

Mullion School

# Year 9 Options

Key Stage 4 and Beyond

2023 – 2025



NAME:

TUTOR GROUP:



# Options 2023-2025

## Message from Mrs Penberthy, Headteacher

Choosing your option subjects to study in year 10 is an exciting phase of your secondary education. It is the first time you have had the opportunity to make a choice about what you study. Taking time to find out about all the subjects, what you will study and how you will be assessed is really important. I advise you to read the information in this booklet carefully, talk to the subject teachers, your form tutor, parents and carers. However, it is your decision, and you must choose what you are both good at and what you enjoy. It will be you studying the course for two years, so do not pick a subject because your friends have or because you think you should. Pick your subjects because YOU want to study them.

Mullion school has a reputation and record of academic excellence, all subjects are high performing and taught by specialist teachers. We are proud of the range of courses on offer at Mullion School, there is a broad choice which included GCSEs, BTECs and Technical Awards. All courses are academic, and are level 2 courses, some are more practical than others, some have more internal assessments and some are all final exams. Look carefully at how you will be assessed and what you will study.

It is not essential to know what you want to go on and study Post-16, or the career pathway you want to take. There will be many exciting opportunities out there for you, some not developed yet. Some of Cornwall's largest industries at present include Space, Creative Industries, Agri-Food, Tourism, Energy, Marine, Mining and eHealth but these are rapidly changing and opportunities are increasing with our growing digital connectivity. I would like you to explore all the career pathways and opportunities that are available and having a look before your options is a good time to start. You never know what might spark your interest, but what I do know is that you have an exciting future ahead of you.

## Careers and your Options

- GCSEs are a stepping stone to the next phase of your education, training and employment. Having the best set of GCSE results you can will ensure you have a range of exciting opportunities open to you at Post 16.
- Have you thought about what you would like to do as a career? Take a look and explore a range of careers you could consider at [Explore careers - icould](#) The videos describe a range of jobs and there is further information on the qualifications and skills you will need. There are so many jobs out there that you may not have considered, take a look.
- You will soon be choosing your GCSE Option subjects. Follow the link to find out how to approach choosing your options <https://icould.com/stories/choosing-your-gcse-options/>

# What do you need to know?

## What is the English Baccalaureate?

The English Baccalaureate is the name given to a set of subjects that the government recommends the majority of students should study for a broad and balanced curriculum at KS4. These subjects include your core of Maths, English and two Sciences; a **Modern Foreign Language** (French or Spanish) and a **Humanities** subject (History or Geography). If you are to fulfil the EBacc requirements, you will choose Spanish or French and Geography or History, and then you will have two completely 'free' options.

The Department for Education (DfE) are keen for a significant number of students to study the EBacc combination of subjects. For those uncertain about taking a language it is worth noting that continuing to study a language at GCSE has been shown to help cognitive (thinking) development. Continuing to study a language could therefore be advantageous and support learning in other subjects.

## Changes to how option subjects are chosen at Mullion– Please read carefully

There has been a change to the options process this year, instead of having four option blocks, pre-set with the subjects, and you choose one option from each, we want to know what your preferred options are in a rank order. We will then set the option blocks based on what everyone would prefer to do. You have 4 options but we are going to ask you to select 5, and number them in order of 1 = The subject you most want to take as an option, to 5 = I would like to do this, but not as much as the other 4 choices.

There has always been the need to compromise when choosing options, this has previously happened at the choosing stage when students needed one subject from each option block. The compromise now will come later for a small number of students, as we may not be able to get all your top 4 options to fit, but we will aim to get your top 3 options to fit. We estimate that all options will fit for 90% of students. Where there is a clash in subjects once the blocks have been created, we will look at your 5<sup>th</sup> choice and have a conversation with you and parents/carers to ensure we find the best fit of options for you.

## What if you change your mind?

It is a big decision and things change, for example, you develop a new interest, or discover a career pathway that you want to follow. Please let Mrs Penberthy know as soon as you think you want to change one of your option choices and we can look together to see if it is possible. Please ensure you have discussed any changes you would like before the end of the summer term, this will ensure you are timetabled onto the right course in September when you start year 10.

What do I have to Study?  
What subjects can I choose?



## Option Subjects

*You must study one from:*

**French**

**Spanish**

**History**

**Geography**

*Choose 3 option choices from:*

**Art and Design**

**Computer Science**

**Construction and the Built**

**Environment**

**Creative iMedia**

**Dance**

**Design Technology**

**Drama**

**French**

**Further Maths**

**Geography**

**History**

**Hospitality and Catering**

**Music**

**Religious Studies**

**Separate Science**

**Spanish**

**Sport**

## Core Subjects

*Everyone will study:*

**GCSE Maths**

**GCSE English Language**

**GCSE English Literature**

**GCSE Science Trilogy (2 GCSEs)**

**Core PE (non-examined)**

**PSHE (non-examined)**



# CORE GCSE

## Mathematics



### What will I learn?

The study of Mathematics falls under five main topic headings: Number, Ratio, Proportion & Rates of Change, Algebra, Statistics (including Probability) and Geometry. However, there are many links between these topics and these are reinforced throughout the course.

There are two levels of the GCSE course, Foundation and Higher. There is much overlap between the two courses, however the focus is slightly different at each level. At Foundation level, there is more focus on Number along with Ratio and Proportion and learning and practising calculation techniques, along with basic Algebra, Geometry and basic Statistics. The Foundation level with the new 9-1 curriculum includes some more advanced techniques, such as Trigonometry. At the Higher level, the focus shifts to more Algebra and advanced Geometry, including the use of proof, along with more complex statistical techniques.

