



Curriculum Information

E Group
Year 5



st Chris
2024-25



ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL
LETCWORTH GARDEN CITY

Curriculum Information

E Group

Year 5

The Junior School follows a one-week timetable with a topic-based curriculum. Subject specific learning is, in the main, approached through the lens of the topic.

In this booklet you will find a summary of the main subjects covered in E Group (Year 5) and the amount of time dedicated to them each week. The class teacher is the main lead for the subject except for those subjects which are led by specialist teachers, detailed below.

Topics covered in E Group

Autumn Term: American Road Trip

This exciting topic kicks off the year with a focus on the geographical features of the USA, looking at biomes, climates, and habitats. Within the context of each biome, we study a different Native American tribe and understand how they have adapted to live in their environment. Students also conduct research and take part in discussions about who truly discovered America as well as looking at famous landmarks.

Spring Term:

2024 A Space Odyssey

We start this topic with a space timeline and a history of ancient civilization's take on the night sky. This leads us onto modern day views of space and space travel, with a deep dive into the space race! The moon landing is the topic of debate, and the class explores other famous scientists who helped to make the moon landings possible. This theme is enhanced by our science topics 'Earth & Space' and 'Forces'.

Summer Term:

Medimagic Adventures

This topic takes us on an amazing journey of medicine and explores how doctors and healers have transformed the way we stay healthy. From ancient remedies to breakthrough discoveries, we learn how the history of medicine has shaped the way we take care of ourselves and others. In this topic, students dive into the microscopic world of bacteria and viruses and the huge impact they can have on our world.

Subjects over each week



English

Carly Ougham

4 hours 30 minutes

 Number of hours over 1 week

In English, students engage in a comprehensive study of the English language. The focus includes the development of advanced reading comprehension skills, the acquisition of an extensive vocabulary, and the refinement of writing proficiency. Emphasis is placed on the mastery of grammar and punctuation, instrumental in facilitating effective communication. Our English work is often linked to topic and other areas of the curriculum.



Maths

Carly Ougham

4 hours 30 minutes

Using the Power Maths scheme, we cover a range of mathematical concepts. Students develop their skills in arithmetic, fractions, decimals, and geometry. Problem-solving becomes multistep, encouraging critical thinking. We introduce algebra, preparing students for more complex mathematical reasoning. Emphasis is placed on securing mathematical concepts and developing a mastery for future mathematical endeavors.



Science

Carly Ougham

2 hours

In E Group, the science curriculum introduces fundamental concepts in biology, physics, and chemistry. Through hands-on experiments and observations, students develop a deeper understanding of the natural world. Topics covered include animals, humans, forces, space, materials, and plants. Critical thinking and enquiry skills are encouraged as students engage with hands-on scientific principles, fostering a curiosity-driven approach.



Computing

Carly Ougham

1 hour

In computing, students in E Group build on their digital literacy and computational thinking. The curriculum introduces concepts such as coding, algorithms, and problem-solving. Through hands-on activities, students engage with various software applications, fostering a practical understanding of computer science. We aim to equip students with the skills to navigate the ever-evolving landscape of computing and digital technologies.

Humanities – Geography and History

Carly Ougham

2 hours

In our study of humanities, we combine history and geography within our overall topic. The class explores different aspects of history through a range of viewpoints and historical sources. Looking at significant global events and their implications give us a sense of the world around us. Geography emphasises map skills, cultural diversity, and the dynamics of human communities.

Art and Design Technology

Carly Ougham

2 hours

In E Group, students delve into various artistic forms and expressions as part of their creative exploration. The curriculum introduces fundamental concepts in visual arts, encouraging students to experiment with different mediums and techniques. From drawing and painting to sculpture and mixed media, students develop their artistic skills and cultivate a personal artistic style.



