



SPRATTON HALL

**Year 6 Parents'
Information
Booklet**

Prep Y4 – Y6

Prep is introduced in Year 3 and expands in Y4, 5 and 6 to give pupils the experience of working at home to follow up on what has been done at school, and to create greater independence. This is part of our job of preparing the pupils for when they move to Secondary School.

Prep has many purposes:

- ❑ To reinforce classroom learning
- ❑ To help pupils develop independent learning skills, including research skills
- ❑ To allow pupils to practice and apply the skills they have learnt at school
- ❑ To develop planning and organisational skills
- ❑ To measure pupil understanding of ideas and concepts taught in class.

Prep time

In Years 4, 5 and 6 each subject's prep should be around 20 minutes, although will extend more as they get older. The time will obviously vary slightly depending on how fast the pupil works and the type of task that is set.

However, prep is set assuming **full and uninterrupted concentration** for that period of time. Trips to the loo, day dreaming or repeated pencil sharpening will mean the prep takes much longer to complete!

As a parent you may need to monitor how long prep is taking. If you feel that your child has concentrated fully and is still working after 45 minutes, stop them and put a note in the diary. If the prep only takes a few minutes it is helpful if this is also recorded. Remember some preps involve watching videos online, or reading and learning information, as well as actually writing things, which is all part of the time allowance.

Prep timetable

English, Maths and Science preps are set for all pupils in Y4-6, with French added in Y5, and History and Geography in Y6.

Teachers avoid asking for prep to be completed for the following day, although sometimes this is unavoidable. This means that your child needs to record which day the prep is due and not allow the number of preps to build up. It also means that prep can be planned around days where a child has substantial commitments after school.

Self-Organisation

Organisation is the key to successfully completed prep and helps to relieve some of the tension and stress that can be caused at home over prep. **Independent learning** is a key component of prep at Spratton and it is important that this is reinforced both at home and at school. However, some pupils need quite a lot of guidance and help to become independent.

Pupil Diaries

Pupils in Y4 and Y5 have homework planners, while in Y6 they now have small pocket planners to record prep instructions on. This is particularly good practice for the Y4 and 5 pupils but as they get older we would hope they would be able to move away from this. However, the majority of prep instructions are now given on Google Classroom.

Google Classroom

We use an online learning platform called Google Classroom to pass on prep instructions. This can be accessed via the Google Drive on their Chromebooks. The pupils are fully aware of this and should be checking it daily. As parents you can also set it up to receive daily or weekly updates of what work has been set on Google Classroom.

Additional Tips

Quiet space - Have a designated prep area at home. Make sure that there is a large flat work area, plenty of light and few distractions. It can be difficult for a child to concentrate if there is a lot of noise and activity in other parts of the house.

Routine - Try to have one! Work out when prep can be done at home, fitting around regular activities you know about. Prioritise it over TV, Gaming, etc and make this clear to the pupils.

Guided Support - Help your child to work independently. Encourage them to look up information rather than answering questions yourself. Constant 'phoning or e-mailing of friends for help is unnecessary and wastes time. Most prep is set for the individual child to complete. It makes it difficult for the teacher to assess how much has been understood if the prep has been completed by committee! Also, check they are actually working on prep in their room, and not distracting themselves. A 20 minute prep will take 40 mins if they are texting their friends every 2 minutes!

Monitor - Take an interest in the work your child is doing and report any concerns in the diary. Children need to know that their parents and adults close to them think homework is important. If a child finds it very difficult to settle it may be that you need to do some quiet work or reading in the room with them to reinforce the idea of the importance of study.

ATOM prep

This is a weekly prep for Y5/6 pupils to help them prepare in Verbal and Non-verbal reasoning, Maths and English Comprehension, using online multiple choice questions. Mr Bradnam will be setting 1 per week, on the different areas, of 20 questions in length, and it is not expected to take more than 30 mins to complete, but **MUST** be done.

Form	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
6L	English	Geography	ATOM	Science	Maths
	History				French
6S	English	French	ATOM	Science	Maths
	Geography			History	
6W	English	French	ATOM	Geography	Maths
				History	Science
5C	ATOM	Spellings Maths	French	English	Science
5S	ATOM	Spellings Maths	French	English	Science
5W	ATOM	Spellings Maths		English	Science French
4A	English	Science		Maths	Spellings
4C	English	Science		Maths	Spellings
4W	English	Science		Maths	Spellings



IT Platforms at Spratton Hall - A Guide for New Parents

As with most workplaces now, the use of IT at Spratton Hall is deeply embedded in our day to day routines. This document explains what these systems are and when you may encounter them as a parent, to remove some of the concern when you start at Spratton as to what can be a confusing array of login information, and how it all links together.

If you have any problems with any of this technology working (or not), then contact support@sprattonhall.com, where issues can be resolved by our IT support team.

Parent Sites

Engage Parent portal (<https://home.sprattonhall.com>)

Who uses it? All parents of Reception to Year 8 pupils.

What is it used for? Engage is the Management Information System we use for nearly all of our administration and data storage. It is used for booking parent evening times (Reception to Year 3 only), accessing online reports on effort and attainment (Year 1 to Year 8), accessing additional information like timetables or updating your contact details.

A letter will be provided when you start at Spratton asking you to set up your username and password for this. It is accessible all year round. At various points in the year parents will be sent reminders to view the assessment information that is posted on there at half terms and end of terms.

