



# Options Booklet 2024-25

# **Introduction**

## **To students**

You will soon be ending your time at Key Stage 3 and moving onto Key Stage 4. In Year 10 and 11 you will have to choose which optional subjects you study. You need to think carefully about the choices that you make, as they can help you when you progress onto further education (college/university) and future employment.

This booklet is designed to give you as much information as possible about the choices you are about to make. When making your option choices it is vital to take a lot of things into consideration including what you are good at, what you enjoy and what you want to do when you finish Key Stage 4. Do not make your choices because your friends have chosen them or because you like a particular teacher. What may be right for your friend, may not be right for you. Remember that your teachers and tutors can always help if you have any worries or concerns about your options.

## **To parents**

Your son or daughter will soon be choosing the option subjects they will be taking in Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11). It is important they make informed decisions through consultation with the school and with you. This booklet is designed to contain as much information about the options process as possible. However, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

All Key Stage 4 students are required to study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, and Core PE. Students then have the opportunity to select 4 optional choices. One of these choices must be an English Baccalaureate (EBACC) subject (History, Geography, French, Spanish or Computer Science). The students will be given information about individual option subjects through lessons and assemblies.

At the end of Term 4, Year 9 students will meet with a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss their options over the next month to ensure they have considered the correct choices for them. Following these meetings, the option subjects will be allocated and individual students will be spoken to if there is an issue with their option choices. Final option decisions will be made by the end of May.

# **Year 9 Options Timeline**

<b>Year 9 Options Process</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Year 9 CLF Raising Aspirations Day	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February
Introduction Assembly	w.c. 10 <sup>th</sup> February
Options Fortnight and Information in lessons/booklet	Term 4
Year 9 Parents Evening	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February
Options Student Voice (forms)	Term 4
Paper copy of options form sent home	Term 4-5
Complete Options Form Online	Term 4-5
Begin 1 to 1 meetings with SLT	Term 5
Options meetings with career advisor	Term 5-6
Option subjects allocated and alterations made if necessary	Term 5-6
Options letter confirming choices	Term 6

There are a range of optional subjects on offer at Winterstoke Hundred Academy. Options subjects may be examined in different ways and awarded a different qualification.

## **Different Types of Courses**

### **GCSEs**

Most students will study for GCSEs in the core subjects and many of the option subjects are also examined by taking a GCSE. In some subjects there are two different 'tiers' of examination offered, for example a higher or foundation tier in Mathematics, Science, French and Spanish.

Most GCSE subjects are examined by a mixture of timed exam papers, coursework and in-class controlled assessment.

### **BTEC/Vocational Subjects**

Heavily weighted towards practical work or coursework rather than examination. We offer the following BTEC/Vocational subjects:

- Health and Social care BTEC
- CNAT Sports Science
- Music BTEC
- Travel and Tourism BTEC

BTEC/Vocational subjects tend to be weighted 60% coursework and 40% exam. The benefits of students taking BTEC/Vocational subjects are students get a second chance to re-take an exam if they do not get their desired outcome.

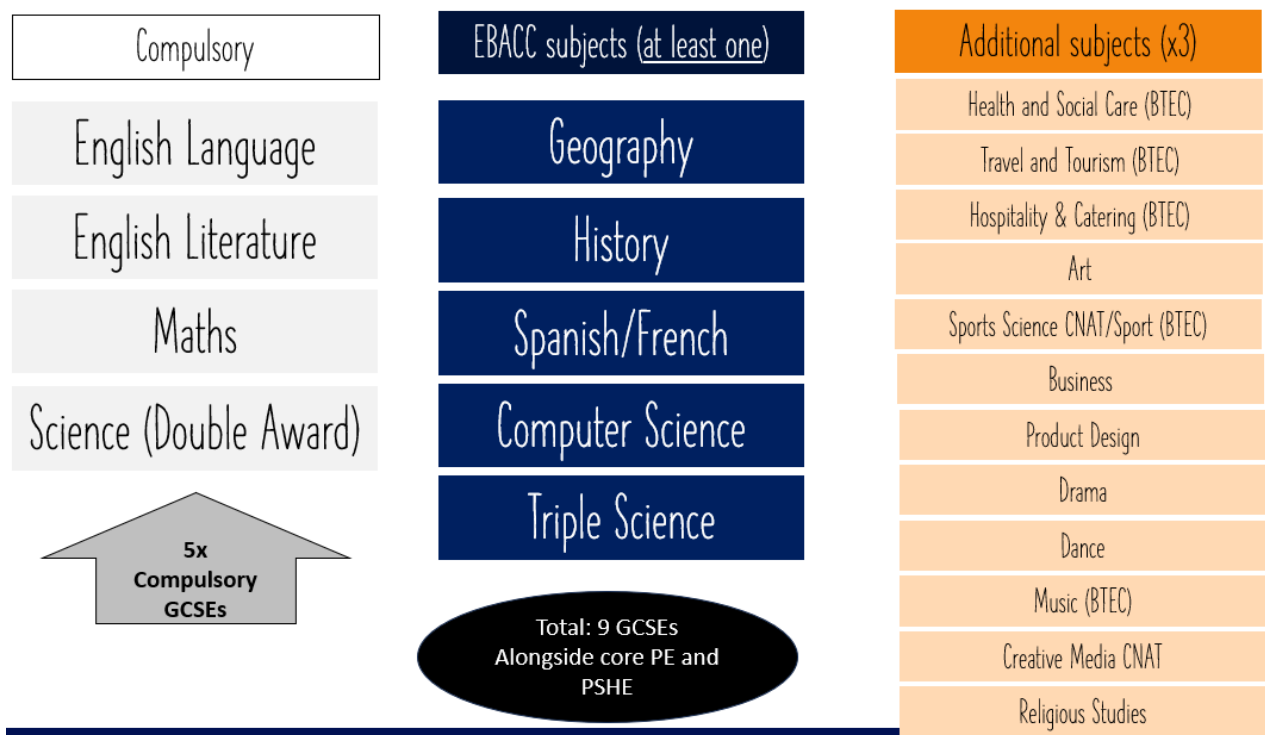
## GCSE Grading System

Over the last few years new GCSE grades have been introduced for all subjects, with numbers replacing the old letter grades.

