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Introduction

This Choices at 14 Curriculum Guide summarises the subjects and courses we are offering you as you move into Year 10 from June 2020. These reflect traditional academic routes including the English Baccalaureate, a specialised or a broader entitlement curriculum, applied courses or a composition of the four!

Our Choices at 14 Evening on Thursday 23 January aims to help you make **positive** and **informed decisions** about your learning over the next two years by providing 'guided choice'. You will have a further opportunity to talk to your subject teachers at our Year 9 Parents' Evening on Thursday 6 February 2020 before stating your preferences by Tuesday 11 February 2020. As you move into KS4, you will find new curriculum and pastoral structures designed to support your learning and help you achieve your very best.

Year 9 is a critical year. It represents an important transition. For the first time in your education you have the opportunity to choose your own course of study. Make sure it is an appropriate one that will help you later in life. For all pupils this should be **challenging** and **rewarding**.

It is important when you consider the choices, that you:

- Think for yourself;
(focus on what you want to do not what your friends might be doing)
- Reflect on your learning experiences so far;
(focus on the subjects and avoid thinking about personalities)
- Think long term;
(find out about what you need to help you achieve your goals beyond Deer Park: 6th Form/College, University, Employment)
- Ask questions about courses, their structure, expectations, and assessment frameworks;
- Listen to advice from teachers and your parents;
- Allow us to guide you towards the most appropriate courses for you as a learner within the subjects you choose.

Liz Lang
Head of School



Choosing your Subjects

To ensure our curriculum meets our pupils' needs, we have created option blocks to choose from. The columns are designed around pupils' learning requirements, whilst maintaining a breadth of subjects, to support progression post 16.

Core Subjects		
English Language	Mathematics	GCSE Religious Studies (short course)
English Literature	Core PE	PSHE (No qualification)
Option A (Choose a 1 st and 2 nd viable choice)		Option B (Choose a 1 st and 2 nd viable choice)
GCSE Art		GCSE Computer Science
GCSE Art and Design: Textiles		GCSE Drama
National Certificate in Child Development		GCSE French
GCSE Design and Technology		ICT: Creative iMedia (Applied award)
CBAC Designing the Built Environment		GCSE Physical Education
GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition		GCSE Separate Sciences*
GCSE History		GCSE Spanish
GCSE Separate Sciences*		
Option C (Choose a 1 st and 2 nd viable choice)		Option D (Choose a 1 st and 2 nd viable choice)
GCSE French		GCSE Art
GCSE German		GCSE Business
GCSE Geography		GCSE Drama
GCSE History		GCSE Geography
RHS Horticulture ^		GCSE History
GCSE Music		NCFE Music Technology
GCSE Spanish		GCSE Religious Studies (full course)
Science Option (Select 1 of these)		
GCSE Separate Sciences*		
GCSE Combined Science		

* If you choose Separate Sciences as your science option you **must** also choose it in either **option A** or **option B**.

^ Please see Mrs Lang **before** selecting Horticulture in Option C, so that we can check your suitability for this course.

Most pupils will complete the Short Course Religious Studies qualification, equivalent to half a GCSE. There is still the option to study the GCSE Religious Studies Full Course for 5 hours per fortnight, by selecting this choice in Option D. If you have any further questions about this then please contact Miss Hope (Head of Ethics and Computing).



The Choices Process

The core subjects – English Language, English Literature, Maths, Core PE and PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) will be taken by all pupils.

Religious Studies is taken as a short course by most pupils in Year 10. Some pupils will also build on this to achieve the full Religious Studies GCSE.

Maths is taken by all pupils and many pupils will gain more than one GCSE in Maths by doing, for example, GCSE Statistics or Additional Maths.

All pupils must do a course in **Science**. There are two different courses. If you are a keen and able scientist you might choose Separate Sciences, which leads to three GCSEs in Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Most pupils will study Combined Science, leading to two GCSEs.

All pupils must do Core PE. If you would like to gain a qualification in PE, you could choose GCSE PE as one of your option choices.

Pupils wishing to take Horticulture will need to have a meeting with Mrs Lang, to ensure course suitability for each individual.

There are **four option 'blocks'** and pupils will study one subject from each of them. They are designed to create some flexibility whilst ensuring a balanced curriculum is offered. Pupils will be asked to select a first and second choice in each option block.

During the **Choices at 14 Evening** on Thursday 23 January there will be a presentation about the process and an opportunity to discuss courses with staff.

The **Year 9 Parents' Subject Evening** is on **Thursday 6 February** which is an ideal opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress with teachers.

The last stage of the Choices at 14 process is to complete the option choices form. This will be sent to you on Show my Homework on Thursday 30 January. **The form must be completed online and the confirmation slip handed in to the Pastoral Office by Tuesday 11 February.**



Progression

The current entry requirements to some of the local further education institutions are below - there are other institutions that pupils can also attend.

Cirencester College

To study A Levels at Cirencester College you will need 5 GCSE passes at Grade 5 or better from a recommended list of subjects. These include English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Music, any Science GCSEs, any Language, History, Geography, Business or Religious Studies. Some subjects and courses may need a Grade 6. If you wish to study a Level 3 BTEC you will need 5 GCSE passes at Grade 5/4 (equivalent) or better. If a student does not have Grade 4 in English Language or Mathematics it is a legal requirement to resit either a GCSE or Level 2 Functional Skills course in these subjects, whilst at college.

Farmor's Sixth Form

5 GCSEs at Grade 4-9. In addition, there are some specific entry requirements for certain A Level subjects. Applied subjects are eligible as part of the 5 grades accepted and pupils should be achieving a Merit or Distinction if they wish to study A Levels.

Marling Sixth Form

Places at Marling Sixth Form will be allocated according to the following criteria: Students should achieve a minimum of 5 Grades at 6-9 at GCSE level and at least a Grade 5 in English Language and Mathematics. Students should achieve at least a Grade 6 in their chosen A-Level subjects (if previously taken at GCSE level, or an equivalent subject if not).

Stroud High Sixth Form

Places at Stroud High will be allocated according to the following criteria: Students should achieve a minimum of 5 grades at 6-9 at GCSE level and at least a Grade 5 in English Language and Mathematics. Students should achieve at least a Grade 6 in their chosen A-Level subjects (if previously taken at GCSE level, or an equivalent subject if not).

Pate's Grammar School

Pate's work on a points based system. They require a minimum of 57 points from a pupil's top 8 GCSEs. Pupils will need at least a Grade 5 in both English and Mathematics and there is an expectation of achieving a GCSE Grade 7-9 in subjects to be studied at A Level.

Hartpury College

A Levels - A minimum of 6 Grade 5-9s (or equivalent) at GCSE, including English and Mathematics, plus the specific GCSE subjects and grades required by each A Level subject. All students study AS Level General Studies.

BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma - 2 Grades 5 or above (or equivalent), one of which must be English Language together with either Mathematics or Science.

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma - 5 GCSEs at Grade 5 or above (or equivalent), one of which must be English Language together with either Mathematics or Science.



Frequently Asked Questions

Have I chosen a good range of subjects?

The option blocks have been designed to ensure that a good combination of subjects can be accessed and obtained by pupils. We would strongly recommend following the English Baccalaureate (a Language subject and Humanities subject). We would also recommend including a Design or Arts subject within your curriculum selection. There are opportunities to specialise in areas that really interest you but you should think very carefully before narrowing your choices too much – it could affect your options at 16.

Do I need a Language to get into university?

Not for all courses but you should be aware that several universities require a Language, or suggest it is preferable, for courses such as History, Law and Philosophy.

Is it possible to do two Humanities subjects and a Language or two Languages and a Humanities subject?

Yes, but you will not be able to study an Arts subject and Separate Sciences as well.

If I do not opt for a subject at GCSE will it be impossible to do it at A Level?

Not necessarily, but it depends on the subject. Some subjects build on prior knowledge. For example, if you want to do any Modern Foreign Language A Levels you must do that language at GCSE. Talk to your subject teacher or sixth form/college representatives if you are unsure.

Where is the Choices at 14 form?

The form will be sent to you through Show My Homework on Thursday 30 January. You need to complete the form electronically and then send it to options@deerparkschool.net. Please print out and return the summary page, signed by a parent/guardian to the Pastoral Office by Tuesday 11 February.

When is the deadline?

The deadline for completing the options form and returning the confirmation form to the Pastoral Office is Tuesday 11 February. See Mrs Lang or Mr Bellamy for help if you have any questions.

What is the difference between Level 1 and Level 2?

Level 1 is a qualification graded 3-1

Level 2 is a qualification graded 8-4

Can I do separate Physics, Chemistry and Biology?

You can do all three if you choose Separate Sciences. It is not possible to do just one Separate Science subject – only Chemistry, for example.



Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to do Separate Sciences to do Science A Levels or Science courses at university?

No, but it will be a distinct advantage if you do. Research suggests that pupils who have done Separate Sciences at GCSE generally do better at Science A Levels than pupils who did not.

I am not very good at exams. Are there subjects that do not have any?

All courses now contain at least one piece of work that is assessed by an examiner and many courses have had the amount of coursework, or controlled assessments, reduced. However, there are a number of subjects that contain a higher proportion of coursework than exams. If you follow an applied course, for example, you will be assessed on a series of assignments for a large percentage of the course. Do be aware that you will need to keep up with deadlines on these courses. Check each course carefully.

Can I change my choices after the deadlines?

Generally speaking, no. Choices affect teaching groups and there may not be space to accommodate any changes you wish to make. It is important that you make the right decisions now.

Will I be guaranteed my first choices?

