

GCSE OPTIONS BOOKLET

Little Heath School
Key Stage 4 Courses
2025 - 2028

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Tutor Group:

Profile Colour:

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THE KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM (YEAR 9, 10 AND 11)

Overview

In September 2025, you will start the most important part of your education so far – Key Stage 4.

The purpose of this booklet is to help you find out more about the curriculum on offer for the next three years.

Part of this curriculum is compulsory, meaning that every child in the country has to study it – this is the ‘statutory curriculum’, which is made up of the following subjects:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Games
- Religious Studies
- PSHE/RSE

The remainder of the subjects will be chosen as ‘options’. We have put a framework in place to ensure that all students opt for subjects that will enable them to study a broad and balanced curriculum, which also reflects their own personal interests, abilities, aptitudes and talents. This will leave them with lots of opportunities open to them when they leave school.

Students will be told which profile they have been assigned to. Each student is assigned to the profile that is most appropriate to them, based on a detailed analysis of their data and a range of other factors. Details of this are in the letter that was sent home at the same time as this booklet. We do this so that students are able to select the courses which are most appropriate within each subject area.

In order to ensure that the curriculum being followed offers breadth and balance, our options framework is structured in a way that enables all pupils to study subjects in a range of curriculum areas, have the opportunity to take all of the EBacc subjects, and to select subjects that are relevant to any future career / academic plans, while still providing an element of free choice.

Details of all courses are included in this booklet.

THE KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM (YEAR 9, 10 AND 11)

English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The EBacc is not a qualification. It is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers. The EBacc is:

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- The Sciences
- Geography or History
- A language

The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and open up lots of doors. Research shows that a pupil's socio-economic background impacts the subjects they choose at GCSE, and this determines their opportunities beyond school. A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and Maths.

Assessment

At the end of Year 11, you will have your public examinations. This booklet provides details about the Assessment System for each subject. In addition, it gives ideas about the content that will be studied, and the skills that will develop by studying each subject.

THE CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

There are 50 one – hour teaching periods in our timetable, which runs over two weeks (10 school days). A total of 30 teaching periods is allocated to these subjects:

Subject	Hours Every Fortnight
English	7
Mathematics	7
Science	7
Religious Studies	4
Physical Education	3
Personal Development / PSHE	2

In addition to this, you will pick four option subjects. Each of these has 5 teaching hours per fortnight.

The option subjects are organised into groups, each of which offers a range of different subjects. Students select subjects from each group. This helps to ensure that students study a broad and balanced curriculum, as well as offering opportunities for progression to a wide range of post – 16 pathways. Students also need to select two reserve options.

Please note there will be additional opportunities available to students in each profile, that do not form part of the option block structure.

CAREERS ADVICE

Choosing a suitable Key Stage 4 curriculum is all part of the process of planning for future careers or study. Students will be asked about this during your options interview.

For this reason, it is really important to research the options available in the future for each of the subjects that have been considered during the GCSE Options Process, even if you are not yet sure what you would like to do when you finish Key Stage 4.

Guidance - eCLIPS

As an LHS student, you have access to the eCLIPS website, which provides a wealth of information, organised by subject.

Login details:

Go to: <https://www.eclips-online.co.uk/>
LHS password: naisti27

Specific resources to look out for on eCLIPS:

- General guidance about how your studies will change at Key Stage 4 eCLIPS - Leaflet
- Guidance on different careers, organised by subject eCLIPS - Careers By School College Subject
- Information about what each subject looks like once you start Key Stage 4 eCLIPS - Education
- Detailed information about employability skills and Labour Market trends eCLIPS - Leaflet
- Career Wizard – this online tool helps you to find out more about jobs and careers that relate to your qualifications and interests eCLIPS - Career Wizard
- These resources are all pinned in the 'saved leaflets' section of the website

Students will complete some activities during tutor time, in order to model how best to use the resources on the eCLIPS website.

Careers advice at Little Heath School

In addition to the activities completed during tutor time, students are also able to access support from the careers office.

Mrs Wooller is available to answer any queries and offer advice.
Her email address is ewooller@littleheath.org.uk

LHS Key Stage 4 Curriculum Model – from September 2025

Master Model – Overview of all profiles

Notes

- The courses that are offered vary according to students assigned profiles, however all students are able to access a range appropriate courses in all subjects.
- The coloured blocks indicate the student profile. Further detail for each of the profiles is in the sections below.
- Vocational courses are indicated in pink text.

COURSES	COMPULSORY	GROUP A		GROUP B								
		HUMANITIES	LANGUAGES	TRADITIONAL			DIGITAL					
	English Language (1)	<i>Geography</i>	<i>French</i>	Art				<i>Business Enterprise</i>				
	English Literature (1)	<i>History</i>	<i>German</i>	Or Art Textiles				Computer Science				
	Maths (1)		<i>Spanish</i>	Or 3D Design				ICT				
	GAMES			Business Studies				Media				
	RE			<i>Child Development</i>				<i>Travel & Tourism</i>				
	PSHE/RSE			<i>Citizenship</i>								
	Combined Science (2)*			Drama								
	ASDAN			Food Science & Nutrition								
				<i>Or Hospitality & Catering</i>								
				<i>French</i>								
				<i>Geography</i>								
				<i>German</i>								
				<i>History</i>								
				Music								
				PE								
				<i>Or Sport Studies</i>								
				Resistant Materials								
				<i>Spanish</i>								
				Triple Science								

Combined Science will give you 2 GCSEs; Triple Science will give you 3. If you opt to study triple science from Group C, it will also replace Combined Science.

RED PROFILE

Students who are assigned to this profile will take four subjects from a selection of traditional GCSE courses.

They will not study any vocational courses.

They should take a language and either Geography or History.

If students have been recommended for Triple Science, it was detailed on the accompanying letter.

How many?	COMPULSORY	GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C		
	ALL	1 humanities	1 language	2 choices, maximum 1 digital		
				TRADITIONAL		DIGITAL (max. 1)
COURSES	English Language (1)	Geography	French	Art		Computer Science
	English Literature (1)	History	German	Or Art Textiles		Media
	Maths (1)		Spanish	Business Studies		
	GAMES			Citizenship		
	RE			Drama		
	PSHE/RSE			Food Science & Nutrition		
	Combined Science (2)*			French		
				Geography		
				German		
				History		
				Music		
				PE		
				Resistant Materials		
				Spanish		
				Triple Science*		

* Combined Science will give you 2 GCSEs; Triple Science will give you 3. If you opt to to study triple science from Group C, it will also replace Combined Science.

YELLOW PROFILE

Students who are assigned to this profile will take four subjects from a selection of mostly traditional GCSE courses.

They will be advised to take a language, or either Geography or History.

They may be advised to take a maximum of one vocational course.

If students have been recommended for Triple Science, it was detailed on the accompanying letter.

COMPULSORY		GROUP A		GROUP B	
		1 from humanities or languages		3 from across the two sub-groups below: 1 pink max	
		HUMANITIES	LANGUAGES	TRADITIONAL	DIGITAL (max 1)
COURSES	English Language (1)	<i>Geography</i>	<i>French</i>	Art	Computer Science
	English Literature (1)	<i>History</i>	<i>German</i>	Or Art Textiles	ICT
	Maths (1)		<i>Spanish</i>	Or 3D Design	Media
	GAMES			Business Studies	Travel & Tourism
	RE			Child Development	
	PSHE/RSE			Citizenship	
	Combined Science (2)			Drama	
				Food Science & Nutrition	
				Or Hospitality & Catering	
				<i>French</i>	
				<i>Geography</i>	
				<i>German</i>	
				<i>History</i>	
				Music	
			PE		
			Or Sport Studies		
			Resistant Materials		
			<i>Spanish</i>		

GREEN PROFILE

Students who are assigned to this profile will take four subjects from a range of subjects.

They will be advised to take a language, or either Geography or History.

They must take at least one vocational course and may be advised to take a maximum of two vocational courses.

COMPULSORY		GROUP A		GROUP B	
		1 from humanities or languages		3 from across the two sub-groups below: 2 pink max	
		HUMANITIES	LANGUAGES	TRADITIONAL	DIGITAL (max 1)
COURSES	English Language (1)	<i>Geography</i>	<i>French</i>	Art	<i>Business Enterprise</i>
	English Literature (1)	<i>History</i>	<i>German</i>	Or Art Textiles	<i>ICT</i>
	Maths (1)		<i>Spanish</i>	Or 3D Design	Media
	GAMES			<i>Child Development</i>	<i>Travel & Tourism</i>
	RE			Drama	
	PSHE/RSE			<i>Hospitality & Catering</i>	
	Combined Science (2)*			<i>French</i>	
				<i>Geography</i>	
				<i>German</i>	
				<i>History</i>	
				Music	
				<i>Sport Studies</i>	
			<i>Spanish</i>		

BLUE PROFILE

Students who are assigned to this profile will take four subjects from a range of subjects. One of these will be the ASDAN qualification.

Students will be advised to take a minimum of two vocational courses. They will also have access to other Alternative Provision.

