

Should my child take Honors classes in 7th Grade???

7th Grade Honors Math

Honors Math at Harpool is much different than the other honors classes because it gets you on a progressive math path. Our goal for Honors Math students here at Harpool is to be prepared to take Algebra as an 8th grader. Students who have successfully completed Algebra in the 8th grade will receive a high school elective credit for the course, and the grade earned will **NOT** be counted in the calculation of the high school grade point average. Students will still be required to earn **four (4) additional math credits in grades 9-12**. Upon completion of Algebra 1 in the 8th grade, the student will take Geometry in the 9th grade (they may not retake Algebra in 9th grade if they pass it in 8th.) The purpose of taking Algebra 1 in the eighth grade is to allow students the opportunity to advance further in mathematics. **Those taking Algebra 1 in the eighth grade should be students who have a high interest in math and/or science and are planning to take Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, AP Statistics and/or AP Computer Science before they graduate from high school.**

Honors Math is not for everyone, and student who chooses to take Honors Math should be a student who is highly interested in a Math or Science career field. Honors Math classes have an increased rigor, move at a faster pace (meaning we cover more material in a shorter time) and require a high-level work ethic. Students must be mature enough to handle the pressure and workload of being in Honors Math while balancing other classes. **For more information, please contact Charley Saiz csaiz@dentonisd.org*

7th Grade Honors ELAR

7th grade honors ELAR is based on two important premises. The first is the expectation that students can and will perform at rigorous academic levels. This expectation will be reflected in the curriculum and instruction of the students. Students will improve their writing, analytical reading, and critical thinking skills. Students will be expected to work more independently than their on-level peers. This includes reading novels on their own, coming to class prepared, and being able to create writing that is clear and engaging. Due to the rigorous nature of honors ELAR, students, at minimum, should have scored “meets” on the previous Reading STAAR test and maintained an excellent average (90+) in their 6th grade ELAR class. The second premise is the belief that we can and will prepare every student for higher intellectual engagement by starting the development of skills and acquisition of knowledge as early as possible. Honors ELAR is an accelerated and in-depth course to challenge students and prepare them for their future. **For more information, please contact Tammy Allen tallen@dentonisd.org*

7th Grade Honors Texas History

We will journey from the first people living on the land that would later become our home to our modern government. Below you will find information of how grades will be taken as well as the progression of the year.

Students enrolled in Honors Texas History will be held to the following expectations:

- Honors Texas History will be fast paced and rigorous
- The amount of work required will likely be more than any social studies/history class you’ve taken before
- Students can expect to improve their reading and writing competencies, critical thinking skills, research skills, etc.
- Students will have to work very hard and at times be extremely challenged

**For more information, please contact Tyler Horner thorner@dentonisd.org*

7th Grade Honors Science

The middle school science curriculum is a spiraling, integrated curriculum. At each grade level students will learn life, earth, and physical science concepts. 7th grade is life science focusing almost exclusively on living things and their environments. Topics spiral through 6th, 7th and 8th grade so that students build on the knowledge gained from one grade level to the next to attain mastery of the subject. Students enrolled in Harpool’s 7th Grade Honors Science will be expected to rise to the challenge and put forth their best efforts.

Students will be asked to complete the following as part of their honors curriculum:

- Advanced reading comprehension skills are highly recommended
- Capable of completing work independently
- In class and out of class projects (both individual and group)
- Ability to keep up with faster-paced instruction
- Content-based essays as part of unit tests
- Able to write detailed lab conclusions
- Complete enrichment homework (occasionally)

****If your child has had frequent reassessments in 6th grade science and their final grade average is lower than an 85%, should probably not consider honors and may be better supported in regular Science. *For more information, please contact Anna Melka amelka@dentonisd.org*