ROUNDWOOD PARK SCHOOL

KEY STAGE 4

OPTIONS HANDBOOK 2017—2019

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INTRODUCTION TO YEAR 10 COURSES

Dear Parents and Carers

We offer a broad curriculum at KS4 with a good choice of academic, applied and vocational options.

All our students follow a "core" curriculum of Mathematics, English, Science, PE, PRE, PSHCE (including the statutory elements of Careers Education & Guidance, Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education).

Students who are selecting options subjects from those outlined in this booklet will normally choose **three** courses. We will then do our best to timetable these choices. It is not always possible to timetable every combination and so some students may be asked to make an alternative choice. Similarly, if too many or too few students choose a particular course, an alternative choice may also be required.

You will be aware that the age of participation has recently been increased. This means that your child will need to be in either full-time education, an apprenticeship, or part-time education or training if they are employed, self-employed or volunteering full-time up until they are 18. We advise that you should plan for the whole of that time, not just the next two years. Make sure that they keep their career options open by choosing a broad range of subjects.

The reality of the rapidly changing world we now live in is that people will change careers throughout their working lives, so it is important at this stage to develop a broad base of knowledge and skills and to become flexible and adaptable.

Students should play to their strengths and choose subjects they are good at and enjoy. Choosing a subject because their friends have, or because they like their current teacher, is not likely to lead to success.

We will support you and your child throughout the process. There is an advice evening scheduled for Tuesday 24th January where you will be able to find out more about individual courses. In the meantime this booklet will give you an overview of what is on offer. All completed option forms will be reviewed by the senior management team. If there are concerns about the appropriateness of your child's course selection then you will be asked to attend a meeting to discuss the choices made. Our careers team, led by Mrs Susan Smith (s.smith@roundwoodpark.co.uk), is always available to discuss any specific questions that your child may have. Finally, if it is not possible to offer your child's individual choices, you will be offered a further opportunity to discuss suitable alternatives.

This is an important time for your child and with co-operation between home and school, I am confident we will arrive at the best curriculum programme for each student.

Alan Henshall
Headteacher
January 2017

KEY STAGE 4

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS
All students in Years 10 and 11 study the following subjects:

- English Language and English Literature (4 hours per week)
- Mathematics (4 hours per week)
- Science (5 hours in Year 10, 6 hours in Year 11)
- Philosophy Religion and Ethics (PRE), (GCSE short course)(Year 10 only, 1 hour per week)
- Physical Education (2 hours per week)
- Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE), (taught in activity days spread throughout the two years)

Science
Students begin their KS4 Science course in Year 9. They complete a number of topics from the Biology, Chemistry and Physics AQA (Core GCSE course). In Year 10 all students will continue with science for 5 periods per week, moving to 6 hours in Year 11.

There are 2 possible routes within science for Years 10 and 11.

A: Separate Science
In order to do this, students should choose “separate sciences” in the first box on the options form. Students can only study the separate sciences if they achieve a grade 4 at the end of Key Stage 3 (end of Year 9). Students should think carefully about whether the separate sciences are appropriate for them. Students should also discuss the likelihood of achieving a grade C with their teacher.

B: Core and Additional
In order to do this, students should choose “core/additional” in the first box on the options form. Students continue with core science in Year 10 and also start additional science alongside, which is then completed in Year 11.

OPTION SUBJECTS

If a student has opted to take the separate sciences then they will have three free choices from subjects in the options list.

If a student takes core/additional science then their first option block is constrained. They will have to select one subject from French, German, Geography, History, or Computer Science. The remaining two options can be selected from any of the subjects in the options list.

CAREERS

Students at Roundwood Park School have a free subscription to ‘Fast Tomato'. You can sign up using the code RPSH at: https://www.fasttomato.com/.

This account will give the students the chance to complete an aspirations questionnaire which will help to identify career areas that match their preferences and interests. You can change the highest level of qualification to A Level to see what professions might suit. From the suggested careers students can find careers linked to subjects that they enjoy and also discover new jobs within areas of work they think they would like to research further.

GENERAL ADVICE

Much of your child's success over the next two years will be determined by his/her attitude to school work and by a methodical and sustained study regime in school and at home. Parents/carers can do a great deal to help their children achieve success in these crucial years, coming as they do at a time when adolescence, too, is making itself felt.

Students need to develop a sense of purpose, cheerful perseverance and a willingness to grapple with the challenges that study throws up. Parents/carers need to provide support and encouragement and to do all possible to ensure that students have an appropriate quiet space in which to work and a settled routine for study. The demands of GCSE do not mean however that normal family life has to be suspended for two years!

What is required above all is balance, a sense of proportion and a reliable and efficient routine which takes account of and gives time for study, out of school interests, family activities and leaves some space for socialising, exercise and leisure. Television, time playing computer games and social networking sites are the usual areas which can be cut back to aid time management.

We will continue the regular cycle of reporting to parents/carers to ensure that you are made aware of the progress that your child is making. If at any time, however, you have anxieties about work or progress, please do not hesitate to contact the Subject Teacher, Head of Department, Form Tutor or myself as appropriate.

Finally, please keep this booklet available for the duration of your child's progress through Key Stage 4 as there is information here which is of relevance for coursework, home learning and general guidance.

Mr W Whitmore
Head of Year 9

List of GCSE subjects

CORE SUBJECTS:
English Language
English Literature
Maths
Core PE
PRE - Short Course
PSHCE

ADDITIONAL SUBJECT OPTION CHOICES:
Art and Design
Art and Design Textiles
Business Studies
Computer Science
Design and Technology
Drama
Economics
Food preparation and nutrition
French
Geography
German
Health & Social Care (BTEC)
History
ICT
Music
PE
PRE - Full Course
Combined Sciences (Core, Additional)
Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
Spanish

SUPPORT OPTIONS (Invite Only):
Curriculum Support
College

CORE
(COMPULSORY) SUBJECTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

AQA 8700 - English Language

What will I learn?

You will develop skills to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st century both individually and in group work. The understanding and analysis skills will prepare you to write in detail, using appropriate terminology.
You will develop your writing skills so you can use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures in wide-ranging and interesting ways for different purposes.

What is the structure of the course?

This course is a separate entry from English Literature but the two subjects are timetabled together. Each unit of work is identified separately as English Language or English Literature. There is no coursework or controlled assessment work in the new specification. Work is developed for the exams which cover Writing and Reading.
There is a separate structure for the Literature exams which alternate with the English language units.
Throughout the course students will develop skills with regular practice exam style questions.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

There is no coursework for reading or writing. Spoken language is assessed by the teacher. It is a separate endorsement testing students' ability to present, respond to questions and feedback and the use of Standard English. This does not contribute to the final GCSE grade

How will I be assessed?

The two exam papers at the end of the two year course test Reading and Writing. There are no longer separate tiers of entry. Grades will be awarded on a 9 - 1 scale. All texts in the examination will be unseen.