No. This is why we ask you to choose reserve subjects. The vast majority of pupils will get the choices they want but we may have to make changes if, for example, not enough pupils opt for a subject (usually we set a minimum of 15) for us to run a class or too many pupils opt for a subject but not enough for a second class. There may also be unusual combinations which we cannot timetable.

How many GCSEs will I get?

Most pupils will study the core subjects – English, Maths and Science – and have 4 other optional subjects. However, the final number of qualifications achieved will depend on the choices pupils make. Most pupils are likely to get the equivalent of between 8 and 10 GCSEs.

What is different about the 9-1 GCSEs for 2022?

All GCSE courses will be graded 9-1: Grade 9 has been described as the equivalent of a double A* whilst a Grade 5 is a 'good grade' which is approximately a Grade C/B equivalent. The courses offer more challenge and give learners the opportunity to study topics in more breadth. It is important to note the percentage of coursework and exams that there is in each subject being considered: if a pupil knows that they perform better with coursework than exams then this is an important factor to consider when selecting optional subjects to follow in KS4.





GCSE English Language



Why must I study English?

Through studying English, you will develop the skills you need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts and write clearly; skills central to success in all of your GCSE subjects, as well as in a wide range of contexts outside of the classroom.

The texts you will explore in English will bring the outside world inside the classroom. Well-crafted, engaging fiction and non-fiction texts from Britain and beyond will allow you to consider writers' ideas and perspectives on our world, past and present. Once you start identifying the different methods writers use to convey these ideas, you will begin thinking as a writer – the first step to becoming one.

At the heart of English is the ability to communicate clearly and confidently. This is not just about writing, but also about how you use and respond to spoken language. There will be plenty of opportunities for you to debate with others in response to the texts you read and give your own thoughts and opinions on a range of social, political and moral issues.

It's time to revise your opinion of English as 'That Compulsory Subject' and start thinking of it as a window to the world and a tool for success.



How will I learn?

Reading - You will study a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and learn how to respond to them critically and effectively. You will become adept at identifying and interpreting explicit and implicit information and ideas in texts, analysing how writers use language and structure to influence their readers. There will be something for everyone, as you will read and respond to texts from writers of 19th Century fiction, such as Charles Dickens, to 21st Century journalists, like Charlie Brooker.

Writing – There will be plenty of opportunities for you to develop your creative and technical writing ability. As well as developing your understanding of how to communicate clearly and accurately, you will practise writing in a range of different genres and styles. From non-fiction discursive writing to imaginative descriptive writing, you will be able to develop your own style and confidence.



How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	Non Examination Assessment: Spoken Language
Section A: Reading one literature fiction text Section B: Writing descriptive or narrative writing Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of GCSE	Section A: Reading one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text Section B: Writing to present a viewpoint Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of GCSE	Presenting Responding to questions and feedback Use of Standard English Separate endorsement 0% of GCSE



GCSE English Language



What pupils say

Alex, in Year 10, said: 'I've always loved English but this course has truly helped me gain a greater understanding of the language. The lessons are entertaining and I'm never bored - I've also enjoyed reading the set texts.'



Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

You will need English at Grade 5 to study A Levels as well as progress to University. Employers will look for a good grade in English.

The grade you get in English may limit the course you are able to progress to at University. For example, a medical degree requires a high pass (Grade 6-9).

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: English Language
Level: 1 and 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% Exam and a separately endorsed speaking and listening certificate
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [English Language](#)
EBacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Mrs Davies, Mr Lay





GCSE English Literature



Why must I study English Literature?

Studying English Literature will provide you with the opportunity to read widely and write creatively in response to well-crafted, thought-provoking novels, plays and poetry. Alongside reading and analysing a range of texts, you will learn how to maintain a critical style of essay writing and develop an informed personal response, using textual references to support your interpretations.

You will not only develop your ability to analyse how writers use language to create meaning, but will also learn about the contexts in which the texts were written, and consider the texts in light of this background information.

The texts you will study will depend on your teacher's choices; there are many fantastic titles on offer, including William Golding's novel 'The Lord of the Flies' and Shakespeare's tragedy 'Macbeth'.



How will I learn?

You will spend time in lessons reading your set texts with the rest of your class, perhaps taking on character roles when you read Shakespeare and using drama methods to develop your understanding of character motivation. Your teacher will provide you with various resources to help you develop your understanding of the plots, characters, themes and contexts and assist you in developing your analytical skills.

There will be lots of opportunities for discussion and analysis of extracts, including constructing your own argument to convince others of your interpretations. You will have the opportunity to work independently or in groups to explore the texts and, where possible, we will arrange for you to visit the theatre to see the texts in performance.



How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19 th -Century Novel	Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry
<p>Section A: Shakespeare: pupils will answer one question on a play they have studied. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.</p> <p>Section B: The 19th-Century Novel: pupils will answer one question on the novel they have studied. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.</p> <p>Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 40% of GCSE</p>	<p>Section A: Modern Texts: Pupils will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.</p> <p>Section B: Poetry: Pupils will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.</p> <p>Section C: Unseen Poetry: Pupils will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.</p> <p>Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes 60% of GCSE</p>



GCSE English Literature



What pupils say

Will, in Year 10, said: 'I really enjoy English as it gives me a greater understanding of the wider world as well as time periods in the past, like World War Two. I find reading interesting and its an effective way of improving your vocabulary and language skills.'

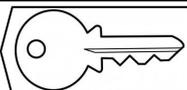


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

It is argued that to study an English Literature degree, it would be beneficial to have A Level English Literature. The appreciation of the written word is a gift in itself and even if you do not take this subject further, the course will be beneficial for your critical understanding of topic areas in other subjects, such as Art, Theatre Studies and History.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE English Literature
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [English Literature](#)
EBacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Mrs Davies, Mr Lay





GCSE Mathematics



Why must I study Mathematics?

Mathematics is all around you. You use Mathematics every day, even though you don't realise it. Pupils like the challenge, the clarity, and the fact that you know when you are right. The solution of a problem has an excitement and a satisfaction. You will find all these aspects in your GCSE Mathematics course.

This GCSE will equip you with many of the numeracy and thinking skills that will assist you in your future career path. You will be able to:

- Use and apply mathematics to solve problems and answer questions
- Use number and algebra to solve and model real life situations
- Explore different areas of shape and space and measurement
- Use handling data skills to investigate different hypotheses and theories

A Mathematics GCSE is desirable to both prospective employers and colleges and it may help you to enter a career in Business, Tourism, Nursing, Engineering, Accountancy, Insurance, the Armed Forces, the Police Service and many other fields.

GCSE Mathematics



How will I learn?

The lessons will follow the same format as they have during your time at Deer Park to date, with a starter, main body of lesson and plenary. All courses will develop skills in Number and Algebra, Geometry, Measures, Statistics and Probability, Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change as well as the skills to apply mathematics. All knowledge and skills will be developed at the level you are working at and towards. Mathematical skills develop in a spiralling nature, and within the course pupils will frequently revisit knowledge and skills before developing them further. You will have seven, one-hour Mathematics lessons per fortnight.

How will I be placed in a class?

You will continue to be organised by your potential in Mathematics to ensure you are following the correct pathway. Some of you may aspire to do Mathematics A Level, others to do courses with a strong mathematical content. Grouping will be informed by the grade you achieved in the end of Key Stage 3 Assessment and the professional judgement of staff.



How will I be assessed?

The course is 100% exam. There are 3 papers worth 33.3% each: 2 calculator exams and 1 non-calculator exam.

The exams cover different areas including: Statistics and Probability, Number, Algebra, Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change, Geometry and Measures.





What pupils say

Tanwen said: 'Maths has given me skills that I am able to apply to many of my subjects. I really enjoy the challenges that GCSE Maths throws at me and the achievement of solving them!'

Monty, in Year 11, said: 'A very rewarding challenge which gets the brain cells buzzing.'



Progression

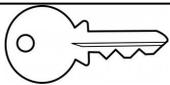
Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

A Level Mathematics may be suitable for any pupil targeting a Grade 6 or higher.

A Level Further Mathematics may be suitable for any pupil achieving a Grade 5 or higher at Additional Maths and preferably a Grade 8/9 in the GCSE Mathematics.

AS Use of Mathematics is a 2 year course which may be suitable for pupils achieving a Grade 6 at GCSE and who want to study a subject at AS Level involving some Mathematics e.g. Sciences, Psychology, Geography.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Mathematics

Level: 1 & 2

Qualification Type: GCSE

Assessment: 100% exam

GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE

Examination Board: Edexcel

Specification: [Mathematics](#)

EBacc Subject: Yes

Further Information: Mrs Pennington, Mr Ellen

GCSE Statistics (National Qualification Framework Level 2)

There will be an opportunity for some pupils to achieve an extra GCSE in Statistics at the end of Year 10. The Statistics GCSE complements the Mathematics GCSE with many of the skills assessed in GCSE Statistics also forming part of the GCSE Mathematics course. This will require after school commitment and is entirely optional.

Assessment: 100% exam.

GCSE Additional Maths (National Qualification Framework Level 3)

Pupils expected to achieve a Grade 7/8/9 in Mathematics and hoping to pursue the subject post 16 will have the opportunity to study GCSE Additional Mathematics. This is an excellent bridging course between GCSE and A Level Mathematics and provides a real challenge for our most capable Mathematicians. The qualification attracts points on the UCAS tariff. This will require after school commitment and is entirely optional.

Assessment: 100% exam.





GCSE Combined Science



Why should I study Combined Science?

It is natural to be curious about the universe and how things work. Through studying Combined Science you will gain the knowledge and understanding that you need to make sense of the world around you and the Science you meet in everyday life.

Alongside developing your understanding of key scientific principles, Combined Science will develop mathematical skills, correlation and cause, risk, ethics and debating skills.



How will I learn?

