Straits International School Rawang
Curriculum Overview
Year 7 Autumn Term 1 2025/2026

Autumn Term 1	What are we learning?	What KUS will we gain?	What will excellence look like?
English Language and Literature	Novel Study: *Holes* by Louis Sachar focusing on its characters, themes, and narrative techniques.	Students will explore key ideas such as friendship, justice, fate, and perseverance, while learning how the novel interweaves past and present storylines. Reading lessons involve comprehension, analysis of language, and discussion of how Sachar develops tension and humour. Writing activities include character profiles, diary entries from different perspectives, and essays analysing themes or relationships. Speaking and listening tasks involve group discussions, role-play, and presentations about the novel's moral lessons.	Excellence is demonstrated by students who can interpret the novel beyond surface meaning, identifying deeper themes and authorial techniques. High-achieving students will use quotations effectively to support their ideas, write detailed and well-structured analytical paragraphs, and contribute confidently to discussions by making connections between the text and real-world issues.
How will this be assessed?		**Writing**: An analytical essay on a theme (e.g. justice, friendship) or character development. **Creative Task**: A diary entry or letter from a character's perspective. Speaking & Listening: Group presentation or role-play exploring a key event in the novel. reading comprehension tasks, a creative writing piece (e.g. a diary entry from Stanley or Zero), and an analytical essay on a theme such as justice or friendship.	
Mathematics	Integers, Expressions, formulae and equation,	Students will learn the key mathematical concepts and skills across three sections: Integers, Expressions, Formulae, and Equations, and Place Value and Rounding.	Excellence will be demonstrated by a student who accurately and confidently applies mathematical concepts, such as performing integer operations, solving

	Place value and rounding	It covers the fundamental operations with integers, including addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, as well as concepts like lowest common multiples, highest common factors, divisibility tests, and roots. In algebra, it focuses on constructing and solving expressions and equations, expanding brackets, and understanding inequalities. Additionally, it addresses the place value system, the effects of multiplying and dividing by powers of 10, and the rules for rounding numbers.	algebraic expressions, and understanding place value. They will handle complex calculations, solve equations and inequalities fluently, and apply rounding and powers of 10 with precision. This student will not only master these skills but also explain their reasoning clearly and approach problems with effective strategies and critical thinking.
How will this be assessed?		Students will be tested on their numerical fluency, algebraic reasoning, and problem-solving skills. Assessments will focus on accuracy in calculations, logical steps in solving equations, and the ability to interpret and apply mathematical rules.	
Combined Science	Lab Safety Particle Model Elements, Compounds & Mixtures	Students will gain core knowledge of lab safety rules, the particle model, and the differences between elements, compounds, and mixtures. They will develop skills in accurate measuring, recording results, and using equipment such as Bunsen burners and microscopes. By the end of the unit, they will be able to explain states of matter using particles, classify substances, and apply separation techniques like filtration and evaporation.	Excellence means giving clear explanations with correct scientific terms, presenting data neatly, and applying knowledge to new situations. For example, a strong student will not only describe the states of matter but also explain particle movement or justify why a mixture can be separated using a chosen method.
How will this be assessed?		Students will be tested on their ability to apply lab safety rules, handle equipment correctly, and record observations accurately. Assessments will focus on explaining states of matter using the	

