

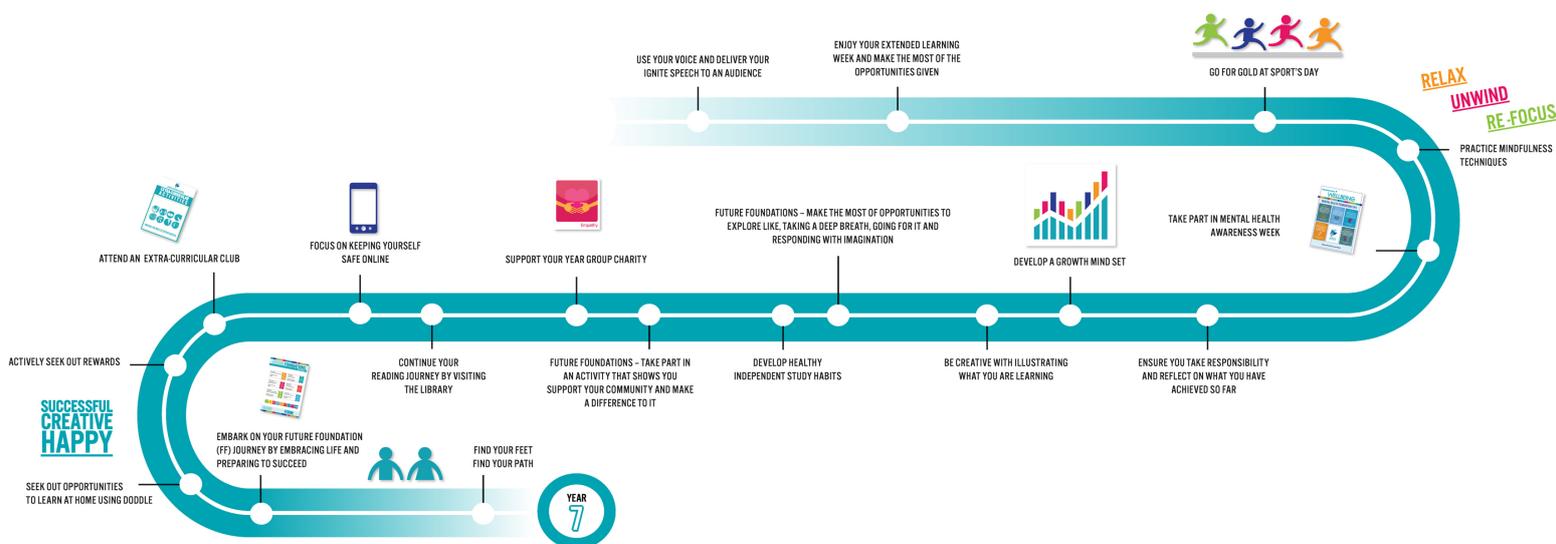
CHORLTON HIGH SCHOOL



**LEARNING
JOURNEY**

YEAR 7

OUR YEAR 7 JOURNEY



Our intention is that the transition phase secures learners' future success, happiness and creativity at Chorlton High School and beyond. The transition phase is the 'launch pad', and as they move into Year 7 they start out on their new journey where we want them to feel excited, supported and enthused about their futures.

'We need to equip and support learners to become the engineers for their own rockets. We need to enable them to take risks to make new discoveries, open their mind to the unknown universe, be able to guide learners back on course if they get lost and be the gravitational pull to enable them to reach their destination and beyond.'

As learners arrive at Chorlton High School, the Chorlton High School Learning Journey, our pastoral curriculum and Extended Learning Experiences (ELE Days) are used to lay the foundations necessary for future success. We develop their knowledge and understanding of the Chorlton High School Qualities of Success and show learners how to apply them. We focus on a different quality (or qualities) each half term. Tutors and pastoral staff demonstrate the quality and encourage learners to practise it throughout the half term. This curriculum also encourages learners to reflect on their progress with attainment, effort, attendance, punctuality, behaviour and rewards in the termly Progress weeks.

Each half term, we also celebrate a wide range of key national events as calendared, including Black History Month, National Poetry Day and Mental Health Week. At the start of Year 7, learners are also introduced to key areas of Chorlton High School life, one of these is Doodle (the school's independent learning platform) and how to access their learning from home. Extra-curricular opportunities are also explored and focused on, and learners are encouraged to join one of the many varied and interesting clubs and activities that are available.

