



# STUDLEY HIGH SCHOOL

ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER

YEAR 9

OPTIONS BOOKLET

FEBRUARY 2022

Year 9 Options Booklet - 2022





## Introduction from Mr Rushton – Assistant Headteacher

It is our hope that every pupil will study a broad and balanced curriculum at Key Stage 4. This can mean quite different things for different pupils and we have worked hard to ensure we have subjects on offer that will stretch and challenge every pupil and allow pupils of all abilities to succeed, whatever their preferred assessment method.

This year's options process will see pupils choosing from 4 option blocks. It is very important that you take the time to read through the information contained within this booklet. Each page describes the courses on offer and the ways in which they will be assessed. It is very important to note that we have a number of subjects that follow similar subject matter but which are assessed in very different ways. Further details about how these qualifications differ are outlined later on in this booklet.

We would ask that pupils assess their strengths and reflect on the appropriate combination of choices to allow them to get the best possible grades to take forward in their studies or future careers.

All of our pupils will follow a highly academic curriculum of GCSEs including Mathematics, English Language, English Literature, Combined Science and either History or Geography. This does mean that there is a genuine free choice beyond this in terms of GCSE and Technical Award (GCSE equivalent) qualifications to suit their interests and learning styles. Many pupils prefer to choose technical awards (a Level 2 qualification, as are GCSEs) because they can work hard throughout the course, build portfolios and review evidence and evaluations based on course content, without the pressure of a long exam at the end of Year 11 at the same time as all of their other exams.

They provide a great stepping stone to Level 3 qualifications at sixth form or college.

**The options blocks and online options sheet will be released in the coming weeks but for now, this booklet offers you the chance to find out more about each qualification and then complete the 'perfect choices' survey. The survey will ask for pupils to select the subjects they would most like to do IF we were able to offer them. We will use this information to construct the options blocks so that we have the best possible combinations based on pupil feedback.**

Deadline for completion of the 'perfect choices' survey is **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March**.

You can find a digital copy of this Options brochure at the following location:

[www.studleyhighschool.org.uk/quality-of-education/options](http://www.studleyhighschool.org.uk/quality-of-education/options)





**How to complete the options choices (once the Option grid is published along with the online process):**

1. Choose between History or Geography in option 1 (if you would like to choose both History and Geography, there is the choice to do so by selecting Geography in the other option block).
2. Choose your preferred option subject from Block 2 as well as your second choice from that block.
3. Choose your preferred option subject from Block 3 as well as your second choice from that block.
4. Choose your preferred option subject from Block 4 as well as your second choice from that block.

Pupils wishing to choose separate sciences will need to have met assessment requirements in order to complete the GCSEs in each of Physics, Chemistry and Biology. This will be based on a combination of assessment results and attitude to learning within Science. This year we are expecting about 30% of the year group to take separate sciences with the remaining pupils taking the combined science route (2 GCSEs).

**There are certain combinations of subjects which pupils are NOT able to do.**

**Please pay close attention to this:**

- a) Pupils cannot choose **both** Art and Photography as first choices. These are both classed as ART GCSEs. We have included Art as a subject within the Photography block so that pupils can study an Art subject (which can also include aspects of Photography) if we have too many pupils selecting Photography.
- b) Pupils cannot study Food and Nutrition and Hospitality and Catering together.
- c) We are encouraging pupils to consider taking a Modern Foreign Language (French, Spanish or German) to complete their EBacc suite of subjects. This is something the Government are very keen that pupils do, but something we feel is a choice for pupils.

In our current Year 10 we have 33% of pupils studying an MFL subject. It is the choice of each pupil whether they choose to study a language. We would like to reiterate it is the Government preference for most pupils to study a foreign language.





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The courses linked to Catering, Music, Sport and Travel & Tourism all represent **NEW** redesigned syllabuses based on vocational qualifications from previous years. The Government wanted these subjects to have increased value within the education system, so all now have a brand new, more demanding format, with external examination at 40%. They all provide a great range of exciting content to complement the GCSE subject offers we also have. It is not that one is better than the other, but that each pupil will see each qualification as better for them or not, depending on how they work best and where their interests and passions lie. All of our GCSEs and Level 2 awards allow progression to Level 3 courses at Sixth Form or College.

Subject teachers will be available at parents' evening on the 10th March to help answer any questions you might have. If you would like a meeting to discuss your child's choices at a time different to parents' evening, then please get in touch and we will arrange for someone to discuss this with you.

These are important decisions and we want all pupils and parents to be fully informed.

As stated earlier, the options grids will be released during the week beginning **March 21<sup>st</sup>**, following the analysis of pupils' preferences in the initial survey.

We hope you find this information clear that you are able enjoy making these very important but incredibly exciting decisions!

Mr M Rushton – Assistant Headteacher

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### Making a decision

The options process is about pupils' choices, but they still need guidance and input from parents, carers and teachers. Make sure choices are not based on friendships, but more on what are they good at, what they enjoy and what might help them into a career or further and higher education.

When choosing a subject think about:

- ☑ Whether you enjoy the subject and the things that you will be learning about.
- ☑ What skills are required and can you build these skills?
- ☑ Are your choices balanced?
- ☑ Avoid choosing a subject just because of the teacher delivering it.
- ☑ Avoid choosing subjects because your friends are taking them.
- ☑ Listening to the advice of careers advisers and teachers who are there to help and guide you.
- ☑ What are your longer term aims after Year 11 and how will your choices support them?
- ☑ How you learn and whether blending your GCSE subjects with the technical awards will allow you to achieve your potential and link into further study at Sixth Form, work or college.

