



**YEAR 9**  
**OPTION INFORMATION**  
**BOOKLET**

**2021**

**Key Stage 4 Curriculum**

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# Shevington High School

## Options Process

**Mr J Grant- Headteacher**

During the five years your child is with us there are two key moments when they are expected to make a choice of subjects - at age 16 and now at Year 9. We want to provide each child with guidance and advice so that the best choice is made and the potential of every student is realised. Our aim is for everybody to leave our school with the grades to enter top universities and lead successful lives.

Our track record in examinations is impressive and our GCSE results have been very good and always improving.

Over the next few years we have set ambitious targets for our future results and confidently expect them to get even better. Of course, we know what a significant part parents play in the success of their child and we will provide you with a lot of information about our GCSE courses and the options process. Examination results are clearly important but please be assured that we also push very hard on developing the values and personal characteristics to make our students into good people as well as providing the qualifications to enter the best universities in the country and on to influential careers.

**Mr J Grant**

**Headteacher**

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# Shevington High School

## Options Process

### **Mrs C Baggaley - Deputy Headteacher**

Key Stage 3 (Year 7,8 & 9) at Shevington High School forms an introduction to essential knowledge that our students need to be educated citizens. Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11), allows more time for students to study GCSE in more depth and an element of choice is introduced.

This booklet contains details of courses available in Key Stage 4. It is designed to help pupils and parents understand the implications of option choices and to assist pupils, in particular, to make wise choices.

All pupils in Key Stage 4 will study the core subjects. Pupils will be asked to choose subjects from the Option Subjects provided within this booklet.

When making choices of subjects it is beneficial to keep Careers and Further Education in mind. It is therefore important for the majority of pupils to concentrate on a balanced, general education.

It is also advisable to assess the academic study required by different subjects, especially in relation to Controlled Assessments. If you have any concerns about your choices please speak to your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year.

The Headteacher reserves the right to withdraw any of the options and to amend the pupils' choices where it is educationally desirable.

It has always been important for pupils to make informed choices based on their own strengths, as once choices have been made, the scope for change is limited. It is also the case that, with regret, we may have to ask pupils opting for less popular subjects to make alternative choices. For subjects that are oversubscribed we will endeavour to discuss further options with individual pupils.

Mrs C Baggaley  
Deputy Headteacher

## Options Process

## Shevington High School

Read the information in this booklet carefully.

### The pupils who succeed in GCSE choose subjects because they

- Study a subject they enjoy
- Believe that they will gain success with the subject
- Understand that the subject will help them achieve career goals

### DO NOT choose a subject because

- You think it is easy
- You like the teacher in that subject-you may not be taught by them next year 🏠 Your best friend has chosen it.

## Introduction

<b>Friday 8th January 2021</b>	Students and parents will receive an electronic copy of the option booklet and form.
<b>Monday 11th January 2021 8.45</b>	Year 9 pupils in remote option assembly
<b>11th January -9th February 2021</b>	Year 9 form Tutors & Teachers will discuss option choices.
<b>13th January 2021</b>	Remote Parents Evening
<b>9th February 2021</b>	Option Form deadline

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## The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

During Key Stage 4 (Year 10 and 11), all pupils will follow a curriculum that is suited to their needs and interests. They will finish Year 11 equipped with a range of appropriate qualifications, skills and attributes to enable them to pursue their chosen path into further education and employment. The curriculum is divided into two parts, core curriculum and options – these are outlined below.

### **The Core Curriculum (compulsory for all pupils)**

- 🎬 GCSE English Language & GCSE Literature
- 🎬 GCSE Mathematics
- 🎬 GCSE Science
- 🎬 Physical Education (no qualification)
- 🎬 Personal, Social, Health and Careers Education (no qualification)

### **Option Subjects**

- 🎬 GCSE Art
- 🎬 GCSE Computer Studies
- 🎬 GCSE Design and Technology
- 🎬 GCSE Drama
- 🎬 GCSE Food & Nutrition
- 🎬 GCSE French
- 🎬 GCSE Geography
- 🎬 GCSE History
- 🎬 GCSE Media Studies
- 🎬 GCSE Music
- 🎬 GCSE Physical Education
- 🎬 GCSE Religious Education
- 🎬 GCSE Creative I Media
- 🎬 GCSE Business Studies
- 🎬 GCSE Spanish
- 🎬 GCSE Mandarin

## Pathways to the Future

Shevington High School offers 3 options designed to offer a broad and balanced curriculum.

