

BENTON PARK SCHOOL

SUBJECT INFORMATION

SEPTEMBER 2026



A MOORLANDS LEARNING TRUST ACADEMY

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BENTON-PARK-SCHOOL 

YEAR 7

SUBJECT

PAGES

TOGETHER WE BELONG, DEVELOP CHARACTER AND ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE

Our curriculum supports and challenges every member of our school community to be the best that they can be, promoting our Benton Park School Values of Kindness, Resilience and Responsibility.

We aim to promote a love of learning by providing an environment in which all students can succeed, whatever they aspire to do. We place high value on the breadth, acquisition, retention and application of knowledge and we actively develop opportunities to enrich and bridge gaps in cultural knowledge.

In classrooms, we promote independence through an 'I do, We do, You do' teaching model, which scaffolds excellence and mastery through collaborative learning and by sharing and modelling success criteria. We maintain high challenge and expectations; employing quality feedback and personalised support to encourage effective learning habits in all our students.

Our 'Word Revolution' and use of Reciprocal Reading strategies in the classroom promote

vocabulary and reading development to create a 'language-rich' environment. Our excellent pastoral care and PSHE programmes are the cornerstones that develop personal and social wellbeing and understanding. Extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities, as well as our extensive Student Leadership programmes, promote learning, independence and enjoyment across the curriculum.

At Benton Park School, we want our students to have a real love for learning and we reward students whenever possible, especially when they demonstrate outstanding learning behaviours in the classroom. You will be integral to the very fabric of the school through your participation in all aspects of life as a member of the Benton Park School community, and we cannot wait for you to start your seven year learning journey with us.

Please now enjoy reading in more detail some of the things you can expect to learn in Year 7 at Benton Park.

ART

TOPICS STUDIED

The Formal Elements: (Tone, Line, Colour and Composition): as an introduction to Art we will learn about colour mixing, tonal ranges, drawing skills and line weight, as well as compositional techniques that will be developed through the other topics.

Portraiture: We will explore self-portraits, initially focusing on proportion and features before developing your work in a Cubist style. The portrait is then extended to explore exciting collagraph print techniques.

Architecture - Gargoyles: This topic explores Gothic architecture and work by the artist Ian Murphy, developing through to a clay Gargoyle inspired by all of your research.

SKILLS LEARNED

We hope that you are looking forward to delving into the creative and inspiring curriculum, where you will be able to experience an exciting range of art techniques including: Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Photography and Digital Art. The skills you learn not only develop your art practice, but also your problem solving techniques and encourage different ways of looking at your surroundings.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

ArtXtra, our lunchtime club, runs every Thursday. We also have a range of external opportunities, such as the Aireborough Trust Art Exhibition, to participate in.

COMPUTING & ICT

TOPICS STUDIED

Technology in the house: Looking at how we use computers in our everyday lives without really thinking about it.

Keeping safe online: Knowing what it is safe to do online and what to do if you are unhappy or scared. Computer game design - designing our own computer games with different gamesmaking software.

Control systems: Learning how computers automate things for us and trying it out for ourselves.

Algorithms: Computers use rules and patterns. We learn how to set these for a computer to do some tasks for us.

Evaluation: We work out how successful we have been with our work and what we can do to make future work even better.

SKILLS LEARNED

We will learn to use many different types of software throughout this year. We learn how to program a computer in different ways, and we learn how to make things happen for us automatically by using a computer. We develop our analysis and development skills by thinking about how to solve problems with a computer. We learn how to research our topics properly by using the internet effectively, and we then learn many different ways of presenting information to different groups of people. Through this year we will really develop our confidence with computers so we can use them in our future learning at Benton Park.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Coding Club | Homework Club | KS3 Minecraft Club



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

TOPICS STUDIED

Tropical World Project: Students design and make a piece of jewellery and a children's toy based on the theme of "Tropical World".

Designing from influence: Learn to design products inspired by a given theme.

Metals and Alloys: Learn all about the mechanical and physical properties of these materials.

Casting Pewter using laser cut moulds: Use cutting-edge technology to design and make your own pieces of jewellery.

