



Junior School

Academic Matters

Academic Curriculum

The children in Year 1 – 6 are taught by their Form Teacher for all the core subjects as well as Inquiry, International and Spiritual Citizenship, Art and Computing. French, PE, Music, Performing Arts and Games are taught by specialist teachers. The Junior School follows a curriculum which is closely aligned with the National Curriculum and Key Stage 3 continues through into Year 9. It is dovetailed to offer continuity and overlap from year to year. Mathematics in Year 7 and 8 is set to allow for extension and support at appropriate levels, with individual help where necessary. Design and Technology and Drama are taught within the Year 7 and 8 Curriculum and Latin is introduced in Year 8. Extensive use is made of tracking and data to identify children who would benefit from extension or targeted support.

Broader Curriculum

Music at Gordonstoun Junior School encompasses a wide range of opportunities. Every primary aged child is offered instrumental instruction and in addition to this, all children can opt for individual vocal or instrumental lessons. These take place at various times throughout the day. The Music Department also offer a wide range of musical ensembles, ranging from choirs, orchestras, wind bands, concert bands and the Pipe Band.

Games sessions include a variety of activities and are taught in year groups so that each activity is appropriate for the age of the children. The major winter games are rugby, hockey and netball and in the summer, athletics, cricket and tennis. As well as these, football, cross country running, horse riding, swimming and rifle shooting are part of the games programme. Living on the edge of the outskirts of the Cairngorm National Park also provides us with a perfect opportunity to take children skiing throughout the Spring term. A comprehensive range of fixtures against other schools is arranged each term.

Study Planner

At the start of each term all pupils receive a study planner. This contains all the relevant information a pupil will need for the term including: blank timetables to be filled in by the pupil for lessons, activities and prep; the School Charter and basic expectations; lists of staff; background information including maps, dates etc; the school calendar; and academic commitments like prep on a day-to-day basis.

Reporting

During the school year pupils are assessed regularly and this, along with pupil tracking data, inform our reporting. The reports contain the following information about each pupil:

- The class/subject studied and the teacher delivering the subject.
- For each class the following categories of information:
 - An assessment grade based upon classwork
 - An assessment grade for Years 7 and 8 based upon prep work
 - An attainment grade is given at the end of each term
 - A tutor comment summarising how the pupil has worked.
 - A comment for each class/subject will be given in the autumn and summer end of term reports

All reports will be published for parents on the Parent Portal which can be accessed via the school's website: gordonstoun.org.uk. Unique login details will be sent out to new parents within the first few weeks of the term.

