

# WOOD GREEN ACADEMY



Maths &  
Computing

# YEAR 8

# OPTIONS

# BOOKLET

# 2019

# OPTIONS BOOKLET

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**PART 1**

**GENERAL**

**INFORMATION**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **A Time for Choice**

Now is the time for you to request the four optional subjects you would like to study in Years 9, 10 and 11. Since the subjects you choose may affect your future career, it is important that these decisions are not taken lightly. We offer a high quality range of options and all our courses offer excellent support to future routes into further study and careers.

### **Are there any subjects I must take?**

In Years 9, 10 and 11 all students will study GCSE English Language, GCSE English Literature, GCSE Maths, GCSE Science and core PE. In Year 9 only all students also study core Computing and core RE. Students will also receive their entitlement in terms of careers education, sex education, work-related learning and religious education on SHAPE days. This leaves four optional subjects to be requested to study in Years 9, 10 and 11. For those students in the Skills Development cohort, this leaves three optional subjects to be requested, as all students will continue on the Skills Development course. Some of these students will also study the Achieve Programme as one of their optional subjects. Each optional subject is studied for 5 hours per fortnight across three years.

Where possible, if you have a goal to aim for, this can help focus your choice of courses. Having said that, we fully understand that many of you will either not have a career path planned out or may change your plans. Our curriculum has the flexibility to accommodate this and we would encourage you to choose a broad range of courses to keep your options open. A good general education is important whatever you are going to do. Therefore, choose a balanced course, including a wide range of subjects at which you are likely to do well.

There are several reasons for choosing a particular subject:-

- Certain subject knowledge is needed for entry into particular fields of employment. In many cases specific grades will be required.
- Strong and weak subjects - you should choose your best subjects.
- Subject likes and dislikes are important, but be careful that you do not choose or reject a subject because of your feelings towards a particular teacher who may not have a group next year. Ignore which subjects your friend requests - what suits him/her, may not suit you.

It is important to select options based on your ability and interest in subject areas, as well as any future career plans.

### **What are the qualifications available?**

#### **GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education)**

The majority of courses in Key Stage 4 lead to GCSE qualifications. GCSE is nationally recognised and is used by employers and providers of further education as a yardstick for selection and recruitment. The Government has recently reformed all GCSE courses. Grades are now awarded in the range of **9 to 1** (with 9 being the top level). Assessment will be by external written exams. There are other forms of assessment, but only where it is necessary to assess essential subject skills, for example speaking in French and German.

## Vocational Courses e.g. BTEC and Cambridge Technical

These are courses which relate to the world of work, but the qualifications gained are equivalent to GCSE. The school has a very successful track record on vocational courses.

- BTEC Technical Award in Digital Information Technology
- BTEC Technical Award in Performing Arts (Dance)
- BTEC Technical Award in Sport, Activity and Fitness
- Cambridge National Certificate in Health and Social Care
- OCR National in Marketing and Enterprise

## What is the English Baccalaureate?

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a performance measure introduced by the Government to recognise students who have secured good GCSE grades across a core of academic subjects. In order to achieve the full English Baccalaureate a student must gain GCSE grades 9 to 5 in English Language or English Literature, Maths, Science (double award or 2 separate sciences, including Computer Science), a language (French/German) and a humanities subject (History or Geography only) by the end of Year 11.

## Who can help me to choose?

Before making your final request, consult subject teachers who can tell you more about the individual courses and answer any questions you may have. Talk to your form tutor, Mr Hopkins, Mr Richards and parents/carers who can all advise you. For information about careers, consult Miss Birch or Mrs Holden and Mrs Beckett (Connexions Personal Advisors).

Who do I see to find out more information about the subjects offered?

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>Subject Leader</u></b>	<b><u>Room</u></b>
Achieve Programme	Mrs Dunne	SEND Office
Art and Design	Miss Measures	W006
Business Studies	Mrs Ghag	R114
Computer Science	Miss Rai	W103
Dance	Miss Paskin	Sports Hall
Design and Technology	Mrs Eccleston	Technology Area
Drama	Mrs Smith	N022
French	Miss Lascelles	N105
Geography	Mrs Buchanan	R019
German	Miss Lascelles	N105
Health and Social Care	Mrs Thornton	T105
History	Miss Ford	R102
ICT	Miss Rai	W103
Media Studies	Miss Lyttle	H211
Music	Ms Newman	R027
Philosophy and Ethics	Miss Inderjit	N001
Physical Education	Mrs Wragg	Sports Hall
Psychology	Mrs Williams	N002
Skills Development	Mrs Dunne	SEND Office
Sociology	Mrs Williams	N002
Triple Science	Mr McTernan	T003

Put aside plenty of time and talk about your choices – don't leave it until the last minute.

## Can I change my mind?

We always do our best to ensure that all students' requests can be matched but please bear in mind that if you return your options form after the deadline it may not be possible to be placed on your first choice courses. As soon as your options form is returned, work begins on timetabling. Alterations to requests will not be possible from this point onwards.

Once a decision is made and a course begun, it is not possible to make any changes. It is therefore essential that time and thought is given to the courses to be taken.

## What will it cost?

Time and effort!

Qualifications can only be achieved by hard work and attending every lesson. To obtain good results in external examinations it is essential for all students to complete more work at home independently, become more self-motivated and take more responsibility for their own learning.

## NOTES FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE OPTION FORM

Please read these instructions carefully before completing the form. The form will be available at the Options Evening on **Thursday 7 February 2019**.

- All students will study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science. All students will also study core Computing and core RE in Year 9 only.
- As a Sports College all students must have a minimum of two hours core PE per week.
- Follow the steps carefully on the options form and complete all of the sections.
- Choose **one** different option subject from each block.
- You must state a reserve choice in each option block which is different to your first subject choice in case you can't get your first option.
- Remember to discuss your choices fully with your form tutor, teachers and parents/carers before completing the form. The Year 8 Progress Evening is on **Thursday 14 February 2019**.
- Please note all optional courses are subject to sufficient student numbers so if there are only a few students who want to do a particular subject it may not run next year.

Return your completed form to your form tutor by **Tuesday 5 March 2019**.

Individual interviews will begin on **Monday 11 March 2019**.

**PART 2**

**CORE**

**SUBJECTS**

# **GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Examination Board: AQA**

**Specification Number: 8700**



## **What topics will I study?**

All students will study English Language at GCSE Level. GCSE English Language provides a skills based approach in an untiered context. The course is designed to motivate and inspire students whilst engaging in high-quality texts, from the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The curriculum is designed to prepare students with the skills needed for two equally-balanced papers and promote high standards of literacy by equipping students with a strong command of the written and spoken word, and to develop a toolkit of methods to engage with a range of non-fiction, literary non-fiction and literature fiction texts.

## **GCSE English Language: Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing**

- The overarching aim of this paper is to engage students in creative texts, whilst inspiring them to hone their own skills as a creative writer. Students will explore a 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> century literature fiction text and consider how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage readers. Students will then demonstrate their own application of narrative and descriptive skills in response to a written prompt, scenario or image.

## **GCSE English Language: Paper 2 – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives**

- This paper offers students opportunities to explore how writers present particular viewpoints on a range of themes and issues. Students will engage with non-fiction and literary non-fiction texts from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and either the 20<sup>th</sup> or the 21<sup>st</sup> century. They will explore texts across a range of genres and be presented with the opportunity to produce their own text for a specified audience, purpose and form.