### Useful links

- ☑ [www.icould.com/stories/choosing-your-gcse-options](http://www.icould.com/stories/choosing-your-gcse-options)
- ☑ [www.youthemployment.org.uk/choosing-gcse-options-19-questions-ask/](http://www.youthemployment.org.uk/choosing-gcse-options-19-questions-ask/)
- ☑ [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p)
- ☑ <https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/gcse-choices-university>

Year 9 pupils have also been working on their suitability for certain career paths in their recent work on our 'Unifrog' software. Please ask your child to talk through their findings from their work in this area as this may be useful in guiding their options choices. Further information about our Careers provision can be found via the following link:

[www.studleyhighschool.org.uk/personal-development/careers-education](http://www.studleyhighschool.org.uk/personal-development/careers-education)

### Year 9 Options Booklet - 2022





## OPTIONS 2022

### Core Subjects:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Physical Education (Core)
- PSHE
- Sciences

### Optional Subjects:

- Art & Design
- Business Studies
- Computer Science (twilight - invitation only)
- Creative iMedia
- Design & Technology (Resistant Materials)
- Design & Technology (Textiles)
- Drama
- Food Preparation & Nutrition
- Geography
- History
- Hospitality & Catering
- Modern Foreign Languages (French, German, Spanish)
- Music (Level 2)
- Music (GCSE) (twilight - invitation only)
- Photography
- Physical Education (GCSE)
- Religious Studies
- Sports Studies (Level 2)
- Travel & Tourism





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# CORE SUBJECTS FEBRUARY 2022

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## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

### Department Staff:

Mrs S Taswar - CAL      Mr M Rushton  
Mrs H Bowman Dalton    Mrs A Dyde  
Mrs C Evans              Mr J Moore  
Mrs S Luckman          Mrs R McGhie  
Miss A Wills              Mrs K Wright

### Examining Board: AQA

### Course Outcome: GCSE

[www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700](http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700)

### Why Study This Subject?

English Language tests a wide range of skills. Pupils have the chance to develop creative ideas, as well as justify their opinions about both fiction and nonfiction texts.

English Language is a facilitating subject as it provides you with the necessary skills in order to access other subject areas and qualifications.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

English Language allows pupils to challenge themselves in both analytical and extended writing tasks. Pupils are rewarded for originality and flair, as well as being tested on the basics of good quality written communication. Pupils also develop key skills such as analysis, evaluation and inference in order to prepare them for a life beyond school.

### What Will I Study?

Language Paper 1 consists of close analysis of an unseen fictional text. This is followed by a choice of four questions and a narrative writing response.

Language Paper 2 consists of close analysis of two unseen non-fiction texts from the 19th to 21st century. This is followed by one piece of transactional or persuasive writing in the form of a text such as a letter, speech, article, review, report or leaflet.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

The course is assessed in two final examinations at the end of Year 11.

- Language Paper 1: 1 hour and 45 minutes (50% of the final GCSE).
- Language Paper 2: 1 hour and 45 minutes (50% of the final GCSE).







## ENGLISH LITERATURE

### Department Staff:

Mrs S Taswar - CAL      Mr M Rushton  
Mrs H Bowman Dalton   Mrs A Dyde  
Mrs C Evans              Mr J Moore  
Mrs S Luckman          Mrs R McGhie  
Miss A Wills              Mrs K Wright

Examining Board: AQA

Course Outcome: GCSE

[www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702](http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702)

### Why Study This Subject?

English Literature gives pupils the opportunity to cover a wide range of texts and share their views as readers. They get to explore how different readers may respond across different eras and will study what motivates writers to express themselves in writing.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

The course grounds pupils in important life skills such as communication, analysis and the ability to justify their ideas in a coherent way. Pupils undertake a variety of tasks when exploring texts. These include group activities that encourage a sense of debate and mature discussion about what different texts mean.

### What Will I Study?

Literature Paper 1, pupils study a Shakespeare play ('Romeo and Juliet') and 19th century novel ('A Christmas Carol') in depth, with a focus on plot, character, theme, language and context.

Literature Paper 2, pupils study a post 1914 drama text ('Blood Brothers') and answer a question on an Anthology of poetry (specifically the 'Power & Conflict' cluster) that covers a wide range of eras, poets and genres. For this section, pupils focus on a close analysis of a named poem where they connect the named poem with a poem of their choice. This is followed by the unseen poetry where students compare poetry.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

The course is assessed in two final examinations at the end of Year 11.

- Literature Paper 1 is a 1 hour and 45 minutes closed book examination (40% of final GCSE).
- Literature Paper 2 is a 2 hour and 15 minutes closed book examination (60% of final GCSE).





# MATHEMATICS

## Department Staff:

Ms M Hatfield - CAL

Mrs L Croxton

Miss C Noke

Miss E O'Sullivan

Miss L Purser

Mrs A S Smith

Miss C Wood

## Examining Board:

Pearson Edexcel

## Course Outcome:

GCSE

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/mathematics-2015.html>

## Why Study This Subject?

Mathematics develops valuable life skills to help you understand information and make informed decisions through finding efficient solutions to real life problems, modelling the physics of the world around us, or collecting and analysing data and using this to make predictions about future events.

Maths encourages development of key employability skills such as problem-solving, logical reasoning, communication and resilience. A strong GCSE Mathematics qualification is well respected by Sixth Form centres, colleges & further education institutions. "Maths is the only A Level proven to increase earnings in later life - by an average of 10%." (Department of Education).