An App is available (search: Engage school) – the **School App ID is 666221**, and login details are then the same as for the website version.

Tapestry (<https://tapestryjournal.com>)

Who uses it? Reception parents only.

What is it used for? To record a pictorial record of pupil progress in Reception, with associated teacher comments.

An activation login will be sent to the primary email contact for school, at the beginning of September, to allow parents to access the online journal and view their child's posts.

School website (www.sprattonhall.com)

Who uses it? Anyone and everyone!

What is it used for? While a large part of the website is about advertising what we do to interested parties, there is a section for Parent Information, where documentation such as certain school policies, advice about the curriculum and exams, and other useful general information, is available. There is also an 'amendments' section in School News, where we post any changes to the school calendar and school events.

Google Classroom (<https://classroom.google.com/>)

Who uses it? Year 3 to Year 8 pupils, and parents of these pupils.

What is it used for? It is our main education platform for sharing instructions for prep, sharing work and/or useful videos etc, and ensuring work at home is completed. Pupils use their school Google login to access accounts, on whichever devices they use at home.

Parents can also be set up by our IT support, to receive their children's daily or weekly notifications if they wish, to allow you to keep track of homework. To receive daily notifications, you will need a Gmail account, which you may wish to create and will need to be passed onto Mr Fernandes (IT support – vf@sprattonhall.com). Other email accounts only give weekly updates.

'SOCS' Sports Website (<https://sports.sprattonhall.com/>)

Who uses it? Parents of pupils in Year 3 to Year 8

What is it used for? To post information about school sport fixtures, including team sheets containing times, venues and dates, and any other instructions.

Results are also posted after matches have taken place.

Parents can access the information using the code **Hall99** at the login screen. There is an app version too that can be saved to your smartphone or tablet.

ClarionCall

Who uses it? All parents

What is it used for? We use it for communicating messages and letters to parents via email or SMS text. You will be sent messages regarding a wide range of school matters using this system, from a text informing you that a trip is running late on return, to letters from the Headmaster. The system is automatically set up when you join school, as long as your contact details are correct and up to date. For some messages, where permission is required for a school trip, you may be asked to complete a short online permission reply.

Pupil Only Sites

Tootoot (<https://sprattonhall.tootoot.co.uk/login>)

Who uses it? Year 3 to Year 8

What is it used for? A way for pupils to speak confidentially to the Head of Pastoral Care, Mrs Benn. Tootoot enables pupils to reach out for support through messaging via any platform rather than having to have a face to face conversation. It can be completely anonymous, if the pupil so chooses. Login details are provided in Computing lessons, where the pupils are shown how to access the website if they need to.

TT Rockstars (<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>)

Who uses it? Year 3 to Year 8

What is it used for? Maths sets use it to provide regular practice of times table facts, to increase overall recall speed and accuracy.

A free app version is available to download on most home devices, or it can be played via the web version. Login details are provided by the maths teacher to the pupils at the beginning of the term, which are written in their planners.

MyMaths (<https://login.mymaths.co.uk/login>)

Who uses it? Year 3 to Year 8

What is it used for? Maths sets use it for setting work, either in class or for homework. It can also be used for revision and practice. Login details are provided by the maths teacher to the pupils at the beginning of the term, which are written in their planners.

ATOM

Who uses them? Year 5 to Year 8

What is it used for? To help pupils prepare for pre-test entry exams to senior school, in areas of Verbal reasoning (VR), Non-verbal reasoning (NVR), Maths, and English comprehension. Y5-7 have a weekly prep, Y8 use them if needed before they sit such tests.

Guardian's Guide to Classroom

Google Classroom is a free tool within Google Workspace for Education, a set of products including Gmail, Calendar, Docs, Drive, Slides and more.

With Classroom, educators can distribute and collect assignments, give personalized feedback and grades, and see students' work in one place. Schools use Classroom to make teaching more productive and meaningful by streamlining assignments, boosting collaboration, and fostering communication.



Keeping parents and guardians informed

Parents and guardians can opt in to get an email summary of their child's work in Classroom, which includes information about upcoming assignments, missing work, class activities and projects. If you aren't getting these emails today but would like to, please talk to your school to learn more about email summaries for parents and guardians.

How teachers use Google Classroom



Assign classwork

Educators can create assignments and add in all the necessary documents for students to work on. Students receive an email notification when there is a new assignment and are able to turn the assignment in on Classroom. Classroom sends a notification out to students once the homework is graded, so students can review grades and feedback.



Make announcements

Educators can send announcements to the whole class, which students receive via email. They also see these announcements when they log in to Classroom, through a web browser or Classroom's mobile app, available on iOS and Android.



Share all relevant classroom materials

Within Classroom, educators can share learning resources, reading materials, videos, links, and handouts. This allows students to refer to them at any time, or collaborate with their classmates on learning.



Collaborate one-on-one or with the entire class

Students can message educators directly with questions and/or comments on assignments and announcements. Students can also collaborate with each other for team assignments by working on shared projects in Docs, Sheets, and Slides at the same time.



Integrate with other apps and content

Students have access to thousands of educational apps that spark creativity and create endless opportunities for learning.

Chromebook Guidelines for Y5-8

Children will be given their Chromebooks at the start of term and further explanation will be given in subsequent Computing lessons. They will be given their log-in details and a brief introduction to the Chromebook. When pupils leave the school, the Chromebooks will remain the property of Spratton Hall School. We expect them to be returned in a usable condition.