Subjects	Number of GCSEs
English Language & English Literature	2
Mathematics	1
Science	2 or 3
Option A:	1
Option B	1
Option C	1

### Be Aware

- Languages still feature strongly in Higher Educational enrolment literature.
- It may not be possible to do everything you want to do: have a reserve
- The most successful pupils are those who attend regularly and work hard.
- Use your free choices to provide balance and breadth to your timetable.
- Do not be influenced by your friends as you may well be in different groups.
- Do not choose a subject because you like the teacher as you may not be taught by them next year.

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## English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate - though not a qualification in itself - is a measure of success in core academic subjects; specifically English, mathematics, history or geography, the sciences and a language.

These are subjects most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and ones that will keep the most doors open. Pupils wishing to apply for Sixth Form and University are strongly encouraged to follow an English Baccalaureate curriculum.

All pupils will study English, Mathematics and the Sciences as part of their Core Curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to opt to study a Language (French, Spanish & Mandarin) **and** a Humanity (History or Geography) as part of option subjects.

## Curriculum Timetable

Subjects	Periods	Overview
Core GCSE English	4	A high-quality education in English will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate to others.
Core GCSE Mathematics	4	Mathematics is a creative and highly interconnected discipline that has been developed over centuries, providing the solution to some of history's most intriguing problems.
Core GCSE Science	6	A science education provides the foundation for understanding the world through specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics.
Physical Education	1	Pupils will get involved in a range of activities that develop personal fitness and promotes an active, healthy lifestyle.
Personal Development and Citizenship	1	A citizenship education helps provide pupils with knowledge skills and understanding to prepare them to play a full and active part in society.
Option A	3	
Option B	3	
Option C	3	

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## Request for Option Change

Occasionally, pupils may feel they have made a wrong decision with an Option and may request a change. However, please note that not all requests for option change can be granted due to staffing and timetable schedules. In order to request a change, a letter or email from parents/carers is required detailing the reason.

**Requests for Option Changes must be submitted via a Google Options Change form. This can be requested via the Office and emailed to the parent/carer to complete or Click here [.https://forms.gle/mnB7Esp1NY2u7oDo7](https://forms.gle/mnB7Esp1NY2u7oDo7)**

This will then be passed to Mrs Baggaley, Deputy Headteacher.

The deadline for all option changes is **October half term 2021**. Requests after this time will not be considered due to pupils having missed a number of teaching hours in the subject they wish to change to.

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# Subject: English Language

## English Baccalaureate Subject

Head of Faculty: Mrs Johnson

GCSE Exam Board AQA

## Course Description

The English Language GCSE assesses the skills of reading and writing. In this GCSE pupils will develop their skills of inference and deduction which will equate to 50% of their final English

Language GCSE. Pupils will also develop their writing skills which will involve writing creatively and for a specific purpose.

The course is now 100% exam with pupils sitting two papers at the end of Year 11:

Paper 1: 'Explorations in Creative Writing and Reading' (50% of final GCSE)

Paper 2: 'Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives' (50% of final GCSE).

All pupils will also undertake a Spoken Language study which will be teacher assessed.

The GCSE course builds on the skills developed in Year 7 and 8. The key areas of assessment focus on how well pupils can:

**AO1:** Identify and interpret information, and select evidence from different texts.

**AO2:** Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure using relevant subject terminology.

**AO3:** Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts.

**AO4:** Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate evidence.

**AO5:** Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively for different forms, purposes and audiences. Organise information and ideas.

**AO6:** Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation. (This requirement makes up 20% of the marks for the specification.)

**AO7:** Demonstrate presentation skills in a formal setting.

**AO8:** Listen and respond appropriately to spoken language, including to questions and feedback on presentations.

**AO9:** Use spoken Standard English effectively in speeches and presentations.

## Teachers:

Mrs Johnson Mrs Lloyd Mrs Gleeson Mrs Reid Mrs Harwood Mr Lunt Miss Worsley Mrs Douglas

## Further Education Courses/Careers

A level: *English Language; English Language & Literature Combined; Media Studies; Theatre Studies; Film Studies.*

All jobs require good English Language skills. Particularly relevant to Editorial Assistant, Journalist, Librarian/Information Officer, Advertising Executive, Marketing Professional, Speech Therapist, Web Content Writer, Public Relations Officer, Business Executives.

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# Subject: English Literature

## English Baccalaureate Subject

Head of Faculty: Mrs Johnson GCSE Exam Board AQA

## Course Description

The Literature GCSE focuses on the skills of reading and inference, exploring characters, plot and themes within the social and historical context of the texts.