Paper 1 **Explorations in Creative reading and writing** 80 marks 50% of GCSE.
This paper looks at how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage the interest of readers.

- Section A: Reading - one literature fiction text (40 marks)
- Section B: Writing - descriptive or narrative writing.1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy) (40 marks)

Paper 2: **Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives** 80 marks 50% of GCSE
This paper looks at how different writers present a similar topic over time.

- Section A: Reading – two linked texts; one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text (40 marks)
- Section B: Writing - writing to present a viewpoint. 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy). (40 marks)

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?
You need to be open to new ideas and prepared to examine what you read in detail. You should be willing to share ideas in class and express opinions. You will need to respond to advice and guidance in order to develop and improve your writing skills based on examples and guidance. You will need to be prepared to contribute orally as you prepare and practise the skills for analysis of texts and for the Spoken Language assessment.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs A Lewis or any of your current English teachers.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

AQA 8702 – English Literature

What will I learn?

The majority of students will take both GCSEs - English Language and English Literature.
You will develop the ability to read, understand and respond to a wide range of different texts (novels, plays and poetry) by different authors. You will be expected to analyse the writing style. You will find out more about the way writers are influenced by the times they live in and the ideas of readers in society at the time. You will also develop the essay writing skills needed to present your ideas clearly. Your responses may ask you to write critically and compare ideas or write for different purposes such as describing, explaining, summarising, arguing or discussing.

What is the structure of the course?

The course includes preparation for two exams which test understanding and responses to a range of texts from specified lists as follows: Shakespeare; a 19th century novel; modern texts (post 1914, either prose or drama); Poetry Anthology and unseen poetry. The full texts are studied.
You will study one cluster of poems taken from the AQA poetry anthology. There is a choice of two clusters, each containing 15 poems. The poems in each cluster are thematically linked and were written between 1789 and the present day

- Love and relationships
- Power and conflict.

You will study all 15 poems in the chosen cluster and be prepared to write about any of them in the examination. You will also study other poetry in preparation for the unseen section.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

There is no coursework in the new specification.

How will I be assessed?

There are two Literature exams. There are no separate tiers of entry. All assessments are closed book so you will need to learn quotations and ideas from the text: any extracts required will be provided as part of the assessment.
Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel - 64 marks 40% of GCSE

- You will answer one question on your prepared play. You will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole including the way it is written and the ideas from the time.
- **The 19th-century novel**. You will answer one question on the novel selected from a prescribed list. You will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry - 96 marks 60% of GCSE

- **Modern prose or drama texts** - You will answer one essay question from a choice of two on the studied modern prose or drama text.
- **The poetry anthology,** *Poems Past and Present.* You will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the chosen anthology cluster
- **Unseen poetry** - You will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

Accuracy of spelling and grammar is also assessed.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

You need to be open to new ideas and prepared to explore what you read in detail. You should be willing to share ideas in class and express opinions based on what you have read. You should have a critical view of what you are reading. You should also be prepared to explain ideas and plan and redraft writing carefully using clear English and appropriate technical vocabulary.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs A lewis or any of your current English teachers.

MATHEMATICS

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

The exam board for GCSE Mathematics is Pearson and the specification code is 1MA1.

What will I learn?

All mathematics courses follow the Key Stage 4 Mathematics Programme of Study and build upon techniques covered during Key Stage 3 in the core areas of Number; Algebra; Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change; Geometry and Measures; and Statistics and Probability as well as applying them to a wide variety of problem solving situations. Specific topics are too numerous to mention in a booklet of this size and are dependant upon the progress made during Years 7-9 but parents and students can be directed to the relevant sections of the programme of study.

What is the structure of the course?

The course is broken down into roughly 20 topic modules of varying length, normally between 5 and 9 lessons. Students will study either Foundation tier or Higher Tier Mathematics. There is a greater emphasis on number, ratio, proportion and rates of change at the Foundation tier, while in the Higher Tier the emphasis is on Algebra as this is the vehicle for progression to A-Level Mathematics.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

There is no coursework to be completed in GCSE Mathematics.

How will I be assessed?

Informal assessment is made throughout the course via written exercises and online tasks set as class work and homework. Additionally, students are tested on a number of topics on a termly basis throughout Year 10 and Year 11.

On completing the GCSE course, all students will sit three written examinations of equal weighting; two calculator papers and one non-calculator paper. These examinations form the final GCSE grade for Mathematics. A feature of the new GCSE Mathematics examinations is an emphasis on open-ended or multi-step questions, often set in a real-life context.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

Students can make the most of their mathematical talents by making a sustained effort in class over the two years. Most students will find some aspects of the course challenging from time to time; the students that face up to the difficulties they encounter and seek assistance to overcome them are those who succeed.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr J Keegan

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (CORE)

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

There is no examination for this subject, however we hope KS4 PE will create good exercise habits for life-long learning and provide opportunity for skills to be improved.

What will I learn?

A greater depth of tactics and strategies of the sports you covered in KS3. The focus of the lessons are lifelong learning. We want you to experience some new and different activities that you may take up outside school to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

What is the structure of the course?

In year 10 each student will spend four weeks on each activity module throughout the year. Activities covered at school by include basketball, badminton, dance, table tennis, football, rugby, rounders and use of the fitness suite.

In year 11, there is also an opportunity to do swimming off site, although a small fee is required. An off-site parental consent form also needs to be signed. You will also work through a rotation of on site activities similar to t those covered in year 10, where you will be expected to develop your performance to a better level.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

None.

How will I be assessed?

Each module will be assessed in line with the PE Department policy. A sheet will be given to you in year 10 and 11 which will look at targets for progress and how much progress has been made through the unit.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

Enthusiasm, commitment and organisations are essential in order to gain most benefit from this course.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss Ellis

PRE - Core

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel Religious Studies B (Short Course) (3RBO)

What will I learn?

You will learn about core religious ideas and philosophies, and how these are applied to modern day ethical issues such as justice, crime and punishment, marriage, divorce and gender discrimination. Students will be actively encouraged to assess the value of religious beliefs today. The subject is important for any job that involves working with people, and it engages actively with the challenges and diversity of a modern and global society. You will be encouraged to follow current news stories as these will be relevant to your studies. You will develop your skills of analysis, evaluation, interpretation and essay writing. There are many cross curricular links such as Biology, Geography, History, Psychology and English Language.

What is the structure of the course?

The GCSE Short Course is made up of two Units.

Paper 1: Area of Study 1 – Religion and Ethics

Students study the following modules from a Christian perspective:

- Core religious beliefs
- Marriage and the family

Paper 2: Area of Study 2 Religion Peace and Conflict

Students study the following modules from a Buddhist perspective:

- Core religious beliefs
- Peace and conflict

What coursework will I be expected to do?