The course covers a wide variety of Science Topics relating to Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The topics covered include:

Biology

1. Cell Biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and response
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
7. Ecology

Chemistry

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

Physics

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

Where possible, you will learn through practical activities, investigations and First Principle by gathering primary data. Alongside this will be a wide range of activities including research, report writing, presentations, group work, debate, discussion and ICT based tasks.



How will I be assessed?

Assessment on the GCSE 9-1 is by examination only. There is no coursework in this GCSE. The course is linear so all exams are sat at the end of Year 11.

There are 6 papers: 2 Biology, 2 Chemistry and 2 Physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Higher and Foundation papers are available in all disciplines. Each paper is 1hr 15 minutes long, worth 70 marks and will have a mixture of multiple choice, structured and open response styles of question.



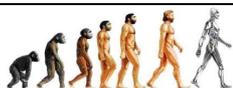
GCSE Combined Science



What pupils say

Harry commented: 'I've enjoyed my lessons. We've done lots of practicals since we started GCSE that have helped me to understand things better.'

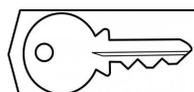
Chloe said: 'There are lots of revision resources available for us to choose from for our mock exams and summer exams.'



Progression

Pupils have to continue in education or training until they are 18.

This course prepares you with the knowledge and skills you will need as a young adult in a high technology society that is heavily reliant on Science. This qualification will enable you to go on and study individual sciences at A level along with many other subjects although it is essential that you check individual entry requirements at post 16 establishments for further details.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Combined Science
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% exam
GCSE Equivalent: 2 GCSEs
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [Combined Science: Trilogy](#)
EBacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Dr Tipping, Mr David





GCSE Separate Sciences



Why should I study Separate Sciences?

It is natural to be curious about the universe and how things work. Through studying the Separate Sciences you will gain the knowledge and understanding that you need to make sense of the world around you and the Science you meet in everyday life. The Separate Science courses cover all of the specification content from the Combined Science GCSE but includes extra modules and the chance to cover modules in more depth.

Separate Science is essential for students that already know their future education and career lies within the field of science. Although not a requirement for A level Sciences, the rigour of the course prepares students well for studying science at post 16 and degree level. Alongside developing your understanding of key scientific principles, Separate Sciences will develop mathematical skills, correlation and cause, risk, ethics and debating skills.



How will I learn?

The course covers a wide variety of Science Topics relating to Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The topics covered include:

Biology

1. Cell Biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and Response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and Response
6. Inheritance, Variation and Evolution
7. Ecology

Chemistry

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

Physics

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

These topics cover the same content as the Combined Science but each topic contains additional concepts and ideas that increase the rigour and demand of the course and deepen student's understanding. Where possible, you will learn through practical activities, investigations and First Principle by gathering primary data. Alongside this will be a wide range of activities including research, report writing, presentations, group work, debate, discussion and ICT based tasks. Each Science discipline is taught by a different teacher.



How will I be assessed?

Assessment on the GCSE 9-1 is by examination only. There is no coursework in this GCSE. The course is linear so all exams are sat at the end of Year 11.

In each science, there are two papers. Papers are available at higher and foundation tiers. Each paper is worth 100 marks and is 1hr 45 minutes long. Each paper has a mixture of multiple choice, structured, and open response styles of question.



GCSE Separate Sciences



What pupils say

Olivia said: 'I like how Separate Science is taught by different teachers as three completely different subjects.'

Joe commented: 'I've enjoyed studying some areas in more depth, like polymers and space.'

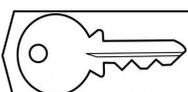


Progression

Pupils have to continue in education or training until they are 18.

This course prepares you with the knowledge and skills you will need as a young adult in a high technology society that is heavily reliant on Science. This qualification will enable you to go on and study individual sciences at A level along with many other subjects although it is essential that you check individual entry requirements at post 16 establishments for further details.

Separate Sciences are essential for students wanting to pursue study in areas such as medicine, dentistry or veterinary science at degree level.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry, GCSE Physics
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE per Separate Science
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [Biology](#), [Chemistry](#), [Physics](#)
EBacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Dr Tipping, Mr David





GCSE Art



Why should I study Art?

You will be able to extend your Art and Design skills through understanding how professional artists and designers work.

You will be able to express ideas, using your imagination and creativity, whilst learning new skills.

Colleges and employers look upon Art favourably as a qualification - it shows you can think creatively, independently and are able to present yourself and your work professionally.

The course allows you to focus on your interests and explore both 2D and 3D media studying drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, ceramics and textiles, exploring and developing a wide variety of new advanced skills.



How will I learn?

Art is a practical subject, and you will develop your skills in varied media throughout the course. Coursework starts from the beginning of Year 10 and is handed in before the controlled test in Year 11.

You will be introduced to a variety of experiences using a range of media, processes and techniques, including ceramics, and print making. Your knowledge and understanding of art, craft and design will be developed through the practical activities of designing and making.



How will I be assessed?

Assessment is through both coursework and a controlled test.

Component 1: Portfolio (coursework) – This consists of 60% of your final mark. You will be required to complete different coursework assignments. Coursework assignments including preparatory work and sketchbooks, which will lead to a final piece(s) covering the four assessment criteria set by the exam board.

Component 2: Externally set assignment (controlled test) – This is a controlled test of 10 hours and counts for 40% of your final mark. You will be required to respond to one starting point set by the exam board.

There will be a preparatory period of up to 3 months, followed by 10 hours of supervised time. You will be expected to develop your own work to resolve your investigations, producing a final piece or pieces based upon preparatory studies and research. Both components will be centre assessed and moderated by AQA.





What pupils say

'Art allows you to be creative and free to explore your own ideas and develop your skills further. It is also interesting learning new techniques and working with new materials. You learn about artists you have never heard of before and use their work to inspire you.' Meg

Alex said: 'Art lets you express yourself and it is fun to do. You are able to explore lots of new types of media too.'

Aimee commented: 'It is a lot of work but it is fun and creative to do.'



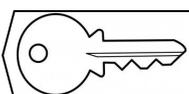
Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

GCSE Art is an ideal qualification if you wish to study art beyond the age of 16 or are considering a future career in one of the Art specialisms.

Post 16 Art and Design courses are available at a number of local FE Colleges at AS, A2, Applied A Level and BTEC levels. Areas of study include Fine Art, Ceramics, Textiles, Art & Design (general), Graphics and Photography.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Art & Design
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [Art and Design](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mr Armshaw, Mrs Evans





GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition



Why should I study Food Preparation and Nutrition?

This course deals in depth with the details of cooking and food science.

You need to be prepared to cook often, and cook a wide variety of dishes, from soups and starters, through meat and vegetarian dishes and their vegetable accompaniments, to desserts, cakes and hot and cold drinks.

Most practical lessons involve making more than one dish, so you need to be well organised. In the two years we also decorate Chocolate Logs and we watch demonstrations by visiting chefs.

This is an exciting and challenging course, which focuses on the way food behaves when you cook it and also the body's need for food. It is also a very good grounding in the skills and knowledge you need to put beautifully cooked food on the table.



How will I learn?

As well as doing a lot of cooking in lessons, we cover theory work on nutrition and healthy eating, food science and how foods behave when you cook them, commodities and where they come from, food hygiene, food production and technological developments in cooking. We also have a lot of skills to learn and a lot of recipes to cover.



How will I be assessed?

You will have two practical assessments, both in Year 11. The first one is an investigation where you have to look at how, for example, different ingredients or different processes effect the outcome of a recipe. The second assessment is a practical exam where you have to put three dishes on the table in exam conditions. Presentation is very important.

These two practical elements are worth 50% of your final grade. You also have the opportunity to enter the national Future Chef competition and Rotary Young Chef competition.

The final 50% is by written paper at the end of the course.



GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition



What pupils say

Megan said: 'It's a good skill to have and you learn new things you otherwise wouldn't in any other subject. Practical lessons are a good break from written work. You also work independently when cooking and this is great to improve confidence at GCSE.'

Bryan said: 'I'm making lots of dishes and trying new foods I haven't tasted before. You also learn how to make different types of pastry, develop knife skills and baking.'

Coral commented: 'It is a fun lesson which teaches you life skills. I've learnt some new recipes. I like when we cook because it's a break from sitting down at a desk.'

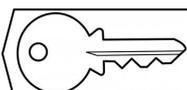


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship in the Hospitality industry.

At the end of Year 11 there will be a variety of opportunities open to you. You may continue your Catering course at Gloucestershire College or Swindon or continue with your scientific studies with the view of taking food sciences further, perhaps into product development or studying to be a dietician.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 50% Internal exam (practical), 50% external exam (written)
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: WJEC
Specification: [Food Preparation and Nutrition](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mrs Evans, Miss Dearing





Designing the Built Environment



Why should I study Designing the Built environment?

The Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Designing the Built Environment was developed in collaboration with CITB and is primarily designed for learners aged 14-16 who want to learn about the construction industry from the design perspective. It provides learners with a broad introduction to the design sector of the construction industry and types of career opportunities available.

The applied purpose provides the opportunity for authentic work related learning, but more than this, it will require learners to consider how the use and application of their learning impacts on individuals, employers, society and the environment.



How will I learn?

The WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Designing the Built Environment offers a learning experience that focuses learning for 14 –16 year olds through applied learning, i.e. acquiring and applying knowledge, skills and understanding through purposeful tasks set in sector or subject contexts that have many of the characteristics of real work. The qualification is built from discrete units, but allows for both synoptic learning and assessment. Every unit has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning in the unit. The applied purpose is the vehicle through which the learning contained in the unit is made relevant and purposeful. It is also the means by which learners are enthused, engaged and motivated to study the design of the built environment.

