



ST GEORGE'S
EDINBURGH

Middle School Curriculum

Primary 6



2026 – 2027

Welcome

Our Middle School provision (for 10 – 13 years olds) is quite unique in Edinburgh offering a carefully planned transition between primary and secondary education.

The Middle School journey begins in Primary 6 where our girls enjoy longer and fuller school days, allowing more time to engage in a wide range of academic, co-curricular and enrichment opportunities.

Primary 6 pupils are based within the Junior School building, supported by familiar staff and a dedicated Transition Tutor who leads a programme of activities designed to build confidence, independence and readiness for secondary education. This gradual approach ensures every girl experiences a smooth and successful transition.

In Primary 6, pupils are still taught within a primary model, alongside all the added opportunities you would expect at St George's: teaching from subject specialists in Music; Art; Sports and Languages; use of all senior facilities; and a vibrant co-curricular and educational excursions programme. Pupils regularly experience cross year activities and we have some planned events with Merchiston too.

This curriculum is agile and therefore subject to change as we respond in real-time to the needs of our current pupils.

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The St George's Signature Curriculum

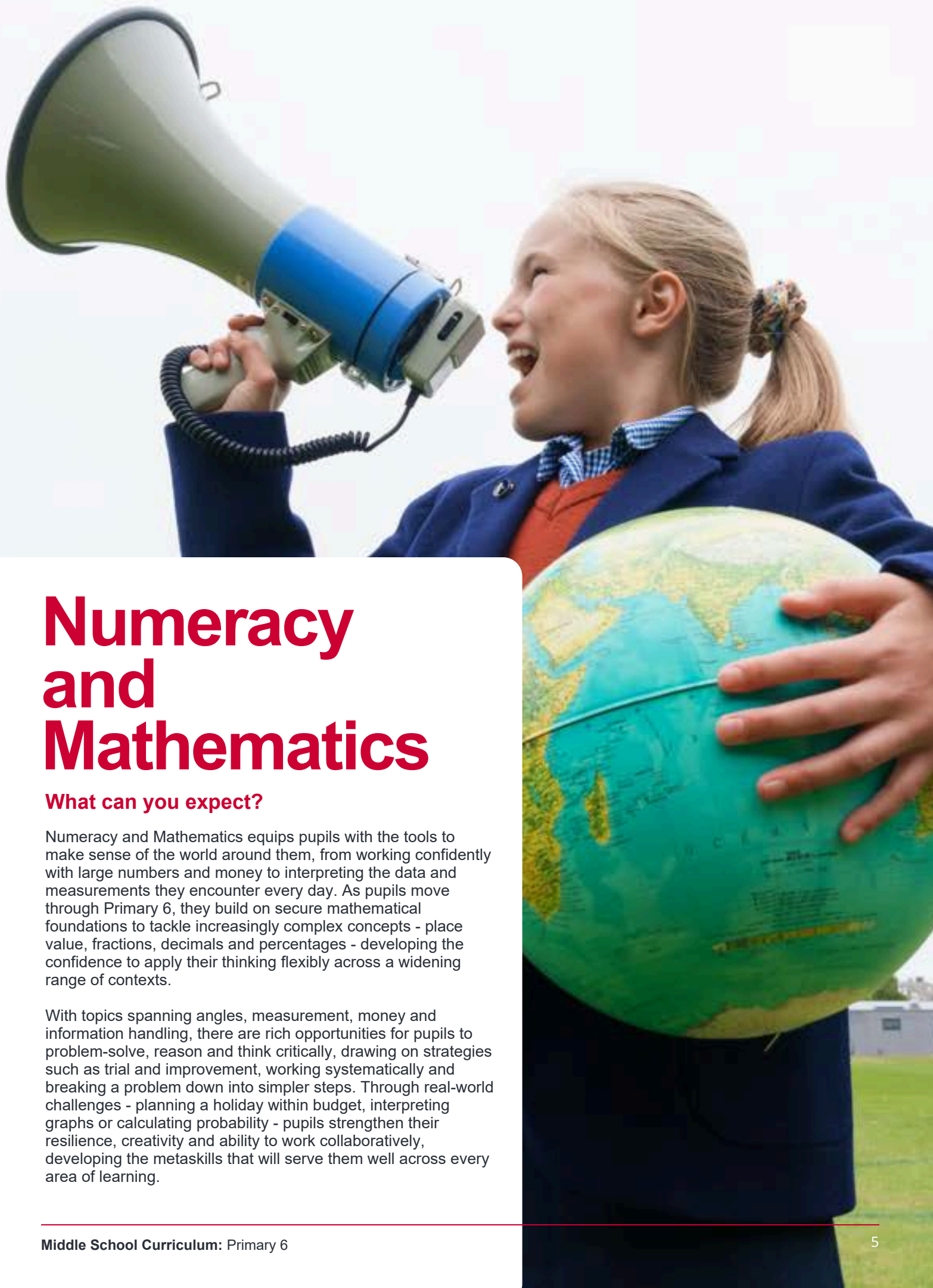
The most future-ready students are those who can learn, adapt, collaborate and think critically in environments that are constantly evolving. At St George's we weave these skills into every personal pathway of every single girl who journeys through their own multifaceted learning experience.

