

**ROUNDWOOD PARK SCHOOL**



# **KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS HANDBOOK 2020-22**



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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 language, English Literature, Science, PE, Ethics, 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.

Students who select to continue with a Modern Foreign Language (French, German or Spanish) and either History or Geography will qualify for the English Baccalaureate.

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 Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 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 leadership 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](mailto: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 2020

# 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)
- Combined or Separate Science (5 hours in Year 10, 6 hours in Year 11)
- Ethics (1 hour per week)
- Core Physical Education (2 hours per week)
- Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE), (taught in activity days spread throughout the two years)

## English Baccalaureate

The government introduced the EBACC as a performance measure in 2010. It is not a qualification in itself but instead recognises where students have achieved a good pass across a set of traditional academic subjects. These must include: Mathematics, English Language, 2 x Sciences, a Modern Foreign Language and either Geography or History. **We expect that all students who are capable of achieving a good pass in a Modern Foreign Language should select GCSE French, German or Spanish as one of their options.** In addition, students are encouraged to consider studying either Geography or History as one of their options.

## Science

Students begin their KS4 Science course in Year 9. They complete a number of topics from the Biology, Chemistry and Physics AQA specification. Those who achieve high grades in their Year 9 units and end of year assessment are guided towards the Triple Science pathway (GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics) in Years 10-11. All other students are guided towards the Combined Science qualification, which is worth the equivalent of 2 x GCSEs. *Please note students are able to study A Level Sciences through both of these routes.*

## Ethics

All students are provided with the opportunity to continue studying Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE) at Key Stage 4 in one of the following ways:

- GCSE PRE as one of their options
- Ethics for one hour a week (none examined)

## Option Subjects

If a student has opted to study a Modern Foreign Language, then they will have two free choices from the subjects in the options list. If a student has not chosen a Modern Foreign Language, then their first option is constrained. They will have to select one option from Computer Science, Geography or History. The remaining two options can be selected from any of the subjects in the options list.