This table shows how the new GCSE grades relate to the old ones:

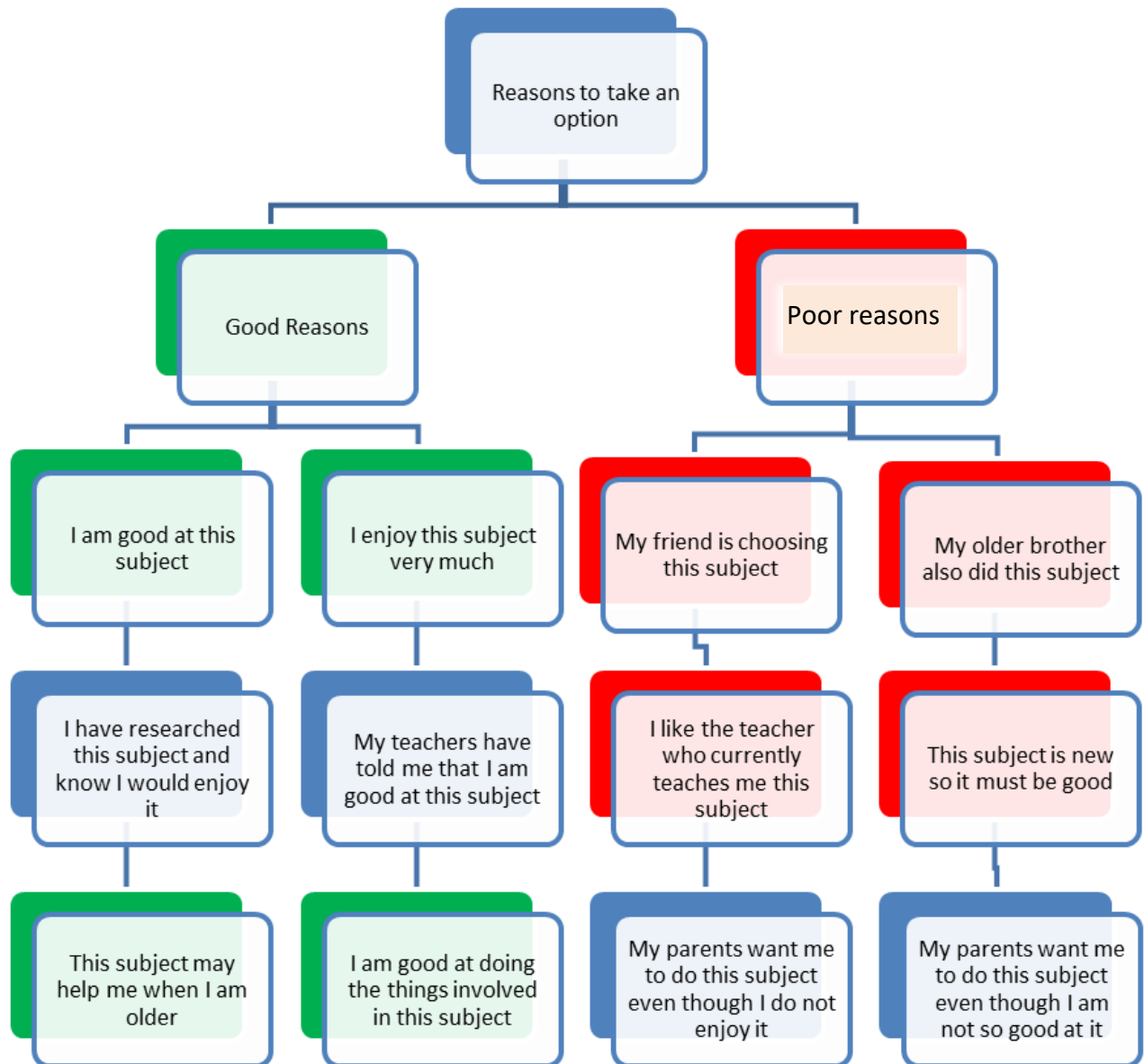
New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	
7	
6	B
5	
4	
3	C
2	
1	
U	
	D
	E
	F
	G
	U

## Choices



# **Making your choices for the right reasons**

There are many reasons why you may choose a certain option and it is important that you choose an option for the right reasons. You will have to study this subject for 2 years; you should not base your choice on things that may change.



## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

### **What is meant by the options process?**

While we want you to make your own choices as far as possible, we may feel that there are other pathways better suited to you. We will meet with you to discuss your choices to ensure that they are right for you. In this way we will try to maximise your chances of attaining your full potential across a good range of qualifications recognised by colleges, universities and employers.

### **Will my choices affect my career?**

The curriculum at Key Stage Four is balanced to ensure you do not limit your future career options by narrowing your subjects too far. Everyone in the country does a core curriculum which includes all the subjects you need to go on to higher education or employment. Universities, colleges and employers want to know what level you achieved in your GCSEs, rather than what GCSEs you did. English and Maths GCSEs are the exceptions to this. You need a minimum of a Grade 5 in both English and Maths in order to make progress in many careers and especially if you aim to go to university.

Apart from your core subjects (English, Maths, Science) you do not always have to choose a subject in Year 10 in order to study it (or a related subject) at A Level or university. The exception might be Languages, where unless you are a native speaker of the language, it is advisable to continue studying the language otherwise you may forget what you have already learnt. If you intend studying Art in the future, it may also be advisable to choose that subject so that you can start to build your portfolio. Most other subjects you can start from scratch at A Level. If you need further information please talk to your teachers at the Progress Evening.

### **Are any subjects more important than another?**

As mentioned, English and Maths are the two subjects that employers and universities want to see. Your choices all have equal importance.

### **What is the English Baccalaureate?**

The English Baccalaureate (EBACC) is a Government measure of achievement for a certain combination of GCSEs. The measure is made up of English, Maths, Science (including Computer Science), either History or Geography and one Language. Students have to study at least one Baccalaureate subject.

### **If I choose a vocational qualification, does this mean I will end up having to follow a career in this area?**

No, not if you don't want to. Remember it counts as the equivalent to a GCSE. Employers, universities and colleges want to know the grades you achieve before knowing what courses you did.

### **How will you know if a particular choice of subjects is not appropriate for me?**

You will all meet with a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss your choices before agreeing whether the choices you have made are appropriate. This is based on your past performance and measured against what people with similar grades to you have achieved in the past, across the country.

### **What if I don't like the alternative choices you may make for me?**

You do not have to follow any alternative courses we have chosen for you; the meeting is to offer you advice. The range of subjects you choose should maximise your chances in your

GCSEs. If you wish to choose a different subject from one we recommend, we will speak to your parents/careers and try to resolve any differences of opinion through dialogue. Don't forget in most cases this does not become an issue.

**How can I decide what subjects are best for me?**

'What do you enjoy most?' is your first question. 'What am I best at?' is your next.

**Who can help me decide what to choose?**

Listen to advice from your parents/guardians, teachers, friends, older brothers and sisters, but at the end of the day make sure you make the final decision.

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## **IMPORTANT**

**Am I guaranteed to get the subjects that I choose?**

Unfortunately, if there are not enough students choosing a course, we cannot run it; therefore, you may not get your first choice. We will complete student voice before we construct the options blocks to maximise the choices available to you.

We could limit the number of subjects we offer and make sure they all run, but then we would limit your choice.

It may be the case that two of the subjects you choose have to run on the timetable at the same time and this will mean you will have to choose between them. Again, this doesn't happen often.

