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Introduction

Introduction

This Choices at 14 Curriculum Guide summarises the subjects and courses we are offering you as you move into Year 10 from June 2024. 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 Wednesday 24 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 time to think carefully about your options before stating your preferences by Tuesday 20 February 2024. As you move into KS4, you will find new curriculum 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.

Cath Brace
Assistant Head



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		
GCSE English Language	GCSE Maths	GCSE Religious Studies (short course)
GCSE English Literature	Core PE	PSHE (No qualification)
Option A (Choose a 1 st viable choice)		Option B (Choose a 1 st viable choice)
GCSE Art		GCSE Computer Science ***
GCSE Art and Design: Textiles		GCSE French
ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness **		GCSE Geography
GCSE Design and Technology		GCSE History
GCSE Drama		GCSE Physical Education
GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition		GCSE Separate Sciences*
GCSE History		Cambridge National: Sports Studies (Technical Award)
NCFE Music Technology (Technical award)		
GCSE Separate Sciences*		
Option C (Choose a 1 st viable choice)		Option D (Choose a 1 st viable choice)
Cambridge National: Child Development (Technical award)		GCSE Art
GCSE French		GCSE Design and Technology
GCSE German		GCSE Drama
GCSE Geography		Cambridge National: Enterprise and Marketing (Technical award)
GCSE History		GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition
WJEC ICT Vocational Award ***		GCSE Geography
GCSE Music		GCSE History
		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**.

** ASDAN is for invited pupils only.

*** We recommend that pupils do not take both the ICT Vocational Award and GCSE Computer Science as this creates a narrow curriculum.



The Choices Process

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 or Sports Studies Cambridge National as one of your option choices.

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 choice in each option block and then identify two reserve subjects.

The **Choices at 14 Evening** on Wednesday 24 January will be a presentation about the options process.

The last stage of the Choices at 14 process is to complete the option choices form. There will be a link to this form put onto Satchel:One Show My Homework on Wednesday 31 January. You can only complete this form once and so fill it in carefully. **The form must be completed online by Tuesday 20 February**, so there is no rush to submit your final choices.



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 or T Levels at Cirencester College you will need 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or better from a recommended list of subjects. These include English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Music, any Science GCSEs, any Language, History, Geography 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 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 5-9. 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 a points based system. They require a minimum of 38 points from the best 6 GCSEs (where the GCSE grade is worth its numerical value, e.g. grade 6 is 6 points). Students should also achieve a minimum of Grade 5s in English Language and Mathematics and meet the specific grade entry required for their chosen A Levels.

Stroud High Sixth Form

Places at Stroud High Sixth Form will be allocated according to a points based system. They require a minimum of 48 points from the best 8 GCSEs. Students should achieve 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 at least a GCSE Grade 7 in subjects to be studied at A Level.

Hartpury College

A Levels and T Levels - A minimum of 5 Grade 4-9s (or equivalent) at GCSE, including English and Mathematics, plus the specific GCSE subjects and grades required by each A Level subject.

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma - 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (or equivalent), one of which must be English Language together with either Mathematics or Science.



Frequently Asked Questions

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 as a link through Satchel:One Show My Homework on Wednesday 31 January. You need to complete the form electronically. **You can only complete this form once and so you must fill this out carefully, being sure that you have chosen the right options!** This must be completed by Tuesday 20 February.

When is the deadline?

The deadline for completing the options form is Tuesday 20 February. Email Miss Brace (c.brace@deerparkschool.net) 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 9-4

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 (we set a minimum of at least 20) 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 2026?

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 'strong 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?

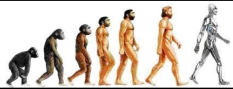
Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	Non Examination Assessment: Spoken Language
Section A: Reading one literature fiction text Section B: Writing descriptive or narrative writing Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of GCSE	Section A: Reading 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





What pupils say

Alex 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.'



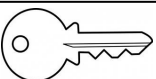
Progression

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 4 or 5 (depending on the provider) to study A Levels, as well as to 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: Ms Tricker, 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>

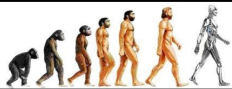


GCSE English Literature



What pupils say

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

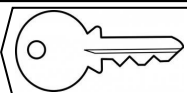


Progression

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: Ms Tricker, Mr Lay





GCSE Mathematics



Why must I study Mathematics?