The course does not require coursework.

How will I be assessed?

The course will be assessed at the end of Year 10 with candidates taking two fifty minute exam papers for each area of study.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

The ability to engage in current affairs, to work hard and to show independent thought will help students gain higher grades. You need to develop excellent critical thinking skills, along with a very good standard of literacy.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs B Gillon. Subject Leader (or your class teacher)

PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH & CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

PSHCE is not a GCSE examinable subject.

What will I learn?

PSHCE gives you the skills to deal with life beyond the classroom. There are three main areas of learning: Health issues which affect our wellbeing; Careers preparation for working life and Citizenship issues, exploring being an active citizen in the modern world.

What is the structure of the course?

PSHCE will be delivered through a series of collapsed timetable days, covering different topics and activities. Some of these will involve outside speakers or visiting theatre companies. These activities will be a vital part of the curriculum and attendance and involvement is compulsory.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

There is no coursework element in PSHCE studies.

How will I be assessed?

There are no assessments in PSHCE

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

To be successful in PSHCE studies you will need to be willing to debate and discuss moral issues and listen and engage with different views. You need to be able to consider life as a citizen, both locally and internationally, and be able to understand the factors that contribute to a healthy lifestyle and the issues surrounding this.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Cunningham

ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS

OPTION CHOICES

ART & DESIGN

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel 1AD0 Art and Design : Art Craft and Design - a general art course.

What will I learn?

You will develop skills in a range of drawing and painting media, as well as lino printing, etching, sculpture, clay and digital imaging using Photoshop. Through these processes you will express your thoughts, emotions, ideas and observations. The course allows you to take risks, experiment and develop your creative thinking.
You will also learn to analyse the work of other artists and use this to develop your own ideas.

What is the structure of the course?

COURSEWORK
During the course you will complete a portfolio of coursework consisting of several outcomes and final pieces. You will be given themes and starting points to work from.
TIMED ASSIGNMENT
The exam board give you a title or theme e.g. “Ordinary, Extra-ordinary”. They give you a range of ideas based on this theme. You have the Spring term in year 11 to prepare and plan your work and 2 days to produce a finished piece at the end of this preparation period.

During the course, you will have the opportunity to visit a gallery to study the work of other artists and/or take part in a practical workshop with a visiting artist.
There is likely to be an opportunity to take part in a residential Art Trip in Year 10. For the last few years we have been to Paris, Amsterdam and Berlin.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

The coursework portfolio consists of a selection of work produced throughout the course, including the Year 10 exam and Year 11 Mock exam. Sketch books are included as part of the coursework.

How will I be assessed?

Work will be assessed throughout the course and feedback given to make improvements.
Coursework and the timed assignment are marked by the Art teachers. Your work will then be exhibited for the external moderation by the exam board. The coursework makes up 60% of the final mark. The externally set assignment makes up 40% of the final mark.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

Enthusiasm, motivation and a willingness to be expressive in your ideas and use of materials.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss J Durdey, Mrs E Ball.

ART & DESIGN (TEXTILES)

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel 1TE0 Art & Design: Textiles.

What will I learn?

Looking for shape, pattern & texture through observation drawing and photography. You will learn to develop your designs and experiment with a wide variety of media and techniques including screen printing, stencilling, batik, weaving, silk painting, hand and machine embroidery, as well as 3D construction techniques. By researching artists, craftsmen and fashion designers, students will learn to analyse the work of others.

What is the structure of the course?

COURSEWORK
During the course you will complete a portfolio of coursework consisting of several outcomes and final pieces. You will be given themes and starting points to work from.
TIMED ASSIGNMENT
The exam board give you a title or themes e.g. “adorn, decorate, embellish”. They give you a range of ideas based on this theme and you have the spring term in year 11 to prepare and plan your work, and 2 days to produce a finished final piece at the end of this preparation period.

During the course, you will have the opportunity to visit an exhibition to study the work of other artists and/or take part in a practical workshop with a visiting artist.
There is likely to be an opportunity to take part in a residential Art Trip in year 10. For the last few years we have been to Paris, Amsterdam and Berlin.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

The coursework portfolio consists of a selection of work produced throughout the course, including the Year 10 exam and Year 11 Mock exam. Sketch books are included as part of the coursework.

How will I be assessed?

Work will be assessed throughout the course and feedback given to make improvements.
Coursework and the timed assignment are marked by the Art teachers. Your work will then be exhibited for the external moderation by the exam board. The coursework makes up 60% of the final mark. The externally set assignment makes up 40% of the final mark.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

Enthusiasm and motivation. Interest in working with fibres and fabrics and experimenting with different processes.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss J Durdey, Mrs E. Ball.

BUSINESS STUDIES

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Examination Board: AQA 4133
Specification: GCSE Business Studies

What will I learn?

In Business Studies you will study about a wide range of topics such as starting a business, marketing, finance, and people in business and operations management. You will begin to develop your communication and organisational skills and also learn to solve problems within a business context. Whatever you do after school, this course will assist you in making the right decisions and help you understand your rights and what is expected of you.

What is the structure of the course?

In Year 10 we will introduce you to the issues involved in starting a new business. For example you will study: business enterprise, legal structure for business, cash flow, recruiting and motivating staff. In Year 11, you will build on what you study in Unit 1 and explore the issues that large businesses face as they expand.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

None

How will I be assessed?

There are two one hour written exam papers sat at the end of year 11: Unit 1: Setting up a Business and Unit 2: Growing as a Business. Unit 1 is worth 50% and Unit 2 is worth 50%.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

You need to have the ability to weigh up possible solutions and make an independent decision on the best course of action to take. Working in a team and working hard are two qualities required in achieving top grades in Business Studies. You must have an interest in current news stories and be prepared to discuss current issues. Proficiency in Maths is needed for the financial units and there are some longer answer questions that require in depth written/communication skills.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss Maidment and Mrs Tattersall

AQA GSCE Computer Science

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

AQA 8520 GCSE in Computer Science

What will I learn?

Throughout this GCSE course you will work with real-world practical programming techniques that give you a good understanding of what makes technology work. Within the ever changing world of digital technology, this course is committed to preparing you for the world of tomorrow. You will develop your problem solving and logical thinking skills, along with your collaboration, team work and self-discipline. Our Computer Science course allows students explore the world of technology in areas such as programming, cyber security, computer systems and ethical, legal and environmental impacts to name a few.

What is the structure of the course?

Three units of work.

Paper 1: Computational thinking and problem solving	Paper 2: Written assessment	Non-Exam Assessment
Written Exam 1 Hour 30 Minutes 80 Marks 40% of GCSE	Written Exam 1 Hour 30 Minutes 80 Marks 40% of GCSE	Report: totalling 20 hours of work 80 marks 20% of GCSE

What coursework will I be expected to do?