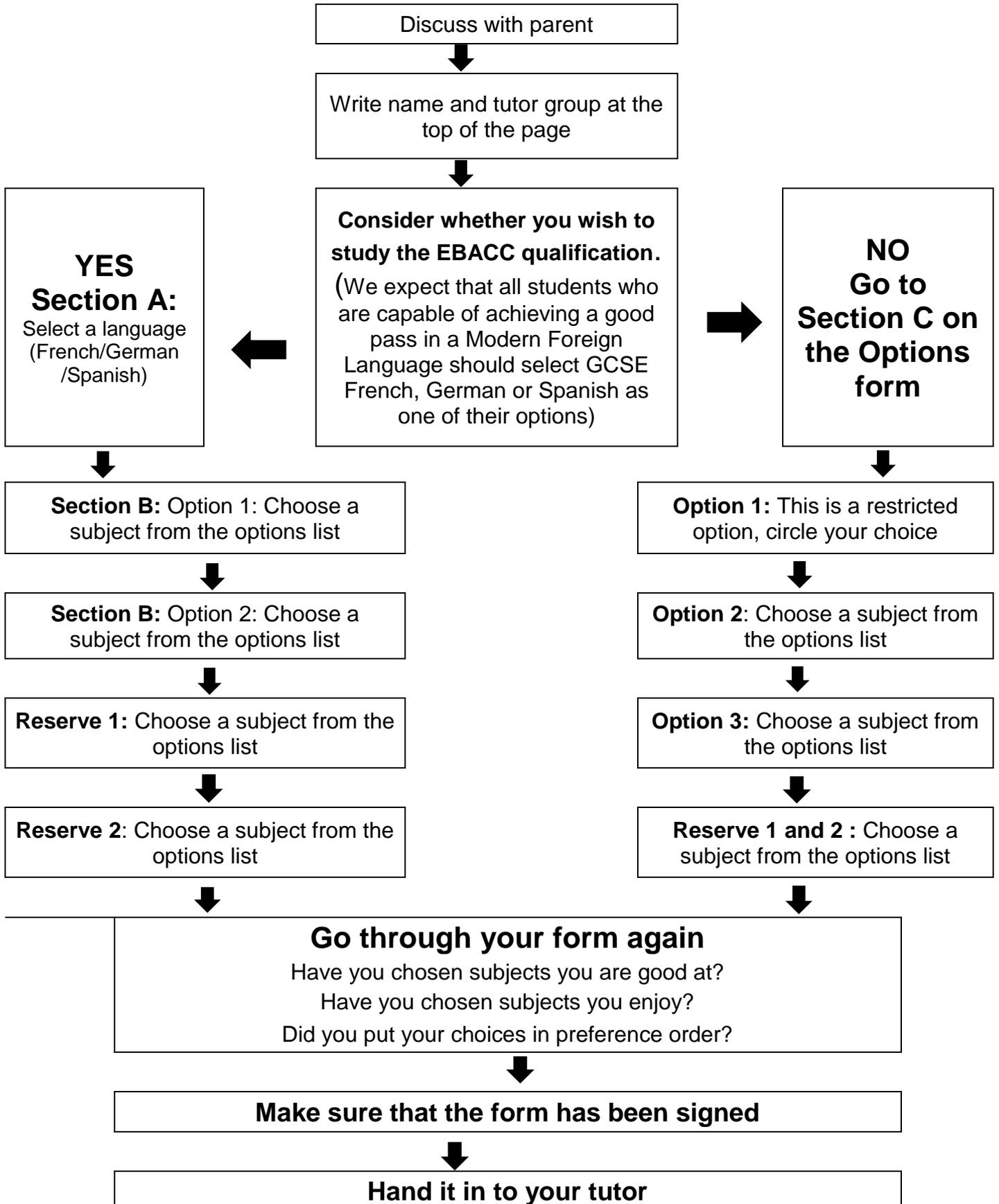
## Careers Support

Students at Roundwood Park School are given a free subscription to 'Unifrog'. [www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org) Each student will have been given a code to log in where they create an account. The username should be their school email address. If the student has forgotten the password there is a password reset link on the sign in page. Any difficulties contact [s.smith@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:s.smith@roundwoodpark.co.uk)

Unifrog is a one-stop-shop where students can easily explore their interests, search careers by subjects and also find and successfully apply for their next best step after school whether that be college, apprenticeship or University. Students can also record their interests and competences and get help with applications and CVs. Students can save information in a personal online locker. It is a phenomenal resource and should be used regularly.

# How do I complete my Options Form?

**READ THIS ALL THE WAY THROUGH BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR OPTION FORM**



## **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 studying throws up. Parents/carers need to provide support and encouragement and to do all that is 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. This should consider time for study, for out of school interests and family activities while leaving some space for socialising, exercise and leisure. Time taken for watching television, playing computer games and social networking 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 concerns 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. There is information here which is of relevance for coursework, home learning and general guidance.

**Mr B Whitmore**  
**Head of Year 9**

## **List of GCSE subjects**

### **CORE SUBJECTS:**

English Language

English Literature

Maths

Core PE

Ethics

PSHCE

Science (see information regarding combined / separate science)

### **ADDITIONAL SUBJECT OPTION CHOICES:**

Art and Design

Art and Design Textiles

Business

Computer Science

Design and Technology

Drama

Economics

Food preparation and nutrition

French

Geography

German

Health & Social Care (BTEC)

History

Creative iMedia

Music

PE

PRE

Combined Sciences

Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

Spanish

**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 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century both individually and in group work. The understanding and analysis skills will prepare you to write in detail, using appropriate terminology. Your responses may ask you to write critically and compare ideas or write for different purposes such as describing, explaining, summarising, arguing or discussing. 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 this specification. Work is developed for the exams which cover writing and reading. 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 but must be completed.