		particle model, classifying substances as elements, compounds, or mixtures, and applying separation methods. Practical tasks will measure precision and care in experiments, while written tasks will assess clear explanations using scientific vocabulary.	
History	Early human and Civilizations	Students will gain knowledge of early human history by exploring prehistoric art in the Cave of Lascaux, pictographs, and petroglyphs, and will understand their role in communication and expression. They will also study the civilisation of Mesopotamia, examining its social structure, cultural achievements, and the historical importance of the Death Pit of Ur. Students will develop skills in analysing and interpreting ancient artifacts, making inferences about their meaning, and placing them within wider historical narratives. By the end of the unit, they will be able to explain the significance of early art and civilisation and use evidence from artifacts to support their ideas.	Excellence will be demonstrated through detailed, well-supported explanations that link artifacts to their historical context. For example, strong work might explain how Mesopotamian burial practices reveal beliefs about power and religion, or how prehistoric art provides insight into daily life and early communication. Excellent students will use precise historical vocabulary, draw comparisons across time, and show originality in their interpretations, whether in written work, discussion, or creative projects.
How will this be assessed?		Students will be assessed through a range of practical and written tasks designed to test both knowledge and skills. Projects such as creating their own pictographs or designing a Mesopotamian social pyramid will assess understanding of structure and symbolism. Artifact analysis tasks will measure their ability to infer meaning and explain significance, while short quizzes will reinforce factual recall. Together, these assessments will demonstrate not only what students know but also how well they can think, question, and explain like historians.	
Geography	What is a Geographer?	Students will gain knowledge of the main branches of geography and the types of questions geographers ask. They will develop skills in reading and interpreting maps, using scale and symbols, and	Excellence in this unit is shown through accurate map skills, clear use of geographical vocabulary, and the ability to link ideas about people, places, and environments. High-quality work demonstrates

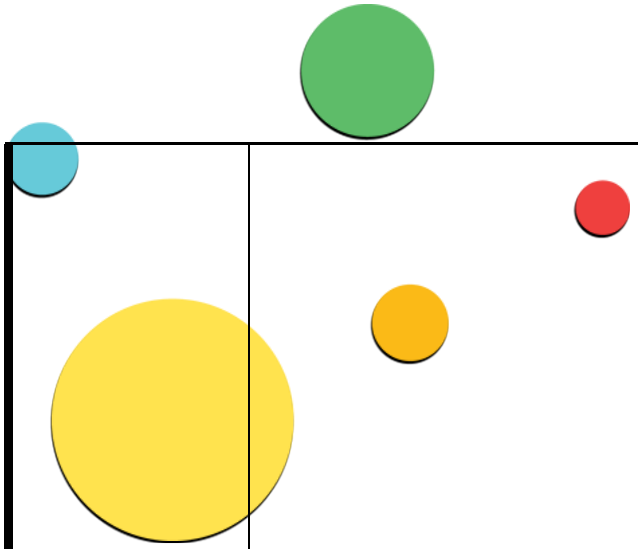
		describing locations with accuracy. By the end of the unit, students will be able to explain what geography is about, apply basic geographical tools, and show curiosity in exploring how people and environments are connected.	thoughtful explanations, neat and precise map use, and an ability to go beyond description by offering reasons and examples.
How will this be assessed?		Students will be assessed on their understanding of the scope of geography, their accuracy in mapwork, and their ability to explain ideas clearly. Assessments will focus on interpreting information from maps, applying geographical terms correctly, and demonstrating how physical and human geography connect. Both written tasks and practical map activities will be used to measure progress.	
Enterprise	Introduction to Enterprise	Students will gain a basic understanding of how businesses operate and the role of entrepreneurs. They will develop key skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, communication, and creative thinking. Students will learn about concepts like profit, risk, innovation, and marketing, helping them understand how ideas turn into successful products or services. This foundation encourages confidence, initiative, and financial awareness, preparing them for future economic and career-related learning.	Excellence in Introduction to Enterprise will be shown through students confidently applying enterprise concepts to real-life scenarios, working effectively in teams, and demonstrating creativity and initiative. They will produce well-thought-out business ideas, clearly present plans with purpose and clarity, and evaluate risks and rewards thoughtfully. Excellent students show leadership, adapt to challenges, and reflect on their learning to improve.
How will this be assessed?		Assessment will be based on students' understanding of enterprise concepts, shown through class activities and written work. They will be evaluated on the creativity and feasibility of their business idea, as well as the clarity and confidence of their presentation. Teamwork, communication, and individual contribution during group tasks will also be assessed. A short self-reflection will allow students to evaluate their own learning and development.	
ICT	Digital Safety and Responsibility	Students will gain core knowledge of file management, online safety, responsible communication, and information	Excellence in this unit means showing both accuracy and independence in applying digital literacy skills. For example, a strong piece of work could include a well-