The curriculum also includes a problem solving approach to questions, and requires pupils to use reasoning and logic, and make links between, or often combine techniques from, two or more different topics. For example, a question about probability might require forming and solving a quadratic equation.

### How will I be assessed?

For both the Foundation and Higher levels, there are three exams at the end of the course in Year 11. Each exam is 1.5 hours long. Content from any part of the course can be assessed on any paper. Paper 1 is a non-calculator exam, and therefore may focus on non-calculator techniques and topics, such as calculations, surds, exact trigonometric values, etc. Papers 2 and 3 are both calculator papers. A good scientific calculator is a necessity for both Foundation and Higher levels.

#### **The exams test three Assessment Objectives:**

**AO1** – “Use and apply standard techniques” (50% at Foundation, 40% at Higher)

**AO2** – “Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically” (25% at Foundation, 30% at Higher)

**AO3** – “Solve problems within mathematics and other contexts” (25% at Foundation, 30% at Higher).

### Where could it take me?

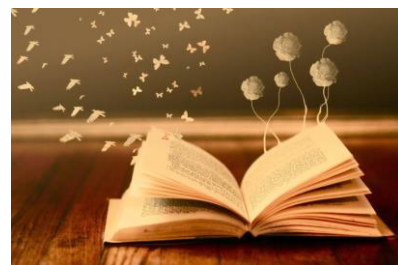
A Grade 4 in Maths is a requirement of many further education courses, so it will open doors to many pathways.

### **Career Pathways with Mathematics**

Accountant, Engineer, Bank Manager, Criminologist, Economist, Financial Advisor, Investment Analyst, Research, Stockbroker, Meteorologist, Air Traffic Control, Actuary

# CORE GCSE

## English Language



### What will I learn?

Students will learn to:

- Read fluently, with good understanding, a wide range of texts from the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, including literature and literary non-fiction as well as other writing, such as reviews and journalism.
- Read and evaluate texts critically and make comparisons between texts.
- Summarise and synthesise information or ideas from texts.
- Use knowledge gained from wider reading to inform and improve their own writing.
- Write effectively and coherently, using Standard English appropriately.
- Use grammar correctly. Punctuate and spell accurately.
- Acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language.
- Listen to and understand spoken language and use spoken standard English effectively.

### How will I be assessed?

#### English Language Paper 1

**Explorations in Creative Writing and Reading.**

**Section A** is the reading section and is worth 40 marks.

**Section B** is the writing section and is also worth 40 marks.

#### English Language Paper 2

**Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives.**

**Section A** is the reading section and is worth 40 marks.

**Section B** is the writing section and is also worth 40 marks.

### Where could it take me?

Good English skills are the gateway to all other subjects. You need to have an effective ability as both a reader and a writer in order to be successful in further education and the outside world of work. Effective communication is the vehicle that propels us further in our future life choices by equipping us with the skills to communicate our own ideas, feelings and perspectives, as well as understand others. GCSE English can lead onto both A-Levels and degrees in English Language and Linguistics.

### **Career Pathways with English Language**

Advertising, Editor, Teacher, Librarian, Journalist, Radio Broadcaster, Marketing, Screenwriter, Speech and Language Therapist, Vlogger, Digital Media, Solicitor, TV Presenter, Web Designer, Paralegal, Actor.



# CORE GCSE

## English Literature



### What will I learn?

Students will learn to:

- Read, understand and respond to texts.
- Maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response.
- Use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.
- Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.
- Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.
- Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

### How will I be assessed?

#### English Literature Paper 1:

**Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel**

**Section A** Shakespeare: *Romeo and Juliet*

**Section B** 19<sup>th</sup> Century Text: *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens

#### English Language Paper 2:

**Modern Texts and Poetry.**

**Section A** Modern Text: *An Inspector Calls* by J. B. Priestley

**Section B** Poetry: Power and Conflict

**Section C** Unseen Poetry

### Where could it take me?

English Literature can take you on a rich journey of imagination. It can explore our past and shape our future. English Literature can lead you on to a range of apprenticeships, for example, Public Relations, Broadcasting, Marketing. Alternatively, you could enrol onto vocational courses such as Sports Journalism, Education, Digital Media Production. It will enable you to continue studying English Literature as an A-level and on to Degree Level.

### **Career Pathways with English Literature**

Advertising, Editor, Teacher, Librarian, Journalist, Radio Broadcaster, Marketing, Screenwriter, Speech and Language Therapist, Vlogger, Digital Media, Solicitor, TV Presenter, Web Designer, Paralegal, Actor

# CORE GCSE

## Combined Science Trilogy



### What will I learn?

#### Year 10:

**Biology:** *Cells, Organisation, Infection, Bioenergetics,*

**Chemistry:** *Atomic structure, Bonding, Quantitative chemistry, Chemical Changes & Energy changes*

**Physics:** *Energy, Electricity, Particles & Atom theory*

#### Year 11:

**Biology:** *Homeostasis, Inheritance & Ecology*

**Chemistry:** *Rates of reactions, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Atmosphere, Resources*

**Physics:** *Forces & motion, Waves, Electromagnetic spectrum, Electromagnetism*

Throughout your time you will learn how to assess data in graphs, carry out practical investigations and evaluate results.