## **Non-examination Assessment – Spoken Language**

- In this assessment, students will develop their skills in speaking and listening through presentation and discussion, in formal contexts, using Standard English.

## **How will my work be assessed?**

GCSEs will be linear in design and students will sit 100% examinations for English Language. GCSE results will be reported on a 1-9 scale.

### **Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing:**

Section A: Reading (40 marks / 25% of GCSE English Language)

Section B: Writing (40 marks / 25% of GCSE English Language)

Total marks – 80 marks / 50% of GCSE English Language

Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes

### **Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives:**

Section A: Reading (40 marks / 25% of GCSE English Language)

Section B: Writing (40 marks / 25% of GCSE English Language)

Total marks – 80 marks / 50% of GCSE English Language

Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes

### **Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language:**

This is a separate endorsement that has 0% weighting on the GCSE English Language qualification. It will be teacher set throughout the course.

## **What can I do at the end of this course?**

This course will prepare students for A Level English Language and A Level English Literature as well as a number of other Post-16 courses. All potential employers, in whatever career, will be looking for people who can communicate clearly and express themselves appropriately. Success in this course is essential for all students and for all career paths.



# **GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**Examination Board: AQA**

**Specification Number: 8702**



## **What topics will I study?**

All students will study English Literature at GCSE Level. The course offers students a liberating exploration into a range of texts, including study of a Shakespeare play, a modern prose and a poetry anthology. GCSE English Literature will enlighten students' critical and analytical skills and nurture a love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. The course is designed to inspire and challenge, whilst providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students. The curriculum aims to prepare students with the skills needed for all closed book assessments and hone students' high skills in literacy.

## **GCSE English Literature Paper 1 – Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel**

- Students will study a whole Shakespeare play and a 19<sup>th</sup> century novel in order to explore aspects of plot, characterisation, events and setting. The aim of this course is to develop students' literal and inferential comprehension, whilst recognising the possibility of and evaluating different responses to a text. Students will explore social, historical and cultural contexts surrounding texts and hone their own ability to create a personal response to a text informed by critical analysis.

## **GCSE English Literature: Paper 2 – Modern Texts and Poetry**

- This paper offers students an opportunity to further hone their skills in analysis and evaluation, whilst drawing comparisons across texts. Students will evaluate how language, form and structure are crafted for quality and impact, using linguistic and literary terminology. Through study of a poetry anthology, students will develop a toolkit of methods to respond confidently to the unseen element of the paper as part of their comparative evaluation.

## **How will my work be assessed?**

GCSEs will be linear in design and students will sit 100% examinations for English Literature. GCSE results will be reported on a 1-9 scale.

### **Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel:**

Section A: Shakespeare (30 marks + 4 marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and vocabulary)

Section B: The 19<sup>th</sup>-century novel (30 marks)

Total marks – 64 marks (40% of GCSE English Literature)

Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes

### **Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry:**

Section A: Modern Texts (30 marks + 4 marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and vocabulary)

Section B: Poetry (30 marks)

Section C: Unseen Poetry (x1 question = 24 marks + x1 question = 8 marks / Total = 32 marks)

Total marks – 96 marks (60% of GCSE English Literature)

Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes

## **What can I do at the end of this course?**

This course will prepare students for A Level English Language and A Level English Literature as well as a number of other Post-16 courses. All potential employers, in whatever career, will be looking for people who can communicate clearly and express themselves appropriately. Success in this course is essential for all students and for all career paths.

# **GCSE MATHEMATICS**

## **Why should I study Mathematics?**

GCSE Mathematics is a Core subject that every student will study at Key Stage 4.

Mathematics is the universal language of numbers that is studied across the world. The concepts and ideas are vital for a wide range of jobs and career paths. From careers where strong number skills are required such as retail; banking and finance; accountancy; auditing etc. to those that require strong problem solving and application skills such as design and engineering; architecture; crime scene investigator; through to public service jobs such as nursing; doctors; police officers; and traffic and highways personnel.

The creative industries also require strong mathematical skills to fill the high-tech and highly paid jobs in these fields, for example, computer game designers; web architects; and software engineers. Many more traditional industries such as oil exploration and transport logistics are now highly computerised and skilled environments where strong mathematical skills are a must.

## **What topics will I study?**

At Key Stage 4 students will study topics from the following areas; Number; Algebra; Ratio, proportion and rates of change; Geometry and measures; Probability; and Statistics.

## **How will my work be assessed?**

The GCSE Mathematics course is 100% exam. There is no coursework.

Assessment is over three written exams that are sat in the summer of Year 11.

Paper 1 – Non-calculator (1 hour and 30 minutes)

Paper 2 – Calculator (1 hour and 30 minutes)

Paper 3 – Calculator (1 hour and 30 minutes)

## **What can I do at the end of this course?**

A good pass at GCSE Mathematics is required to continue with any course at college and students can expect to continue studying Mathematics beyond leaving school if they stay in education, regardless of their chosen course.

Students wishing to pursue Mathematics further can opt for A-Level Mathematics and A-Level Further Mathematics.



# **GCSE SCIENCE**

## **Why should I study Combined Science?**

This Combined Science course is an interesting and broad course covering all aspects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It also provides excellent preparation for A-level sciences and other further education courses. You will learn key skills and have two GCSEs at the end of the course covering the three sciences:

## **What topics will I study?**

### **Biology**

- |                                     |               |                           |                            |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Cell level systems               | 2. Scaling up | 3. Organism level systems | 4. Community-level systems |
| 5. Genes, inheritance and selection |               | 6. Global challenges      | 7. Practical skills        |

### **Chemistry**

- |  |   |                      |
|--|---|----------------------|
| 1. Atomic structure and the periodic table | 2. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter |                      |
| 3. Quantitative chemistry                  | 4. Chemical changes                                 | 5. Energy changes    |
| 6. The rate and extent of chemical change  | 7. Organic chemistry                                | 8. Chemical analysis |
| 9. Chemistry of the atmosphere             | 10. Using resources                                 |                      |

### **Physics**

- |                                   |                             |                     |                |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. Forces                         | 2. Energy                   | 3. Waves            | 4. Electricity |
| 5. Magnetism and electromagnetism | 6. Particle model of matter | 7. Atomic structure |                |

## **How will my work be assessed?**

### **We will be following the OCR specification which assesses as follows:**

Two papers for each science: Biology, Chemistry and Physics (6 in total)

Written exams: 1 hour 10 minutes duration per paper

Each paper is worth 60 marks (Each paper is worth 16.7% of each GCSE)

### **Question types**

Multiple choice and structured including extended response.

## **What can I do at the end of this course?**

A good GCSE pass in Combined Science can lead to many Further Education courses including the Sciences, Health and Social, Engineering to name a few. Below are a range of science based careers:

Agriculture	Clinical Research	Medicine	Nursing
Astronomy	Engineering	Microbiology	Pathology
Biomedical Sciences	Healthcare	Molecular Biology	Psychiatry/Psychology
Botany/Plant Science	Marine Science	Nanotechnology	Public Health
Clinical Medicine	Material Science	Neuroscience	Veterinary Medicine

## CORE PE

Each pupil will continue to study Physical Education throughout Key Stage 4 for two hours per week. We encourage all our young people to enjoy, succeed and excel in sport recreationally and competitively. We provide opportunities for all pupils to become physically confident and competent to inspire them to follow a healthy and active lifestyle. We provide a range of opportunities for them to compete in sport and other activities that help build character and embed values such as fairness and respect.

