

What will Year 7 students learn and how many lessons will they have each week?

Currently students have 2 periods a week in their STEM Innovation lessons.

In their STEM Innovation lessons they are encouraged to be creative and consider use and impact of STEM ideas and technologies on themselves, society and the environment. Some of the work will be practical based.

Part of the STEM focus at Watling Academy is employer engagement.

What will Year 7 students need to bring with them to lessons?

Students will need to bring basic equipment such as pens, pencils and rulers.

Mostly though students should bring enthusiasm and curiosity.

Will Year 7 students have homework in this subject? How much?

Some homework will be project based and may take a few weeks. Some of the homework tasks will be written, some might be research or finding things out.

How can I support my child at home with their learning in this subject?

Talk to the students and ask them what they have done in school. Encourage questions about Science and topics in the news. Look at Scientific programmes on TV (Natural History, Space Science, etc). BBC Bitesize is a great resource if students are able to access online technology.

Look at things around us in our environment. Milton Keynes has some fairly unique and high-tech features. Have you had shopping delivered by a robot yet or hopped onto a GPS tracked rental scooter?

What opportunities are there for further study and careers in this subject?

Lots of choices. Some of the more obvious ones are: medicine, engineering, health care, business, computing and programming, economics, veterinary work. In Milton Keynes we have many STEM based industries.

How safe are students?

Students will be taught how to manage and use equipment in STEM lessons so that they are able to learn in a fun but safe practical way.

Any visits to employers will be fully risk assessed.

What actually is STEM?

The simple answer is: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

The better answer is: In our STEM Innovation lessons we will look at how Technologies can affect our lives and society. We will also look at careers and job opportunities. Students will also be taught to be confident with technology and creative in designing and innovating for the future.