Mornings

- Pupils must bring their Chromebooks to school every day, **fully charged**. **Mr Fernandes will be keeping a record of pupils who repeatedly need their Chromebooks charging** at the start of the day.
- Chargers should be kept at home, not brought into school, unless faulty or they are requested by school.
- Pupils must bring their Chromebooks to school in a **padded sleeve**.
- Pupils must bring 'in-the-ear' **earphones** to school and **keep in their blazer pocket** for use when needed. **We do NOT lend earphones**, for hygiene reasons.
- Chromebooks should be unpacked at 8:30am, ready for checking in Registration time.
- Tutors will check that the Chromebooks are charged, during morning registration. If Chromebooks are uncharged or they have a problem which the pupil has not been to try and get fixed, then this will be noted. **Repeatedly not having the Chromebook charged will lead to a Minus being given.**
- If there is an urgent problem (such as any overnight damage or major fault), the Digital Support Office will be open from 8.20am to provide support and give advice to pupils and/or parents.
- Pupils can also be given permission to go to the Digital Support Office with urgent problems during Registration / Tutorial.
- Pupils can visit the Digital Support Office at break times and at 4pm if they have any other questions or concerns. **They must take responsibility for getting problems dealt with** at these times and not in lessons.

Lessons

- Chromebooks should be taken to every lesson. Class teachers will advise pupils about how to manage Chromebooks in different curriculum areas (especially Art, Drama, Music ...)
- During PE & Games, Chromebooks must be stored safely in form room lockers. **Chromebooks must not be taken to the Changing Rooms, left outside, or left on desks in classrooms.**
- During away matches, Chromebooks must be stored safely in form room lockers. If pupils are to be collected directly from the away match, Chromebooks must be placed safely in school bags.
- **Chromebooks must never be left outside** during lessons where they are not being used, or during any break or lunch time, in case it rains while they are unattended. They should be stored in form rooms or lockers, or taken to the classroom where the next lesson will be taking place.
- Chromebooks are not to be used outside of lessons unless pupils are under the supervision of a teacher.
- Pupils are expected to abide by the **ICT Code of Conduct**, which is in the Pupil diaries, whenever they use their Chromebook. If they do not, they will receive appropriate sanctions.

Damage

- **Pupils must report all damage** to devices, whether accidental or deliberate.
- **Pupils should not customise their Chromebooks with stickers** or any kind of artwork. Their padded cases can be customised.
- **Parents will be charged for repairs if the damage is caused through misuse, or lack of care with the Chromebook.**

Evenings

- Pupils must take their Chromebooks home every evening for charging.
- Chromebooks can be connected to home networks.
- As a minimum, pupils should use their Chromebooks to check for details of their prep on Google Classroom.



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Year 6 – Curriculum Summary

Subject	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Maths	<p><u>Number and Algebra</u> Four rules; fractions; percentages; ratio and proportion; substitution; equations; negative numbers; factors and multiples; sequences; divisibility; rounding; BIDMAS. Algebra: simplifying expressions; substitution; solving equations</p> <p><u>Shape, Space and Measures</u> Area, surface area and volume; constructions; metric and imperial units; time; transformations; angles.</p> <p><u>Handling data</u> Graphs & charts; averages; probability.</p> <p><u>General work</u> Tables; mental arithmetic; mathematical vocabulary; problem solving.</p>		
English	<p>Reinforcement of basic skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening, spelling Journalistic writing; study of a class novel; Shakespeare – Macbeth; creative writing skills.</p>	<p>Reinforcement of basic skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening, spelling Poetry reading skills; poetry writing; formal / impersonal writing; reading poetry – The Pardoner’s Tale; writing to argue, discuss and persuade; performing poetry.</p>	<p>Reinforcement of basic skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening, spelling Creative writing; exam skills; auto / biography; study of Roald Dahl’s ‘Boy’</p>
Science	<p><u>Bunsen Burner</u> - Safe use. <u>Measurement</u> - Volume; scales; displacement.</p> <p><u>Plotting graphs and writing up experiments</u> Scaling axes; best fit; reading graphs; trends; presentation.</p> <p><u>Electricity</u> – series / parallel circuits Conductors & insulators; circuit diagrams; brightness; switches; making series & parallel circuits.</p>	<p><u>Irreversible Changes</u> Bicarbonate of soda; burning; melting; simple reactions. <u>Forces</u> Using a Newtonmeter; weight & mass; balanced & unbalanced; testing elasticity, air resistance and friction; floating. <u>Magnetism</u> Shape of magnetic fields; attraction & repulsion; magnetic materials; compasses; earth’s magnetic field.</p>	<p><u>Plants</u> structure, lifecycle and factors affecting growth</p> <p><u>We are humans</u> Life cycles of organisms including humans, Systems in the body. Health and exercise</p>
French	<p>Weather, temperature & seasons; sport & leisure activities(after half-term) ER verbs in the present tense; Beginning of Term: places in town, asking for, understanding & giving directions; obtaining touristic information;</p> <p>Description of your local area/town; how faraway places are; regular ‘ER’ verbs, use of ‘on’; expression of at/to; present tense of ‘Aller’; prepositions.</p>	<p>Understanding & giving the time; discussing a typical day; subject likes & dislikes, opinions; food & drink; meals; present tense of ‘manger’ & ‘commencer’; possessive adjectives; some reflexive verbs; partitive article; use of negative. Daily routine project based on unit 8 “la journee d’Olivier” (A3 format on cardboard or digital powerpoint).</p>	<p>Leisure activities including sport & music; 24-hour clock; helping at home; reasons & opinions; present tense of ‘faire’; use of verb followed by infinitive. Simple use of the perfect tense: “Je suis allé”; simple use of the future tense: aller + infinitive. End of year exam based on the studied topics/ language and grammar during the year along with an oral exam for which the pupils will be given the topic questions beforehand for them to prepare.</p>
History	<p><u>1485 – 1666</u> Tudor Times, Battle of Bosworth, Henry VII, Henry VIII, Religious differences, Elizabeth, Spanish Armada</p>	<p>James I, Gunpowder Plot, Pilgrim Fathers, Charles I, The Causes of the Civil War, Civil War</p>	<p>Civil War, The Trial of Charles I, The Rule of Cromwell, Charles II, Plague, Great Fire of London</p>