This will enable our pupils to;

- develop competence to excel in a broad range of physical activities
- be physically active for sustained periods of time
- engage in competitive sports and activities
- lead healthy, active lives – enhancing their social, physical and mental well-being
- enjoy sport and physical activity at school and in their free time



We will teach all of this through a variety of sports. This may include;

Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Dance, Fitness, Football, Gymnastics, Handball, Netball, Rounders, Table Tennis and Trampolining.

In Year 9, 10 and 11 our pupils follow a similar curriculum to that of Year 8. A unit of work is studied for approximately 6 weeks and a range of sports/physical activities are chosen to enhance and progress levels of competence giving the opportunity to practice, develop and perform in a sport or physical activity recreationally and competitively and perform at the highest level. Pupils are set depending on ability. Each pupil is assessed at the end of each unit of work.

# **CORE COMPUTING**



## **Why should I study Core Computing?**

Computing is a great subject that allows students to develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skill. These skills can be transferred to further learning and applied everyday life.

Computer programmes have all but infiltrated every aspect of our lives. Computing allow you to theorise, design, develop, and apply the software and hardware for the programmes we use day in day out.

## **What topics will I study?**

- Unit 1 – Game Design
- Unit 2 – Text Based Programming
- Unit 3 – Data management and manipulation
- Unit 4 – Computing Theory
- Unit 5 – Web Design and Authoring

## **How will my work be assessed?**

Each unit comprises of a practical element and an end of unit test. How well you do on these will be reflected on your flight path and progression for the course.

## **What can I do at the end of this course?**

You will be equipped with all the core skills you need in Computing. This will aid you in all your subjects.

For more information please see Miss J Rai (W103)

# Core Religious Studies



## Why should I study Core Religious Studies?

Britain is a multi-faith state and in order for us to live together in peace, there needs to be an understanding between people. In Religious Studies, you will understand teachings and how they influence the behaviour of people. You will also learn to express your own views logically, thoughtfully and clearly.

## What topics will I study?

The law and different religious views on ethical issues.  
Where these views have come from.  
How they influence peoples' behaviour.  
How to form a logical argument.  
What my own views are and where they have come from.

## How will my work be assessed?

You will take written examination papers at the end of each topic. The examination paper consists of answering a 5 part question. Four of the questions are short answer questions, but the fifth question has an essay style. You will be expected to describe, explain, argue and compare.

## What can I do at the end of this course?

Religious Studies is about being able to understand people, this will help in any job where you work with other people. Religious Studies helps you put your view across more convincingly.

For any further information speak to Miss Inderjeet (N001)

# **PART 3**

## **OPTIONAL**

## **SUBJECTS**

## The Prince's Trust Achieve Programme

This is not a GCSE, although you can receive recognised equivalent qualifications. The programme is aimed at students aged 13-19 who may be at risk of not achieving 5 or more GCSE qualifications, and who might benefit from an alternative style of learning.

The Programme promotes a flexible approach, using relevant, experiential learning to support young people to achieve a range of personal and employability skills, as well as gaining a qualification.

### Skills covered:

- **Personal and social development:** By working in small groups, you'll be able to meet new people and make new friends.
- **Life skills:** Through fun and interactive sessions, you'll learn how to manage money, be healthy and stay safe.
- **Active citizenship:** You'll work as part of a team to make a difference to your local community.
- **Enterprise project:** This is a Dragons' Den style challenge. Ready to put your entrepreneurial skills to the test?
- **Preparation for work:** Create a tip-top CV, practise for future interviews and explore your skills and talents

For further information please speak to Mr Brown (LSP), Mrs Dunne (SENCo), Mr Perry (Deputy SENCo) or Mrs Brant (SEND Liaison Manager).



## GCSE ART AND DESIGN

### Why should I choose to study Art and Design?

Choose this course if you have a keen interest in this subject; you want to develop skills and knowledge further, you're thinking of a career in an area of the arts, you're good at it, you like painting, drawing and working with a variety of art and design materials, you would like to use digital media, you're willing to work hard in school and in your own time and you're keen to develop your skills further.



Furthermore, did you know that employment in the creative industries has seen a remarkable growth in the last few years and excellent, creative and imaginative job prospects are available in this subject?

### What topics will I study?

You will learn to develop your initial ideas into a confident final personal outcome based upon a popular theme. You will have the opportunity to experiment and build skills in two or more of the following areas; drawing, painting, printmaking, digital media, card construction or clay.

The course includes:

#### **Component 01 - Portfolio**

You will produce a portfolio of work developed from a project theme. The focus is on including work that shows exploration, research, acquisition of techniques and skills.

#### **Component 02 - OCR-Set Task (exam)**

You select **one** question from a set paper to which you produce a personal response. You will be given a period of time in which to plan and prepare. You will then be given **ten** hours of supervised time in which to work on realising your idea to create a final outcome.

### How will my work be assessed?

**Component 01 - Portfolio** makes up **60%** and **Component 02 - OCR-set Task (exam)** **40%** making up the total GCSE Art and Design mark.

Both units are marked using 4 assessment objectives. These are as follows:-

**AO1 Develop ideas** - Develop your ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources. 25%

**AO2 Refine ideas** – Refine your work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes. 25%

**AO3 Record ideas** - Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to your intentions as work progresses. 25%

**AO4 Present a response** - Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language. 25%

### What can I do at the end of this course?

You have several choices at the end of this course.

You could:-

- apply for 6<sup>th</sup> form and study A-Level Fine Art or A-Level Art, Craft and Design
- apply to college and choose from a selection of specialist courses
- apply for an apprenticeship

**For further information, help or advice please speak to your Art Teacher.**

## **BUSINESS STUDIES (GCSE or OCR National in Marketing and Enterprise)**

In Year 9 all students will follow the same curriculum that teaches them the knowledge and skills needed to access either the GCSE Business Studies course or the OCR National course. All students will be assessed in Year 9. These assessment results, together with other information, will be used to make a decision on which course best suits the needs of the individual student in Years 10 and 11.

### **Why should I choose to study Business?**

**GCSE Business 9-1** will develop your subject knowledge on all aspects of Business. Students will study content that allows them to understand how a new business is set up and how businesses grow to become large and established businesses. Choosing Business will help you develop the skills needed to manage successful organisations. In Year 9 you will focus on the key skills needed for Year 10 and 11. For example, how are products made, how do businesses make profit and how are workers kept motivated. Business GCSE will encourage you to make informed choices about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career options as well as develop life skills that enable you to become financially and commercially aware.

**OCR National in Marketing and Enterprise** will develop your skills in understanding and researching the needs of a target market. You will get the opportunity to plan and pitch a business idea and develop a full financial plan. This course will help you to develop your entrepreneurial skills. Allowing you to make key decisions when developing your business idea. You will develop a variety of key transferable skills such as: planning, organising and collecting data. Developing a full marketing plan allowing you to develop a product or service that meets the needs of your target market.

### **What topics will I study?**

#### **GCSE Business 9-1**

- Business activity in the economy (Different types of businesses)
- Marketing (Persuading customers to buy products)
- Managing Employees (Assessing ways to make people produce better quality goods)
- Operations (How products are made)
- Finance (How to organise all the money coming in and going out of a business)
- Influences on business (How factors like the economy influence business)
- The interdependent nature of business (How businesses work with each other).

