



Futures 2024

LEVEL 1P



Welcome

Dear All

Welcome to the start of an important and exciting time for your daughter or son as they think about their future and decide on their Level 2 courses. Foundation to Level 1 Plus has equipped all students with a significant base of knowledge, skills and understanding which they can now take forward into their Level 2 courses. This booklet is to introduce you and your child to the curriculum we have developed for Level 2 and 2 Plus.

The aim of the curriculum is to allow your child to be successful in a range of courses that suit their skills, interests and aspirations for the future. In doing so, there will be a greater emphasis on using approaches to study that promote independence. Our Key Stage 4 curriculum is organised thematically around Grand Challenges, which enables students to make meaning of learning and see connections between disciplines.

The booklet is in 6 parts, designed to answer the following questions:

- » What are our important principles?
- » What makes up the curriculum?
- » What choices are available?
- » What should students consider when making choices?
- » What is the process of choosing subjects?
- » What is involved in each of the main subjects?

Beginning now, the team at the Academy are on hand to answer your queries and to offer guidance over choices. Ms Maskell is facilitating the options process with Mr Kothari. Ms Gruz oversees Level 2 and 2 Plus.

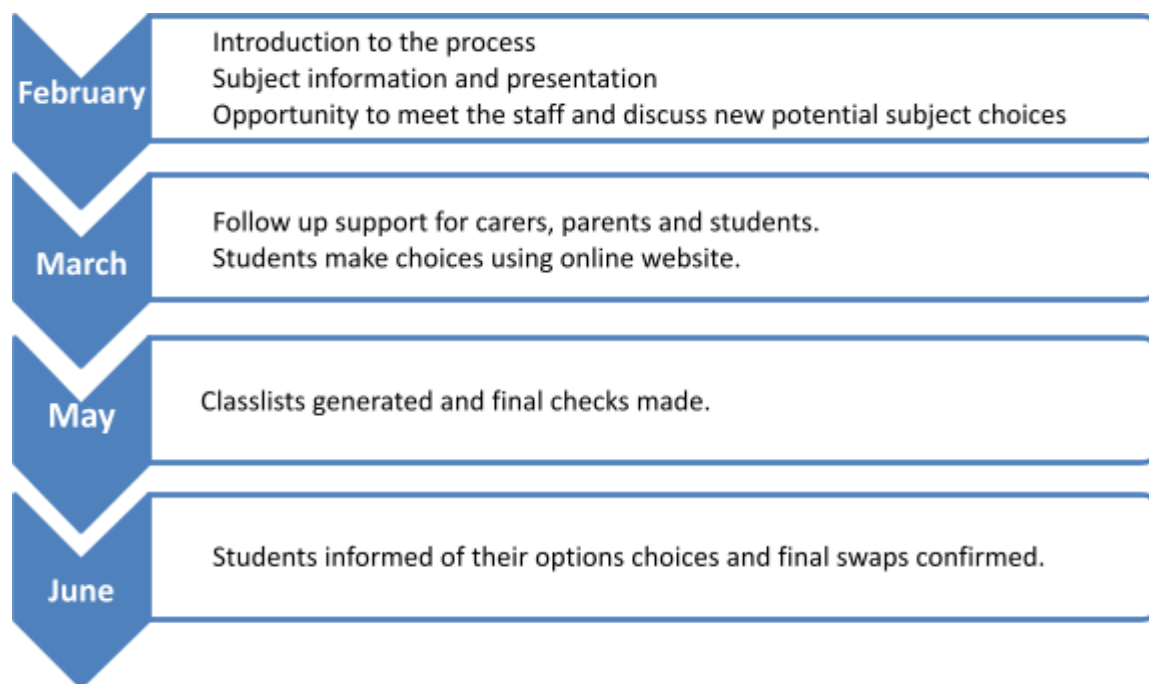
The right combination of careful thought from students, with advice and guidance from home and the Academy, will ensure every student knows how to achieve their potential and is provided with every opportunity to enjoy success at school and in their future lives.

We look forward to meeting as many of you as possible during the next few months as students choose the subjects that will see them through to GCSEs and beyond.

Yours faithfully,

Suzi Maskell
Senior Assistant Principal: Key Stage 3

Summary of Timeline

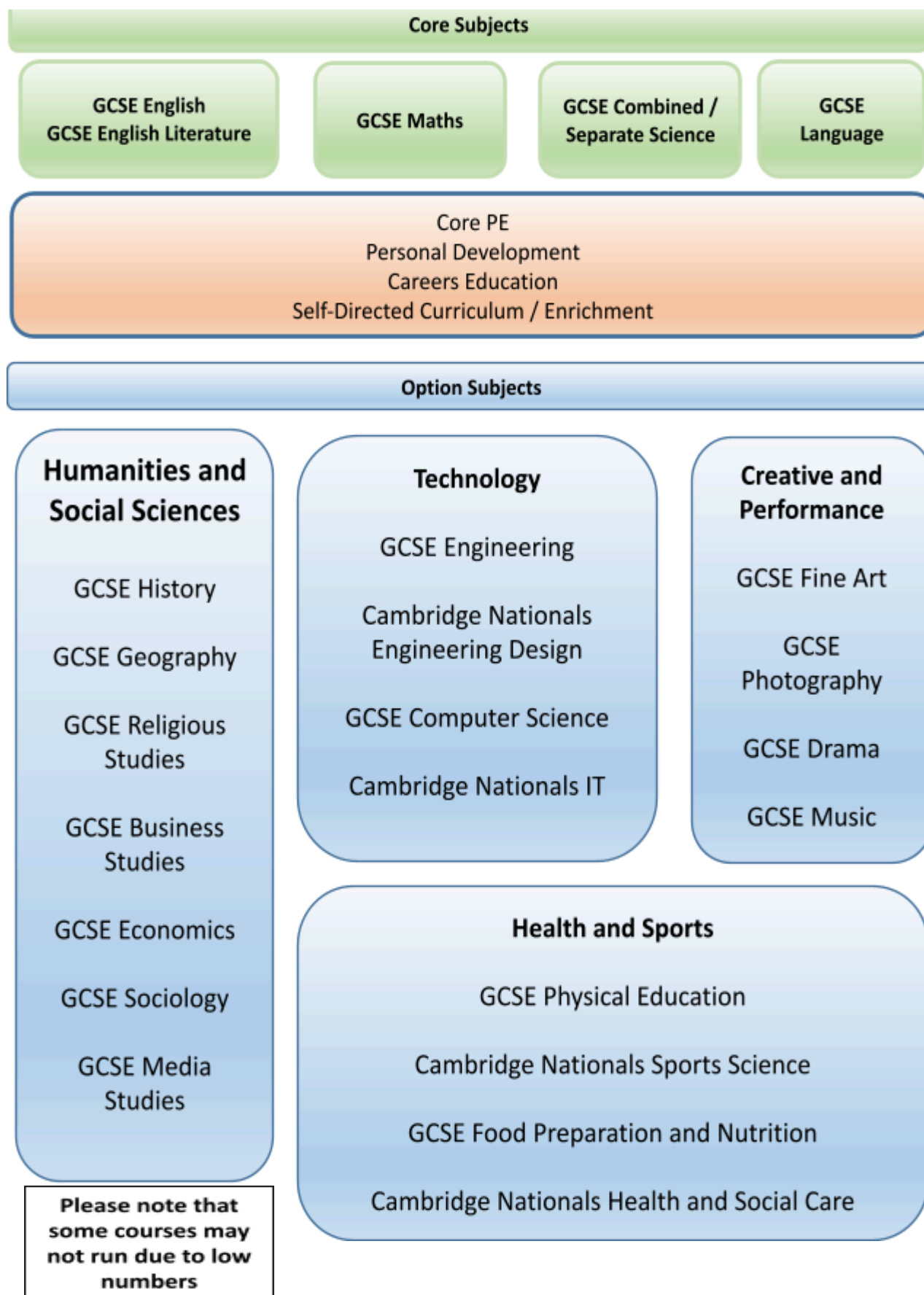


What are our important principles?