Mathematics is all around you. You use Mathematics every day, even though you might not 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.



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, the main body of the lesson and a 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 onwards. 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.

All three exams cover: Statistics and Probability, Number, Algebra, Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change, Geometry and Measures.

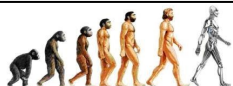


GCSE Mathematics



What pupils say

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



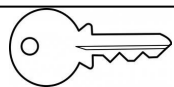
Progression

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.

A Level Mathematics may be suitable for any pupil targeting a Grade 7 or higher.

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

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 Mathematics (National Qualification Framework Level 3)

Pupils expected to achieve a Grade 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

Charlie commented: 'I particularly enjoy practicals. They help me to understand my learning in a real-life context.'

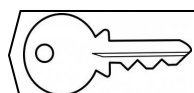
Emily said: 'There are lots of different resources provided to help me to revise for exams. I have tried different revision methods and found a way that really works for me.'



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.



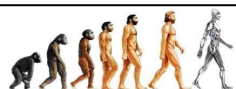
GCSE Separate Sciences



What pupils say

Nigel said: 'I enjoy making links in depth between different Sciences. For example, we study DNA and genetics in Biology and its polymer structure in Chemistry.'

Josh said 'I love learning about how the Universe works in all of its complexity.'

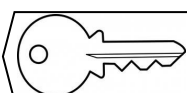


Progression

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 recommended 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.



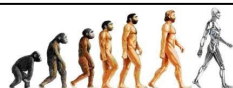


What pupils say

Meg said: '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.'

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.'

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



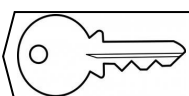
Progression

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 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

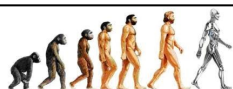


What pupils say

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 said: '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.'

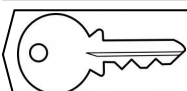


Progression

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





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.

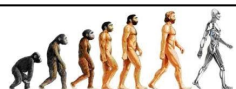


GCSE Design and Technology



What pupils say

Will 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.'

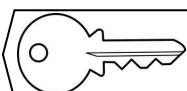


Progression

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!



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.

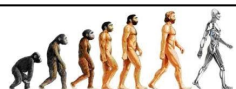


GCSE Art and Design: Textiles



What pupils say

Sophie said: '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.'



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 Computer Science



Why should I study Computer Science?

This course gives pupils a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and an insight into what goes on “behind the scenes”, including computer programming. This course is suitable for those pupils with a *strong mathematical and scientific* background and a keen interest in computing and technology.



How will I learn?

Pupils will look at the principles of computer science including the opportunity to develop analytical and problem-solving skills (*transferable skills that are highly sought after*). Pupils will develop an understanding of components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with each other. There will also be an in-depth understanding of the impact of digital technology on the individual and on wider society.



How will I be assessed?

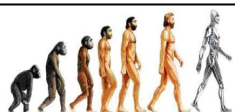
Paper 1: Computational thinking and problem solving – **50%** external examination
Paper 2: Written assessment – **50%** external examination





What pupils say

The GCSE Computer Science course is a returning course into the options choices this year under a different exam board.



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. Pupils who have taken this subject, and who study the subject at a higher level, will have an advantage over their colleagues. Universities will allow pupils to combine Computing with other subjects: Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Medicine, Business Management, Languages and Design Technology, leading to many diverse career opportunities.

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



Key Facts

Qualification Name: GCSE Computer Science
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: GCSE
Assessment: 100% Examination (Paper 1 –50%, Paper 2—50%)
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: [Computer Science](#)
EBacc Subject: Yes
Further Information: Mr Alsaigh





WJEC Vocational Award in ICT



Why should I study ICT?

In the 21st century, computer users and creators are learning to become flexible in their approach to the “ever-changing” world of technology and digital media; in further education, employment and entertainment.

“The UK is the leading destination in Europe for inward investment into the digital sector, attracting £6.7 billion...”

The OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) identified the importance of developing the necessary “**digital skills**” in young people during their studies to provide further employment opportunities.

From June 2024, we at Deer Park School will be offering this **fantastic new** course with a hybrid approach of **Creative ICT** and provide you with the opportunity to develop your practical skills and understanding within the IT and Business sector.



How will I learn?

During your time of study, you will learn about essential working practices within the IT and Business sectors. These will include understanding of the client brief, using time frames, planning, and producing relevant end products to meet the needs of the client. You will also learn how to create “**professional looking**” spreadsheets, databases, graphical products, and automated systems. The intention is to provide you with the opportunity to think at a “deeper level” by justifying your decisions along with a suitable product, used within industry and further studies.

Topics will include:

- Hardware;
- Networking;
- Cyber security and legislation;
- Software applications – Spreadsheets, Database, Digital imaging and Automated systems;
- Coping with rapid changes in technology;
- Numeracy and data handling;
- and many more.



How will I be assessed?

Assessment (graded Distinction 2* - Pass 1)

Unit 1: ICT in Society - On screen examination (120 minutes) **40% Internal**

Unit 2: ICT in Context – NEA Non-Examination Assessment (40 hours) **60% External**

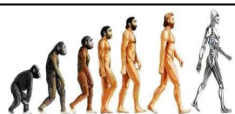


WJEC Vocational Award in ICT



What pupils say

The WJEC Vocational Award in ICT course is an exciting new addition to our options choices this year. It is a particularly exciting option for many of our pupils who are better-suited to coursework than exams.

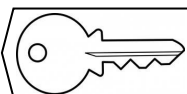


Progression

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.

Information Technology is adaptable in most careers; a wide range of ICT & Media based courses are on offer at colleges and sixth form providers. These could include Computing and Information Technology, Media marketing and Business Studies.

- Vocational course in Information Technology (and business);
- A Level;
- T Level;
- Apprenticeship.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: WJEC Vocational Award in ICT (603/7018)
Level: 1 & 2
Qualification Type: Technical Award
Assessment: Both internal and external (*Internal - 40%, External - 60%*)
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: WJEC
Specification: ICT
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mr Alsaigh





Why should I study Enterprise and Marketing?

This course aims to allow pupils to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Enterprise and Marketing including characteristics of successful entrepreneurs, market research, financial viability, the marketing mix and factors to consider when starting up and running an enterprise. Additionally, you will develop learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations as well as think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically. Through work with local businesses, you will gain first hand experience of the reality of enterprise and marketing.



How will I learn?

RO67 Enterprise and marketing concepts.

You will learn the essential knowledge and understanding for Enterprise and Marketing, covering the characteristics, risk and reward of enterprise, market research to target a specific customer, what makes a product financially viable, creating a marketing mix to support a product and factors to consider when setting up and starting an enterprise,

RO68 Design a business proposal.

You will apply knowledge about market research, customer profile identification, developing a product proposal, financial viability and the likely success of a business.

RO69 Market and pitch a business proposal.

You will gain knowledge of, and skills in, brand identity, developing a promotional campaign for a brand and product, planning and pitching a proposal, and reflecting and reviewing.

The lessons will be a combination of theory and more practical applications of the set skills. Historically, when delivering previous Business qualifications, we have used the opportunity for Dragon's Den activities, the Tenner Challenge, working with local companies such as the Coffee Lada and the Cirencester Youth Market.



How will I be assessed?

RO67: Enterprise and marketing concepts. Written Exam 40% (end of Year 11)

RO68: Design a business proposal. Controlled Assessment 30% (Year 10)

RO69: Market and pitch a business proposal. Controlled Assessment 30% (Year 10/11)





What others say

Phoebe said: "It's been really interesting learning what it takes to be a business woman. The Coffee Lada event was not only good fun but exciting as we were able to create a real product."

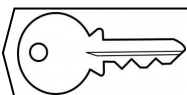
Jack said: "Enterprise and Marketing has really helped me confirm that I want to study business at college and own my own business."

Ben said: "Now that the coursework has started I am spending all my time thinking about ice cream."



Progression

The OCR Cambridge National in Enterprise and Marketing allows for multiple progression routes including A-Levels, Apprenticeships, Cambridge Technical and T-Levels. The key transferable skills delivered through the modules will be useful to pupils in a wide range of future settings.