In this GCSE pupils will study works of poetry, a play and a novel. The course is now 100% exam with pupils sitting two papers at the end of the year:

- Paper 1 'Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century novel' (40% of final GCSE)
- Paper 2 'Modern texts and poetry' (60% of final GCSE).

The set texts currently studied are; *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Sign of Four*, *Blood Brothers/An Inspector Calls* and the *Power and Conflict* poetry collection.

Pupils are assessed on how well they can:

### AO1:

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.

### AO2:

Explain how language, structure and form contribute to writers' presentation of ideas, themes and setting.

### AO3:

Explain links between texts and contexts in which they were written, evaluating writers' different ways of expressing meaning and achieving effects.

### AO4:

Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

## Teachers:

Mrs Johnson Mrs Lloydm Mrs Gleeson Mrs Reid

Mrs Harwood Mr Lunt Miss Worsley Mrs Douglas

## Further Education Courses/Careers

A levels: *English Literature; English Literature & Language Combined; Film Studies; Theatre Studies; Media Studies; Law.* Journalist, Author, Blogger, Web Content Writer, Editorial

Assistant, Solicitor, Barrister, Public Relations Officer, Marketing Executive, Advertising Executive, Business Professional

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# Subject – Mathematics

Head of Faculty Miss Williams Examination Board: Edexcel

## English Baccalaureate Subject

### Course Description

The GCSE covers six areas of the Mathematics National Curriculum and will build on work studied at Key Stage 3. These six areas are 'Number', 'Algebra', 'Ratio, proportion and rates of change', 'Geometry and measures', 'Probability' and 'Statistics'.

In Year 11, all pupils will sit an Edexcel linear paper. This course is designed to test all aspects of the Mathematical course including their ability to solve problems.

### Assessment

GCSE Linear Mathematics

100% Examination

3 Exams 1.5 hours each ( non-calculator and 2 calculator papers)

May/June of Year 11

### Subject Teachers for GCSE

Miss Williams (Head of Maths)

Mrs Holcroft (2nd in faculty)

Mrs Critchley

Mr Flowers

Miss Lindley

Mr Markey

Mr McIntyre

### Further Education Courses/Careers

A level: *Mathematics; Further Mathematic; Economics; Accountancy; Statistics; . BTEC: Business Studies; Engineering.Accountant, Quantity Surveyor, Engineer, Computer Programmer, Astronomer, Meteorologist, Statistician, Architect, Researcher.*

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# Subject: Combined Science

English Baccalaureate Subject

Head of Faculty: Mr Wigham Examination Board:AQA

## Course Description

All pupils at Shevington High School Study Trilogy Science at GCSE in Years 9 and 10 and 11. You will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics every year and it is worth **two** GCSEs. This will include practical work to aid understanding and help prepare you for further education. In Biology, you will study Classification, Inheritance and the Environment. In Chemistry, you will study the Earth, Acids, Metals and Fuels. In Physics, you will study Light, The Electromagnetic Spectrum, Waves and Energy.

The examination at the end of Year 11 will consist of a 6 x 1 ¼ hour written examination.

There will be short answer questions, which will then build up to longer answers to test your understanding of the subject.

## Assessment

**Trilogy Science**

100% Examination

Two GCSEs awarded at end of Year 11

## Subject Teachers

Miss Taylor

Mrs Barrow

Mrs Mason

Mr Johnson

Miss Finch

## Further Education Courses/Careers

A level : *Biology; Chemistry; Physics*. BTEC: *Applied Science; Health and Social Care; Sport and Exercise Science*.

Physiotherapist, Nutritionist, Forensic Scientist, Engineer, Laboratory Technician, Toxicologist, Midwife, Nurse.

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# Subject: Separate Science

English Baccalaureate Subject

## Biology, Chemistry & Physics

Head of Faculty: Mr Wigham Examination Board :AQA

## Course Description

If you choose GCSE Science, you will receive three GCSEs in Science. You will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics over 3 years. This will include practical work to aid understanding. In Biology, you will study Classification, Inheritance and the Environment. In Chemistry, you will study Chemical Reactions, Acids, Metals and Fuels.

In Physics, you will study Light, Radiation, the Electromagnetic Spectrum, Waves and Energy. The examination at the end of each year will consist of 6 x 1¼ hour written examinations. There will be short answer questions, which will then build up to longer answers to test your understanding of the subject. Choosing Science as an option will give you an excellent grounding in preparation for A levels.