COMPULSORY		GROUP A	
		3 from across the two sub-groups below: 2 pink max	
		TRADITIONAL	DIGITAL (max 1)
COURSES	English Language (1)	Art	Business Enterprise
	English Literature (1)	Or Art Textiles	ICT
	Maths (1)	Or 3D Design	Travel & Tourism
	GAMES	Child Development	
	RE	Drama	
	PSHE/RSE	Hospitality & Catering	
	Combined Science (2)*	French	
	ASDAN	Geography	
		German	
		History	
	Music		
	Sport Studies		
	Spanish		

THE KEY STAGE 4 GRADING SYSTEM

Students are no longer awarded grades A* to U at GCSE, which is what you may have heard of. Instead, you will be graded according to the new system. The table below shows what each of the new grades means, based on the new and old systems:

Old A* - U GCSE Grades	New 9 - 1 GCSE Grades	Equivalent new Level 2 / Level 1 grades (Vocational Courses)
A* A	9 8 7	L2 - Distinction* (8.5) L2 - Distinction (7)
B C	6 5 4	L2 - Merit (5.5) L2 - Pass (4)
D E F G	3 2 1	L1 - Distinction* (3) L1 - Distinction (2) L1 - Merit (1.5) L1 - Pass (1)
U	U	U

THE GCSE OPTIONS PROCESS

The Options process starts in term 3. Year 8 students will participate in a range of activities to support them in making their choices.

Date	Event
14th January	<p><u>Assembly</u> An Introduction to the Options Process Assembly for Year 8 delivered by Mrs Whitford and Mr Coulson</p>
Wednesday 29th January	<p><u>Information Evening - 6pm in the Main Hall</u> This will provide a more detailed explanation of the Options process, courses and pathways, and what this means for your child. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and find out more about the courses we offer Please complete this short form to confirm your attendance: https://forms.office.com/e/Ej7JRZufuY</p>
w/b 27th January	<p><u>Options Information Booklet</u> The LHS Options booklet will be sent home electronically. It will also be posted on the website and on Satchel One. This contains details of all the courses that are offered, and how pathways are identified. This will be sent out together with a letter confirming the pathway that each student will be following.</p>
Term 3	<p><u>Tutor time activities to support the GCSE Options process</u> This will include the opportunity to speak to HODs of the subjects which are offered as GCSE subjects, as well as students who currently study them. Students will also be offered support and guidance by their Form Tutor, to support them in making their choices.</p>
Term 3	<p><u>Taster activities</u> Students will be invited to attend additional taster lessons in new subjects at GCSE (German, Spanish, Drama, Business Studies, Child Development, Leisure and Tourism, Citizenship, Media and Hospitality).</p>
17th February - 28th February	<p><u>Applications</u> These will be completed online. Details of this will be sent out nearer the time. Deadline: Friday 28th February</p>
17th March - 4th April	<p><u>Options Interviews</u> Each student will attend an individual Options Meeting with a member of the Pastoral or Curriculum Team. During these meetings, choices which have been made during the initial application process will be reviewed with students.</p>
Term 5	<p><u>Follow up conversations and Quality Assurance</u></p>
Term 5	<p><u>Confirmation of GCSE course places</u> Students will receive written confirmation of their course choices at the end of the process</p>

KEY STAGE 4 COURSES

Vocational courses
Traditional / GCSE courses
Compulsory courses

Department Subject	Courses	Profiles			
		Red	Yellow	Green	Blue
Art	GCSE Art and Design				
Inclusion	ASDAN				
Business and Economics	GCSE Business				
	BTEC Business and Enterprise				
Citizenship	GCSE Citizenship Studies				
Design and Technology	GCSE 3D Design				
	GCSE Design + Technology				
	GCSE Food + Nutrition				
	GCSE Textiles				
	BTEC Hospitality and Catering				
Drama	GCSE Drama				
English	GCSE English Language				
	GCSE English Literature				
Geography	GCSE Geography				
	BTEC Travel and Tourism				
History	GCSE History				
ICT and Computer Science	GCSE Computer Science				
	BTEC ICT				
Languages	GCSE French				
	GCSE German				
	GCSE Spanish				
	FCSE Spanish				
Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics				
Media	GCSE Media Studies				
Music	GCSE Music				
Physical Education	Core PE				
	GCSE PE				
	BTEC Sport Studies				
PSHE / RSE	PSHE / RSE				
Religious Education	GCSE Religious Studies				
Science	GCSE Combined Science				
	GCSE Triple Science (option)				
Social Sciences	BTEC Child Development				

Subject:	Art
Course:	Art, Craft and Design
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All

What will I study during the course?

On this course you will have the opportunity to try all disciplines of Art and Design, including drawing, painting, sculpture, graphic illustration and textiles. You will explore a variety of themes, issues and ideas. You will learn how to create artwork in exciting and expressive ways as well as learning how to produce more detailed observational work. You will also be introduced to a wide range of artists from old masters to more contemporary work to help inspire you. In Year 9 you will complete several short practical projects that are designed to develop your skills in a wide range of processes. These initial projects help to introduce you to the wide range of options the subject has to offer, and you can specialise in your preferred techniques and themes later in Years 10 and 11.

Who is this course suitable for?

Creative students who are prepared to work hard and who really enjoy the subject. Students also often find they like having a balance between their academic work and something practical. You must be prepared to work hard in lessons and also independently, you should have a passion for Art and be prepared to try something new. A desire to broaden your knowledge of the subject through research is also essential.

How is it assessed?

During the course you will produce a portfolio of coursework which includes two extended practical projects. This coursework is worth 60% of your final grade. You will also do a final exam project at the end of Year 11, for which you will create a short practical project based on one of several starting points set by the exam board. This ends with a 10 hour (two day) practical exam in which you will create a final piece to the project. Your work will be assessed in four different areas: 1. The recording of your ideas and observations. 2. The refinement and exploration of your ideas. 3. The development of your ideas through investigations. 4. The personal response (final pieces) you create based on the artist you choose to study.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

The curriculum is taught through a series of practical projects that students produce in lessons and at home. Your teachers will give you lots of advice and technical guidance with your practical work and how to develop your ideas. You also have a lot of scope to be very personal and independent with the work you produce, especially in Year 10 and 11.

The exam board (AQA) also require that all students include some writing in their sketchbooks. You will do this by writing your thoughts about an artist's work and by annotating your ideas about your own work as it develops.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

You develop your practical skills by experimenting with a wide range of materials and techniques such as drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, graphics and textiles. • You will be taught how to create work in exciting and expressive ways as well as learning how to produce detailed and accurate observational work. You will learn how to produce ambitious final outcomes which show influence from the artists you have studied. As well as developing your practical skills, you will also learn how to be more independent with your learning and how to manage deadlines.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

Students will be offered opportunities outside of normal lessons that will aid the progression and development of their work. For example, they can be invited to extra-curricular workshops they may experience an artist in residence and trips to galleries or other places from which to gain inspiration for their own work.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

- Talk to your Art teacher
- Talk to Mrs Hutchinson (Key Stage 4 Leader of Art)
- Talk to Mr Viner (Head of Art)

Subject:	Business
Course:	GCSE Business
Exam board:	Edexcel
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	Red Yellow

What will I study during the course?

- You will be introduced to the world of small businesses and how these grow and develop into large successful enterprises and look at what makes someone a successful business person.
- As budding entrepreneurs you will see how to develop ideas, spot gaps in the market and turn that into a successful business.
- Assessing what makes an effective business and how to manage the financial side to ensure its success.
- You will also see how the world around us affects businesses.
- This could also be your first introduction to the understanding of Economics and the theory behind business success.

Who is this course suitable for?

This is suitable for students who are passionate about the subject of Business and feel confident in the form assessment taking place purely through examinations.

How is it assessed?

In GCSE Business you will have two papers, with equal weighting of 50%. Each paper is divided into three sections.

- Section A: 35 marks.
- Section B: 30 marks.
- Section C: 25 marks.
- Students must answer all questions.
- The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Lessons involve a mix of activities based around discussion of business case studies and scenarios. We are often advising businesses on what should be done through application of the business theory.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

Analytical and evaluative skills are vital in this subject and the in-depth discussions of lots of business stories and cases creates lots of opportunities for this.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

We run an enterprise programme in Y9 where students have the chance to compete with other schools for a £500 top prize by designing their own new product.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Speak with Mr Howlett (Head of Business) or Mr Fuller (Leader of KS4 Business)

Subject:	Business
Course:	Business and Enterprise & Marketing
Exam board:	OCR
Qualification:	Cambridge National (alternative to BTEC)
Profiles:	Green, Blue
What will I study during the course?	
Enterprise and marketing concepts, designing a business proposal and marketing and pitching a business proposal.	
Who is this course suitable for?	
This is suitable for students who are passionate about the subject of business and like the mix of coursework, examinations and presenting to make up their final grade.	
How is it assessed?	
40% external examination and 60% coursework/presenting of coursework.	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
Students will be introduced to the theory of the course and taught the skills and requirements for the examination. Students will also complete assignments on computers in class that is their coursework where they have to help solve a business scenario through creative thinking and applying their own business ideas.	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
The skills most frequently developed are problem solving and analytical skills. This is to help address the business scenario that forms part of the coursework and present on the concepts developed.	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
We take part in an enterprise programme in Y9 where students have the chance to compete with other schools for a £500 top prize by designing their own new product.	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
Speak to Mr Howlett (Head of Business) or Mr Fuller (Head of KS4 Business).	

Subject:	Citizenship
Course:	Citizenship Studies
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	Red, Yellow

What will I study during the course?