Within the Non-Exam Assessment, students will create a report focused around a scenario given by the exam board, AQA. Students will be expected to decompose the problem and create a solution. Within the report, students will take the reader through their programming journey, discussing the steps they take to solve the problem, any challenges or setbacks they had and how they overcame these. The report is intended to focus on the individuals programming methods and justification for their decisions.

How will I be assessed?

All units are externally assessed.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

For this course you will need to be a problem solver, who thinks logically, questions often, makes use of all available resources and has the self-discipline, determination and resilience to achieve. This course is based on a foundation of “who dares, wins” so you will need to be a risk taker with eye for fine detail, who is not afraid to get things wrong but sees failure as part of the leaning process instead of a barrier to their success. You will also need to be able to work alone as well as be an individual who can work as part of team, someone who can step up and take the lead but also play a supportive role when needed.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr M Jones

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

AQA Food Preparation and Nutrition 8585.

What will I learn?

You will learn to:

This new GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.
Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics: Food, nutrition and health, Food science, Food safety, Food choice, Food provenance.

What is the structure of the course?

Year 10- Working thought the exam specification content, cooking every week to gain valuable skills.
Year 11- Completion of the NEA assessed tasks.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

Coursework is based on the Non-exam assessment (NEA) See below.

How will I be assessed?

NEA- Food investigation (30 marks). Students understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Practical elements are a compulsory element of this NEA task.
Task 2- Food preparation assessment (70 marks) Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation and application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Students will prepare and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than 3 hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.
50% of the total marks

Paper 1- One 1 hour 45 minutes paper with two sections and 100 marks available:
Section A –Multiple choice questions (20 marks)
Section B – 5 questions each with a number of sub questions (80 Marks)
50% of the total marks

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

You need a real enthusiasm for cooking and preparing food and a willingness to try new tastes. You will be interested in creating your own recipes and have a desire to gain new cooking skills and to reach high standards both in the practical and theory of the subject. You need to be well organised in your work and you will be expected to bring ingredients for practical lessons.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss O'Coy

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (1. PRODUCT DESIGN)

Please note this is due to change for September 2017 under the name of GCSE DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (THE SPECIFICATIONS ARE STILL UNDER REVIEW WITH OFQUAL)

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

AQA Product Design 4557

What will I learn?

You will learn to:
To design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of materials and techniques.
Design products to meet the needs of clients and consumers;
Understand the role that designers and product developers have, and the impact and responsibility they have on and to society;
Use, where appropriate, a range of graphic techniques and ICT (including digital media), including CAD, to generate, develop, model and communicate design proposals;
Use tools and equipment safely with regard to themselves and others;
Work accurately and efficiently in terms of time, materials/ingredients and components;
To be creative and imaginative in the production of the coursework folder:

What is the structure of the course?

The course is broken up into 2 units:
Unit 1. A single design-and-make activity selected from a choice of set tasks, consisting of the development of a made outcome and a concise design folder and/or appropriate ICT evidence.
Unit 2. One 2 hour paper with two sections which cover elements of Product design

What coursework will I be expected to do?

Coursework is based on one unit**.**
Unit 1. Design and make a functional prototype.

How will I be assessed?

A single design-and-make activity selected from a choice of set tasks. 20 pages approximately of A3 paper, or the equivalent A4 paper, or the ICT equivalent.
60% of the total marks

One paper with two sections:
Section A 30 marks - A design question based on context supplied before the exam
Section B 90 marks - Covers all aspects of the specification content
40% of the total marks

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

An interest in designing products, designing and working creatively in a variety of media including electronic and digital. Working to deadlines and a disciplined attitude would be highly desirable as well as the ability to use ICT techniques to produce A3 pages that are well laid out, creative and imaginative.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Wilkins

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (2. GRAPHIC PRODUCTS)

Please note this is due to change for September 2017 under the name of GCSE DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (THE SPECIFICATIONS ARE STILL UNDER REVIEW WITH OFQUAL)

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

AQA Graphic Products 4552

What will I learn?

You will learn to:

This specification has been designed to encourage candidates to be able to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of graphic and modelling materials. Candidates will be enthused and challenged by the range of practical activities possible. They will be encouraged to learn through images to use, understand and apply colour and design, to develop spatial concepts, and to understand graphic materials and their manipulation.
They will design and make product(s) using a graphic media and new technologies to prepare them for the world of work.

What is the structure of the course?

The course is broken up into 2 units:

Unit 1. A single design-and-make activity selected from a choice of set tasks, consisting of the development of a made outcome and a concise design folder and/or appropriate ICT evidence.
Unit 2. One 2 hour paper with two sections which cover elements of Product design

What coursework will I be expected to do?

Coursework is based on one unit**.**
Unit 1. Design and make a functional prototype.

How will I be assessed?

A single design-and-make activity selected from a choice of set tasks.
20 pages approximately of A3 paper, or the equivalent A4 paper, or the ICT equivalent.
60% of the total marks

One paper with two sections:
Section A 30 marks - A design question based on context supplied before the exam
Section B 90 marks - Covers all aspects of the specification content
4**0% of the total marks**

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

You will need the ability to be creative and innovative in a fast moving and exciting world of visual imagery. You will also require an interest in producing ideas and concepts using Computer Aided Design. These will include Sketch Up, Photoshop, Pro Desktop and 2D Design

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr Rose or Mr Libberton

DRAMA

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel 1DR0

What will I learn?

GCSE Drama is all about understanding what it is to create theatre from a director's, designer's or performer's point of view. You will be developing your performance techniques and awareness, using published and performed scripts as well as creating and documenting your own performance work. You will develop your skills in communication, analysis, group work, creativity, problem solving and reasoning- all of which will be related to theatre and life beyond it. Our aim is that you will also develop your resilience, perseverance and self-confidence through the challenges you will overcome through completing the course.

What is the structure of the course?

There is no formal assessment in Year 10. The work studied will prepare you and bring awareness of the requirements of the assessments which take place during Year 11. The examined work follows a similar thread as that completed in Year 10, but with a deeper level of ownership and analysis. During your exam year you will take part in 3 components. The first will be a devising unit where you and your group will plan and develop a piece based on a piece of stimulus material. The second component is a performance exam of 2 key extracts from a script which you can choose to do as monologues, duologues or group performance. Component 3 is a written exam exploring how you would direct and perform scenes from a studied play and answer questions on a live play you have seen. Throughout the course, you can either be examined on your acting skills or on your design and technical skills (stage design, costume, masks and makeup, lighting or sound).

What coursework will I be expected to do?

A 1500 to 2000 word portfolio of your devising work will be created as you go through the process which will also include a process and performance evaluation.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed on the quality of your devised performance in component 1, as well as your extract performances for component 2. This will be supported by a written mark for your portfolio and makes up 60% of your course total. The final 40% are from the written exam.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

Good communicators with enthusiasm, focus, dedication, energy and a willingness to work with others always do well in drama. For the new specification, there is a necessity from the outset for students to have an analytical mind and an ability to communicate well in written work.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr M Garbutt or Mr R Ellin

ECONOMICS

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Examination Board: AQA 4135
Specification: GCSE Economics

What will I learn?