### How will I be assessed?

There are 6 exams in total at 1hr 15 minutes each and each marked out of 70.

All are terminal exams taken at the end of year 11.

2x Biology

2x Chemistry

2 x Physics

All feature a mixture of multiple choice, one word answers and long form answers.

There are 2 tiers of entry, Foundation (level 5-1) and Higher (level 9-5).

The decision of entry is made in February of Year 11 based on performance in mock exams and consultation between the student and teacher.

Throughout each module there are small quizzes and a final end of module exam to allow you to see your progress.

### Where could it take me?

Employers hold a Science qualification in high regard. You will be good at logical problem solving and thinking technically. The World is wide open with Science!

### Career Pathways with Science

Aerospace Engineer, Agricultural Engineer, Biochemist, Clinical Psychologist, Dentist, Dietitian, Geneticist, Geoscientist, GP, Health Visitor, Researcher, Midwife, Nurse, Oceanographer



# Core Physical Education (PE)



PE is a compulsory part of education and at Key Stage 4 we aim to focus students on a specific pathway that best suits their interests and sporting ability:

## Pathways:

- **Leadership and Competitive:** Students who follow this pathway will be expected to play sport competitively and improve their fitness, skill level and knowledge of rules and tactics. Suited to students who enjoy leading, coaching and umpiring others and developing their knowledge and understanding of sport. They will be involved in leading festivals for primary schools as well as playing sports. Students taking the BTEC Sport GCSE will be following this pathway.
- **Sport:** Suited to those who enjoy a combination of team and individual sports and some social competition. Activities are likely to include badminton, volleyball, football, handball, basketball and use of the school's fitness suite.
- **Leisure:** Suited to those who enjoy individual, alternative activities based around fitness and maintaining an active lifestyle. Activities are likely to include just badminton, yoga/pilates, body combat, Joe Wicks HIT sessions, table tennis and use of the school's fitness suite.

## Description of Course

PE at KS4 allows students to work through a range of sports/physical activities enabling them to develop their knowledge, understanding, skill level, fitness and My Personal Best qualities in a range of areas. Our key focus is to give our students the opportunity to make informed choices about healthy, active lifestyles. We strongly believe in developing in the whole person through sport and physical activity via our My Personal Best Qualities. We ultimately hope our students will find something that they enjoy and continue into later life.

## How Will You Learn/Method of Assessment

Students will be assessed in a variety of way including:

- Levels of effort and engagement
- Skills / Knowledge
- Leadership ability
- Development of My Personal Best Qualities

## **Career Pathways with Sport**

Leisure and Fitness Industry, Professional Sportsperson, Outdoor Pursuits and Education. Sports Media and Journalism, Occupational Therapist, Teacher, Forces, Public Services

# GCSE Option

## Art and Design



### **Why choose this course?**

If you like looking at, analysing and researching artists' work, drawing and developing your own ideas, this is the course for you. Art provides a space for you to express your own thoughts and feelings, and can help with self-esteem, self-development and communication skills. Most importantly, choose this course if you enjoy creating art.

### **What will I learn?**

You will learn how to communicate your thoughts and ideas to a wider audience through your own experimentation with various materials and by studying the work of artists and makers from other times and cultures. You will have the opportunity to work within a variety of disciplines, including painting and drawing, printmaking, mixed media, ceramics and photography.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Every student is required to produce a portfolio of practical work exploring a range of styles and techniques. The Art GCSE course is a 2-year linear course. The coursework represents 60% of the marks and is completed over the first four terms. The Externally Set Assignment, which includes a 10-hour timed test, makes up the remaining 40% of the marks and is produced during the spring term of Year 11. Both the coursework and the externally set assignment are marked holistically using four assessment objectives that each make up 25% of your final marks.

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.

### **Where could it take me?**

Our GCSE syllabus is selected and developed as a vehicle for independent thought and self-expression for all students, as well as being the best preparation we can offer for those who wish to continue to AS/A levels courses as pathways to relevant FE and HE provision.

The creative and communication skills developed on the course combined with the self-discipline and organisational skills required to do well, are invaluable to those who go on to work in a wide range of professions and occupations.

### **Career Pathways with Art**

Advertising, Animator, Art Therapist, Fashion Designer, Graphic Designer, Teacher, Prop Maker, Set Designer, Textile Designer, Art Gallery Curator, Visual Merchandiser, Web Content Manager

# Option Computer Science



## Why choose this course?

This GCSE in Computer Science qualification will give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on “behind the scenes”. As part of this, you will investigate computer programming, which many learners find interesting. This will develop your critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills. For many, it will be a fun and interesting way to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life.

## What will I learn?

This course will introduce you to the Central Processing Unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. You 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. There are also opportunities for you to demonstrate your practical ability. You will create suitable algorithms which will provide a solution to the problems identified in the task. You will then code your solutions in a suitable programming language such as Python.

## How will I be assessed?

### Paper 1 - J277/01

#### **Computer systems**

Written Exam

50% of the total course

### Paper 2 - J277/02

#### **Computational thinking**

Written Exam

50% of the total course

### NEA

#### **Programming project**

Controlled Assessment

20 hours

## Where could it take me?

GCSE Computer Science can be applied to many areas of further study and employment; providing a sound foundation for further study of Computer Studies at both A Level and University. Many subjects rely on Computer Programming as a research tool; for instance, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics etc., so learning these skills now gives you the upper hand in your later studies. As computers have infiltrated many workplaces and affected the ways in which people work, computer programming has become an essential and lucrative enterprise for many.

