



2025/2026

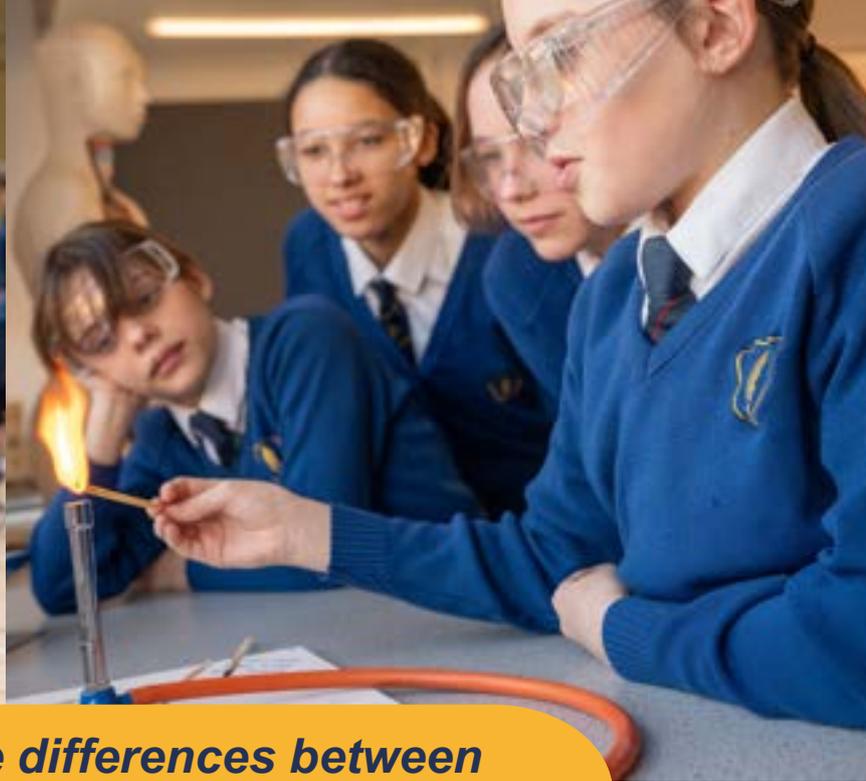
Manor Drive Secondary Academy

Information for New Year 7 Students



“Manor Drive feels like a second home where learning and friendships flourish”

MDSA student quote



“Pupils are guided to value the differences between themselves and others. They treat others with respect.”

OFSTED





Headteacher's Welcome



Hello and welcome,

I am Mrs Sludds, your new Headteacher. My favourite subject is Maths and I love to read.

I would like to welcome you as you begin your exciting journey at Manor Drive Secondary Academy. The whole team is working hard to get everything ready for you when you start in September and we cannot wait to meet you.

This booklet is designed to answer all the questions you may have about starting secondary school and to give you an idea about what to expect in the coming weeks and during your first year at Manor Drive.

At our school, students tell us that they feel safe, happy and empowered to thrive. We are built on strong, traditional values, meaning we have high standards, lots of wonderful teachers, and we are deeply committed to student wellbeing.

You will enjoy a rich, broad curriculum that will help you grow in knowledge and skills to embrace your future with confidence.

Beyond the classroom, there are so many opportunities at Manor Drive Secondary Academy designed to inspire and challenge you - there really is something for everyone! Our state-of-the-art facilities provide the perfect setting for students to explore their interests, achieve their full potential, and celebrate their successes.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Mrs Sludds
HEADTEACHER

Heads of Year

There will be lots of new faces when you first start at Manor Drive Secondary Academy. You will get to know staff quickly though. Here are some key people - the Head of each year group.

Your Head of Year will be Mr Samusi. He will be there to support and encourage you and help you settle into secondary school life. You can talk to him and your Form Tutor about any concerns you may have.

Year 7



Mr Samusi: I'm excited to be joining Manor Drive Secondary School Academy as Head of Year 7. I'm genuinely looking forward to supporting our students, both academically and personally, as they grow throughout the year. I believe in building strong, positive relationships and creating a supportive, safe environment where every student feels seen, heard, and empowered to succeed. I'm really looking forward to getting to know you all and becoming part of this wonderful school community.

Year 8



Miss Carson: I am excited to be carrying my wonderful year group through to Year 8 and continue to support and guide them. As I have lived in Peterborough my whole life, I am passionate about working with and for students from my city. I am keen to make them amazing memories and academic successes whilst at Manor Drive so they can push themselves to achieve greatness. I am looking forward to continuing to encourage my year group to become the best versions of themselves and accomplish all that they deserve this year.

Year 9



Mr Grainger: I am looking forward to supporting my year group as they continue into Year 9. I have been a teacher for 11 years. You'll see me around school quite a bit as I also teach sport (which I love!) so I look forward to seeing you on the pitch! I'm an outgoing person, who doesn't like to take life too seriously. See you in September!