Economics is highly relevant and impacts upon everyone's daily lives: it answers the questions of how we should use our planet's scarce resources and who should benefit. The study of Economics starts with an exploration of personal finances: earning, borrowing and exchanging money. It subsequently develops an understanding of the commercial world and how finance is raised and used by the government and firms. It explores the theories and concepts in the context of events in the news and the decisions that politicians and business leaders have to make. It is an excellent complement to humanities subjects and offers a pathway to study at A-level and many careers in industry and government.

What is the structure of the course?

The subject content looks at economic activity through the lens of consumers, producers, government and the workings of the global economy. As students go through the course they're presented with opportunities to focus on real-world issues. Students should consider and reflect upon moral, ethical and sustainable issues that arise as a result of the impact of economic activity. Students should use their economic knowledge and skills to investigate national and global economic situations and issues from the last 15 years. Students should also be aware of the policies that governments have used to attempt to manage these situations and issues.

Students will develop quantitative skills relevant to the subject content. They should be able to make relevant calculations from economic data and be able to interpret data presented in the form of graphs and charts. Students should be able to recognise the possible limitations of both quantitative and qualitative data.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

None

How will I be assessed?

There are two one hour 45 minute written exam papers sat at the end of Year 11: 3.1 How markets work and 3.2 How the economy works. Both units are worth 50% of the available marks.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

An interest in the world around you! Most people find economics stimulating as it is relevant and changing every day. You will need a curious mind and a desire to understand the world more fully and explain the consequences of choices. You must have an interest in current news stories and be prepared to discuss current issues. Proficiency in Maths is required. Much of the course will require the ability to construct an argument in the form of a short essay or debate and therefore in depth written/communication skills will be required.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Maidment.

FRENCH

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel 1FR0

What will I learn?

You will further develop your skills of speaking, reading, writing, translating and listening to French across a variety of topics and ultimately be able to use your French in the workplace when dealing with colleagues, clients or business partners or for leisure when visiting a French-speaking country. You will also develop your communication skills as well as gain a fuller understanding of French-speaking culture. On completion of this GCSE course you will also have gained the experience and skills necessary for learning any other foreign language in the future.

What is the structure of the course?

Over the two years leading to the GCSE exams you will work through a variety of topics which emphasise a practical use of the language. It is possible to combine the study of this with another foreign language.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

There is no coursework to complete for French GCSE.

How will I be assessed?

There are 4 exams taken at the end of the 2-year course: Speaking, Listening, Reading (and translation into English) and Writing (and translation into French). Each paper is worth 25% of the final grade (9-1).

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

To be a successful language learner you need build up your knowledge gradually. This is done through regularly learning vocabulary, practising your listening, reading and translation skills and adapting grammar to produce your own sentences, all of which require self-motivation and commitment. It is also crucial that you do not worry about making mistakes, especially when speaking, as this is a natural part of the language-learning process. Also helpful is curiosity about how language works and a desire to learn more about French-speaking culture.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs L Robinson

GEOGRAPHY

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

AQA Specification (8035).

What will I learn?

The course covers many different aspects of Human and Physical Geography which will provide you with a thorough understanding of many topical issues which affect the UK and the planet as a whole such as tectonic landscapes, coastal zones, water insecurity, population and development studies. During the GCSE course you will also develop a range of transferable skills such as analysis, evaluation, decision making and interpreting sources. Students will be assessed on several geographical skills and basic spelling and grammar as part of this new specification. It is an engaging curriculum which will suit students who are interested in understanding the physical and human processes at work and how they interconnect.

What is the structure of the course?

The course is divided into two sections that link to two written exams at the end of the Year 11. In Year 10 the topics covered are the challenge of natural hazards, physical landscapes in the UK, The living world and urban issues and challenges. In Year 11 the remaining Human Geography units will be studied – the changing economic world and the challenge of resource management. Key skills such as analysis, extended writing and interpreting maps are integral to all units and the capabilities of students in this regard will be assessed in the third exam paper. The course will also involve a third exam which assesses students on fieldwork knowledge and their appreciation of how Human and Physical topics link together through the completion of a decision making task. Year 11 will therefore also involve time spent tackling synoptic questions that reflect their understanding of geographical issues. Fieldwork will be completed in the summer term of year 10 in order to complete the challenging questions in this third exam.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

There is no longer any controlled assessment at GCSE Geography though write-up tasks based on the fieldwork will be assessed internally prior to their use when revising for paper 3.

How will I be assessed?

There are three written exams:
Paper 1: **Living with the physical environment** 1½ hours – 3 physical Geography questions worth 88 marks (including 3 marks for spelling, terminology and grammar).This accounts for 35% of the GCSE marks
Paper 2: **Challenges in the human environment** 1½ hours – 3 Human Geography questions worth 88 marks (including 3 marks for spelling, terminology and grammar).This accounts for 35% of the GCSE marks
Paper3: **Geographical applications** 1 hour - 76 marks (including 6 marks for spelling, terminology and grammar). This accounts for 30% of the GCSE marks.
All three exams contain a range of questions from multiple-choice answers, short list answers and a mixture of short and longer extended prose.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

All students will need a conscientious and enthusiastic approach to their work. This course contains a lot of technical terminology and requires focus and attention to detail in order to achieve the highest grades. Pupils will need to be keen to develop their skills of description, analysis and explanation. They should be confident in tackling text based as well as geographical information from maps and photographs. During fieldwork they will need to work as a team to ensure that they complete all organised and thorough collection of data. Above all students need to be interested in the modern world around them and how human beings interact with their environment in both positive and negative ways. Many of the themes discussed in the exam relate to topical issues and pupils would benefit from some knowledge of current affairs.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs K Callaghan (Head of Geography) or any member of the Geography Department.

GERMAN

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel 1GN0

What will I learn?

You will further develop your skills of speaking, reading, writing, translating and listening to German across a variety of topics and ultimately be able to use your German in the workplace when dealing with colleagues, clients or business partners or for leisure when visiting a German-speaking country. You will also develop your communication skills as well as gain a fuller understanding of German-speaking culture. On completion of this GCSE course you will also have gained the experience and skills necessary for learning any other foreign language in the future.

What is the structure of the course?

Over the two years leading to the GCSE exams you will work through a variety of topics which emphasise a practical use of the language. It is possible to combine the study of this with another foreign language.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

There is no coursework to complete for German GCSE.

How will I be assessed?

There are 4 exams taken at the end of the 2-year course: Speaking, Listening, Reading (and translation into English) and Writing (and translation into German). Each paper is worth 25% of the final grade (9-1).