#### **OCR National Marketing and Enterprise**

- Understand how to target a market
- Understand what makes a product or service financially viable
- Know and understand product development
- Understand how to attract and retain customers
- Understand factors when starting up a business
- Understand different functional activities needed to support a business start-up.

### **How will my work be assessed?**

#### **GCSE 9-1**

- Business 1: Business Activity, Marketing and People (80 Marks 1 hour 30 minutes paper)
- Business 2: Operations, Finance and Influences on Business (80 Marks 1 hour 30 minutes paper)

#### **OCR National Marketing and Enterprise**

- Enterprise and Marketing concepts external assessment (80 marks 1 hour 30 minutes paper)
- Design a business proposal centre assessed (60 marks 15-20 hours)
- Market and pitch a business proposal (60 marks 12-15 hours)

### **What can I do at the end of this course?**

These qualification offers an ideal foundation to gain insight into future career paths in business. It can provide a useful stepping stone to many further education qualifications including A Level Business and Accounts.

# **GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE**



## **Why should I choose to study GCSE Computer Science?**

Computer Science is a great subject that allows students to develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skill. These skills can be transferred to further learning and applied everyday life. Computer Science is now part of the English Baccalaureate and is included as one of the qualifications that count towards students achieving the EBacc. EBacc have to be approved by BCS (The Chartered Institute for IT) – and GCSE Computer Science has been.

Computer Science is a very academic course, students who wish to study this need to have adequate skills in Mathematics and Physics. Computer Science is not the same as ICT; students must be clear about this when choosing Computer Science.

## **What topics will I study?**

### **Unit 1: Computing systems**

This unit covers the body of knowledge about computer systems on which the examination will be based. This is worth 50% of the overall grade.

### **Unit 2: Computational Thinking**

This unit covers topics such as: Algorithms, Programming, Logic and Data representation. This is worth 50% of the overall grade.

### **Unit 3: Programming project**

Students will need to understand and use programming techniques to produce a coded solution to a problem. Students will design and test a programme to ensure it is functional and meets the requirements of the project. The computing language that we teach at GCSE level is Python Version 2.7

## **How will my work be assessed?**

Unit 1 and 2 is an external examination unit. Theory will be taught in lessons and practice questions, mock tests, pop quizzes and homework will be used to assess and monitor students' progress in these units.

Unit 3 is the non-examination assessment. Students will need to code a solution to the brief set by the exam board. These programming skills will help pupils with the unit 2 exam.

## **What can I do at the end of this course?**

Students who want to go on to higher study and employment in the field of computer science will find it provides a superb stepping stone. Computer Science is a desire subject and is highly favoured by colleges and universities.

For any further information speak to Miss J Rai, (W103)

## **LEVEL 2 BTEC TECHNICAL AWARD: DANCE**

### **Why should I choose to study the BTEC Tech Award in Dance?**

Do you want to be inspired and enthused by a career in the performing arts sector?

Would you like the opportunity to gain a broad knowledge and understanding of, and develop skills in the performing arts as a dancer?

This is a highly practical course that will cover a wide range of dance styles. You will explore practitioners work and look into the roles and responsibilities of those involved in creating a performance. You will even have the opportunity to learn some professional repertoire. You will learn about the creative process and how to choreograph movement, Through-out the course you will also be required to produce written evidence to support your practical performance both within rehearsal and live performance in front of an audience.

### **What topics will I study?**

<b>Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Performing Arts</b>				
<b>Component number</b>	<b>Component title</b>	<b>GLH</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>How assessed</b>
<b>1</b>	Exploring the Performing Arts	<b>36</b>	<b>1/2</b>	Internal
<b>2</b>	Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts	<b>36</b>	<b>1/2</b>	Internal
<b>3</b>	Performing to a Brief	<b>48</b>	<b>1/2</b>	Synoptic External

### **How will my work be assessed?**

For each unit the student will achieve either a Level1/2 Pass, Merit or Distinction. The points from each unit will be added together to calculate an overall grade for the qualification.

Components 1 and 2 are assessed through internal assessment. Internal assessment for these components has been designed to relate to achievement of application of the conceptual underpinning for the sector through realistic tasks and activities.

There is one external assessment, Component 3 that provides the main synoptic assessment for the qualification. Component 3 builds directly on Components 1 and 2 and enables learning to be brought together and related to a real-life situation. *Component 3: Performing to a Brief* requires learners to apply performance skills and techniques in response to a brief and stimulus, developing a group workshop performance for a selected audience.

### **What can I do at the end of this course?**

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 in Performing Arts Dance/ AQA A Level Dance.

For any further information please speak to Miss Paskin.

# **GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY**

## **Why should I choose to study Design & Technology?**

Design and Technology (D&T) is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject which prepares all young people to live and work in the designed and made world (Design and Technology Association 2017).

## **What topics will I study?**

When studying Design and Technology at Wood Green Academy you will have the opportunity to learn about all of the different material areas including; Systems (Electronics), Textiles, Timbers, Metals and Polymers (Resistant Materials), Paper and Board (Graphics)

To be able to design and make innovative products you need to be able to have a strong knowledge base and awareness of all of these design areas.

## **How will my work be assessed?**

### **Component 1: Written Paper**

- Single examination paper sat at end of academic year.
- 1 hour 45 minutes – 100 marks – 50% of GCSE.
- The paper consists of two sections.

#### **Section A: Core**

This section is 40 marks and contains a mixture of different question styles, including open response, graphical, calculation and extended-open-response questions. There will be 10 marks of calculation questions in Section A.

#### **Section B: Material categories**

Section B is assessed on the material category chosen. 1DT0/1A – Metals, 1DT0/1B – Papers and boards, 1DT0/1C – Polymers, 1DT0/1D – Systems, 1DT0/1E – Textiles, 1DT0/1F – Timbers.

This section is 60 marks and contains a mixture of different question styles, including open-response, graphical, calculation and extended-open-response questions. There will be 5 marks of calculation questions in Section B.

### **Component 2: Non Examined Component**

- Submitted at end of academic year (May).
- Approximately 45 hours – 90 marks – 50% of GCSE.
- A single design and make activity selected from a context set by the examination board.
- There are four parts to the assessment: Investigate, Design, Make and Evaluate.
- Students will undertake a project based on a contextual challenge released by the examination board a year before certification.
- The project will test students' skills in investigating, designing, making and evaluating a prototype of a product.
- Task will be internally assessed and externally moderated. The marks are awarded for each part as follows. 1 – Investigate (16 marks) 2 – Design (42 marks) 3 – Make (36 marks) 4 – Evaluate (6 marks)

## **What can I do at the end of this course?**

Design and Technology can be studied at A level at Wood Green Sixth Form, which could develop into a degree in a Design or Engineering related course. Design and Technology could also lead to apprenticeships in numerous practical and technical related careers.

For any further information speak to any of the D&T team.

## **GCSE DRAMA**

*To opt, or not to opt? That is the question. But if you think it will be a 'doss' – you're wrong!*

### **Why should I choose to study GCSE Drama?**

The GCSE Drama course is **high-energy and fast-paced**; based upon the idea of **learning through doing**. The majority of the course is **practical**, allowing you to develop performance skills, create your own work and explore issues and the work of professional playwrights. Drama is a subject that will help you **develop many transferable skills** which the world of work and further education require.

