



THORNS

COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

Summer School – OFSTED Review

Thorns Collegiate Academy Summer School was held over a 5 day period from 22 – 28th July 2021. We offered 100% of the year new year 7 cohort the opportunity to join us for the full 5 days.

Out of the 175 that were invited, 153 students attended at various points over the 5 days. We had 2 feeder primaries that were having to isolate for the first 4 days of the summer school, therefore impacting numbers.

Out of the 175 students invited 24% were in receipt of Pupil Premium. 18% of students with Pupil Premium attended the Summer School.

Below is the timetable that students followed during the Summer School. These were designed to support academic progress and well-being development to motivate our students due to no induction days and experience of COVID in year 6.

Summer School 2021 Timetable

	Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
0930-0935	Virtual Assembly				
0940-1200	*Classroom based lessons Science/Maths Drama/English	*Classroom based lessons Science/Maths Drama/English	Classroom based lessons Maths/English	Music Drama PE Science	Classroom based lessons Music
12-1230	Lunch				
1230-1430	*Classroom based lessons Science/Maths Drama/English	*Classroom based lessons Science/Maths Drama/English	PE activities	PE activities	Parents showcase

*carousel

Required Record-Keeping

We have kept an up-to-date list of parents that are interested in Summer School by using an excel spreadsheet. Consent forms completed by Parents for Summer School are held on Edulink our preferred method of communication with parents.

We had administration staff on site each day to ensure that parental contact was constant. Parents also had access to the school email, and any queries would be dealt with by Head of Year 7 or the Director of L4L. This is so that we kept an open dialogue on any issues including uniform, dinner cards, timetables, etc. All issues were dealt with promptly and efficiently.

Budget

[Attached](#) is the budget and every expense we have spent on the Summer School including Staffing costs and Food. This includes the equipment for Maths, English, Science, PE, Well-being Activities and the “goody bag” we provided for students which included a branded Academy water bottle, scientific calculator, stationery, reading book, branded book mark and reading challenge for the summer holidays.

Food

Snacks and water were provided everyday during summer school, alongside a hot meal for lunchtime. We also acquired water bottles for each student, and they were able to fill this up with water throughout the day. All these water bottles will stay with the students for the duration of their time at the Academy and have the school logo printed on them. This is an environmentally friendly way to reduce carbon emissions. These were purchased from an eco-friendly supplier.

Protective Measures for Covid

All our students stayed in the same allocated group for the week. They spent time in these groups to do their activities throughout each day. Students were escorted to the catering area in their groups, and these were cleaned thoroughly. Every room was cleaned down at the end of each day as well. Students had their temperature taken whilst entering the building and were provided with individual hand sanitisers.

Training/Staffing

All our staff have received training to help upskill them in delivering the content to the students attending Summer School. This was completed by our Literacy for Life teachers. Our PE team led on the physical activities throughout Summer School. Science, Drama and Music sessions were delivered by the Heads of the subject. Amongst our teaching staff, we also had a member of the SEND team on site, an SLT member of staff, a safeguarding lead, administration staff, catering staff, PE and cleaning staff. Our administration/PE staff were also first aid trained so that our students enjoyed the Summer School in a safe environment.

Well being

Throughout our Summer School programme ran student well being. This was so that they students could develop their friendship groups as well as boosting academic achievement at the same time. The Head of Year 7 and Director of L4L ensured that all students were allocated to the correct groups and that students were forming friendship groups.

Academic

The that are attended Summer School had the opportunities to boost both English and Maths to help catch up for September. Students took part in the English and Maths using our theme for Summer School called going wild. Students were required to collect, interpret, and present data and write a persuasive piece of writing. The equipment that we ordered gave the students the opportunities to boost their learning. We also ordered every student a fiction book called The 1000 Year Old Boy to read over the Summer, along with a reading activity based on the book. All of the students were given the chance to partake in various sporting activities (trampolining, basketball, tri golf) as a reward throughout the week due to their hard work during the academic lessons. This allowed students to try out something new and develop their teamwork skills.

Other Lessons and Activities

Other educational activities planned throughout this week included a drama lesson based around visiting the zoo using Tressel Masks, music lessons using various musical instruments and practical science experiments in a science lab. Students also took part in various sporting activities and had a visit from the ice cream tricycle from the local hospice to support their charity fundraising.

They also participated in a safe tour of the school with a member of staff, to allow students to be familiar with various locations around the school, making their transition in September easier. All these activities took place on site at the Academy, which supported the transition process which helped the students familiarise themselves with the school premises.

Our final afternoon was spent with families looking at the work that had been done during the Summer school week. Families had the opportunity to talk to staff, meet the PTFA and purchase uniform and PE kit.

Many of the parents commented that their child had really enjoyed Summer School and felt less anxious about starting year 7 in September.