GCSE Citizenship would be extremely suitable for anyone who wants to understand how the world works and become an active, responsible member of society. This course is all about giving you the knowledge and skills to make a real difference, both locally and globally. You'll learn about your rights and responsibilities as a citizen, so you'll know how to stand up for yourself and others, and how to make positive changes in your community. In addition you'll get a clear understanding of how the government works, how laws are made, and how you, as a citizen, can have a say in shaping the future. You'll dive into major global challenges like climate change, human rights, and war. The role of international organisations like NATO and the UN and Britain's role within it, gaining the tools to understand and contribute to solving some of the world's biggest problems.

Who is this course suitable for?

This course is suitable for any proactive, opinionated and ambitious students and who enjoys debating and communicating with others. The course encourages students to think about their role as active citizens, making it ideal for those who want to contribute to society and be more engaged in community issues. Those who are curious about how governments, laws, and societies work, and how they impact individuals, will find the course engaging and relevant. Anyone who has an interest in current affairs and looks at the news, being engaged with what's happening in the world around you, especially in politics, law, and social issues, will help deepen understanding of the topics covered in the course

This is vital for anyone who wants to play an active role in society

How is it assessed?

Citizenship Studies will be assessed in two examinations which will be taken in the summer of the final year of the course, each examination weighing 50% of the overall course grade.

- Paper 1: Active Citizenship and Politics and Participation.
- Paper 2: Life in Modern Britain and Rights and Responsibilities.

Both papers include a mix of question types, such as multiple-choice, short-answer, and extended writing questions that test your understanding, analysis, and evaluation of the topics. The Course also requires students to complete an **individual project** or **active citizenship project**. This allows students to engage in real-world activities related to citizenship, like participating in a community project, volunteering, or advocating for a cause. The project is **not directly graded** but is used to assess **practical involvement** in active citizenship and students will need to use what they had learned from the project in their exams.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Across five lessons a fortnight, we will work through the curriculum, deepening skills in verbal discussions and written work. Lessons will consist of a variety of activities that will challenge, support and teach a rich and detailed curriculum. These consist of looking at **Case Studies and real-Life Examples which you can use in your exam such as the invasion of Ukraine and how NATO has responded or the 2024 July General Election**. Group discussions and debates encourage students to think critically and argue different perspectives on political and social issues. **The Active Citizenship Project** encourages students to take part in practical projects, such as volunteering or engaging in community issues, which connects the theoretical content to real-life experiences

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

Taking this subject can help develop a wide variety of skills which would be incredibly beneficial to have for the future. These include:

- **Speaking and debating:** You'll have the chance to engage in debates and discussions in class, which will enhance your ability to articulate your ideas, argue effectively, and consider opposing viewpoints.
- **Evaluating different perspectives:** The course encourages you to think critically about complex social, political, and ethical issues. You will analyze arguments, assess evidence, and consider the pros and cons of different viewpoints.
- **Active citizenship:** The course encourages you to understand your role as an active citizen. You'll learn about the importance of participating in democratic processes, voting, volunteering, and engaging in community or global issues.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

Citizenship Studies will explore real life opportunities, where you can expand your knowledge beyond the course, this may involve trips and/or talks/visits from speakers from the world outside of school. This course encourages participation in Debate Club, where you will improve your debate skills. Trips may consist of visiting the Supreme Court, trips to Reading magistrate court, trips to London and Parliament.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Email / speak to Mr Andrews - Jandrews@littleheath.org.uk

Subject:	Design and Technology
Course:	GCSE Art & Design: Textiles
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All

What will I study during the course?

During this course students will explore a variety of themes, issues and ideas. They will experiment with a wide range of materials and techniques ranging from more traditional processes such as; dyeing, printing, fabric manipulation and embroidery to the use of new Technologies like the laser cutter and experimental techniques such as trapping and fusing the heat press.

- How sources relate to cultural, social, historical, contemporary, environmental and creative contexts which might be determined or influenced by functional or non-functional considerations how ideas, feelings, forms, and purposes can generate responses that address personal needs or meet external requirements, such as client expectations and any associated constraints.
- They will learn about creating work in exciting and expressive ways as well as learning how to effectively record their ideas and observations. They will develop their understanding of line, tone, colour, texture, pattern and shape using a range of media and techniques.
- They will be introduced to a wide range of artists and designers, looking at the History of Textiles and more contemporary work. They will be expected, once they have gained confidence in their skills, to develop their own work in the style of artists and designers appropriate to their chosen area to study.
- Students will produce creative final outcomes which have a clear link to the artist and Designers they have studied.

Who is this course suitable for?

Students must be prepared to work hard in lessons as well as independently. They should have a passion for Textiles and be prepared to try out new skills. A desire to broaden their knowledge of the subject through research is also essential.

How is it assessed?

Component 1: Students will produce a portfolio of Textiles practical work showing a response to a personal theme. This portfolio of coursework is worth 60% of the final grade.

Component 2: Externally Set Task is an early release paper from the exam board (AQA) issued at the beginning of January in Year 11 and will provide students with six themes, each with a range of written and visual starting points. Students respond to one of the questions and produce a portfolio of work including a final piece. This externally set task is worth 40% of the final grade.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Lessons can range from one off practical activities to broaden the skills and knowledge of students to developing research and analytical skills. Students will also work on longer sustained projects where they will apply knowledge and skills learnt to create a personal outcome. The larger projects of coursework are an extended body of work that shows their thinking and working processes and will include:

- Research from books, magazines, websites, museums, galleries etc.
- Students will create work which references and responds the work of others.
- Experimentation using a range of materials, resulting in selection of most successful outcomes to take forward.
- A range of design ideas in order to develop a final piece.
- AQA require that all students provide written evidence within their sketchbooks. This can be in the form of the analysis of an artist or designers work or annotating their work.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

There will be opportunities to attend trips that support the research element of the course and visiting guests from across the industry.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Talk to your Technology teachers, Talk to Mrs Mullett (Key Stage 4 Leader of Technology) or Talk to Mrs Meader (Head of Technology)

Subject:	Design and Technology
Course:	GCSE Art & Design: 3D Design
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	Yellow, Green, Blue

What will I study during the course?

GCSE 3D Design is a broad ranging subject that explores a variety of processes and disciplines all with three dimensional outcomes. Students will explore architecture, product design, set and prop creation and jewellery together with more traditional sculpture forms. Students will work with a range of materials including wood, metal, plastic, paper & boards and textiles to develop prototypes and models. Students will have the opportunity to work with Computer Aided Design (CAD) programmes to explore concepts and communicate their ideas. Drawing and research skills are fundamental to the course in allowing students to be imaginative and ambitious. We will explore a range of cultures, styles and designers to inspire how their own projects develop. Students will be guided through a range of projects in year 9 to develop their key skills and explore different design pathways. In Year 10, students are then given the opportunity to focus on their own areas of interest and develop skills in a pathway and materials that suits them. Students are encouraged to build an understanding of visual language (shape, form, line, scale and colour) and develop their communication skills through experimenting with materials and being open to taking design risks.

Who is this course suitable for?

This course is aimed at students that wish to explore the creative side of technology, experimenting with a range of materials to develop personal and imaginative outcomes. Students must be prepared to work hard in lessons as well as independently. They should have a passion for design and be prepared to try out new skills in a range of materials. A desire to broaden their knowledge of the subject through research is also essential.

How is it assessed?

- Component 1: Students will produce a portfolio of primarily 3D practical work showing a response to a personal theme. This portfolio of coursework is worth 60% of the final grade.
- Component 2: Externally Set Task is an early release paper from the exam board (AQA) issued at the beginning of January in Year 11 and will provide students with six themes, each with a range of written and visual starting points. Students respond to one of the questions and produce a portfolio of work including a final piece. This externally set task is worth 40% of the final grade.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Lessons can range from one off practical activities to broaden the skills and knowledge of students to developing research and analytical skills. Students will also work on longer sustained projects where they will apply knowledge and skills learnt to create a personal outcome. The larger projects of coursework are an extended body of work that shows their thinking and working processes and will include:

- Research from books, magazines, websites, museums, galleries etc.
- Students will create work which references and responds the work of others.
- Experimentation using a range of materials, resulting in selection of most successful outcomes to take forward.
- A range of design ideas in order to develop a final outcome.
- AQA require that all students provide written evidence within their portfolio. This can be in the form of the analysis of an artist or designers work or annotating their work.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

Practical and analytical skills, problem solving

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

There will be opportunities to attend trips that support the research element of the course and visiting guests from across the industry.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Talk to your Technology teachers, Talk to Mrs Mullett (Key Stage 4 Leader of Technology) or Talk to Mrs Meader (Head of Technology)

Subject:	Design and Technology
Course:	GCSE Design & Technology
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	Red Yellow

What will I study during the course?

During this course, you will learn to design products for a customer, considering their needs and wants. You will develop knowledge of a range of materials including wood, metal, plastic, paper & board and textiles. You will learn and develop your technical drawing skills as well as an understanding of graphic communication and visual language to communicate your ideas. You will learn about the development and evolution of products, and use research into existing designers and products to inform your designs. You will have the opportunity to develop computer aided design (CAD) skills through industry used software. You will investigate alternative solutions to problems and use model making to test your ideas and then evaluate your ideas using a specification and client feedback. You will learn how to use a range of hand and power tools including CAM (laser cutter, 3D printer and our brand new CNC router) to create products. You will also work with a wide range of materials including electronics to create fully functioning products.

Who is this course suitable for?

The technical knowledge and materials focus of this course is suited to students that interested in understanding how products are developed and manufactured. Students must be prepared to work hard in lessons as well as independently. They should be willing to work with a range of materials, developing skills in accuracy and applying knowledge to developing their own products.

How is it assessed?