Year 10



Mrs Davies: As Head of Year 10, my role is to support and guide students through a key stage in their academic and personal development. I work closely with both staff and parents to ensure each student is thriving, both in and out of the classroom. I am here to oversee their progress, help address any concerns, and create a positive, inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and motivated to succeed.

How is Secondary School different to Primary School?

There are many differences that you will notice but before you know it, it will all be second nature to you. We thought it was important to share a few now, as we are sure you have been thinking about it and some of you may be feeling nervous about it. It is perfectly natural to worry about things, but remember everyone is in the same boat and there will be lots of friendly staff and older students to help.



Tutor Groups

At Manor Drive you will be placed into a Tutor Group and a 'House'. You and the rest of your tutor group, will meet with your tutor every morning from 8.30am to 9.00am. This is a really important part of the day where you will take part in lots of different activities.

Your Form Tutor will get to know you well and will be the first point of contact for you plus your mum, dad or carer. They will celebrate your successes and be the person to talk to if you are feeling unsure about anything.

Each Tutor Group is allocated to a 'House' (your tie will have its own house colour) and there will be lots of competition between the 'Houses', including sporting tournaments, maths challenges, 'Bake Off' and much more.

Competitions and sports events lead to reward points, with each House wanting to get the most and win the House Cup at the end of the year. You will also earn reward points for all the good things you do, whether it be an excellent piece of work, helping a friend or volunteering for an Open Evening.

Our House Values

When you join us you'll be allocated to a House. Each House has key values and students enjoy in-house competitions and celebrations.

Generosity
Knowledge
Ambition
Creativity

Acer campestre
– Maple



MAPLE



HORNBEAM

Strength
Growth
Confidence
Respect

Carpinus betulus
– Hornbeam

Respect
Knowledge
Resilience
Curiosity

Betula pendula
– Birch



BIRCH



OAK

Knowledge
Strength
Protection
Honesty

Quercus robur
– Oak

Kindness
Justice
Strength
Respect

Tilia cordata – Linden



LINDEN



ALDER

Strength
Protection
Determination
Ambition

Alnus glutinosa – Alder

The School Day

You will be given a timetable of which classrooms you need to go to for each lesson and what times they are on. It's important to keep this safe so you know where it is.

After form time, you may be off to the Sports Hall for PE or in Technology for your Food Tech lesson. It will seem strange at first, but you will soon get to know your teachers and where to go. Each timetable cycle lasts for two school weeks.

The first five days of the cycle are called Week One and the second five days, Week Two.

| Activity | Start (Monday- Thursday) | End (Monday - Thursday) | Start (Friday) | End (Friday) |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Registration and Form Time | 8.30am | 9.00am | 8.30am | 9.00am |
| Lesson 1 | 9.00am | 9.50am | 9.00am | 9.50am |
| Lesson 2 | 9.50am | 10.40am | 9.50am | 10.40am |
| Break | 10.40am | 10.55am | 10.40am | 10.55am |
| Lesson 3 | 10.55am | 11.45am | 10.55am | 11.45am |
| Lesson 4 | 11.45am | 12.35pm | 11.45am | 12.35pm |
| Lunch (use canteen, sit outside or go to clubs) | 12.35pm | 1.25pm | 12.35pm | 1.25pm |
| Lesson 5 | 1.25pm | 2.15pm | Celebration Event | |
| Lesson 6 | 2.15pm | 3.05pm | | |
| Enrichment (Monday - Thursday) | 3.05pm | 3.35pm | 1.25pm | 2.00pm |

Food

Just as at Primary School, you can either bring a packed lunch or access the school canteen.

Our caterers are really looking forward to serving you lots of different and tasty dishes. Food is not just available at lunch time though! There are lots of snacks available at break time or you may fancy breakfast if you arrive earlier to school. You can also buy both hot and cold drinks and please don't worry about losing any money as we have a cashless system that your parents / carers will manage.

Below is an example of what will be on offer:

ARROZ VERDE

MEATBALL MARIANA

SEASONAL VEG

Yorkshire Pudding

GARLIC BREAD

LEMON & THYME ROAST CHICKEN

Beef/vegi Quarter Pounder

Slow Cooked Bombay Chicken

CARBONARA

Mac N Cheese

NAPOLITANA

SLOW COOKED PORK PIBIL

Cauliflower Cheese

VEGETABLE BURRITO

TEX MEX POTATO WEDGES

Battered Fish

Curried Lamb

Sweet Yellow Rice

GARLIC AND CORRIANDER NAAN

GOBI DHAL

Roast Potatoes

CHICKEN/VEGI FAJITA

SPICY SLAW

All food is freshly prepared using seasonal produce from local suppliers

We avoid single use plastics and our cooking oil is turned into biodiesel and used for fuel

The food choices promote healthy eating and encourage you to experience a wide range of tastes and flavours

Keep your property safe

You will be allocated a locker, which is your own space to keep your personal belongings during the school day.