Through studying the Drama course you will develop:

- Understanding of how meaning is communicated both directly and through inference
- Ways of communicating confidently and creatively
- Co-operation skills and the ability to understand others
- Confidence in working with a variety of different people
- Greater self-awareness and control of the way you present yourself
- Powers of analysis and evaluation
- Your acting skills, particularly use of voice and movement or design skills (e.g. costumes)

### **What topics will I study?**

There are three units to the GCSE course –

**Devising Drama** In this unit you will research and explore a piece of stimulus and work together in a group to create your own piece of Drama

**Presenting and Performing Texts** In this unit you will apply your acting or design (set/costume) skills to presenting a performance of two extracts from a published play.

**Drama: Performance and Response** In this unit you will practically explore a set text script which you will need to write about in exam conditions. You will also need to write a review of a piece of live theatre that you will have been to see as part of the course.

### **How will my work be assessed?**

**Devising Drama** The assessment for this unit will be marked by your teachers but moderated by the exam board. You will need to create a performance that is at least five and no more than fifteen minutes long. You will need to produce a portfolio (16 pages of A4 including pictures and diagrams or five minutes of video or 2000 words of continuous writing) to explain and evaluate how you developed your piece and what you intended to communicate. **30% of your GCSE grade.**

**Presenting and Performing Texts** This work will be assessed by a visiting examiner. You will need perform or do design work for two extracts from a published script. You can do a monologue (two – three minutes), duologue (three – five minutes) or group performance (five – fifteen minutes depending on group size). As a designer you must actually make or source two costumes, or one if it includes full hair and make-up or a scale model of the set with a ground plan. You would need to dress the set on the day of performance. All candidates will need to submit a concept proforma which will be assessed along with their practical work. **30% of your GCSE grade.**

**Drama: Performance and Response** This is assessed in a written exam. You will study a set text and will explore it practically in the classroom to develop your understanding of all aspects of the text. You will need to answer questions in the exam on the text and on how you would perform it and why. In the second section of the exam you will need to write an extended response in the form of a theatre review where you will need to write about a play that we will have been to see and then discussed in class. **40% of your GCSE grade.**

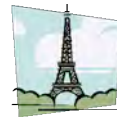
### **What can I do at the end of this course?**

Drama GCSE is a subject that can lead to many professions as well as into further study of the arts. Drama is a useful GCSE for careers such as teaching, public relations, law or any job where presenting yourself well is important. The skills you develop throughout the course will make you a **desirable candidate for further education or employment**, as you will demonstrate that you can **effectively work with others**, reach deadlines and **communicate with confidence**. **Drama GCSE is worth just as much as any other GCSE course.** *Drama is the key that opens the door to your true potential.*

For further information, please see Mrs Smith in N022 or Mrs Gill in N028.



# GCSE FRENCH



## Why should I choose to study French?

- It will give you the opportunity to develop your ability to communicate confidently with native speakers in speech and in writing.
- It will enable you to gain a deeper understanding about how language works and an opportunity to enrich your level of vocabulary.
- Learners will gain an awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of France and other French-speaking communities.
- It will often get you the job, over someone who doesn't know a language!  
*Employers say they value the key skills and personal qualities developed by language learners.*

## What topics will I study?

<b><u>Identity and culture</u></b> <i>(Theme 1)</i>	<b><u>Local, national, international global areas of interest</u></b> <i>(Theme 2)</i>	<b><u>Current and future study and employment</u></b> <i>(Theme 3)</i>
<p><b>Youth Culture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self and relationships</li> <li>• Technology and media</li> </ul> <p><b>Lifestyle</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and fitness</li> <li>• Entertainment and leisure</li> </ul> <p><b>Customs and Traditions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food and drink</li> <li>• Festivals and celebrations</li> </ul>	<p><b>Home and Locality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local areas of interest</li> <li>• Transport</li> </ul> <p><b>France and French-speaking countries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local and regional features and characteristics</li> </ul> <p><b>Global sustainability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Social Issues</li> </ul>	<p><b>Current Study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School / college life</li> <li>• School / college studies</li> </ul> <p><b>World of Work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work experience and part-time jobs</li> <li>• Skills and personal qualities</li> </ul> <p><b>Jobs and Future Plans</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applying for work / study</li> <li>• Career plans</li> </ul>

## How will my work be assessed?

All components are worth 25% of the final GCSE grade.

<b>Component 1: Speaking</b>	7-9 minutes (Foundation) 10-12 minutes (Higher) One role-play, one photo card discussion and one general conversation. Completed on your own with class teacher.
<b>Component 2: Listening</b>	35 minutes (Foundation) 45 minutes (Higher) Listening comprehension tasks with written responses.
<b>Component 3: Reading</b>	60 minutes (Foundation) 75 minutes (Higher) Reading comprehension tasks with written responses including one translation from French into English.
<b>Component 4: Writing</b>	75 minutes (Foundation) 90 minutes (Higher) Writing tasks including one translation from English into French,

## What can I do at the end of this course?

Anything! A language is a skill that can fit any job.

- "The UK trades with over 200 countries worldwide"
- "In today's world, companies do a lot of business with foreign companies. They need to be able to communicate with them. They need people with languages."

**For any further information speak to Mrs Boddison (N109) or Miss Lascelles (N105)**

# **GCSE GEOGRAPHY**

## **Why should I choose to study GCSE Geography?**

Geography is all about the world around you. It will help you make informed decisions about where to live, what to buy, how to live as a global citizen. It will help you develop skills that you will find useful long after you have left school. Geography helps you make sense of an increasingly complex world. It describes, explains, problem solves and explores alternatives.

“Geography is the subject that holds the key to our future” Michael Palin

## **What topics will I study?**

You will study an issues based course, covering both human and physical geography topics at a variety of scales – UK and Global. Within each topic there are geographical skills, as well as numeracy and literacy skills.

**Component 1:** Global Geographical Issues (Hazardous earth, Development dynamics Challenges of an urbanising world)

**Component 2:** UK Geographical Issues (UK’s physical landscape, UK’s evolving human landscape, Geographical investigations)

**Component 3:** People and Environment Issues (People and the biosphere, Forests under threat, Consuming energy resources)

## **How will my work be assessed?**

GCSE Geography is assessed through three one and a half hour exams, one for each component. During lessons assessment is carried out through the use of past questions and mark schemes. The Global Geographical Issues and UK Geographical Issues exams are each worth 37.5% of the final grade, the People and Environment Issues exam (decision-making paper) is worth 25% of the final grades. All exams are sat at the end of Year 11.

There is no Controlled Assessment and fieldwork skills will be assessed by examination in Component 2. We will complete a local river study and an urban transect to meet the specification requirements. Attendance to fieldwork is a compulsory part of the course.

Final grades are awarded 9-1 and there is no tiered paper.

## **What can I do at the end of this course?**

GCSE Geography can be used to access many different careers (administration, teaching, journalism, science and technical occupations). After Maths, English, Science and IT employers stated that the qualification they most wanted their employees to have was Geography. This is a proper qualification and subject. It is also one of the EBacc subjects.

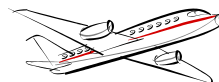
Geography is a flexible subject; recognised as a Humanity, a Science and an Art subject, it has many links to other subjects. It can be studied further at A level or used to access further education (sixth form or colleges). Please see Mrs Buchanan or Miss Veale if you need further information about A level Geography.

Please note: course content is based on Edexcel GCSE Geography (9-1) Geography B specification.