<p>Geography</p>	<p><u>What is Geography?</u> Understanding the difference between human, physical and environmental geography. <u>Global Location?</u> Global location of rivers, mountains, continents, countries and capitals around the world including an in-depth knowledge of Great Britain. A detailed study of maps including latitude, longitude and time. Three day Study Visit to The Peak District National Park.</p>	<p><u>Weather and Climate</u> The differences between weather & climate; the components & links in the water cycle; how & why temperature & rainfall vary with particular reference to the British Isles; microclimates; 3 main types of rainfall. <u>Extreme weather case studies</u> Weather hazards; nature and causes; effects; human response.</p>	<p><u>Ordnance Survey Map Work</u> 1:50000 & 1:25000 maps; 4 & 6 figure grid references; height & contours; direction; orientation; distance; area; following routes; landscape features.</p>
<p>RS</p>	<p><u>Christianity</u> Discussion of the main aims of studying RS and key aspects of six of the major world religions The life and teaching of Jesus: OT prophecy, birth, temptations, gathering of disciples, teaching (miracles, parables, preaching and by example)</p>	<p><u>Islam</u> Key beliefs - Five Pillars of Faith Muhammad (PBUH) and spread of Islam Sacred texts, festivals, rites of passage and family times Mosques</p>	<p><u>Christianity</u> The life and teaching of Jesus: last week; crucifixion, resurrection Key Christian beliefs and practices Christian prayer and worship; Holy Communion; pilgrimage: main denominations</p>
<p>Latin</p>	<p>Introduction to Latin: who/what/where/when/how and WHY? <u>Classical Civilisation:</u> Greek Gods; Judgement of Paris; The Trojan War – The Quarrel of Agamemnon and Achilles</p>	<p><u>Classical Civilisation:</u> The Trojan War - Death of 3 Heroes and the Wooden Horse; Odysseus Leaving Troy; Polyphemus the Cyclops; Circe the Sorceress</p>	<p><u>Latin Language:</u> Verbs: 1st conjugation, present tense, all six person endings Negatives, Adverbs and Conjunctions; <u>Vocabulary:</u> How to Learn Vocab; Introduction of Prep; Using Vocab Express <u>Language Manipulation:</u> Translation of verbs into English and Latin, moving onto simple sentences. Latin Word Order. Nouns: subjects <u>Vocabulary:</u> Learning, using and understanding first 50 words</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>Mini Concert <u>Peter and the Wolf</u> Listening to Peter and Wolf and identifying features. Research on the piece and its composer. Music theory. Composition using 'Flat'.</p>	<p>Mini Concert <u>Musicals</u> Listening to, and evaluating, music from musicals. Researching musicals and their composers. Singing and performing songs from musicals for the Year 6 Drama Evening.</p>	<p>Mini Concert Music Project</p>
<p>Art</p>	<p>Overall theme Natural World Graphic Illustration - Christmas cards Drawing seed pods Christmas willow lights Painting Art appreciation Sketchbook; research, plan, make and evaluate.</p>	<p>Overall theme Natural World Painting Art appreciation Sketchbook; research, artist study, plan painting, paint and evaluate.</p>	<p>Overall theme Natural World Sculpture Sketchbook; research, artist study, plan painting, paint and evaluate.</p>
<p>Drama</p>	<p>Improvisation using props and costume elements for effect; Radio broadcasts- news report using tablets to record self; use of voice in a different role; Macbeth - exploration of relationships, motivation and</p>	<p>A story centred on cyber bullying – more in-depth improvisations and scenes; exploring sensitive issues; problem solving; conscience alley, hot seating, thought bubbles.</p>	<p>Play – Oliver Twist (abridged) – performing excerpts creatively; forum theatre; clear characterisation; directing; staging scenes; use of props and costumes;</p>