## Assessment

### Biology

100% Examination GCSE Awarded at end of Year 11

### Chemistry

100% Examination GCSE Awarded at end of Year 10

**Physics** 100% Examination GCSE Awarded at end of Year 11

## Subject Teachers

Mrs Mason

Mrs Barrow

Miss Taylor

Mrs Finch

Mr Johnson

## Further Education Courses/Careers

A levels: *Biology; Chemistry; Physics*. BTEC: *Applied Science; Health and Social Care*.

Doctor, Dentist, Vet, Nurse, Midwife, Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist, Research Scientist, Geneticist, Engineer, Nutritionist, Forensic Scientist, Laboratory Technician, Pharmacist, Toxicologist, Radiographer, Medical Physicist.

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# Subject: Religious Studies

**Head of faculty: James Nichols** Examination board - AQA Religious Studies A

## Course Description

Students learn how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. The GCSE course includes an in depth study of Christianity and Islam considering beliefs, teachings and practices and how these may vary within the religion. Students also study a range of contemporary ethical themes to ensure students have a diverse and intriguing range of topics to explore. Students develop analytical and critical thinking skills and the ability to work with abstract ideas which will prepare them for further academic study.

Religious, philosophical and ethical studies themes include:

Relationship and families

Religion and life

Religion, peace and conflict

Religion, crime and punishment

## Assessment

Paper 1 - The study of religions (Christian and Islam)

Paper 2 - Thematic studies

## Subject Teacher

Mrs Ince-Sargeson

## Further Education Courses/Career

The academic structure of the examination is particularly beneficial when continuing to study A-levels and Degree level.

The subject provides a great foundation for studying the following:

A level: Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics, Religion and Ethics, English, Sociology, Criminology, Law, Psychology

BTEC: Health and Social Care, Public Services  
Having an understanding of beliefs and ethics is particularly useful when pursuing a career working with people, law and medicine. This includes the following careers: Teachers, Counsellor, Police Officer, Paramedic, Nurse, Midwife, Doctor, Charity worker, Soldier, Solicitor

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# Subject : Computer Science

English Baccalaureate Subject

Head of Faculty: Mr Edey Examination Board : OCR

## Course Description

### Computer Systems Unit 1

Introduces students to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

### Computational thinking, algorithms and programming Unit 2

Students apply knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic, translators and data representation. The skills and knowledge developed within this component will support the learner when completing the Programming Project. Students will learn to code their solutions in a suitable programming language, and check its functionality.

### Practical programming

Students are to be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s) during their course of study which allows them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. Students will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations, in particular component 02 (section B).

## Assessment

Computer Systems Unit 1 - externally assessed - 1 hour and 30 minutes (50% of the qualification)

Computational thinking, algorithms and programming Unit 2 - externally assessed - 1 hour and 30 minutes (50% of the qualification)

## Subject Teachers

Mr Edey Mr Chow

## Further Education Courses/Careers

A levels: *Computer Science*. BTECs: *ICT; Information and Creative Technologies; Computer Science and Creative Technologies*. Computer Games Developer, Network Engineer, Mobile App Developer, IT Consultant, Systems Analyst, Information Systems Manager, Computer Repair Technician, Web Designer, E-Learning Developer

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# Subject: IT – Creative iMedia

**Head of Faculty: Mr Edey** Examination Board :OCR

## Course Description

This course will provide learners with essential knowledge, transferable skills and tools to improve their learning in other subjects with the aims of enhancing their employability when they leave education, contributing to their personal development and future economic well-being. The qualification will encourage independence, creativity and awareness of the digital media sector.

The Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia will equip learners with a range of creative media skills and provide opportunities to develop, in context, desirable, transferable skills such as research, planning, and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively.

The 'hands on' approach that will be required for both teaching and learning has strong relevance to the way young people use the technology required in creative media. The qualification design, including the range of units available, will allow learners the freedom to explore the areas of creative media that interest them as well as providing good opportunities to enhance their learning in a range of curriculum areas.