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

To be a successful language learner you need build up your knowledge gradually. This is done through regularly learning vocabulary, practising your listening, reading and translation skills and adapting grammar to produce your own sentences, all of which require self-motivation and commitment. It is also crucial that you do not worry about making mistakes, especially when speaking, as this is a natural part of the language-learning process. Also helpful is curiosity about how language works and a desire to learn more about German-speaking culture.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs L Davies

Health and Social Care BTEC

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care.
This course is broadly equivalent to 1 GCSE. Level 2 is equivalent to GCSE grades A*-C. Level 1 is equivalent to GCSE grades D-G.

What will I learn?

A range of topics and skills important to work in health care, social care services.
In Unit 1 learners will study how people grow and develop over the course of their life, from infancy to old age and investigate how, in real situations, human development is affected by a range of different life factors and events. In Unit 2 Learners study and practically explore health and social care services and how they meet the needs of real service users and develop skills in applying care values. In Unit 3 learners will study the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators and how to design and implement a health and wellbeing improvement plan. They will develop skills in analysing information and communicating for a specific purpose, which will support your progression to Level 2 or 3 vocational or academic qualifications.
Learning will be mainly classroom based activities and will include group work, studying real life case studies and internet research. There will also be some trips and guest speakers. Students must complete the Year 10 work experience week in a health care, social care or early years setting.

What is the structure of the course?

There are three units to be completed over the 2 years:

1. Human Lifespan Development
2. Health and Social Care Values
3. Health and Wellbeing

What coursework will I be expected to do?

Assessment is ongoing throughout the 2-year course through the completion of written tasks set and assessed by teaching staff based on Units 1 and 2 content. The final grade will be mainly dependent on these assignments which are completed in the classroom and are assessed through internal assessment but which are then externally moderated. The type of assignment will vary depending on the needs of each unit, but could include creating posters, leaflets, typed reports or making a presentation.

How will I be assessed?

In addition to assignments, there is one external assessment, Unit 3, which will consist of a 3-hour written exam. This provides the main synoptic assessment for the qualification. Component 3 builds directly on 1 and 2 and enables learning to be brought together and related to a real-life situation. Learners will be required to assess an individual's health and wellbeing and use this to create a health and wellbeing improvement plan. The design of this external assessment ensures that there is sufficient stretch and challenge, enabling the assessment of knowledge and understanding at the end of the learning period.
Each unit will be graded as pass, merit or distinction and given unit points. The total number of unit points will determine the overall grading, also based on a pass, merit or distinction.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

An interest in working with people, enthusiasm to participate in group discussion and an organised approach to written and learning tasks are essential.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs. Glennie

HISTORY

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel 1H10

What will I learn?

This **brand new** GCSE history course is fascinating and I am sure you will be engaged from the beginning with the wide range of historical events and countries covered.

You will be learning about the turmoil Germany faced after World War 1 and how Hitler was able to become Fuhrer and create a dictatorship. You will investigate how World War 2 allies, America and Russia, became peace time enemies and how this plunged the world into a Cold War, leading to the building and then collapse of that iconic Berlin Wall. At the same time you will delve into the bloody world of disease and gory medical treatments as you study how medicine has developed over time. You will also have the opportunity to develop your key stage 3 knowledge of Britain's Tudor history by exploring Elizabethan England studying the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots and the threatened invasion of the Spanish Armada.

As well as gaining a wealth of historical knowledge you will also learn important skills such as essay writing, interpretation, analysis of sources and how to communicate your knowledge effectively.

What is the structure of the course?

Paper 1 is the thematic study and historic environment paper. You will learn about "**Medicine in Britain 1250-present"** with a special focus on the British sector of the Western Front 1914-1918 focusing on injuries, treatment and the trenches. The exam is 1hr 15 mins.

Paper 2 is the period study and British depth study. You will learn about **"Superpower relations and the Cold War 1941-91"** as well as **"Early Elizabethan England 1558-88".** The exam is 1hr 45 mins.

Paper 3 is the modern depth study. You will learn about **"Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-39".** The exam is 1hr 15 mins.

What controlled assessment will I be expected to do?

There is **no** controlled assessment.

How will I be assessed?

This course is 100% exam based.

- Paper 1 is worth 30%,
- Paper 2 is worth 40% and
- Paper 3 is worth 30%.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

You must have a passion for history and be willing to get involved in lessons. You must be willing to learn and to try hard at all times. You must also be willing to listen and to practise the skills you will be taught during the course.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Upton or your History teacher.

OCR Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in ICT

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

The OCR Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate J810 in ICT

What will I learn?

The OCR Cambridge Nationals are vocationally related qualifications that focus around a more practical approach to learning and assessment. The course consists of one written exam based on understanding computer systems and three other units that are all coursework based. Within this course you will apply your skills to a variety of real world problems and produce solutions. This course is geared towards developing specific industry relevant skills.

What is the structure of the course?

Three units of coursework and one written exam.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

You will be completing given assignment tasks using a variety of software which may include Microsoft Office, San Serif and Adobe CS4.

How will I be assessed?

Three units are internally assessed by the Computer Science and ICT department here at Roundwood Park School and then externally moderated by an OCR Moderator. The written exam is marked externally by OCR. Marks are awarded by a Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

For this course you will need to be an individual who is organised, plans ahead, is resourceful and can think creatively. You will have the perseverance and self-discipline to work through times of frustration. The course reflects the real world and provides students with a solid foundation for understanding and applying its content in their future working lives. These units will suite those learners who want to experiment more with technology and use their creativity. We would ask that you are motivated and interested in the subject matter and can meet deadlines that are set.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr M Jones

MUSIC

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel 2MU01

What will I learn?

This qualification supports students in forming personal and meaningful relationships with music through the development of musical knowledge, understanding and skills including performing, composing and appraising. The qualification encourages students to engage critically and creatively with a wide range of music and musical contexts, develop an understanding of the place of music in different cultures and contexts, and reflect on how music is used in the expression of personal and collective identities.

This qualification also supports the development of musical fluency and provides access to further study of music at A Level.

What is the structure of the course?

The course is divided into 3 parts.

1. **Performance** – singing and/or playing as an individual and in an ensemble.
2. **Composing** – creating and developing musical ideas with ICT support in a range of styles.
3. **Listening & Appraising** – analysing a wide range of music using musical vocabulary.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

2 compositions (30%) in different styles.
2 performances - one must be a solo and one must be an ensemble performance (30%) from any genre.

How will I be assessed?

The course is divided into 3 parts for assessment:

1. Your **Performance** assessment is worth 30% for the two performances.
2. Your **Composing** assessment is worth 30% for the two compositions.
3. Your **Listening** assessment is worth 40% taking the form of a written exam.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

The type of student who will succeed on this course will be creative, dedicated and enthusiastic. You will need to balance your time and work independently as well as be part of an ensemble. Music takes time to develop in both composing and performance so you will need to show perseverance and patience as you develop your skills. Music students who achieve highly ask good quality questions and try to understand more about the set works from across the different genres that we cover.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr Gray or the Music Department

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (OPTION)

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

OCR J587 (Full course)

What will I learn?