A Best of British curriculum, complemented by a rich and varied co-curriculum, and enhanced by the Red Threads of future-critical capabilities is wrapped in an empowering experience designed - in every way - for girls.



“Throughout your daughter’s time with us, she’ll experience several gradual and smooth transitions as she progresses through the year groups that are supported by an excellent pastoral staff and curriculum.”





Numeracy and Mathematics

What can you expect?

Numeracy and Mathematics equips pupils with the tools to make sense of the world around them, from working confidently with large numbers and money to interpreting the data and measurements they encounter every day. As pupils move through Primary 6, they build on secure mathematical foundations to tackle increasingly complex concepts - place value, fractions, decimals and percentages - developing the confidence to apply their thinking flexibly across a widening range of contexts.

With topics spanning angles, measurement, money and information handling, there are rich opportunities for pupils to problem-solve, reason and think critically, drawing on strategies such as trial and improvement, working systematically and breaking a problem down into simpler steps. Through real-world challenges - planning a holiday within budget, interpreting graphs or calculating probability - pupils strengthen their resilience, creativity and ability to work collaboratively, developing the metaskills that will serve them well across every area of learning.

Numeracy and Mathematics

Place Value and Large Numbers

- To count, order, read and write whole numbers to 1,000,000 and beyond where appropriate, developing a secure understanding of place value.

Estimate and Round

- To estimate and round numbers to the nearest whole number, 10 or 100, extending this to 1,000, 10,000, 100,000 and 1,000,000 where appropriate.
- To round decimal numbers to a given place, for example rounding 1,649.28 to one decimal place.

Time

- To convert confidently between 24-hour and 12-hour time, understanding the use of am and pm.
- To read and interpret 24-hour timetables accurately.
- To calculate durations in hours and minutes, applying this skill in real-world contexts.

Addition and Subtraction

- To understand and apply the standard written method for addition and subtraction, including with decimals.
- To solve problems involving whole numbers using addition and subtraction.

Multiplication and Division

- To multiply and divide numbers mentally by 10, 100 and 1,000, and by multiples of these.
- To understand and apply the standard written method for multiplying a 3- or 4-digit number by 1 digit and by 2 digits.
- To divide using a 1-digit, and where appropriate a 2-digit, divisor.
- To solve problems involving whole numbers using multiplication and division.
- To understand and identify multiples and factors.

Fractions

- To find equivalent fractions.
- To find fractions of a quantity.
- To convert between whole or mixed numbers and fractions.
- To add and subtract fractions.
- To multiply fractions.

Decimals

- To convert fractions to decimals.
- To carry out numerical calculations involving decimals.

Percentages

- To find the percentage of a quantity.
- To understand the relationship between decimals, fractions and percentages.

Position and Movement

- To use and understand 3-digit bearings.
- To use and identify 8-point compass directions.
- To plot and read coordinates in all four quadrants.
- To identify and describe turns in multiples of 45 degrees.
- To understand and apply the concepts of coordinates and rotation.



Numeracy and Mathematics

Angles

- To name, estimate, measure, draw, label and calculate angles to the nearest degree.
- To use a protractor accurately.
- To calculate missing angles.