Woodworking joints: Investigate and use woodworking joints to make your own mechanical toy.

Applying finishes: Use different finishes to make your products look their best.

SKILLS LEARNED

Sketching and rendering Skills: Develop your sketching skills so that you can express your design ideas better. Gather research from a range of sources, then use what you find to influence your designs

Computer-aided Design and Computer-aided Manufacture

Manufacture and safe use of tools: Use a combination of hand and machine tools to make products in wood and metal.

Mechanisms & forces: Learn how mechanisms and forces work in the products we use everyday.

The environmental impact of technology and manufacturing: Learn how technology can have both positive and negative effects on the environment.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Craft Club: Join us after school to make your own products and learn craft skills using lots of different materials.

Rotary Technology Tournament: The chance to compete against other schools in a design and make competition.

DRAMA

TOPICS STUDIED

Introduction to Drama and Space: You'll learn how to use the stage and classroom space effectively. This means understanding how movement, body awareness, and positioning (called blocking) can change the way a performance feels.

Voice and Expression: Your voice is one of your most powerful tools! We'll explore pitch, tone, volume, and pace, and practise projecting your voice so everyone can hear you. You'll also learn how to show emotions through vocal changes.

Characterisation and Role: Ever wanted to step into someone else's shoes? In this unit, you'll create and perform as different characters, exploring how physicality, voice, and emotions bring them to life.

Improvisation: Drama isn't always scripted! You'll practise thinking on your feet, using the "yes, and" technique to keep scenes flowing. Improvisation helps you stay creative, spontaneous, and confident.

Script Work and Interpretation: You'll work with real scripts, learning how to understand the text, explore subtext, and perform scenes with meaning. This is where acting meets analysis!

Physical Theatre and Movement: Drama isn't just about words—it's about movement too. You'll use your body and physical expression to tell stories, build atmosphere, and develop characters.

Drama for Social Change: Can drama make a difference? Absolutely! You'll explore how performances can share important messages about equality, justice, and conflict, and how theatre can inspire change.

Devising and Collaborative Work: Finally, you'll work with your classmates to create an original piece of drama from scratch. This is your chance to combine everything you've learned into a performance that's truly your own.

SKILLS LEARNED

Confidence in speaking and performing in front of others | Teamwork and collaboration with classmates | Creativity and imagination in developing ideas | Body awareness and spatial awareness on stage | Vocal control: pitch, tone, volume, and pace | Character-building through voice, movement, and emotion | Quick thinking and spontaneity through improvisation | Understanding how drama connects to society and inspires change.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Drama Club | Benton Park School Production

ENGLISH

TOPICS STUDIED

English lessons at Benton Park School will take you on a magical journey through some of the best literature in the world! In Year 7 we explore a range of different types of texts: novels, short stories, poetry, plays and non-fiction. You will explore why we tell stories: why we have told them for so many years and in so many different ways; you will also investigate the world of crime fiction; and explore a range of powerful and enlightening worlds through the work of different authors ranging from William Shakespeare to Charles Dickens. At Benton Park School, we celebrate reading and the ways it can transport you to different worlds, teach you important lessons about our own world and widen your perspective. In English lessons, you will have opportunities to accelerate your reading progress to ensure you are reading even more effectively and discovering a range of different characters and experiences of the world.

SKILLS LEARNED

We build on all the great work you have done at Primary School to develop your reading and writing skills to ensure that you can understand even the most difficult texts and can write your own version of any kind of text. You will extend your skills of close analysis, exploring writers' ideas and use of language and structure, using a range of terminology to show off your expert subject knowledge. Your own creativity will be essential in every lesson and you will need to use your imagination every day. This is a key skill to develop your writing in a range of ways – to describe, to persuade, to argue a point successfully and to explain your ideas clearly.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Join our Reading Groups, Book Clubs and Creative Writing Club for more opportunities to develop your love of English! We also run a Debate Club and a Poetry Club and have many fantastic opportunities to enter national competitions and have your work published!

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

TOPICS STUDIED

Introduction to Food

Preparation and Nutrition: let's get to know each other and what you know and like about different foods.

Health and Safety in the Technology Food Room: learn about rules and routines of the food room and hygiene procedures.