	conflict. Improvisations, soundscapes, developing character roles.	Working towards Y6 performance; refining performance skills, vocal projection, awareness of others and use of acting space.	
FDT	Food - Moveable Feast. Pupils will learn more food processes and where our food comes from, whilst cooking more complex recipes such as; sausage rolls and mini quiches.	Woodwork Following the design process, pupils will develop previously learnt skills producing a bookend. Furthermore, pupils will learn 2 point perspective drawing.	CAD/CAM Develop Computer Aided Design skills and use the 3D printer to produce a pencil topper, along with completing STEM challenges.
Computing	Develop further understanding of how to use Google Chromebooks. Planning and creating a range of images through vector drawings. Develop a greater understanding of programming through the use of MakeyMakey kits and visualising computers as creative tools. Reinforcement of typing skills using Typing Club. Develop greater Online Safety Awareness.	Continuing to develop an understanding of building web pages through Google Sites. Designing, writing and debugging code through the Code for Life platform. Reinforcement of typing skills using Typing Club. Develop greater Online Safety Awareness.	Introduction to Minecraft and working collaboratively to plan, scale and construct 3D constructions within the virtual platform. Reinforcement of typing skills using Typing Club. Develop greater Online Safety Awareness.
PE	First and second rotation of: Gymnastics: Counter Balance and Unison Dance: Dance Around the World Invasion Game: Handball Fitness Focus: Stamina	Third rotation of: Gymnastics: Counter Balance and Unison Dance: Around the World Invasion Game: Handball Fitness Focus: Agility	Athletics: Progress to coaching running, jumping and throwing events, introducing javelin. Fitness Focus: Speed
Girls Games	Girls – Hockey Continued development of passing and receiving skills including advanced techniques on the backhand. 3D skills and elimination skills. Advanced match tactics. Regular U11 matches.	Girls – Netball Continued development of footwork, passing, shooting and receiving techniques. Advanced Centre Pass tactics and set plays. Regular U11 matches.	<u>Boys/Girls mixed cricket</u> Intro to match scenarios and competitions Shot selection and judgement of length Attacking the ball and bowling scenarios Mix Years 5&6 to form the Colts Cricket Club in Autumn/Spring Use of bowling machines Athletics
Boys Games	<u>Boys Rugby</u> Develop key contact areas Focus on basic kicking skills Work on moves, set play and game understanding Adapting to play U11 laws in line with RFU Uncontested scrums. Focus on poaching Free pass for line-outs 2 supporting players at ruck/maul Defensive Line understanding Grid Square attack games Cross-country	<u>Boys Football</u> Game scenarios Focus on individual attacking skills Positioning in game tactics Defensive tracking and shadowing Chipping the ball Heading with power and control Movement off the ball Yrs 5&6 mixed to form Colts Cross-country	<u>Boys/Girls mixed cricket</u> Intro to match scenarios and competitions Shot selection and judgement of length Attacking the ball and bowling scenarios Mix Years 5&6 to form the Colts Cricket Club in Autumn/Spring Use of bowling machines Athletics
PSHCE	<u>Being Me in My World</u> Identifying goals for the year Global citizenship children's universal rights Feeling welcome and valued Choices, consequences and rewards Democracy, having a voice Role-modelling	<u>Dreams and Goals</u> Personal learning goals success criteria emotions in success making a difference in the world motivation recognising achievements compliments	<u>Relationships</u> People in My relationship web, sources and support Love and loss Managing feelings Power and control Assertiveness

	<p><u>Celebrating Difference</u> Perceptions of normality Understanding disability Power struggles Understanding bullying inclusion/exclusion Solving problems Empathy</p> <p>Visit to the Safety Centre- Milton Keynes</p> <p>Internet Safety Workshop</p>	<p><u>Healthy Me</u> Taking personal responsibility How substances affect the body Emotional and mental health Managing stress</p>	<p>Being safe and taking responsibility with technology use</p> <p><u>Changing Me</u> My self-image Puberty and feelings Conception to birth reflections about change Physical attraction Boyfriends/Girlfriends Respect and consent</p> <p>Introduction to Recovery Position and CPR</p>
Lifelong Learning	<p>Ready, Study, Go! – Right/left brain thinking, emotional/ practical thinking, awareness of how our brain works, characteristics, solving being stuck, setting goals</p> <p>Weekly practice on ATOM website for pre-test style Reasoning tests</p>	<p>Revision strategies – a range of different approaches</p> <p>Weekly practice on ATOM website for pre-test style Reasoning tests</p>	<p>Exam technique – time management, proofreading, pitfalls, error spotting</p> <p>Money matters: What do banks do, Budgeting, debt, managing your money</p>



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Y6 Guide to the curriculum

Below is a summary of the aims of each of the main departments within the Preparatory Department. The Year Group Curriculum Summary gives more information about syllabus content and structure for each subject.

Mathematics

As one of the core curriculum subjects, the importance of children knowing the basics such as number bonds and place value is vitally important to the child's development and confidence. In pre-prep, we have a hands on approach to learning Maths and use NumBots to facilitate confidence with the four operations and understanding of the number system. As the pupils get older, we introduce times tables through the use of TTRockstars which form part of the weekly Maths prep. The children will learn to calculate mentally, use recognised formal written methods as well as solve age appropriate problems. During Year 4 and Year 5, the pupils will sit half-termly tests in the four operations. In Year 6, this half-termly test then focusses on Algebraic questions and BIDMAS.

The syllabus is largely based on the National Curriculum with topics covering Number, Algebra, Shape and Space, Measures, Graphs and Handling Data taught from pre-prep through to Year 8, although some topics are taught ahead of the National Curriculum to allow for bridging the gap to Common Entrance exams.

We set pupils from Year 3, placing pupils in groups based on ability, pace and confidence. The sets are constantly reviewed and monitored and pupils are placed with their best interests at the fore. At Spratton, we enter individuals and teams into UK Maths Trust competitions which allow some of the stronger Mathematicians to test themselves against other local schools.

English

The English syllabus is structured around the disciplines outlined in the National Curriculum; speaking and listening, reading and writing. Throughout the School, pupils are encouraged to explore verbal and written language through a variety of media.