Key Facts

Qualification Name:	Cambridge National Certificate in Enterprise and Marketing
Level:	1 & 2
Qualification Type:	Technical Award
Assessment:	40% examination; 60% controlled assessment
GCSE Equivalent:	1 GCSE
Examination Board:	OCR
Specification:	Cambridge National in Enterprise and Marketing
EBacc Subject:	No
Further Information:	Mr Ferne, Mr Clutterbuck, Miss Brace





GCSE Geography



Why should I study Geography?

As our planet becomes increasingly interconnected it is 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.

Each topic we study will help you understand our Planet's interconnected processes and equip you with the skills and knowledge to make a difference in the world. Geography is all around us so each topic is very relevant and will help you make sense of the landscapes, processes and news stories you see every day.



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 Jurassic 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 paper 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 Bristol to investigate urban change and to the Jurassic coast to study coastal environments and investigate physical processes. There is also an opportunity to participate in an enriching trip to Iceland or Italy.

In lessons you will take part in debates, use thinking skills, group work and ICT 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

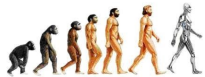


What pupils say

Dan 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.'

Edna said: 'The field trips are brilliant. I'm looking forward to the Naples trip in February.'

Alex said: 'I really enjoy the variety of topics in a range of different parts of the world.'

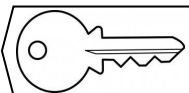


Progression

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: 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 Science 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 depth Study of Elizabethan England c1568-1603

Paper One:

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

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. Lessons include the Berlin Wall, the Space Race and the Vietnam War.

Paper Two:

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. You will study all aspects of medicine from the crazy Black Death cures to the NHS.

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 2 hours each worth 50% of your GCSE. There is no coursework or controlled assessment in your GCSE.



GCSE History

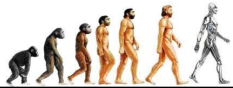


What pupils say

Harry said: 'I think History is fantastic as you explore such a wide range of events. The pace of the lessons is great!'

Emily said: 'History is really interesting and I love the gore of the medicine module. The teachers are supportive and offer lots of help to challenge you.'

Amelia said: 'We like learning about the History of cultures and how they have changed. It is interesting to see the past from different perspectives.'

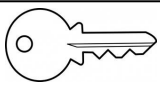


Progression

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 servants 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: 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. We offer a range of revision resources to support you including our YouTube Channel, revision workbook and our History revision website.





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.



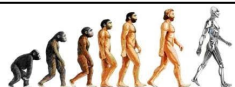
GCSE Religious Studies (Full Course)



What pupils say

Amy said: '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.'

Archie said: 'I have found Religious Studies to be both engaging and interesting, and it 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 (Full course)





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 at Deer Park and will sit the Short Course examination in Year 10, in May 2025.



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%



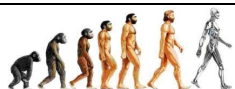
GCSE Religious Studies (Short Course)



What pupils say

Eve said: '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 GCSEs at the end of Year 11.'

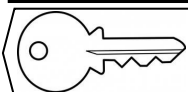


Progression

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

GCSE Religious Studies (Short Course)





Why should I study Child Development?

Child Development is an exciting course that includes a study of a child. This course enables its learners to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Child Development to include health and well-being, creating a safe environment, the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years, and the development of children from one to five years.

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:

RO57 Health and well-being for child development.

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.

RO58 Create a safe environment and understand the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years.

You will gain knowledge about creating a safe environment in childcare settings, 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.

RO59 Understand the development of a child from one to five years.

You will gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. You will also gain an understanding of the importance of learning through play. 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 now taken at the end of the course, and then there are 2 internal assessment (worth 50% of the course) pieces of coursework.

RO57: Health and well-being for child development. Written Exam 50% (end of Year 11)

RO58: Create a safe environment and understand the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years. Controlled Assessment 25% (Year 10)

RO59: Understand the development of a child from one to five years. Controlled Assessment 25% (Year 10/11)

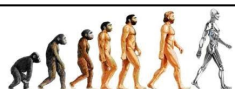




What pupils say

Riley 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.'