# Compulsory Subjects

## Maths

Qualification: GCSE

Examination board: AQA

Duration: 2 years



***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

Number, Algebra, Ratio & Proportion, Shape and Statistics & Probability

***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

**Examination:**

3 papers at either Foundation (target grades 1 to 5) or Higher (target grades 5 to 9) tier

Paper 1 Non-calculator 90 mins

Paper 2 Calculator 90 mins

Paper 3 Calculator 90 mins

***What careers will this help me with?***

All careers especially scientific careers including vocational areas such as medicine, engineering, sports science, finance, data analysis as well as many new and emerging jobs in areas such as esports

# Compulsory Subjects

## English Language

Qualification: GCSE

Examination board: AQA

Duration: 2 years



### ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

*Speaking and listening skills*  
*Reading and understanding*  
*Language analysis and evaluation*  
*Comparison and summary*  
*Writing for purpose and audience*  
*Writing accurately and imaginatively*

### ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

#### **Non-examined Assessment (NEA)**

*You will plan, prepare and deliver a presentation to your group at the end of Year 10. You will speak for 3 minutes and answer questions on your topic for 2 minutes.*

#### **Examination**

*There are two examinations:*

*Paper 1: Explorations in Reading and Writing (1 hour and 45 minutes)*

*Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (1 hour and 45 minutes)*

### ***What careers will this help me with?***

*This will help you in a wide range of careers, supporting you to develop your communication skills which are vital for any job. There are careers such as journalism, sales and marketing and recruitment which rely on good communication skills.*

# Compulsory Subjects

## English Literature

Qualification: GCSE

Examination board: AQA

Duration: 2 years



### ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

*You will study the following set texts:*

*A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens*

*An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley*

*Power and Conflict Anthology Poetry*

*Macbeth by William Shakespeare*

*You will also need to be confident in responding to unseen poetry.*

### ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

#### **Examination:**

*There are two exams.*

*Paper 1: Shakespeare and the Nineteenth Century Novel*

*Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry*

### ***What careers will this help me with?***

*Journalist*

*Copywriter*

*Teacher*

*Marketing Executive*

*Paralegal*

*Editor*

*Freelance writer*

# Compulsory Subjects

## Combined Science/Triple Science

Qualification: GCSE

Examination board: Edexcel

Duration: 2 years



	<p><b>Combined Science (Double Award)</b>  <b>This is a 2-year course leading to two GCSE qualifications in science.</b>          This course is compulsory and provides the foundation for understanding the physical and material world.</p>	<p><b>Triple Science (Separate Sciences)</b>  <b>This is a 2-year course leading to three GCSE qualifications in Biology, Chemistry &amp; Physics</b>          This course is optional and provides greater depth and challenge compared to the Combined Science course. It is a fantastic option for pupils who have a passion for science or intend to pursue science studies or careers after leaving school. It also provides the opportunity for pupils to demonstrate strength in each science independently. Conversations may be required to assess the suitability of a pupil for this course.</p>
<p><b>What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?</b></p>	<p><b>Biology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cells</li> <li>✓ Genetics</li> <li>✓ Natural selection and genetic modification</li> <li>✓ Health and disease</li> <li>✓ Plant structures and their functions</li> <li>✓ Animal coordination, control and homeostasis</li> <li>✓ Exchange and transport in animals</li> <li>✓ Ecosystems and material cycles</li> <li>✓ <i>In Triple Science: goes more into depth on the above topics</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Chemistry:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ States of matter and mixtures</li> <li>✓ Chemical changes</li> <li>✓ Extracting metals and equilibria</li> <li>✓ Groups in the periodic table</li> <li>✓ Rates of reaction and energy changes</li> <li>✓ Fuels and Earth science</li> <li>✓ <i>In Triple Science: covers additional topics such as hydrocarbons and quantitative analysis</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Physics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Motion and forces</li> <li>✓ Energy</li> <li>✓ Waves and the electromagnetic spectrum</li> <li>✓ Radioactivity</li> <li>✓ Electricity and circuits</li> <li>✓ Magnetism and electromagnets</li> <li>✓ <i>In Triple Science only: goes more into depth on the above topics plus covers the additional topic of astronomy</i></li> </ul>	

<b><i>How will I be assessed in this subject?</i></b>	100% exam, no coursework. There are six exam papers (1 hour 10 minutes each) at the end of the course which cover the entire content. The exams are sat at either foundation or higher tier.	100% exam, no coursework. There are six exam papers (1 hour 40 minutes each) at the end of the course which cover the entire content. The exams are sat at either foundation or higher tier. Unlike the double award, a different tier can be sat for each science.
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<b><i>What careers will this help me with?</i></b>	This science course provides the foundation required for further studies in sciences and can lead to careers in engineering, healthcare, environmental work, architecture, construction, catering, electrician, education, pilot, veterinary studies, pharmacy, research science and so on. Choosing Combined Science instead of Triple Science will not limit options in science after GCSEs.	In addition to what the Combined Science course provides, the Triple Science course enables further learning and skill development which is beneficial to pupils considering studying any science disciplines after GCSE, such as at A level and degree level. Studying the Triple Science course provides students with a variety of skills that can be applied to many areas of work.
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# Options Subjects

## Art

**Qualification:** GCSE Art  
**Examination board:** AQA  
**Duration:** 2 years



### ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

Component 1 (Portfolio) work is worth 60% of the overall grade and you will work on this from the start of the course until January when you will be in Year 11. Students produce a portfolio of practical work showing their personal response to a set starting point, brief, scenario or stimulus. The portfolio may be presented in appropriate formats for the specification title they are following and chosen area of study, including sketchbooks, digital presentations, mounted sheets, maquettes, prototypes, animated work, scale models or illustrated written work. Component 2 (ESA – Externally set assignment) is a shorter project worth the final 40% and completed from January to April in Year 11. In this, students respond to one of five themes, each with a range of written and visual starting points and stimuli. Students research, plan and develop ideas for their response to the option they have chosen, which they must then realise within the ten-hour supervised time period in the April of Year 11.

You will have the opportunity to work with Photography, digital editing software, printmaking and other materials available to the department, as well as developing the most fundamental skills of drawing and painting. You will receive a brief and a list of tasks to guide you through the project. It allows us to ensure as the facilitator that you develop enough work for each Assessment Objective, on which you will be marked.

### ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

There are two areas of assessment:

- A portfolio, which is 60% of the total GCSE
- An externally set task, which is 40% of the total GCSE.

Both components are 100% non-exam assessment and are 100% internally marked and externally moderated by visit.

### ***Am I suited to Art GCSE?***

The course is very self-directed, and you must be committed, as the volume of work required is high. Art requires long hours of hard work and dedication. Students have to pay great attention to detail. Art clubs and Period 7 must be attended, and further work must be done at home, usually about two hours every week. It is not an easy option.

You must enjoy drawing, painting and be prepared to write about what your work and the ideas of others.