## What Skills Will I Develop?

You will :

- Develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts.
- Acquire and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems.
- Make deductions, inferences and reason.
- Interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms.

## What Will I Study?

- Number.
- Algebra.
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change.
- Geometry and measures.
- Probability.
- Statistics.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

There are three equally-weighted written examination papers:

- Paper 1: 1 ½ hours, non-calculator assessment (80 marks).
- Paper 2: 1 ½ hours, calculator allowed (80 marks).
- Paper 3: 1 ½ hours, calculator allowed (80 marks).





# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Department Staff:

Mr K Dovey (CAL)    Mr A Howitt  
Mrs C Blake            Mrs J Howitt

## Why Study This Subject?

Physical Education remains a compulsory subject in Years 9, 10 and 11 and all pupils have two lessons of curriculum time dedicated to Physical Education. The emphasis in KS4 is on participation and enjoyment to promote a prolonged interest in sport and physical activity.

Pupils are given the opportunity to participate in a variety of different activities.

To improve in any activity, pupils can attend extra-curricular activities.

The course aims to encourage pupils to pursue active and healthy lifestyles. This course does not involve an external examination.

## What Skills Will I Develop?

Pupils will be taught to:

- Use and develop a variety of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in team and individual games, e.g. badminton, basketball, cricket, football, netball, rounders, rugby and table tennis.
- Develop their technique and improve their performance in other competitive sports, e.g. athletics and gymnastics, or other physical activities, e.g. dance.
- Take part in further outdoor and adventurous activities in a range of environments which present intellectual and physical challenges and which encourage pupils to work in a team, building on trust and developing skills to solve problems, either individually or as a group.
- Evaluate their performances compared to previous ones and demonstrate improvement across a range of physical activities to achieve their personal best.
- Continue to take part regularly in competitive sports and activities outside school through community links or sports clubs.

## What Will I Study?

- Tactics and strategy.
- Technique.
- Problem solving.
- Evaluation of performance.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

Pupils will be assessed on their effort and behaviour within lessons.





## PSHE (PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH & ECONOMIC EDUCATION)

### Department Staff:

Miss Massey - Lead Teacher

### Method of delivery:

Pupils are exposed to Citizenship and PSHE content in a number of ways during their GCSE years. At KS4, PSHE is delivered through PD Days, tutor time activities, and a fortnightly timetabled Citizenship lesson.

### Why Study This Subject?

The Citizenship & PSHE curriculum is intended to equip pupils with the skills needed to become life-long learners and active citizens in their community and the world we live in. It is intended that students learn how to be safe and healthy in a variety of aspects, and manage their social and academic lives in an increasingly complex world. The curriculum has also been designed to incorporate a variety of skills that students need to develop to be successful not only in Citizenship & PSHE lessons and their future lives, but in other subjects at Studley High School.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

Equally important as pupil progress in their understanding of the content covered, is that students in Citizenship & PSHE develop a range of life-long skills such as resilience, confidence and independence and how to keep physically and mentally healthy. The skills that students develop will enable them to continue in the next stages of their lives to further education, apprenticeships, and the world of work.

### What Will I Study?

Citizenship schemes of work have been planned in order to cover all aspects in the new Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education guidelines, giving pupils the breadth of understanding needed to move into the next stage of their lives as informed and as aware of their surroundings as possible. The schemes of work also link to contemporary issues and discussions to ensure engagement and relevance to pupils in the modern world.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Citizenship and PSHE is not an assessed subject in the way that many other subjects are, however pupil progress in their understanding is still of paramount importance. Pupil progress is measured through regular review of content covered and by pupils completing recall tasks at the end of each lesson and module.





## SCIENCES

### Department Staff:

Ms Z Haines (CAL)      Mrs L Harris  
Mr R Willett              Mr J Sidhu  
Mrs J Harris              Mr T Fincham  
Mr B Neal                 Mrs C Morgan

### Examining Board: AQA

Course Outcome: 3 GCSEs Triple Science:  
GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics, Grades 9  
-1 or 2 GCSEs Combined Science Trilogy -  
Grades 9-1

For both Triple and Combined, Foundation and  
Higher tier are available.

[www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/  
combined-science-trilogy-8464](http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464)

### Why Study This Subject?

There is a significant practical and mathematical  
element to all the sciences. Pupils will develop  
their understanding to appreciate the power and  
limitations of science and consider any ethical issues  
that may arise.

Studying Triple Science means that pupils *will cover  
more content than GCSE Combined Sciences* and  
prepares them for *Science A levels*. Most pupils  
will study AQA Combined Science. Only more able  
pupils will be offered Triple Award.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

All Sciences develop knowledge and  
understanding of scientific ideas, techniques and  
procedures. Pupils develop the ability to  
interpret and evaluate data, make judgements  
and draw conclusions, as well as develop and  
improve experimental procedures. They learn to  
plan experiments, test hypothesis and check  
data using a range of techniques and apparatus.  
Pupils present findings using scientific  
vocabulary, quantities, units and symbols.

### What Will I Study?

- Biology: Cells, Organisation, Infection and  
response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and  
response, Inheritance, variation and evolution,  
Ecology.
- Chemistry: Atomic structure, Periodic table,  
Bonding, Quantitative chemistry, Chemical  
changes, Energy changes, Rate of chemical  
change, Organic chemistry, Atmosphere,  
Resources.
- Physics: Forces, Energy, Waves, Electricity,  
Particle model, Atomic structure, Space.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Combined Science Trilogy : Six papers, 1 hour  
15 minutes each (2 Biology, 2 Chemistry and 2  
Physics). Across the 3 subjects, pupils will study  
21 required practicals in lessons.