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

The two exam papers at the end of the two-year course test Reading and Writing. There are no separate tiers of entry; all students sit the same exam. 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. You need to do plenty of reading, particularly of newspaper articles and of nineteenth century texts. This will ensure you can access the extracts and you can give thoughtful opinions in your own writing.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Copywriting (Advertising), Journalism, Publishing, Marketing, Human Resources and Teaching.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

Any of the English teachers.

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

AQA 8702 – English Literature

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

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 will ask you to write critically and to show a thorough understanding of the texts you have studied.

## ***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 19<sup>th</sup> 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. You will study all 15 poems from the 'Power and Conflict' 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. You will also compare methods used in two unseen poems.

## ***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 19<sup>th</sup>-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 19<sup>th</sup>-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 in the modern text and Shakespeare responses.

## ***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. You need to show independence, thoroughly revising the texts at home and especially where there is no extract given, learning quotations to use as evidence.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Copywriting (Advertising), Journalism, Publishing, Marketing, Human Resources and Teaching.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

Any of the English teachers.

## **Core - Ethics**

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

You will learn about ethical and philosophical theories and how these are applied to modern day ethical issues such as crime and punishment, matters of life and death, relationships in the 21 century and poverty. Students will be actively encouraged to assess the value of religious beliefs today and reflect on their own views. The subject is important for any job that involves working with people, problem solving and leading others. It engages actively with the challenges and diversity of a modern and global society and enables students to articulate their own views while understanding and evaluating other points of view.

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?***

- There are three main units, crime and punishment, matters of life and death and relationships
- Crime and Punishment will cover topics such as – death penalty, free will and determinism, where does morality come from, how to make moral decisions and punishment
- Matters of Life and Death will cover topics such as – the moral and ethical arguments on - organ donation, animal rights, genetic engineering, abortion, drugs and alcohol
- Relationships will cover topics such as – love, types of relationships, marriage, the law, and evaluating different view points and beliefs
- Philosophy / Ethics and films

### ***What coursework will I be expected to do?***

The course does not require coursework and we will not set HL.

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

Assessment will be based on the three key area knowledge, understanding and critical evaluation. These assessments will take different forms from written to spoken assessments.

### ***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. You need to develop excellent critical thinking skills and an openness to understand others views.

### ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include working in the Civil Service, Law, International Aid, Teaching, Barrister, Charitable Fundraiser

### ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mrs G Harvey, Subject Leader (or your class teacher)**

# MATHEMATICS

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

The exam board for GCSE Mathematics is Pearson (Edexcel) 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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Actuary, Accountancy & Finance, Engineering, IT Programming, Management Consultancy, Tax Consultant, Audit and Assurance, Pensions Manager, Investment Analyst, Stockbroker, Financial Adviser.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mrs C Davies**

# 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 is 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 include basketball, badminton, dance, table tennis, football, rugby, rounders and use of the fitness suite.

In year 11 there is also an opportunity to participate in 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 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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Sports Nutrition, Sports Development, Fitness Trainer, PE teacher, Sports Physiologist, Sports Psychologist, Sports Physiotherapist.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

Anyone in the PE department.

# 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 1FA0 Art and Design : Art and Design

## ***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 from which to work.

### **TIMED ASSIGNMENT**

The exam board give you a title or theme e.g. "Ordinary and/or 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.

## ***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 is given so that you can make improvements. Coursework and the timed assignment are marked by the Art teachers at the end of the course. 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 take risks in your use of materials.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Illustrator, Architecture, Graphic Design, Animation, Fashion Design, Fashion Buying, Digital Art, Interior Design, Product Design, Art Therapy, Museum Curator, Arts Administration, Art Conservation, Photography and Film.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Miss J Durdey or Mrs Jenkins**

# 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 from which to work.

### **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.

## ***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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Fashion Design, Textiles Technologist, Interior Design, Costume Design, Film & T.V. Wardrobe Assistant, Textiles Production Manager, Sports Technologist Designer, Upholsterer, Model Maker

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Miss J Durdey or Mrs Jenkins.**

# BUSINESS

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

**Examination Board: Pearson Edexcel**  
**Specification: GCSE (9-1) Business**

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

In Business you will study a wide range of topics such as starting a business, marketing, finance, human resources and operations management. You will learn models and skills that help managers run a business effectively and study the use of these in real businesses. There is a large component of business finance which requires mathematical ability as well as developing skills to write essays throughout the course.