		evaluation. They will learn to organise digital files effectively, create and maintain secure passwords, and recognise threats such as phishing and cyberbullying. Skills developed will include evaluating online sources for reliability, using advanced search tools, composing professional emails, and applying privacy settings responsibly. By the end of this unit, students will be able to manage their digital work securely, interact online with awareness of risks, and make informed decisions about how to use technology safely and respectfully.	organised folder system with appropriate file names and backups, or a detailed analysis of a phishing email highlighting multiple suspicious features. High-quality work demonstrates critical thinking—for instance, evaluating the reliability of a news article and justifying the reasoning with clear evidence. Students achieving excellence will not only follow safe practices but also be able to explain why these practices matter, applying them confidently to new situations.
How will this be assessed?		Students will be assessed through practical and scenario-based tasks. These include organising files and folders, creating secure passwords, analysing phishing attempts, and drafting professional emails. Assessments will test both knowledge (e.g., identifying safe versus unsafe online behaviours) and skills (e.g., composing an email with correct tone and structure). A formative multiple-choice quiz at the end of Learning Experience 6 will assess students' overall understanding of safe and responsible computer use.	
Art & Design	Foundations in Drawing and Seeing Differently This term, students will develop their observational drawing skills and learn how to see and represent the world with greater accuracy. Through guided	Students will build skills in observational drawing, tonal shading, colour mixing, still life composition, perspective, and sketchbook presentation. Key artists studied include Albrecht Dürer, Paul Cézanne, Giorgio Morandi, and David Hockney. Students will understand how artists use line, tone, colour, and perspective to	Excellence in this unit means students demonstrate accuracy and control in observational drawing, show confidence in applying tone and colour theory, and develop well-presented sketchbooks that clearly show progression. Their work will show thoughtful engagement with artist techniques and a growing ability to reflect on their own development. Students who excel will take creative risks, show curiosity, and demonstrate increasing independence in how they apply feedback.

	exercises and artist studies, they will explore key techniques such as tonal shading, perspective, and colour mixing, building confidence in both traditional and creative approaches to drawing and painting.	represent objects and space. They will learn how to apply core drawing techniques to develop creative work and how to record and evaluate their ideas using a sketchbook.	
How will this be assessed?		Students are assessed through ongoing sketchbook tasks and periodic formative assessments; each aligned to specific skills and artists. August – Baseline observational drawing inspired by Dürer September – Still life colour painting influenced by Cézanne October – Tonal still life drawing based on Morandi November – Final perspective piece inspired by Hockney	
Drama	Introduction to Drama	Students are introduced to the exciting world of musical theatre, combining singing and movement to tell stories. The aim is to build foundational performance skills while fostering creativity, confidence, and collaboration.	Excellence is demonstrated by students who understand music and drama work together to create emotional impact and narrative clarity.
How will this be assessed?		Students are assessed on their ability to generate ideas and develop musical theatre content through ensemble work. This includes focuses on creativity, clarity of narrative, and how well music enhances the story.	
Music	I've Got Rhythm Note values	Students are gaining knowledge of note values, rests, and basic rhythmic	Excellence is shown through accurate performance of rhythms with a strong sense of pulse and control. It is

	Rhythmic dictation Percussion piece Composition	notation. They are developing an understanding of how rhythms are constructed, combined, and performed within an ensemble. They are strengthening their skills in reading, writing, and performing rhythms, working collaboratively in group composition, and applying their learning in both practical and theoretical contexts.	demonstrated by the ability to compose and notate rhythms clearly, including the use of rests, and by creating imaginative group percussion pieces that display coordination and ensemble awareness. Excellence is also evident in the ability to apply rhythmic knowledge with accuracy in both practical performance and written tasks.
How will this be assessed?		Assessment is carried out through both practical and theory tasks. Students are assessed on their ability to perform and compose rhythms, their accuracy in rhythmic dictation, and their participation in group percussion work. In addition, they are assessed through written exercises and tests that check their understanding of note values, rests, and rhythmic notation.	
Mandarin	**Mandarin Advance** Lifestyle 生活方式 **Mandarin Beginner:** Date and Time	**Mandarin Advance** 学生将在知识方面积累与“生活方式”相关的核心词汇和表达方式，包括描述外貌、健康状态、生活习惯和价值观等。在理解方面，学生将学会分析不同文化和社会背景下的生活方式差异，理解人们对生活选择的动因与态度。在技能方面，学生将通过精读、听力训练、口语讨论和写作任务，提高信息提取、观点表达、语言组织及批判性思维能力，能够用更地道、准确的中文表达自己对生活方式的看法。 **Mandarin** **Beginner** In this unit, students will review how to say numbers in Chinese and expand their	**Mandarin Advance** 在本单元中表现优秀的学生，能够熟练使用本单元所学词汇和表达，准确理解并分析各类文章和听力内容，表达自己对生活方式相关问题的独立见解。口语方面，能够积极参与讨论，逻辑清晰、用词恰当；写作方面，能够围绕“生活方式”这一主题写出结构完整、语言流畅、观点鲜明的文章。同时，优秀的学生也能够体现出对不同文化现象的尊重与理解，展示出良好的跨文化意识和社会观察能力。 **Mandarin Beginner** Beginner Students will engage in a basic conversation based on the text, reinforcing their understanding by asking and answering questions.

