



## FORM SIX

Your son/ daughter will soon be embarking on a very important year in Form Six at Branwood. As your child enters Form Six they will be taught Mathematics by Mr Whittell and English by Mrs Higginbottom, who are both specialists in their respective subjects.

### DAILY ROUTINE

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>8.00am to 8.30am</b>	Breakfast Club (optional)	Breakfast Club (optional)	Breakfast Club (optional)	Breakfast Club (optional)	Breakfast Club (optional)
<b>8.30am to 8.35am</b>	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration
<b>8.35am to 9.00am</b>	Whole School Assembly	House Meetings	Hymn Practice Assembly		Commendation Assembly
<b>9.00am to 10.30am</b>	Lesson 1	Lesson 1	Lesson 1	Lesson 1	Lesson 1
<b>10.30am to 11.00am</b>	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
<b>11.00am to 12.30pm</b>	Lesson 2	Lesson 2	Lesson 2	Lesson 2	Lesson 2
<b>12.30pm to 1.30pm</b>	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
<b>1.30pm to 3.30pm</b>	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	Lesson 3
<b>3.30pm to 5.45pm</b>	Aftercare (optional)	Aftercare (optional)	Aftercare (optional)	Aftercare (optional)	Aftercare (optional)

### MATHS

From a Mathematical perspective there will be a specific focus on:

The Branwood Framework; within the developments in Mathematics, as a collective school we aim to continually strive to raise our already high standards, by developing the Mathematics structure at Branwood, in order to provide both a challenging and stimulating environment.

Within Form 6 emphasis will be placed on pupil assessment and attainment; with each pupil being assessed individually to ascertain specific requirements in order for each pupil to reach and maximise their full potential.

A structured programme which strives to make sure each pupil is totally prepared for their chosen entrance examination, in order to meet the demanding questions which form the basis for Manchester Grammar School, Withington, Manchester High, Bolton



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School and Bury Grammar (please note: within this preparation each pupil will also be timetabled for Non-Verbal Reasoning).

For the first 6 weeks time is spent revising and consolidating all areas of mathematics in preparation for the entrance examinations. Within this 6 week period, past papers will be phased in. It is at this point that the preparation is focused more on the actual examinations; developing both Mathematical and examination techniques.

To further prepare and develop your son/daughter, and to maintain the momentum within mathematics, Maths Extra is offered as an after school club. Again this allows pupils to investigate methods and spot relationships between numbers quickly and efficiently, it also allows pupils the opportunity to focus on those areas they may find difficult, by reinforcing specific mathematical concepts.

In order to take Mathematics further, the focus after the completion of the entrance examinations will be on Secondary School preparation. This will give each pupil an overview on topics to be covered as they enter Year 7, allowing them to confidently embark on their educational journey, firm in the knowledge that they are totally prepared for this next step.

In addition to Mathematics, each pupil will also be taught Science and ICT; again this will also allow Mathematics to be explored in a cross curricular capacity, whilst broadening pupils knowledge of other subjects.

In preparation for Secondary School; on the completion of all entrance examination, the scope for Form 6 Mathematics is further enhanced within the fields of Geography and Sport.

### ENGLISH

From an English perspective there will be a specific focus on the following:

As soon as the class arrives at the beginning of September until the time of their final exam in February we work on several different areas of English study to prime them for exam success. English lessons will be split into exam preparation/practice, basic skills revision (e.g. spelling, grammar and punctuation), creative writing and reading comprehension.

We have a strict timetable that begins each week with basic skills revision. Everything we do here is basically a revision and reinforcement of the work done in each class



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throughout the school but focused on particular areas likely to be included in the exams.

In the first half term we focus on word classes – types of noun, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, prepositions and so on.

Within some lessons we will look at spelling and a list of twenty words will be given to learn for homework in preparation for the weekly test. When a list is issued we look for patterns in spellings and discuss ways of remembering trickier ones.

Time is also set aside for private reading and to hear individuals read where possible. Regular reading is vital all through school and especially so as pupils near their entrance exams. Regular and varied reading is essential at this point to both spark the imagination and fuel the vocabulary. We also focus on a class reading book which we share together

We should always try as parents to ask questions about what our child has read – even simple questions such as why a character did a certain thing or what they might do next, even just to summarise a chapter to check understanding but hopefully harder questions too such as why did the writer use that particular word – what effect does it have in the paragraph and on the reader? Discussions about a text will aid

understanding and help to look at writing in a different way, given someone else's thoughts or opinions.

Within English, we also focus on verbal reasoning, and there will be weekly sessions where we will cover a paper in depth, followed by practise of different papers.

Comprehension continues during the week, but with a slightly different approach. We will set aside time to look at and discuss literature and in some lessons that will involve an extract from a book, others will look at a class novel but it is an ongoing endeavour to promote both a love of literature and an enquiring mind.

Comprehension lessons will focus on written tasks involving a wide range of literature and non-fiction and various question types. Lessons will often focus on looking beyond fact retrieval to developing a deeper analysis of a text.

Lessons will aim to give progressively more independence to the pupils in their writing and lead to timed essays based on examination questions. Lessons will begin with structured tips and ideas and as time goes by less and less scaffolding will be given and more and more time to write continually will be allocated. We at first go back to the basics of character, setting and theme and then look closely at genres and learn how to



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write in the styles a wide variety of different ways. Pupils will be encouraged where possible to re-draft work in order to strengthen their own ability to spot mistakes in spelling and punctuation.

After the exams the curriculum widens and in addition to English each day the children will also cover History and Art. A strict homework policy will remain but different subject homework will be given. We will continue with similar focuses in English but also spend more time on studying a novel as a class and of course there is the end of year show to put together.

Within both Mathematics and English, after we have completed a paper feedback and marks will be given back in order to allow us to go over any questions that posed a particular problem or just as importantly were done really well. It is essential to show the children where they are going right, too, and build a belief in themselves that whatever is thrown at them in the final exams they can grab it with both hands and do a fantastic job. We spend hours and hours discussing how to approach questions, how to make sure they know exactly what the question is asking for and how to answer it in the set time. Timekeeping is a very important skill to perfect and we work hard to do so.

As the examinations approach, the remaining time is mostly devoted to further examination practise and school entrance examination papers will be given as

homework. As the exams get closer we do more and more papers, and in the final few weeks we usually do one or two a day.

### HOMEWORK

<u>Monday</u>	English
<u>Tuesday</u>	Mathematics
<u>Wednesday</u>	English
<u>Thursday</u>	Mathematics
<u>Friday</u>	Mathematics & English Examination Papers

### MATHEMATICS & ENGLISH CLUBS

<u>Monday</u>	English (3.30pm to 4.30pm)
<u>Tuesday</u>	Mathematics (3.30pm to 4.30pm)

P.E.



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Form Six have P.E. on Friday afternoons. The children come in their P.E. kits on Thursdays and Fridays and stay in it all day - there is no need to bring their uniform.

Please note: Due to examination preparation, Form 6 will take Swimming during the Summer Term.