Information Handling

- To use and draw trend graphs, bar graphs and other types of graph.
- To calculate the range, mode, median and mean of a data set.
- To use spreadsheets and interpret databases.
- To calculate probability (extension).

Shapes

- To identify and describe the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.
- To understand line and rotational symmetry.

Money

- To plan a holiday that meets given criteria, comparing costs and calculating distances and fuel costs while staying within budget.

Measure – Length, Perimeter, Area, Volume, Weight

- To read scales accurately.
- To use the appropriate unit of measurement, for example litres or kilograms.
- To understand the relationship between commonly used units, for example $1\text{kg} = 1000\text{g}$ and $1\text{m} = 100\text{cm}$.

Problem-Solving throughout all topics focusing on various strategies

- To use listing as a strategy for solving problems.
- To use tables to organise information and solve problems.
- To apply trial and improvement as a problem-solving strategy.
- To use diagrams to support problem-solving.
- To simplify a problem by trying a simpler case.

Mental Maths

- To develop a range of strategies for mental calculation.
- To secure knowledge of multiplication tables up to 12×12 .
- To know and recall squares and square roots.





Literacy and English

What can you expect?

Literacy and English in Primary 6 gives pupils opportunities to engage with a rich variety of texts, building the skills to read, write and communicate with growing confidence and independence. Exposure to a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts deepens pupils' understanding of structure, style and genre, while encouraging them to read between the lines - questioning, inferring and evaluating rather than simply absorbing information at face value.

Through note-making, research and extended writing, pupils develop higher order thinking skills, learning to select, organise and express ideas clearly and persuasively in their own words. Opportunities such as preparing talks on natural disasters and the human body, and learning a Burns' poem, build spoken confidence, while a continued focus on grammar, punctuation and proofreading ensures pupils' writing becomes increasingly accurate, fluent and well-crafted - developing the metaskills of communication and self-reflection that pupils will draw on across every area of their learning.

Literacy and English

Reading

- To find and select information from a variety of sources.
- To select, read and listen to texts of their own choice, explaining their preferences.
- To read unfamiliar texts with increasing fluency, understanding and expression.
- To respond to literal, inferential and evaluative questions.
- To identify and explain the difference between fact and opinion.
- To discuss structure, style, characterisation, setting and genre.
- To make notes and organise these under headings.
- To use notes to create texts in their own words.

Writing

- To write with a fluent, legible, joined-up handwriting style.
- To explore and experiment with common poetic devices.
- To use language that engages the reader.
- To vary sentence structures and organise work into paragraphs.
- To proofread and edit their own work.
- To acknowledge sources using a bibliography.
- To use relevant details to support points and arguments.

Grammar & Punctuation

- To further develop grammatical and punctuation skills, with particular emphasis on word types, clauses and phrases, sentence punctuation, commas, conjunctions, prepositions, brackets and dashes, apostrophes, verb tenses, standard and non-standard English, and inverted commas.

Spelling

- To spell frequently and less frequently used words accurately.
- To understand common spelling patterns, root words, homophones, plurals, word origins, suffixes and prefixes.
- To use dictionaries and thesauruses with confidence.
- To use spell-check tools on Office 365 effectively.

Listening and Talking

- To listen to and discuss class and group texts.
- To prepare and present talks on natural disasters and the human body.
- To learn and recite a Burns' poem.
- To listen to the opinions of others and respond appropriately.





Science

What can you expect?

Science in Primary 6 invites pupils to explore the world on two very different scales - from the vastness of our universe to the intricate workings of the human body. Through investigating the movement of the Sun, Earth and Moon, the formation of rocks and soils, and the possibilities of space travel and exploration, pupils develop their scientific curiosity and begin to appreciate our place within a much wider universe, while learning to work safely and responsibly in a laboratory setting.

Closer to home, pupils turn their enquiry towards the human body, identifying its main organs and systems and understanding how these work together to support growth and keep us alive, before exploring the physical and emotional changes that occur during puberty and the stages of human reproduction. A visit to Edinburgh Zoo's Cycle of Life workshop brings this learning to life, connecting classroom knowledge to real-world experience. Across both areas of study, pupils build their skills in observation, enquiry and scientific reasoning - developing the metaskills of curiosity, critical thinking and self-awareness that support learning across the wider curriculum.