### ***What careers will this help me with?***

The creative industries, such as fashion designers, illustrators, advertising, marketing etc. have moved into first place to be the fastest growing economic sector in the UK, responsible for 5.6% of jobs, and worth £76.9bn to the UK economy. Many employers now actively seek those who have studied the arts. Steve Jobs, founder of Apple, was fond of saying his success was due to his hiring artists and musicians fascinated by technology rather than computer geeks. Top talent management agency, The Curve Group, specialising in financial and business services, declares that employees with arts degrees have developed more quickly in their roles from the start and has found them to have discipline, confidence and the ability to accept criticism.

# Computer Science

**Qualification:** GCSE Computer Science

**Examination board:** OCR

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***What will I study in GCSE Computer Science?***

Are you curious about how the technology we use every day actually works? Do you love solving problems and bringing ideas to life through programming? In GCSE Computer Science, you'll dive into the fascinating world of technology, where you'll uncover the secrets of computer systems and master the skills to create your own programs. It's a hands-on, exciting course that combines creativity with technical know-how, giving you the tools to shape the digital future.

### ***- Computer Systems***

Ever wondered what goes on inside a computer? This unit takes you under the hood to explore the Central Processing Unit (CPU), memory, and storage – the brains of the operation! You'll also learn how computers connect and communicate through wired and wireless networks, understand the different ways they stay secure, and discover how system software makes everything work seamlessly. Plus, we'll look at the bigger picture: the global impact of Computer Science on ethics, culture, law, and the environment. It's not just about how computers work, but how they shape our world.

### ***- Computational Thinking, Algorithms, and Programming***

This is where you become the problem-solver and creator. You'll learn how to think like a computer scientist, breaking down challenges into manageable steps and designing clever solutions. Discover how algorithms power everything from search engines to video games, and develop your programming skills to write robust, effective code. We'll even explore the mathematics that underpins Computer Science, helping you tackle problems with confidence and precision.

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

The Computer Science qualification currently consists of **2 written examinations (50% each)**

- Computer systems (1 hour 30 minutes)
- Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (1 hour 30 minutes)

## ***Am I suited to GCSE Computer Science?***

Do you enjoy solving puzzles, thinking logically, and understanding how things work? If you have an interest in programming, Mathematics, and exploring the inner workings of technology, GCSE Computer Science could be the perfect fit for you!

While a knack for Maths can certainly help you get to grips with the subject, don't worry if it's not your strongest area – what matters most is your commitment to improving and your willingness to put in the effort from the start. The course involves a lot of hands-on programming and problem-solving, so regular practice will be essential.

If you're ready to challenge yourself, embrace problem-solving, and work hard to develop your skills, GCSE Computer Science can open up an exciting world of possibilities. With the right mindset and determination, any struggles you encounter can be overcome!

## ***What careers will GCSE Computer Science help me with?***

GCSE Computer Science is your gateway to exciting careers in programming, engineering, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and game design. The skills you'll gain are highly valued across industries, from software development to IT systems management.

This qualification also prepares you for further education in Computer Science, IT, and related fields, giving you the foundation to excel in a tech-driven world. Whether you're shaping the future of technology or solving real-world problems, the possibilities are endless!

# Drama

**Qualification:** GCSE Drama

**Examination board:** AQA

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

### Component 1: Understanding Drama

This is a **written** exam for 1 hour 45 minutes **(40%)**.

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of one set play from a choice of six
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of a live performance

### Component 2: Devising Drama

This exam is both **written (30%)** and **practical (10%)**.

- Process of creating devised drama
- Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer or designer)
- Analysis and evaluation of own work through written log books.
- This component of the exam is very theory based and you will be expected to do a lot of written work about the practical work that you create

### Component 3: Texts in practice

This exam is **practical (20%)**.

- Performance of two extracts from one play in groups

## ***Am I suited to Drama GCSE?***

You must enjoy Drama and be prepared to work with a variety of people. You should have good attendance as all practical's are in groups and non-attendance means letting others down. You should be enthusiastic about the subject, have an open mind to new ideas and be able to stay in character, and be comfortable to get creative and try out new things. You must be prepared to complete the written elements and have a good understanding of drama theory as well as acting.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

Drama is a gateway to many different careers and jobs. You could be training for a career in theatre or on TV / film as an actor, director, designer or administrator, but, equally you could be training for any job that requires you to speak, present, organise, think, plan, discuss, work as a team and so on. Drama students can go into every conceivable career, from teaching to science, and from sport to business. Drama helps to develop your confidence and understanding of how to capture an audience – this won't always necessarily be in a theatre setting but being able to chair meetings, give presentations and speak in public which are all transferable life skills.

# Dance

**Qualification:** BTEC Tech Award - Performing Arts Dance

**Examination board:** Edexcel

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

### **Coursework:**

You will complete a total of three units, out of these two are internally assessed and completed in Year 10. 'Exploring the Performing Arts' and 'Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts' are worth **30% each** of the final BTEC mark.

### **Examination:**

The last unit 'Performing to a Brief' is completed in Year 11 in a 12 week timeframe. You will be continually assessed internally by your teacher as the course progresses.

## ***What are the main topics I will study?***

You will study three units for this qualification. The first is a written unit called 'Exploring the Performing Arts' where you learn about the skills needed to be a dancer and study a variety of professional works. In the second unit 'Developing Skills and techniques in the Performing Arts' you recreate 3 pieces of professional repertoire, this is a practical unit. In your final unit 'Performing to a Brief' you have to prepare and perform a 15 minute group dance created from a stimulus.

## ***Am I suited to Dance BTEC?***

You must love to dance and be energetic and enthusiastic about the subject. You should be confident enough to dance in groups in front of the class, and in showcases. You will wear dance kit for lessons which includes: trainers, black leggings and a BTEC Dance t- shirt.

You should have excellent attendance as the dances are all in groups and it is difficult if students are missing. You should enjoy performing as you will be in at least 3 shows a year. You should be able to meet deadlines and be happy to attend extra lunch and after school rehearsals as and when required.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

Choreography  
Teacher  
Performer  
Entertainer

# French

**Qualification:** GCSE French

**Examination board:** AQA

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- ✓ Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- ✓ Theme 2: Popular culture
- ✓ Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

Students learn the language in the following four skill areas, and the topics above are covered in each of these areas.

**Listening:** understand and respond to spoken language

**Speaking:** communicate and interact in speech

**Reading:** understand and respond to written language

**Writing:** communicate in writing

Studying French at GCSE allows us to develop our knowledge and application of language skills, building on the learning experienced at KS3. Students will be able to speak with increasing confidence and fluency, write at varying length, appreciate texts from the target language, and further their cultural understanding.

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

**Languages are assessed entirely by end of course examinations.** There is equal weighting for Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing with 25% each.

All questions are asked in English and responses in Listening and Reading will also be in English. Questions in the writing and speaking papers will be in English and responses in French.

The content studied over the two years as well as assessment and practice questions, will ensure students feel confident and prepared for their exams.

## ***Am I suited to GCSE French?***

Scientific research shows that learning languages opens pathways in the brain that help with learning other subjects too; it makes you more intelligent.