You will have lots of different books for different subjects so may not want to carry them around with you at all times. You may also use it to store your PE kit or your Chromebook.

As you are not allowed to use mobile phones on site, this is also a great place to keep it safe.

You may like to purchase a lock for your locker - just remember your code!



What will I learn about?



Mrs Benton

SCIENCE

Science in secondary school is all about curiosity, discovery, and making sense of the world around you. You've already learned some fantastic things in primary school - in Year 7, you'll start to dig deeper, ask bigger questions, and carry out even more exciting experiments!

Have you ever wondered...

- Why do we see objects as different colours?
- What is happening when something burns?
- Why are there so many different breeds of dog?

These are just some of the questions you'll explore in your Key Stage 3 science lessons. You'll build on what you already know, but you'll also discover brand-new facts and ideas that will change the way you see the world and help you to understand it better.

In biology, you'll go beyond naming body parts and start understanding how they work together—like how your lungs and blood keep you alive or how tiny cells make up all living things. You'll also explore ecosystems, food chains, and genetics.

In chemistry, you'll find out what everything around you is made of - right down to the tiniest atoms. You'll investigate chemical reactions (some might fizz, bang or even change colour!) and learn why certain materials behave the way they do.

In physics, you'll dive into forces, energy, and electricity. You might have learned about magnets and simple circuits in primary school, but now you'll find out how electricity powers your home and why objects move the way they do.

And the best part?

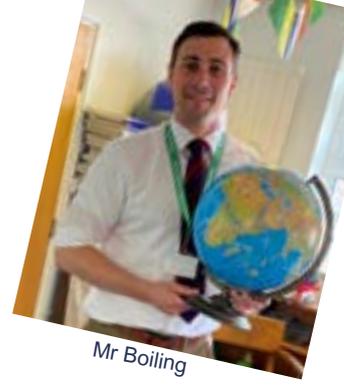
Science in secondary school isn't just about learning facts. It's about investigating, experimenting, and making discoveries for yourself.

You'll use new equipment like Bunsen burners, microscopes, and electrical circuits, and you'll start thinking like a scientist.



'Get ready for a journey of exciting questions and some surprising answers!'

What will I learn about?



Mr Boiling

HUMANITIES

In Humanities you learn about Geography, History and RE. There will be some exciting day trips to support your understanding in these areas.



In **Geography**, you'll start an exciting journey exploring the world around you. You'll learn how to read and use maps with confidence, discover what shapes our weather and climate, and take a closer look at the UK and its unique landscapes. From the icy wonders of glaciers to the power of rivers and the richness of ecosystems, every topic will open your eyes to the natural world. You'll also explore how we use the Earth's resources and why they matter. Plus, you'll get the chance to go out on fieldwork and experience geography in action. Get ready to think like a geographer and see the world in a whole new way!

History is the study of literally everything that's ever happened.. ever! Throughout Year 7 you will study key events in our country's history like:

- What happened when Vikings invaded Britain?
- How did the Normans change Britain?
- Why did soldiers go to fight in the Holy Land?
- How deadly was the Black Death?
- Was the War of the Roses England's most significant civil war?



In Year 7 **Religious Education (RE)** you'll be introduced to a variety of major world religions, including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sikhism. You'll explore key beliefs, practices, sacred texts, festivals, and important figures within each faith.

We'll encourage you to reflect on life's big questions (such as the meaning of life, suffering, and the possibility of life after death) while comparing religious and non-religious perspectives. Through discussion and critical thinking, you'll learn to interpret religious stories and symbols and consider moral and ethical issues from multiple viewpoints.

Overall, Year 7 RE helps students develop understanding, respect, and tolerance for different beliefs and cultures in an increasingly diverse world.



'Join us in exploring the rich tapestry of history and unlocking the stories that have shaped our world'

What will I learn about?



Mr Oliver
Head of Maths

MATHS

Welcome to Key Stage 3 Maths – a fun and challenging journey through numbers, shapes, and patterns! Over the next few years (Years 7, 8 and 9), you'll build on what you've learned in primary school and explore some exciting new topics. Here's a sneak peek at what you'll be doing:

Number

- Work with whole numbers, decimals, fractions and percentages
- Understand place value, powers, and roots
- Learn how to use ratios and proportions in real-life situations
- Explore positive and negative numbers (including temperature and money)

Algebra

- Use letters and symbols to represent numbers
- Learn how to simplify expressions and solve equations
- Spot patterns and write algebraic rules
- Start using graphs to show equations and relationships

Geometry and Measures

- Explore 2D and 3D shapes, including angles, symmetry, and transformations
- Learn how to measure and calculate perimeter, area, and volume
- Understand coordinates, rotations, and reflections
- Use and convert between different units of measurement

Statistics and Probability

- Collect and organise data into charts, graphs, and tables
- Find averages like mean, median and mode
- Look at probability – how likely something is to happen
- Use maths to help understand real-world data

Problem Solving & Reasoning

- Learn to break down tricky problems into simpler steps
- Use logical thinking and explain your reasoning clearly
- Apply maths in real-world contexts – shopping, sport, travel and more

What's It All For?