# GERMAN



## Why should I choose to study GCSE German?

- It gives you the opportunity to develop your ability to communicate confidently with native speakers.
- It enables you to gain a deeper understanding about how language works and an opportunity to enrich your level of vocabulary.
- You will gain an awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of Germany and other German-speaking communities and countries.
- You get to go on trips!
- It will get you the job over someone who doesn't know a language!

Employers say they value the key skills and personal qualities which language learners have:  
 Communication skills • Team-working skills • Interpersonal skills • Presentation skills • Problem-solving skills • Organisational skills.

## Which topics will I study?

<u>Identity and culture</u>	<u>Local, national, international and global areas of interest</u>	<u>Current and future study and employment</u>
<b>Youth Culture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self and relationships</li> <li>• Technology and social media</li> </ul> <b>Lifestyle</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and fitness</li> <li>• Entertainment and leisure</li> </ul> <b>Customs and Traditions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food and drink</li> <li>• Festivals and celebrations</li> </ul>	<b>Home and Locality</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local areas of interest</li> <li>• Transport</li> </ul> <b>Germany and German-speaking countries</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local and regional features and characteristics</li> <li>• Holidays and tourism</li> </ul> <b>Global sustainability</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Social issues</li> </ul>	<b>Current Study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School/college life</li> <li>• School/college studies</li> </ul> <b>World of Work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work experience and part-time jobs</li> <li>• Skills and personal qualities</li> </ul> <b>Jobs and Future Plans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applying for work/study</li> <li>• Career plans</li> </ul>

## How will my work be assessed?

Exam board: Eduqas

*All 4 components are each worth 25% of the final GCSE grade:*

<b>Speaking</b>	7 - 9 minute exam (Foundation) / 10 - 12 minute exam (Higher). One role play, one photo card discussion and one general conversation.
<b>Listening</b>	35 minute exam (Foundation) / 45 minute exam (Higher). Listening comprehension tasks with non-verbal and written responses.
<b>Reading</b>	60 minute exam (Foundation) / 75 minute exam (Higher). Reading tasks with non-verbal and written responses, including one translation from German into English.
<b>Writing</b>	75 minutes (Foundation) / 90 minutes (Higher). Writing tasks including one translation from English into German.

## What can I do at the end of this GCSE course?

ANYTHING!! A language is a skill which can fit ANY job:

- *"The UK trades with over 200 countries worldwide."*
- *"In today's world, companies do a lot of business with foreign companies. They need to be able to communicate with them. They need people with languages."*

**For any more information about GCSE German, please speak to Miss Lascelles in N**

# **LEVEL 2 Cambridge National Certificate in HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE**

*Cambridge Nationals in Health and Social Care are targeted at 14-16 year olds in a school environment. They're available as an Award, Certificate and Diploma, with the Certificate being the same size as a GCSE. They use both internal and external assessment and are recognised by the recently published DfE Performance Tables.*

## **Why should I choose to study Health and Social Care?**

If you are interested in health, social or early years services or would like to work in one of these areas then this is the course for you. If you want to study a variety of new topics, if you are hardworking, motivated and organised then you will succeed in health and social care. This subject opens many doors and offers a wide variety of careers choices. Therefore it is also suitable for those pupils who have not yet decided on a career path.

## **What topics will I study?**

### **Unit R021: Essential values of care for use with individuals in care settings (Examination)**

- Understand how to support individuals to maintain their rights.
- Understand the importance of the values of care and how they are applied.
- Understand how legislation impacts on care settings.
- Understand how personal hygiene, safety and security measures protect individuals.

### **Unit R022: Communicating and working with individuals in health, social care and early years settings (Coursework)**

- Understand how to communicate effectively.
- Understand the personal qualities that contribute to effective care.
- Be able to communicate effectively within a health, social care and early years setting.

### **Unit R029: Understanding the nutrients needed for good health (Coursework)**

- Know the dietary needs of individuals in each life stage.
- Be able to create dietary plans for specific dietary needs.
- Be able to produce nutritional meals for specific dietary requirements.

### **Unit R031: Using basic first aid procedures (Coursework)**

- Be able to assess scenes of accidents to identify risks and continuing dangers.
- Understand the first aid procedures for a range of injuries.
- Be able to apply basic first aid procedure.

## **How will my work be assessed?**

All students will complete one written examination (1hr) and three pieces of coursework.

## **What can I do at the end of this course?**

This course can lead onto Health and Social Care Cambridge Technical at Level 3 in our sixth form.

Health and social care can lead to a variety of employment opportunities both within and outside of the NHS. Nursing, midwifery, care assistant, nursery nurse, primary school teaching and social work are a few of the career choices of our past students.

For any further information speak to Mrs Thornton in T105

# GCSE HISTORY

## Why should I choose to study History?

The skills learnt through History can be applied to other situations and jobs:

- Using evidence and report writing
- Communicate clearly to other people
- Research and analysis
- Handling data
- Reading different kinds of information

Employers and universities value History very highly.

## What topics will I study?

There are four topics in Schools History Project (Edexcel exam board):

1. **Medicine in Britain c1250 to present and the British sector of the Western Front 1914-18-** causes of disease and treatments from the Middle Ages to modern times, trench warfare- injuries and treatments and the use of local and national sources
2. **Early Elizabethan England 1558-88-** Church Settlement, Catholic threat (Mary Queen of Scots and Spanish Armada), Sir Francis Drake, Robert Dudley, Sir Walter Raleigh, education, theatre, poverty, exploration
3. **Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-39-** Treaty of Versailles, rebuilding Germany after the First World War, Stresemann's achievements, rise of Hitler, creation of a dictatorship, life in Nazi Germany
4. **The American West 1835-1895-** how and why the USA expanded, lives of Plains Indians, American Civil War, the Mormons, Californian gold rush, homesteaders and ranchers, conflict and wars

## How will my work be assessed?

There will be three exam papers that you will take in the summer:

<b>Content</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	
<b>Paper 1-</b> Thematic Study and historic environment: Medicine in Britain c1250 to present and Western Front 1914-18	1 hour 15 minute paper	30%
<b>Paper 2-</b> Period study and British Depth Study: The American West 1835-1895 and Elizabethan England 1558-88	1 hour 45 minute paper	40%
<b>Paper 3-</b> Modern depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939	1 hour 20 minute paper	30%

## What can I do at the end of this course?

- Business
- Law
- Accounting
- Tourism
- Management
- Journalism
- Computer programming
- Medicine
- Teaching
- Forensic Science

For further information speak to Miss Ford, Head of History



## **ICT** (BTEC Digital Information Technology)



### **Why should I choose to study ICT?**

ICT will help students to gain a deeper understand and insight into how ICT is used in the world today. Students will gain practical skills that can be used across all subjects within the curriculum. ICT is a value subject to study as we are leaving in a digital world; keeping up with latest developments in technology is vital.

Studying ICT will enable students to:

- Become independent and discerning users of ICT.
- Use technology and be aware of its implications for individuals, organisations and society.
- Acquire and apply creative and technical skills to use a range of different software.
- Develop ICT-based solutions to solve real life problems.
- Develop an understanding of current and emerging technologies.
- Develop an understanding of the legal, social, economic, ethical and environmental issues associated with ICT.
- Recognise potential risks when using ICT, and develop safe, secure and responsible. Evaluate and create ICT-based solutions.