### Triple Award:

**Biology:** 2 papers 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  hours (F or H tier).  
**Chemistry:** 2 papers 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  hours (F or H tier).  
**Physics:** 2 papers 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  hours (F or H tier).

Across the 3 subjects, pupils will study 24  
required practicals in lessons.





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# OPTIONAL SUBJECTS FEBRUARY 2022

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## ART & DESIGN

### Department Staff:

Mrs G Scott

Mr G Doyle

### Examining Board:

AQA

### Course Outcome:

GCSE Fine Art

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse>

### Why Study This Subject?

This course focuses on observation of the real world: analysing, recording and developing creative visual responses. Art makes pupils look at things in new ways, as they communicate with colour, shape, line and tone. This subject will suit individuals who love to explore the properties of materials, express themselves visually and explore the work of other artists.

Art prepares pupils for work in a wide range of creative industries. The skills learned are transferable and pupils who learn to excel in this creative environment offer employers flexibility, adaptability, resilience and tenacity – skills which will, in the shorter term, support their work in other areas of the school curriculum.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

Pupils will develop skills in a wide range of media including drawing materials, a variety of paints, sculptural and printmaking materials. Pupils will develop their ability to skilfully control materials and they will learn a variety of specialist techniques such as printmaking. The use of modern technology is encouraged, and the use of computers and photographic equipment will form part of the course. Pupils will also learn to research a topic and present their findings in an effective way. They will learn to be expressive and experimental and set themselves challenging goals. Homework and written analysis will form an essential element of this course.

### What Will I Study?

- Project based approach inspired by portraiture, landscape, storms, food & drink etc. At the end of the course pupils will select the work which best demonstrates their practical skills and ability to develop and present ideas.
- Pupils are expected to make connections to the work of other artists and will study a range of artists, craftspeople and designers.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

- Portfolio of work  
(60% of the total marks).
- Practical examination in Year 11  
(40% of the total marks).





# BUSINESS STUDIES

Department Staff:  
Mrs M Dudley

Examining Board: OCR

Course Outcome: GCSE Business

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/business-j204-from-2017/specification-at-a-glance/>

## Why Study This Subject?

This qualification equips learners with the skills and confidence to explore how different business situations affect business decisions. It is a well rounded introduction to the subject. The qualification will encourage learners to make informed choices about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways as well as develop life skills that enable them to become financially and commercially aware.

## What Skills Will I Develop?

Learners will develop an understanding of business concepts, business terminology, business objectives, the integrated nature of business activity and the impact of business on individuals and wider society. They will apply knowledge and understanding to contemporary business issues and to different types and sizes of businesses in local, national and global contexts:

- develop as enterprising individuals with the ability to think commercially and creatively to demonstrate business acumen, and draw on evidence to make informed business decisions and solve business problems
- develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds
- use an enquiring, critical approach to make informed judgements
- investigate and analyse real business opportunities and issues to construct well-argued, well-evidenced, balanced and structured arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of business
- develop and apply quantitative skills relevant to business, including using and interpreting data

## What Will I Study?

- Business activity.
- Marketing.
- People.
- Operations.
- Finance.
- Influences on business.
- The interdependent nature of business.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

- Business 1: business activity, marketing and people - Exam 1 hour 30 minutes (50% of final mark).
- Business 2: operations, finance and influences on business - Exam 1 hour 30 minutes (50% of final mark).







# COMPUTER SCIENCE

## Department Staff:

Mrs M Dudley

Mrs K Woodger

Examining Board: OCR

Course Outcome: GCSE

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j277-from-2020/specification-at-a-glance/>

## Why Study This Subject?

Pupils will work with real-world, practical programming techniques that will give them a good understanding of what makes technology work.

This course is relevant to the modern, changing world of computing and is designed to boost computing skills for the 21st century. Pupils will use 'computational thinking' and learn the theory to apply to real life situations.

Computer Science is engaging and practical.

## What Skills Will I Develop?

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science.
- Analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs.
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- Understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems.
- Understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society.
- Apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science.

## What Will I Study?

- 1.1 Systems architecture.
- 1.2 Memory and storage.
- 1.3 Computer networks, connections and protocols.
- 1.4 Network security.
- 1.5 Systems software.
- 1.6 Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology.
- 2.1 Algorithms.
- 2.2 Programming fundamentals.
- 2.3 Producing robust programs.
- 2.4 Boolean logic.
- 2.5 Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

Computer systems - Written paper: 1 hour and 30 minutes.

50% of total GCSE - 80 marks.

Computational thinking, algorithms and programming - Written paper: 1 hour and 30 minutes.

50% of total GCSE - 80 marks.

Practical Programming Project.





# CREATIVE iMEDIA

## Department Staff:

Mrs M Dudley

Mrs K Woodger

## Examining Board: Cambridge National

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/610942-specification-cambridge-nationals-creative-imedia-j834.pdf>

## Why Study This Subject?

You may be interested in this if you want an engaging qualification where you will use your learning in practical, real-life situations, such as:

- developing visual identities for clients
- planning and creating original digital graphics
- planning, creating and reviewing original digital media products. This will help you to develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the media industry. The qualification will also help you to develop learning and skills that can be used in other life and work situations, such as:
- thinking about situations and deciding what is required to be successful
- exploring different options and choosing the best way forward to a solve problem
- exploring and generating original ideas to find imaginative solutions to problems
- selecting the best tools and techniques to use to solve a problem
- appropriate use of media to convey meaning
- use of planning techniques to complete tasks in an organised way which meet deadlines.