Maths helps you become a better problem solver, thinker and decision-maker. It's used in science, computing, art, sports, and even cooking! You'll need maths for lots of exciting careers – from engineering to animation.



TOP TIP!

Don't worry if something feels hard at first – everyone learns at their own pace. Your teachers will help you build confidence, step by step.

'Maths helps you become a better problem solver, thinker and decision-maker'

What will I learn about?

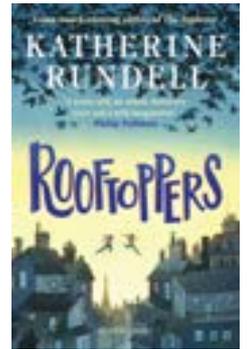


ENGLISH

Welcome to Year 7 English! At Manor Drive, our curriculum is both fun and challenging, designed to inspire your imagination and help you grow as a confident reader, writer, and speaker.

The year 7 theme is **Adventure**, and we explore it through an exciting range of books and texts. You will:

- **Read amazing stories** like *Rooftoppers* by Katherine Rundell — a tale of bravery and rooftop escapes in Paris.
- **Step into Shakespeare's world** with *The Tempest* and watch the magical play come to life in a performance filmed at the world-famous Globe Theatre.
- **Get caught up in mystery and danger** with *Moonfleet* by J. Meade Faulkner, a thrilling classic about smugglers and secret treasure.



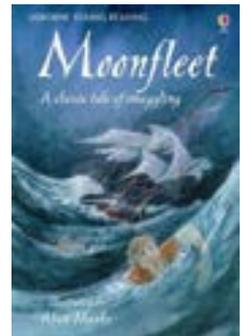
As well as reading great literature, you'll also...

Practise analysis skills, learning how to understand characters, themes, and language in more detail. We help you ask questions like *Why did the author make that choice? What effect does it have?*

Write for different purposes, including creative stories, newspaper articles, diary entries, and persuasive speeches. You'll build your vocabulary, plan your ideas clearly, and learn how to edit your own work.

Take part in speaking and listening activities, from group discussions and debates to drama and performance. You'll grow in confidence as you learn how to express your thoughts clearly and listen to others.

Every two weeks, you'll have a dedicated library lesson, using Sparx Reader to help build your reading skills. We believe reading should be exciting, and we'll support you in finding books you love. Year 7 English is the start of a fantastic journey — and it's going to be full of adventure!



Mrs Harrison is our librarian. As well as being able to take books out to read, we have enjoyed hearing from authors who have come to visit and talk to students about how they are inspired to write their books, including sci-fi author PJ Canning!



'The school strongly promotes a love of reading' - OFSTED



What will I learn about?



Mr Loftus
Head of Modern Foreign
Languages

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

You will study German and French during your time at Manor Drive Secondary but in Year 7 you will start with **German**.

Language teaching is my passion because learning foreign languages has opened up so many opportunities for me to visit, work in and study in a number of different countries. I have been able to experience new cultures, meet lots of new friends and make lifelong memories!

At Manor Drive our lessons are designed to get you using the language in order to improve your confidence and communication skills. We do this through interactive and fun activities like translation relays, games such as Wipeout, Blockbusters and James Bond.

We also take advantage of your access to chromebooks and use Kahoot, Quizizz and Blooket to make vocabulary learning enjoyable.



We aim to ignite your curiosity about different cultures and inspire a lifelong passion for language learning through short introductions to a variety of aspects of German and French life. Furthermore, you'll have the opportunity to visit Paris in year 8 or 9.

By focusing on authentic, real-world scenarios, we'll help you become proficient, confident and enthusiastic linguists ready to navigate an increasingly globalised world!

Join us to explore new languages, expand your horizons, and connect with diverse cultures.



'We aim to ignite your curiosity about different cultures and inspire a lifelong passion for language learning'



What will I learn about?



Mrs Young
Head of Expressive Arts

EXPRESSIVE ARTS

Expressive Arts in secondary school is all about creativity and self-expression. You study Art, Drama and Music each week. Some of you may have more experience in these subjects than others, depending on your school, hobbies and interests. We explore the social, cultural, historical and political aspects in each subject to broaden your understanding and knowledge, whilst having a lot of fun being creative!