All learners receive a PSHE lesson every week. This is delivered by their English teacher in conjunction with the Chorlton High School Oracy curriculum. The sessions are based on the Philosophy for Children programme and create a space for the discussion and exploration of challenging ideas. The focus for Year 7 is 'Finding your Voice' and the topics covered include relationships, diversity and identity. Learners also focus on a digital safety issue every half term. This is all in addition to the different wellbeing foci that run strategically throughout the year and which are explored in assemblies and in Tutor time.

Learners also have many opportunities to get involved with other events – including taking part in half termly 'Have Your Say' days, during which learners will be given the opportunity to voice their opinion on potential school changes or improvements and/or engage in an issue or topic that is part of a local or national agenda. On this day, learners can find out more about the issue or topic in question and will be given the opportunity to have their say and place their vote. We also run the Year of Reading cycle which encourages a love of reading and focuses on different elements of reading to ensure all learners will be presented with a theme or type of reading that they will enjoy. As part of this, learners are encouraged to take part in the form of monthly prizes and competitions throughout the year. All Year 7 learners will also have the opportunity to see a live theatre performance on the important subject of the dangers of Social Media.

OUR YEAR 7 JOURNEY

THE AUTUMN TERM

AUTUMN 1

FUTURE FOUNDATION: 'I EMBRACE LIFE AND PREPARE TO SUCCEED.'

QUALITY OF SUCCESS: OPTIMISM

The Year 7 journey begins by building on the Transition process. The 'Cosmic Curriculum' ensures that all learners engage with activities, in all curriculum areas, related to the novel 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell Boyce. This curriculum runs for the first two weeks of the term and is designed to bridge the gap between Primary School and life at Chorlton High School enabling learners to find their feet and start off on their path to success with confidence.

Each half term we focus on a Quality of Success and we start with optimism. Learners focus on this during assembly and Tutor times and are given specific tasks to complete to demonstrate this quality as they navigate their first few weeks of their secondary school journey.

This half term's mantra is: 'I embrace life and prepare to succeed' and learners will take part in activities in tutor time that allow them to share information about themselves with their peers thus enabling them to branch out and begin to build new relationships. They are presented with two tasks to complete in the first half term and are given an opportunity to add an optional task that links to the half termly mantra. If one of the tasks presented is achieved, then learners are rewarded the badge for the half term to acknowledge their endeavours in striving to successfully demonstrate that they have laid down their first Future Foundation.

A Parent and Tutor evening in the first half term also allows for all those invested in the learner's journey to meet, communicate and reflect on how the Year 7 experience has been so far.

Within the first half term, learners are presented with a plethora of opportunities to get involved in additional activities: they can be an ambassador at Open Evening; choose to stand for election as a Form Representative for the school council; train as a Healthy Schools mentor; become an Eco Council representative or audition for the whole school musical.

AUTUMN 2

FUTURE FOUNDATION: 'I SUPPORT MY COMMUNITY AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO IT.'

QUALITY OF SUCCESS: EMPATHY

Autumn 2 heralds the arrival of a focus on empathy and learners are encouraged to develop this quality through activities that take place in tutor time and across all subject areas that demonstrate, investigate and explore this quality of success.

The Quality of Success empathy is also complimented by the Future Foundation focus 'I support my community and make a difference to it.' There is a real drive to encourage learners to look beyond themselves and to walk in the footsteps of others. This is realised through a commitment to raising awareness and money for a charity that resonates with learners. Learners also make a community pledge and take part in the whole school 'Acts of Kindness Calendar' event. A campaign designed to encourage learners to be kind citizens who are thoughtful, generous and considerate. Learners are given the opportunity to plan and deliver a year group assembly that could be the start of them raising awareness for their cause.

Progress tests take place in this half term and are an opportunity for learners to demonstrate the knowledge and understanding that they accumulated and skills that they have developed since the start of the year. Learners are prepared for this process both in terms of how to revise and prepare and the tests themselves through tutor time and in curriculum areas. This is a great opportunity to begin to develop healthy independent study habits for learners.