## Assessment

Unit 1 - externally assessed - 1 hour and 15 minutes. Learners will understand the purpose and uses of a range of pre-production techniques. They will be able to plan pre-production of a creative digital media product to a client brief, and will understand how to review pre-production documents. (worth 25% of GCSE)

Unit 2 - Creating Digital Graphics - Students will learn where and why digital graphics are used and what techniques are involved in their creation. This unit will develop learners' understanding of the client brief, time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques as part of the planning and creation process. On completion of this unit, learners will understand the purpose and properties of digital graphics, and know where and how they are used. They will be able to plan the creation of digital graphics, create new digital graphics using a range of editing techniques and review a completed graphic against a specific brief. (worth 25% of GCSE)

2 Additional units will be required to complete qualification. Units include:- 2D & 3D Characters, comic strip, Web design, animations, Interactive multimedia products and many more – Each unit is worth 25% of the overall grade

## Subject Teachers

Mr Edey  
Chow

Mr

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## **Further Education Courses/Careers**

This qualification provides a broad and solid foundation for further study of various aspects of creative computing, such as graphic design, web design, computer games design and interactive media.

It supports progress to further study, including:

- GCSE in Media: Communication and Production
- Level 3 BTECs in Creative Media Production
- Level 3 BTECs in IT
- Level 3 Principal Learning in Creative and Media.

It also enhances young people's overall digital literacy and gives them a solid foundation for further study and employment

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# Subject: Modern Foreign Languages

## English Baccalaureate Subject

Head of Faculty: Miss Whittaker Examination Board: AQA

### Course Description

All pupils are offered the opportunity to study for a language GCSE qualification in French, Spanish or Mandarin as part of the Mandarin Excellence Programme (MEP). Pupils who show an interest in, or an aptitude for, languages are strongly recommended to continue with their language to GCSE level.

As we believe learning a language is a skill for life, the course offers the opportunity for pupils to, not only practise their verbal and written language skills, but also to expand their cultural knowledge to develop our understanding of the world in which we live.

The course covers three main themes as listed below:

**Theme 1:** Identity and Culture

**Theme 2:** Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest

**Theme 3:** Current and Future Study and Employment.

### Assessment

All GCSE language exams have a foundation tier and a higher tier.

You are assessed on the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

All four skills will have an equal weighting and will all be worth 25%. Pupils will complete a final examination in each skill at the end of Year 11.

**Listening and reading examinations** will have a mix of questions in the target language (TL) and in English requiring answers in both languages. In the reading exam there will be a translation from the target language into English.

**The writing exam** will require you to write 40, 90 and 150 words in the target language as well as a translation from English into the target language.

**The speaking exam** will require you to be able to describe a photo, take part in a role play with your teacher and answer some general conversation questions about topics you have covered in the TL.

### Subject Teachers

Miss Whittaker    Miss Ashcroft

Miss Tang        Mrs Hames

### Further Education Courses/Careers

A levels: *French; Spanish, Mandarin* BTEC: *Travel and Tourism*.

Studying a language A level followed by a language degree is **essential** for teaching a language, translating and interpreting. However, there are many other careers where an additional language would be very useful, such as Management Consultant, Market Researcher, Diplomat, Logistics and Distribution Manager, Event Organiser, Tour Manager, Hotel and Restaurant Workers, Holiday Resort Workers and Air Cabin Crew. Athletes, Journalists, Military Personnel, Actors and people who work in technology will benefit from speaking another language.

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# Subject: Geography

## English Baccalaureate Subject

**Head of Faculty: Mr Nichols** Examination Board: AQA

## Course Description

Students will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use. Students are also encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

## Assessment

GCSE Geography 100% Examination June of Year 11

### Paper 1 – Living with in the physical environment

- The challenge of natural hazards – tectonics, weather, climate and climate change
- The living world – ecosystems
- Physical landscapes in the UK – rivers and coasts

### Paper 2 – Challenges in the human environment

- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management

### Paper 3 – Geographical applications

- Issue Evaluation – pre-release materials available before the exam
- Fieldwork

### Geographical skills – taught throughout the GCSE

- Graphical skills
- Cartographic skills
- Statistical skills
- Numerical skills
- Use of qualitative and quantitative data

## Subject Teachers

Miss Lonsdale   Ms McGonigle

## Further Education Courses/Careers

A-Levels: geography, geology, biology, sociology, economics, environmental science, government and politics. Careers: Environmental Consultant, Town Planner, Chartered Surveyor, Business Development, Weather Producer, Senior Policy Advise

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# Subject: Art

**Head of Faculty: Mrs Green** GCSE Examination Board: AQA

## Course Description

This innovative course is best suited to those who wish to channel their creative energies into producing original art pieces that reflect their individuality, and to investigate and respond to the world around them. This course provides students with a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities to explore their interests in art and design in independent ways that are personally relevant and truly developmental in nature. The requirements of the specification allow for the study of art and design in both breadth and depth. It provides progression from Key Stage 3 and a strong and appropriate foundation for further progression to art and design related courses such as A-level Art.