We create a safe, supportive, encouraging environment in lessons, so that you will feel able to gradually push yourself out of your comfort zone.

In **Art**, you will learn about a range of different artists and their styles, and experiment with a range of media to create your own artwork. You will create your art inspired by other artist's own work. In term 1, you will create an oil pastel still life piece, inspired by Paul Cezanne. In term 2, you will create a self portrait print, inspired by the history of Gargoyles. In term 3, you will create a landscape painting inspired by Fauvism.



In **Drama** you will learn to understand and develop the skills that are key to performing for an audience. You will learn a range of techniques and skills, to create meaning and intention for an audience, developing confidence and characterisation skills. We'll look at techniques you may not have explored before, such as still image, physical theatre, thought out loud and mime, so it may be very new and exciting!



In **Music** you will learn to understand and develop the skills that are key to becoming a musician. You will learn the fundamentals of pulse: listening, hearing, responding in time establishing a pulse etc.

You will also develop your use of keyboard skills. This skill will allow you to perform and compose, and at a later stage develop music technology skills. You may not have had this opportunity before, so it is very exciting!

The focus for Year 7 is largely performance and listening. You will learn basic skills on a variety of key instruments (keyboard, drum kit, ukulele and voice). You will learn how to perform in a group and how to develop ideas as a group.



'We create a safe, supportive, encouraging environment in lessons'

What will I learn about?



Mr Ziraki
Head of PE

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Welcome to PE at Manor Drive Secondary Academy!

At Manor Drive Secondary Academy, we're excited to welcome you to our vibrant and inclusive PE department! As a Year 7 student, you can look forward to an action-packed year full of a wide range of sports and physical activities designed to build your confidence, develop new skills, and most importantly - have fun!

Here's a sneak peek at what your PE journey will look like throughout the academic year:

Autumn Term 1

Football
Basketball

Autumn Term 2

Health & Fitness
Gymnastics

Spring Term 1

Badminton
Rugby

Spring Term 2

Table Tennis
Handball

Summer Term 1

Tennis
Cricket

Summer Term 2

Athletics
Volleyball

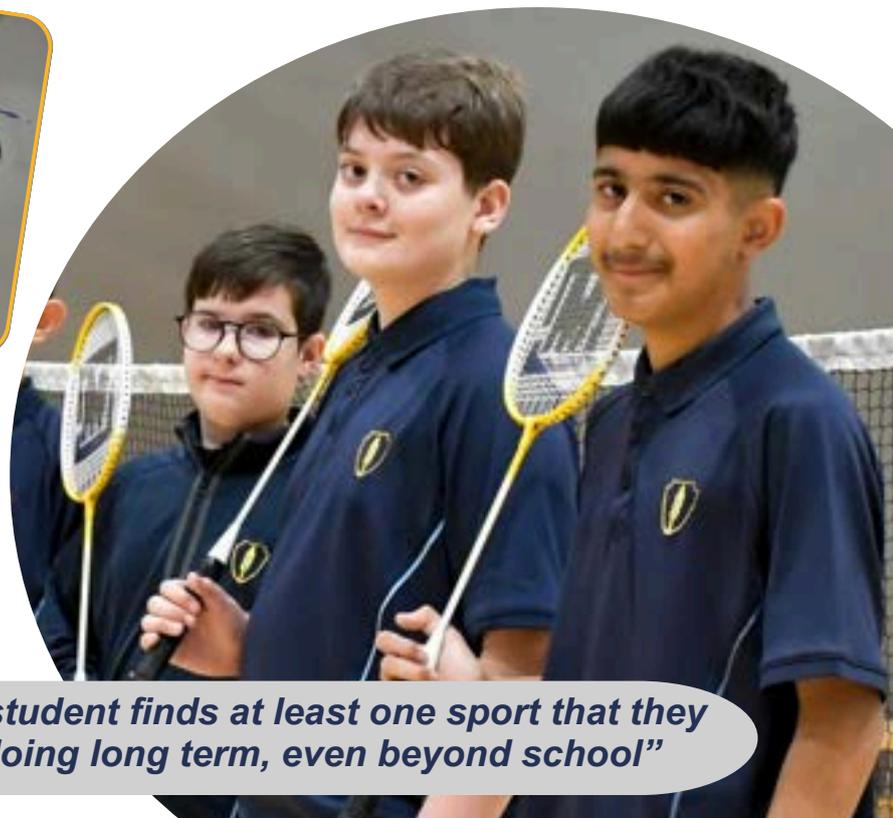
We assess all students using our unique HEAD, HEART, and HAND approach:

HEAD – Your understanding of rules, tactics and strategies

HEART – Your effort, attitude, and teamwork

HAND – Your physical performance and skill development.

At the end of each term, you will complete a written assessment to check how well you've understood each sport—so it's important to be engaged both practically and mentally in every lesson.