## What Skills Will I Develop?

- understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of digital media including factors that influence product design, use of media codes and conventions, pre-production planning techniques, legal issues and creation/publishing/distribution considerations
- 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 media industry and more widely
- design, plan, create and review digital media products which are fit for purpose meeting both client and target audience requirements

## What Will I Study?

Unit R093: Creative iMedia in the media industry

- The media industry
- Factors influencing product design
- Pre-production planning
- Distribution considerations

Unit R094: Visual identity and digital graphics

In this unit you will learn to how to develop visual identities for clients and use the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics to engage target audiences.

### Either:

Unit R099: Digital games

In this unit you will learn how to plan, create and review digital games.

OR

Unit R097: Interactive digital media

In this unit you will learn how to plan, create and review interactive digital media products.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

- **Mandatory Units:**  
Unit R093 - This is assessed by taking an exam and R094 - This is assessed by completing a set assignment.
- **Optional Units:**  
R099 - This is assessed by completing a set assignment or R097 - This is assessed by completing a set assignment.

*(The optional unit will be chosen by the class teacher following the release of the set assignment choices)*





# DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

(TEXTILES OR RESISTANT MATERIALS FOCUS)

Department Staff:

Mrs J Gotheridge-Davies

Mrs C Campbell

Course Outcome:

AQA Design and Technology GCSE

Why Study This Subject?

This course allows pupils to be inventive, creative, reflective and develop design and practical making skills to help understanding how to work effectively with different materials (Textiles, Timber, Metal, Plastics and Papers and boards). Pupils will get the opportunity to develop their 2D and 3D drawing skills as well as using software to support the design and manufacture process. This course offers an excellent base for further study in design technology or other design based courses (Fashion, Textiles, Architecture, Graphic design and Product design)

What Skills Will I Develop?

This qualification shows learners how to:

- Research into a theme/concept.
- Work to a brief
- Use tools and equipment safely.
- Perform a range of techniques and processes using selected materials.
- Develop 2D/3D drawing skills
- Develop revision techniques

What Will I Study?

- Learners will be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of the following:
- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles

This will be broken down into projects, that allow the students to study a theme, research and explore various materials (Textiles, Timber, Metal, Plastics and Papers and boards) develop thinking to improve design ideas, upskill in practical making and evaluating their own work and the work of others. They will also study the theory of Design and Technology that links to the wider world of Design and Technology and environmental issues.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Pupils will be assessed on:

- Coursework portfolio: which will include researching into a theme, design work, practical making, testing and evaluating (50%).
- A written exam testing pupils' knowledge and understanding of the subject (50%).





# DRAMA

Department Staff:  
Mrs L Blackford-Taylor

Examining Board: Pearson Edexcel

Course Outcome:  
GCSE

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/drama-2016.html>

Why Study This Subject?

## “Take your passion, and make it happen”

Drama will increase communication and confidence and will allow pupils to express their creativity in a variety of ways. They will learn how to work effectively as part of a team and develop analytical and evaluative skills through responding to live performances and play texts.

Pupils will learn a variety of new performance styles, improve their acting skills, learn how to give and take feedback, how to become resilient and how to learn from failures as well as successes. They will have plenty of opportunities to see live performances at the theatre.

What Skills Will I Develop?

The core skills developed in this qualification are:

- Recognise and understand the roles and responsibilities of a performer, designer and director.
- The study and exploration of texts and extracts; this must include the relevant social, historical and cultural contexts.
- Develop a range of theatrical skills and apply them to create performances.
- Analyse and evaluate your own work and the work of others.
- Understand how performance texts can be interpreted and performed.

What Will I Study?

- Devising theatre
- Performing from a script
- Interpreting and analysing theatre

How Will I Be Assessed?

- Component 1 – Devising theatre (40% of marks). Internally assessed, externally moderated.
- Component 2 – Performing from a text (20% of marks). Externally assessed by a visiting examiner.
- Component 3 – Interpreting theatre (40% of marks). Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes.





## FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

Department Staff:  
Miss C Campbell

Examining Board:

AQA

Course Outcome:

GCSE

[www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/food/gcse/food-preparation-and-nutrition-8585](http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/food/gcse/food-preparation-and-nutrition-8585)

### Why Study This Subject?

This course is exciting and creative, focusing on chemical and functional properties of foods and practical cooking skills. The course ensures that pupils develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. Upon completion of this course, pupils will be qualified to go on to further education, embark on an apprenticeship or a full-time career in catering or food industries.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

Throughout the course, a range of food preparation and cooking skills will be developed. Examples include:

- Correct use of equipment.
- Knife skills.
- Use of appliances.
- Methods of cooking.
- Pastry, cake, sauce and yeast mixtures.
- Filleting fish/deboning chicken, mincing .

### What Will I Study?

- Food nutrition and health.
- Food science investigation.
- Food safety.
- Food choice.
- Food provenance.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

2 x NEA tasks worth 50% of final grade which consist of:

- NEA 1 – food science investigation (15%).
- NEA2 – food preparation task (35%).

(Written or electronic report with photographic evidence)

- Theoretical knowledge of food preparation.  
Written exam: 1¾ hours (100 marks, 50% of GCSE).