Component 1: Written examination (50%) 2 hours Maths based questions make up 15% of the written paper and through the theory there are also strong links to physics.
 Component 2: Non-Examined Assessment (50%) Students will undertake a project based on a contextual challenge released by AQA starting in the summer term of Year 10. Students are provided with a choice of three starting points to research and respond to. This is a substantial design and make project incorporating applied theory.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Lessons will range from a one-off practical activity to apply theory and knowledge learnt to research based tasks leading to product development and making. Learning takes place in both the workshop and computer suite. Whilst we endeavour to include as much practical into the teaching of the theory work as possible, students should be mindful there is a large amount of written work in the course.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

Careers - Graphic Designer, Architect, Product Design and Development, Mechanical Engineer, Software Programmer... The nature of the skills developed means that Design Technology is a perfect stepping-stone for any career with creative, analytical and problem-solving attributes.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

There will be opportunities to attend trips that support the research element of the course and visiting guests from across the industry.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Talk to your Technology teachers, Talk to Mrs Mullett (Key Stage 4 Leader of Technology) or Talk to Mrs Meader (Head of Technology)

Subject:	Design and Technology
Course:	GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	Red Yellow

What will I study during the course?

The Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE is designed to equip learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principals of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages leaners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and in later life.

This course is not simply about cooking. Students will need to acquire in-depth understanding of the physical and chemical changes that occur when food is cooked, the impact that this has upon the nutritional profile of different foods to apply this knowledge to a range of different situations including different medical and ethical considerations. Students will also need to understand and demonstrate the importance of food safety considerations, when purchasing, storing, preparing, cooking and serving food. We will explore where food comes from including a focus on different international cuisines.

The delivery of the course material will vary: there will be a range of theory and practical based activities, which may include opportunities or group work. There will also be independent based learning to produce reports and projects.

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition should enable students to:

- Demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking using a variety of food commodities, cooking techniques and equipment.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the science of food.
- Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of nutrition including the role of the main nutrients in the diet, sources, function, deficiency diseases and sensory qualities.
- Understand the importance of microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food.
- Explore where food comes from including foods from around the world.

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an interesting and stimulating course for students. The delivery of the course material will vary: group based activities, practical and theory based learning, independent based learning in order to produce project style and research based work.

Who is this course suitable for?

Students should have a keen interest in food and be open to investigating and tasting different foods. Students should be motivated to improve their knowledge of nutrition, diet and health. Students will build upon their practical skills and techniques to produce the work that reflects their creativity in Food Preparation and Nutrition. This course may also be suitable for those interested in a future in sports as well as medical fields.

How is it assessed?

Students will be continually assessed through the development of the practical skills but also on their ability to apply their theory work to those practical session. All the formal assessment will take place in year 11 which consists of a written exam (1 hour 45 minutes) worth 100 marks (50% of overall GCSE) as well as two non-exam assessments. The first conducted in the September of year 11 is a food investigation worth 30 marks where students will be accessed on their understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. The second will be conducted in November and is a 3 hour food preparation assessment worth 70 marks (the combination of the two equates to 50% of the overall GCSE.)

Component 1: Written examination (50%) 1 hour 45 minutes Component 2: Non-Examined Assessment (50%)
 Students will undertake two NEA projects during Year 11 based on topics provided by AQA. NEA 1 (15%) is a Food Investigation and NEA 2 (35%) is a Food Preparation Assessment when students plan, prepare, cook and evaluate 3 final dishes.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Generally, classes will have 3 theory lessons across the fortnight, and then practical will be designed to reinforce the scientific or nutritional focus. The frequency of practical lessons may vary throughout the course, depending on the topics that are being studied. Practical lessons will also be designed to teach and develop a range of skills including pasta, pastry, bread dough, filleting of fish and portioning chickens.

Students will be required to bring in the ingredients for practical work, and ensure it is collected to evaluate the dishes afterwards.

Lessons will range from a practical activity to apply theory and knowledge learnt to research based tasks leading to dish development and making. Students will be required to bring ingredients for all practical lessons. Typically, practical lessons happen once a week. Whilst we endeavour to include as much practical into the teaching of the theory work as possible, students should be mindful there is a large amount of written work in the course.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

This course has been organised into five key areas. By studying food preparation and nutrition learners will:

- Be able to demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a range of food commodities, using different techniques and equipment as well as microbiological food safety considerations
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as the nutritional content of food and drinks.
- Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health.
- Understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices.
- Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

In addition to the curriculum content, students will also develop a wide range of other skills: team work; time management; organisation; problem solving and independence.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

There will be opportunities to attend trips that support the research element of the course and visiting guests from across the industry.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Talk to your Technology teachers, Talk to Mrs Mullett (Key Stage 4 Leader of Technology), Talk to Mrs Rose (Key Stage 4 teacher of Food Preparation & Nutrition) or Talk to Mrs Meader (Head of Technology)

Subject:	Design and Technology
Course:	Level 1/2 Hospitality & Catering
Exam board:	WJEC
Qualification:	BTEC
Profiles:	Yellow, Green, Blue

What will I study during the course?

A qualification in Hospitality and Catering will prepare you to become more aware of the skills required to go into hospitality and catering for large-scale events. In this qualification, learners will also have the opportunity to develop their food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication. Through the two units, learners will gain an overview of the hospitality and catering industry and the type of job roles that may be available to assist them in making choices about progression. Students will study two mandatory units, covering the fundamental knowledge, skills and understanding required for the hospitality and catering industry. Unit 1 covers the catering industry, ranging from types of establishment, customer service, the operation of the kitchen, restaurant, health and safety, and food safety. Unit 2 looks at research and planning suitable dishes for a menu for a specified restaurant, which also includes a practical examination to showcase some of the chosen dishes.

Who is this course suitable for?

Students should have a keen interest in food but also want to learn more about what it takes to work in a top hotel or restaurant or what skills are required to work front of house. This is an exciting course to understand a career path into industry as well as experimenting with flavours, developing technical cookery techniques and high quality presentation skills.

How is it assessed?

Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry written examination (50%) 90 minutes
 Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action practical assessment (50%) This will be a practical exam where students will have been tasked to produce a variety of dishes and outcomes to a set brief in exam conditions. Students will produce a research folder showing their planning and management of ingredients. The brief is set by the exam board (WJEC).

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Lessons will range from a practical activity to apply theory and knowledge learnt to research based tasks leading to dish development and making. Students will be required to bring ingredients for all practical lessons. Typically, practical lessons happen once a week. Whilst we endeavour to include as much practical into the teaching of the theory work as possible, students should be mindful there is a large amount of written work in the course.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

Students will develop a range of skills from studying this subject at GCSE;

- Unit 1 enables learners to gain and develop comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the hospitality and catering industry including provision, health and safety, and food safety.
- UNIT 2 Unit 2 enables learners to develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the importance of nutrition and how to plan nutritious menus. They will learn the skills needed to prepare, cook and present dishes. They will also learn how to review their work effectively

Students will develop a range of skills

- Communication
- Confidence
- Learning independently
- Organisation
- Problem solving
- Research
- Self-discipline
- Stamina
- Taking on responsibility
- Time management.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

There will be opportunities to attend trips that support the research element of the course and visiting guests from across the industry.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Talk to your Technology teachers Talk to Mrs Mullett (Key Stage 4 Leader of Technology) Talk to Miss Bell (Key Stage 4 teacher of Hospitality) Talk to Mrs Meader (Head of Technology)

Subject:	Drama
Course:	GCSE Drama
Exam board:	OCR
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All

What will I study during the course?

- Different styles of theatre.
- A set text.
- Acting techniques.
- Technical elements.
- Evaluating theatre.
- Creating original theatre.
- Performing plays.

Who is this course suitable for?

You will enjoy this course if you like:

- Creating scenes, exploring plays, studying and analysing scripts.
- Evaluating other people's work in a positive and constructive manner.
- Directing other people's acting.
- Working on your own practical acting skills.
- Being creative and original (thinking about the use of space, colours, costumes, props, lighting, body language, facial expressions, etc).
- A mixture of practical and written work.

How is it assessed?

Devising Drama - You will work in groups to create a devised performance based on a stimuli given to you by your teacher. You will log your process in a portfolio evidencing and evaluating the creative decisions you have made throughout the unit. Both the performance and portfolio are assessed.

Presenting and Performing Texts - You will study and explore a play during the lessons, participating in workshops to develop your understanding of character, plot, style and drama techniques. This unit will culminate in a practical performance of two extracts from the play that you have studied. As well as the submission of a written document which supports the practical decisions that you have made.

Performance and Response - You will study and explore a play chosen by the exam board during the lessons, participating in workshops to develop your understanding of the context in which the play has been written, characters, staging, technical elements, style and performance skills. This understanding will be assessed in a written exam at the end of Year 11. During Year 11 we will take you to see a professional play and you will complete a live theatre evaluation in the second part of the final written exam.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

The lessons are a combination of practical and written. Initially you will have 4 practical lessons and 1 written lesson across a fortnight, but the amount of written lessons will increase around PPE's and exams. Lessons are always fun, engaging, challenging and supportive. We mainly work in groups which are either chosen by you or your teacher, so that you get to work with a range of different people. The main structure of the lessons will be learning a new skill, through and workshop and sometimes a professional example, then applying it to you own work. In lessons you will regularly perform in front of the class.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

- Drama teaches you to work as part of a team. You will learn to balance ideas, work with and listen to others, evaluate your work and develop your organisational skills. In adult life, there will be many occasions where you will need to work as part of a team and studying Drama will equip you with these skills.
- Drama gives you the confidence to perform and present in front of others. When you go for job, college or university interviews, or lead a presentation at work, studying Drama will provide you with the required skills to communicate and deliver confidently in front of others.
- In Drama you will need to improvise on a number of occasions. This allows you to think on your feet and develop your initiative. This will hold you in good stead when it comes to taking initiative and adapting in your future workplaces. Drama will teach you to be creative. It will encourage you to come up with exciting ideas and you will learn how to think outside the box.
- You will learn to work towards a deadline. Drama will teach you to be disciplined in managing your time and developing the progress of your piece.