The English department has the following aims:

- To stimulate and encourage a clarity of expression in all areas of written and oral work and to develop creative writing in all its genres.
- To foster and develop interest in prose, poetry and drama.
- To introduce and encourage a wide variety of regular reading through a structured reading programme, as well as encouraging a love of reading.
- To improve mechanical skills in writing. Throughout the school pupils are encouraged to assume responsibility for their own improvement in technical accuracy, with appropriate guidance.
- To prepare pupils for the Common Entrance exams and Senior School Scholarships at 13+.
- To introduce pupils to Shakespeare both in a practical sense through improvisation, and an academic sense by developing an understanding of themes, characters and plots.

Science

The Science Department strongly believes this is one of the most important subjects children encounter at school, as it answers so many of the questions they have about everyday life. We strive to answer these questions through a practical, hands-on approach wherever possible. We have experienced members of staff, and three modern specially designated laboratories. All the children in the Prep School, have their Science lessons in the laboratories. This enables the children to get a real 'feel' for Science from an early age, and be confident in their working space, so they can work independently as they meet more challenging science in the senior years.

General Science is taught to all children from Year 3 to Year 6. There is a strong emphasis on practical investigation and discovery, which helps enthuse and engage children with science at an early stage. We try and relate their studies to the real world wherever possible to make it relevant to the children and give the study of science some purpose. Science is split for the pupils in Years 7 and 8 into the 3 distinct Sciences – Biology,

Physics and Chemistry. We teach the Common Entrance Syllabus in preparation for the examinations at the end of Year 8. The two year course in each area is very intensive, pushing the children on in terms of their practical skills and their knowledge and understanding of each subject. Our results are consistently good each year, and children leave Spratton feeling they are confident and competent scientists.

French

French is introduced to all pupils in the school from Year 1 onwards with lessons being conducted in French whenever possible. Pupils are encouraged to respond with confidence and enjoyment to the four main language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Computing is fully integrated into the French curriculum and software has been used to enhance the learning process. Pupils are encouraged to use our subscribed language websites as well as the Internet to aid their learning. The 'Tricolore Total' series of text books and their PDF versions (available on pupils' tablets) are used to support the curriculum from Year 5.

French is taught in form groups in Years 1-6. Then, pupils will be placed in ability sets in Years 7 and 8. Pupils' ability in this subject will be reviewed throughout the year to allow changes in set groups to suit their progress. Pupils who take scholarship exams will follow a designated programme of study to prepare them adequately for the senior school of their choice. Years 6-8 will also learn French vocabulary on studied topics with the aid of online "Vocab Express". This vocabulary program guides the pupils through their learning and assess their progress.

Pupils go on residential study visits to France in Year 6 and 7 to further develop their language skills and get a taste of French life and culture. The pupils have a total French experience, by visiting France and spending time learning the customs and speaking French to residents in Picardie and Boulogne. There are visits to various places including Paris, Amiens, a chocolate factory and a goat farm.

History

The History syllabus is designed to engender enthusiasm for the subject in a fun and interesting way above anything else. Intrinsic to this are the acquisition of knowledge; the development of logical enquiry; improvement in recall; extension of reasoning; and analysis.

We aim to provide our students with a wide and varied programme of study covering English and British History during their time at Spratton Hall. In Year 3 the History syllabus covers the Second World War and Pirates. In Years 4 – 7, the pupils travel through English and British History from 100BC to 1918. Pupils in Year 8 study Historical Theory that will include topics such as Greatness, Empire, How we treat others, Leadership and Religion. A range of approaches is encouraged from class discussions and debates, group challenges, role play and examination of sources, to the reading, understanding and questioning of historical issues. The department makes full use of DVD and on-line material, information technology and artefacts. There are also study visits to local museums and sites of related historical importance, such as Holdenby House in Year 3, Verulamium in Year 4, Tamworth Castle and Northampton in Year 5, Bosworth in Year 6, Cromford Mills in Year 7 and Bletchley Park in Year 8.

Geography

The Geography department of Spratton Hall aims to stimulate pupils' interest in their own surroundings and in the workings of the wider world. Through a balanced curriculum we investigate features of both the physical and human world and how they intertwine and we also endeavour to instil an appreciation of the environment and how it can be sustainably managed. Geography is unique in that it allows pupils to investigate a wide range of people, places and environments at different scales around the world.

In Year 3, Geography is taught as part of the Humanities syllabus which is topic based. Fundamentals such as where we are in the world and how different places have different characteristics are covered. In Years 4 and 5 the focus is on a number of topics investigating environments near and far, such as the structure of Spratton village, investigating rainforests and considering protection of the environment through fieldwork and individual research. In Years 6, 7 and 8 the content is more formalised, while still maintaining a sense of fun. Pupils are engaged using a variety of interactive stimuli such as fieldwork, chromebooks, group work and individual

research. Topics include Tectonic Processes, Environmental Issues, Economic Activities, Sustainability and Geomorphological Processes.

Study outside the classroom is a key facet of Geography. All Year groups complete fieldwork outside the classroom and Years 5 and 6 attend residential fieldtrips to the Peak District and to the National Forest. Visiting speakers are also invited to give talks on their specialist subjects. By the time pupils leave Spratton Hall they should have an understanding of how their world works and an appreciation of a variety of environments and how they can each be sustained. Geography is approached as a journey of discovery to find out how we influence and protect our environment in a fast changing world.