## ***What is the structure of the course?***

In year 10 we study the setup of a business, financial management and marketing. In year 11 we study operations, human resources and factors that influence a business. Throughout we study real business case studies and develop skills to perform well in the exam.

## ***What coursework will I be expected to do?***

None

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

There are two one and a half hour written exam papers sat at the end of year 11: Unit 1: Investigating a Business and Unit 2: Building a Business. Both contribute 50% to the overall grade.

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

You need to have the ability critically analyse and to weigh up possible solutions and make independent decisions 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. You must have an interest in current business affairs and be prepared to discuss issues. Proficiency in maths is needed for the financial units and there are some longer answer questions that require in depth written communication skills.

The aims of this qualification are to enable students to know and understand business concepts, business terminology, business objectives, the integrated nature of business activity and the impact of business on individuals and wider society; to enable students to apply knowledge and understanding to contemporary business issues and to different types and sizes of businesses in local, national and global contexts. This will then develop students into entrepreneurial individuals with the ability to think commercially and creatively. Students will also develop quantitative skills relevant to business, including using and interpreting data.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Chartered Manager, Management Consultant, Logistics & Chain Supply, Project Management.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mr Desborough, Mrs Tattersall or Mr Davie**

# AQA GCSE 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.

It is important to note the practical element of this course, programming. You will need to be a keen programmer and spend time developing this skill, both at home and in lessons, throughout the course.

#### ***What is the structure of the course?***

Two units of work.

Paper 1: Computational thinking and problem solving

Written Exam  
1 Hour 30 Minutes  
80 Marks  
50% of GCSE

Paper 2: Written assessment

Written Exam  
1 Hour 30 Minutes  
80 Marks  
50% of GCSE

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

Two exams at the end of year 11

#### ***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 learning 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.

#### ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Digital Technology, Cyber Security Specialist, Artificial Intelligence Analyst, Network Engineer, Digital Media, Educational Technologist.

#### ***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:**

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 through 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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Public Health, Chef, Dietician, Nutritionist, Catering Manager, Food Scientist, Patisserie Chef.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Miss O'Coy**

# DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

### **OCR Design and Technology J310**

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

You will learn 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;

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:

#### **Principles of Design and Technology**

This includes both the 'core' principles that all students must know, and 'in-depth' principles that are more specific to the materials or systems they have deeper practical and design experience of.

#### **Iterative Design Challenge**

Central to this non-examined assessment is the requirement for learners to understand and apply processes of iterative designing in their design and technology practice: exploring needs, creating solutions and evaluating how well the needs have been met. This component does not limit the range of materials or processes a learner uses when developing their design solutions.

#### ***What coursework will I be expected to do?***

##### **Iterative Design Challenge**

Students produce a chronological portfolio and final prototype(s). This demonstrates their understanding and independent management of and skills in iterative designing, in particular:

- The interrelated nature of the processes used to identify needs and requirements (explore)
- Creating solutions to meet those needs (create)
- Evaluating whether the needs have been met (evaluate).

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

A single design-and-make activity decided by the student based on a context provided by the exam board.

20 pages approximately of A3 paper, or the equivalent A4 paper, or the ICT equivalent.

##### **50% of the total marks**

One paper with two sections:

**Section A** Core Principles of Design and Technology

**Section B** In-Depth Principles of Design and Technology

##### **50% 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.

#### ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Product Design, Architect, Model Maker, Materials Technologist, Building Services Eng.

#### ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**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 and performer's point of view. You will have fun developing your performance techniques and awareness, using published and performed scripts as well as creating and documenting your own performance work. You will practically and theoretically 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 relish the opportunity to develop your resilience, perseverance and self-confidence through the challenges we will help you 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 how you created your devised performance. Don't worry if you struggle with written work though as we will be helping you create it as we go through the process. This written work which includes 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% is from the written exam.

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

Pupils with good communication skills, enthusiasm, focus, dedication, energy and a willingness to work with others always do well in drama. Pupils should have an analytical mind and the ability to communicate well both in performance and in written work. Don't worry if you don't feel like the complete package yet as we are very good at helping pupils develop these skills and habits throughout year 10 and ready for assessment in year 11.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Drama is a subject for ALL career choices but typical career areas directly linked are Actor, TV Production, Lighting Technician, Set Designer, Video Editor, Camera Technician, Entertainment Agent, Make-Up Artist, Screen Writer.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mr M Garbutt or Miss C Casey**

# ECONOMICS

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

**Examination Board: AQA**

**Specification: GCSE (9-1) Economics**

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

Economics is 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 are 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: Paper 1 - How markets work and Paper 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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Economist, Finance & Accounting, Management Consultancy, Investment Analyst, Stockbroker, Actuary, Pensions Manager, Data Analyst, Statistician, Tax Adviser, Banking, Teaching

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

Mr Desborough

# FRENCH

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

**Edexcel 1FR0**

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

Students finish the GCSE course with a sound working knowledge of French that can be used in practical situations when visiting a French-speaking country and also in the workplace. The course will further develop your skills in speaking, reading, writing, translating and listening to French across a variety of interesting topics. You will also gain a fuller understanding of French-speaking culture through music and literature as well as develop your general communication skills and self-confidence. 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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Translator and Interpreter, European Civil Administration, Foreign Commonwealth Office, Banking and Finance, Teaching, Broadcast Journalist, Publishing, Travel Agent, Tour Operator.

## ***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 critical thinking, analysis, evaluation, decision making, numerical and interpreting sources. Students will be assessed on geographical skills fieldwork, as well as 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 and urban issues and challenges. In Year 11 the Living World unit will be taught along with the remaining Human Geography units – 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 completed internally for 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

**Paper 3: 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.

#### ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Meteorologist, Cartographer, Environmental Consultant, Town Planner, Geo-Scientist, Environment Health Officer.

#### ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mrs S Eburn (Head of Geography) or any member of the Geography Department.**

# GERMAN

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

**Edexcel I GN0**

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

Students finish the GCSE course with a sound working knowledge of German that can be used in practical situations when visiting a German-speaking country and also in the workplace. The course will further develop your skills in speaking, reading, writing, translating and listening to German across a variety of interesting topics. You will also gain a fuller understanding of German-speaking culture through music and literature as well as develop your general communication skills and self-confidence. 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.

## ***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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Translator and Interpreter, European Civil Administration, Foreign Commonwealth Office, Banking and Finance, Teaching, Broadcast Journalist, Publishing, Travel Agent, Tour Operator.

## ***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 that are important for working in the health and social care sector.  
In Component 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 Component 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 Component 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 work experience week in a health care, social care or early years setting.

## ***What is the structure of the course?***

There are three components 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 Components 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 component, 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, Component 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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include elderly care manager, community worker, social worker, teacher, social worker, nurse.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

Mrs. Glennie (Head of Health and Social Care) or Mrs Turberville (teacher)

# HISTORY

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

Edexcel 1H10

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

Our 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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Law, Barrister, Politician, Civil Servant, Archivist, Librarian, Antique Dealer, Journalist, Curator.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

Mrs Upton or your History teacher.

# OCR Level 2 Cambridge Nationals in Creative IMedia

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

### **The OCR Level 2 Cambridge National in Creative IMedia**

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

Digital Media is a key part of many areas of our everyday lives and vital to the UK economy. Production of digital media products is a requirement of almost every business so there is huge demand for a skilled and digitally literate workforce. This qualification will help students develop specific and transferable skills such as research, planning, and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts. The qualification's hands-on approach has strong relevance to the way young people use the technology required in creative media.