Science

Scientific Curiosity

Earth and Space

- To explain day, month and year in terms of the movement of the Sun, Earth and Moon.
- To describe the formation, characteristics and uses of rocks and soils.
- To develop understanding of space travel and exploration.
- To understand how to work safely in a laboratory.

The Human Body

- To understand how different parts of the body work, and work together, to help us grow and stay alive.
- To identify the main organs and systems of the human body.
- To describe the broad functions of the body's organs and understand how the different systems work together.
- To describe the main changes that occur during puberty.
- To describe the main stages of human reproduction.
- To visit Edinburgh Zoo for the Cycle of Life workshop, linking classroom learning to real-world experience of life cycles.





Social Studies

What can you expect?

Social Studies in Primary 6 takes pupils on a journey across the world and through time. Studying India, pupils explore contrasts between urban and rural life across Mumbai, Kochi, Jodhpur and Leh, comparing how people adapt to different environments with their own experience of the UK. The Legacy of Ancient Greece project takes pupils back in time to discover how Greek culture and beliefs continue to shape life in Scotland today, from democracy and the Olympics to the words we use.

Pupils also apply their learning practically: planning a lesson for a younger peer builds confidence and leadership, while running a class business introduces enterprise and teamwork as pupils cost materials, produce a product and evaluate success. These experiences build the metaskills of collaboration, adaptability and reflection, helping pupils see the world - past and present - from multiple perspectives.

Social Studies

Context for Learning: India

- To locate India on a world map and use an atlas to identify its key physical and geographical features.
- To understand that India is a land of contrasts, focusing on the specific locations of Mumbai, Kochi, Jodhpur and Leh.
- To study the different ways in which people adapt to their environment.
- To consider life in urban India, focusing on Mumbai as a case study.
- To compare and contrast life in India with life in the UK, developing an understanding of similarities and differences between cultures.

Context for Learning: Ancient Greece

- Locate Greece on a map and state when the Ancient Greeks lived
- Learn about the people of Ancient Greece, their culture and their legacy to our lives in Scotland today (Context: Legacy of Ancient Greece project) Topics covered: Gods and Goddesses, famous Greeks, philosophy and science, architecture, theatre, democracy, language- English words that have Greek roots, the Olympics
- Learn about Ancient Greek beliefs and mythology

Context for Learning: Peer Learning

- To understand how to create, plan, resource, deliver and evaluate a lesson for a younger peer, developing confidence, organisation and leadership skills.





Religious and Moral Education

What can you expect?

RME in Primary 6 invites pupils to explore both Christianity and Hinduism, deepening their understanding of religious belief, practice and tradition while developing respect for the diversity of faiths within our society. Through Hindu stories, festivals and symbols, pupils build awareness and appreciation of a tradition different from their own, while their study of Christianity spans creation, Advent, Easter and Lent, exploring the meaning behind familiar customs and celebrations.

Alongside this, pupils consider their own beliefs and values, reflecting on the moral qualities of figures such as St Columba and the conversion of Saul, and what it means to stand up for one's convictions. Considering the contribution of Christians to society today encourages pupils to see faith in action in the world around them, developing the metaskills of reflection, empathy and open-mindedness that support understanding across all areas of learning.

Religious & Moral Education

Hinduism

- To develop awareness of some of the principal Hindu Gods and Goddesses.
- To listen to and reflect on a range of stories from the Hindu tradition.
- To develop familiarity with some of the major celebrations, festivals, customs, sacred places and symbols of Hinduism.



Christianity

- To explore creation stories from a range of cultures and religious traditions.
- To begin to develop their own beliefs about creation.
- To explore the symbolism and customs associated with Advent.
- To develop knowledge and understanding of the Easter story.
- To develop awareness of why Christians celebrate Easter and the customs associated with it.
- To understand the customs and traditions associated with Lent.