Languages make up four out of the five hardest GCSEs, which means that taking a language is seen by employers and universities as a sign that you can take up a challenge and are willing to work hard. However, languages are fun because they allow us to explore other cultures and access the wider world, but they also enable us to learn so much more about our own culture.

Many universities now require a language to GCSE level so it's really a 'no-brainer'.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

Languages can be useful in almost any career, and the ability to speak another language is highly desirable for many employers. The UK Government is keen to promote qualifications in Modern Foreign Languages.

Whilst languages are of course essential in careers such as translating, interpreting and language teaching, the prospects of learning a language are not limited to these professions. As a linguist, you will have a huge advantage with careers in, but not limited to, hospitality, tourism, business, finance, media, publishing, archiving, sports logistics, national intelligence and security, and governmental or charity work.

# Spanish

**Qualification:** GCSE Spanish

**Examination board:** AQA

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- ✓ Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- ✓ Theme 2: Popular culture
- ✓ Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

Students learn the language in the following four skill areas, and the topics above are covered in each of these areas.

**Listening:** understand and respond to spoken language

**Speaking:** communicate and interact in speech

**Reading:** understand and respond to written language

**Writing:** communicate in writing

Studying Spanish at GCSE allows us to develop our knowledge and application of language skills, building on the learning experienced at KS3. Students will be able to speak with increasing confidence and fluency, write at varying length, appreciate texts from the target language, and further their cultural understanding.

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

**Languages are assessed entirely by end of course examinations.** There is equal weighting for Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing with 25% each.

All questions are asked in English and responses in Listening and Reading will also be in English. Questions in the writing and speaking papers will be in English and responses in Spanish.

The content studied over the two years as well as assessment and practice questions, will ensure students feel confident and prepared for their exams.

## ***Am I suited to GCSE Spanish?***

Scientific research shows that learning languages opens pathways in the brain that help with learning other subjects too; it makes you more intelligent.

Languages make up four out of the five hardest GCSEs, which means that taking a language is seen by employers and universities as a sign that you can take up a challenge and are willing to work hard. However, languages are fun because they allow us to explore other cultures and access the wider world, but they also enable us to learn so much more about our own culture.

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Whilst languages are of course essential in careers such as translating, interpreting and language teaching, the prospects of learning a language are not limited to these professions. As a linguist, you will have a huge advantage with careers in, but not limited to, hospitality, tourism, business, finance, media, publishing, archiving, sports logistics, national intelligence and security, and governmental or charity work.

# Geography

**Qualification:** GCSE Geography

**Examination board:** AQA

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

### **Paper 1: Living with the physical environment (35%)**

- Natural hazards – tectonics, weather and climate change.
- The living world – ecosystems, tropical rainforests, hot deserts.
- Physical landscapes in the UK – rivers, coasts, flooding.

### **Paper 2: Challenges in the urban environment (35%)**

- Urban issues and challenges – urbanisation, city studies, shanty towns, regeneration projects.
- The changing economic world – world development gap, north south divide in the UK.
- The challenge of resources management – renewable resources, food supplies, water supplies, energy.

### **Paper 3: Geographical applications (30%)**

- Physical fieldwork – Rivers (The Quantocks)
- Human fieldwork – Impacts of redevelopment on the environment (Bristol/WSM)
- A pre-release issue
- Map skills
- Geographical skills

## ***Am I suited to Geography?***

You should have a good level of literacy and numeracy. You should also have an interest in the environment, both physical and human, around you.

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

**Examination:** 100%

**Paper 1:** PHYSICAL Geography topics. The questions are a mixture of multiple-choice, short 1-4 mark questions, and longer 6 or 9 mark questions which require an extended written response. You will also answer questions on the case studies you have learnt.

**Paper 2:** HUMAN Geography topics. The questions are a mixture of multiple-choice, short 1-4 mark questions, and longer 6 or 9 mark questions which require an extended written response. You will also answer questions on the case studies you have learnt.

**Paper 3:** This is primarily a skills paper. Section A is focused on a pre-released booklet of information on an issue which we have studied in class. You receive this booklet approx. 8 weeks before the exam and answer a mixture of short 1-2 mark as well as longer 6-9 mark questions about the information presented. The second section of paper 3 is a set of questions related to your fieldwork investigations. The third section sets questions on an 'unseen fieldwork' investigation, where you are given data from an enquiry and must analyse, present and evaluate that data.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

Studying geography can help you develop data, research, scientific, and map skills. Geography often involves practical work so there are usually opportunities for fieldwork and travel. Learning about geography can also boost your soft skills, including communication, teamwork and time management. Studying geography can lead to careers in areas such as:

- Environment and ecology
- Town planning
- Surveying
- Cartography (making maps)
- Conservation

# History

**Qualification:** GCSE History

**Examination board:** Edexcel

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000–present and Whitechapel, c1870–c1900: crime, policing and the inner city.
- Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88
- Superpower Relations and the Cold War 1941-1991
- USA and Civil Rights 1945 - 1974

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

**Examination:** 100%. All examinations are taken at the end of Year 11.

- Paper 1: Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000–present and Whitechapel, c1870–c1900: crime, policing and the inner city. 30% of the qualification
- Paper 2: Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88 & Superpower Relations and the Cold War 1941-1991. 40% of the qualification
- Paper 3: USA and Civil Rights. 30% of the qualification

## ***Am I suited to History?***

The skills you'll learn will be invaluable should you wish to take on History in the long-term. History is quite a challenging subject that requires a good memory for dates and issues, and an analytical mind. You will also need a high level of literacy and be prepared to write. You will learn to question the reliability of sources, which makes it good for developing critical thinking skills that will be essential at university and in the workplace.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

Journalist, Lawyer, Archaeologist, Administrator, Museum Worker, *Government, Police Officer, Politics, Marketing, Teacher.*

# Music

**Qualification:** BTEC Tech Award in Music

**Examination board:** Edexcel

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

You will study three units for this qualification:

### **Component 1: Exploring the Music Industry (30%)**

You will explore a range of different music genres – creating a range of practical, composing, production and listening products. You will look at a range of different job roles in the music industry and how they work together to create these products.

### **Component 2: Developing Music Skills (30%)**

You will develop your skills on your chosen instrument (or vocals). You will explore job roles associated with your skills to create a performance for an audience.

### **Component 3: Responding to a musical brief (40%)**

This unit allows you to put together everything you have learnt across the course to create a music product to fit with a given brief. You will create your own performances/compositions and present this alongside supporting documentation to show your intentions.

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

### **Coursework:**

Components 1 and 2 are coursework-based. Your teacher will set you timed assignments for each component, which you will need to complete. There will be practical performance assessments, audio and video evidence, composition work and written coursework. You will then get graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction for each assignment and you have to gain at least a pass in each assignment to pass overall.

### **Examination:**

Component 3 will be an externally assessed exam where you put together all you have learnt to create a music product to a timed set brief.