## Subject Teachers

Mrs Parker

Mrs Penman

## Assessment

**60% Coursework (2 distinct projects The Everyday and Zoo animals)**

**40% Externally set exam (January to March/April of Year 11)**

Pupils must evidence coverage of all four assessment objectives in the Portfolio of Work and their response to the externally set task.

**Coursework (60%):** You will produce a coursework portfolio including a creative sketchbook that acts as a source of visual inspiration and research for your projects. You will have the freedom to interpret the set theme in an appropriate way that reflects your interests. You will visit the Zoo to take primary photos for the Zoo Animal project. A mock examination will be held in the Autumn term of Year 11 in preparation for the official examination. In this you will have the opportunity to create a final piece.

**Examination (40%):** In January of Year 11 the examination topics are released to students. A 10-hour examination is taken in March of Year 11. You will be expected to produce a sketchbook/portfolio of work prior to the exam.

## Further Education/Careers

A levels: *Fine Art; Graphic Design; Photography; Textiles; 3D Design*. Vocational Courses: *Art and Design; Graphic Design, Creative Design for Gaming; Fashion, Textiles and Clothing; Photography; Floristry*.  
Printmaker, Graphic Designer, Product Designer, Illustrator, Fashion Designer, Textile Designer, Advertising Account Executive, Community Arts Worker, Cultural Development Officer, Art Critic, Computer Game Artist, Multimedia Specialist, Gallery Curator

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# Subject: Food Preparation & Nutrition

Head of Faculty: Mr Edey Examination Board :AQA

## Course Description

### Food Preparation & Nutrition Course Content

The GCSE food Preparation and Nutrition is a fresh and exciting GCSE that equips students with an array of culinary techniques, as well as knowledge of nutrition, food traditions and kitchen safety. Practical cooking skills to ensure pupils develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of ingredients.

Food Preparation and integrated topics are:-

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

### Assessments

**Paper 1:** Food preparation and nutrition. Theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition from Sections 1 to 5

Non-exam assessment (NEA)

**Task 1:** Food investigation (30 marks)

Students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

**Task 2:** Food preparation assessment (70 marks)

Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

### Subject Teachers

Mrs Marsden

### Further Education Courses/Careers

Upon completion of this course, pupils will be qualified to go on to further vocational study in *Hospitality and Catering*, or embark on an apprenticeship or full time career in the catering or food industries.

Chef, Baker, Food Technologist, Dietician, Catering Manager, Bar or Restaurant Manager, Food Scientist, Product Developer, Food Marketing

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# Subject: Media Studies

**Head of Faculty: Mrs Johnson** Examination Board: Eduqas

## Course Description

The GCSE Media Studies will inspire and motivate pupils to consider a career in the creative digital media industries, rather than just to participate in media recreationally. This course will give pupils the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge, developing skills across the creative digital media sectors, e.g. moving image, audio production, games design, website design, advertising and publishing. This course will give pupils the potential opportunity, in due course, to enter employment within a wide range of roles across the creative digital media sector including, for example, photographer, sound recording, assistant editor, assistant web designer, assistant games designer, and graphic design.

## Assessment

Unit 1: Written examination paper-1 hour 30 minutes (40% of qualification)

Unit 2: Internally assessed written examination-1 hour 30 minutes (30% of qualification)

Unit 3: Non-exam assessment-Creating Media. This is an individual media production for an intended audience in response to a choice of briefs set by the exam board, applying knowledge and understanding of media language and representation. Previous briefs have included designing a film poster and DVD cover for a new film. (30% of qualification)

## Subject Teachers

Mrs Lloyd

Mrs Johnson

## Further Education/Careers

A Levels: *Media Studies; Film Studies*. BTEC: *Creative Digital Media; Vocational Course in Creative Media Production*.

As above, plus Advertising Account Executive, Broadcast Journalist, TV/Film/Video Producer, Media Researcher, Media Planner, Multimedia Specialist.

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# Subject: Music

**Head of Faculty: Mrs K Green** Examination Board:AQA

## Course Description

All pupils complete the AQA GCSE in Music. Pupils are encouraged to take private instrumental lessons and all are expected to bring their musical instrument and any relevant sheet music/books in addition to their regular equipment for school. This course is mainly coursework-based but does include a listening examination based on the musical elements of The Western Classical Tradition, Popular Music of the 20th and 21st Centuries and World Music. It is recommended that pupils begin to work towards Rock School or ABRSM grading before commencement of this course.

