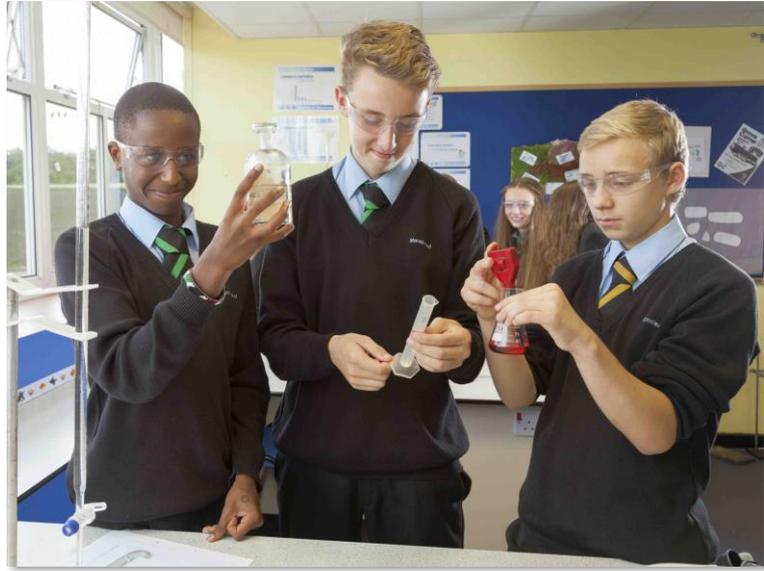




# Key Stage 3 Curriculum

2017-18



**Manshead CE Academy**  
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**Our curriculum is made up of a rich and exciting mixture of subjects designed to meet the needs of all students and help them to reach their full potential.**

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students

We take pride in tailoring the curriculum that we offer to ensure that the interests and talents of our students are fully met throughout their time at Manshead. Our Form Tutors, as well as subject staff, support students to become confident members of our Manshead community very quickly.

Students at Manshead Academy start to make choices about their own curriculum from Year 8 onwards. Before then our young learners study a set range of subjects alongside which we deliver a variety of exciting extra-curricular activities and trips that promote independent living skills, expand general knowledge and enhance the subject experience.

The curriculum for Year 7 students has been designed to allow the student to make progress. The traditional core curriculum is studied alongside an exciting range of additional subjects.

However, we are conscious that each young person is different. We offer extra support for students who would benefit at every year-group and Key Stage level, as well as a wide range of the curriculum. Through this we support and allow our students to develop the broader life skills needed to become successful learners.

**Miss K Beeton**  
**Assistant Headteacher**



Our timetable is organised on a one-week basis:

	Year 7	Year 8
English	4 lessons per week	4 lessons per week
Maths	4 lessons per week	3 lessons per week
Science	3 lessons per week	3 lessons per week
Art & Design	1 lesson per week	1 lesson per week
Computing	1 lesson per week	1 lesson per week
R.E.	2 lesson per week	1 lesson per week
Modern Foreign Languages	2 lessons per week	2 lessons per week
Music	1 lesson per week	1 lesson per week
Geography	1 lesson per week	2 lessons per week
History	1 lesson per week	2 lessons per week
Personal Development	1 lesson per week	1 lesson per week
Physical Education	2 lessons per week	2 lessons per week
Technology	1 lesson per week	1 lesson per week
Drama	1 lesson per week	1 lesson per week



### **Accelerated Reader Programme**

All Year 7 and 8 students will take part in the Accelerated Reader Programme throughout the year. Students will be allocated set reading times a few times every week in school and will be strongly encouraged to read as much as possible at home. Books will be provided by us and will be linked to the students' reading ability. Reading ages are monitored throughout the year and where students and their families engage fully, huge progress can be made. This in turn will allow our young learners to reach their full potential at GCSE level.

Time at school will be set aside as follows (although students are encouraged to read whenever and wherever they can):

- One Form Tutor session per week (20 minutes)
- One English lesson a fortnight is devoted to accelerated reader

Some students will receive extra support where appropriate.

### **CAT TESTS – Identifying your child's learning style**

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT) is an assessment used by over half of UK secondary schools and a significant number of primary schools to understand how a child can think in areas that are known to make a difference to learning and achievement.

The questions in CAT measure the four main types of reasoning ability. Some involve thinking about shapes and patterns (non-verbal reasoning); some deal with words (verbal reasoning) or numbers (quantitative reasoning); others require the child to think about shape and space together and imagine a shape being changed and moving (spatial ability).

Unlike an English or Maths test, CAT is not a test of the student's knowledge. As a result, all students who take CAT are starting in the same place as they cannot "learn" how to answer the questions; no preparation is required. So while many tests (such as SATs) focus on a child's attainment in core subjects, CAT is designed to give schools a much broader, more rounded view of each child, their potential and how they learn. In other words, it identifies what a child could achieve and how they learn best. Teachers can then tailor learning more closely to the needs of each child. All Year 7 students will complete CAT tests in September, and you will receive feedback about the learning style of your son or daughter and what kind of support would be beneficial. This information will be handed out and explained at the first Year 7 Parents Evening in October. As a school, we use CAT results alongside SAT results to set targets and to identify any issues with progress quickly.