### **Career Pathways with Art**

App Developer, Computer Games Developer, Cyber Intelligence Officer, Data Analyst, IT Project Manager, Software Developer, Systems Analyst, IT Support Technician.

# BTEC Option

## Construction and the Built Environment



### **Why choose this course?**

This course allows you to study construction and the built environment, giving you the opportunity to gain a broad knowledge and understanding of the industry. You will develop skills such as interpreting and analysing information, identifying the infrastructure required for safe and efficient work and in understanding how client needs can shape building design.

### **What will I learn?**

The qualification is aimed at everyone who wants to find out more about construction and the built environment. It gives you the opportunity to learn about one of the most important sectors of the UK economy. You will study three mandatory units, covering the fundamental knowledge, skills and understanding required construction technology and design:

- construction technology
- construction in practice
- construction and design

You will build on the knowledge gained in the mandatory units by developing your skills and knowledge pertaining to a wide range of construction industry occupations with a particular focus on brick and blockwork. This will provide you with an opportunity to develop a wider understanding and appreciation of the construction industry.

### **How will I be assessed?**

This qualification is 120 GLH, which is the same size and level as a GCSE. It has 3 mandatory units and 1 specialist unit. You will carry out tasks/assignments throughout the course. Your teacher will mark these, and so you will receive feedback as to how you are getting on. For the assessment for Unit 3: Construction and Design, you will be able to draw on the knowledge, skills and understanding you have developed in the qualification as a whole. The assessment for Unit 1: Construction Technology, is an external exam which is sent away to be marked.

### **Where could it take me?**

The qualification leads directly into employment or further training. Helston Community College Sixth Form offer a level 1/2 Construction Diploma course.

### **Career Pathways linked to Construction**

Builder, Bricklayer, Architect, Building Control Officer, Boat Builder, Surveyor, CAD Technician, Crane Driver, Electrician, Facilities Manager, Painter and Decorator, Planning and Development, Scaffolder, Roofer, Tiler, Welder.

## Why choose this course?

Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia is a media sector-focused qualification, including visual identity and digital design, and has creative ICT at its heart. The course will provide you with knowledge of a number of key areas in this field from pre-production skills to interactive design and has a motivating, hands-on approach to learning.

## What will I learn?

This course will introduce you to the fundamentals of digital design. You will also learn where and why digital graphics are used and what techniques are involved in their creation. You will develop an understanding of the client brief, time management, deadlines and preparation techniques as part of the planning and creation process. You will gain the basics of digital graphics editing for the creative and digital media sector. You will be able to demonstrate your creativity by designing and creating effective interactive digital media products.

## How will I be assessed?

### **R093:**

#### **Creative iMedia in the media industry**

Mandatory Written Exam  
40% of the total course

### **R094:**

#### **Visual identity and digital graphics**

Mandatory NEA  
25% of the total course

### **R097:**

#### **Interactive digital media**

Optional NEA  
35% of the total course

## Where could it take me?

### **Further Study...**

Cambridge Technical  
GCE Media Studies  
Creative Apprenticeships

### **Career Pathways with Art**

Graphic Design, Advertising, Animation, Digital Marketing, Game Design, Film, Interactive Media, Special Effects, Technical Production, Television, Web Design.



# GCSE Option Design Technology



## **Why choose this course?**

If you are creative, artistic, logical, enjoy problem solving, good at planning, and an independent worker, then Design and Technology is for you. You will explore the use of materials and their properties, learn new manufacturing processes in timbers, metals and polymers. Combining the use of computers for designing and manufacturing alongside hand skills with traditional tools to produce a final practical piece of work in year 11.

## **What will I learn?**

- A range of transferable practical and theoretical skills including:
- How to generate and develop creative solutions to benefit people.
- How to work to a high level of accuracy and tolerance. Applying skills to both marking out and manufacturing.
- How to utilise CAD/CAM facilities to improve your grades to show developmental skills. This includes work through the use of the laser cutter and the computer controlled router.
- Applied maths and science.
- How new technologies impact on sustainability design strategies and developments in new materials.
- Variety of methods of communicating your design ideas, including freehand sketching, isometric drawing, orthographic, exploded views and 3D modelling.
- The ability to critically evaluate your research and ideas to produce work that is fully justified, detailed and in depth.
- Learn how products are manufactured in industry.

## **How will I be assessed?**

**Year 10** – Individual practical projects, theory assessments throughout the year.

**Year 11** - 50% written Exam, 50% NEA (Coursework) - students explore a themed contextual challenge from the exam board and develop their own design solution to a self-directed design problem.

## **Where could it take me?**

The study of Design and Technology gives you a range of practical and analytical skills that can be applied to a range of A-levels and Higher Education courses.

## **Career Pathways with Design Technology**

Engineering, Architecture, Product Design, Robotics, Gaming Design, Industrial Design, Electronics, Programming Design, Furniture Design, Set Design, Fashion, Graphics, Business Management.



# BTEC Option

## Dance



### Why choose this course?

You love dancing, you feel you can express yourself through moving, you want to improve your physical confidence, you want to improve your fitness, you want to expand your creative skills in a physical or musical way. This BTEC course gives us the chance to tailor learning, giving creative and performing opportunities that best suit the group of students who choose to pursue it. Dance activities will both explore existing areas of skill and interest whilst also presenting further opportunities for advancing your practice in dance styles that offer new technical challenges. You will have weekly technique classes and workshops in creative approaches to making dance. The BTEC approach considers dance in a vocational context so there is always a focus on how the skills and knowledge you develop is utilised by people in real jobs and where possible we try to create opportunities for you to work with and watch such professionals. We hope that through this course you will find your own unique artistic voice.