"Our hope is that every student finds at least one sport that they can see themselves doing long term, even beyond school"

What will I learn about?



Miss Hall
Head of PSHCE

PSHCE

PSHCE (Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship) is such a vital part of your journey here at MDSA, and we're really excited for you to dive in. Think of it as your toolkit for navigating not just school, but life itself.

In your first term, we'll be exploring some really important topics together. Moving to secondary school is a big step, and PSHCE will help you feel confident and settled.

We'll also be looking at how to build positive relationships – friendships, getting along with teachers, all of it! Learning to really consider other people's feelings and perspectives is key, and we'll spend time understanding that.

We'll also have open and honest conversations about things like consent and how to manage conflict in a healthy way. These are skills that will serve you so well, not just now, but in the future too.

Beyond that first term, PSHCE will continue to explore topics that really matter. We'll learn about bullying and how to stand up to it, celebrate the wonderful diversity that makes our community so rich, and understand the fundamental British Values that underpin our society.

Looking after yourselves is also a big focus. We'll explore what it means to keep healthy, both physically and mentally. Understanding your mental health and knowing how to look after it is just as important as anything else you'll learn.

Ultimately, PSHCE isn't just another subject; it's about empowering you to grow into well-rounded, thoughtful, and responsible individuals. It's about giving you the knowledge and skills to thrive, both inside and outside the classroom. We can't wait to explore all of this with you!



'PSHCE empowers you to grow into a well-rounded, thoughtful, and responsible individual'

What will I learn about?



Mr Taurins
Head of Computing
& Digital Studies

COMPUTING AND DIGITAL STUDIES



The study of computing ensures students are prepared to be active participants in a digital world, through developing a comprehensive digital literacy.

Through computing, students will gain the ability to use information systems and coding to express themselves, develop their ideas and collaborate in ways that support their development of being future problem solvers in the workplace.

When exploring digital literacy, you will become competent in the use of computers to do work. This unit will cover File explorer, and email, as well as use of MS Word and MS PowerPoint.

In exploring cyber security, you will learn about the different types of malware and hacking that are used as well as some explanation of how passwords work and what makes them secure.

When examining the building blocks of a computer you will examine the hardware and software that makes a computer work the way it does including different types of software and how special hardware can help disabled users.

When studying the digital divide, you will learn how access to technology can vary depending on social, financial, and geographic factors. As part of this you will learn what bandwidth is and how to calculate download times with the size of files and bandwidths.

You will learn how to think like a programmer using 'Scratch' a block-based coding language which allows you to learn the key concepts of sequence, selection, and iteration without worrying about syntax errors.



Have you ever wondered...

- Why do traffic lights work the way they do?
- Is it true a hacker is a bad person?
- What are the main components of a computer?



'You will learn to develop as a problem solver, using technology to develop real world skills which will support your learning and the skills you will need in the workplace of tomorrow'

What will I learn about?



Mr Skeels
Head of Technology

TECHNOLOGY

Design and Technology teachers love to see our students being creative and coming up with cool and interesting ideas. It is the start of a journey that could lead to who knows what kind of invention or discovery along the way!

You'll get the opportunity to design and make things in different materials, learning skills in the workshop, textiles studio and food room that you can build on in Year 8 and 9 and, if you choose to, at GCSE when you become Year 10.



In **Food Technology** you will learn important things about nutrition and health as well as cooking a range of recipes, you will get to taste your food and evaluate it, take it home and share it with family, our students normally tell us that their food was really enjoyed by other people who tried it.



In **Textiles** you will learn about fabrics and the skills required when designing and making textiles items such as bags and clothing. You can learn about tie-dyeing, zippers, hand stitching and how to use a sewing machine to produce useful and interesting items that you can take home and show off.



In the workshop, Year 7 mainly use wood to create a puppet, this will teach you a lot of practical skills that you can use in other ways to benefit you when making or fixing things and solving problems. Using tools and materials the right way is really important.

In some lessons you could be developing graphic skills by researching and designing. In other lessons you will be sawing, drilling and sanding, using hand tools and machines to produce the result of your imagination!



'We want you to come to us with your own ideas and would really like to see your personality expressed through your creations'

Extra-curricular Activities

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved in beyond the classroom.

Every term, we run three exciting after-school clubs just for you. During the Autumn Term, you'll be able to join:

Football Club
Basketball Club
Badminton Club

We can't wait to see you get involved, try something new, and discover your passion for sport. Whether you're aiming for the school team or just want to stay active and have fun, there's something here for everyone.



Enrichment

Enrichment is where you are involved in learning and activities that are a bit different from the traditional curriculum. Part of our enrichment is called “Mind, Body and Goal”, where every term, you will chose three activities that will support your physical and mental wellbeing. One element will come with a “goal”, a target that you will set yourself to achieve and something you will discuss with your Form Tutor. These will be lots of fun and lead to a real sense of achievement.