### **What topics will I study?**

- Unit 1: Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques  
Assessment: Internally assessed assignment  
Weighting: 30% of total course
- Unit 2: Collecting, presenting and interpreting data  
Assessment: Internally assessed assignment  
Weighting: 30% of total course
- Unit 3: Effective Digital Working Practices  
Assessment: Scenario-based external 1h-30min written exam.  
Weighting: 40% of total course

### **How will my work be assessed?**

Unit 1 is an internally assessed unit; students will explore user interface design and development principles. Discover how to develop and review a digital user interface. Investigate how to use project planning techniques to manage a digital project.

Unit 2 is an internally assessed unit; students will explore how data impacts on individuals and organisations. Develop a dashboard using data manipulation tools. Draw conclusions and make recommendations on data intelligence.

Unit 3 is an external exam; students will explore how modern information technology is evolving and consider legal and ethical issues in data and information sharing. Understand what cyber security is and how to safeguard against it.

### **What can I do at the end of this course?**

Students who excel in this course should also consider studying Level 3 course in Cambridge Technicals IT or Computer Science at A-Level as this is the next progressive step after this course. Students can also progress onto ICT apprenticeships or work based placements.

For any further information speak to Miss J Rai, (W103)

# GCSE MEDIA STUDIES

## Why should I choose to study Media Studies?

Media Studies is a great choice because of its relevance to our daily lives and for the opportunities it provides for exploring contemporary issues through the use of different media in creative and practical ways. Media Studies is a contemporary and interactive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, analytical, research, and communication skills, through exploring a range of media forms.

## What topics will I study?

**Media language:** students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how the media through their forms, codes and conventions communicate meanings. Students will be required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how media products reflect the social, cultural, historical and political contexts in which they are produced.

**Media representations:** students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how the media portray events, issues, individuals and social groups. Students will be required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the processes of selection, construction, mediation and theoretical perspectives on gender and representation.

**Media industries:** students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how the media industries' processes of production, distribution and circulation affect media forms and platforms.

**Media audiences:** students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how the media forms, reaches and addresses audiences, how audiences interpret and respond, and how members of the audience become producers themselves.

## How will my work be assessed?

Assessment is spread over two examinations and a piece of non-exam assessment. Multiple choice questions will assess breadth of knowledge. Short answer questions will assess in depth knowledge. Stepped response questions will assess breadth of knowledge of media language. Extended response questions will assess in depth knowledge of all elements of the course.

**Paper 1 - 1 hour 30 minutes - 35% of GCSE:** questions will focus on three areas of the theoretical framework: industries, audiences and representation.

**Paper 2 - 1 hour 30 minutes - 35% of GCSE:** students will be expected to analyse media products in relation to media language and their contexts.

**Non-exam assessment - 30% of GCSE:** creating a media product via application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical frameworks. Practical and creative skills will be applied to a choice of topics related to the over-arching (annually changing) theme. Students produce a statement of intent and a media product for an intended audience.

## What can I do at the end of this course?

Transferable skills could help gain an apprenticeship, or you could go on to study subjects such as:

- Media Studies
- Film Studies
- English Language
- English Literature
- Art and Design
- Sociology
- Psychology
- Business Studies
- Photography

For any further information speak to Miss Lyttle.

## **GCSE MUSIC**

### **Why should I choose to study Music?**

Music is a mainly practical course for students who are interested in music. You need to enjoy being creative, playing an instrument or singing and listening to new styles of music. There is also the opportunity to develop your knowledge of music technology. To be able to take the subject you need to be competent on an instrument or be a confident singer as all students have to perform for at least 4 minutes.

### **What topics will I study?**

In lessons you will spend your time learning about new styles of music as well as developing your performance and composition skills. You will be able to choose what pieces you want to perform and what styles of music you want to compose. As part of the course you will need to perform two pieces and compose two pieces.

The topics you will study are:

1. **My Music** – This is all about you and your favourite music. Choose whatever style of music you enjoy playing or singing, then research, perform and compose in this style.
2. **The Concerto** – Look at how the concerto developed from 1650 – 1910. This includes studying music by composers such as Mozart and Beethoven.
3. **Rhythms of the World** – Study the rhythmic roots of music from India, Africa and South America.
4. **Film Music** – Look at music that has been composed for films and the soundtracks of video games.
5. **Pop Music** – Study a range of popular styles from the 1950's through to the present day.

### **How will my work be assessed?**

#### **60% Controlled Assessment**

**Solo Performance – 15%**

**Ensemble Performance – 15%**

Your performances can be on any instrument you wish or you can sing. You can choose the pieces you want to play.

**Composition 1 (brief set by the exam board) – 15%**

**Composition 2 (brief set by the student) – 15%**

When composing you will be able to compose for any instrument you wish. You will also have the opportunity to use music software such as Cubase or Sibelius to complete your compositions.

**40% Exam** – A one and a half hour listening exam at the end of the course. This will be based on all the topics listed above.

### **What can I do at the end of this course?**

Music GCSE is the first step if you wish to have a career in the music industry and means you can go on to study Music at a higher level. It is also useful for students who wish to have a career within the performing arts.

Even if you are not looking for a career within these industries, Music develops skills that are transferable to many different careers such as working in a team, communication, confidence, creativity and working independently.

**For any further information speak to Ms Newman.**



## **GCSE PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS**

### **Why should I choose to study Philosophy and Ethics?**

Do you always have a view on something? Do you like discussions and debates? Do you wonder why people live differently to you? Do you like to question things? Then Philosophy and Ethics is for you!

Britain is a multi-faith state and an understanding of each other will help us live and work together in peace. We aim to develop an enthusiasm for the study of philosophy and ethics and the relation they have to the wider world. This course develops a wide range of skills such as: analysis, evaluation and application. It also allows you to express your feelings and views using reasoned arguments.

### **What topics will I study?**

#### **Ethics-**

**Religion and Life-** Abortion, euthanasia and animal experimentation: why are people arguing over these issues? Should I value all life?

**Crime-** Should Britain start to use the death penalty? Why do people have hatred? Why are people mentally ill? Are prisons working? What causes poverty?

**Relationships-** Why do people get divorced? Do I accept all types of relationships? Is there still sexism?

**Peace and Conflict-** Violence, weapons, war and terrorism versus peace-keeping and forgiveness.

**Buddhism-** Challenge your usual ideas about religion by studying Buddhism!

How should we cope with suffering?

How can I be reborn when I don't actually exist?

Why does nothing last forever?

Why is receiving just as important as giving?

How can Buddhism have no God?

**Christianity-** Question and challenge the beliefs Christianity holds to find their deeper significance.

How can an all loving and powerful God exist, when there is so much evil in the world?

How did human beings come into existence and what will happen when we die?

How can Jesus be God and his own son?

### **How will my work be assessed?**

GCSE Philosophy and Ethics is an examination based subject. You will take two written examination papers at the end of Year 11. The first examination paper consists of answering two 5 part questions on Buddhism and two 5 part questions on Christianity. The second examination paper consists of answering a 5 part question on each of the four ethic topics. Four of the questions are short answer questions, but the fifth question has an essay style. You will be expected to describe, explain, argue, analyse and finally assess/evaluate.