The course consists of the following units:

Component 1: Understanding music (40% of total GCSE marks)

Component 2: Performing Music (30% of total GCSE marks)

Component 3: Composing Music (30% of total GCSE marks)

## Assessment

This includes individual performing and composing coursework for component 2 and 3. There is a 1 hour and 30 minute examination for Component 1.

## Subject Teacher

Mr Beaton

## Further Education/Careers

A-Level: *Music*. BTEC: *Level 3 Music Performance; Music Technology; Audio and Music Production, Professional Performance Musical Theatre*.

Students who complete a degree in Music work in a wide range of professions inside and outside music.

Careers include: Professional Musician, Session Musician, Band Member, Orchestral Musician, Singer, Producer, Composer, Sound Engineer, Music Teacher, Talent Scout,

Music Journalist, Band Manager, Private Music Teacher, Music Therapist, Music Publicist, Audio Designer, and Radio Broadcast Assistant.

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# Subject: PE

**Head of Faculty: Mrs Green** Examination Board: OCR

## Course Description

The GCSE course follows on from the Key Stage three programme of study by providing pupils with exciting opportunities to lead a healthy and active lifestyle by choosing from a variety of roles and activities in which to participate in physical activity.

The course is designed to enable pupils to enjoy and understand the benefits of living a healthy lifestyle, to provide a route into further study in PE as well as related careers. As part of the practical side of the course pupils will be assessed in three different activities (one team activity, one individual activity and a third either team or individual activity). The practical assessments can be from a selection of sports, including ones that are undertaken outside of school e.g. Skiing, Horse riding, Swimming, Gymnastics.

### The course:

Examinations (60%):

**Paper 1** - Applied anatomy and physiology, physical training, **30%**

**Paper 2** - Socio-cultural issues, sports psychology and health, **30%**

Practical assessment (40%):

**Coursework** - Analysis of performance, **10%**

**Practical moderation** - Assessed in three sports (team and individual sports), **30%**.

### Subject Teachers:

- Mr Crookes
- Mr Wright
- Miss Duggan
- Mrs Green

### Further Education:

A level: Physical Education, Dance, Science...

BTEC: Sports Science; Sports Development, Coaching and Fitness, Personal Training, Performing Arts – Dance...

Degree: PE and school sport, Physical Education, Sports Coaching, Sports therapist, Physiotherapy, Dance, Outdoor Adventure...

### Some *careers* that link to GCSE PE:

Physiotherapist, PE Teacher, Sports Coach, Health Trainer, Outdoor Adventure Leader, Therapist, Camp director, Sports coach, Fitness instructor.

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# Subject: History

## English Bacculaureate Subject

**Head of Faculty : Mr Nichols** Examination Board :Edexcel

## Course Description

The GCSE History course covers over 1000 years of History, enabling pupils to have a wide understanding of how events have shaped our world. The key features of the course include:

### **Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment**

- Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000-present and Whitechapel, c1870 - c1900: crime, policing and the inner city.

The assessment is 1 hour and 15 minutes. it is worth 30% of the total qualification.

### **Paper 2: Period study and British depth study**

- Early Elizabethan England, 1558 - 88
- Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941 -91

The assessment is 1 hour and 45 minutes. It is worth 40% of the total qualification.

### **Paper 3: Modern depth study**

- Weimar and nazi Germany, 1918 -39

The assessment is 1 hour and 20 minutes. It is worth 30% of the total qualification.

## Assessment

GCSE History 100% Examination June of Year 11

## Subject Teachers

Miss Smith

Mr Nichols

## Further information/Careers

A levels: History; Classical Civilization; Ancient history; Government and Politics, Law, Lawyer, Journalist, Librarian, Heritage Manager, Archivist, Curator, Information Officer

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# Subject: Design & Technology

Head of Faculty: Mr Edey      Examination Board: AQA

## Course Description

### Design Technology Course Content

Design and Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Using creativity and imagination, pupils design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and other's needs, wants and values.

Pupils learn how to take risks, becoming resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable citizens. Through the evaluation of past and present design and technology, they develop a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world.

The course will build upon skills acquired in Key Stage 3 so that candidates can conceptualize, design and make products for a target market. Pupils will need to problem solve, model make, learn how to use machinery and use computer aided design and manufacture.

The course consists of one controlled assessment project and structured to give the pupils the opportunity to be creative within their designs and portfolios and stretch their technical skills.

Our courses cover core technical, designing, and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials, techniques and equipment.