You will be able to choose from a wide range of activities, including some of the following...



MIND

- BOARD GAMES
- DOCUMENTARIES
- EMBROIDERY
- LAW SOCIETY
- MATH BLOCKET
- MICROBIOLOGY
- MUSICAL THEATRE
- YOUNG LEADERS
- BADMINTON
- ROUNDERS
- SOFTBALL
- TAEKWONDO
- TOUCH RUGBY
- KWIK CRICKET

BODY

- DUKE OF EDINBURGH
- BADMINTON
- WALKING CLUB
- KWIK CRICKET
- ROUNDERS
- SOFTBALL
- TAEKWONDO
- SHAKESPEARE DRAMA CLUB
- GYMNASTICS
- TOUCH RUGBY

GOAL

- ART
- JUNK MODELLING
- FASHION ILLUSTRATION
- MINECRAFT
- CHESS
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
- BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE
- CHOIR
- MDSA ROCKBAND



“I like how there are lots of different options for enrichment so you can try something you have never done before. There are lots of opportunities”

Student at MDSA

Trips

Another part of our enrichment is about the wider world outside of school. There will be many opportunities for trips and visits, from visits to the University in Peterborough to skiing in Austria and everything in-between! Here are a few trips we have done and some more coming up...

DRAYTON MANOR



LONDON



FERRY MEADOWS



PARIS



ICELAND



ACTIVITY DAYS

During the last three days of the summer term we offer some exciting activities for students to enjoy during our activity days. There range from sports and gaming in school, to days out to London, Go Ape, trampoline parks, ice-skating rinks and more! This summer some of our students are going to Paris, Leicester Space Centre, crazy golf and the cinema.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH



You will have the opportunity to take part in the Duke Of Edinburgh programme. This is an opportunity to have fun with friends and a chance to discover new interests and talents. DofE is a tool to develop essential skills for life and work. It's also a recognised mark of achievement, respected by employers. The DofE is many things to many people, supporting generations to successfully navigate life. Find out more at www.dofe.org

“London was my favourite trip. I got to experience it with my friends which I wouldn't do normally. The lion King was amazing - we got great seats!”

What will I wear?

You have chosen to come to Manor Drive Secondary Academy and we want you to be proud to wear our uniform. We have worked hard with a local supplier, Total Clothing, to develop a uniform that is both comfortable and smart and incorporates our lovely school logo.

We have chosen royal blue as one of our school colours because the borders of our site have been preserved as a wetland habitat to attract birds and insects.

School Day Wear



Physical Education



You do have some opportunity for choice; for example between a cardigan and a jumper and the type of training top you wear for PE. You'll need to wear a white shirt or blouse with your school day wear and a house-coloured tie (you will be told which you need).



For PE you can wear navy shorts, leggings or a skort. Tracksuit bottoms may be worn in severe weather. It is not necessary to purchase these from our official supplier, although a range is available to buy there.

We also have some rules about hairstyles, make-up and the shoes you wear so it is really important that you talk to your parents about our Uniform Policy.

What's it like being a student at MDSA?

Our students share with you what they like about being at Manor Drive Secondary Academy...

Quotes from Students

"Manor Drive makes me feel safe and provides a kind community"

"I like how there is lots of different options for enrichment so you can try something you have never done before. There are lots of opportunities."

"Manor Drive is a great school where you can unleash your creativity."

"I like how there is lots of different options for enrichment so you can try something you have never done before. There is lots of opportunities"

"Manor Drive is a great school where you can unleash your creativity."

"I like school because in PE we do lots of different sports. I like Mr Ziraki, he is nice."

"I love technology (mainly woodwork or textiles) because I get to be creative and express myself. I like making things ever since I was younger and find it fun because your designs can be how you like them to do with your interests."

"I really love this school because of my friends, learning and teachers. The school is helping me to succeed and achieve my goals."

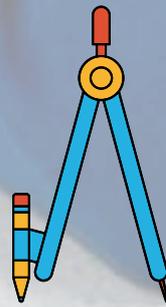
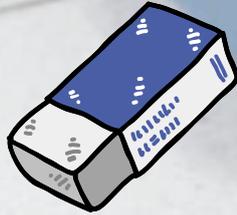
"I love Manor Drive because it feels like a second home where learning and friendships flourish. The supportive teachers inspire us to explore our passions and challenge ourselves academically, fostering a love for knowledge that extends beyond the classroom. Manor Drive creates an environment where every student feels valued and empowered to grow. This sense of belonging and the countless memories we've created together make my school truly special to me."

"It's great to be a student at MDSA because I feel supported in the school. I appreciate the efforts the teachers make for us in our lessons. There are many after school clubs and enrichment opportunities which I believe will broaden my horizons.."



