



Supporting Transition
From Year 6 to Year 7.

Curriculum Overview and Information (KS3)

In Key Stage 3 students are offered a range of Secondary subjects and work in their classes. Students are supported by a regular TISA, to enable smooth transitions and a familiar adult to ensure consistency. Some of the core curriculum subjects are outlined below. Students transition to lessons with their TISA. Students also study RE, Computing, Art, Design Technology, Music, PE, Humanities, Preparation for Adulthood and Personal/Social development.

The school website has overviews of all subjects and topics taught.

[Subject Overviews | Penn Fields School](#)

English

All English lessons focus on the main areas of English: reading, writing, speaking, listening and communication. We endeavour to provide our students with firm foundations in these areas that can then be built upon as they move through the school.

Students are taught daily Phonics, following the Read, Write Inc programme, from the moment they join our school until they are independent readers who have a repertoire of reading skills to assist them throughout their lives.

Reading in the classroom and beyond is a key part of the students' educational journey and students have access to our Accelerated Reading Programme which enables them to regularly complete quizzes and improve their comprehension skills whilst also fostering a love of books. Furthermore, they are heard reading by a member of staff on an individual basis, through group guided reading sessions and through a shared class reader; this ensures that students read a breadth of texts as well as having the opportunity to hear stories being read to them that are more challenging than they would be able to access independently.

We work through a structured handwriting programme which leads to students being able to use cursive handwriting, if and when, they are able. Students' opportunities to develop their writing skills are built into the school day from simple mark making in our early years through to extended pieces of writing. Students write regularly across the key stages and our upper school students enjoy trying to use our "word of the week" in their pieces in order to enrich their vocabulary usage. Weekly spellings are given and these are differentiated to match the ability of the child.

Maths

At Penn Fields we believe that mathematical skills are an essential part of students learning. Maths helps provide students with important independence and decision making skills. Maths is taught across the school at a level that is appropriate to students learning styles and needs, following the Maths Mastery programme and aims to motivate students to achieve their best. Students across all key stages follow a rich mathematical curriculum with strong emphasis on number skills. Throughout the year students in KS1, 2 and 3 will have experience of a range of real life activities, from role play and stories to using weights and measures, in practical situations as a contextual basis for their learning.

Websites that could be useful for revision and practice:

<https://www.bbc.com/education/examspecs/z9p3mnb>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/maths>

<https://corbettmaths.com>

Science

Students work through scientific topics each year and build on these at every Key Stage, working towards exams and a variety of certified courses by the end of KS4.

Foundation Subjects

Students follow schemes of learning in all foundation subjects designed to develop key skills, knowledge and understanding. The schemes of learning and topics can be viewed on the school website.

Preparation For Adulthood

Students follow a specially designed programme from Year 7 to prepare them for the key skills required as they develop into young adults. They complete personal portfolios and units of work each term.

Nurture Group

Some students work in the KS3 Nurture Group. This means they work with the same teacher for Maths, English and Theme. They then have specialist staff for Science, art and PE. Students in this group require a higher level of adult support, enabling them to participate in an adapted and individualised curriculum.

SOLAR

We have a recording, assessment and target setting tool across school called SOLAR. It is used by more than 500 special schools and offers the opportunity for moderation and comparison with other special schools across the country and locally. Students will be baselined using SOLAR and then termly targets set for progress and monitored by senior leaders and relevant subject leads,

School Website

The school website has up to date information and weekly news from our Headteacher. You can also follow us on Twitter.

<https://www.pennfields.com>

Swimming

Assessments for Year 7 will take place late Autumn. Information about swimming sessions will follow, but due to large student numbers lessons, will need to be organised on a rota basis. Students needing to learn to swim will therefore have priority.

Interventions

Some students may receive weekly interventions, depending on their EHCP areas of need. These include:

- SALT
- OT
- RWI
- Number Sense and First Class For Number
- Accelerated Reading
- Haptic Massage
- Sensory Circuits & Sensory Snacks

Contacts

You will have the opportunity to meet the Year 7 tutor at the start of the Autumn term.

office@pennfields.com