The principles for developing this curriculum reflect the ethos and values of the school:

1. High academic and personal standards for students and a commitment to developing individual potential;
2. A broad and balanced curriculum that gives the choice and range of subjects for students to personalise their route. This means a range of opportunities to pursue the STEM specialist subjects, alongside Humanities & Culture options to reflect the importance UCL itself places on breadth of study;
3. An academically challenging curriculum that provides good progression to further study;
4. Promoting Languages at the heart of the curriculum, as part of Education for Global Citizenship;
5. An approach to learning that continues to emphasise skills developed in the Connected Curriculum;
6. Strong emphasis on Personal Development and preparation for their next stage of education.

What is our Level 2 Curriculum?



Core Subjects

GCSE English Language, GCSE English Literature, GCSE Maths and GCSE Languages are all core subjects so everyone takes these. PE and PSHCE are also core subjects.

GCSE Science: All Level 1 Plus students have started separate science GCSEs. This means there is an option of receiving three science GCSEs: GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics. This gives you an extra GCSE. If this is not suitable for you then you will take GCSE Combined science, which is worth two GCSEs. Over the year, your teachers will be using your assessments and commitment to learning to decide which final option you will take. You will be receiving guidance on this over the year.

Language: Your language option has already been chosen and you are only able to continue with the language you are studying this year. If you don't currently study a language in Level 2 you will study for a Level 2 Prince's Trust qualification and in Level 2 Plus you will receive an extra English, Maths and Science lesson each week.

PE and PSHCE - These are crucial parts of a balanced curriculum and all students take part in these compulsory lessons.

What choices can I make?

You can select 3 additional subjects. You must make 3 firm options choices and 2 reserve choices. Some students will be allocated reserve choices for one of three reasons:

- The first choice option subject is full and cannot accommodate anymore students
- The first choice option does not work within the timetable blocks - these are decided after Options choices are made to accommodate as many students as possible
- The Subject Leader does not think the student has made an appropriate choice or the student does not meet the entry requirements.

The full list of subjects offered can be found in the subject choices section of this booklet.

Subjects with more than one qualification?

If you want to study Sport, Computer Science or Engineering there are two possible courses you can take. The Faculty Leader will advise you which course on offer is most suited to you based on your progress in the subject. It may be that you will be more successful doing the Cambridge Nationals Award than the GCSE. **They are equivalent to GCSEs in the level of challenge and value of the award. Both courses can lead to Level 3 study, apprenticeships and University.** The Academy makes the final decision about which course you will take.

Subjects with entry requirements

GCSE Computer Science, GCSE Engineering and GCSE Economics are subjects which require students to have demonstrated that they enjoy and have an aptitude for Maths. There are 28 places on the GCSE Economics course; 30 places on GCSE Engineering and 25 place on the GCSE Computer Science course. The students selected will already have demonstrated that they are making good progress towards 7+ grades in Maths and grade 5 in English. For this reason not all students will see these subjects as options choices. GCSE Business Studies and Cambridge National Qualifications in both Engineering and I.T. are open to everyone.

Selecting reserves

If a subject is oversubscribed or not running it is important for you to identify what other subjects you would like to do. You will be asked to select another two alternative reserve subjects. You must be willing to take these subjects if one of your first choices does not run or your progress and commitment is not good enough in one of your choices. Some students may also be asked to take a reserve course if we cannot make their preferred choices fit within the timetable.

What if a subject is oversubscribed?

1. We will try hard to run an additional class but that is not always possible.
2. We will ask if any student has changed their mind and wants to take their reserve subject.
3. If progress and commitment are low then we will discuss with you taking a reserve option.
4. The Academy will decide on the best course for you if there is an alternative.

What should I consider when making my choices?

DO Consider:

- » **Range of Subjects:** Consider studying a broad range of subjects that leave your options open.
- » **Interests and Strengths:** Consider subjects that you have enjoyed and are successful at. Think about subjects you have been making the best progress in.
- » **Post – 16 Study:** Start thinking about what you want to study after Level 2. How will your choices help you?
- » Think about **your career interests and aspirations**. For university courses and most careers, a broad balance of subjects is a good base. However, you may already have strong views about a future career and you should research whether particular course choices now will be helpful.

DON'T Consider:

- » **Friends:** Do not choose subjects to be with your friends. You have different strengths and interests and may not be in the same class. Talk to your friends for advice. Doing different GCSEs shouldn't have any effect on your friendships – it will just mean you have lots to talk about when you're together at other times.
- » **Teachers:** You should be motivated by the subject content. There is no way of knowing what teachers you will have next year.
- » **Easy Options:** Do not choose subjects because you think they are easy options - they aren't! All GCSE and Tech awards are of the same standard.

What help will I get?

You will be working with your tutor in House Time and PSHCE to discuss the different subjects and how they relate to your interests and future plans. If we feel it is appropriate you and your carers and parents will be invited to a guidance meeting with your tutor or a senior member of staff to discuss your options. You will look at your assessments in each subject and your commitment to learning in subjects you would like to take.

What do I do now?

1. Look at all the subjects on offer at the GCSE and Options event. Make sure you ask **lots** of questions.
2. Consider all the options choices – even for those subjects you haven't thought about.
3. Talk to friends, older students, family and teachers about the different options.
4. Set up a profile on: www.startprofile.com/ Research careers you might be interested in - what qualifications do you need?
5. Reflect on your performance in different subjects – what are your strongest subjects?
6. Reflect on your attitudes in all subjects – would your teachers recommend you for the GCSE?

Timeline for Options Process

We will allow sufficient time in the process of choosing courses, so that you can research subjects that you may not have previously encountered, and can receive guidance from parents and staff. The process is summarised below:

Date	
Thursday 8th February 2024	Level 1 Plus GCSE Options and Information Evening
February 2024	Tutor slides and discussions introducing the process
Monday 12th February 2024	Online website opens for options choices to begin
Monday 26th February 2024	Deadline for choices
March - April 2024	Subject allocations communicated to students and parents and follow up conversations begin.
June 2024	Final options choices confirmed

GCSE Art & Design (Fine Art)

Course Leader: Mr A. Williams
Exam Board: Edexcel
Course Name: GCSE in Art & Design (Fine Art)
Specification Code: 2FA01



What Is Art & Design?

Art & design is a way for you to express yourself creatively and express ideas, emotions, facts, figures, stories and social, political and historical messages and narratives visually. In this course you will demonstrate the use of formal elements and creative skills, and give form to individual thoughts, feelings, observations and ideas. You will show evidence of trying to extend your own and others' ways of seeing the world. Skills which you will cover: **painting & drawing; printmaking; sculpture and alternative media.**

What will I learn?

Unit 1: Personal Portfolio - Coursework – 72 marks – 60%

You will work from a given theme and create a body of work that demonstrates:

- Generating and developing ideas informed by primary and contextual sources
- Refining your ideas through experimenting with media, and developing and applying skills
- Researching, recording, analysing and reviewing your own and others' work
- Selecting, creating, realising and presenting personally developed outcome(s).

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment - Preparatory work (Sketchbook) & 10 Hour Exam – 72 marks -40%

Externally set exam paper, with around 10 weeks preparatory work that demonstrates the same skills as in Unit 1, with final outcome created in a 10 hour timed period.