The three units are:

- Unit 1 - Planning potential of construction projects,
- Unit 2 - Drawing construction plans
- Unit 3 - Building structures and materials



How will I be assessed?

You will undertake three units where you will work in teams and individually. These will be graded, Pass, Merit or Distinction and homework will be assessed using WWW & EBI. The assessment criteria specify the standard a learner is expected to meet to demonstrate that the learning outcomes of that unit have been achieved. WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Designing the Built Environment units are assessed through controlled internal assessment or external assessment.

Unit 1: Planning potential of construction projects will be **externally** assessed. The assessment window takes place within three weeks of May. It is a 6 hour timed, supervised assessment.

Units 2 & 3 are internally assessed through summative controlled assessments.



Designing the Built Environment



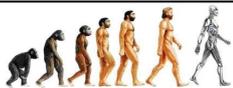
What pupils say

Max said: 'The course is a very exciting and creative subject, where you can design villages or towns. There is a lot to learn to make your buildings the most creative and the best.'

Eliza commented: 'The subject is fun and exciting. You get to participate in groups tasks which are great for meeting new people and having fun whilst learning. It is a great subject to take if you are interested in engineering or architecture. Every week I look forward to Construction as it is one of the best subjects.'

James said: 'It is very imaginative and creative. You do a variety of tasks from designing houses to creating towns and villages.'

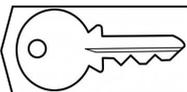
Emma-Jo commented: 'The course is fun and involves lots of creativity. It teaches you to work as a team and to participate in many different projects.'



Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship in the Construction industry. The course is geared to educating learners to the career possibilities in the built environment. These include: Land Surveyor, Structural Engineer, Architect, Building Services Manager, Civil Engineer Surveyor, Quantity Surveyor, Facilities Manager and Planner. A range of career paths will be looked at along with the relevant courses and possible pathways.

The qualification could also be used with others as a route to either A Levels or vocational qualifications: You will be able to continue your interest in Design following various A Level courses, such as Product Design, Photography, Art and Design and Media related courses. This course could also allow for progression onto a Level 3 BTEC course in Engineering.



Key Facts

Qualification Name:	Designing the Built Environment
Level:	1 & 2
Qualification Type:	Vocational award
GCSE Equivalent:	1 GCSE
Examination Board:	WJEC
Specification:	WJEC CBAC Level 1 & 2 Designing the Built Environment
EBacc Subject:	No
Further Information:	Mrs Evans





GCSE Design and Technology



Why should I study Design and Technology?

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare you to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. You will learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. You will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise. It allows you to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. You will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

Learning about Design and Technology will encourage learners to develop design and thinking skills that open up a world of possibility, giving them the tools to create the future. This specification will excite and engage learners with contemporary topics covering the breadth of this dynamic and evolving subject. It will generate empathetic learners who have the ability to confidently critique products, situations and society in every walk of their lives now and in the future.

Design and Technology is a subject that brings learning to life, requiring learners to apply their learning to real-life situations. This qualification will give learners an opportunity to engage with creativity and innovation and understand how they can be enhanced by the application of knowledge from other disciplines across the curriculum such as mathematics, science, art and design, computing and humanities as well as the practical and technical knowledge and understanding they will learn from Design and Technology.



How will I learn?

You will undertake mini projects throughout Year 10 and these will include the topics of core technical and specialist technical principles and designing and making principles. In these mini projects mathematical and scientific knowledge and understanding, in relation to design and technology will be explored. Coursework tasks will be completed in Year 11.

In theory lessons you will cover the main points of the specification which cannot be covered through the mini projects.



How will I be assessed?

Paper 1— this is a 2 hour written exam which is split into three sections. It is marked out of 100 and is worth 50% of the GCSE.

Non-exam assessment (NEA): is a portfolio of work based around the development of a chosen task. A task/area will be given by the exam board and the pupils will have to write their own brief and answer it in response. It is marked out of 100 and is worth 50% of the GCSE.



GCSE Design and Technology



What pupils say

'Design Technology is a great subject to take as it involves creativity and problem solving. Personally I took it as I enjoyed creative things and putting my own ideas into products. It is really rewarding to make a product you have designed.' Marlow, Year 11

Matthew, in Year 11, said: 'I chose Design Technology because I wanted to do a practical subject. I also enjoy the freedom design gives and how you get to create your own products.'

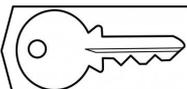


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

GCSE Design and Technology is an ideal qualification if you wish to study Design Technology beyond the age of 16 or are considering a future career in one of the Design specialisms.

Post 16 Design and Technology courses are available at a number of local FE Colleges at A Level and BTEC levels. Areas of study include Product Design, Textiles and Graphics. This course could also allow for progression onto a Level 3 BTEC course in Engineering.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Design and Technology
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% external exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [Design and Technology](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mrs Evans, Mr Hoare





GCSE Art and Design: Textiles



Why should I study Art and Design: Textiles?

This exciting GCSE course enables candidates to explore a really wide range of art and textiles materials and processes with the emphasis being on personal development and creativity.

Candidates are strongly encouraged to develop an individual response to a variety of starting points, using both traditional and new technologies. Working in sketchbooks, we will conduct research, develop ideas and experiment with media, covering areas related to candidates' own interests, including domestic textiles, fashion/costume and wall-hung textiles.

Studying the approach and working methods of both art and textile practitioners is a vital part of the course, with visits to exhibitions to see work first-hand taking place as often as possible. Gaining inspiration in this way and being aware of the work of contemporary craftspeople is a very important part of the process, also called 'critical study'. In addition we will look at the cultural, social and historic relevance of textiles products, also known as 'contextual study'.

The development and demonstration of practical skills is another feature of this GCSE, providing the opportunity to express ideas through working with both textiles and art processes such as collage, appliqué, drawing, embroidery, painting, batik, screen printing and felting. As the work progresses, candidates will produce larger 2-dimensional pieces and also 3-dimensional products – creativity is key!

GCSE Art and Design: Textiles



How will I learn?

You will be expected to work in sketchbooks, initially being guided through the process of research, development, refining and recording ideas, leading to presentation of a final response. As the course progresses and your experience and confidence grow, you will be required to effectively and thoughtfully sustain your own project in a more independent manner. Managing your time carefully is vital for success and you will need to plan carefully for manufacture.



How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 consists of a portfolio of work which is selected from work undertaken during the course of study, and must include more than one project. This is set and marked by the teacher and moderated by the exam board (AQA). This accounts for 60% of the marks.

Unit 2 is an externally set task, chosen from a question paper issued by AQA in the January of the second year of the course. This unit has unlimited preparation time but the practical element consist of 10 hours of sustained study, conducted under exam conditions in school. This is also marked by the teacher and moderated by AQA and is the remaining 40% of the marks.



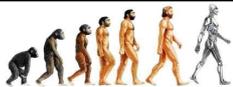
GCSE Art and Design: Textiles



What pupils say

'Textiles is a great GCSE subject to study because you can experiment with lots of equipment and materials that you don't have the chance to use in KS3. You can use your creativity to explore your own individual ideas and you are encouraged to develop excellent work without the need for strong drawing skills.' Milly

Clarissa said: 'I have really enjoyed studying GCSE Textiles because we work in a relaxed environment where we get lots of individual help and encouragement. We can come in after school or at lunchtime to use the facilities, which are really good. We have learnt how to manage our time and how to push ideas further than we first thought possible, creating sketchbooks, designs and products including skirts, cushion covers, lampshades and wall hangings.'

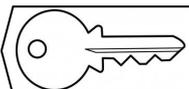


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

This course provides a strong and appropriate foundation for further progression to art and design related courses such as BTEC and enhanced vocational and career pathways. In addition, it is an excellent preparation for the A Level Textile Art course which can be taken at Cirencester College. It enables candidates to engage with the development of their creativity in a stimulating and supportive environment.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Art and Design: Textiles
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% practical exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [Textiles](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mrs Evans, Mrs Cato





GCSE Business



Why should I study Business?

Have you ever wondered what makes a successful business?

- Did you know Richard Branson started his business in a small flat above a shop?
- Can football keep spending millions of pounds on new players?
- How much profit can you make from a £10 investment?

The business world comprises an enormous variety of different careers. The GCSE in Business aims to give you a thorough understanding of what “being in business” entails and it will help you to develop the knowledge, understanding and competency needed when considering entering employment in a variety of sectors.



How will I learn?

The course is structured to allow you to develop your existing interests as well as giving you a broad foundation and introducing you to new areas in the business sector, such as business communication, starting a small business or developing customer relations.

The course will help you begin to understand the business world, with all its complexities and differing interests. It introduces you to the range and variety of business activity to be found in the local community and at national, European and global levels.

You will develop skills using group work, independent study as well as using ICT to help develop your knowledge and understanding. You will make presentations and produce reports to your teacher as well as take responsibility to lead and manage group work.



How will I be assessed?

There is no controlled assessment in this subject. There are two externally assessed exam papers:

Paper 1: Investigating a Small Business (90 minute exam and 50% of the course)

Paper 2: Building a Business (90 minute exam and 50% of the course)



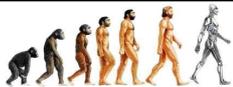
GCSE Business



What pupils say

Bryan said: 'I find Business Studies quite exciting. I like learning about how businesses like Snap Chat started and how they have evolved.'

Libby commented: 'I have enjoyed tasting and sampling actual products from our case studies. Doing this has really helped me learn and understand business terms and ideas.'