The mandatory units of pre-production and creating digital graphics underpin the qualification and reflect key industry skills. The pre-production skills unit is assessed through an examination and contributes 25% of the marks for the Certificate size qualification.

The wide range of optional units cover different media disciplines allowing you to offer your students a course that will motivate them, appeal to range of learning styles and allow students to demonstrate their ability and passion. Each optional unit is assessed through a practical task-based assessment with OCR-set tasks to support your students in producing assessment evidence. We will cover graphic design, multimedia, website design, animation, video editing as an example of units.

#### ***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, Adobe Photoshop, Comic Life; Video Editing and animation software.

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

Three units are internally assessed by Mrs Wilkins 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 suit 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.

#### ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Digital Marketing, Graphic Design, Website Designer, Online Journalism, Copy Editor, Online Editorial Assistant, Creative Media.

#### ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mrs S Wilkins**

# MUSIC

## ***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?***

### **GCSE (OCR) J536**

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

This course provides an accessible and creative musical education, integrating the three main components : performing, composing and appraising. Students broaden their musical horizons within five areas of study as they explore musical context, language, performance and composition. Pupils submit two recordings for their Performing: one solo, and one ensemble (typically a duet); these can be on an instrument or voice. The Composition component is taught in academic lesson time and there is no necessity for any composing experience prior to taking the course.

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 OCR Music GCSE (9-1) has three components:

- Integrated Portfolio – A solo performance and a composition set by the student.
- Practical Component – An ensemble performance (typically a duet) and a composition to an OCR set brief.
- Listening exam with questions based on the Areas of Study. (Conventions of Pop, Film Music, Rhythms of the World, Concerto Through time).

#### ***What coursework will I be expected to do?***

2 compositions (30%) in the style of your choice.

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. Typically pupils taking this course enjoy listening to a broad range of musical styles and possess an open and receptive outlook towards unfamiliar musical genres. An elementary knowledge and understanding of Music Theory will be an advantage for pupils taking this course.

#### ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Musician, Composer, Radio and Television Production Assistant, Sound Engineer, Acoustics Consultant, Music Therapist, Orchestral Player, Music Teacher

#### ***Who do I contact for further information?***

Miss Dale (Head of Music)

# 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 or officiating option.

**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.

#### ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Sports Nutrition, Sports Development, Fitness Trainer, PE Teacher, Sports Physiologist, Sports Psychologist, Sports Physiotherapist.

#### ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mr Hunter or Miss Ellis.**

***What is the Examination Board and Specification of this course?*****Edexcel**

Christianity – Religious Studies B Paper 1: Area of Study 1 – Religion and Ethics  
Islam - Religious Studies B Paper 2: Area of Study 2– Religion, Peace and Conflict

***What will I learn?***

You will be studying the key beliefs and values of **Christianity and Islam** and seeing how these beliefs impact their lives and behaviour. You will get the chance to explore and discuss **ethical and theoretical concepts** that surround these belief systems and engage in **thought provoking** debates on **topical issues**. Part of the course is studying **moral and ethical** issues and seeing how different people respond to them. The course offers insight in to topics such as the aims of punishment, the death penalty, war, euthanasia, gender and equality. Different groups we look at are **humanism and atheism** and comparing and contrasting their views and responses to religious views. You will not only learn key information that is related to our society but will be able to develop your own ethical thinking on ultimate questions. The course aims to allow you to develop your skills of reasoned argument and be confident to justify an opinion while still respected the views of others.

***What is the structure of the course?***

The course is broken up into the two religion and the ethical and moral issues

Christianity units are :-

Christian Beliefs, Marriage and the Family, Living the Christian Life and Matters of Life and Death

Islam units are :-

Muslim Beliefs, Crime and Punishment, Living the Muslim Life and Peace and Conflict

***What coursework will I be expected to do?***

The course does not require coursework.