- Analysing and evaluating theatre will develop your critical thinking. This is a useful skill that is transferable across a number of subjects.
- When you act in Drama you put yourself into another person's shoes and try to identify with them and their situation. This will develop your empathy towards others, especially when portraying a character that is experiencing feelings and situations that you may not initially understand. This is a key skill that will open your mind and develop your interaction skills. It is also an essential attribute to many careers such as teaching, nursing or caring.

What jobs / opportunities can this subject lead to in the future?

Drama is a subject which develops a huge range of transferable skills, therefore it would prepare you for any job that involves working with a team of people, speaking in front of people, being creative or thinking on your feet. However the most common jobs that GCSE Drama students go on to do are:

- Actor
- Theatre technician (lighting/set/sound/stage management/hair/make up/costume)
- Director
- Casting director
- Lawyer
- Drama Therapist
- Teacher (primary and secondary)
- Nursery Nurse
- Script Writer
- Graphic Designer
- Marketing Manager
- Cabin Crew
- Nurse / Doctor

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

Whilst on the GCSE Drama course we run a number of different theatre trips each year to a range of different types of theatre show. Trips can also sometimes involve backstage tours of theatres. Every cohort also has a workshop from a visiting professional theatre company to help them prepare for their first Drama assessment.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Talk to Mrs Rowland (Head of Drama)

Subject:	English
Course:	GCSE English Language
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All
What will I study during the course?	
You will experience a range of different learning activities such as: creative writing; discussions; critical analysis; analysing non-fiction texts; group reading; debates; individual and group work and much more.	
Who is this course suitable for?	
All students - this is a core subject that everyone will take.	
How is it assessed?	
2 externally assessed exams:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1 - Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing • Paper 2 - Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives 	
Plus a Spoken Language assessment (a speech/presentation with discussion on a topic of choice) which will take place in class. Marked as Pass/Merit/Distinction. This currently takes place in Year 9.	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
There are 7 lessons a fortnight (in Year 9, changing to 8 in Years 10/11). Lessons will interweave English Language and English Literature depending on the unit(s) being taught.	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read fluently, and with good understanding, a wide range of texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, including literature and literary non-fiction as well as other writing such as reviews and journalism; • Read and evaluate texts critically and make comparisons between texts; • Summarise and synthesise information or ideas from texts; • Use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing; • Write effectively and coherently using appropriate Standard English; • Use grammar correctly and punctuate and spell accurately; • acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding subject terminology, and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language. 	
If you have fallen out of the habit of reading inside/outside of school, get back into it! Any form of reading (novels, stories, magazines and newspaper articles, sports reports, information from the Internet) will generate new ideas, increase your vocabulary and help you in English.	
What jobs / opportunities can this subject lead to in the future?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English is a very important subject which can help open a whole variety of post-school pathways. • It is a required subject for college and university courses. Success in English shows your future employers that you have both a creative and an analytical mind. Many students who do well in English will find work in media, creative arts, publishing and marketing, or even teaching! 	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
Writing/Reading club at lunchtime Revision workroom/workshops in Year 11	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
English teacher; Head of Department - C Jones; KS4 Leaders - A Smith, L Kemp; School website; AQA website	

Subject:	English
Course:	GCSE English Literature
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All
What will I study during the course?	
Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> ; Dickens' <i>A Christmas Carol</i> ; Priestley's <i>An Inspector Calls</i> ; collection of poetry; unseen poetry	
Who is this course suitable for?	
All students - this is a core subject that everyone will take.	
How is it assessed?	
2 externally assessed exams	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel - 1hr45 40% • Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry - 2hr15 60% 	
Examined texts are currently: Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> , Dickens' <i>A Christmas Carol</i> , Priestley's <i>An Inspector Calls</i> and a collection of 'Power and Conflict' poetry published by AQA	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
There are 7 lessons a fortnight (in Year 9, changing to 8 in Years 10/11). Lessons will interweave English Language and English Literature depending on the unit(s) being taught.	
There will be a range of activities such as: reading plays and novels; discussions; critical analysis; group reading; debates; individual, group work and much more.	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read a wide range of classic literature fluently and with good understanding, and make connections across their reading; • Read in depth, critically and evaluative, so that they are able to discuss and explain their understanding and ideas; • Develop the habit of reading widely and often; • Appreciate the depth and power of the English literary heritage; • Write accurately, effectively and analytically about their reading, using standard English; • Acquire and use a wide vocabulary, including the subject terminology and other literary and linguistic terms they need to criticise and analyse what they read. 	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
We aim to run theatre visits where possible (limited numbers allocated as per school policy). We also have visiting companies to run in school performances for whole year groups.	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
English teacher; Head of Department - C Jones; KS4 Leaders - A Smith, L Kemp; School website; AQA website	

Subject:	Geography
Course:	GCSE Geography
Exam board:	Edexcel
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All

What will I study during the course?

Human topics: Changing Cities, Global Development and Resource Management. Physical topics: The Changing Landscapes of the UK, Weather Hazards and Climate Change and Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Management.

Who is this course suitable for?

This is a course that is suitable for all students with a keen interest in the world around them. Geography has a focus on literacy and maths and students will be expected to complete mathematical calculations as well as to write in depth about different geographical case studies. Students will also carry out fieldwork and therefore need to want to see Geography in action, beyond the classroom and to get involved in fieldwork investigations.

How is it assessed?

- Paper 1 – The Physical Environment. 1 hour and 30 minutes = 37.5%
- Paper 2 – The Human Environment. 1 hour and 30 minutes = 37.5%
- Paper 3 – Geographical Investigations. 1 hour and 30 minutes = 25%

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

First, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Do I enjoy learning about the world around me and my place in it?
2. Do I enjoy lessons that are fun but can also be quite challenging?
3. Do I want to study a subject that is valued highly by employers?
4. Do I want to study a subject that gets excellent exam results?
5. Do I like field trips?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then Geography is the subject for you! You will experience a variety of learning activities, traditionally taught lessons, using the computer suite to research ideas and present work, group tasks, individual project work and fieldwork outside the classroom

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

- Develop and extend your knowledge of locations, places, environments and processes, and of different scales including global; and of social, political and cultural contexts.
- Gain understanding of the interactions between people and environments, change in places and processes over space and time, and the interrelationship between geographical phenomena at different scales and in different contexts i.e. think like a geographer!
- Develop and extend your competence in a range of skills including those used in fieldwork, in using maps and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and in researching secondary evidence, including digital sources.
- Develop your competence in applying sound enquiry and investigative approaches to questions and hypotheses i.e. study like a geographer!
- Apply geographical knowledge, understanding, skills and approaches appropriately and creatively to real world contexts, including fieldwork, and to contemporary situations and issues.
- Develop well-evidenced arguments drawing on your geographical knowledge and understanding.
- “Geography is life. It is impossible to conceive of rounded human beings who have not grasped the fundamentals of geography” Film Director and Chair General Teaching Council

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

The department runs two field trips as part of the course where students visit the River Pang and Reading.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Please speak to your Geography teacher, or Mrs Park (Head of Geography) if you have any questions.

Subject:	Travel and Tourism
Course:	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Travel and Tourism
Exam board:	Edexcel/ Pearson
Qualification:	BTEC
Profiles:	Yellow, Green, Blue
What will I study during the course?	
Component 1 travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations. Component 2 Influences on Global Travel Tourism. Component 3 Customer Needs in travel and Tourism	
Who is this course suitable for?	
This course is for learners who want to acquire knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by exploring the aims of different travel and tourism organisations, the features of tourist destinations, how organisations meet customer requirements, and the influences on global travel and tourism as part of their Key Stage 4 learning. The qualification recognises the value of learning skills, knowledge and vocational attributes to complement GCSEs. The qualification will broaden learners' experience and understanding of the varied progression options available to them.	
How is it assessed?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components 1 and 3 are assessed through internal assessment. Internal assessment is through assignments that are subject to external standards verification. • There is one external assessment. • Component 2: Global Influences on Travel and Tourism The external assessment takes the form of a set task/external assessment, taken under supervised conditions, which is then marked and a grade awarded by Pearson. This is 40% of the final grade. 	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
Most of your lessons in Travel and Tourism will be theory-based. In these lessons you will develop the skills needed for the industry: for example, your interpersonal, customer services and sales skills, as well as your knowledge of Geography.	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
Learners will develop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge that underpins the effective use of skills, processes and attitudes in the sector such as the appeal of different tourist destinations to different types of customer, and the factors that influence travel and tourism • Skills such as researching different travel and tourism organisations, the features of tourist destinations, and the products and services available to meet the needs of different customers • Attitudes that are considered to be very important in the travel and tourism sector, including how to develop tourism while respecting the environment and local communities. 	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
As part of the course there will be a number of trips organised to investigate travel and tourism opportunities.	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
Please speak to Mrs Park for further information	

Subject:	History
Course:	GCSE History
Exam board:	Edexcel
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All

What will I study during the course?