Your Future

This course will help you develop independence, communication skills and open up many pathways into careers. Some of the many careers that come from GCSE Art & Design: Commercial & public sector management; marketing/sales/advertising; education; commercial artists; graphic designers; clothing designers; fashion industry; fine artists; editors; product designers; computer games designer; architect; web designer; magazine and publishing; illustrator; theatre and set design; film and television; costume design; advertisement; print-maker; editorial work; media and journalism.

NB: You can only choose one Art Option from your options list but you could choose another Art option as a reserve choice e.g., Fine Art as your first option choice and Photography as your second reserve choice (not second option choice).

Achieve (Prince's Trust)

Course Leader: Mr D. Kirk
Exam Board: Prince's Trust
Course Name: Achieve



What is Achieve?

Achieve is a course run by the **Prince's Trust**. The Prince's Trust is a champion of young people. The Prince's Trust is the UK's leading charity in supporting young people into education, training and employment. From undertaking the course you will develop transferable skills: The skills you learn on the course you will be able to use in your other subjects. Achieve is a nationally recognised qualification that has a number of partners such as: Goldman Sachs, Natwest, Apple, Meta and Tesco.

Who can study for the Achieve qualification?

Achieve is a course that is available to students that are not doing a modern foreign language at Key Stage 4. It is also an ideal course for those who have studied Global Perspectives at Key Stage 3. The skills that they learn on the course they can transfer back to their other lessons.

How is the course structured?

Achieve is a portfolio based qualification [that means there are no exams]. It is a course to support young people to engage and succeed. It aims to let students investigate their own potential and then take steps to realise it. It is a course that facilitates students to celebrate their achievements and plan for the future. The course is very flexible- there are units that count towards qualification and there are modules that do not count towards qualification. Modules can be studied at different levels- at different levels of challenge: e.g.: Entry Level 3, Level 1 and Level 2. The table below shows the different qualification sizes.

Award	Two units studied at the same level
Certificate	Six units of work four units must be studied at the same level
Extended Certificate	Nine units of completed work Six units must be studied at the same level
Diploma	13 units of work 9 units must be studied at the same level

Modules cover a range of areas, such as: digital skills, teamwork and communication, problem solving and mental well-being.

Your Future

Achieve is a personal development program for those who want to showcase that they have excellent personal and social skills. This is a programme for those who want to develop greater awareness of the world of work, careers and employment sectors. It is a program for those who want raised aspirations and it helps support increasing confidence and resilience.

GCSE Art & Design (Photography)

Course Leader: Ms C. Hirson and Mr A. Williams
Exam Board: Edexcel
Course Name: GCSE in Art & Design (Photography)
Specification Code: 5PY01



What Is Photography?

Photography lens and light-based media includes works in film, video, digital imaging and light-sensitive materials. Sometimes, techniques and processes are used to convey messages and create works related to other disciplines, such as web-based animations, photographic images in printed journals, light projections within theatrical or architectural spaces. Work in photography lens and light-based media should be a means of personal enquiry and expression involving the selection and manipulation of images. In the context of this specification, disciplines will include film-based photography, digital photography, moving image, phoneography and photography genres.

Over this course, students will develop knowledge and understanding of:

- the use of formal elements to communicate a variety of approaches
- the camera and its functions, including depth of field, shutter speed, focal points and viewpoints
- the application of observational skills to record from sources and communicate ideas
- the effects and creative potential of combining and manipulating different two-dimensional and three-dimensional materials and media
- the use of digital and/or non-digital applications

What will I learn?

Unit 1: Personal Portfolio - Coursework – 72 marks – 60%

You will work from a given theme and create a body of work that demonstrates:

- Generating and developing ideas informed by primary and contextual sources
- Refining their ideas through experimenting with media, and developing and applying skills
- Researching, recording, analysing and reviewing their own and others' work
- Selecting, creating, realising and presenting personally developed outcome(s).

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment - 10 Hour Exam – 72 marks -40%

Externally set exam paper, with around 10 weeks preparatory work that demonstrates:

- Generating and developing ideas informed by primary and contextual sources
- Refining their ideas through experimenting with media, and developing and applying skills
- Researching, recording, analysing and reviewing their own and others' work
- Selecting, creating, realising and presenting personally developed outcome(s).

Areas of study:

- Location photography
- Experimental imagery
- Documentary photography
- Moving image: film, video and animation

Your Future

This course will help you develop independence, communication skills and open up many pathways into lots of careers. Some of the many careers that come from GCSE Art & Design (Photography Lens & Light – based media): Commercial & public sector management; marketing/sales/advertising; education; commercial artists; fashion industry; fine artists; editors; web designer; magazine and publishing; illustrator; theatre and set design; film and television, animation; videographer; journalism; documentaries editor and media to name but a few.

NB: You can only choose one Art Option from your options list but you could choose another Art option as a reserve choice e.g., Photography as your first option choice and Fine Art as your second reserve choice (not second option choice).

GCSE Business Studies

Course Leader: Mr U. Ba
Examination Board: Edexcel
Course Name: Business Studies GCSE
Specification Code: 1BS0



What will I learn?

This course prepares students for the fundamental principles and concepts that underpin how to start a business, and how to make it grow. The course develops a wide variety of skills including analytical, quantitative and extended writing skills.

What will I Learn?

Unit 1 - Investigating small business: this unit covers enterprise and entrepreneurship, spotting a business opportunity, putting a business idea into practice, making the business effective, and understanding external influences on business. It counts for 50% of the overall grade through a single 1 hour and 30 minute exam. The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions.

Unit 2 - Building a business: this unit covers how to grow the business, including making marketing decisions, making operational decisions, making financial decisions, and making human resource decisions. It also counts for 50% of the overall grade through a 1 hour and 30 minute exam. The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions.

Where to Turn for Additional Reading

If you want to find out more about the skills you might learn or should develop when studying the course, watch BBC programmes like The Apprentice, Dragon's Den and Working Lunch.

The following websites show the types of things you might learn:

BBC bitesize: www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/business

Business Studies Online: www.businessstudiesonline.co.uk

The Times 100: www.thetimes100.co.uk

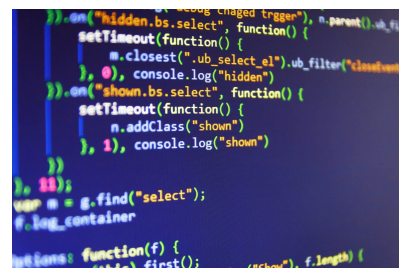
Your Future

This course will prepare you for further and higher education by helping you develop a wide variety of literacy, quantitative and analytical skills. It will prepare you for AS/A2 as well as BTEC courses in many different subjects as you will become skilled in making decisions, becoming creative, solving problems, understanding finance, dealing with data, communicating and working as part of a team. This course could lead you to work in a business-related profession such as accountancy, law, marketing, management consultancy, or the leisure and tourism industry.

COMPUTER SCIENCE and I.T.

GCSE Computer Science

Course Leader: Ms F. Cole
Exam Board: OCR
Course Name: GCSE Computer Science
Specification Code: J277



Entry Criteria: Students will need to reach a predicted 6 or above in Maths to do this subject. The Course Leader has discretion when it comes to the entry of students that do not meet the requirements.

What is Computer Science?

Over the coming decades the employment opportunities for individuals with digital skills will continue to rise. Opting for Computer Science at GCSE will allow students to enter onto one of those exciting and well rewarded career paths.

What will I learn?

Computer Systems - Paper 1 - 1 hour 30 minutes exam - 50% of GCSE

This unit will introduce learners to the Central Processing Unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It is expected that students will become familiar with the impact of Computer Science in a global context through the study of the ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with Computer Science. Students may draw on some of this content when completing the Programming Project.

Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming - Paper 2 - 1 hour 30 minute exam - 50% of GCSE

This unit incorporates and builds on the knowledge and understanding gained in Computer Systems, encouraging learners to apply this knowledge and understanding using computational thinking. Students will be introduced to algorithms and programming, learning about programming techniques, how to produce robust programs, computational logic, translators and facilities of computing languages and data representation. Students will become familiar with computing related mathematics. Students may draw on some of this content when completing the Programming Project.

Practical programming

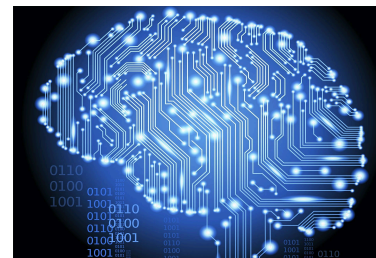
Students will be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s) during their course of study which will allow them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. Students will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations, in particular Paper 2.

Your Future?

Computer technology continues to advance rapidly and the way that technology is consumed has also been changing at a fast pace over recent years. The growth in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for employers and employees. Businesses today require an ever-increasing number of technologically-aware individuals. This is even more so in the gaming, mobile and web related industries and this specification has been designed with this in mind.

Cambridge Nationals I.T. Level 2

Course Leader: Ms F. Cole
Exam Board: OCR
Course Name: Cambridge Nationals in IT
Specification Code: J836



What is Cambridge Nationals IT?

This course will inspire and equip students with the confidence to use skills that are relevant to the IT sector and more widely. It covers the use of IT in the digital world, Internet of Everything, data manipulation, human-computer interface (HCI) and augmented reality. The qualification will also help you to develop learning and practical skills that can be used in other life and work situations, such as:

- planning and designing IT solutions and products for a given purpose;
- selecting the best tools and techniques to solve a problem;
- solving problems by exploring different software application tools and techniques;
- creating IT solutions and digital products;
- use of planning techniques to complete tasks in an organised and timely way;
- finding imaginative ways to solve IT problems.

What will I learn?

R050: IT in the digital world - This is assessed by taking an exam.

In this unit you will learn about design and testing concepts for creating an IT solution or product, and the uses of IT in the digital world. Topics include: Design Tools; Human Computer Interface (HCI) in everyday life; Data and testing; Cyber-security and legislation; Digital Communications; Internet of Everything (IoE).

R060: Data manipulation using spreadsheets - This is assessed by completing a set assignment.

In this unit you will learn how to plan, design, create, test and evaluate a data manipulation spreadsheet solution to meet a client's requirements. You will be able to evaluate your solution based on the user requirements. Topics include: Planning and designing the spreadsheet solution; Creating the spreadsheet solution; Testing the spreadsheet solution; Evaluating the spreadsheet solution.

R070: Using Augmented Reality to present information - This is assessed by completing a set assignment.

In this unit you will learn how to design, create, test and review an Augmented Reality model prototype to meet a client's requirements. Topics include: Augmented Reality (AR); Designing an Augmented Reality (AR) model prototype; Creating an Augmented Reality (AR) model prototype; Testing and reviewing.

Your Future?

The course will benefit students who want to progress onto other related study, such as vocational qualifications in Information Technology, A Levels, T Levels and apprenticeships in IT, Digital Technology and Data Analysis.

GCSE Drama

Course Leader: Ms J. Verity
Exam Board: Edexcel
Course name: GCSE Drama
Specification code: 1DR0



What will I learn?

In Drama, you will develop your knowledge, skills and understanding of:

- Devising and performing live Theatre
- Lighting, sound, staging, set design, costume
- Responding to live Theatre
- How to bring to life a set text, from an actor's, director's and designer's perspective
- Forms of drama from different cultures and historical contexts

You will respond to different stimuli, using these to develop original pieces of theatre and evaluate, appraise and analyse your own work and the work of others. Drama is **group-based** and relies on **teamwork and commitment**. If you enjoy expressing ideas, visual design, verbal communication and working creatively in a team, then you will enjoy GCSE Drama. Please note that there will be a **number of free theatre trips** across the year that are **compulsory**.

Component 1: Devising (40%)

You will work as a Theatre Company to devise a piece of original Theatre inspired by a range of different Stimuli. During the devising process, you will reflect upon and evaluate yours and others' work on a written 'Portfolio' in order to refine your piece. You will then perform to a live audience at the end of the devising process. Performer or design routes available.

Component 2: Performance from Text (20%)

Through the study of a complete and substantial play text, you will perform two extracts to a live audience. This component is externally assessed by a visiting examiner. Performer or design routes available.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice - Written examination (40%)

Section A- Bringing Texts to Life: Through the study of a full play text, you will explore and analyse how to approach specific scenes from the perspective of an actor, director and designer. You will answer questions based on an unseen extract of the chosen play text.

Section B- Live Theatre Evaluation: After enjoying a live theatre experience as part of the course, you will complete a live theatre review, analysing and evaluating the performance.

Set text: *The Crucible*, by Arthur Miller, *DNA* by Dennis Kelly or *An Inspector Calls* by JB Priestley

Further Study

A good grade at GCSE Drama will enable you to continue to study Drama at post-16 level, such as A-level Drama & Theatre Studies or B-TEC Performing Arts, as well as complementing many other subjects including English and History.

Your Futures

Drama opens the door for many careers opportunities, not simply being an actor, including Playwright, Film/Theatre Director, Producer, Lighting & Sound Engineer, Costume Designer, Teacher, Make-up Artist, Set Designer, Voice Coach, Arts Administration, Law, Advertising and Marketing

A qualification in Drama is highly regarded amongst Universities and Employers due to the numerous transferable skills it provides you with such as **public speaking, teamwork, critical thinking and problem solving**.

GCSE Economics

Course Leader: Mr U. Ba
Exam Board: OCR
Course Name: Economics
Specification Code: J205

Entry Criteria: This subject will be offered to a small number of students that are working towards higher grades (7+) in English and Maths.



What will I learn?

- The basic tools of the economist to help you understand your place in, and contribution to the local, national and global economy as a consumer, worker and citizen
- To be able to investigate a range of contemporary issues, analysing the evidence from different perspectives so as to make reasoned judgements and informed decisions
- The concepts that underpin a range of economic ideas: Money, Work, The National and Global Economy, Managing the Economy, and Current Economic issues – selected each year from a range of topics such as UK poverty, the growth of China and India and Competition
- Skills of analysis and evaluation of evidence, making reasoned judgements and presenting appropriate conclusions

Units and their Assessment

Both question papers have a section with Multiple Choice Questions:

Unit 1: Introduction to Economics & The role of markets and money - *Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes exam, 50% of GCSE*

This component introduces learners to the fundamental economic terms and concepts. Learners will apply these to investigate and explain how markets work in contemporary and historical economic contexts. They will study the different roles and perspectives of the main economic agents (consumers, producers and the government) and how they interact in the economy.

Unit 2: Economic objectives and the role of government & International trade and the global economy - *Written paper: 1 hour 30mins, 50% of GCSE*

This component provides learners with an understanding of the main economic objectives and role of the government in achieving them. Learners will investigate the effects of economic policies on markets. They will use and interpret quantitative evidence, such as unemployment figures, in contemporary and historical economic contexts. They will learn to appreciate the importance and impact of international trade by analysing data such as quantitative information on exports and imports.

Where to Turn for Additional Reading

The Financial Times (free access at The Academy) www.ft.com

The Economist www.economist.com - there is a copy available in the library

BBC Economics section: www.bbc.co.uk/news/business/economy

Guardian Economics section: www.theguardian.com/business/economics

Your Future

GCSE Economics provides a good introduction to economic issues as a way to start to understand the world around us from a financial and economic standpoint. It will develop the sort of analysis and evaluation that is valuable in a wide range of A Levels and further study. Studying Economics to a higher level can lead to a wide range of interesting opportunities, particularly in finance and government. It is not essential to take GCSE Economics in order to take A Level Economics or a degree.