The Eat Well Guide: look at the different food groups and what makes a healthy diet.

Making meals and snacks suitable for Tropical World: you will use different skills and equipment to create a variety of meals.

Tasting and trying foods: now the fun part – you will get to taste and try a wide variety of foods during your analysis lessons.

Menu designing: get creative and learn how to design your own menu taking into account a wide range of needs and beliefs.

The function of ingredients: learn about food science and chemical properties that particular ingredients have.

SKILLS LEARNED

How to be hygienic when preparing food | How to evaluate food products made | Different types of sensory analysis | How to eat and feed others healthily

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Rotary Young Chef Competition – This is a great competition run by the rotary club. Students from local schools are invited to participate in making a 3-course meal. Students need to cost their ingredients and plan and make a healthy menu. The final of the competition is judged at Leeds City College!



GEOGRAPHY

TOPICS STUDIED

Over Y7, students study a variety of topics that provide both a strong foundation in geographical knowledge and understanding, and an interest in the world around them. Below are the topics studied:

- 1. What is My Place in the World? (Human):** We begin by exploring human geography—how people live and work, and why development varies across the globe. Students will compare rural and urban areas, understand challenges and opportunities, and learn to locate continents and major UK cities. They'll discover what development means and how it shapes lives worldwide.
- 2. What is My Place in the World? (Physical):** Next, students uncover the physical processes that shape our planet—from tectonic movements to erosion and the water cycle. They'll learn about UK landscapes and how humans interact with the natural environment, sometimes creating conflict. Map skills, compass directions, and climate graph interpretation will be key here.
- 3. Population and Migration – People on the Move:** Why do populations grow, shrink, and move? Students will explore birth and death rates, migration, and the push and pull factors behind it. They'll also consider the positive and negative impacts of migration on countries and communities, while practising key skills like interpreting graphs and maps.
- 4. Climate Change – The Biggest Challenge:** Students will tackle one of the most pressing issues of our time: climate change. They'll learn its causes, impacts at different scales, and how people and governments respond. Using evidence, they'll make decisions about managing this global risk.
- 5. Biomes – Life in the Natural World:** From the Amazon rainforest to global ecosystems, students will discover how living and non-living things depend on each other. They'll explore the conflict between development and sustainability and learn how indigenous communities have managed biomes for thousands of years. By the end, they'll understand how we can protect these vital environments.
- 6. Fieldwork – Becoming a Geographer:** Finally, students will learn what fieldwork is and how geographers investigate the world around them. They'll plan, conduct, and present their own fieldwork, even completing a project outside school! This topic teaches practical skills and safe behaviour on trips.

SKILLS LEARNED

We build on all the great work you have done at Primary School to develop your reading and writing skills to ensure that you can understand even the most difficult texts and can write your own version of any kind of text. You will extend your skills of close analysis, exploring writers' ideas and use of language and structure, using a range of terminology to show off your expert subject knowledge. Your own creativity will be essential in every lesson and you will need to use your imagination every day. This is a key skill to develop your writing in a range of ways – to describe, to persuade, to argue a point successfully and to explain your ideas clearly.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

One of the highlights of the year is our fantastic trip to Malham, where students complete a circular walk through stunning limestone scenery. It's a brilliant opportunity for them to put classroom knowledge into practice, carrying out real fieldwork in one of the UK's most beautiful landscapes.

HISTORY

TOPICS STUDIED

- What makes an Outstanding Historian?** This will allow students to examine what skills it takes to be an outstanding historian. We utilise chronology, causation, scholarship and evidence; sources and interpretations to become outstanding historians.
- Historical Skills:** The Vikings: Do the Vikings deserve their destructive reputation?
- The Normans:** Why did William win the Battle of Hastings? How different was life in England after 1066?
- Medieval England:** Was the Medieval world all doom and gloom?
- The Tudors:** Why do some people regard the Tudor period as a Religious Rollercoaster?
- Native Americans:** What was life like for the Native Americans?