You will study different aspects of international history in the Twentieth Century, a study of Crime and Punishment from 1000-2000 AD and a study on Medieval England. The course is designed to help you understand the world that you are living in.

We will investigate 'big' questions such as:

- Why is King Richard I seen as a model for Medieval Kings?
- How close did we get to nuclear war?
- How did the Cold War come to an end?
- Why did people in Germany vote for Hitler?
- How was Hitler able to dismantle German democracy in just 6 months?
- How has the meaning and nature of crime changed in the last 900 years?
- Why is Whitechapel so significant to our understanding of crime in the 1800s?

Who is this course suitable for?

It is a really interesting and engaging subject. If you enjoyed learning history in Year 7 and 8, you will certainly enjoy the history we teach at Key Stage 4. We are able to go into greater depth with the topics that we study. The GCSE topics cover a breadth of time from medieval to modern units. Many of the topics we study link in to modern day discussions and news, and you will see how important a knowledge of the past is for understanding the world we live in today.

Any student who enjoys the study of History and want to pursue it further. The course does involve an amount of written outcomes, but students receive support and guidance to develop their writing and succeed.

How is it assessed?

There are three examinations for GCSE History, they will all be in summer of Year 11.

- Paper 1: Crime and Punishment through time 1000 AD – present. Historic environment – Whitechapel 1870-1900. Exam – 1 hr and 20 mins 30%
- Paper 2: Medieval England: The Reigns of King Richard I and King John, 1189-1216 and Superpower Relations and the Cold War 1941-1991 Exam – 1 hr and 50 mins 40%
- Paper 3 Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918- 1939 Exam – 1 hr and 30 mins 30%

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Lessons are a lot like KS3 History lessons - lots of fascinating questions and answers about the past, engaging topics and varied activities. We have 5 lessons a fortnight for all our GCSE classes.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

You will develop valuable skills which are useful in many future jobs, whether they are related to the study of history or not. Many of our topics are set up as historical enquiries which ask big questions. We develop critical thinking skills by using our lessons to answer these big enquiry questions. In addition, we develop source skills throughout the course, considering what different sources can tell us, and how we can evaluate these to assess how reliable and useful they are to our studies. Students also learn to apply their historical understanding to make judgements on big enquiry questions, and develop written skills to communicate this understanding effectively.

GCSE History should enable you to:

- Develop and extend your knowledge and understanding of specified key events, periods and societies in local, British, and wider world history; and of the wide diversity of human experience.
- Engage in historical enquiry to develop as independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers.
- Develop the ability to ask relevant questions about the past, to investigate issues critically and to make valid historical claims by using a range of sources in their historical context. Develop an awareness of why people, events and developments have been given historical significance and how and why different views have been constructed about them.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

History teaches an enriched and exciting curriculum with opportunities to expand students' knowledge beyond the course. We link our lessons to fascinating historians and update regularly based on new research and findings. Students are guided to films, documentaries, books and podcasts that relate to our topics and beyond. We identify and explore links to current events and how events in history have influenced today. There is a possible enrichment trip to Oxford Castle in year 10 which gives students a fascinating insight into the workings of a prison through time.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Talk to your History teacher

Talk to Mrs Canning (Head of History) or Mr Bond (Head of Key Stage 4 History)

Subject:	Computer Science
Course:	GCSE Computer Science
Exam board:	OCR
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	Red Yellow
What will I study during the course?	
There are two components to this course, practical programming and computing fundamentals; The computing fundamentals course will include the structure of a computer, Data representation, computer networks, software and its development.	
Who is this course suitable for?	
Students who enjoy a challenge and problem solving as some of the concepts covered are very different to what you have learned before. You would also be interested in researching current events in computer science and keeping up with the latest technologies.	
How is it assessed?	
Computing fundamentals will be assessed in two examinations which will be taken in the summer of the final year of the course. The theory exams are each worth 50% of the final grade.	
Computer Science GCSE is a subject with only one tier of entry at GCSE. This means that all candidates can get the highest possible grade. All grades (9 to 1) are available to all students.	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
Lessons are delivered in a computer room via a VLE (virtual learning environment). You are expected to access the resources in class and at home if you have missed a lesson. Whilst the majority of work is accessed through the VLE, you are expected to also make notes in a note book.	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
Logical thinking, problem solving and programming	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
Supporting/running coding clubs	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
Email Mrs Bailey (Head of Computing and ICT)	

Subject:	ICT
Course:	Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT (Technical Award)
Exam board:	WJEC
Qualification:	BTEC
Profiles:	Yellow, Green, Blue
What will I study during the course?	
Unit1: ICT in Society - which covers hardware, software, networking and jobs in the sector. Unit 2: ICT in Context - which covers spreadsheets, databases and image creation	
Who is this course suitable for?	
Students who would like to pursue a career in IT and who want to focus on data handling over programming. They will have enjoyed working with spreadsheets in year 8 and want to advance their knowledge of this, extending into the capabilities of databases.	
How is it assessed?	
Unit 1 is a 40% written exam which is assessed in Y11. Unit 2 is an extensive three-part coursework worth 60%. The coursework is completed in year 10 and as it is worth 60% of the qualification. Students will need to have a focused and resilient attitude in order to complete the work. In Year 11, students will focus on exam practice for the terminal exam.	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
Unit 1 lessons will be traditional style lessons which introduce theory that is checked/applied in written format; by answering knowledge and application style questions. Unit 2 is learning practical skills which requires demonstration and then practice. All lessons will be in a computer room and resources are hosted on a VLE.	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
Literacy: reading and comprehension of a client brief, written communication IT skills: research, spreadsheets, databases, computer systems, images.	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
We are looking to develop trips to companies like Microsoft and Oracle. External speakers	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
Please speak to Mrs Bailey (Head of Department) The exam board specification link is here: https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/level-1-2-vocational-award-in-ict/#tab_keydocuments	

Subject:	Languages
Course:	GCSE French / German / Spanish
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	French – all, German + Spanish – Red, Yellow, Green

What will I study during the course?

Theme 1: People and lifestyle

- Topic 1: Identity + relationships
- Topic 2: Healthy living and lifestyle
- Topic 3: Education and work

Theme 2: Popular culture

- Topic 1: Free-time activities
- Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations
- Topic 3: Celebrity culture

Theme 3: Communication and the world around us:

- Topic 1: Travel and tourism, including places of interest
- Topic 2: Media and technology
- Topic 3: Environment and where people live

Who is this course suitable for?

You should take a language GCSE if any of the following apply to you:

- You like learning languages.
- You would like to work or travel abroad.
- You would like to go to university or college – language GCSEs are regarded as a highly valuable qualification by universities and colleges and some universities have made them a requirement for admission.
- You would like to give yourself an advantage when looking for a job in the future - language skills are important for many companies and organisations.

If you have enjoyed studying French and would like to learn a new language Spanish and German would be suitable for you. Both languages are suitable for beginners. No prior knowledge of these languages is required, just a determination to work hard. Lessons will build on the skills that have been developed in French at KS3.

How is it assessed?

Speaking 25%
 Final Examination End of Year 11 Writing 25%
 Final Examination End of Year 11 Listening 25%
 Final Examination End of Year 11 Reading 25%

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Lessons will focus on the topics listed above and the 4 skills of listening, reading, writing + speaking will be taught with final assessments at the end of the 3 year course.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

Being able to communicate both in speaking and writing and understand others when they speak or write in the target language

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

Lunchtime Spanish club runs weekly

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Mrs Leach/Mr Martin or your class teacher

Subject:	Languages
Course:	FCSE Spanish
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	FCSE (Foundation Certificate of Secondary Education)
Profiles:	Green, Blue

What will I study during the course?

Theme 1: People and lifestyle

- Topic 1: Identity + relationships
- Topic 2: Healthy living and lifestyle
- Topic 3: Education and work

Theme 2: Popular culture

- Topic 1: Free-time activities
- Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations
- Topic 3: Celebrity culture

Theme 3: Communication and the world around us:

- Topic 1: Travel and tourism, including places of interest
- Topic 2: Media and technology
- Topic 3: Environment and where people live

Who is this course suitable for?

We would like all students to have the opportunity to study a language, however we understand that the full GCSE may be challenging for some. The FCSE is a vocational course that offers the opportunity to study the same topics as the GCSE but it is assessed throughout the 3 years with coursework, rather than a final exam. Students are awarded a pass/merit or distinction at the end of the course. Students will be advised which of the 2 courses is most suitable for them.

How is it assessed?

Listening Three externally set assignments – 25%

Reading Three externally set assignments – 25%

Speaking One compulsory, externally set role play plus two internally set assignments – 25%

Writing One compulsory, externally set translation plus two internally set assignments – 25%

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Lessons will be based around the 3 themes listed above + coursework will take place throughout the 3 years of the course to assess learning.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

The ability to communicate both in writing + speaking in the language and understand both the written and spoken language

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

Lunchtime Spanish club runs weekly

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Ask your class teacher or Mrs Leach/Mr Martin

Subject:	Mathematics
Course:	GCSE Mathematics
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All

What will I study during the course?

You will study the following strands:

1. Number
2. Algebra
3. Ratio, proportion and rates of change
4. Geometry and measures
5. Probability
6. Statistics

Who is this course suitable for?

All students

How is it assessed?