OUR YEAR 7 JOURNEY

THE SPRING TERM

SPRING 1

FUTURE FOUNDATION: 'I EXPLORE LIFE, TAKE A DEEP BREATH, GO FOR IT AND RESPOND WITH IMAGINATION.'

QUALITY OF SUCCESS: CREATIVITY AND CURIOSITY

The new year begins with a focus on creativity and curiosity and a real focus in Tutor time and in assemblies on how creativity helps to maximise learning, as well as consider what creative flair learners enjoy. Being curious is also an integral skill and one that supports learners in developing an independent and personalised knowledge of their community and world around them. These ideas are discussed and explored, successes are celebrated and learners are rewarded.

Learners are encouraged to focus on the Future Foundation and consider how they 'explore life, take a deep breath, go for it and respond with imagination.' Learners are tasked with exploring creative ways that they can illustrate their learning and continue on a journey to self-discovery where they are encouraged to plan ways that they can explore something new that they have never tried before. This can be both inside and outside of school. During this half term, learners are also given the opportunity to work on the growth mind set - a crucial characteristic of developing and evolving as a well-rounded and successful learner.

SPRING 2

FUTURE FOUNDATION: 'I OWN MY ACTIONS. I UNDERSTAND MY ACTIONS.'

QUALITIES OF SUCCESS: RESPONSIBILITY AND REFLECTION

In the second half of the Spring term, learners focus on Responsibility and Reflection and the mantra they are working with is 'I own my actions. I understand my actions.' Learners are given opportunities in Tutor time to evaluate their effort, conduct and progress in school so far. Their successes are celebrated and learners are rewarded. Furthermore, leadership plays a key role in this half term and learners are given the opportunity to plan and deliver an assembly for their peers. In addition, they are also given the opportunity to play a key role in supporting the upcoming year 7s by training as Transition Buddies for Primary schools. The healthy study habit focus returns for a second time this year as learners prepare to take part in the second round of progress tests.

OUR YEAR 7 JOURNEY

THE SUMMER TERM

SUMMER 1

FUTURE FOUNDATION: 'I HONE MY SKILLS. IF I FALL DOWN, I GET UP AGAIN.'

QUALITIES OF SUCCESS: PRACTICE AND RESILIENCY

The Summer term begins with a focus on practice and resiliency. These Qualities of Success require learners to consider the value of practice and the power of bouncing back from mistakes or things that didn't quite go as planned. Additionally, learners are encouraged to focus on the Future Foundation and consider how they 'I hone my skills. If I fall down, I get up again.' Activities and discussion during Tutor time and in assemblies will explore and illustrate these traits and learners who complete the tasks will be rewarded with their Future Foundations badge.

Learners will have considered their Progress test results and their effort scores at the end of the last half term and will be given an opportunity to act on their personal pledges designed to help them focus on pushing themselves further for the rest of the school year. In addition, mindfulness techniques are taught in Tutor time in order to encourage learners to develop positive and healthy habits to enable them to take care of their mental health. The speaking skills developed throughout the oracy curriculum in English will also be put to good use this half term, when in Tutor time, learners are challenged to reflect, write and perform a speech that shares with their peers a time they, or someone they know has shown resilience and what the outcome was.

SUMMER 2

FUTURE FOUNDATION: 'I WANT THE BEST. I AM THE BEST.'

QUALITY OF SUCCESS: CREATIVITY AND CURIOSITY

The final half term of the year asks learners to focus on motivation. This quality of success requires learners to consider what drives them in school and also to ask themselves how involved they are in the wider school community. Learners also have the opportunity to demonstrate their learning and practise their healthy study habit skills in the final round of progress tests for the year.

Learners also engage in a three-day Extended Learning Experience (ELE) where they not only do they take part in an inter-form Sports Day, but they also have the chance to develop their skills and have new experiences by participating in a number of cross-curricular activities, both inside and outside of the school environment. There is also the opportunity for some learners to go on a culturally enriching visit. Another exciting opportunity for learners at this time is the Venture Out experience. Many learners are given the opportunity to experience new physical activities and challenges. This trip enables learners to develop their ability to work as a team, in addition to building resilience and promoting the benefits of trying new things.