Within the faculty, we understand that school is a valued time of life and to make lesson rewarding, unforgettable and enjoyable for the pupils, giving them responsibility for their own learning and progression leading to independent learners.

## Assessments

Design Technology Non-Controlled Assessment – 50%

Design Technology Examination – 50%

## Subject Teachers

Mr Silcock

Mrs Haines

## Further Education Courses/Careers

A levels: *3D Design; Graphic Design*. BTEC: *Engineering; Construction and the Built Environment; Civil Engineering; Creative Media; Games Development*. Vocational courses in *Trades and Construction Crafts; Motor Vehicle*. Joiner, Technician, Product Designer, Construction Worker, Exhibition Designer, Model Maker.

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# Subject: Drama

**Head of Faculty: Mrs Green** Examination Board: AQA

## Course Description

Drama encourages students to develop critical thinking skills and become effective and independent learners. With the focus on working imaginatively, collaborating creatively and communicating effectively, it provides a solid foundation for further Drama studies and vocational and career opportunities.

**Knowledge and Understanding** - style, genre, social and historical context, critical analysis.

**Performance Techniques** - Interpretation, improvisation, voice, physicality, stage, relationships with others.

**Design Skills** - interpretation, visual and design impacts and the use of scenic devices.

**Technical Abilities** - Lighting, sound, technology and appropriate equipment, practical skills from making masks and puppets to make-up/

## Assessment

### 70% Written 30% Practical

**Component 1: Understanding Drama Written exam** - 1 hour and 45 minute Open book ( 80 marks) - 40% of GCSE

**Component 2 : Devised Drama** - Devising log ( 60 marks) & Devised performance ( 20 marks) - 80 marks in total - 40% of GCSE

**Component 3** : Texts in Practice - Performance of two extracts from one play ( 20%)

## Subject Teachers

Mr Hughes-Alty

## Further Education/Careers

A Levels: Drama; Theatre Studies, BTEC: Professional Performance - Acting;Performing Arts; Acting; Musical Theatre.

Stage Manager, Theatre Director, Arts Administrator, Radio/TV Presenting, Actor, Community Arts Development Worker, Drama Therapist, Salesperson, Teachers

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# Subject: Business Studies

**Head of faculty: Mrs Williams**

## Course Description

What will I learn?

You'll start by exploring the world of small businesses through the lens of an entrepreneur. How and why do business ideas come about? What makes a successful business? You'll learn how to develop an idea, spot an opportunity and turn it into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business effective, manage money and see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved. Then you'll move on to investigating business growth. How does a business develop beyond the start-up phase? You'll learn about key business concepts and issues and decisions you need to make when growing a business and working in a global business. You'll learn about meeting customer needs, making marketing, operational, financial and human resourcing decisions and you'll explore how the wider world impacts the business as it grows.

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

- communicating and explaining your ideas
- thinking creatively and making decisions
- working with numbers to solve business problems
- learning about the world of business through real and relevant local and international brands

Then the GCSE Business course is the right subject for you

## Subject Teachers

Mr Flowers

## Assessment

Paper 1 - Theme 1: Investigating small business

Written exam 90 minutes, 90 marks. 50% of overall GCSE grade.

Paper 2 - Theme 2: Building a business

Written exam 90 minutes, 90 marks. 50% of total overall grade.

## Further Education/Careers

**A levels:** *business, applied business, business studies, business marketing, law, accounting, maths, statistics, additional maths, government and politics, psychology and economics*

**Careers:** *Accountancy, law, marketing, leisure and tourism, enterprise and entrepreneurship, information technology, digital marketing, estate agent, retail, teaching and many more!*

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## **FAQ**

### **Q. How many subjects must I choose?**

A. Three options

### **Q. Why do I need to choose a 'reserve' subject?**

A. Sometimes it is not possible to timetable everybody into the timetable and sometimes there are not enough students choosing a subject for it to run. You need a reserve subject you are prepared to do in case you can't have all of your first choices.

### **Q. When will I know if my selection was successful?**

A. Before Easter.

### **Q. How will I know which Arts/Technology/Humanities/Science/Language course to choose?**

A. Ask the teachers of the subjects before you make your selection.

### **Q. What are Core subjects?**

A. These are subjects that are statutory! This means that the government says that we need to do them. They are English, maths, science, PE & PSHE.

### **Q. Will I be able to do Combined Science?**

A. All students will receive a Combined Award unless they are selected for the separate science GCSE courses.

### **Q. Can I do History and Geography?**

A. Yes.