### What will I learn?

- 1: You will learn 3 pieces of professional repertoire from contrasting styles such as Contemporary, Physical Theatre, Jazz, Commercial, Musical Theatre (could involve singing too), Street Dance.
- 2: You will analyse professional work.
- 3: You will perform a taught dance based on a piece of professional repertoire.
- 4: You will research the roles and responsibilities of people working in the Performing Arts industry.
- 5: You will learn how to create your own dance work. You will choreograph a group piece in response to a brief that will be performed publicly.

### How will I be assessed?

	Topic	Evidence	When	Assessment
1	Exploring the Performing Arts Looking at professional repertoire in 3 contrasting styles	Written research / videos of workshop activities and performances.	Year 10	Internally assessed
2	Developing Skills and Techniques Developing performing, technical and expressive skills.	Videos of milestone moments of progress. Reflective logs.	Year 10 Year 11	Internally assessed
3	Responding to a Brief. Choreographing your own work.	Video of performance and reflective logs.	Year 11	Externally examined

### Career Pathways with Dance

Dancer, Teacher, Performer, Fitness Instructor, Choreographer, Play therapist, Sports Coach

# BTEC Option Drama



## **Why choose this course?**

You enjoyed drama in Key Stage 3, especially in year 9, you enjoy being in productions, you want to improve your confidence and you enjoy being creative.

The course will improve your acting skills and it will make you more comfortable about speaking up in public. You don't need to wish to be an actor to gain from this course. You will need to be effective at working with others.

## **What will I learn?**

- 1: You will learn 3 pieces of professional repertoire from contrasting styles such as Naturalism, Epic Theatre, Forum Theatre, Verbatim Theatre, Commedia dell'Arte, Musical Theatre (could involve moving and singing too).
- 2: You will analyse professional work.
- 3: You will perform professional repertoire i.e. published plays.
- 4: You will research the roles and responsibilities of people working in the Performing Arts industry.
- 5: You will learn how to create your own theatre work. You will devise a group piece in response to a brief that will be performed publicly.

## **How will I be assessed?**

	Topic	Evidence	When	Assessment
1	Exploring the Performing Arts Looking at professional repertoire in 3 contrasting styles	Written research / videos of workshop activities and performances.	Year 10	Internally assessed
2	Developing Skills and Techniques Developing performing, technical and expressive skills.	Videos of milestone moments of progress. Reflective logs.	Year 10 Year 11	Internally assessed
3	Responding to a Brief. Devising your own work.	Video of performance and reflective logs.	Year 11	Externally examined

## **Where could it take me?**

By taking this course you are investing in your whole future. You will leave school with an understanding and appreciation of how the arts stimulate our cultural and working lives. You will be the inquisitive and curious audiences of the future. After completing this course, one thing is certain, the performing arts will always be a part of your life.

### **Career Pathways with Drama**

Actor, Community Arts Worker, Drama Therapist, Lighting Technician, Live Sound Engineer, Screenwriter, Set Designer, TV or Film Producer.

# GCSE Option French



## Why choose this course?

If you enjoyed your French lessons in Key Stage 3, are interested in other countries/cultures and have an inquiring mind, then this is the course for you! This course aims to develop your ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing. The course will enable you to listen and understand clearly spoken, standard speech at near normal speed and develop your language learning skills and strategies. You will also develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where French is spoken. By studying French you will be developing the following skills: awareness of different cultures; communication skills; presenting written information clearly; speaking and writing in another language; speaking in groups; understanding written information.

## What will I learn?

In this course you will follow five main themes. These are:

- Identity and culture: *Who am I? Daily life; Cultural life*
- Local area, holiday and travel: *Holidays; Travel and tourist transactions; Town, region and country*
- School: *What school is like? School activities*
- Future aspirations, study and work: *Using languages beyond the classroom; Ambitions; Work*
- International and global dimension: *Bringing the world together; Environmental issues*

As well as studying these with reference to the UK, you will also study the themes in the context of French speaking countries.

## How will I be assessed?

4 exams at the end of Year 11, all worth 25% of the qualification:

*Listening and Understanding in French*

*Speaking in French*

*Reading and Understanding in French*

*Writing in French*

**Pro tip:** regular revision of vocab will boost your confidence (and grade!). Why not make a habit of spending 15min a day on memrise or learning from your vocab sheets?

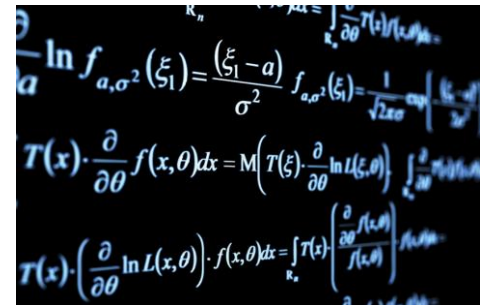
## Where could it take me?

By taking a language at GCSE you'll be gaining amazing skills and a valuable talent that's applicable to almost everything you do, expanding your cultural horizons and boosting your brain power. You open up doors not just in France, but in Canada, Africa, the Pacific Islands and the Caribbean.