# GEOGRAPHY

## Department Staff:

Mrs R Morland

Mrs L Fox

## Examining Board:

OCR Geography A Geographical Themes J383

Course Outcome:

GCSE

[www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-geography-a-geographical-themes-j383-from-2016/](http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-geography-a-geographical-themes-j383-from-2016/)

## Why Study This Subject?

GCSE geography is up to date and relevant. It is one of the most exciting and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world's current issues and concerns relate to geography such as rapid population growth, climate change and natural hazards. Geographers are needed to help understand these issues and search for sustainable solutions. A wealth of opportunities are opening up for talented geographers in these areas. Pupils study a full range of human and physical geography topics and these are placed in the context of real world situations and events making case-studies very dynamic.

## What Skills Will I Develop?

The GCSE geography course will develop pupil's literacy, numeracy and analytical skills. They will have the opportunity to analyse data and complicated texts and draw conclusions. Pupils will be able to plan and present their writing well with good structure and detail and be confident in their work. These skills are highly valued by employers in a wide variety of fields. Pupils will learn to evaluate information and see things from a variety of perspectives ultimately gaining a balanced view of our world.

## What Will I Study?

- Landscapes of the UK.
- People of the UK.
- UK environmental challenges.
- Ecosystems of the planet.
- People of the planet.
- Environmental threats to our planet.
- Geographical skills.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

- Living in the UK Today (60 marks)  
1 hour written paper, 30% of total GCSE.
- The World Around Us (60 marks)  
1 hour written paper, 30% of total GCSE.
- Geographical skills (80 marks)  
1½ hour written paper, 40% of total GCSE.





# HISTORY

## Department Staff:

Mrs J Smith (CAL)

Mrs A Page

Miss R Massey

Mr M Sidaway

Examining Board: Edexcel

Course Outcome: GCSE

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>

## Why Study This Subject?

The study of history is a window into the past that provides understanding of the present-day, and how individuals, nations and the world, might develop in the future. It allows us to engage with the modern world and become active citizens in the society that we live in. History is an infinite reserve of stories, examples, warnings, explanations, jokes and inspiration. It is the everything- the most interesting things that have ever happened to anyone who has ever lived.

Pupils will also have opportunities outside of the classroom. From visiting University academics and authors to trips to Berlin, Krakow & the Battlefields of World War One, GCSE History provides unique chances for pupils to explore their past and understand how this is so pivotal in understanding the present.

## What Skills Will I Develop?

History is an excellent subject in which to learn the skills valued highly in many professions such as law, publishing, academia, media, economics, politics, hospitality, tourism and the public sector.

One of the most important skills will be developing a persuasive argument and presenting it in an assertive, yet disciplined way. You will learn to analyse information to extract the most important points and use this information as evidence to support your line of argument. At the end of your studies, you will have the ability to write clearly and accurately with an extensive range of vocabulary and enhanced grammar and punctuation skills.

## What Will I Study?

- Medicine through time (1250-present day).
- Anglo-Saxon and Norman England 1042-1086.
- Superpower relations and the Cold War (1945-1991).
- Weimar & Nazi Germany (1918-1939).

## How Will I Be Assessed?

The course has no controlled assessment and is assessed by written examination only. These take the form of three exams.

- Paper 1 - 1¼ hours (30% ).
- Paper 2 - 1¾ hours (40% ).
- Paper 3 - 1 hour 20 minutes (30% ).





# HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Department Staff:  
Miss C Campbell

Examining Board:  
Eduqas

Course Outcome: Level 2 Hospitality and Catering  
<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering/>

## Why Study This Subject?

The award will give learners the knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering providers; how they operate and what they have to take into account to be successful. There is the opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations. In this qualification, learners will also have the opportunity to develop some food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

## What Skills Will I Develop?

The Level 2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering is most suitable as a foundation for further study, providing learners with a core depth of knowledge and a range of specialist and general skills that will support their progression to further learning and employment.

## What Will I Study:

Two units:

1. Hospitality and catering industry.
2. Plan, prepare, cook and present.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

- Unit 1 The Hospitality and Catering Industry (internally assessed) - 1 practical controlled assessment, including nutritional needs, special diets. (60% of final grade).
- Unit 2 Hospitality and Catering in Action (External written exam) - 5 units (menu proposal, food safety, health and safety, hospitality operations and the hospitality industry) (40% of final grade).







## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES (French, Spanish and German)

### Department Staff:

Mrs V Morgan (CAL)

Mrs J Lumley

Mrs Y Tarby-Donald

### Examining Board:

Edexcel

### Course Outcome:

GCSE

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/modern-languages-2016.html>

### Why Study This Subject?

A language will always be useful because of the range of transferable skills we develop. Employers, colleges and universities recognise the value of learning a language and look favourably on candidates who can demonstrate their skills. In class, we study a range of topics about people and cultures from other countries, leading to an understanding of the wider world. The 9-1 GCSE focuses on making language learning relevant and useful, so that pupils feel that what they learn will help them communicate with people when they travel, work, or even live abroad.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

Pupils are examined in four key skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. In addition, pupils will be required to respond to a range of authentic texts in the target language, and to translate both from and into English. Communication is at the heart of each MFL GCSE, and pupils benefit from developing planning, problem solving, decoding and memory skills, as well as increased functional skills in English, Maths and IT.