PSHE and RSHE

Carly Ougham

1 hour

In PSHE (Personal, Social, and Health Education) we address personal wellbeing, interpersonal relationships, and the importance of physical and mental health. This compliments the RSHE (Relationships, Sex, and Health Education) curriculum which includes age-appropriate discussions on friendships, and how our bodies change during puberty. Through open conversations and activities, students develop the skills to make informed decisions, build healthy relationships, and understand the importance of self-care.

French

Edel Davies

1 hour

Through games, songs, mime, dance, and projects students learn key French vocabulary, linguistic structures, and grammar. During these transitional years towards senior school, more emphasis is placed on student ownership over their learning by encouraging student led activities. For example, students take full autonomy over classroom routines, set up to consistently revisit and build upon previously learnt language. Through a variety of engaging situational topics, students revise and meet new grammatical concepts such as irregular present tense verb formations, introduction to key verbs in the past tense, a wide range of conjunctions, complex negations, and imperatives. Focus remains on understanding aural input and oral output, however, students will also be encouraged to notice features of written French when reading short texts and begin to produce their own writing in the target language.

Music

Martin Goodchild

1 hour

Throughout their study of music, as well as studying a range of challenging class songs with opportunity for singing in harmony, there are a lot of group performances (creating a class orchestra using tuned percussion and keyboards) and group composing e.g. journey into space (clusters and attack and decay). Performing from notation is encouraged and improvisation skills are further developed. There is a wide range of listening and the students learn about the development and context of musical periods.



PE

Abigail Lester

1 hour



Students in E Group participate in the following activities which aid fundamental skill development: fitness, outdoor and adventurous tasks, activities, creative dance, gymnastics, tennis, and athletics. These skills, alongside those taught during their games lessons, are supported with after school practices and the opportunity to play competitive fixtures.



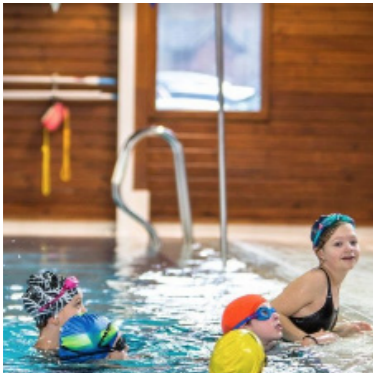
Games

Abigail Lester

1 hour



Students follow a programme of football and netball (autumn term), rugby and hockey (spring term), and cricket and rounders (summer term). Students focus on utilising strategies to outwit opponents in games and improving the skills of sending, receiving, striking, and travelling with a ball in a range of contexts. Throughout games sessions, students also learn to make informed decisions during small-sided games and simplified versions of recognised competitive games, learn to understand the effect of exercise, and develop an attitude of fair play and enjoyment.



Swimming

Jenny White

45 minutes (+ changing time)



In E Group, students learn to swim 200m using front and back crawl with ease and hone front crawl to a proficient standard. Specialist swim teachers work with students to help them swim 100m in effective breaststroke, effective fly over 25m, swim 10m fully submerged, and complete competent competitive starts, transitions and turns.



Forest School

Lydia Sommerville

1 hour 30 minutes (once per half term)



In their Forest School sessions, students in E Group learn about shadows, the position of the sun, and how we can track time using the sun. Students also look at the lifecycles of common plants, seed dispersal and follow tadpole development in the pond. Throughout the year, students develop their use of knots, sticks, and tarps for a wide variety of play activities.

What is *Forest School*?

Forest School at St Chris is a child-centred, inspirational process that gives our young learners opportunities to challenge themselves, develop confidence and increase their self-esteem through hands on learning experiences in a natural environment. Sessions are based on a fundamental respect for students and for their capacity to instigate, explore and maintain curiosity in the world around them. Most importantly, our students develop a deep and meaningful connection to the natural world and understand their place in it.



Forest School inspires a deep and meaningful connection to the world, where students challenge themselves, develop confidence by solving real-world issues, and build self-belief and resilience.