## **Career Pathways with French**

Cabin Crew, Airline Pilot, Teacher, Hotel Manager, Careers in Business, Tour Guide, Translator, Retail Buyer, Research Scientist, Journalist.

# GCSE Option Further Mathematics



## Why choose this course?

This course is aimed at able and enthusiastic mathematicians who would like to explore Maths beyond the GCSE curriculum. If you are expecting a grade 7 or above in GCSE Maths, this course could be for you. Further Maths is a unique qualification offering stretch and challenge for high achieving mathematicians, developing higher order mathematical skills, particularly in algebraic reasoning, preparing you to fully maximise your potential in further studies at A-Level.

Please note: Depending on the level of interest in this GCSE it may be delivered in an alternative format to an option subject. Please express your interest in it as one of your options and we will discuss with you if an alternative model of delivery is required.

## What will I learn?

In Further Maths, you will build on the GCSE Maths curriculum covering the areas of algebra and geometry, which are crucial to further study in the subject, in greater depth and breadth. This qualification places an emphasis on higher order technical proficiency, rigorous argument and problem solving skills. It also gives an introduction to calculus and matrices and develops further skills in trigonometry, functions and graphs.

## How will I be assessed?

Level 2 Certificate in Further Maths - two written papers, each worth 50%. Paper 1 is non-calculator and Paper 2 is calculator. There is no coursework requirement.

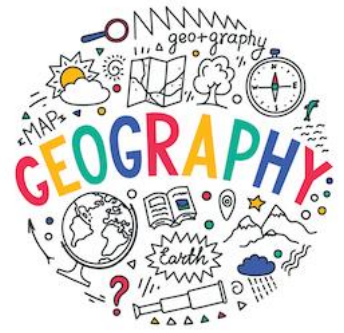
## Where could it take me?

This option will complement subjects such as GCSE Biology and Geography, and will also support A-Levels in these subjects as well as Mathematics, Psychology, Business and Economics, Ecology and even Sports Science. Some of the most interesting and well-paid careers revolve around Maths. Careers in finance, medicine, engineering, modelling weather patterns, law and business are all open to people with a background in Mathematics, as are careers in scientific research and technology — Maths being at the very core of all new technological developments.

## Career Pathways with Mathematics

Accountant, Engineer, Bank Manager, Criminologist, Economist, Financial Advisor, Investment Analyst, Research, Stockbroker, Meteorologist, Air Traffic Control, Actuary

# GCSE Option Geography



## Why choose this course?

Climate change, volcanoes, river flooding, earthquakes, organic farming, city deprivation, famine, population explosion, development, migration, wind energy, tourism, recycling, sustainability..... There has never been a time when Geography has been so relevant to the world around you. These issues and many more are in the news on a daily basis. GCSE Geography gives you a greater understanding of the problems facing our planet and allows you the opportunity to suggest solutions.

This varied and diverse course builds on the foundations laid lower down the school and includes examples taken from all over the globe.

## What will I learn?

1. **Locational Knowledge** – Learn about real places and issues in the 21st Century.
2. **Maps, fieldwork & geographical skills** – Skills based Geography using mathematical and ICT skills.
3. **Geography of the UK** – Knowledge & understanding of the UK's physical and human geography
4. **Physical geography** – Tectonic Processes; Changing weather & climate; Rivers and Coastal environments
5. **People & Environment** – Global ecosystems and biodiversity; Resources and their management; Sustainability issues.
6. **Human geography** – Cities and urban society; Global economic development issues; Population and migration issues.

## How will I be assessed?

**Paper 1: Living with the physical environment** (1hour 30 Minutes) 35%

**Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment** (1hour 30 Minutes) 35%

**Paper 3: Geographical applications** (1hour 15 Minutes) 30%

## Where could it take me?

As Michael Palin, President of the Royal Geographical Society, says, "Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world's current problems boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them.

You will find geographers working in a wide range of jobs, from planning, working in the environment to travel and tourism, or in international charities and retail. Studying geography can help young people achieve careers that are professionally and financially rewarding and also enjoyable. Geography illustrates the past, explains the present and prepares us for the future ... what could be more important than that?"

## **Career Pathways with Geography**

Climate Scientist, Countryside Ranger, Land Surveyor, Seismologist, Town Planner, Teacher, Travel Agent, Geoscientist, Ecologist, Cabin Crew



# GCSE Option History



## Why choose this course?

History is full of the disappointment and pain of humanity, as well as the improvements and highlights of human progress! If you enjoy understanding the human world and looking for answers about change over time, history will frustrate, anger, and occasionally please! The course will help you learn more about British history, as well as develop your wider understanding of the international world in the Twentieth Century. It is a window on why we got to this moment in time, and also how we got here! Just when you think you know why events happened, a new feature will pop up because we are human – nothing stays the same!

## What will I learn?

### Year 10

**Thematic Study:** Britain: Power and the People, c1170 to the present day. This looks at why people's rights and their relationship with the state changed.

**British Depth Study:** Elizabeth I.

### Year 11

**Period Study:** Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship

**Wider World Depth Study:** Conflict and Tension between East and West, 1945-1972

## How will I be assessed?

Two exams at the end of Year 11.