### What Will I Study?

- Local area, holiday and travel.
- Identity and culture.
- School.
- Future aspirations, study and work.
- Using languages beyond the classroom.
- Ambitions.
- Work.
- International and global dimension.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

The GCSE course is 100% examination at the end of Year 11.

- Listening – understand and respond to different types of spoken language, 25%.
- Speaking – communicate and interact effectively in speech, 25%.
- Reading – understand and respond to different types of written language 25%.
- Writing – communicate in writing, 25%.





## MUSIC (LEVEL 2 AWARD)

### Department Staff:

Miss G Bussey (CAL)

Mrs M Brannelly

### Course Outcome:

Level 2 Award in Music

### Why Study This Subject?

*"Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything." - Plato*

This option is an ideal choice for keen musicians who want both educational and career options available to them once they leave school. You should consider this course if:

- You love practical music making.
- Are good at working as part of a team.
- You are able to work in a self-motivated manner.
- You want to pursue a career in creative or Performing Arts and Music.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

Pupils will work in a range of ways including as a soloist and within a small group. This will allow them to develop performance and composition skills as they progress throughout the course.

Pupils will explore different roles and responsibilities within the industry such as careers within music, producing & promoting and management.

Music has many transferable skills including teamwork, independent learning and promoting motivation to achieve.

### What Will I Study?

- The music industry.
- Planning and creating performance work or product.
- Music composition.
- Music performance.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

The music industry unit has an externally set task which involves planning and creating a product or event. The other units are assessed in the classroom with the creation of portfolios of written work, performance recordings and compositions.





## MUSIC (GCSE)

Department Staff:  
Mrs M Brannelly

Examining Board: Eduqas

Course Outcome: GCSE

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music/gcse/>

### Why Study This Subject?

GCSE music encompasses the skills you are already learning on your own instrument. This means that effectively, as a Grade 3 musician (by the end of course) you'd already have 30% of the course completed at the highest standard. You get the opportunity to compose and put your music theory skills into practice.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

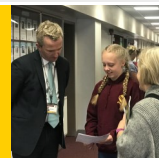
Opportunities to perform as part of an ensemble and as a soloist. You have the chance to compose music, either traditionally or with music technology and you will explore set pieces and different styles / genres of music. You will work at a fast pace with a small group of like minded, skilled musicians. You will also develop your independent learning skills and analysis of music.

### What Will I Study?

- Component 1: Performing. 4 - 6 minutes of music to include one ensemble piece and one solo performance. (Worth 30% of the final grade).
- Component 2: Composing. Create two pieces to last between 3 - 6 minutes. One is a free choice and the other is a set task from a choice set by the exam board. (Worth 30% of the final grade).
- Component 3: Appraising (listening) A 75 minute listening exam where you will need to answer eight questions. These are based on topics such as 'film music' and 'popular music' and will test your knowledge on certain pieces as well as general music theory and listening ability. (Worth 40% of the final grade).

### How Will I Be Assessed?

- Components 1 and 2 are completed in class and marked by your teacher (internally assessed).
- Component 3 is a formal listening exam at the end of Year 11.





# PHOTOGRAPHY

Department Staff:  
Mr G Doyle

Examining Board: AQA

Course Outcome: GCSE

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206/subject-content/photography>

## Why Study This Subject?

This course encourages the exploration of photography as an artistic medium. It combines well with more traditional subjects, providing an outlet for creativity. Photography can be a useful addition to a pupil's portfolio of qualifications and can also help to secure admission to Art College or University.

## What Skills Will I Develop?

Photography GCSE is a very specialist, technical and exciting subject. Photography doesn't just involve taking photographs. You will be expected to produce work using a digital camera and ICT as well as using general art and design methods to develop and produce your work. There is a written element to this work and pupils will study and analyse the work of other artists/photographers and use this knowledge to enhance and influence their work.

## What Will I Study?

Some of this year's starting points for project have been food typography, absurd, invisible lines, abstraction, motion and strange & fantastic.

In Component 1 (portfolio) pupils develop responses to initial starting points, project briefs or specified tasks and realise intentions informed by research, the development and refinement of ideas and meaningful engagement with selected sources. Responses will include evidence of drawing for different purposes and needs and written annotation. In Component 2 (externally set assignment) pupils respond to a starting point provided by AQA. This response provides evidence of the pupil's ability to work independently within specified time constraints, realise intentions that are personal and meaningful and explicitly address the requirements of all four assessment objectives.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

**AO1:** Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.

**AO2:** Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.

**AO3:** Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.

**AO4:** Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

- OR 60%.
- Coursework 40% exam component.





## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Department Staff:

Mr K Dovey (CAL)

Mr A Howitt

Mrs C Blake

### Examining Board:

Edexcel

### Course Outcome:

GCSE

[www.qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/physical-education-2016.html](http://www.qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/physical-education-2016.html)

### Why Study This Subject?

Pupils should choose this GCSE if they love being active and want to find out more about how to improve their performance. There are 2 main elements to the course, theory and practical. It is important that pupils are committed to improving their practical scores in their own time (i.e join clubs, play for school, work on your fitness). For this reason we recommend that pupils only choose GCSE P.E if they play for, or belong to least one club outside of school.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

Pupils will develop technical and practical skills for a range of different sports, improving their ability to perform under pressure. Leadership skills and tactical awareness will also be developed. Theoretically, pupils will learn how to interpret and present data from different sources.

### What Will I Study?

- Cardiovascular system.
- Respiratory system.
- Muscular and skeletal system.
- Component of fitness and fitness testing.
- Lifestyle factors and factors that affect weight.
- Benefits and reasons for participating in sport.
- Psychological aspects of sport.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

- 30% Practical.
- 10% Controlled Assessment.
- 60% Exam (2 exams).