Religious Studies (RS Y3-6) / Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE Y7/8)

At the heart of RS teaching is a desire to allow pupils to experience and reflect on a range of religions and religious beliefs and practices, and to understand that they are responses to fundamental questions of human existence- the “why” questions in life. The RS department aims to introduce the pupils to a variety of experiences, biblical, moral and spiritual, and to develop in them a deep awareness of contemporary issues and their responsibilities to each other. Visitors come into school from local religious communities and we also have study visits to other religious establishments. Pupils learn to understand and respect our common humanity, diversity and differences so that they can go on to form effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.

In Years 4, 5 and 6, pupils explore the faith and practice of six of the major world religions. In Years 7 and 8, pupils study key stories from the Old and New Testament, which act as a starting point for the exploration of key philosophical standpoints and moral choices, and key contemporary issues, such as social justice, the coexistence of science and religion, prejudice and discrimination, and conflict and reconciliation.

Latin

Latin remains an important part of the academic curriculum at Spratton Hall, with all pupils in Years 6, 7 and 8 studying the subject. ‘Latin’ includes not only the study of the language of Latin but also looking at the wider Classical world. The Common Entrance syllabus is followed, with the majority of Spratton pupils taking the Level 1 paper; a few of the more able pupils attempt Level 2 or even Scholarship each year too. Our aim is for every pupil to leave Spratton fully confident, willing and able to continue with a Classical subject at Senior School.

Quite apart from examinations, broad educational benefit is derived from the study of Latin. It provides a framework in which the grammar of any language, including English, is better understood. It improves knowledge of English vocabulary and facilitates the study of other European languages. Highlighting and understanding the links between Latin and modern languages is a fundamental part of our teaching.

In Classical Civilisation, we explore the Greek Myths – heroes such as Hercules, Odysseus, Jason and Theseus. Whilst being the forerunner for various works of modern literature and ideal vehicles for studying the human condition, they are also simply great stories!

One great benefit of the study of Latin at Spratton Hall is that it provides a chance for every pupil, regardless of ability, to have a positive experience and sense of achievement in an allegedly difficult subject. Personal experience confirms that many children, even those with various ‘language problems’, enjoy Latin and can do very well; those with high ability are stretched. There is no doubt that Latin is one of the best “brain-training” subjects of all, and as such, can impart skills and habits that will enhance the children’s lives and learning for years to come.

Computing

Computing is taught in its own purpose built room in the Bickley Building. The 22 machines are loaded with a large variety of software, from movie editing programs and animation platforms, to professional 3D design and programming tools.

The Computing Curriculum has been radically changed in recent years to reflect ongoing changes in education and the industry as a whole. From an early age pupils are taught how to safely use email, create documents and manage folders. Pupils are introduced to a lot of the theory behind computing; while algorithms, data sorting and debugging programs are taught as part of ‘programming’ lessons, along with how to use HTML and Python

Programming Language. Through movie making units, they are encouraged to explore music making and animation tools to tell stories and adventures. The children create podcasts, edit videos, create websites and are taught useful information retrieval skills to use with Google. They are also encouraged to learn to touch-type via the Touch Typing platform, the pupils complete a short typing assessment at the end of each term.

By the time the pupils are in Years 5-8 they will have their own Chromebooks, provided by the school. This allows all the skills learnt in previous years to be utilised across the curriculum in all subjects, as well as to continue to develop, practice and improve their skills through using specific programs introduced by different subjects.

Art

The development of the whole child includes their creativity. The Art syllabus develops this creativity and imagination through a variety of fun activities; children build on their skills and improve their observation, control of materials, tools and techniques. They increase their awareness of the role and purpose of Art and Design, building the confidence to express and communicate.

Years 3, 4 and 5 pupils gain a good foundation in many art skills, observational drawing, painting, printing, ceramics and sculpture. In Years 6, 7, and 8 pupils extend their creativity through more sustained activities. They become more independent in using visual language to communicate their own ideas, feelings and meanings. They engage with the contemporary world of Art, and Art from different periods of history and cultures e.g. Renaissance and Post Renaissance, Impressionism, and the wider World.

Pupils learn to record and first hand develop observation drawing skills. They learn to discuss and question critically, organizing and presenting their work in a variety of different ways.

FDT (Food and Design Technology)

FDT is taught to all pupils from Years 3 – 7, who use the workshop facility, where all the resources are housed. Pupils regularly work both individually and as a group. In the first term the focus is on Food technology, with pupils shown demonstrations and given opportunities to plan and prepare a range of foods, considering elements of health, flavour and presentation. The key is to have a 'hands-on' experience, and provide pupils with recipes that can be followed up at home. Co-operation between pupils is encouraged as part of the creative process.

In the Spring term, the focus changes to design based projects using woodwork skills, which are developed year on year, to allow pupils skill levels to improve. The pupils are given the opportunity to plan, draw and make a project suitable for the skills they have, based around a theme. They then evaluate the success of their project.

The Summer term sees the focus change to CAD/ CAM design, developing various skills related to this, and designing and making products using our 3D printers. STEM challenges are also undertaken.

Music

The Music Department leads a very active life within Spratton Hall. Music is taught throughout the school, from Reception to Year 8.

In Years 3 to 6, pupils will participate in a range of activities. They will perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. Singing and composition are important elements of the curriculum. Pupils will learn to sing and use their voices, they will create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and use Chromebooks within their lessons. Pupils will learn about musical notation. They will understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated. This will include learning about the musical elements of pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture and structure.