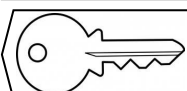
Katie said 'Child Development has given me an insight into how children grow and develop. It has given me knowledge for my future and has taught me some important life skills. I also find the practical work we've done in class really enjoyable and a great way of learning.'



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, South Gloucestershire and Stroud College or Swindon College following Early Years courses, Cirencester College on the Childcare and Education T Level or go on to study Psychology or Sociology at various schools and colleges.



Key Facts

Qualification Name:	Cambridge National Certificate in Child Development
Level:	1 and 2
Qualification Type:	Technical Award
Assessment:	50% examination; 50% controlled assessment
GCSE Equivalent:	1 GCSE
Examination Board:	OCR
Specification:	Cambridge National in Child Development
EBacc Subject:	No
Further Information:	Miss Hope, Miss Brace





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: Pearson Edexcel GCSE French or German textbook.

We also use the online resources linked to these books. All pupils in KS4 are given their own login and password to access this site at school and at home. 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 table 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. The listening exam will also include a short dictation. The Reading exam will also include a short paragraph to translate into English. All of the questions will be in English.

Your Speaking exam will involve preparing to answer questions on a role play and photocard, as well as time to practice the 'read-aloud' paragraph. The role play will be based on real-life situations. The photocard will lead into a short conversation about a topic you have chosen. You will have 15 minutes of preparation time.

In your Writing exam, you will have to produce a number of short responses to tasks and also to write (up to 2) longer pieces. You will also have to translate some short sentences or a short paragraph into the language.



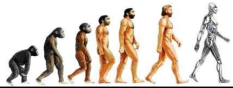
GCSE Languages



What pupils say

Sophie said: '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.'

Emma 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.'



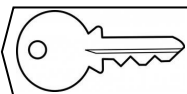
Progression

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.

GCSE Languages



Key Facts

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

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.



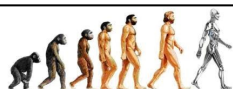
GCSE Drama



What pupils say

Charlotte said: '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 said: '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.'



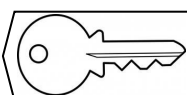
Progression

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?

Studying GCSE Music will give you opportunities to:

- Improve your instrumental/vocal skills;
- Improve your performance skills and confidence;
- Develop your composition and arranging skills;
- Develop your understanding and appreciation of a variety of musical styles;
- Learn how to use music technology in more depth;
- Broaden your transferable skills (critical and creative thinking, teamwork, performances and presentation, leadership and the ability to work to long and short 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.

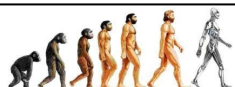




What pupils say

Tim said: '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.'

Emily said: '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.'



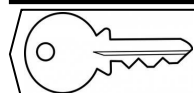
Progression

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 (A-Level)
- Music Technology (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.



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 the place of music technology within the music business;
- Understanding and applying skills when using a digital audio workstation, such as the Logic software;
- Analysing the developments in musical styles enabled by technology;
- Understanding how a range of sounds are used in different forms of media, such as film;
- Understanding, planning and undertaking multitrack recording using related equipment.



How will I learn?

The course has both learning through the practical exploration of key concepts, as well as traditional learning through note taking and recall activities. The course is made up of a range of key content areas that will be explored during the course. They are:

- Music Technology and the Music Business
- The Digital Audio Workstation (DAW)
- Musical Elements, Musical Styles and Music Technology
- Sound Creation

These will build up a knowledge and skills base that will be assessed in two exams at the end of the course.



How will I be assessed?

During the first year of the course there will be lots of formative assessment based on the projects completed in the key content areas. An e-portfolio of written evidence will accompany each project.

There are two terminal exams for Music Technology:

The first exam is a written exam and will test **knowledge** gained across the key content areas.

The second exam is a practical project exam called the NEA. This is a project assessment completed to a brief set each year by the exam board, based on learning from one of the key content areas. Pupils are given 17 hours to demonstrate both knowledge gained and skills applied in the context of a real world brief.

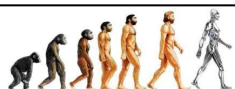


NCFE Music Technology



What pupils say

George said: '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.'