### **What can I do at the end of this course?**

Philosophy and Ethics is about being able to understand people, this will help in any job where you work with other people. Understanding people can affect how doctors treat patients and how counsellors treat clients. Equality issues are important in all careers, especially those in the Public Services like the police and teachers. Philosophy and Ethics helps you put your view across more convincingly – this won't just help with your career, but it will help you to be taken seriously in life.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORT (Edexcel)**

### **Why should I choose to study PE & Sport?**

If you enjoy sport and recreation, developing your knowledge and understanding through practical involvement, learning about the benefits of sport and exercise, improving your own performance in a range of sports roles or if you are considering a sports-related career or an A Level/Higher Education course, then our Physical Education and Sport courses are the right choice for you. In Year 9 all students will follow the same curriculum that teaches students the knowledge needed to access either a GCSE PE course or a BTEC Sport Technical Award. At the end of Year 9 all students will be assessed in an end of year test, alongside this result and the results from across the year, a decision will be made as to which course best suits the needs of the individual student.

### **What topics will I study and how will I be assessed?**

<b>GCSE PE</b>	<b>BTEC SPORT – Technical Award</b>
60% theory (2 exam papers) 40% practical (3 sports + 1500 words coursework task)	60% internal assessment (2 assignments) 40% external examination
<b>Theory – Exam Paper 1 - 105 mins</b> <b>Component 1 – Fitness &amp; Body Systems</b> Applied Anatomy and Physiology Movement Analysis Physical Training	<b>Internal Assessment 1 (30%)</b> <b>Written assignment</b>  Understand the body and the supporting technology for sport and activity
<b>Theory – Exam Paper 2 – 75 mins</b> <b>Component 2 – Health &amp; Performance</b> Health, Fitness and Well-being Sport Psychology Socio-cultural influences	<b>External assessment 2 (40%)</b> <b>Exam paper</b>  The principles of training, nutrition and psychology on sport and activity
<b>Practical – 30% practical exam</b> <b>Component 3 - Practical Performance</b> Students will be assessed in; One TEAM activity One INDIVIDUAL activity + one TEAM or one INDIVIDUAL activity	<b>Internal assessment 2 (30%) – synoptic</b> <b>Written assignment</b>  Applying the principles of sport & activity
<b>Coursework – 10% written 1500 words</b> <b>Component 4 – Personal Exercise Programme</b> Students will be required to analyse and evaluate a PEP of their own design	

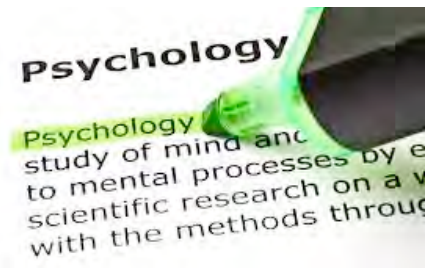
### **What can I do at the end of this course?**

By doing either of these courses you will be able to:

- Prepare for a sporting or coaching career.
- Gain a better understanding of sport and physical activity.
- Take further/higher qualifications to become a teacher, coach, physiotherapist, sports therapist, sport psychologist, sport development officer or fitness instructor.



# GCSE PSYCHOLOGY



## Why should I choose to study Psychology?

Psychology is an exciting, successful and popular subject at GCSE. In Psychology we aim to make sense of the minds and behaviours of human beings so that we can understand the world we live in. Students of Psychology can, and do, apply psychology to their everyday lives.

If you are interested in people, how they think, why they follow certain behaviours, what impact other people have on our behaviour, then Psychology is for you. Students of Psychology like to ask questions and find information for themselves. Psychology will be of benefit in any area where you work with people. It involves learning about key theories, studies and explanations of human behaviour and requires written and thinking skills in order to answer examination questions.

## What topics will I study?

- Memory
- Perception
- Development
- Research Methods
- Social influence
- Language, Thought, and Communication
- The Brain and Neuropsychology
- Psychological Problems

## How will my work be assessed?

The course will be exam based. It consists of two written papers, there is no coursework element. It is examined at the end of the course by 2 papers, each worth 50% and 1 hour 45 minutes in length. It consists of short answer and essay based answers skills. You will be expected to learn and recall studies, theories and names of key Psychology studies.

## What can I do at the end of this course?

Psychology is a highly recognised subject in many jobs and all further education courses. If you are considering an occupation where you will work with other people you will find Psychology incredibly useful.

Career areas favouring Psychology include: psychiatry, child psychology, psychotherapy, behaviour therapy, counselling, social work, the police force, nursing, nursery nurse, teaching, management, journalism. These careers all benefit from individuals who have studied Psychology.

For any further information speak to:

Mrs Williams, Miss Shaw, Miss Wilson, Miss Stocks and Miss Khan.

## **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

This subject is not a GCSE qualification – it is specifically designed to develop targeted students' literacy, numeracy and science skills. The Skills Development programme is led by the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Department and targets students who would benefit from additional support in securing greater understanding of topics covered during core subject lessons.

Additionally, this subject helps to prepare students for the new GCSE examinations in English, Maths and Science through the close study of examination style questions. The SENCo works with Key Stage Managers to ensure work is closely related and half termly meetings are held to discuss progress made.

### **Skills covered:**

- Writing for different audiences and purposes
- Writing imaginative and creative texts
- Developing greater written accuracy
- Reading with accuracy
- Inferring meaning from texts
- Basic Numeracy
- Applying Mathematics in real life contexts
- Interpreting data from a range of subject areas
- Interpreting and using graphs

For further information please speak to Mrs Dunne (SENCo), Mr Perry (Deputy SENCo) or Mrs Brant (SEND Liaison Manager).





## **GCSE TRIPLE SCIENCE (ENTRY CRITERIA APPLIES\*)**

### **Why should I choose to study Triple Science?**

This Triple Science course provides an excellent opportunity for enthusiastic and motivated students who would like to have a career in science, medicine, healthcare, pharmacy and engineering (to name but a few). It is an interesting and broad course covering all aspects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It also provides excellent preparation for A-level sciences. You will have three GCSEs at the end of the course in the three separate sciences listed below:

### **What topics will I study?**

#### **Biology**

- |                                     |               |                           |                            |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Cell level systems               | 2. Scaling up | 3. Organism level systems | 4. Community-level systems |
| 5. Genes, inheritance and selection |               | 6. Global challenges      | 7. Practical skills        |

#### **Chemistry**

- |  |   |                      |
|--|---|----------------------|
| 1. Atomic structure and the periodic table | 2. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter |                      |
| 3. Quantitative chemistry                  | 4. Chemical changes                                 | 5. Energy changes    |
| 6. The rate and extent of chemical change  | 7. Organic chemistry                                | 8. Chemical analysis |
| 9. Chemistry of the atmosphere             | 10. Using resources                                 |                      |

#### **Physics**

- |                                   |                             |                     |                |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. Forces                         | 2. Energy                   | 3. Waves            | 4. Electricity |
| 5. Magnetism and electromagnetism | 6. Particle model of matter | 7. Atomic structure |                |
| 8. Space physics                  |                             |                     |                |

### **How will my work be assessed?**

#### **We will be following the OCR specification which assesses as follows:**

Two papers for each science: Biology, Chemistry and Physics (6 in total)

Written exams: 1 hour 45 minutes duration per paper

Each paper is worth 90 marks (Each paper is worth 50% of each GCSE)

#### **Question types**

Multiple choice, structured questions including extended response

### **What can I do at the end of this course?**

Most students who complete this course go on to do A-levels in the sciences.

\* This triple Science course is through invitation only by means of a selection process.  
For any further information speak to: Mr McTernan, Mr Jandu, Mr Wigfield or Mrs Ahmed