## ***Am I suited to Music BTEC?***

You must love music and be energetic and enthusiastic about the subject. You should be confident enough to perform and share your front of the class. You will be a team player and part of a supportive and encouraging learning environment. You should have excellent attendance as the BTEC course is continually assessed (including audio/video evidence) and some of the work is in groups therefore difficult if students are missing. You should enjoy performing as you will take part in multiple school performances in and out of school. You should be able to meet deadlines and will be expected to attend extra lunch and after-school rehearsals as and when required.

You are also expected to be taking individual music lessons on your principal instrument/voice either outside of school or with one of our visiting music teachers.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

A number of careers exist that this course supports:

- Performing roles (session musician, backing singer, solo artist etc)
- Production roles (Working in a recording studio, supporting live performances in sound or set up)
- Other roles (Music teacher, music therapist, promoter, journalist, music management, artist liaison)

Even if you don't go into the music industry, it can help you to have a creative outlet whatever you go on to do, and employers value these key skills gained from studying music:

- Confidence raising
- Team working
- Empathy and understanding

# Physical Education

**Qualification:** Cambridge National Sport Science

**Examination board:** OCR

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- R180: Reducing the risk of sports injuries and dealing with common medical conditions (80 marks)
- R181: Applying the principles of training: fitness and how it affects performance (80 marks)
- R183: Nutrition and sports performance (40 marks)

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

### **Examination: Unit R180 'Reducing the risk of sports injuries and dealing with common medical conditions'**

This is assessed externally. The exam is 1 hour and 15 minutes, comprising of 70 marks converted into 80 UMS marks, this is a mixture of multiple-choice, short, medium and longer style questions.

The topics covered are:

- Different factors which influence the risk and severity of injury
- Warm up and cool down routines
- Different types and causes of sports injuries
- Reducing risk, treatment and rehabilitation of sports injuries and medical conditions
- Causes, symptoms and treatment of medical conditions.

### **Coursework: Unit R181: Applying the principles of training: fitness**

This is made up of 4 written tasks that are assessed internally comprising of 80 marks the topics covered in this unit are:

- Components of fitness applied in sport (18 marks)
- Principles of training in sport (24 marks)
- Organising and planning a fitness training programme (14 marks)
- Evaluate own performance in planning and delivery of a fitness training programme. (12 marks)

### **Coursework: Unit R183: Nutrition and sports performance**

- Nutrients needed for a healthy, balanced nutrition plan (12 marks)
- Applying differing dietary requirements to varying types of sporting activity (12 marks)
- Developing a balanced nutrition plan for a selected sporting activity (12 marks)
- How nutritional behaviours can be managed to improve sports performance. (10 marks)

## ***Am I suited to Sport Science?***

If you are interested in PE, Sport and Science, then this is the course for you. If you do not like exams, then this course may be a good option for you as there is only one exam out of the 3 units. However, the course is coursework heavy and unlike BTEC sport, there is no 'practical element' for sport science, so there is no necessity to have a practical ability. There is a lot of written coursework that we do on the computer which goes towards your final grade and each assignment will have an assessment criterion which you must fulfil to pass.

There are very few practical tasks on this course and the practical tasks that are done is purely for data to be used in written coursework.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

Nurse, Doctor, Physiotherapist, Sports Rehabilitation , Paramedic

# Physical Education

**Qualification:** BTEC Sport Tech Award Level 1/2

**Examination board:** Pearson

**Duration:** 2 years

## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- Component 1: Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity
- Component 2: Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance
- Component 3: Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

### **Examination: Component 3: Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity**

This is assessed externally. The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes, comprising of 60 marks, this is a mixture of multiple-choice, short, medium and longer style questions.

The topics covered are:

- Fitness training principles and exercise intensity and how it can be determined
- Importance of fitness testing and requirements for administration of each fitness test
- Fitness test methods for components of physical fitness and skill-related fitness
- Interpretation of fitness test results and the requirements for each of the following fitness training methods
- Fitness training methods for physical components of fitness and the Provision for taking part in fitness training methods
- Additional requirements for each of the fitness training methods and the effects of long-term fitness training on the body systems
- Personal information to aid fitness training programme and how to design a programme
- Motivational techniques for fitness programming

### **Coursework: Component 1: Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity**

This is made up of 3 tasks that are assessed internally comprising of 80 marks the topics covered in this unit are:

- Select suitable physical activities for the case study provided considering provision available. Written Task (24 marks)
- Discuss how technology would affect provision for the case study person. Written PowerPoint Presentation (12 marks)
- Demonstrate practical delivery, communication and planning by producing a warm-up plan and demonstration of the warm-up. Written task (12 marks) Practical task will need to be videoed for moderation (12 marks)

### **Practical/Coursework: Component 2: Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance**

- Demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the components of fitness. Written Task (12 marks)
- Demonstrate their skill in a selected sport in isolated practice and skill and strategy in competitive situations. Practical task will need to be videoed for moderation (12 marks)
- Demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of officials in sport and two key rules and regulations in sport. PowerPoint Presentation (12 marks)
- Demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of a sport and provide specific drills to improve participants sporting techniques. Written Task (12 marks) Practical task will need to be videoed for moderation (12 marks)

## ***Am I suited to BTEC Sport?***

If you are interested in PE and either do Fitness or sport for school/outside of school, then this is the course for you. If you do not like exams, then this course also may be a good option for you as there is only one exam out of the 3 units. The course is coursework based and practical based unlike OCR Sport Science, so there is a necessity to have a practical ability in order to do well on the course.

***What careers will this help me with?***

PE Teacher

Performance Analyst

Sports Coach

Personal Trainer

Strength and Conditioning coach

# Design Technology

**Qualification:** GCSE Design Technology

**Examination board:** WJEC EDUQAS

**Duration:** 2 years



Design and Technology GCSE allows learners to identify and solve real problems through the design process and into manufacture. Learners are encouraged to work creatively & develop several core skills, including practical skills, planning and decision making.

The course covers both theory of materials and manufacture processes used in industry and the practical manufacturing skills to solve problems using hand tools & machinery. Students will learn 3D Computer aided design software and output their design to 3D print, laser cut and CNC routing machines.