Development of Beliefs and Values

- To consider and reflect on their own beliefs and values.
- To appreciate the moral qualities of saints, including the study of St Columba, and notable modern Christians, exploring what it means to stand up for one's beliefs and considering people who have changed their beliefs and opinions, in the context of the conversion of Saul.
- To consider the contribution of Christians to society today, exploring how faith can inspire positive action in the world.



Health and Wellbeing (PSE)

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Health and Wellbeing (PSE)

Personal and Social Education

Being Me in My World

- To know how to face new challenges positively.
- To understand how to set personal goals.
- To understand the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen within the wider community and their country.
- To know how an individual's behaviour can affect a group, and understand the consequences of this.
- To understand how democracy and having a voice benefits the school community.

Celebrating Difference

- To understand what culture means.
- To understand that differences in culture can sometimes be a source of conflict.
- To understand what racism is and why it is unacceptable.
- To know that rumour spreading is a form of bullying, both online and offline.
- To understand that bullying can be direct or indirect.
- To understand how their life differs from the lives of children in the developing world.

Dreams and Goals

- To understand that money can help them achieve some of their dreams.
- To know about a range of jobs carried out by people they know.
- To understand that different jobs are paid different amounts of money.
- To know the types of job they might like to do when they are older.
- To understand that young people from different cultures may have different dreams and goals.
- To understand that communicating with someone from a different culture allows them to learn from one another.
- To know ways in which they can support young people in their own culture and abroad.

Healthy Me

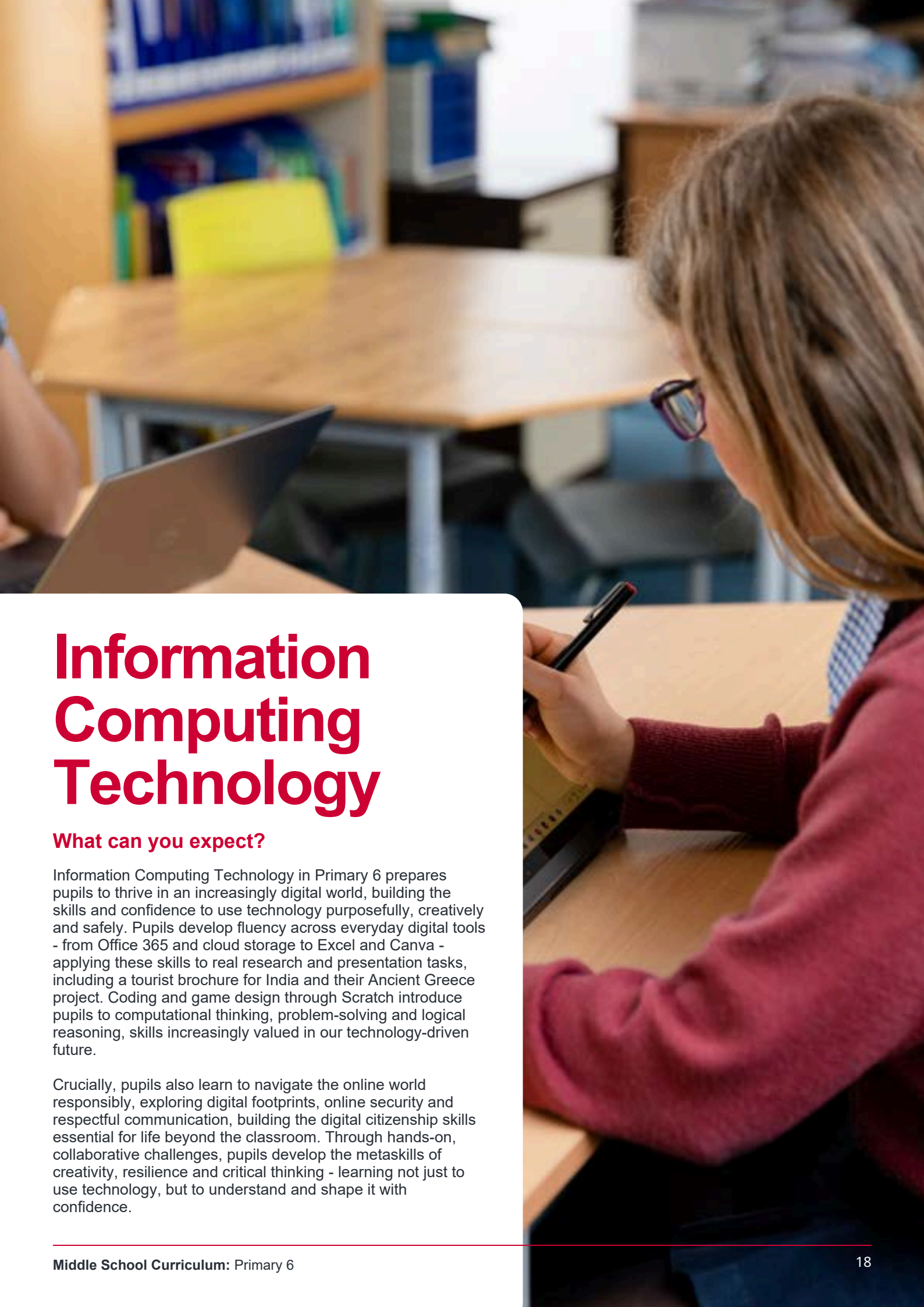
- To know the health risks associated with smoking and vaping.
- To understand how smoking tobacco affects the lungs, liver and heart.
- To know some of the risks linked to misusing alcohol, including antisocial behaviour.
- To know how to get help in an emergency situation.
- To understand how the media, social media and celebrity culture can promote certain body types.
- To understand that messages about food come from a variety of sources, and that these can influence people's attitudes towards food.