SKILLS LEARNED

We build on all the great work you have done at Primary School to develop your reading and writing skills to ensure that you can understand even the most difficult texts and can write your own version of any kind of text. You will extend your skills of close analysis, exploring writers' ideas and use of language and structure, using a range of terminology to show off your expert subject knowledge. Your own creativity will be essential in every lesson and you will need to use your imagination every day. This is a key skill to develop your writing in a range of ways – to describe, to persuade, to argue a point successfully and to explain your ideas clearly.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

You will have the opportunity to take part in History competitions such as castle building/making and join lunchtime film club.

MATHEMATICS

TOPICS STUDIED

Algebra: Students will look at sequences within Mathematics and solving more complex equations.

Number: Students will become proficient in their use of fractions, decimals and percentages.

Data and Probability: In Year 7, students look at various data representation methods to enable them to critique and question information from the world around them.

Geometry: Students will look at the properties of shapes and angles and solve problems through a variety of geometric contexts.

SKILLS LEARNED

Mathematical Fluency: Students will build on the skills they learnt at Primary School, ensuring they have a strong grasp of mathematical basics and know with ease which mathematical tools to use to tackle a given problem.

Mathematical Reasoning: Students will be taught to reason mathematically, developing logical thought.

Mathematical Problem Solving: Students will be given the skills they need to tackle progressively more complex mathematical problems, selecting the appropriate approach and being resilient in their search to find solutions.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Chess and Games Club | UKMT Team and Individual Challenges | Leeds University STEM roadshows
Additional Statistics GCSE | Leeds University problem solving days | Further Maths GCSE
Maths Feast Competitions | Key Stage 3 Maths Club | Maths Olympiad for Girls

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

TOPICS STUDIED

Students will explore the answers to some interesting big questions: How do French / Spanish people celebrate Halloween and Christmas? Do Spanish people really eat 12 grapes in a minute? What Sports do French and Spanish like to play. Is free running really that popular and dangerous in France? What is the deal with social media – is it as popular in France and Spain? Is French food all snails and baguettes? How did Spanish people come up with the idea of Tapas? Who are the big celebrities in France and Spain?

SKILLS LEARNED

Students in Year 7 focus on key grammatical language skills which they develop through Key Stage 3. These include: Present, Past and Future tense verbs | Word order with nouns, adjectives and verbs | Expressing justified opinions | Reading for gist and detail | Developing pronunciation and spontaneous speech | Asking and answering questions.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Key Stage 3 Translation and Poetry competitions. We also have a range of external opportunities to participate in.

MUSIC

TOPICS STUDIED

In Year 7 students embark on a journey through musical history from the 1500s to the 1960s. Through undertaking a wide variety of practical activities, our students become confident and independent musicians with the ability to perform and develop other musical skills in a creative, supportive and safe environment. Students at Benton Park develop an enjoyment and appreciation of music that begins with these first topics which extend both practical and listening skills. They also have the opportunity to be part of one of our school bands or choirs – we would love to see them performing in one of our school shows or concerts.

The topics studied are: Canon - Pachelbel | Ode to Joy - Beethoven | Ride of the Valkyries - Wagner | Hound Dog - Elvis
Hey Jude - The Beatles Composition Skills.

SKILLS LEARNED

Develop performing skills on keyboard, ukulele, guitar, bass guitar and vocals | Solo and Ensemble Performing | Learn to read and understand basic notation, pitch and rhythm | Listening and Appraising: you will learn about the elements of music and begin to answer GCSE-style questions | Improvisation and composing skills. Melody writing and use of chords | Learn about the instruments associated with each topic.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Peripatetic Instrumental Lessons | Pop Choir | Jazz Band | Benton Park School Production | Soul Band
School Concerts held throughout year

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

TOPICS STUDIED

In Year 7 we will look at: Developing students' physical skills learned in Key Stages 1 and 2, become more competent, confident and expert in their techniques, and apply them across different sports and physical activities. The PE curriculum enables students to participate in a broad range of activities. Students are encouraged to develop a positive approach to the learning of skills, knowledge and understanding to lead an active and healthy lifestyle throughout their lives. Topics studied include: Netball, Football, rugby, health-related fitness, trampolining, and dance.