		skills by learning to express dates and times in everyday situations.	
How will this be assessed?		This unit will be assessed through a variety of formats that evaluate students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The goal is to ensure students not only acquire language knowledge but can also apply it flexibly to express their understanding and opinions.	
Bahasa Melayu	Unit 1: Pengenalan Diri dan Ucapan	In this unit, students will learn how to start a conversation using appropriate greetings, such as "Hello" or "Good morning," and how to introduce themselves when meeting someone new by saying, "My name is [Your Name]." They will also be taught the basics of grammar, including understanding common nouns and proper nouns. These skills will help students communicate effectively and confidently when introducing themselves and engaging in conversations.	• Start conversations using appropriate greetings, such as "Hello" or "Good morning." • Introduce themselves confidently by saying, "My name is [Your Name]." • Ask for someone's name politely when meeting someone new. • Identify and use nouns correctly in sentences. • Recognize and apply proper nouns in context (e.g., names of people or places). • Use pronouns accurately to replace nouns in sentences. • Engage in conversations effectively, demonstrating clear and polite communication skills.
How will this be assessed?		Assessment for this unit will be conducted through a combination of oral and written tasks. Students will be asked to participate in a simple role-play where they greet someone appropriately and introduce themselves using complete sentences. Additionally, they will complete a short-written exercise identifying and using common and proper nouns correctly. These assessments will help evaluate their ability to apply greetings, self-introductions, and basic grammar in practical communication contexts.	
Physical Education	Y7S: Badminton Y7R: Athletics	**Badminton**: Students will develop a solid understanding of key badminton skills, including serving, lob, drop, and lift shots.	**Badminton**: • **Serving**: Consistently accurate serves with precise placement, using a variety of serves (high, low, flick) to keep opponents off balance.

		They will learn how to execute these techniques with precision, improving their overall gameplay and strategy on the court. By mastering these skills, students will enhance their agility, hand-eye coordination, and ability to anticipate their opponent's moves. **Athletics**: Students will gain knowledge and practical experience in various athletic disciplines, including running, jumping, and throwing events. They will learn the fundamentals of each event, focusing on proper technique, form, and the importance of physical conditioning. Through these activities, students will improve their speed, strength, endurance, and coordination, which are essential for overall athletic performance.	• **Lob**: Ability to execute high and deep lobs that push opponents to the back of the court, setting up offensive opportunities. • **Drop**: Demonstrating control and finesse with drop shots that land close to the net, forcing the opponent to move forward quickly. • **Lift**: Effective lifts that transition from defence to offense, placing the shuttlecock in challenging positions for the opponent. **Athletics:** • **Running**: Demonstrating exceptional speed, endurance, and efficient technique, with strong starts, smooth transitions, and powerful finishes. • **Jumping**: Mastery of techniques, showing strong take-off power, good body control in the air, and precise landings. • **Throwing**: Displaying superior strength and technique in events like shot put, discus, or javelin, with consistently long and accurate throws.
How will this be assessed?	Badminton: Students skills of serving, lobbing, lifting and dropping will be assessed in a match situation Athletics: Students will be assessed on running (short or long distance), long jump and throwing (javelin)		