Relationships

- To understand that personality is made up of many different characteristics, qualities and attributes.
- To understand that belonging to an online community can have both positive and negative consequences.
- To know about the rights and responsibilities involved in being part of an online community or social network.
- To understand that too much screen time is not healthy.
- To know how to stay safe when using technology to communicate with friends.

Changing Me

- To understand that self-image is important to mental wellbeing, and that there are things they can do to support this.
- To understand how girls' and boys' bodies change during puberty, and the importance of looking after themselves physically and emotionally.
- To understand that sexual intercourse can lead to conception.
- To understand that some people need help to conceive, and may use treatments such as IVF.
- To understand that becoming a teenager involves a range of changes, and brings growing responsibility.



Information Computing Technology

What can you expect?

Information Computing Technology in Primary 6 prepares pupils to thrive in an increasingly digital world, building the skills and confidence to use technology purposefully, creatively and safely. Pupils develop fluency across everyday digital tools - from Office 365 and cloud storage to Excel and Canva - applying these skills to real research and presentation tasks, including a tourist brochure for India and their Ancient Greece project. Coding and game design through Scratch introduce pupils to computational thinking, problem-solving and logical reasoning, skills increasingly valued in our technology-driven future.

Crucially, pupils also learn to navigate the online world responsibly, exploring digital footprints, online security and respectful communication, building the digital citizenship skills essential for life beyond the classroom. Through hands-on, collaborative challenges, pupils develop the metaskills of creativity, resilience and critical thinking - learning not just to use technology, but to understand and shape it with confidence.

Information Computing Technology

ICT

- To develop understanding of the basic components and function of a computer.
- To develop knowledge and understanding of Microsoft Office 365, including cloud storage and email.
- To create engaging presentations using a range of digital tools.
- To be introduced to Excel, developing the basics of workbooks, including formatting and charts.
- To use Microsoft Teams and Office 365 to support an independent research task.
- To revise research and presentation skills, applying these to the design of a tourist brochure for a given location in India.
- To consolidate the use of OneDrive and Teams, applying these skills within the Legacy of Ancient Greece project.
- To develop video editing skills using Canva, including image and audio representation, storyboarding, animation and transitions.



Online Safety

- To develop awareness of online safety, including digital footprints, phishing and scams, online security, password safety, combating negative online behaviour, and responsible communication.

Computing Science

- To develop coding skills and design games using Scratch.
- To apply coding knowledge and skills to an individual coding project.

Craft, Design, Engineering and Graphics

- To work collaboratively to design and make a board game to a specific brief.
- To develop skills in measuring, marking and cutting wood, and using equipment safely.
- To evaluate finished products, including their own work and that of others.





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