ENGINEERING

Students are able to study engineering as a GCSE or Cambridge National Award

GCSE Engineering

Course Leader: Mr E. Chambers
Exam Board: AQA
Course Name: GCSE Engineering
Specification Code: 8852



Entry Criteria: Students will need to reach a predicted 6 or above in Maths and Science to do this subject. The Course Leader has discretion when it comes to the entry of students that do not meet the requirements.

What Is Engineering?

Engineering is the 'application of ingenuity, scientific knowledge, natural laws and physical resources, to overcome problems'. Engineers are concerned with developing economical and safe solutions to practical problems by applying mathematics and scientific knowledge while considering technical constraints.

What will I learn?

Unit 1: External Assessment - Written Paper - 2 hours – 120 marks - 60%

Unit 1 consists of two sections, a product study section (based on information made available in a preparation sheet) and a section on Manufacturing and Materials.

Unit 2: Internal Assessment / Non-examined Assessment (NEA) - Controlled Assessment - Approximately 30 hours – 80 marks – 40%

Designing and Communicating/Manufacturing an Engineering Product-A portfolio/one project for single award, Mechanical and Electronic format.

Your Future

This course is aimed at students who may be interested in a career in Engineering or a related subject, or simply enjoy the combination of practical and written work around engineering processes. This is an academic route that can lead to Level 3/3+ Engineering. This also provides opportunities for alternate routes into Engineering of all kinds. Some of the many careers that come from GCSE Engineering:

Chemical Engineering, Structural Engineering, Architect, Engineer, Aeronautical Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, H&S officer, Chemical Engineer, Biomedical Engineer, Interior Designer, Environmental Engineer or Designer, Landscape Design, Digital Art and Design, 3d Designer, Teacher, Medical Product Designer, Industrial Design, Sports Design, Advertising, Automotive and Aircraft Design, Chemical Engineering and Pharmacist, to name a few.

There will also be an opportunity to gain access to our Level 3 Engineering at the academy. We also have the opportunity for students to work with mentors from UCL and use their facilities.

Cambridge Nationals Engineering Design Level 2

Course Leader: Ms F. Cole
Exam Board: OCR
Course Name: Cambridge Nationals Engineering Design
Specification Code: J822



What Is Engineering Design?

This course will encourage students to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Engineering Design, including the design process, types of drawings, influences on design, and the use of Computer Aided Design (CAD). You will develop learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations; think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically; develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the engineering design and development sector and more widely; analyse problems in design terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, and modelling designs to meet a design brief; understand the different stages of the iterative design process, recognising the cyclical nature of this approach; evaluate designs through product disassembly and the process of using product analysis.

What will I learn?

You will study the key aspects of engineering design, and have the opportunity to apply what you learn through a number of practical experiences. This will involve you studying three mandatory units:

R038: Principles of engineering design - This is assessed by an exam.

In this unit you will learn about the design process, and all of the stages that are involved. Topics include: Designing processes; Designing requirements; Communicating design outcomes; Evaluating design ideas

R039: Communicating designs - This is assessed by a set assignment.

In this unit you will learn how to use sketching and engineering drawings to communicate your ideas. Topics include: Manual production of freehand sketches; Manual production of engineering drawings; Use of computer aided design (CAD)

R040: Design, evaluation and modelling - This is assessed by a set assignment.

In this unit you will learn how to create and test models of your design. Topics include: Product evaluation; Modelling design ideas

Your Future

This course is aimed at students who may be interested in a career in Engineering or a related subject, or simply enjoy the combination of practical and written work around engineering processes. This also provides opportunities for alternate routes into Engineering of all kinds. Some of the many careers that come from GCSE Engineering: *Chemical Engineering, Structural Engineering, Architect, Engineer, Aeronautical Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, H&S officer, Chemical Engineer, Biomedical Engineer, Interior Designer, Environmental Engineer or Designer, Landscape Design, Digital Art and Design, 3d Designer, Teacher, Medical Product Designer, Industrial Design, Sports Design, Advertising, Automotive and Aircraft Design, Chemical Engineering and Pharmacist, to name a few.*

GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Course Leader: Mr E. Chambers (Acting)

Exam Board: AQA

Specification Code: 8585



What is Food preparation and Nutrition?

This specification aims to attract students to study Food preparation and Nutrition by offering an interesting and stimulating programme of study.

Students will have the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of human needs in a diverse society and to work in a variety of contexts. Students will have the opportunity to develop their theoretical knowledge and enhance the scientific side of nutrition whilst having the opportunity to apply practical skills, techniques and understanding in practical cookery sessions.

What will I learn?

Course specification is divided into the five sections:

1. Food, nutrition and health
2. Food science
3. Food safety
4. Food choice
5. Food provenance

During the course you will be given the opportunity to practice a wide range of skills along with having a greater understanding of nutrition, the science behind food as a material and wider environmental aspects associated with food.

Assessment structure:

Written examination: 50% of GCSE

1 hour 45 minutes - 100 marks

Multiple choice questions (20 marks) and five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks)

Non - examination assessment: Task 1: Food investigation - 15% of GCSE

Students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Practical investigations are a compulsory element of this task. Written or electronic report (1,500–2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation

Non - examination assessment: Task 2: Food preparation - 35% of GCSE

Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved. Written or electronic portfolio (not exceeding 15 A4 pages) including photographic evidence. Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included.

Your Future:

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition will equip you to go on to further study. After taking this course, you could embark on an AS or A-level study or college course. You can also begin an apprenticeship or perhaps an employment in the catering, hospitality or other industries. Examples of careers in food are: chef, nutritionist, dietician, food journalist, food critic, food developer, technologist and analyst, food scientist, environmental health officer, production and manufacturing sector worker, food buyer, marketing manager, teacher etc.

You will also have the knowledge and skills to feed yourself (and others) affordably and nutritiously for life.

GCSE Geography

Course Leader: Ms H. Rundle
Exam Board: AQA
Course Name: Geography
Specification Code: 8035



"There has never been a better or more important time to study geography. With growing interest in issues such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation and social cohesion, geography is one of the most relevant courses you could choose to study. Geographers are also highly employable. Whatever your passion for the world - fascination with landscapes or concerns about inequality - geography will provide you with knowledge and transferable skills that will reward you personally and advance you professionally." Dr. Rita Gardner, Director of the RGS-IBG

Why study Geography?

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun. Current GCSE courses are a good mix of topics such as urban issues, world development, extreme environments, rivers and hazards – to name but a few. The course will give you the chance to get to grips with some of the big questions, which affect our world, and understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world.

What will I learn?

Unit 1: Living with the Physical environment - Written Paper – 1 hour 30 minutes – 75 marks – 35%

Topics will include Coasts, Rivers and Hazards. You will also build on your knowledge and understanding of Earthquakes, Volcanoes and other tectonic processes. There will be a residential trip to Wales to consolidate your knowledge of the physical topics, particularly coastal environments.

Unit 2: Challenges in the Human environment - Written Paper – 1 hour 30 minutes – 84 marks – 35%

You will build on your knowledge of Urban issues and the changing economic world through an in depth study of the issue. Deeper understanding about the urban environment in which you live will also form part of the course. Students will also get the opportunity to experience the urban environment first-hand with a local fieldtrip in London.

Unit 3: Geographical Skills & applications - Written Paper - 1 hour 15 minutes - 30%

You will have the opportunity to demonstrate all your core geographical skills from the fieldwork you have conducted, as well as your knowledge of maps, grid references and statistical analysis. This paper also gives students the opportunity to apply their geographical knowledge to make geographical decisions, using resources that are released before the exam.