**Theory:** 2 exam papers (60% of the final grade and 1 controlled assessments, worth 10%).

**Practical:** 30% of final grade. Graded on 3 best activities (1 team, 1 individual and 1 of either) which will be marked out of 35 (and can include activities outside of school).





## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### Department Staff:

Mr M Omerod - Lead Teacher

Mr D Rose

Mrs R Soper

### Examining Board:

AQA

### Course Outcome:

GCSE

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/rs/specifications/AQA-8062-SP-2016.PDF>

### Why Study This Subject?

Religions have always asked fundamental questions, such as: What is the true meaning of life? What happens to us after death? How do we explain human suffering and injustices? Pupils learn to respect themselves and understand their own identity, to respect others, and to understand their own and others' rights and responsibilities. Religious Studies provides an excellent opportunity for young people to engage with contemporary contentious issues, developing social, cultural, political, philosophical and historical awareness.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

Pupils will develop philosophical thought, decision making skills, collaboration and independent working skills and the search for compromise and conflict resolutions that work. Over time, pupils will develop important key skills such as empathy, respect, tolerance, application, reflection, investigation and interpretation. So, whether you want to become a teacher, lawyer, police officer, social worker or even work in the armed forces, Religious Studies provides you with the skills to successfully work alongside others in a multi-faith society.

### What Will I Study?

There are three main areas of study within GCSE Religious Studies:

- Christianity -Beliefs, Teachings and Practices.
- Judaism - Beliefs, Teachings and Practices.
- Thematic studies - Philosophy and Ethics.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

All assessments are exam based, with no coursework or controlled assessments to complete:

- Christianity and Judaism - Beliefs, Teachings and Practices (1 x 1hour 45 minute exam = 50%).
- Thematic Studies (Philosophy and Ethics): (1 x 1hour 45 minute exam = 50%).





## SPORT STUDIES (LEVEL 2)

### Department Staff:

Mr K Dovey (CAL)

Mr A Howitt

Mrs J Howitt

Mrs C Blake

Examining Board: OCR

Course Outcome:

Cambridge National Level 2 (equivalent to 1 GCSE). Pass, Merit, Distinction

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/sport-studies-level-1-2-j803-j813/>

### Why Study This Subject?

In a world where health and fitness are becoming ever more important, this course offers a fantastic breadth in the understanding of exercise and the benefits of leading a healthy active lifestyle. Pupils will develop understanding of contemporary issues in sport and increase their knowledge of how to maintain activity levels in schools for a range of target groups. Pupils will also learn how to plan, deliver and evaluate coaching sessions. The course offers a high range of applications linked to careers in coaching, sports development, sports science, diet and nutrition as well as leisure and tourism.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

- Planning for the delivery of an exercise session, considering health and safety.
- Producing a personal training plan for a specific sport.
- Producing a lesson for an outdoor activity.
- Evaluative skills.
- Literacy, numeracy and ICT.
- Skills essential for the modern workplace e.g. team work, presentation skills, independent working, working to deadlines and efficient use of resources.

### What Will I Study?

- Unit 1: Contemporary Issues in Sport
- Unit 2: Performance & Leadership in Sport
- Unit 3: Increasing awareness of outdoor and adventurous activities
- Unit 4: Developing knowledge and skills in outdoor activities.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

- Unit 1: External unseen examination.
- Unit 2: Assessment of performance at an individual sport and a team sport and assessment in leadership session
- Unit 3: Assessment in two OAA sports and written coursework





## TRAVEL & TOURISM

### Department Staff:

Mrs R Morland

Mrs L Fox

Examining Board: Pearson

Course Outcome: Level 2 Certificate: Pass, Merit, Distinction

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/travel-and-tourism-2022.html>

### Why Study This Subject?

This course is designed to inspire pupils to consider a career in the Travel and Tourism sector. This is a very broad area and encompasses travel, business, customer services, ICT and communication. It will allow pupils to develop their knowledge and understanding by applying their learning and skills in a work-related context and give them the opportunity to gain a broad knowledge of, and develop skills in, the Travel and Tourism sector.

### What Skills Will I Develop?

The course will develop research skills and data collection and analysis as well as developing professional information presentation skills, IT skills, discussion and developing confidence through giving talks and being involved in relevant role play scenarios.

### What Will I Study?

The Tech Award gives learners the opportunity to develop applied knowledge and understanding in a range of areas. Learners taking this qualification will study three components

- The aims of travel and tourism organisations, types of travel and tourism and different travel routes
- How organisations use market research to identify travel and tourism trends and customer needs
- Factors that may influence global travel and tourism and the potential impacts of tourism on global destinations and how these can be managed sustainably.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

The majority of work completed is assessed internally based on assignments set by the examination board and completed under controlled conditions.

There is one examination that is based on Component 3: Influences on Global Travel and Tourism. This is a synoptic paper drawing on information learnt across the whole of the course. It is worth 40% of the final mark.







STUDLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER

## USEFUL CONTACTS



Mr Eost - Headteacher



Mrs Page - Deputy Head



Mrs McGhie – Assistant Head



Mr Rushton - Assistant Head



Mrs Scott - Assistant Head



Mrs Dudley - Assistant Head  
(Seconded)



Ms Lumley - SENCO

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[@studleyhigh](https://twitter.com/studleyhigh)

Year 9 Options Booklet - 2022