You will study around eight sporting activities in a mixed gender group (in addition to gender specific activities which will be delivered during core PE time). You will improve your understanding of these activities and gain an appreciation of the tactics and strategies that can be applied. In theory lessons, you will focus on the physical factors affecting performance, anatomy and physiology and physical training, along with socio-cultural influences, sport psychology, health, fitness and wellbeing.

What is the structure of the course?

Theory (60%) Papers consist of multiple choice, short answers, extended response and use of data questions.

Theory lessons will take place in classrooms and in practical settings depending on the topics being covered. *Areas on the specification include*: The human body and functions during physical activity, physiological adaptations, diet and training, principles of training, lever systems and planes of movement, acquiring movement skills, participation, media and sponsorship, sport psychology, drugs, violence in sport and the prevention of injury.

Practical (30%) There is ongoing assessment through all lessons for all pupils in all sports/activities before awarded marks in highest scoring three activities are selected. Students must carry one individual and one team sport/activity (these cannot be the same activity). The third activity selected can be from either list. There is **no** coaching/leading and official role.

Written coursework (10%) There is one piece on 'Analysing and Evaluating Performance (AEP)'. This requires the students to analyse performance in a practical activity of their choice. They will then evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the performance and then produce an action plan which aims to improve an observed weakness.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

Practically, you will be assessed in all offered sports, from which your teacher will then assist you in selecting your best three. If there are any activities which we cannot offer, you can video these outside school at clubs etc. and then be assessed by RPS staff. You will also complete one written coursework project (Analysing and Evaluating Performance) which will involve you devising a training programme in a chosen sport/activity.

How will I be assessed?

60% Theory (2 x 1 hour papers).
Paper 1 J587/01: Physical affecting performance - One hour paper with a mixture of multiple choice questions, short answer questions and one extended response question.
Paper 2 J587/02: Social cultural issues and sports - One hour paper with a mixture of multiple choice questions, short answer questions and one extended response question.

30% Practical. You will spend on average six to eight lessons on each activity (that we can offer at RPS), at the end of which you will be formally assessed. Following the submission of marks, a sample of students will be reassessed (usually at another school) at a moderation in front of both internal and external moderators. This is a process designed to double check the accuracy of on site assessment.

10% Written coursework (controlled assessment).
Students have to analyse an activity, then complete an action plan developing a major weaknesses observed. This work will be marked against six criteria. Time will be given to research and preparation (some during home learning time). The write up will be under test conditions during lesson time.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

You must be dedicated to improving your knowledge and technique in each of the activities covered. You should be passionate about PE and sport, which will probably mean you're heavily involved in clubs in and outside school. You certainly shouldn't take GCSE PE if you're hoping it'll be about playing games with your friends. You will be pushed hard for attainment both academically and physically. You will need to be determined to maximise your ability and conscientious with regard to personal organisation. If you love sport, understand that the course is academic as well as practical and are prepared to work really hard, then you stand a good chance of achieving your GCSE goals in PE.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss Ellis or Mr Hunter

PRE – Full Course

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

OCR J625 Full Course Religious Studies

What will I learn?

You will learn about religious ideas and philosophies, and how these are applied to modern day ethical issues such as racism, euthanasia and abortion for example. The course will introduce views from Christian and Buddhist religions and encourage students to compare and contrast these belief systems with Atheistic and Humanist perspectives. Students will be actively encouraged to assess the value of religious beliefs today and to become aware of the dialogue within and between religions and non-religious beliefs. The subject is important for any job that involves working with people, and it engages actively with the challenges and diversity of a modern and global society. You will be encouraged to follow current news stories as these will be relevant to your studies. You will develop your skills of analysis, evaluation, interpretation and essay writing. There are many cross curricular links such as Biology, Geography, History, Psychology and English Language.

What is the structure of the course?

Beliefs & Teachings, and Practices

Learners will study both Christianity (J625/01) and Buddhism (J625/05)
Exam: 1 hour exam per religion.

Religion, philosophy and ethics in the modern world from a religious perspective

Learners will study the following themes for either Christianity (J625/07) or Buddhism (J625/11)
Exam: 2 hour written paper.

- Relationships and families
- The existence of God, gods and the ultimate reality
- Religion, peace and conflict
- Dialogue between religious and non-religious beliefs and attitudes

What coursework will I be expected to do?

The course does not require coursework.

How will I be assessed?

The course will be assessed at the end of Year 11 with candidates taking examination papers as detailed above.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

The ability to engage in current affairs, to work hard and to show independent thought will help students gain higher grades. You need to develop excellent critical thinking skills, along with a very good standard of literacy.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs B Gillon. Subject Leader (or your class teacher)

COMBINED SCIENCE

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

AQA GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE: TRILOGY

What will I learn?

GCSE Combined Science offers students:

- A good knowledge of science, by studying the main concepts from GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics
- A firm foundation to go on to study A-level or vocational Science courses
- the opportunity to gain a good understanding across important topics such as:
  - keeping healthy
  - elements and atoms
  - the transfer of energy

What is the structure of the course?

Continuing on from the foundation work, in Year 9, in Biology, Chemistry and Physics the units are completed with a similar structure over the following 2 years.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

In line with national GCSE reforms, there will be no controlled assessment – grades are awarded through examination at the end of Year 11 only.

How will I be assessed?

Biology: 2 exams of length 1 hour and 15 minutes
Chemistry: 2 exams of length 1 hour and 15 minutes
Physics: 2 exams of length 1 hour and 15 minutes

All papers are weighted equally at 16.7% of the final grade.

How is the course graded?

Due to the national changes to GCSE qualifications, grading will be along a 9 - 1 scale. As the course is combined, students will receive 1 overall grade based on their performance in all of the exams.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

This course is for all students. Students must gain a broad understanding of the main scientific concepts that enable us to make sense of the world. Students will also learn about the scientific practices that have led to this understanding of the world. Students will also study the issues that arise when scientific knowledge is put to practical use.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr P Binks

SEPARATE SCIENCE GCSEs (BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS)

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

AQA GCSE BIOLOGY, AQA GCSE CHEMISTRY, AQA GCSE PHYSICS

What will I learn?

GCSE Separate Science offers students:
- The **best** foundation to go on to study A-level Biology, Chemistry or Physics**. We strongly recommend this course for any students wishing to study an A-level Science subject**
- A good background to specialize in other sciences
- The opportunity of being taught by subject specialists

Biology provides a good understanding across a broad range of rich and relevant topics in: human biology, organisms, evolution and the environment.