Your Future

Because of the broad nature of Geography, there are hundreds of careers that give Geographers a sound base from which to enter many areas of work. Geography is widely respected by universities and employers as it provides students with a range of transferable skills.

Cambridge National Health & Social Care

Course Leader: Ms V. Chitsaz-Dastgerdi
Exam Board: OCR
Course Name: Cambridge National Level 1/2
Specification Code: J835



What Is Health & Social Care?

Health and Social Care is a vocational subject that looks at the growth, development, health and wellbeing of individuals of all ages. Students are introduced to a variety of knowledge and skills needed to work in various care settings. Underpinning the qualification is a focus on person-centred values, rights of individuals, communicating effectively and protecting individuals. Health & Social Care will equip students with sound specialist knowledge and skills for everyday use. Students learn practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations, are able to think creatively, analytically and critically and will develop independence and confidence in using these skills.

What will I learn?

RO32 - Principles of care in health and social care settings

Written paper - 1 hour 15 minute exam - 40% of overall grade

This unit focuses on the rights of service users in health and social care settings, person-centred values and effective communication in health and social care settings.

RO33 - Supporting individuals through life events

Controlled unit assessment - 30% of overall grade

This unit focuses on life stages and the impacts of life events, including sources of support. You will learn how to understand the needs of individuals who have been affected by life events and how to recommend support to meet their needs. As part of this assessment you will conduct an interview to show these skills.

RO35 - Health Promotion Campaigns

Controlled unit assessment - 30% of overall grade

This unit focuses on current public health issues and the impact on society and the factors influencing health. Part of the assessment will also require you to plan and create, as well as deliver a health promotion campaign of your own!

Your Future

Health and Social Care not only opens the door to one of the biggest employment sectors in the UK, but will allow students to make more informed choices for further learning generally. As a vocational subject, a vast variety of transferable skills are developed that transcend to many different fields. This often includes careers directly within the health and social care sector such as registered nurse, paramedic, social worker, health visitor, teacher, youth offending officer, doctor, military and mental health nursing, research and healthcare policy making, nursery assistant, midwife, support practitioner, physiotherapist or speech and/or language therapist. Upon completion of the Level 1/2 Certificate, there is also the opportunity to progress onto the Level 3 Award.

GCSE History

Course Leader: Mr O. Eyre
Exam Board: Edexcel
Course Name: History
Specification Code: 1HI0



What Is History?

Students find the Edexcel School History Project syllabus both stimulating and challenging. The course allows students to build upon skills learnt previously, and develop a more refined level of thinking and communicating. Students are encouraged to independently form judgements, and create challenging arguments about events in the past.

What will I learn?

Unit 1: Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches - *Written Paper - 1 hour 15 minutes – 30% of the qualification*

Unit 1 is the study of Medicine and Public Health in Britain c1250AD to the present day. In particular: Ideas about the cause and treatment of disease and illness, approaches to public health and prevention of disease and illness and the influence of changes in society on medicine and public health.

Unit 2: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39 - *Written Paper - 1 hour 15 minutes – 52 marks – 30% of qualification*

Unit 2 is the study of Germany 1918–1945. Students will learn about: the early years and the Weimar Republic 1918–23, challenges and recovery 1923–29 and support for the Nazi Party 1923–32.

Unit 3 - Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88 and Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941 – 91 - *Written Paper - 1 hour 45 minutes – 64 marks - 40% of qualification*

Unit 3 is the study of Early Elizabethan England focusing on Government and Religion, 1558–69, Challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad, 1569–88 and Elizabethan society in the Age of Exploration, 1558–88. In addition, students will also study Superpower relations and the Cold War focusing on The origins of the Cold War, 1941–58, Cold War crises, 1958–70 and The end of the Cold War, 1970–91.

Your Future

Most students who take GCSE History go on to study a Humanities-based course at Sixth Form, and can enter a variety of careers, such as law, the media or civil service. History is widely respected by universities and employers because of the wide range of skills developed. Some of the many careers that come from GCSE History: *Researcher, Media and Journalism, Teacher, Librarian, Law, Business, Museum Curator, Psychology, Sociology, Politics, Philosophy, Medicine, Art, Historian, Politician.*

GCSE Media Studies

Course Leader: Ms J. McHugh (Acting)
Exam Board: OCR
Course Name: Media Studies
Specification Code: J200



What Is Media Studies?

GCSE Media Studies allows learners to study media in an academic context and apply their general understanding of theories and knowledge to the process of creating their own media content. A wide range of media forms will be analysed before students complete a controlled assessment designing their own piece of media (likely to be a magazine front cover). Through the two year course students gain an understanding of different types of media as well as studying the history of media content. The skills of critical thinking, analysis and evaluation are taught and it is recommended students who apply for this course are on track for at least a Grade 5 in English.

What will I learn?

Component 1: Television and Media Promotion - *Written Paper* - 1 hour 45 minutes – 35% of the qualification

Television: Students complete one in depth study into Vigil [BBC], Series 1, Episode 1 they also study The Avengers, Series 4, Episode 2 [ITV]. The exam features 20 minutes viewing time when students are shown a clip of one of these two television shows. **Promoting Media:** students study media products from The Lego Group illustrating the media in forms of film [The Lego Movie], advertising and marketing [The Lego Movie] and video games [The Lego Movie video game]

Component 2: Music and The News - *Written Paper* - 1 hour 15 minutes – 70 marks – 35% of qualification

Music: students complete one in depth study into MOJO magazine; they also engage with music videos and radio broadcasts. For this component there are set products which students compare covering a range of contemporary music videos artists include Avril Lavigne, Wheatus, Beyoncé, Arlo Parks and Paloma Faith. For the radio element student study BBC Radio 1's The Live Lounge. **The News:** students cover one in depth study into how an event is reported by |The Observer or The Guardia analysing their response in print media, online media and social media. They then study historical front covers of The Observer newspaper taken from 1966-1968.

Component 3 – Creating media – *non-exam assessment* - 30% of qualification

Students create a media product through applying their knowledge and understanding of media language and media representations. This content is most likely to be a magazine front cover.

Your Future

Most students who take GCSE Media Studies thrive on Level 3 and A level qualification where analysis, critical thinking and interpretation of sources are pivotal. GCSE Media Studies is not a requirement for any career but provides an interesting mix for those who enjoy the skill of analysis combined with content creation and creativity. Students who study GCSE Media Studies go on to careers in script writing, filming, editing, journalism, picture editing, content creation on social media platforms.

GCSE Music

Course Leader: Mr P. Baxter
Exam Board: Edexcel
Course Name: GCSE Music
Specification Code: 1MUO



What Is GCSE Music?

Music GCSE is a rigorous and rewarding course, best suited to those having instrumental lessons at Grade 3 or above. While those who have not done grades are of course welcome to join - high quality singers, for example, may not have done an exam - the focus is on listening skills, analysis, rehearsal, high quality performance and original composition.

What will I learn?

Component 1 - **Performing**: 30%

- **Two performances**: *one solo, one ensemble*
- **30 marks**

Component 2 - **Composing**: 30%

- **Two compositions**: *one to a brief set by the examiner, the other set by class teacher*
- **30 marks**

Component 3 - **Appraising**: 40%

Four areas of study, with **two** set works each:

- *Instrumental Music 1700 - 1820*
- *Vocal Music*
- *Music for Stage & Screen*
- *Fusions*

Your Future

Achieving a good grade at GCSE Music will provide a suitable foundation for the study of Music or related courses in Higher Education, such as: Advanced Level Music, Music Technology A' Level, Performing Arts A' Level, Vocational courses and apprenticeships in music technology, music applications and publishing, Sound Engineering and related fields.