What will I need?

It is a really good idea to be fully prepared for your lessons so here is a list of equipment that you will need...



OPTIONAL

- Dictionary
- Felt-tip Pens
- Set Square

NOT ALLOWED!

- Tippex
- Aerosols
- Mobile Phones

ESSENTIAL

- Bag
- Pens
- Pencils
- Ruler
- Coloured Pencils
- Eraser
- Pencil Case
- Protractor
- Calculator
- Compass
- Planner

Chromebooks

At Manor Drive Secondary School you will have your very own Chromebook to use at school and home for things like homework. You will need to ensure you look after it, keep it in a protective case and keep it charged up. We have seen how much Chromebooks help our students with learning. Here's what some of our current students like about them...



"Chromebooks are really useful in lessons especially if you struggle to write. They're great for researching stuff for your homework too. I think it's good we have them as most other schools don't."

Derwynn (Year 9)

"They are great for searching up things I need and really help me show the teacher what I'm working on. I don't have the neatest writing and the teacher can clearly read what I am doing. They help me keep organised - all my stuff in is one place and I really like that."

Jack (Year 9)



"They make things a lot easier to access and I like that with them I can keep everything in one place, like Teams and homework. I find it fun to personalise them too."

- Stephanie (Year 8)



Will I have homework?

At Manor Drive we believe homework is a really good way for you to check your understanding of what you have learnt in school, plus a way to show just how fantastic a student you are. The amount of homework you get will depend on how many lessons you have in each subject so you can expect to get more in English, Maths and Science than you do from Computing and Digital Studies or PE. We also think homework is a really good way for you to show your parents / carers what you are studying and how well you are doing at school.

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>High Quality The quality of homework is far more important than how much of it is set</p>  | <p>Embedding Learning Homework reinforces material learnt in classrooms</p>  | <p>Engaging Homework allows parents to engage with what students are learning</p>  |
| <p>Chance to Practice Homework allows for practice; practice makes permanent</p>  | <p>Equitable Homework is accessible to all, in a range of contexts</p>  | <p>Aligned to Feedback Homework is embedded in schemes of learning; feedback closes the loop</p>  |
| <p>Developing Metacognition Homework fosters grit and perseverance; students learn self-regulation</p>  | <p>Relevant Homework is linked to classroom learning and also the wider world</p>  | <p>Manageable Homework doesn't have to overload your capacity for efficiency</p>  |

Homework is:



- Coherent
- Clear

- Inclusive
- Meaningful
- Worthwhile

What happens next?



Your parents / carers will be busy filling out paperwork for us and downloading an app, both things will help us be ready for the first day of school. You will also have the fun of going to buy uniform and equipment shopping with them.

In the next few weeks, representatives from school will be visiting local primary schools to meet the children that will be coming to Manor Drive Secondary in September.

Wednesday 2 July and Thursday 3 July will be your Primary Transition Days, where all students in Peterborough spend a the days in their new Secondary School. During this day you will get to meet your Head of Year 7 Mr Sanusi, your new Form Tutor and make new friends. We'll make sure you know where everything is in the school by giving you a tour and you'll take part in fun team-building activities. You will also find out which House you are in!

Your very first official day at Manor Drive is Wednesday 3 September 2025 and we cannot wait to welcome you.

See you in September!



SEE YOU SOON

Questions?



We have put together some questions and answers that you might have. If you are worried about something that isn't covered in this booklet, please speak with your parent / carer. If they don't know the answer, please ask them to email office@manordrivesecondary.org.uk and we will try and help.

Will I get lost? Yes, you probably will but don't worry! There will be lots of people to help you find where you need to go.

What if I am feeling worried or unsure about something?

We're all here to support you. We suggest talking to your Form Tutor or our pastoral assistant.

Am I allowed a mobile phone?

Mobile phones are not to be used on the school grounds at any time of the day. If you want to bring a mobile phone it should be switched off and kept in your locker or bag.

What will I do on my first day?

The day starts at 8.30am but the school grounds open at 8am so you can arrive earlier. There will be lots of teachers and support staff outside to tell you where to go.

Will there be school photos?

Yes these will be taken when you start with us.

When will I pick my Enrichment options?

You will pick these on your transition day and then again at the end of each term.

How many people will be in my class?

There will be around 30 people in your Tutor Group and your class sizes will be around 25.

Can I bring my bike or scooter to school?

Yes, we prefer you to be healthy and cycle or walk. We have bicycle sheds so bring a lock with you. Electric scooters are not allowed on school grounds.

Will there be any clubs I can join?

As well as your 'Mind, Body and Goal' enrichment activities there will be lunchtime clubs you can join too such as music club, board games, chromebook club, film club and more! Sports clubs are also available after school.

Get in touch!

www.manordrivesecondary.org.uk



ManorDriveSecondaryAcademy