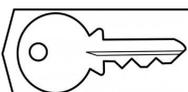


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

There are a range of qualifications that you can follow beyond school. A Level courses as well as applied courses exist in a wide range of related subjects, such as Business, Accountancy and Law to name but a few.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Business
Level: 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% external exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification: [Business](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mrs Mackew





GCSE Computer Science



Why should I study Computer Science?

If you want to look deeply into how computers and networks work, as well as investigating the structure of the internet, in addition to writing code, this is the course for you. This challenging course is ideal for talented pupils looking to follow a technical pathway in the future.

During the course you will learn what happens inside a computer, from low level code to high level languages. You will learn how to program and will become skilled at breaking tasks down into algorithms and flowcharts.

Computer Science is highly relevant in the 21st Century and the skills involved are very much in demand.

Key areas of the course are Computational Thinking, Coding and Digital Literacy.



How will I learn?

The main areas covered in GCSE Computer Science are:

- Computer systems
- System Architecture
- Computer hardware and networks
- Data representation
- Software and security
- Databases and data representation
- Programming techniques

A large part of the course will involve programming, which is a key element of the subject. Programming tasks will be undertaken in class and as homework, to develop your skills.



How will I be assessed?

The assessment is divided into 3 units.

Computer Systems (01): is a written exam paper which counts towards 40% of the final mark. You will have a mixture of short and long answer questions covering topics related to hardware and software. The exam is 1 hour 30 minutes long.

Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (02): is a written exam paper which counts towards 40% of the final mark. You will answer questions that require you to demonstrate programming techniques and logical algorithmic thinking.

Programming Project (03/04): is a controlled assessment which counts towards 20% of the final mark. You will use programming techniques to complete a project. You will create solutions to tasks from various options provided by the exam board.



GCSE Computer Science



What pupils say

'I chose to take Computer Science when I was in Year 9 and have not regretted it. I have really enjoyed studying system security within the course. The subject is widely recognised at college and sixth form. It is a very fun and interesting course which is important to consider when choosing your options.' Year 10 pupil

Tara said: 'I love computer science because it is really interesting to learn as it teaches us about things we use every day and how they work. It also gives us skills which help with all other lessons and will help in the future. As well as this it's good for everybody no matter what their coding ability is as there is always different levels of difficulty which allows people to challenge themselves but also not feel out of their depth.'

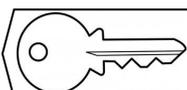


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

You will be able to progress to any Level 3 ICT based course at college or sixth form as long as you achieve a Grade 5 or above. To study Computing at a higher level you ought to be aiming for at least a Grade 6.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Computer Science
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 80% exam, 20% controlled assessment
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: OCR
Specification: [Computer Science](#)
EBacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Mrs Hoole-Jackson, Mr Young

Through this study of computer programming, the course will help learners develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills. For many, it will be a fun and interesting way to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life.





National Certificate in Creative iMedia



Why should I study Creative iMedia?

This is a hands-on practical course that allows you to develop your practical ICT skills in a number of ways. Through a Digital Graphics unit in Year 10, you will learn a lot about digital graphics, design techniques, file formats, and use various different applications in order to create professional looking graphics. These skills are extremely useful and will support your studies in other areas as well as increasing your employability. This is followed by a Year 10 exam, all about planning and pre-production. In Year 11, you will continue with two further units, Creating Interactive Multimedia Products & Creating a Digital Sound Sequence.



How will I learn?

R081— Pre-Production Skills: This unit aims to introduce you to a range of essential pre-production techniques used in the creative and digital media, including client brief, time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques.

R082— Digital Graphics: You will explore where and why digital graphics are used and the techniques that are involved in their creation. You will then apply your skills and knowledge in creating digital graphics against a specific brief, such as a DVD cover, magazine or game advert.

R087—Interactive Products: You will develop your knowledge and understanding of where and why different interactive multimedia products are used and what features are needed for a given purpose. You will learn how to interpret a client brief, and how to use time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques as part of the planning and creation process.

R088—Digital Sound Sequencing: You will discover where digital sound sequences are used in the media industry and how these technologies are developed to reach an identified target audience as you plan, create and edit a digital sound sequence and review it.



How will I be assessed?

R081: Pre-Production Skills (25%) **Written Exam** (end of Year 10)

R082: Creating Digital Graphics (25%) **Controlled Assessment** (Year 10)

R087: Creating Interactive Multimedia Products (25%) **Controlled Assessment** (Year 11)

R088: Creating a Digital Sound Sequence (25%) **Controlled Assessment** (Year 11)

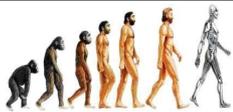




What pupils say

Aimee said: 'Creative iMedia is a practical and exciting way of bringing both ICT and media studies together in one subject. We have been looking at the filming process, from its initial stages to the screen. We have also been looking at digital graphics and created our own vinyl album cover as part of our controlled assessment.'

Ben commented: 'So far in iMedia, we have looked at creating digital graphics such as DVD covers and film posters which was part of our first controlled assessment. We then did an exam on pre-production documents and looked at different stages of planning and filming. We are now creating interactive products for our local area, trying to promote it for anyone who comes to visit. iMedia is really fun and helps us learn new skills in different software such as photoshop.'



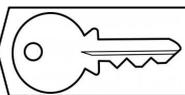
Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

The OCR Cambridge National Certificate in Creative iMedia provides a firm grounding for ongoing study. It is a suitable qualification to contribute to a place studying A Level ICT, Applied ICT or a diploma. It is excellent preparation for a Technical Level 2 or 3 media qualification.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.

Some universities will require Mathematics A level in order to take a degree in IT or Computer Science.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Creative iMedia
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: Technical Award
Assessment: 25% exam, 75% controlled assessment
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: OCR
Specification: [iMedia](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mr Young

This is a vocationally-related qualification that takes an engaging, practical and inspiring approach to learning and assessment. The everyday use of ICT, from PCs to smartphones, now impacts all of our lives.





GCSE Geography



Why should I study Geography?

As our planet becomes increasingly interconnected it is increasingly important to find out more about the world around us. GCSE Geography allows you to investigate a range of human and physical issues in a variety of places.

Geography - the study of the earth and its peoples

Educates you about the world you live in

Organises information logically

Gives you a wide range of skills

Real world problems and examples are studied

Attitudes and values are an important element

Places and Perspectives

Human impact on the planet

You are nowhere without it!



How will I learn?

Unit One: Our Natural World: In this topic you will explore a wide range of physical geography topics including; **Global Hazards, Changing Climate, Distinctive Landscapes** and **Sustaining Ecosystems** and carry out **Physical Geography fieldwork** on the south coast.

Unit Two: People and Society: In this topic you will learn about; **Urban Futures, Dynamic Development, The UK in the 21st Century, Resource Reliance** and carry out **Human Geography fieldwork** in Bristol.

Unit Three: Geographical Exploration: In this topic you will bring your knowledge and understanding from Units 1 and 2 together to make a **Geographical Decision** based on information provided in a resource booklet.

As part of the course you are required to take part in **fieldwork in two contrasting locations**. Your fieldwork opportunities will involve a visit to a major city to investigate urban change and to a coastal environment to investigate physical processes. You will also be given the opportunity to take part in a residential trip within the UK.

In lessons you will take part in debates, use thinking skills, group work and ICT in order to find out more. As well as learning in the classroom you will also be given the opportunity to carry out fieldwork.



How will I be assessed?

In Year 11 you will complete three written examinations.

Unit One: Our Natural World: 70 marks: 75 minute exam: 35% of total GCSE

Unit Two: People and Society: 70 marks: 75 minute exam: 35% of total GCSE

Unit Three: Geographical Exploration: 60 marks: 90 minute exam: 30% of total GCSE



GCSE Geography



What pupils say

Ben said: 'I chose geography as I am very interested in the world and geography allows me to explore different countries in depth. It is a very fun, creative and enjoyable subject.'

Kadie commented: 'Taking GCSE geography gave me the opportunity to learn about the human and physical geographical elements of developed and developing countries. I find it really interesting to be able to look at global issues and research ways we can resolve them.'

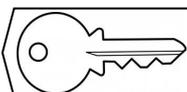


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

Geography is considered to be a qualification that is respected by employers as it involves using a variety of skills. If you achieve a good grade in this subject you will be able to progress to Level 3 study. Once successful at Level 3 you are able to progress to university or employment.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Geography Syllabus B—Geography for Enquiring minds
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: OCR
Specification: [Geography](#)
EBacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Miss Brace, Mr Ferne, Miss Bluett





GCSE History



Why should I study History?

How else can you make sense of the present unless you have a sense of the past? How can you change the world if you do not understand the state it is in already?

There will be a good opportunity for extracurricular activities including an excursion to Berlin, a trip to the Herb Garret Museum and Imperial War Museum in London as well as a visit to a prominent Elizabethan site.

As Historians you will develop transferable skills including analytical and evaluative skills which will aid you in the wider world of work and academia. You will also develop research skills and expand your existing knowledge of the important historical events and themes.



How will I learn?

Over the next two years you will study:

- A period study investigating Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship
- A study of the wider world investigating Conflict and Tension between the East and West 1945-1972
- A thematic study of Britain: Health and the People: c1000 to the present day
- A British In-depth Study of Elizabethan England c1568-1603

Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship—This period study focuses on the development of Germany during a turbulent half century of change.

Conflict and Tension between the East and West 1945-1972—This focuses on the causes and events of the Cold War and seeks to show how and why conflict occurred and why it proved difficult to resolve the tensions which arose during the Cold War.

Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the present day— This thematic study will enable you to gain an understanding of how medicine and public health developed in Britain over a long period of time.

Elizabethan England, c1568–1603—This topic allows you to study in depth the last 35 years of Elizabeth I's reign. The study will focus on major events of Elizabeth I's reign considered from economic, religious, political, social and cultural events, ranging from assassination attempts to the Armada and more.