SKILLS LEARNED

In Year 7 PE, students will develop a wide range of individual sporting skills. In addition, they will work as a team, employing techniques and tactics, enjoying the challenge of winning and losing in competitions. They will develop good sportsmanship and correct sporting etiquette. Our students learn to confidently undertake various roles in a range of sports including that of leader, coach and official.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Include opportunities such as netball, football, rugby, trampolining, athletics, and rounders clubs, among others. We also participate in a wide range of inter-school competitions across various sports, both at home and away fixtures.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

TOPICS STUDIED

Relationships and Sex Education: This will focus on different types of relationships as well as looking at bullying to help students understand what makes people unique.

Living in the wider world: How to keep ourselves safe including online safety and risk.

Health and Well-being: This focuses on how to live a healthy lifestyle. Topics covered will include a balanced diet, personal hygiene, first aid and mental-wellbeing.

SKILLS LEARNED

In Year 7 PD we will develop skills that will address the core British Values; social, moral, spiritual and cultural elements of the curriculum. Students will learn how to articulate themselves in order to convey an argument. They will develop an understanding of how to be the best version of themselves and how British society works.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Benton Park Youth Council



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TOPICS STUDIED

In Year 7 we will look at:

Me and My World:

Students begin by exploring the concept of belief and reasons why people may, or may not, believe in God. Students are also introduced to important themes in Religious Studies including helping others, stewardship and what makes a religious hero.

Islam:

Students learn about important Muslim beliefs through exploring the Five Pillars of Islam. They consider how these beliefs influence religious practices and why they are important.

Religion Through Time:

This topic gives students the opportunity to explore ancient religious beliefs, including Ancient Roman and Greek myths and beliefs about deities.

SKILLS LEARNED

In Year 7, students will start to develop key skills which will prepare them for the study of RS at GCSE and beyond. Initially, we focus on developing students' ability to interpret religious beliefs and teachings and explain the influence of beliefs on religious practices. Students will also start to develop their evaluation skills through exploring different viewpoints, both religious and non-religious. They will have many opportunities to develop and critique arguments, both verbally and in written work.

The skills learned in RS are highly transferable and will enable students to reflect on current religious and ethical issues with confidence.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Across all Humanities subjects you will have the chance to join the Humanities Club where you will explore topical issues such as climate change, the holocaust and fairtrade.

SCIENCE

TOPICS STUDIED

In Year 7 you begin with becoming "Super Scientists". You learn how to work safely in a lab, use appropriate scientific equipment, write detailed methods and carry out simple investigations.

Chemistry:

Topics are particle models; separating mixtures; metals and non-metals; acids and alkalis; and the earth and atmosphere.

Biology:

Topics are cells; interdependence and plant reproduction; inheritance; variation; and human reproduction.

Physics:

Topics are energy; electricity; forces; and space.

All scientific research in the wider world is built around a simple structure of forming predictions based on theory; planning and conducting experiments; formulating conclusions based on data; and evaluating the experimental procedures.

SKILLS LEARNED

Throughout Year 7, you will develop important practical planning skills including risk assessing each experiment, identifying variables, writing accurate methods and designing your own experiments from a given hypothesis. During experiments, you will develop your ability to use appropriate equipment to take precise measurements and record your results in tables. You will also learn how to plot accurate graphs and formulate justified conclusions using the scientific theory you have learned through a sequence of lessons. Finally, you will cast a critical eye whilst evaluating your results and method and discuss how your findings can influence the science of the future.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

Science Club

CONTACT INFORMATION

We hope that you and your child have found this booklet useful. We will have a range of other opportunities in the coming months to provide you with further information, and hopefully we will be able to meet you and your child in person.

In the meantime, please find below a few key contacts which you may find useful if you have any queries:

Tom Coltman - Assistant Headteacher

Sam Collins - Key Stage 3 Leader

Emma Tyldsley - Assistant Headteacher/Inclusion

Transition Queries:

transition@bentonpark.mlt.co.uk

General Queries:

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Attendance Queries:

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Inclusion & SEND Queries:

hub@bentonpark.mlt.co.uk

Please don't forget to follow us on social media to share all of our news and events!

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