**Paper 1 Understanding the Modern World** is worth 50% of marks

**Section A:** Period study of Germany 1890-1945: six compulsory questions.

**Section B:** Wider World Depth Study: Conflict and Tension between East and West, four compulsory questions.

**Paper 2 British Studies** is worth 50% of marks

**Section A:** Thematic Study Britain: Power and the People: four compulsory questions.

**Section B:** British Depth Study: Elizabeth I - four compulsory questions.

## Where could it take me?

History GCSE is a gateway subject to many written A level courses. History combines the prioritising of knowledge to reason and justify, with analysis and balance. History develops critical thinking, going beyond accepting a source or an event at face value. It brings the modern world into focus and develops academic skills useful for many careers.

### **Career Pathways with History**

Heritage Officer, Public Relations Officer, Lawyer, Archivist, Museum Curator, Solicitor, Teacher, Media, Civil Service, Tourism, Film and Costume Design, Research and Marketing.



# Option

## Hospitality and Catering



### Why choose this course?

Choose this course if you are organised, creative, have a passion for food and enjoy cooking and presenting work. The course also provides you with a wealth of knowledge about the hospitality and catering industry and every week we will study and investigate this in our theory lessons. You will need to prepare and buy ingredients regularly, as we cook nearly every week. You should already be able to follow a recipe confidently and be beginning to think about how you could adapt a recipe, replacing with different ingredients.

### What will I learn?

#### Unit 1 (Exam Unit) will cover:

- LO1** Understand the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate
- LO2** Understand how hospitality and catering provision operates
- LO3** Understand how hospitality and catering provision meets health and safety requirements
- LO4** Know how food can cause ill health
- LO5** Be able to propose a hospitality and catering provision to meet specific requirements

#### Unit 2 (Assignment) will cover:

- LO1** Understand the importance of nutrition when planning menus
- LO2** Understand menu planning
- LO3** Be able to cook dishes

### How will I be assessed?

**Unit 1:** External Assessment with an on-screen exam 90 min long

**Unit 2:** Internal Assessment assignment project with a practical exam

The grades that can be achieved are:

Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction, Level 2 Distinction\*

You sit your exam (Unit 1) in the exam series before you certificate, this will be the summer of year 11. Your assignment (Unit 2) will be your own independent work with a written research project. You will also cook and present several dishes.

### Where could it take me?

The Hospitality and Catering Tech Award can give you the enjoyment and love of preparing and cooking food. It can also give you the start to move to college and study hospitality and catering or onto a food degree at University or work in the sector.

### **Career Pathways with Hospitality and Catering**

Baker, Catering Manager, Chef, Food Manufacturing Inspector, Food Scientist, Hotel Manager, Nutritionist, Packaging Technologist, Food factory Worker, Restaurant Manager

# GCSE Option Music



## **Why choose this course?**

This course is designed to allow the study of music through the integration of performing, composing and listening & appraising: so if you enjoy playing music, making up your own melodies and listening to different musical styles, then this is the course for you! This course offers students a range of opportunities to study music in both diverse and traditional fields and the flexible nature of the course allows students to capitalise on their own musical interests.

## **What will I learn?**

### **1. Performing**

You must be prepared to study at least one instrument - this can include singing, rapping - and even beatboxing!

### **2. Composing**

You will develop an understanding of how music works and learn different compositional methods and techniques in order to create your own pieces of music.

### **3. Listening & Appraising**

You will listen to and analyse various styles of music including popular music, film music and world music.

## **How will I be assessed?**

### **Part 1 - Integrated Portfolio**

- Internally assessed assignments
- 30% of the total course

### **Part 2 - Practical Component**

- Internally assessed assignments
- 30% of the total course

### **Part 3 - Listening and Appraising**

- Externally assessed task
- 40% of the total course

## **Where could it take me?**

GCSE Music provides a solid foundation for further music studies at Post 16. The music and entertainment industry is a big business in the UK and GCSE Music could help pave the way to any career within the industry. Music students also develop skills that define employability: self-management; team work; problem solving; creative thinking; numeracy and ICT. Perhaps, most importantly, music is a skill for life and provides opportunity for enjoyment, leisure, participation and social interaction.

### **Career Pathways with Music**

Acoustics Consultant, Audio Visual Technician, Broadcast Engineer, Entertainer, Music Promotion Manager, Music Therapist, Teacher, Sound Engineer,

- analytical and strategic thinking;
- research skills;
- critical judgement;
- the ability to work with abstract, conceptual ideas;
- an ability to 'understand both sides' and negotiate and resolve conflict;
- problem-solving skills;
- leadership skills;
- An understanding of the impact of conflicting ideologies; and
- an appreciation of human diversity, belief systems, cultural and spiritual experiences.

AQA GCSE Religious Studies Specification 8062: [Click here to see the exam specification and course details](#)

# GCSE Option Separate Science



## Why choose this course?

We live in a society built on science, and learning how the world works and to evaluate facts, rather than opinion will help in your adult life.

We teach you how to think logically and understand the Universe around you. Students who choose Triple Science enjoy learning the topics in a greater depth and is a good pathway to studying further at A Level.

## What will I learn?

### Year 10:

**Biology:** *Cells, Organisation, Infection, Bioenergetics,*

**Chemistry:** *Atomic structure, Bonding, Quantitative chemistry, Chemical Changes & Energy changes*

**Physics:** *Energy, Electricity, Particles & Atoms*

### Year 11:

**Biology:** *Homeostasis, Inheritance & Ecology*

**Chemistry:** *Rates of reaction, Organic chemistry, Chemical analysis, Atmosphere & Resources*

**Physics:** *Forces, Waves, Electromagnetic spectrum, Electromagnetism, Space (Triple module only)*

Throughout your time you will learn how to assess data in graphs, carry out practical investigations and evaluate results.