Some possible career paths: **Performing** – playing in an orchestra or pit band (in a West End show), singer, freelance musician, accompanist, DJ or Pop Star! **Composing** – Film/TV music, music for Web Designers, Songwriter, Composer. **Music Technology** – Sound Engineer, **Journalism** – Critic or Reviewer, writing for a Music Magazine; **Arts Administration** – working at a Theatre or Concert Venue; **Music Management** – managing artists, bands or organisations; public relations and media promotion; **Law** – copyright and publishing law, performing rights and contractual law. **Teaching** – teaching a musical instrument from home or in a School, leading workshops, music therapy, and music teacher in a primary or secondary school.

GCSE Religious Studies

Course Leader: Mr C. Baxter
Exam Board: AQA
Course Name: Religious Studies A
Specification Code: 8062



What Is Religious Studies?

Students will investigate contemporary world issues through the religions of Christianity and Islam and from a secular world view. The course builds upon skills learnt through the Religious, Ethics and Philosophy studied at Level 1 and Level 1+, and pushes students to develop critical thinking through applied ethics. Students will analyse topics, evaluate a range of perspectives and form opinions.

What will I learn?

Component 1

Christian Beliefs and Teachings: the core aspects of Christian beliefs and the many ways these differs across the Christian communities. Applying these beliefs to modern Christians and how they impact on their lives.

Christian Practices: behaviours such as pilgrimage, worship, festivals and so on all have deep traditional roots and the way these practices have morphed over time and are lived today is at the centre of this unit.

Islamic Beliefs and Teachings: the core aspects of Islamic beliefs and the many ways these differs across the Muslim communities. Applying these beliefs to modern Muslims and how they impact on their lives.

Islamic Practices: behaviours such as fasting, pilgrimage, prayer and so on all have deep traditional roots and the way these practices have morphed over time and are lived today is at the centre of this unit.

Component 2: Themes

Relationships and Families. sexuality and sexual relationships, contraception, marriage and divorce, families and gender equality.

Matters of Life and Death. Euthanasia, Abortion and life after death. Reflect on these complex topics and analyse them in the contexts of Christian, Islamic and secular viewpoints.

Peace and Conflict. Investigate case studies of modern conflict and secular organisations such as the United Nations and compare these with Christian and Islamic teachings on peace, forgiveness and war.

Crime and Punishment. Evaluate a range of theories on punishment including the use of capital punishment and how this aligns with Christian, Islamic and secular viewpoints. Form opinions on the nature of justice and its role in society, including on the legalities of alcohol and drug consumption.

Your Future:

The course helps students develop critical thinking and philosophical analysis as well as a broader understanding of society and the role that religion and religious beliefs play. Common career paths for those who have studied Religious Studies are ones that value critical thinking and applied ethics such as law, politics, journalism, international relations, the media and medical ethics.

GCSE Sociology

Course Leader: Ms V. Chitsaz-Dastgerdi
Exam Board: AQA
Course Name: GCSE Sociology
Specification Code: 8192



What Is Sociology?

GCSE Sociology aims to broaden students' minds, helping them to see their world from different perspectives and in new and thought-provoking ways. Sociology is the study of social groups and institutions. Sociology's subject matter is diverse, ranging from the study of crime to education from the family to the state, from the divisions of race and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture, and from social stability to radical change in whole societies. Unifying the study of these diverse subjects of study is sociology's purpose of understanding how human action and consciousness both shape and are shaped by surrounding cultural and social structures.

What will I learn?

Paper 1: The sociology of families and education - *Written Paper - 1 hour 45 minutes – 100 marks - 50% of overall grade*

This unit aims to give candidates a basic introduction to the sociology of families, education and relevant areas of social theory and methodology to the key methodologies and concepts used in Sociology.

Paper 2: The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification - *Written Paper - 1 hour 45 minutes – 100 marks - 50% of overall grade*

This unit covers the sociology of crime and deviance, the sociology of social stratification, and relevant areas of social theory and methodology

Types of Questions

Both Paper 1 and Paper 2 are structured in the same way:

- Section A has two multiple choice questions followed by a range of short and extended responses.
- Section B has two multiple choice questions followed by a range of short and extended responses.

Where to Turn for Additional Reading

The British Sociological Association: www.britsoc.co.uk

BBC Bitesize Sociology: www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zbbw2hv

Discover Sociology: www.discoversociology.co.uk/

The Guardian society section: www.theguardian.com/society

Your Future

Since its subject matter is fascinating, sociology offers valuable preparation for careers in journalism, politics, public relations, business, or public administration--fields that involve investigative skills and working with diverse groups. Many students choose sociology because they see it as a broad liberal arts base for professions such as law, education, medicine, social work, and counselling. Sociology provides a rich fund of knowledge that directly pertains to each of these fields.

GCSE Physical and Sport Education

Course Leader: Mr U. Toyuuab
Exam Board: AQA
Course Name: GCSE in Physical Education
Specification Code: 8582



What is GCSE Physical Education?

GCSE Physical Education provides students with the opportunities to explore the importance of leading a healthy, active lifestyle whilst discovering a range of sports and activities. Students will discover the effects of exercise on the body and will explore the roles of varying systems during this process. Students will analyse elite performances and will use this information to assess the psychological and sociological effects of performance.

What will I learn?

Paper 1: The Human Body and Movement in Physical Activity and Sport - *Written exam- 30% - 1 hour and 15 minutes*

Students will develop their theoretical knowledge and understanding of the active participant in sport, anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, physical training and use of data.

Paper 2: Socio-Cultural Influences and Well-Being in Physical Activity and Sport - *Written exam – 30% - 1 hour and 15 minutes*

Students will develop their theoretical knowledge and understanding of the active participant in sport. Sports psychology, socio-cultural influences, health, fitness and well-being and use of data.

The Active Participant - *Practical assessment- 40%*

Two parts - practical performance = 30% and performance analysis = 10%

Three activities (all as a performer)

1. Activity from a team sport
2. Activity from an individual sport
3. Activity from either individual/team sport

Complementary Courses

This course would complement anyone studying GCSE Biology, GCSE Combined Science, GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition, GCSE Media Studies, GCSE Psychology, GCSE Sociology

Your Future

This course will help you develop independence, communication skills and open up many pathways into lots of careers. Some of the many careers that come from GCSE Physical Education:

Sports coaching; teaching; physiotherapy; sports psychology; sports media; Journalism; Personal Training; Sports Diet and Nutrition; Sports Officials; Volunteer Projects.

Cambridge National - Sports Studies

Course Leader: Mr U. Toyuuab
Exam Board: OCR
Course Name: Cambridge National Sports Studies
Specification Code: J813



What is the Cambridge National in Sports Studies? What is the Cambridge National in Sports Studies?

The Cambridge National in Sport Studies will encourage students to think for themselves about the study of sport and the application to real life practical sport, leadership and evaluation of the skills required there. They will study topics affecting sport through the contemporary issues unit, both play and lead sporting activities, as well as having the chance to either explore the world of outdoor sport or the media.

How is it different to GCSE?

Most of the assessment takes place in school in the form of course work and performance. It is more practical and leads to L3 Sports Science which is accepted for many University courses.

What will I Learn?

The course has 3 Units which are a mixture of coursework, practical and exam units.

R184: Contemporary issues in sport

By completing this unit you will understand a range of topical and contemporary issues in sport, including learning about participation levels and barriers to completing sporting activities. You will also learn how participation is impacted by the promotion of values and ethical behaviour, about the role of high-profile sporting events, the role of national governing bodies and how technology is used within sport.

R185: Performance and leadership in sports activities

This is assessed by a set assignment. In this unit you will have an opportunity to develop your skills both as a performer in two different sporting activities, and as a leader, developing a range of transferable skills. You will work both independently and as part of a team, including communicating with team mates as well as being in front of an audience when you perform. You will perform under pressure, both as a participant and as a leader, and will use your initiative to solve problems and make decisions. Finally, you will deal with rapidly changing conditions and situations.