## **What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?**

### **Technical Principles**

1. design and technology and our world
2. smart materials (Thermochromic, Photochromic)
3. electronic systems and programmable components (Scratch based coded circuits)
4. mechanical components and devices (gears, levers, pulleys, CAMS)
5. materials (woods, metals, plastic, paper & card)
6. CAD CAM (3d printing, laser cutting, CNC routing)

### **In depth knowledge and understanding of one of the above material groups**

- electronic systems, programmable components & mechanical devices
- papers & boards
- natural & manufactured timber
- ferrous & non-ferrous metals
- thermoforming & thermosetting polymers f. fibres & textiles

### **Designing and Making Principles**

1. understanding design and technology practice
2. understanding user needs
3. writing a design brief and specifications
4. investigating challenges
5. developing ideas
6. investigating the work of others
7. using design strategies
8. communicating ideas
9. developing a prototype
10. making decisions

### **In depth knowledge and understanding of Design & making**

- Selecting and working with materials and components
- marking out
- using tools and equipment
- using specialist techniques
- using surface treatments and finishes

## **How will I be assessed in this subject?**

***How will I be assessed in this subject?*****Coursework:** 50%

One piece of controlled assessment, roughly 35 hours work, to design and develop a prototype of a product using a material or mixture of materials of your choosing. Designing and making is worth 60% of the coursework marks

**Examination:** 50%

You will be questioned on your ability to analyse and evaluate design outcomes and wider issues and technical knowledge. The exam will be taken in Year 11.

***Am I suited to Design Technology?***

You should be creative, enjoy exploring design, innovative and willing to produce high quality practical work. Students should be confident in the workshop manufacturing ideas from paper, card, foam, woods, metals & plastics. DT students should be problem solvers, engineers and willing to learn new software used in industry.

***What careers will this help me with?***

Graphic Design, Product Design, Interior Design, Civil Engineering , Mechanical Engineering, Architecture.

# Hospitality and Catering



**Qualification:** WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering

**Examination board:** WJEC

**Duration:** 2 years

## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- Hospitality and catering provision
- How hospitality and catering providers operate
- Health and safety in hospitality and catering
- Food safety in hospitality and catering

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

**Examination:** Unit 1: The hospitality and catering industry

**Written examination:** 1 hour 20 minutes

40% of qualification

Questions requiring short and extended answers, based around applied situations.

**Coursework:** Unit 2: Hospitality and catering in action

**Controlled assessment:** approximately 12 hours

60% of qualification

An assignment brief will be provided by WJEC which will include a scenario and several tasks available via the WJEC Secure Website.

## ***Am I suited to Food Preparation and Nutrition?***

You should be interested in learning about food, nutrition, and the hospitality and catering industry. You should be prepared for lots of writing as well as practical work. You should be enthusiastic about cooking and wanting to produce food of a high standard with creative, high-quality presentation. You should be willing to learn a variety of practical skills and cooking techniques. You should be willing to try making new things.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

*Catering, Hospitality, Butchery, Baking, Food Science, Restaurant Management, Technology, Food Environmental Health.*

*Food*

# Business



**Qualification:** GCSE Business

**Examination board:** Pearson Edexcel

**Duration:** 2 years

## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

As a student of GCSE Business, you will:

- apply knowledge and understanding to different business contexts. These include businesses ranging from small enterprises to large multinationals and businesses operating in local, national and global contexts
- develop an understanding of how these contexts impact on business behaviour
- use business terminology to identify and explain business activity
- apply business concepts to familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

### ***You will study two Themes:***

Theme 1: Investigating small business.

Content overview

- Topic 1.1 Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Topic 1.2 Spotting a business opportunity
- Topic 1.3 Putting a business idea into practice
- Topic 1.4 Making the business effective
- Topic 1.5 Understanding external influences on business

Theme 2: Building a business.

Content overview

- Topic 2.1 Growing the business
- Topic 2.2 Making marketing decisions
- Topic 2.3 Making operational decisions
- Topic 2.4 Making financial decisions
- Topic 2.5 Making human resource decisions

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

Business consists of two externally-examined papers that will be sat in the summer of year 11.

Paper 1- Theme 1: Investigating small business. Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification. 90 marks.

Paper 2- Theme 2: Building a business. Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification. 90 marks.

The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions.

## ***Am I suited to Business?***

This will suit you if you are interested in Business and looking to set up or be part of businesses when you grow up. If you are wanting to understand what makes a business successful and the key terminology that you will need to know when working in a business, then this is the course for you. You will be required to retain information and apply it to different scenarios in 2 written exams. If you are good at Maths, then this will be beneficial to you, as you are required to carry out calculations. If you are good at English, this will be beneficial to you, as you are required to answer extended questions.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

Accountants; marketing or recruitment specialists; financial advisors or management positions in a variety of areas, industries and businesses.

# Health and Social Care

**Qualification:** BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care

**Examination board:** Edexcel

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- The course is split into 3 compulsory components which are designed to help students explore the Health and Social care setting and develop knowledge and understanding about how people grow and develop across their life. In all 3 components students will study real life case studies to help them understand and put into practice the knowledge they have learnt.
- Component 1 is all about people and how different factors such as lifestyle choices, relationships and income/wealth can impact on how they develop over the course of their life. We will also look at a variety of expected and unexpected life events and how they affect growth and development.
- Component 2 is all about the Health and Social Care profession. What services people may need to access in order to get medical or social help and how those services meet individual needs. The care values that underpin the Health and Social care setting such as confidentiality, respect, safeguarding and duty of care.
- Component 3 is the exam and combines knowledge learnt in Component 1 and 2 in a Health and Wellbeing 2 hour written exam. You will study a case study and answer questions about what factors have had an impact on their development, what their health indicators tell you about their current health and risks to future health and what targets you can put in place to help them improve their health.

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

**Controlled assessment or Coursework:** 60% of your grade will be from 4 written assignments that you will complete in lessons in component 1 and 2.

**Examination:** 40% of your grade will be a written exam paper (2 hours). You will have 2 attempts to achieve your best grade.

## ***Am I suited to BTEC Health and Social Care?***

You will need to have good levels of literacy to be able to complete the classwork and coursework. Good written work is essential for success in the coursework elements. You will need to have a good work ethic and be able to complete individual research and type up your findings into extended reports.

You will need a good level of maturity to grasp the concepts which will be introduced and also need to be a caring and empathetic type of person.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

Anything in health care or social care e.g. nurse, doctor, social worker, healthcare assistant, support worker, occupational therapist

# Travel and Tourism

**Qualification:** BTEC

**Examination board:** Edexcel

**Duration:** 2 years



***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

***You must enjoy geography and want to study tourism.***

You will study the following topics:-

UK tourist destinations.

Worldwide tourist destinations.

Customer service

These units allow you to look at the different ways that tourism operates. We will look at local businesses such as the rebuilding and the success of the local Grand Pier. How did they start the project and what were their main objectives during this time? We will investigate UK destinations and worldwide destinations. Where would you choose to go on holiday and why?

**Learning through doing?**

Unlike other GCSEs, in BTECs you build a portfolio of work up over the 2 years, so everything you do in lessons goes towards your final grade!

**Enterprise Project**

You will be involved in a small project which involves setting up a business. Students get a chance to work alongside mentors from a local business and have developed team building and communication skills. You will compete with other schools in "Enterprise 4 U" for cash prizes!

***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

**Coursework:**

For each unit you will be given assignments to complete. The content of the unit will be delivered in class and you will be expected to use the time in class to complete your assignment. You will also be expected to complete high quality I.S. Each assignment will be given a deadline for submission and it is expected that you meet these. (75%)

**Examination**

A 1 hour 15 minute exam consisting of short answer and long answer questions. This accounts for 25% of the final grade.