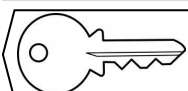
Progression

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:

- 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 (60%)
Written Exam (40%)
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 designed for pupils who have an academic and practical interest in sport and is most suited to those who are practically very able and who excel in Science. The course has a strong academic focus and covers the following topics:

- Anatomy and Physiology;
- Movement Analysis;
- Sports Psychology;
- Bio-mechanics;
- Health and Fitness;
- Socio-cultural factors affecting sport and physical activity.

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 with 3 of these hours being theory lessons in a classroom and 2 hours of practical sport. This is then reduced further in the second half of 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. 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%).



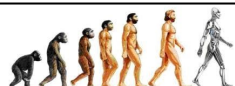
GCSE Physical Education



What pupils say

Ailsa 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 said: '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.'

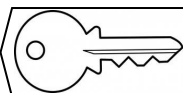


Progression

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 A-Level Physical Education or other related courses such as Physiotherapy, Sports Science, Sports Psychology or work within the Fitness industry. The provision for post-16 education in the district are excellent and GCSE PE provides you with a strong academic grounding to continue into Further Education at Colleges or Sixth Forms in the district. There are numerous academies that you can progress to such as Cirencester FC and Swindon Town Foundation Academies, Netball Academies, such as Severn Stars, along with the numerous sports Academies at Hartpury College.

You will be able to take this qualification to a number of different Sixth Forms or colleges to study further. Different Sixth Forms and 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: 60% Externally-assessed Exam, 40% Practical.
GCSE Equivalent: 1 GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: PE
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mr Hillis, Miss Robinson





Why should I study Sports Studies?

This course is designed for pupils who have an academic and practical interest in Sport, Physical Activity and Coaching and is suited to those who prefer a coursework-orientated programme of study. The course includes a combination of coursework, external exam, practical performance and coaching.

Topics covered include:

- Sport and the media;
- Coaching and leadership;
- Performance analysis;
- Contemporary Issues in Sport.

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 with 3 of these hours being theory lessons in a classroom and 2 hours of practical sport. This is then reduced further in the second half of year 11 to 4 hours of theory and 1 hour of practical in order to complete coursework and build in revision time for the exams.



How will I learn?

This exciting new course brings greater variety to the ways in which pupils will learn. In a similar way to the GCSE course, pupils will have a strong classroom-based delivery which is challenging but engaging which teachers will deliver both traditionally in classes but also practically where relevant. The practical performance element will also be delivered similarly in which you will work on developing your own skills in isolation and work on the use of these skills within a game situation, where your use of tactics and strategy within the game are also taken into consideration.

The main difference of this course is that a proportion of the content is assessed with both written coursework and practical coaching/leadership. The Sport and Media unit includes Sports case-studies that pupils will learn about in relation to their local and national context and then write coursework that will then be internally assessed. These allow pupils to gain feedback and make improvements which for many is a great way to maximise attainment. This course also includes a coaching/leadership element, in which pupils will be taught how to plan, deliver and review a coaching session to younger pupils, which is an excellent opportunity for many to develop the skills and knowledge to go on to coaching and leadership – a very popular career path for many of our PE pupils.



How will I be assessed?

External Exam: Contemporary Issues in Sport - Taken in the June series of Year 11. This includes: Sporting values, factors affecting participation, major sporting events, the role of National Governing Bodies and the use of technology in sport. **External Exam: 40%**

Practical, Performance Analysis and Coaching: You are assessed in two sports (either team or individual sports), you will also analyse your own performance, and then you will plan, deliver and review a coaching session to the lower school or primary school students. **Practical Unit: 40%**

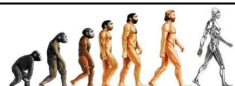
Coursework Unit: Sport and the Media. This includes: The different sources of media that cover sport, the positive effects of the media in sport and the negative effects of the media in sport. **Coursework Unit: 20%**





What pupils say

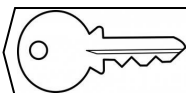
The Cambridge National Sports Studies course is an exciting new addition to our options choices this year. It is a particularly exciting option for many of our students who are better-suited to coursework than exams, but also those who have an interest in the coaching and leadership side of sport, leisure and physical activity.