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

There are 2 exam papers each an 1 hour 45 mins long. One exam paper is on Christianity and the other on Islam. There are 4 units in each paper and each unit consists of 4 styles of question.

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

If you like to engage in current and topical issues and like to think deeply, you will enjoy the course.

If you are open to debate and thinking critically about issues you will like the course.

If you enjoy exploring moral and ethical issues and want to understand why society thinks differently, this is the course for you.

***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include working in the Civil Service, Law, International Aid, Teaching, Barrister, Charitable Fundraiser, Government Lobbyist, Religious Leader, Librarian, Archivist, Broadcast Journalist.

***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mrs G Harvey, 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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include working in the Civil Service, Law, International Aid, Scientists Technician, Biochemist, Pharmacologist, Biomedical Scientist, Medical Laboratory Scientific Officer (MLSO).

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mr P Hambridge**

# 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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Medicine, Engineering, Biomedical Science, Neuroscience, Pharmacist, Optician, Radiographer.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

Mr P Hambridge, Mr M Connor, 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.

## ***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.

## ***What careers can I do with this subject?***

Typical careers include Translator and Interpreter, European Civil Administration, Foreign Commonwealth Office, Banking and Finance, Teaching, Broadcast Journalist, Publishing, Travel Agent, Tour Operator.

## ***Who do I contact for further information?***

**Mrs S Pimm**



**ROUNDWOOD PARK SCHOOL  
KEY STAGE FOUR OPTIONS (2020)**



NAME OF STUDENT .....

TUTOR GROUP .....

**Core subjects**

**Core subjects are:** English Language, English Literature, Maths, Science, Ethics, Core PE. In addition Personal, social, health and citizenship education (PSHCE) will be taught in activity days spread throughout the two years.

**SECTION A: English Bacallaureate**

If students wish to qualify for the **English Bacallaureate** they must gain a grade 5 (or higher) in English, Maths and Science (Combined /Separate science or Computer Science), Geography **or** History and a modern foreign language (French, German or Spanish).

**Modern Foreign Language option:**

We **highly** recommend that you select to study one of the MFL options below:

French  German  Spanish  \*only available to those who studied Spanish in Year 9

**Did you choose a MFL? If YES then complete section B, If NO then please complete section C**

**Section B:** Please select **two** choices (in preference order) from the options list below. You will need to consider selecting either GCSE Geography **or** GCSE History as one of your three choices in order to qualify for the **English Bacallaureate**. If you wish to study a second language you will need to use one of these options. Please indicate your two reserve choices.

Option 1  Reserve 1   
 Option 2  Reserve 2

**Section C:** Please complete option 1. Then show your choices, from the options list below, in order of preference. Please indicate your two reserve choices.

Option 1 (please circle)   
 Option 2  Reserve 1   
 Option 3  Reserve 2

*If you wish to study more than one of the subjects in option 1, please add them to option 2 or 3.*

**Options List**

Art & Design	French	PRE (Philosophy, Religion and Ethics)
Art & Design (Textiles)	Geography	Spanish ( <i>Only if studied in Year 9</i> )
Business Studies	German	
Computer Science	Health and Social Care	
Food Preparation & Nutrition	History	
Design & Technology	Creative iMedia	
Drama	Music	
Economics	PE	

*We will try to accommodate each student's choices. It is likely that students will be able to study their three option choices, but we are unable to guarantee this. In the few cases where this is not possible, we will discuss this with students individually. Where too few students select a course, we cannot guarantee it will run.*

**SECTION D: SCIENCE - Please select the Science course you would like your child to be considered for:**

Triple Science  Combined Science

**Signatures:**

Student ..... Parent/Carer .....

*All courses are dependent on appropriate numbers, staffing and timetabling*

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS FORM IS HANDED IN TO YOUR TUTOR BY WEDNESDAY 11th MARCH 2020**