre in Education.' Year 9 will devise and prepare a piece of theatre with the aim of educating younger students in a chosen topic.

## **ART**

In the summer term students will be building on from their POP ART thematic work. Year 9 will be learning about one point and two point perspective and incorporate this into their Comic Book designs, to consolidate their research and development of ideas into graphic design and letter shapes.

## **FRENCH**

During this term in French, the pupils will study the language related to home and relationship. They will also start to talk about different places to live, their home and family. Towards the end of the term, they will be able to describe their home and discuss about family relationship. Their grammar coverage will include the use of verbs in present tense and future tense, review prepositions and reflexive pronouns.

## **MANDARIN**

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The curriculum for native speakers is adapted from China's national curriculum for Chinese Language and Literature for this age group. Students will study texts of a range of genres and learn to write for different purposes with clear ideas, proper expression and clear structures.

## **P.E AND SWIMMING**

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