***Am I suited to Travel and tourism?***

You should be interested in how businesses work and be ever ready to participate in group work. You must enjoy keeping up to date with what goes on in the world outside of school.

**What careers will this help me with?**

- A number of careers in hospitality and travel locally including:
- Airline customer service agent..
- Airport information assistant. ...
- Cabin crew. ...
- Heritage officer. ...
- Hotel manager.
- Museum work

# Creative iMedia

**Qualification:** Cambridge National

**Examination board:** OCR

**Duration:** 2 years



## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- Developing and learning practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work.
- Thinking creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- Developing independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the media industry and wider world of work.
- Designing, planning, creating and reviewing digital media products which are fit for purpose, meeting both client and target audience requirements.

On the OCR Creative iMedia course you will study various aspects of the rapidly growing creative industries sector from graphic design, web site design and animation through to the creation of films and digital games design.

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

### **Coursework**

The course is made up of several coursework modules where you get to show off your creative side and use your technical skills.

### **Examination**

A 90 minute exam consisting of short answer and long answer questions. This tests you on the theory that you have learned throughout the course

## ***Am I suited to Creative iMedia?***

This is very much an IT course that is focussed more on the creative side, so instead of programming or finding out about the inner workings of a computer you will instead be using the computer to create digital graphics, websites or animations for example.

You do not need to be a great artist to take the course, and you do not need to know how to write code in a programming language.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

By taking a course in Creative iMedia you will be opening a pathway to the creative industries which covers a whole range of different sectors including TV, video, photography, film, radio and games design. The scope is massive, for example £2.48 billion was spent in the UK on film and high-end TV productions in 2020 and this figure is only set to rise. The UK needs technically skilled digital creatives and companies are willing to pay a good wage for the right person with the right skills. A senior digital graphics designer can get paid £35,000 to £55,000 per year.

# Philosophy, Ethics and Religion

Qualification: GCSE

Examination board: WJEC EDUQAS

Duration: 2 years



## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

### **Component 1: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern**

#### **World** (50% of qualification)

Students will study the following four themes:

- **Issues of Relationships** (gender equality, contraception, divorce)
- **Issues of Life and Death** (afterlife, euthanasia, abortion, evolution)
- **Issues of Good and Evil** (free will, morality, punishment, sin)
- **Issues of Human Rights** (censorship, discrimination, human rights, social justice).

### **Component 2: Study of Christianity** (25% of qualification)

Candidates will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity. Including conceptions such as, incarnation, resurrection, omnipotence, atonement etc.

### **Component 3: Study of a World Faith** (25% of qualification)

Candidates will study the beliefs, teachings, and practices of **one** world faith from the following list:

- Option 1: Buddhism
- Option 2: Hinduism
- Option 3: Islam
- Option 4: Judaism
- Option 5: Sikhism

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

**Examination:** 100%. All examinations are taken at the end of Year 11.

**Component 1: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies of the Modern World.** Written examination: 2 hours. 50% of qualification.

**Component 2: Study of Christianity.** Written examination: 1 hour. 25% of qualification.

**Component 3: Study of a World Faith.** Written examination: 1 hour. 25% of qualification.

## ***Am I suited to Religious Studies?***

Are you curious about what's right and wrong? Do you love asking big questions like "How do I know I exist?" and "Is there really life after death?" Then GCSE Religious Studies is perfect for you! Explore people, religion, culture, morality (what is right and wrong) and philosophy (asking big questions). You should have a good level of literacy and numeracy. You should also have an interest in understanding different beliefs and human behaviours. This subject will give you a unique opportunity to see the world from a different perspective. You will learn to develop critical thinking, improve your analytical skills and enhance your ability to interpret and compare – skills which are essential for every career.

## ***What careers will this help me with?***

*Civil Servant, Social Worker, Police Officer, Counsellor, Journalist, Marketing, Teacher, Lecturer, Administrator.*

# Extra-Curricular Options

## Duke of Edinburgh

**Qualification:** Silver Award

**Examination board:** DofE

**Duration:** 1 year



### ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- Emergency procedures and first aid
- Countryside code, etiquette and hazards
- Navigation, map reading and orienteering
- Route planning
- Menu planning
- Survival skills
- Team building and leadership

### ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

All participants need to complete all 4 sections:

1. **Volunteering** 6 months
  2. **Physical** 3 months
  3. **Skill** 3 months
  4. **Expedition** 3 days and 2 nights
- One must be completed for 6 months

*For participants who have not completed their Bronze Award, an extra 6 months will need to be completed in either the Volunteering, Physical or Skill section.*

### ***Am I suited to Duke of Edinburgh?***

You should be interested in making a positive contribution within your community, keen to get physically active and healthy, and interested in learning a new skill. You should be prepared for lots of practical activities as well as completing some written work. You should be enthusiastic about adventuring in the outdoors and developing your communication and leadership skills.

You must be able to commit to the full duration of the course.

### ***What careers will this help me with?***

The DofE Award is an outstanding mark of achievement for a young person and probably the most widely recognised by employers and universities as a sign of a number of social skills, resilience, responsibility and a balanced approach to life and learning.

\*\*\*\*\* There will be a fee for completion of this nationally recognised qualification. \*\*\*\*\*

# Statistics

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Examination board:** Edexcel

**Duration:** 2 years

\*This will be offered as an additional Period 7 option only.

## ***What are the main topics I will study for this qualification?***

- Types of data.
- Processing, representing, analysing and summarising data.
- Scatter diagrams.
- Time series & moving averages.
- Probability & probability distributions.
- Index numbers.

## ***How will I be assessed in this subject?***

100% Assessment

You will sit 2 exam papers. Both exam papers last for 90 minutes and are marked out of 80. You are permitted to use a calculator for both exam papers.

The marks will be awarded based on 3 criteria:

- Knowledge and understanding of statistical techniques (55%)
- Interpret statistical information in context and draw conclusions (25%)
- Assess the appropriateness of statistical methods and the conclusions drawn through the application of the statistical enquiry cycle (20%)

## ***Am I suited to Statistics?***

You should be interested in maths in the real world, how it is collected, analysed and evaluated to help decision making. As part of the course, you will use real life data sets and authentic contexts that will help broaden your understanding of how data can be used in the real world. This course will help you develop transferable skills in critical thinking, communication, problem solving and reasoning. A little over half the marks in the paper are for your ability to perform calculations, and there is some crossover content that will support your work in your GCSE Maths course. However, you should be mindful that almost half the paper will be based on your written interpretation of the results that you have found. For students wishing to study maths beyond GCSE this course will provide you with statistical techniques and applications that you will meet again in later studies.

What careers will this help me with?

- weather forecasting
- biological sciences
- epidemiologist
- public affairs manager
- biostatistician
- research psychologist
- marketing