## How will I be assessed?

There are 6 exams in total at 1hr 45 minutes each and marked out of 100.

All are taken at the end of year 11.

2x Biology

2x Chemistry

2 x Physics

All feature a mixture of multiple choice, one word answers and long form answers.

The course is taught at the higher level (9-5) and throughout each module there are small quizzes and a final end of module exam to allow you to see your progress.

## Where could it take me?

Employers hold a Science qualification in high regard. You will be good at logical problem solving and thinking technically. The World is wide open with Science!

## Career Pathways with Science

Aerospace Engineer, Agricultural Engineer, Biochemist, Clinical Psychologist, Dentist, Dietitian, Geneticist, Geoscientist, GP, Health Visitor, Researcher, Midwife, Nurse, Oceanographer

If you enjoyed your Spanish lessons in Key Stage 3, are interested in other countries/cultures and have an inquiring mind, then this is the course for you! This course aims to develop your ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing. It will enable you to listen to and understand clearly spoken, standard speech at near normal speed and develop your language learning skills and strategies. You will also develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where Spanish is spoken.

## What will I learn?

- Identity and culture: *Who am I? Daily life; Cultural life*
- Local area, holiday and travel: *Holidays; Travel and tourist transactions; Town, region and country*
- School: *What school is like? School activities*
- Future aspirations, study and work: *Using languages beyond the classroom; Ambitions; Work*
- International and global dimension: *Bringing the world together; Environmental issues*

## How will I be assessed?

## Writing in Spanish

## Where could it take me?

## Career Pathways with Spanish

Pearson GCSE Spanish Specification 1SP0: [Click here to see the exam specification and course details](#)



# BTEC Option Sport



## **Why choose this course?**

PE, sport and physical activity adds life to years and years to life so why would you not choose to do the Tech Award in Sport! The course is a fun but academic course which is accessible to all learners who have a passion for fitness, sport and/or health, not just for those pupils who have played sport for school. Talk to one of the PE staff about the course and see if you will enjoy it.

## **What will I learn?**

The course teaches you a number of skills and covers a range of topics. You will carry on developing your knowledge of fitness testing and training which started in KS3 lessons; there will also be lessons on how your body works and the effect that physical activity has on it; we will study how the mind affects performance and the psychology of sports performance. Away from the sciences we will also look at technology and sociological aspects of physical activity. Part of the course will also require you to further develop your refereeing skills and ability to apply the rules of a chosen sport, fairly and correctly. KS3 Games Day will provide a great opportunity for students to then apply their understanding of the rules of these sports in a competitive environment. As you can see this is a very varied course.

## **How will I be assessed?**

### **Component 1 - Preparing participants to take part in Sport and Physical Activity (30%)**

- Internally assessed: assignment consisting of three tasks (completed under exam conditions). This unit covers different types of provision in the sports industry, Technology in sport and preparation to take part in physical activity.

### **Component 2 - Taking part and improving others Sport Performance (30%)**

- Internally assessed - both practical and theoretical. This unit covers the components of fitness, understanding the roles and responsibilities of officials and finally demonstrating ways of improving a sports performer's skills.

### **Component 3 - Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity (40%)**

Externally assessed summative exam 1.5hr. Within this unit students will focus on fitness testing, fitness methods, principles of training, psychology in Sport, nutrition and how these can be used to improve performance.

## **Where could this qualification take me?**

The Tech Award in Sport, Physical Activity and Fitness is the ideal course to go onto study PE and sport as a BTEC or A Level at college.

### **Career Pathways with Drama**

Leisure and Fitness Industry, Professional Sportsperson, Outdoor Pursuits and Education. Sports Media and Journalism, Occupational Therapist, Teacher, Forces, Public Services



# YEAR 9 OPTION CHOICES FORM 2023

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tutor Group: \_\_\_\_\_

You have **four option subjects** in year 10. However, we are asking all students to choose **five option choices**, one from block 1, four from block 2. Please number them 1 – 5. 1 being the subject you most want to take at GCSE, 2 your second choice etc..... **If you want to fulfil the EBacc criteria** (see information in the options booklet), you need to take as a minimum History or Geography **plus** French or Spanish.

Block 1 Choose 1 Option		Block 2 Choose 4 Options (Don't forget to number them)	
Geography		Geography	
History		History	
French		French	
Spanish		Spanish	
		Art and Design	
		Computer Science	
		Construction and the Built Environment	
		Creative iMedia	
		Dance	
		Design Technology	
		Drama	
		Further Maths	
		Geography	
		History	
		Hospitality and Catering	
		Music	
		Religious Studies	
		*Separate Science	
		Spanish	
		Sport	

## Please note:

If you choose a Humanities (Geography or History) **and** a Modern Foreign Language, then you will have the combination of subjects for the English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

\*Select science as **one** of your options if you want to take the separate science GCSEs

Please complete a paper copy of the options form and hand in to Mrs Penberthy or Mr Loder by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

Please ensure you have discussed your options with parents/carers and we would like their signature in the section below.

## To be completed by Parents/Carers:

Please use the space below if you have any questions about the options choices or if there was a difficulty choosing the option choices that you would like us to be aware of.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Please let us know if you would like a meeting with Mrs Penberthy or Mr Loder to discuss the options

☐ I would like a meeting to discuss options

☐ I do not need a meeting at the moment to discuss the options

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GCSE Option