How will I be assessed?

There will be two formal examinations at the end of Year 11. Both exams will be 1 hour and 45 minutes each worth 50% of your GCSE. There is no coursework or controlled assessment in your GCSE.



GCSE History



What pupils say

Floss said: 'It's great to learn about events in the past and use the knowledge to help me understand the world now. I love History and you learn about an incredible range of time periods. It's really fun and the teachers are great!'

Vincent commented: 'I chose History because the teachers make every lesson interesting and fun! We cover lots of different topics and I enjoy the pace of the lessons. They help you with remembering all of the knowledge and offer lots of support.'

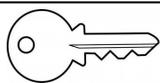


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

With a good GCSE in History you are able to study at Level 3 (A Level), as long as you meet the institution's entry requirements. You do not have to study History at GCSE to study at A Level, although it obviously helps. As a Humanities subject, History is one of the EBacc subjects. Pupils who have previously studied History have gone on to be lawyers, teachers, journalists, civil service and political advisers, academics and archaeologists.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE History
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [History](#)
EBacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Miss Brace, Mr Ferne

There are many opportunities to use ICT in this course. We will provide you with information and resources through our website as well as promoting your own independent research skills. We are sure you will enjoy the research and the variety that this course offers.





GCSE Religious Studies (Full Course)



Why should I study Religious Studies?

Religion is all around you.

It is in school, at home, in books, in newspapers, on television, and in your local and global community.

Religious Studies - Philosophy and Ethics goes deeper than looking at the beliefs and practices of religious believers, it looks at ethical issues, which you will face at sometime in your life. By looking at these topics you will be able to make sensible and informed decisions in the future.

Philosophy and Ethics encourages you to ask questions and form opinions of your own, but also shows you that you need to justify your position if you challenge someone's belief. To do this, you will develop skills in critical reading and forming an argument that is based upon sound facts. You will improve your questioning and listening skills, which will help you in your GCSEs, further studies and in getting a job.



How will I learn?

Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics) will allow you to consider those controversial issues that are important to you, and will help you go through your life showing tolerance and understanding to the world around you. You will study key beliefs, teachings and practices in Judaism and Christianity. Furthermore, you will look at ethical issues in Relationships, Life and Death, Good and Evil and Human Rights.



How will I be assessed?

Paper 1	Religions, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World	Relationships Life and Death Good and Evil Human Rights	Written examination: 2 hours 50% of qualification 120 marks
Paper 2	Study of Christianity	Beliefs and Teachings Practices	Written examination: 1 hour 25% of qualification 60 marks
Paper 3	Study of Judaism	Beliefs and Teachings Practices	Written examination: 1 hour 25% of qualification 60 marks

Homework

Homework offers opportunities for preparation, completion, extension and consolidation of work done in class, as well as for individual research. Homework enables you to develop a sense of self-discipline and self-motivation, and the opportunity to expand your learning. You will sit end of unit tests from past papers.



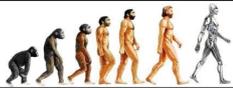
GCSE Religious Studies (Full Course)



What pupils say

'For me, the GCSE Religious Studies full course is my favourite GCSE subject as I learn about contrasting religious points of view in our society and can then argue from different points of views on ethical issues.' Hannah

Daniel commented: 'I have found Religious Studies to be both engaging and interesting, and has allowed me see the world from different perspectives. It has made me realise the importance of respecting different points of view.'

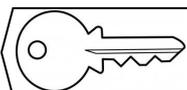


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

With a good GCSE in Religious Studies you are able to study at Level 3 (A Level) as long as you meet the institution's entry requirements. You do not have to study Religious Studies at GCSE to study at A Level, although it obviously helps.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Religious Studies
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: Eduqas
Specification: [Religious Studies](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Miss Hope





GCSE Religious Studies (Short Course)



Why must I study Religious Studies (Short Course)?

Religion is all around you.

It is in school, at home, in books, in newspapers, on television, and in your local and global community.

Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics) goes deeper than looking at the beliefs and practices of religious believers, it looks at ethical issues, which you will face at sometime in your life. By looking at these topics you will be able to make sensible and informed decisions in the future.

Philosophy and Ethics encourages you to ask questions and form opinions of your own, but also shows you that you need to justify your position if you challenge someone's belief. To do this, you will develop skills in critical reading and forming an argument that is based upon sound facts. You will improve your questioning and listening skills, which will help you in your GCSEs, further studies and in getting a job.



How will I learn?

Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics) will allow you to consider those controversial issues that are important to you, and will help you go through your life showing tolerance and understanding to the world around you. You will study key beliefs and teachings in Judaism and Christianity. Furthermore, you will look at ethical issues in Relationships and Life and Death. All pupils will have started the Religious Studies course in Year 9 and will sit the Short Course examination in Year 10, in May 2021.



How will I be assessed?

Paper 1	Religions, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World	Relationships; Life and death	Written exam: 1 hour 50%
Paper 2	Study of Christianity	Beliefs and teachings	Written exam: 35 mins 25%
Paper 3	Study of Judaism	Beliefs and teachings	Written exam: 35 mins 25%



GCSE Religious Studies (Short Course)



What pupils say

Eve commented: 'I am glad that I had the opportunity to do the GCSE RS short course because it is an insightful subject and teaches you a great deal about both religions and issues in the modern world.'

Chloe Said: 'The Religious Studies GCSE short course gives you a good understanding of beliefs in society. Also the opportunity to sit a GCSE examination a year early and as a result I feel more confident about preparing for my GCSE at the end of Year 11.'

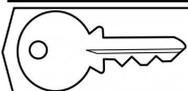


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

With a good GCSE in Religious Studies you are able to study at Level 3 (A Level), as long as you meet the institution's entry requirements. You don't have to study Religious Studies at GCSE to study at A Level, although it obviously helps.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Religious Studies (Short Course)
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% exam
GCSE Equivalent: Half a GCSE
Examination Board: Eduqas
Specification: [Religious Studies](#) (Short Course)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Miss Hope





RHS Horticulture



Why should I study Horticulture?

Horticulture is now an established successful course in our curriculum, entering its sixth year. The course will be a mixture of Horticulture with some Construction projects and you will be based at Deer Park School.

You will complete seven units of work, including soil testing, sowing seeds and vegetative propagation, ground preparation ready for planting, establishing seeds and plants, plant care and pruning and the identification of common plants, weeds, disorders and beneficial organisms. There is also one optional unit which may be selected focused on vegetable growing, fruit growing, lawn care or sustainable gardening.



How will I learn?

This is a practical course and is suitable for pupils who enjoy working with their hands. All the units studied will be assessed and marked internally. A lot of the time you will be based in our polytunnel. Developing your horticultural skills to show a high level of competence takes time. You will have your own area that you will be responsible for. You will plan your own crop schedule, sow and maintain your plot. The success of your crops depend on you.

You will work in a team and individually to complete your studies. It is important you are able to work with other pupils if you are to succeed.

A lot of the evidence produced will be grown in the polytunnel or in your plot.



How will I be assessed?

Your overall result will be determined by the results of the seven units. All of the units will be marked at school and moderated by the Royal Horticultural Society. Each unit will have a series of assignments built into it to assess your competence in that area. You will need to pass each assignment to pass the course.

You will have to provide evidence for each assignment, which may be oral, written or product. Photographs and video will be taken of you completing your work or your completed work for inclusion in your portfolio.

If you do not reach the criteria you require straight away, there will be an opportunity to add to your work to get the grade you want. The number of times you can amend your work will be limited, so you cannot redo it indefinitely.

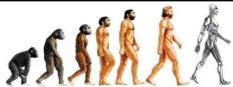




What pupils say

Kelsie said: 'I chose Horticulture to experience new things and it hasn't disappointed me. I've particularly enjoyed learning how to take cuttings from geraniums and using them to grow new plants.'

Cameron commented: 'I love how hands on the subject is and how different every lesson can be.'

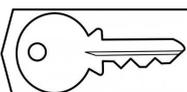


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

This course has been designed to be delivered and studied in a practical way. You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.

It is likely that pupils completing this qualification will not wish to progress to study A Levels. They will more than likely want to continue to study an applied course at college or Sixth Form or gain an apprenticeship.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: RHS Level 1 Certificate in Practical Horticulture (QCF)
Level: 1
Qualification Type: VRQ
Assessment: Internal
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: Royal Horticultural Society
Specification: [Horticulture](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mrs Mackew





National Cert in Child Development



Why should I study Child Development?

Child Development is an exciting course that includes a study of a child. Pupils will study the physical, social, intellectual and emotional development of the child from conception to the age of ten years old. You will have the opportunity to develop your knowledge and understanding of human needs in a diverse society and to work in a variety of contexts.

It is a really important subject to take if you are interested in a career which involves working with children, e.g. nursery nursing / education, primary school teaching, children's nursing, social work or many others. If you are interested in finding out more about the way children develop and the different factors that influence their development this is covered within the course.



How will I learn?

This course consists of three units:

- Unit 1** You will learn the essential knowledge and understanding for child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, care, conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety.
- Unit 2** You will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all of these needs. You will also gain knowledge of nutrition and hygiene practices and will be given the opportunity to evaluate dietary choices.
- Unit 3** You will gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. This unit will include researching, planning, carrying out activities with children and observing and reviewing these activities, as well as an understanding of the development norms and the benefits of play in child development.



How will I be assessed?

This course is 50% exam and then there are 2 internal assessments (worth 50% of the course).



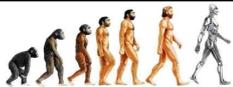
National Cert in Child Development



What pupils say

Jacob said: 'I like this subject because I learn about things that I have experienced in my family and it helps me learn about things in my future.'