R186: Sports and the media This is assessed by a set assignment

In this unit you will understand the different sides of a range of media sources and apply real life examples to show the nature of the relationship between media and sport. You will also learn how rapid development in technology is enabling sport to be viewed, replayed and discussed whenever and wherever the spectator wants. You will then develop your ability to evaluate and interpret the different ways in which sport is represented by the media.

Your Future

This course will help you develop independence, communication skills and open up many pathways into lots of careers: *Sports coaching; teaching; physiotherapy; sports psychology; sports media; Journalism; Personal Training; Sports Diet and Nutrition; Sports Officials; Volunteer Projects.*

CORE GCSE SUBJECTS

All students follow these courses

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

Students have already made their MFL option and will continue with this language option at GCSE. It is not possible to change a language option.



Course Leader: Mr G. Hillage
Exam Board: AQA

German

Course Name: AQA GCSE German
Specification Code: 8668

Mandarin

Course Name: AQA GCSE Chinese (Spoken Mandarin)
Specification Code: 8673

Spanish

Course Name: AQA GCSE Spanish
Specification Code: 8698

What is MFL?

All MFL students study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based. All teaching and new learning will be based on prior learning from KS3. It is important therefore to keep old exercise books.

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

What will I learn?

GCSE MFL subjects have a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series. There will be four exams which cover the four skills: Paper 1 Listening; Paper 2 Speaking; Paper 3 Reading; Paper 4 Writing.

Your future

The knowledge of a foreign language and the listening, reading, speaking and writing skills learnt throughout this course will be useful to the employers of any student working in this country and abroad and will complement all of the other subjects that students study. Students performing well in MFL are advised to study an MFL at A-level, which will provide a standout qualification that opens doors to top universities.

GCSE English Language, GCSE English Literature

Course Leader: Ms J. McHugh

Exam Board: AQA

Course Name: English Language GCSE; English Literature GCSE

Specification Code: 8700/8702



Who will study English Language GCSE and English Literature GCSE?

All students will study both English Language GCSE and English Literature GCSE. These are separate qualifications. Some students will begin by following the AQA “Stepping Up” programme to prepare them for the demands of the Language and Literature courses.

What will I learn?

English Language is a core GCSE subject that develops students’ knowledge and skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Reading - The new English Language GCSE encourages students to read a range of high-quality, challenging literature and non-fiction texts from a range of genres and types (from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries). We will place a strong emphasis on independent critical reading skills.

Writing - The English Language GCSE will have a focus on clear and accurate writing, in good Standard English. There will be an emphasis on spelling, punctuation and grammar, including the use of vocabulary.

Speaking and Listening - Speaking and listening will be taught and assessed with a focus on formal speaking and presenting.

English Literature GCSE will encourage students to read a wide range of classic literature fluently with the assessment of:

Lord of the Flies, by William Golding

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

A selection of poetry since 1789

A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens

All **assessment** will be through written exam papers at the end of the two-year course. Students will sit two papers for English Language GCSE and two papers for English Literature GCSE. Success in the two English GCSEs will provide students with the qualifications needed to apply for the sixth form and university courses of their choice. The skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening that students will need in their working lives, whatever career they choose to pursue, will be firmly embedded. Our course will also aim to provide our students with a strong foundation from which to become life-long and enthusiastic independent readers.

GCSE Mathematics

Course Leader: Ms S. Montillet
Examination Board: AQA
Course Name: GCSE Mathematics
Specification Code: 8300

What is GCSE Maths?

The GCSE Mathematics course builds on Mathematics learned up to now, to enable students to:

- Further develop confidence in mathematics;
- Recognise the importance of mathematics in their own lives and to society;
- Develop knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts;
- Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems;
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions;
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.
- Appreciate how mathematics can be used to develop models of real situations and understand the limitations of these models;
- Progress onto studying mathematics at a higher level post-16.

What will I learn?

The course is assessed by timed examination, covering the following content:

Number	Geometry
Algebra	Probability
Ratio and Proportion	Statistics

Two tiers are available: Foundation and Higher, where Foundation tier can be grades 1 to 5, and the Higher tier 4 to 9 (grade 3 allowed). There will be **three** equally-weighted written examination papers at either Foundation tier or Higher tier. Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment and a calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3. Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long and has a range of question types; some questions will be set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts.

AQA L2 Certificate in Further Maths

For the highest attaining mathematicians we offer the opportunity to study a Further Maths qualification. This is run over lunch and SDL times. Students sit the exams for this qualification at the end of L2.

Your Future

The skills you learn in Maths are transferable to all future careers and qualifications. Maths is an essential part of your development and success in it will be of constant benefit to you in all stages of your life.

Combined Science (Trilogy) and Triple Science GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry, GCSE Physics

Course Leader: Ms S. Khan
Exam Board: AQA
Course Name: AQA Science
Specification Code: Biology (8461)/Chemistry (8462)/Physics (8463)/Trilogy (8464)



What are Separate Sciences?

These GCSEs provide students with a good understanding of all the science disciplines. The course delves deeper into how science works and real world applications of science than the combined science (trilogy) GCSE specification and provides the best starting point for students wanting to specialise in science at A Level. Each of the three sciences is taught by specialist teachers and students receive three separate GCSE grades.

What is “Trilogy”?

The Combined science (Trilogy) course comprises two GCSEs (much like core and additional science). It is suitable for students of all abilities and helps students to understand theoretical concepts alongside developing practical science skills.

Will I do combined (Trilogy) or Separate sciences?

The L1P scheme of work is designed to prepare the students for GCSE for both the separate and combined science routes. Students will have the opportunity to move to combined science at the start of Level 2. This will be based on students’ performance in L1P and by teacher recommendation. Students will be advised on the best choice for them based on their ‘effort’ and ‘working at’ grades at the end of L1P.

How are GCSE Sciences Assessed?

Biology, Physics and Chemistry are each assessed by two 1 hour and 15 minute exams, each worth approximately one sixth of the total grade; these are completed at the end of the two year course for the combined route. For the separate science route, biology, physics and chemistry will be assessed by two 1 hour and 45 minute exams for each science. Each GCSE also has a range of required practicals, which are not graded but must be completed for students to pass the course.

What will I learn?

GCSE **Biology** covers cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics, homeostasis, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology and key ideas in biology.

GCSE **Chemistry** covers atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding and structure of atoms, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, energy changes, rate of chemical reactions, organic chemistry, chemical analysis and chemistry of the atmosphere.

GCSE **Physics** covers key physics concepts and applications. Energy, electricity, particle model of matter, atomic structure, forces, waves, magnetism and electromagnetism and space physics - for single science only.

Your Future

A level sciences lead to a huge range of careers such as engineering, pharmaceuticals, medicine.

Please see the GCSE AQA specification link for further details: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse>

What can you choose?

1 from Humanities and Arts	+ 2 other subjects + 2 reserves	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE History (EBACC) • GCSE Geography (EBACC) • GCSE Religious Studies • GCSE Art • GCSE Drama • GCSE Music 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE History (EBACC) • GCSE Geography (EBACC) • GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition • GCSE Physical Education <u>or</u> Cambridge National Sports Science • Cambridge National Health and Social Care • GCSE Economics • GCSE Business Studies • GCSE Engineering <u>or</u> Cambridge National Engineering Design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE Art & Design (Fine Art <u>or</u> Photography) • GCSE Drama • GCSE Music • GCSE Religious Studies • GCSE Sociology • GCSE Computer Science <u>or</u> Cambridge National IT • GCSE Media Studies <p>Subjects in red have entry requirements and not all students will be able to select these options</p>



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