

RMGS CURRICULUM MAP – Astronomy

CURRICULUM INTENT

Astronomy is the Science governing the study of the Universe beyond the Earth.

This course has been developed to build on our natural fascination with the night sky and our continued exploration of the universe. Astronomy is constantly in the media in both fact and film which makes this course all the more engaging and relevant to students.

This course builds on the astronomy covered in the KS3 curriculum. It complements the GCSE (9-1) Science specifications, in particular the combined science which does not feature any astronomy content, and, as a visually more accessible subject, promotes science to a wider base.

This course suits a wide range of abilities, providing stretch for gifted science students while engaging lower-ability students in more relevant content.

Students will carry out practical observations of a variety of different objects ranging from planets to meteor showers, including the use of internet accessed robotic telescopes. They will also learn to navigate their way around the night sky and so be able to point out and describe the most interesting celestial objects visible to both the naked eye and telescopes. They will use observations to deduce and evaluate their conclusions. As well as developing these skills students will acquire a deepening knowledge and understanding of astronomy, including key terms and definitions.

Termly Curriculum Overview

Year Group	Autumn 1	2	Spring 3	4	Summer 5	6
1					Topic 1 Planet Earth End of unit assessment	Topic 6 Celestial Observations End of unit assessment
2	Topic 2: Lunar Disk, Topic 9: Exploring the Moon, Topic 11: Exploring the Solar System, Topic 5 Solar System observation. End of unit assessment		Topic 7 Early models of the solar system, Topic 8: Planetary motion and gravity, Topic 10 Solar Astronomy, End of unit assessment		Topic 3 Earth moon and Sun system, Topic 4: Time and Earth-Moon Sun cycles, Topic 12: Formation of the planetary system End of unit assessment	
3	Topic 13 Exploring Starlight, Topic 14: Stellar Evolution, End of unit assessment	Topic 15 Our Place in the Galaxy End of unit assessment	Topic 16 Cosmology End of unit assessment	Revision and PEQ Mocks	Revision and PEQ Mocks	
Useful Links	https://moodle.rainhammark.com/ https://space.fm/index.html					