Ruth commented: 'Child Development has given me an insight into how children grow and develop. It has given me knowledge for my future and has taught me some important life skills. I also find the practical work we've done in class really enjoyable and a great way of learning.'

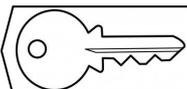


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

At the end of Year 11 there will be a variety of opportunities open to you. You may continue your Child Development specialism at Gloucestershire College or Swindon following Early Years courses or go on to study Psychology or Sociology at various schools in Gloucestershire.

It is likely that pupils completing this qualification may not wish to progress to study A Levels. They will more than likely want to continue to study an Applied course at college or Sixth form or gain an apprenticeship.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: Cambridge National Certificate in Child Development
Level: 1/2
Qualification Type: Technical Award
Assessment: 50% examination; 50% controlled assessment
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: OCR
Specification: [National Certificate in Child Development](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Miss Hope, Mrs Mackew





GCSE Languages



Why should I study a Language?

We live in a multilingual world where only 6% of the population speak English as a first language. In fact, 75% of the world's population don't speak any English at all.

Speaking a language other than English opens up the world to you: you have an asset for life. Languages help us build friendships with people across the globe, they offer travel opportunities, the chance to study or work abroad. They help us understand and experience different cultures in a way that enriches our own lives too.

According to a recent survey, people who speak more than one language have a wider choice of work and earn more money—on average they earn an extra £3000 a year. In the world of work language skills are increasingly important as businesses work on an international level. The UK trades with over 200 countries and businesses need employees with foreign language skills. Every year UK businesses lose millions of pounds because their employees do not have language skills. European graduates are often beating British graduates to the best jobs in this country because they speak two or more languages.



How will I learn?

You will be using the following resources:- AQA GCSE Spanish textbook; AQA GCSE German textbook; AQA GCSE French textbook.

We also use online resources called 'Kerboodle', which are linked to the textbooks. All pupils in KS4 are given their own login and password to access this site at school and at home. If you choose a language at GCSE, it would be useful if you bought your own dictionary. The ones we use in school are the best, as the middle section contains useful verb tables and key phrases.



How will I be assessed?

You will be tested on four skills: Writing, Speaking, Reading and Listening.

All of these skills will be examined at the end of the course. Each skill is worth 25% of the final grade.

Your Reading and Listening exams will involve reading or listening to short passages and answering questions on them, in English and in the language. These will take the form of signs/messages such as shop adverts and emails. The Reading exam will also include a short paragraph to translate into English.

Your Speaking exam will involve preparing to answer questions on a picture, a role play and two short conversations. You will be able to choose one conversation topic in advance and you will get 12 minutes to prepare before the actual exam.

In your Writing test, you will have to produce a number of short responses to tasks and also to write (up to 2) longer pieces of work. You will also have to translate a short passage into the language.



GCSE Languages



What pupils say

Connor commented: 'I chose languages because of the number of international businesses that require a language. It will give me more job opportunities and will keep my options more open in the future.'

Olivia said: 'I chose languages because it sets you apart from other people. It's an important skill that will always be useful. It is also good to learn about different cultures and I will be able to travel in the future and speak to many different people.'

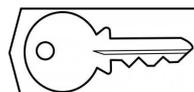


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

Any language qualification is attractive to employers, as so many businesses operate and trade with businesses in other countries. Many areas are looking for employees with language skills such as: film and television; fashion; journalism; medicine; law; games design; banking; marketing; engineering; politics; intelligence services; the Armed Forces; professional sports; travel and tourism; teaching; retail and ICT.

Languages are often one of the subjects that colleges and sixth forms look for as part of their entry requirements. Some universities require a language at GCSE as a minimum requirement for entry, no matter what the subject is that you may wish to study.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE French or GCSE German or GCSE Spanish
Level: 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: Reading 25%, Listening 25%, Speaking 25%, Writing 25%
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [French](#), [German](#), [Spanish](#)
EBacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Mrs Miller, Mrs Aubrey, Mrs Norcott

Please note you should have studied your chosen language in Key Stage 3.





GCSE Drama



Why should I study Drama?

Studying Drama will arm you with many skills that are used in everyday life beyond school.

Communication - the need to communicate ideas to people in different situations and with people with whom you may not be familiar.

Presentation - being able to present yourself in situations such as interviews and presentations.

Team work - being able to work as an efficient and reliable member of a team.

Analysis - being able to think through a situation, maybe on the spot, and decide the best course of action.

Creativity - being able to experiment with ideas, take risks and think outside of the box.



How will I learn?

You will learn from:

- Others in the group when they have ideas, or show their performances.
- Texts we explore, the making of characters and how they interact in their relationships with other characters and the audience.
- Themes we explore, what we think, what we disagree on.
- Professional drama, seeing live theatre and learning about contexts.

You will be expected to:

- Perform to audiences such as a primary school or parents
- Go on at least one live theatre trip
- Attend rehearsals which will take place out of lessons



How will I be assessed?

You are assessed in three ways:-

- Practical/Written Class Work
- Performance
- Final Written Exam

The exam is split into the following components-

Component 1 - Final Written Exam 40%

Section A: multiple choice.

Section B: four questions on a given extract from the set play chosen.

Section C: one two part question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production.

Component 2 - Devising log and performance 40%

Process of creating devised drama, performing the work, and analysing and evaluating it.

Component 3 - Practical coursework 20%

Practical performances of two extracts from a play.



GCSE Drama



What pupils say

'I really enjoy doing drama. I feel like it really helps my confidence and allows me to express myself. Honestly drama is my favourite subject at the moment.' Will, in Year 10

'I love drama so much, it gives me opportunities to work with people I have never worked with before. It is really rewarding when your performance is successful. Mrs Gleed is very supportive and helps us to develop our skills! It is a great time to express yourself, but also to learn some interesting things.' Floss, in Year 10



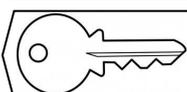
Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

GCSE Drama can be used as a stepping stone to either AS/A Level Drama or Theatre Studies or BTEC Full Diploma in Performing Arts.

It can also add a creative GCSE subject to your choices which you may or may not go on to study further.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Drama
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: Component 1: 40% Component 2: 40% Component 3: 20%
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [Drama](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mrs Gleed

As this is a performance-based course, pupils will be expected to perform a short piece to a subject specialist teacher before commencing on the GCSE course.

Homework: As part of the preparation for the final written exam there will be regular homework set on how to analyse and evaluate practical work completed by pupils during the course and of a live piece of theatre.





GCSE Music



Why should I study Music?

Music GCSE is suitable for any pupil who enjoys music making. The course encourages you to develop your understanding and appreciation of a range of different kinds of music. Studying Music will give you opportunities to:

- Develop your compositional and arranging skills
- Learn how to use the music technology software Sibelius and GarageBand
- Develop your instrumental skills
- Study music from different times, places and cultures

Following this course will enable you to develop broader life skills and attributes including critical and creative thinking, teamwork and leadership skills and the ability to work to long and short term deadlines.



How will I learn?

You will learn through a balance of practical tasks and study. For example, often a concept is learnt and explored through a practical task. During the course you will cover four areas of study:

- Instrumental Music 1700–1820
- Vocal Music
- Music for Stage and Screen
- Fusions

You will gain a broad understanding of music whilst having lots of opportunities to develop performing and composing skills.



How will I be assessed?

Assessment is mostly coursework based (with controlled conditions for pieces of coursework) and is a continual process.

30% Composition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composition of 2 different pieces each lasting about 2 minutes. • A short written evaluation of how you composed your piece and how it links to an area of study. • These pieces of coursework are internally assessed and then externally moderated.
30% Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing or playing a solo which is either accompanied or unaccompanied. You need to show good use of expression in your performing skills. • Performing a significant individual part which is not doubled, as part of an ensemble. • These performances are internally assessed and externally moderated.
40% Listening and Appraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening paper (June of Year 11) - 1½ hours. • Analysing and evaluating music using musical terminology which is covered and learnt over the two years of the course.



GCSE Music



What pupils say

'I've learnt so much already and can't wait to learn more. It goes through a whole range of styles, some of which I didn't know of and now love. It is challenging but very rewarding once I've achieved my goal. Everyone is very supportive and knowledgeable.' Hugo, in Year 10

'I have always loved music, and am really pleased that I have taken it on for my GCSEs. It is so enjoyable and can also be really rewarding. It is a completely different style of learning compared to other lessons. I have both Mr Cook and Miss Faux for music and they are both so supportive and helpful.' Alex, in Year 10



Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

The Music GCSE can lead on to a variety of courses post 16:

- Music AS
- Music A2 (A-Level)
- Music Technology AS
- Music Technology A2 (A-level)
- BTEC (Level 3) Music Practice
- BTEC Music Technology Level 3

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.

GCSE Music



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Music
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 30% Composition, 30% Performance, 40% Listening & Appraising
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification: [Music](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mr Cook, Miss Faux

As this is a performance-based course, pupils will be expected to perform a short piece to a subject specialist teacher before commencing on the GCSE course.

If you are uncertain about whether this is the right course for you, please ask us. We have known people in the past who have not chosen Music because they thought they would not understand it all, but we think they would have done really well.





NCFE Music Technology



Why should I study Music Technology?

The Music Technology course is designed for those of you who are interested in understanding equipment and the processes used in a modern day studio recording environment.

There are opportunities to explore computer based sequencing, audio recording, types and uses of microphones, sound effects used in TV and film, DJ skills and multi-track recording.