There are three equally weighted examinations covering the six key strands. PAPER 1 PAPER 2 PAPER 3

1. Number
2. Algebra
3. Ratio, proportion and rates of change
4. Geometry and measures
5. Probability
6. Statistics

- 33% of the total GCSE written examination papers with a range of question types. No calculator is allowed
- 33% of the total GCSE Written examination papers with a range of question types. Calculator is allowed
- 33% of the total GCSE Written examination papers with a range of question types. Calculator is allowed
- 1 hour and 30 minutes (both Foundation and Higher tier papers) 80 marks available
- 1 hour and 30 minutes (both Foundation and Higher tier papers) 80 marks available
- 1 hour and 30 minutes (both Foundation and Higher tier papers) 80 marks available

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

- A range of learning techniques will be used: teacher led activities, pair work, group work and project based investigational work.
- There are several highly effective and useful Mathematical packages that the school use both inside and outside the classroom and students enjoy a very interactive yet challenging experience throughout their GCSE. Students may have the opportunity to take on additional qualifications alongside their GCSE Mathematics and many students work hard to prepare themselves for Mathematics A level and Further Mathematics A level. Uptake for these courses in the sixth form is high
- There are two different tiers of entry – foundation and higher.
- Foundation tier: Grades 1 to 5.
- Higher tier: grades 4 to 9.

The decision about your tier of entry will be made in discussion with you, your parents and your teacher.

- There is no course work for Mathematics; it is a purely exam based subject.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

- Problem Solving
- Real Life numeracy
- Financial awareness

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

UKMT team maths challenge, Intermediate and Senior maths challenge
Our most able mathematicians also study a Further Mathematics GCSE.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

- Talk to your Maths teacher
- Talk to Mrs Andrews (Head of Mathematics)
- Talk to Mrs Hames (Head of KS4 Mathematics)

Subject:	Media
Course:	GCSE Media Studies
Exam board:	Eduqas
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	Red, Yellow, Green

What will I study during the course?

You will be studying a range of media forms across the three years of your GCSE Media course. You will develop your understanding of the four theoretical framework pillars; Media Language, Representation, Industry & Audience to analyse and develop your knowledge in specific media forms such as; Newspapers, Magazines, Advertising & Marketing, Films, TV, Radio, Video Games and the Online. You will then draw these links together to develop a cross-media production for either an independent or mainstream coursework brief.

Who is this course suitable for?

This course is suitable for students interested in the media, not just social media but everything that happens in the world told through different media forms. If you enjoy written subjects such as English & History, you will find your place in Media Studies as **the course is weighted 70% written theory**. If you have a creative mind, you will enjoy the coursework element creating a product using your photography skills and technical editing software, although this is weighted less at 30%. The suitable candidate will have a likeness for written work and an element of practical.

How is it assessed?

You will sit **two written exams** exploring the theoretical framework, looking at Media Language, Representations, Industry & Audience and create a media-production that is a non-examined assessment (coursework). A breakdown is shown below:

- **Component 1 – Exploring the Media (30%). Written examination.**
Assesses knowledge, understanding and skills by analysing media products. Media industries will also be assessed in relation to media form and audience.
- **Component 2 – Understanding Media Forms and Products (40%). Written examination.**
The exam builds on component 1 with a focus on all theoretical frameworks, through an in-depth study of audio-visual products set by the exam board.
- **Component 3 – Media Production (30%). Non-Exam Assessment.**
An individual media production for an intended audience, from a brief set by the exam board. This will need to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of media language and representation.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Studying the media is about decoding all the hidden and not-so hidden messages within media products and understanding the processes involved in creating them. You will explore the complex relationship between media producers and audiences and investigate how audiences respond in different ways to products. You will have the opportunity to develop your written skills using exam structure and techniques building on the knowledge learnt from your analysis of the different media forms, you will have four theory lessons a fortnight from Year 9 to 10 and then all lessons in Year 11 will be theory and exam practice/revision. You will also get to work with our industry Technical Support Assistant (TSA) to develop skills in photography, and you will learn how to edit and design images using Photoshop and use recording equipment to create a multi-media production in one lesson a fortnight from Year 9 to 10, however, not in Year 11.

Media Studies combines analytical skill and technical mastery with creative expression and personal insight. Media studies classes are generally interactive, with lots of discussions and development of your writing style looking into the theory of media. The best thing is, you already have some of the skills you will need to succeed before you even start!

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

- Critical Thinking/Building on discussion
- Analysis
- Research
- Planning
- Practical/Technical

- Time Management
- Essay Writing
- Idea Development
- Presentation
- ICT Skills in Media and day-to-day computer skills.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

Potential Trips in Media Studies include:

- A trip visit to Warner Brothers Studio – Harry Potter World (once every two-years)
- Sky Skills Academy
- Reading University Film & Media Workshops
- Museum of Branding & Advertising

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

You can talk to the following:

- Mr Chan (Head of Film & Media) – S8 or Media Office in Sixth Form
- Miss Moore (Media Teacher) - T4, S7 or Media Office
- Mrs Reeder (Technical Support Assistant) – Media Office in Sixth Form
- Your form tutor

Subject:	Music
Course:	GCSE Music
Exam board:	OCR
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All

What will I study during the course?

There are three strands to GCSE Music; listening, performing and composing. You will be introduced to a wide variety of styles and genres of music from 1600 to the present day. These range from Pop Music to Film Music, including music for video and computer games, to Classical Music. The range of styles and genres will widen your appreciation for different types of music; you may learn to enjoy listening to a style of music that you had never previously considered! In lessons we will cover these styles and genres of music through activities that will not only improve your listening skills but also develop your composition and performance skills. During the course you will be able to perform in any style of music and on any instrument of your choice. You will also learn how to use music software to create your own compositions.

Who is this course suitable for?

The course is designed for people who take an active interest in Music and want to create and perform to and with other people. The course also develops a range of listening and analytical skills that are applied across a wide range of musical styles and genres. An ideal candidate will be willing to listen to a wide range of styles of music including Western Classical and World Music. Although it is not essential, candidates would benefit from receiving specialist tuition on their chosen instrument.

If you enjoy the practical activities in Year 8, you are likely to gain a great deal from this option at GCSE.

- Some keyboard skills are useful (though not necessary), and you will develop these significantly during the course.
- If you feel that your performance skills are not as confident as other skills, then you can complete your performance on the computer by producing a sequenced performance.
- Keen singers are also encouraged to consider taking Music in Years 9,10 and 11.
- It is not essential to receive specialist tuition on an instrument to take this course, although it would undoubtedly be advantageous. If you haven't had formal instrument/vocal lessons but are interested in starting them please see Miss Roberts (Head of Music) for more information.

How is it assessed?

The OCR Music GCSE course is essentially a practical course with 60% of the course involving individual and group performing and composition activities. The first two components (Performing Music and Composing Music) are completed under controlled conditions and externally assessed. This means that you will be given a set amount of time to complete your tasks during your lessons. You will need to prepare fully for these tasks as you will not be given extra time to improve your work. The listening exam takes the format of a written paper at the end of Year 11 and is worth 40% of the course. This paper is assessed externally.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

Although the course is assessed through a mixture of practical and written, we teach most of the content through practical tasks to consolidate the listening and appraising content. You will also be given performance opportunities, both as a soloist and in ensembles. In addition to this, you will also be taught how to use a variety of different software packages to support the composition element of the course.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

During the course you will develop the following skills:

- Performing skills individually and in groups;
- Composing skills to organise musical ideas;
- An awareness of a variety of instruments, styles and approaches to performing and composing;
- The identification of musical features, styles and genres;
- Communication, confidence and self-esteem through performance and composition activities

From the very start of the course, students should expect to apply themselves consistently to all areas of the course and regular practice on your chosen instrument is essential.

Homework will be regular and will either be practical (composing, practising instruments for performance pieces) or research-based work.

It will give you an opportunity to develop your creative side amongst other, more written based subjects. This ability to be creative is a skill that is deemed highly amongst future employers. So whether or not, you are considering a career in music, Music is a course that can develop your confidence, creativity and communication skills, all of which are necessary in whatever career you decide to pursue.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

Opportunities to go on trips such as live orchestral concerts, join school ensembles, be involved in school concerts and productions, perform at external venues, perform in front of small invited audiences as well as larger paying audiences.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

- Speak to your Music teacher
- Talk to Mrs Williams (Head of Music)

Subject:	Physical Education
Course:	GCSE Physical Education
Exam board:	OCR
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	Red, Yellow
What will I study during the course?	
Physical factors affecting performance, socio-cultural issues and sports psychology and performing in physical education	
Who is this course suitable for?	
Pupils who are very actively involved in performing in two activities for clubs or teams outside of school, or in school teams. Pupils should also be competent at a third activity. Human Anatomy is significant part of the examination work and pupils should be competent in science.	
How is it assessed?	
60% is examined (2 x 1hr exams) and 40% coursework (30% practical performance; 1 individual, 1 team and another activity; and 10% written coursework evaluating and analysing performance)	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 theory lessons and 2 practical lessons per fortnight in year 9. • Theory topics are split between the two exams. • Paper 1 is Physical factors affecting performance which includes; Applied anatomy and physiology & Physical training. • Paper 2 is Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology which includes; Socio-cultural influences; Sports psychology & Health, fitness and well-being. 	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
Understanding Anatomy and physiology, physical training, socio-cultural influences, sports psychology, health, fitness and well-being, a range of physical and tactical skills and evaluating and analysing practical performance.	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
Wide range of practical activities – badminton basketball, table tennis, netball. We will also provide coursework support and revision sessions.	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
Ask any of your PE teachers for more information or visit the OCR website – GCSE - Physical Education (9-1) - J587 - OCR	