Chemistry provides a good understanding across a broad range of rich and relevant topics in: the nature of substances and how they react together, how our knowledge of chemistry is used in business and industry, how our use of raw materials as fuels and in manufacturing can affect the local and global environment.

Physics provides a good understanding across a broad range of rich and relevant topics in: the use and transfer of energy, waves, radiation and space, the application of physics.

What is the structure of the course?

Continuing on from foundation work, in Year 9 (which covers all 3 of the sciences), students will receive separate lessons in Biology, Chemistry and Physics by specialist teachers. Students therefore gain a separate GCSE qualification for each of the three sciences.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

In line with national GCSE reforms, there will be no controlled assessment – grades are awarded through examination at the end of Year 11 only.

How will I be assessed?

Each subject of Biology, Chemistry and Physics is assessed by the following:
2 exams of length 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Each paper is worth 50% of that GCSE.

How is the course graded?
Due to the national changes to GCSE qualifications, grading will be along a 1-9 scale with 9 being the best. Students receive a separate grade for each of the three science subjects.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

If you feel you are likely to study one or more sciences at A-level, this course is highly recommended as it provides the grounding for further study.

Who do I contact for further information?

- Mr P Binks, Miss L Brimacombe, Ms B Lidder, Mrs K Robbins

SPANISH *(This option can only be taken if it was studied in Year 9)*

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

Edexcel ISP0

What will I learn?

You will further develop your skills of speaking, reading, writing, translating and listening to Spanish across a variety of topics and ultimately be able to use your Spanish in the workplace when dealing with colleagues, clients or business partners or for leisure when visiting a Spanish-speaking country. You will also develop your communication skills as well as gain a fuller understanding of Spanish-speaking culture. On completion of this GCSE course you will also have gained the experience and skills necessary for learning any other foreign language in the future.

What is the structure of the course?

Over the two years leading to the GCSE exams you will work through a variety of topics which emphasise a practical use of the language. It is possible to combine the study of this with another foreign language.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

There is no coursework to complete for Spanish GCSE.

How will I be assessed?

There are 4 exams taken at the end of the 2-year course: Speaking, Listening, Reading (and translation into English) and Writing (and translation into Spanish). Each paper is worth 25% of the final grade (9-1).

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

To be a successful language learner you need build up your knowledge gradually. This is done through regularly learning vocabulary, practising your listening, reading and translation skills and adapting grammar to produce your own sentences, all of which require self-motivation and commitment. It is also crucial that you do not worry about making mistakes, especially when speaking, as this is a natural part of the language-learning process. Also helpful is curiosity about how language works and a desire to learn more about Spanish-speaking culture.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs L Davies

SUPPORT OPTIONS

CURRICULUM SUPPORT (Invite only)

What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?

This is not an examination subject.

What will I learn?

Students will receive extra periods in English and maths

What is the structure of the course?

Specialist teachers from English and maths will run the lessons. Work will be set on an individual basis to make sure you are up to date with and fully understand the topics you are studying in your normal lessons. The course will also help you to develop your general study skills.

What coursework will I be expected to do?

No additional coursework for this subject

How will I be assessed?

There is no separate assessment for this option.

What personal qualities do I need to be successful in this course?

This course is aimed at supporting students to make rapid progress in the core subjects of English and maths. It offers the students who most need it extra time to consolidate their learning in these subjects. Students will be expected to demonstrate independent learning due to the course being a mix of teacher led lessons and lessons where students are responsible for bringing appropriate work from their normal English and maths lessons so that their teacher can support them further.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Hall

COLLEGE (Invite only)

1 afternoon per week 12-4pm

College courses are available for selected students in the following subjects:

Level 1:

- Construction
- Motor Vehicle Repairs
- Hair & Beauty
- Health & Social Care
- Hospitality & Catering
- Equine
- Small animal care

Students for whom this option is appropriate will be seen individually by Mrs Hall. If you wish to consider one of these options and have not been seen, please contact Mrs Hall.

ROUNDWOOD PARK SCHOOL
YEAR 9 OPTIONS FORM
2017

NAME OF STUDENT ……. **FORM ……..**

Science choice

All students will receive 5 hours of science in Year 10 (This will increase to 6 hours for all students in Year 11)
Students need to choose between separate sciences (3 GCSEs), and core/additional science (2 GCSEs).
(*A student will need to achieve a minimum of a GCSE grade 4 at the end of Year 9 to study the separate sciences)*

Science choice *(please circle)*	**Separate sciences**	**Core/Additional**

Did you choose the separate sciences? If YES, then complete SECTION A, if NO, please complete SECTION B

SECTION A (*In preference order*)

Option 1 _____ (Choose from Option List)

Option 2 _____ (Choose from Option List)

Option 3 _____ (Choose from Option List)

Reserve 1 _____ (Choose from Option List)

Reserve 2 _____ (Choose from Option List)

SECTION B (*In preference order*)

Option 1 (please circle) **Computer Science/French/Geography/German/History/Spanish***

Option 2 _____ (Choose from Option List, including any of the subjects not chosen in option 1)

Option 3 _____ (Choose from Option List, including any of the subjects not chosen in option 1)

Reserve 1 _____ (Choose from Option List, including any of the subjects not chosen in option 1)

Reserve 2 _____ (Choose from Option List, including any of the subjects not chosen in option 1)

OPTION LIST

Art & Design	French	PRE (Philosophy, Religion and Ethics)
Art & Design (Textiles)	Geography	Spanish *(only if studied in Year 9)*
Business Studies	German	
Computer Science	Health and Social Care	
Design and Technology	History	**Support Options:**
Drama	ICT	Curriculum Support
Economics	Music	College
Food Preparation & Nutrition	PE	

Signatures:

Student…… Parent/Carer ……..

All courses are dependent on appropriate numbers, staffing and timetabling

**Spanish only available to those who have studied it in Year 9*

PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS FORM IS HANDED IN TO YOUR TUTOR BY NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY 1st FEBRUARY

How do I complete my Options form?

READ THIS ALL THE WAY THROUGH BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR OPTION FORM

Discuss with parent

Write name and form at the top of the page

Circle your science choice (Separate or Core/Additional)

Separate sciences - complete section A

- Option 1: Choose a subject from the options list
- Option 2: Choose a subject from the options list
- Option 3: Choose a subject from the options list
- Reserve 1: Choose a subject from the options list
- Reserve 2: Choose a subject from the options list

Core/ Additional - complete section B

- Option 1: This is a restricted option, circle your choice
- Option 2: Choose a subject from the options list
- Option 3: Choose a subject from the options list
- Reserve 1: Choose a subject from the options list
- Reserve 2: Choose a subject from the options list

Go through your form again

Have you chosen subjects you are good at?

Have you chosen subjects you enjoy?

Did you put your choices in preference order?

Make sure that the form has been signed

Hand it in to your tutor