You build on knowledge already gained in Key Stage 3 in projects such as the Film Project and use more advanced features of the GarageBand software, as well as learning about new software such as Logic. To deliver the course the school has invested in a purpose built recording studio, suite of Apple Mac computers and digital recording software.



How will I learn?

The course is very practical and most of the learning is achieved through hands on experience.

The course is made up of different units and each unit has a set of learning outcomes that you need to provide evidence that you have achieved. Learning outcomes are either skills, things that you have to show you can do, or knowledge, things that you have to prove you have learnt.

You will be able to build up evidence for learning outcomes through the practical projects you will complete and by keeping a portfolio folder of your evidence.



How will I be assessed?

All work is assessed against set criteria that make up learning outcomes for each unit. You will be awarded either a Pass, Merit or Distinction for each learning outcome. These are then aggregated to form the grade for each of the units below.

Unit 1: Using a Digital Audio Workstation

In this unit you will: Develop skills in operating a DAW, demonstrate editing skills using software and hardware tools and create a project which includes audio and MIDI tracks.

Unit 2: Creating Music

In this unit you will: Analyse stylistic elements of music, develop a composition based on a studied style and demonstrate technical/creative processes.

Unit 3: Studio Recording

In this unit you will: Undertake a studio recording for a given scenario, consider microphone use/placement/type and plan/undertake recording and create a stereo mix.

Unit 4: Sound Creation

In this unit you will: Explore different kinds of media, methods of sound creations and create an original sound creation project.

These 4 units are assessed internally by the school. In addition to these internally assessed units there is an externally assessed exam that takes place in Year 11.



NCFE Music Technology



What pupils say

'Music tech is very fun and interesting there is a lot to learn and a lot to do in the lessons. You learn a lot about how to programme in certain instruments and how to make your own custom drums, also you learn how to mix stuff and recording in your own instruments. Everyone has a good time and learns quite a bit about the music technology industry.' Ewan, in Year 10



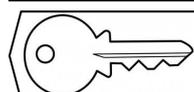
Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

The qualification aims to provide progression into:

- AS and A Level Music Technology
- NVQs in Sound Engineering and Live Sound Work
- BTEC Music Technology Level 3

You will be able to take this NCFE qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: NCFE Certificate In Creative Studies: Music Technology
Level: 1 and 2
Qualification Type: QCF
Assessment: Internally assessed and externally moderated portfolio (75%)
Externally set and marked assignment (exam — 25%)
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: NCFE
Specification: [Music Technology](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mr Cook

- The course is very practical and most of the learning is achieved through hands on experience
- Flexible optional units





GCSE Physical Education



Why should I study Physical Education?

This course is suited to pupils who have an academic and practical interest in sport. The new course has a substantial written element and topics in theory include bio-mechanics, including levers and planes, and axes of movement and the collection and analysis of data.

This subject covers both a theoretical and practical element which means it is an extremely varied and demanding course. The course runs over 5 hours during the fortnight and is split with 3 hours theory and 2 hours practical. This may need to be reduced further in Year 11 to 4 hours of theory and 1 hour of practical in order to complete the course and build in revision time for the exams.



How will I learn?

In the practical element of the course you will work on developing your own skills in isolation and work on the use of skills within a game situation. Your knowledge of tactics and its use within the game will also be taken in to consideration. There is an element of written coursework within the practical which requires you to analyse and evaluate performance with a section showing what you would do to improve performance.

The theory aspect of the course is classroom-based although a few elements can be delivered practically. There is a lot of content to get through and the range and difficulty of this content has increased to include more scientific and mathematical concepts. Be prepared to study hard! Topics include Body systems, Health and fitness, Diet and nutrition, Training methods, Bio-mechanics, Data collection, Drugs, International Sport, Gender in sport and Technological advances in sport.



How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport
This includes: Applied Physiology, Movement analysis, Physical training and Use of data
Written exam 30%

Paper 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport
This includes: Sports psychology, Socio-cultural influences, Health, fitness and well being
Written exam 30%

Practical Work: This has 2 parts to it. You are assessed in 3 different practical activities: 1 individual sport, 1 team sport and choice of either (worth 30%); You are also assessed on one written piece based on the analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement (worth 10%).



GCSE Physical Education



What pupils say

Ailsa, in Year 10, said: 'So far I have enjoyed PE although it has proven to be very challenging, especially the theory. The practical lessons are fun and our teachers are amazing.'

Charlotte commented: 'I have really enjoyed the practical and theory side of PE. I have found the theory to be very scientific so far so you have to enjoy science to get the best out of it. A willing and positive mindset is needed as both the practical and theory aspects are not easy.'

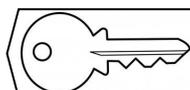


Progression

Pupils in this year group have to continue in education or training until they are 18. This means pupils will have to continue at college or sixth form or get a job with training such as an apprenticeship.

This course will prepare you for further studies in PE or other related courses such as Physiotherapy, Coaching, or work within the Leisure industry. The facilities for sport are excellent in the County and this has improved further following London 2012. There are numerous academies that you can progress to such as Cirencester Football and Netball Academies, the Rugby and Netball Academy at Hartpury College and the Golf Academy at Hartpury College.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different colleges to study further. Different colleges have different entry requirements and it is important that you fully understand each of these.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Physical Education
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 40% Practical, 60% External Exam
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [PE](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mrs Hacker, Mrs Bellamy





Core Physical Education



Why must I study Core PE?

Physical Education is a compulsory subject designed to improve your physical capabilities and to improve your knowledge and understanding of health and fitness. To do this you will be given the opportunities to participate in competitive and non competitive situations. You will develop not only physically but you will develop your communication skills, leadership skills and levels of creativity. It is designed to equip you with skills to enter adult life in choosing lifestyle options and taking more responsibility for your own physical well being.

There is no assessment in the form of coursework or examinations, however you will be expected to respond to feedback from your teachers.

Core Physical Education



How will I learn?

You will have three hours of PE spread over the two week timetable: 2 practical lessons and 1 fitness session.

Pupils have the opportunity to take part in a variety of different sports over the two years, both in a competitive and non-competitive environment. You will experience a wide variety of sports which will prepare you for sports post school. Within the two years you will study activities in more depth and have different opportunities to coach, referee, organise tournaments and participate.



Core Physical Education



Practical

The PE Faculty offer pupils in Key Stage 4 a wide variety of different sporting opportunities. This list is not exhaustive and may change due to circumstances outside of school. Currently the activities on offer include:

- Rounders / Softball
- Trampolining
- Hockey
- Football
- Rackets
- Athletics
- Netball
- Lacrosse
- Cricket
- Badminton
- Short Tennis
- Freeball
- Dance / Aerobics
- Volleyball
- Rugby
- Tchoukball

Fitness

You will undergo a selection of fitness tests to gauge your levels of fitness. You will then undertake different types of fitness training, such as circuit training, interval training and pyramid training, in order to improve your fitness levels and to give you the knowledge about how you can stay fit when you leave school.



English Baccalaureate

English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate is not a separate qualification as such but is an additional award gained by pupils who attain a Grade 5 GCSE or better in **all** of the following:

- English Language;
- Maths;
- Science – pupils would need **two** GCSEs in Science to qualify e.g. **either** Combined Science **or** two from Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Computer Science;
- Modern Foreign Language;
- Geography or History.

This combination of subjects is available to all pupils. We strongly encourage pupils to take a Language GCSE but also recognise that it is not necessarily suitable for everyone.

The government has already included a measure of the percentage of pupils entered for and achieving the **English Baccalaureate** in the performance tables based on last year's results. In 2019, 44% of pupils at Deer Park were entered for the English Baccalaureate. This is 4% higher than the national average. More pupils at Cirencester Deer Park School achieved the English Baccalaureate than those nationally.

The government is encouraging schools to increase take-up of Languages, History, Geography and Computer Science. This does **not** mean that these subjects are compulsory. We try to design our curriculum to suit our pupils and it may be that you have particular strengths or interests in other subjects – Music, Drama, Art, Design for example – that you would not be able to fit in if you followed **English Baccalaureate** subjects.

It is difficult to say how important the **English Baccalaureate** could be. Currently, universities are saying that they will not use it as one of the ways to choose between applicants. It is certainly not something that we are going to enforce on all pupils but our choices are flexible enough to allow all pupils to achieve the **English Baccalaureate** if they so wish.



Key Dates

Key Dates:

Choices at 14 Assembly for Pupils:-	Wednesday 22 January
Choices at 14 Evening:-	Thursday 23 January
2nd Interim Year 9 Report issued:	Friday 24 January
Choices Options Form on SMHW:-	From Thursday 30 January
Year 9 Parents' Evening:-	Thursday 6 February
Deadline of form completion for options:-	Tuesday 11 February

Key Dates



Useful Resources

Useful Resources

Below are a selection of websites that we feel could be useful when considering options post-16 and possible career choices:



UCAS www.ucas.com

This is a really useful site for exploring options post-16: This might help you in your long-term planning.



National Careers Service

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

This service gives advice on choosing the right GCSEs with career progression information.



iCould - www.icould.com

icould is a small, dynamic charity, providing career inspiration and information for young people. They show what is possible in work and offer different ways to think about careers through free access to over 1000 personal video stories, detailed job information, plus practical tips, insight and advice.



Apprenticeships

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>

This site will explain how apprenticeships (post-16) work and how to apply for them: This might help you in your long-term planning.



Russell Group - www.russellgroup.ac.uk

The Russell Group are 24 leading universities committed to maintaining the very best research, an outstanding teaching and learning experience and unrivalled links with business and the public sector.



Cirencester College - www.cirencester.ac.uk



South Gloucestershire and Stroud College - www.stroud.ac.uk



Swindon College - www.swindon-college.ac.uk



Notes

Use this page to make notes.

Notes