Subject:	Physical Education
Course:	Sports Studies
Exam board:	OCR
Qualification:	BTEC
Profiles:	Yellow, Green, Blue
What will I study during the course?	
Contemporary issues in sport, sports and the media, coaching activities and practical activities	
Who is this course suitable for?	
Students who are interested in media in sport, contemporary issues in sport, coaching and performing practically Pupils who are very actively involved in performing in at least one activity for clubs or teams outside of school, or in school teams.	
How is it assessed?	
A mixture of assessment - 1exam, 2 pieces of coursework and 2 practical activities will be moderated	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
2 Theory lessons in year 9, 3 practical lessons with one focused on coaching The Units that we will be studying are - Contemporary issues in sport Performance and leadership in sports activities Sport in the media	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
Coaching skills, understanding of contemporary issues in sport and sport and the media, a range of practical skills and tactics.	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
Wide range of practical activities – badminton basketball, table tennis, netball. We will also provide coursework support and revision sessions.	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
Ask any of your PE teachers for more information or visit the OCR website – Cambridge Nationals - Sport Studies Level 1/Level 2 – J829 (ocr.org.uk)	

Subject:	Religious Education
Course:	GCSE Religious Studies
Exam board:	Edexcel
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All
What will I study during the course?	
You will study a range of religious, ethical and philosophical topics through the in-depth study of Christianity and Islam.	
Who is this course suitable for?	
All students	
How is it assessed?	
It is assessed in two 1hr 45minute exams, one covering all the topics we have covered in our study of Christianity, the other covering all the topics we have covered in our study of Islam.	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
We will investigate religious beliefs and practices, using holy texts, video clips, note-taking, supported practice questions and discussions. There will be lots of opportunity to explore and express your views on the topics that we cover.	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
You will learn how to study religion, including beliefs and practices and how holy texts affect these. You will practice debating sensitive topics maturely and clearly, being able to explain and support religious and non-religious views on the topics we study, and the reasons you take one view to be better supported.	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
We do a trip to a mosque for GCSE Religious Studies students, which you can sign up to. A group of local Christians also do occasional visits to discuss their beliefs and practices with Religious Studies classes.	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to your RE teacher. • Talk to Mrs Kukkuk (KS4 Leader of RE) and Mr Eden (Head of RE) 	

Subject:	Science
Course:	GCSE Combined Science
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	All

What will I study during the course?

This course leads to two GCSE's. You will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics units.

The Biology units are: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and response, Inheritance and Ecology.

The Chemistry units are: Atomic structure, Bonding, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical changes. Energy changes, Rates of reaction, Organic chemistry, Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere and Using resources.

The Physics units are: Energy, electricity, Particle model, Atomic structure, Forces, Waves and Magnetism.

Who is this course suitable for?

Combined Science is compulsory unless you are doing Triple Science.

How is it assessed?

You will either be entered for the higher tier (grades 9-4) or Foundation tier (Grades 1-5).

There are six exams at the end of Year 11 of 1 hour 15 minutes.

There are two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics exams.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

You will have seven lessons a fortnight throughout Years 9, 10 and 11. You will have 2 science teachers who will split the units between them. The Science department employ a host of different activities to develop your knowledge and understanding of the Science covered and the benefits and risks it brings to our everyday lives, including practical work, group discussion, PowerPoint, video, use of ICT, quizzes etc.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

GCSE Combined Award Science should enable you to: develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific subjects of biology, chemistry and physics; develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science, through different types of scientific enquiries that help you to answer scientific questions about the world around you; develop and learn to apply observational, practical, modelling, enquiry and problem solving skills, both in the laboratory, in the field and in other learning environments; develop your ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions; develop curiosity about the natural world, insight into how science works, and appreciation of its relevance to your everyday lives; be inspired, motivated and challenged by the subject and its achievements.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

There are intervention sessions run leading up to exams in year 11 and there may be an opportunity for visits to the Bayer labs in Reading.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Talk to your Science teachers. Talk to Mrs Shaw (Key Stage 3 leader of Science), Mr Mullenger (Key Stage 4 leader of Science) or Mr Harwood (Head of Science).

Subject:	Science
Course:	GCSE Triple Science
Exam board:	AQA
Qualification:	GCSE
Profiles:	Red

What will I study during the course?

This course leads to three GCSE's - GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The units are the same as Trilogy Science but some have more content. There is one extra unit in physics.

The Biology units are: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and response, Inheritance and Ecology.

The Chemistry units are: Atomic structure, Bonding, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical changes. Energy changes, Rates of reaction, Organic chemistry, Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere and Using resources.

The Physics units are: Energy, electricity, Particle model, Atomic structure, Forces, Waves, Magnetism and Space.

Who is this course suitable for?

This course is available to our most able scientists (you need to be in Set 1 or 2) as this will be an intensive course designed for students who will be looking to study Science at a higher post 16 level and beyond. You will be in Science for an extra five lessons a fortnight, so you must enjoy Science as well and be willing to work hard to achieve.

How is it assessed?

You will either be entered for the higher tier (grades 9-4) or Foundation tier (Grades 1-5), but you will be expected to work at being entered for the Higher tier.

There are six exams at the end of Year 11 the same as Trilogy Science but they are longer at 1 hour 45 minutes.

The same as Trilogy Science there are two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics exams.

How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?

You have seven lessons at the same time as Trilogy Science and an additional five lessons within the option blocks. You have three different teachers as Biology, Chemistry and Physics are treated as three different subjects.

The Science department employ a host of different activities to develop your knowledge and understanding of the Science covered and the benefits and risks it brings to our everyday lives, including practical work, group discussion, PowerPoint, video, use of ICT, quizzes etc.

What skills will I develop if I study this subject?

GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics should enable you to: develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics; develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of Science, through different types of scientific enquiries that help you to answer scientific questions about the world around you; develop and learn to apply observational, practical, modelling, enquiry and problem solving skills, both in the laboratory, in the field and in other learning environments; develop your ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions; understand the material world and how scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity; appreciate how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas relating to the Sciences are interlinked.

What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?

There are intervention sessions run leading up to exams in year 11 and there may be an opportunity for visits to the Bayer labs in Reading. You will be entered for the Biology Olympiad in year 10.

Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?

Talk to your Science teachers Talk to Mrs Shaw (Key Stage 3 leader of Science), Mr Mullenger (Key Stage 4 leader of Science), Mr Harwood (Head of Science), Mr Smith (Head of Biology), Dr Kissick (Head of Chemistry) or Mrs Shaw and Mr Mullenger (Head of Physics).

Subject:	Social Sciences
Course:	Child Development
Exam board:	OCR
Qualification:	OCR Cambridge National
Profiles:	Yellow, Green, Blue
What will I study during the course?	
Gain an understanding of the overall needs of young children and how social and environmental influences can affect their development in an ever changing and multicultural society. • Increase your knowledge and understanding of human needs and the influence of social and economic factors. • Develop various practical skills throughout the course by doing research projects and doing observations. • Learn new skills and develop your research techniques, learn how to manage your time and work to deadlines, learning how to make decisions and problem solve.	
Who is this course suitable for?	
Any student who has an interest or wants to develop an interest and a potential future career in childcare or healthcare as you will gain invaluable skills and knowledge as you complete the course.	
How is it assessed?	
One examination at the end of Year 11 and two coursework units one to be submitted in Year 10 and one in Year 11.	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
Lessons are a mixture of gaining knowledge, discussion of topics, developing research and presentation skills through using IT applications and learning observation techniques.	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
Problem solving, research skills, time management, meeting deadlines, planning work and prioritising deadlines, teamwork and personal organisation.	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
Visits to a local nursery and visits in school from Health care professionals are an integral part of the course.	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
Email any of the Child Development Teachers: Mrs Kukuk, Mrs Jones and Mrs Rayner or Mr New (Head of Social Sciences)	

Subject:	Inclusion
Course:	ASDAN
Exam board:	n/a
Qualification:	Bronze, Silver, Gold ASDAN award
Profiles:	Blue
What will I study during the course?	
<p>ASDAN's programmes and qualifications for secondary schools range from helping learners make a successful start in secondary education to boosting engagement and motivation, developing core skills, and enhancing academic performance.</p> <p>There are activities to do in and outside of school to help develop personal, social and work related skills.</p>	
Who is this course suitable for?	
<p>Students on the green and blue profiles who have been specifically identified to complete this course. This will be discussed during your options interview and we will contact parents / carers directly to discuss this.</p>	
How is it assessed?	
<p>The ASDAN programme enables students to record and certificate their personal qualities, abilities and achievements. They will achieve either the bronze, silver or gold ASDAN award.</p>	
How will we study the subject? What are lessons like?	
<p>Lessons are taught in small groups in a small, informal, classroom-based learning environment.</p>	
What skills will I develop if I study this subject?	
<p>Students develop skills to help students to access the wider curriculum, as well as completing Functional Skills qualifications in Maths and English.</p>	
What enrichment / extra - curricular opportunities are available to me if I study this subject?	
<p>There will also be an opportunity to experience outdoor learning in a bespoke outdoor learning centre</p>	
Where can I find out more information? / Key Contacts?	
<p>Talk to Miss Verma or Ms Mortimer in the inclusion department ASDAN Website Secondary Schools</p>	