In Years 7 and 8, pupils will continue to experience the vast range of musical skills from Years 3 to 6. They will learn about specific styles of music and musical structures. They will also learn how to implement their own knowledge and musical skills when composing both on the keyboards and their Chromebooks.

The Music Department offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities and there are many opportunities for pupils to perform solos or to perform as part of an ensemble.

Our visiting peripatetic members of staff offer a range of instrumental lessons, together with singing lessons and music theory.

Physical Education and Games

Spratton Hall has excellent sporting facilities and a fine sporting tradition with over fifty acres of superb grounds for cricket, football and rugby, alongside the eight all-weather tennis courts, six netball courts and an Astroturf pitch. The most recent addition is a permanent construction of a bank of eight cricket nets. All these facilities are complemented by the outstanding Underwood, the state-of-the art changing room block. Spratton's sporting facilities are further enhanced with the dome, an indoor area which includes a full size tennis court, four badminton courts, netball court and a volleyball court.

In PE, both boys and girls have the opportunity to learn about how a fit and healthy body is a legacy for life. Alongside improving general fitness, pupils have follow a progressive gymnastics and dance programmes as well as developing hand eye coordination and invasion game principles through sports such as handball, basketball and ultimate frisbee. In the summer, the emphasis is on athletics, where all pupils learn advanced techniques of sprinting, hurdling, jumping and throwing, and finish the year with some tennis.

In Games, we encourage all our boys and girls to take part in a wide range of activities. The main winter games for boys are rugby, soccer and hockey, while girls play hockey and netball. In the summer the boys and girls play cricket with softball and hardball matches. There is also an opportunity for girls to learn the basics of tennis in their games lessons during the summer. There are regular matches against other schools and tournaments, for all the main sports, alongside cross-country and athletics meets. Expert coaching is provided in all sports, both from members of staff and from specialists outside the school. There are sports tours for all in Year 8.

PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education)

PSHCE is seen to be central to the development of the whole pupil. At Spratton, we follow the Jigsaw programme throughout the school from Reception to Year 8, this ensures there is continuity throughout the pupils learning. At all times it is age and stage appropriate and in line with statutory requirements and the school's ethos and values. In PSHCE our aim to promote and develop social skills, grow emotional literacy, enable mental health, nurtures children's positive relationships with themselves and others and provides a whole-school approach. The child is always at the centre of the learning in lessons. The aim is to help build positive attitudes, self-esteem, resilience and confidence.

Pupils are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum helping them to contribute to the lives of their school and communities. In doing so they learn to recognise their own worth, work co-operatively with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning.

Pupils also find out about the main political and social institutions that affect their lives as well as their responsibilities, rights and duties. They learn to respect our humanity, diversity and differences so that they can go on to develop positive and fulfilling relationships.

Drama

Drama is taught in all year groups at Spratton as a timetabled subject. The drama teaching aims to develop children's confidence and creativity while learning more about themselves and the world around them.

All pupils have opportunities to create, perform and respond to their own and each other's performances. Group discussion is encouraged which allows pupils to explore issues and ideas together and to appreciate the differing opinions of others. Pupils learn to create and sustain roles and to speak with confidence in a range of contexts, developing awareness of an audience.

Through the Drama curriculum, pupils experience many different genres including mime, dramatic play, improvisation, prose, poetry and scripts of various styles. There are visits to the theatre and workshops in school held by visiting theatre groups throughout the year.

Lifelong Learning

While each of the subjects taught at Spratton is important to expose pupils to the variety of skills and disciplines in which they may have a particular interest or level of aptitude, the actual ability to understand oneself as a learner is often an area overlooked. We encourage this throughout the whole school with the 'TUFF' approach to learning which is referred to by all members of staff and is in the pupil planners.

In Years 5 and 6 one lesson per week is allocated to LLL to give pupils the opportunity to develop a better understanding of themselves as learners. These lessons which will help them develop a greater knowledge of how to be an effective learner, through knowing what type of learner they are, what skills are required to make best use of their learning style, how we learn, and techniques to aid revision and memory. It will provide a forum for sharing ideas and good practice and instilling core skills in pupils which they can use in all subjects to make the most of their learning opportunities. It will also look at how they can use the variety of media available to them effectively, and most importantly aim for the ultimate goal of being an independent learner.

Year 5 will follow 'The Thoughtful Learner' course, which challenges them to review their own learning strategies and styles and develop improved ones using 10 core learner skills which can be applied to all classroom situations. To finish the year there is some brief reflection on their first lot of exams, and then we look at 'Democracy', trying to gain an understanding of how it works in general across the world, as well as with specific reference to the democratic systems in Great Britain.

Year 6 follow the 'Ready, Study, Go!' course which encourages the pupils to understand their own minds, and then use that as a basis to improve their learning potential. In the Easter Term, Revision and Exam techniques will be looked at to provide the pupils with strategies they can use as they go forward into more exam situations throughout all their schooling. In the final term we look at Money matters, understanding how to manage their money effectively, how to avoid debt, and knowing how simple banking systems work and what some key ideas around managing their money effectively are.

As part of the preparation for the increasing number of Reasoning style pre-tests pupils sit in Y6/7 for entry to next schools, pupils will undertake weekly practice using the ATOM website as a prep, to hone their skills and exposure to a range of the sort of questions they might encounter.