Progression

This course will prepare you for further studies in vocational PE, such as BTEC Sport or the Cambridge Technical Diploma in Sport and Physical Activity or work within the Leisure and Fitness industry. The provision for post-16 Education in the district are excellent and Cambridge National Sports Studies provides you with a strong academic grounding to continue into Further Education at Colleges or Sixth Forms in the district. There are also numerous academies that you can progress onto such as; Cirencester FC and Swindon Town Foundation Academies, Netball Academies, such as Severn Stars, along with the numerous sports Academies at Hartpury College.

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



Key Facts

Qualification Name:	Cambridge National Certificate in Sports Studies
Level:	1 & 2
Qualification Type:	Technical Award
Assessment:	Coursework 20%, Exam 40%, Practical and Coaching 40%
GCSE Equivalent:	1 GCSE
Examination Board:	OCR
Specification:	Sports Studies
EBacc Subject:	No
Further Information:	Mr Hillis, Miss Robinson





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.



How will I learn?

You will have three hours of PE spread over the two week timetable: 2 Sport-based lessons and 1 fitness lesson.

Pupils have the opportunity to take part in a variety of different sports over the two years, both in a competitive 'performance' and non-competitive 'participatory' 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 vary depending on groupings.

Activities include:

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

Fitness

During your fortnightly fitness lessons, you will undergo a selection of fitness tests to gauge your levels of fitness, along with strength and areas for improvement. You will then undertake a range of different training methods, such as circuit training, interval training and pyramid training, in order to improve your fitness levels and to give you the skills and knowledge needed to stay fit and healthy once you leave Deer Park.

Core Physical Education





ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness



Why should I study the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness?

The Certificate of Personal Effectiveness is a nationally recognised qualification that offers imaginative ways of accrediting young people's activities. It promotes, and allows centres to record, a wide range of personal qualities, abilities and achievements of young people, as well as introducing them to new activities and challenges.

The Certificate of Personal Effectiveness enables pupils to:

- Develop and demonstrate a range of personal, key and employability skills;
- Broaden their experience;
- Manage their learning in a variety of real-life contexts

This course is for invited pupils only.



How will I learn?

Pupils will work through 13 different modules: Communication; Citizenship and community; Sport and leisure; Independent living; The environment; Vocational preparation; Health and fitness; Work-related learning and enterprise; Science and technology; International links; Expressive arts; Beliefs and values; Combined studies.



How will I be assessed?

The modules are divided into three sections: A, B and C. Each section is made up of varying activities, called challenges, and should take at least 10 hours to complete. Each completed challenge is worth one credit. Pupils need 12 credits (120 hours) to gain the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness.

Along with their completed challenges, students produce a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate their achievements. The portfolio might include reports, photographs, witness statements or podcasts.



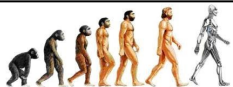
ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness



What pupils say

Lewis said: 'For me, ASDAN is a brilliant lesson of tasks and activities where you try new things and life skills. Also you make new friends and try a lot of new activities.'

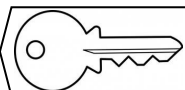
Brook said: 'For me, ASDAN is a helpful lesson of tasks and activities where you learn more about skills and the world outside of school.'



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 post 16 education, traineeships or apprenticeships and into the workplace after 18.



Key Facts

Qualification Name: ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness
Level: 1 and 2
Qualification Type: ASDAN
Assessment: Challenges and a portfolio of evidence.
GCSE Equivalent: n/a
Examination Board: ASDAN
Specification: [ASDAN CoPE](#)
EBacc Subject: No
Further Information: Mr Bellamy, Miss Brace

ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness



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 or 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 is encouraging schools to increase take-up of Languages, History and Geography. 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:

Futures Learning Conference for Pupils:	Wednesday 24 January
Choices at 14 Presentation:	Wednesday 24 January
Choices Options Form available on SMHW:	Wednesday 31 January
Deadline of form completion for options:	Tuesday 20 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 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

Apprenticeships 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.informedchoices.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.sgscol.ac.uk



New College, Swindon www.newcollege.ac.uk



Notes

Use this page to make notes.

Notes



