



Carshalton High School for Girls

CHSG

Excellence: everywhere, every day

Course Guide 2022





Course Guide 2022

This booklet marks the start of an important process for you and your daughter, giving information on the curriculum studied from Year 9 to Year 11. Choosing the right subjects to study through to Year 11 is imperative to gaining high quality and appropriate qualifications.

Therefore, we advise everyone to take time to find out as much as possible about all the courses on offer. Seek the advice of others, including older students; their experiences can be extremely useful. We have a well-established process at Carshalton High School for Girls.

Our core curriculum offer and the choices we offer are ambitious in providing all students with the opportunity to fulfil any future potential career choice and place them on the right path to meet their personal aspirations and needs.

These choices must be carefully thought out. Decisions made now could impact on the next stage of her educational journey and on the type of career your daughter may wish to follow.

To support your daughter with here choices there will be a virtual Year 8 Options Evening where there will be pre-recorded videos for all the option subjects available. These will be available on the school website from 20th April. There will also be an Options subject fair on Thursday 28th April so students can discuss option choices with a member of each department.

We aim to . . .

- Provide you with an excellent, challenging curriculum and education which offers you opportunities to fulfil your potential in subjects which you enjoy.
- Support you to further develop your knowledge and skills needed to take advantage of opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences in later life.
- Provide you with the skill, advice and guidance needed to respond to a changing world with a high degree of confidence.

Building Your Curriculum

The Year 9 to 11 Curriculum comprises of three parts:

- Key Stage 3 Core Subjects (which all students will study onto GCSE from Year 10 onwards).
- An extended curriculum which is a continuation of a number of subjects studied in Year 7 & 8. This stops at the end of Year 9.
- GCSE Option subjects - where students are given the opportunity to make their own choices and start these GCSEs in Year 9

Key Stage 3 Core Subjects

This is the compulsory part of the curriculum and comprises of:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science will be studied as 3 GCSE qualifications, where you study Biology, Chemistry and Physics separately, achieving a qualification in each subject
- Geography and History (students will decide which to take to GCSE at the end of Year 9)
- Modern Foreign Languages (the language studied from Year 7)

Extended Curriculum

Students follow a six-week extended curriculum course in six subjects studied at Key Stage 3. The intention is that students complete current Key Stage 3 courses to a greater depth. These subjects will be studied in Year 9 only. Students will rotate between subjects at specific points throughout Year 9.

The subjects in the extended curriculum are:

- Art
- Citizenship
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)
- Religious Studies
- Music
- Computer Science

Option Subjects

Students have a wide range of subjects to choose from to complement the Core and Extended curriculum and to allow students to focus on the areas which they enjoy and are interested in the most. Through their Option Subjects, students will have the opportunity to acquire a broad and deep knowledge base.

Some subjects are GCSE qualifications and others are vocational options which are equally regarded to GCSEs and have an equivalent value. **It is important that students choose the most appropriate courses for them.**

Staff will provide thorough advice and guidance to ensure that students are comfortable with their three-year journey which will lead to academic success.

The English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) subjects

We believe that it is important for all our students to study a range of academically rigorous qualifications that will ensure that everyone is able to achieve highly and have a wide range of choices open to them after Year 11. The English Baccalaureate is a collection of such qualifications that will provide students with a broad range of important knowledge and skills.

These are:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Modern Foreign Languages (French, German and Spanish)
- Humanities (History, Geography)

The government expects 90% of students in UK schools to study one subject from each of the above groups. All students take English, Mathematics and Science, a Humanities subject (to be decided at the end of Year 9) and a Modern Foreign Language. All students will have the opportunity to choose two qualifications outside of the English Baccalaureate.

Advice to students choosing subjects to study

Read through the following information in the subject information in this booklet and, when making your choices, consider the following:

- Your academic strengths, attainment and interests
- Your career, employment or further education ambitions
- Advice and opinions of your parents, the Head of Department and your subject teachers who can all help you. Tell them about your ideas and listen to theirs.

And remember, your friends will still be your friends even if they are not in your class; choosing courses just to be with them is not very wise!

We hope that, through partnership with your parents and your teachers, you will arrive at a meaningful programme of study – an important step towards realising your future ambitions.

How to make your choices

You will need to choose **two Option subjects plus one reserve choice** from the list in this booklet.

You need to choose **one subject from each block** and your one reserve choice can be from either block.

The Option form will be available to complete after the Easter holidays

Frequently Asked Questions

Will I get my first choices?

It is hoped that most students will get their first preferences, but this is not always possible. This might be because too few students have chosen a subject. On the other hand, it could be because too many students have chosen a subject and we cannot staff any more classes. You should therefore make sure that your reserve preference are subjects that you want to study, and that you remain open-minded about what subjects you will be studying over the next 3 years.

Can I change my mind?

There is a short window during September of Year 9 where students may request to change one of their subjects, if they can demonstrate a good reason for doing so. Students will not be able to make changes after 30th September unless they have exceptional circumstances.

When will I choose to study History or Geography?

All students will study both subjects in Year 9 and will be asked to make a choice towards the end of Year 9.

Can I study a different / second Modern Foreign Language?

Students will study the language they have been following from Year 7.

Key Dates

Friday 1st April 2022	Curriculum and Options booklet available for parents and students
Wednesday 20th April 2022	Year 8 Options assembly
Wednesday 20th April 2022	Year 8 Options 'Evening'. Information released on school website from 4pm
Wednesday 27th April 2022	Year 8 Parents Consultations
Thursday 28th April 2022	Options Online opens to submit Option Choices
Friday 6th May 2022	Deadline for students to return completed Options Online
Friday 27th May 2022	Confirmation of Option choices

Core Subjects



GCSE English Language

Course Code: AQA 8700

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Ms Umara, Deputy Director of English
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What will you study?

There are two separate exam papers to prepare for the course. Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (Fiction) and Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (Non-Fiction). You will be taught how to analyse both Fiction and Non-Fiction unseen sources and also to write description, narrative and argumentative pieces.

During Year 11

- You will have completed the entire English Language GCSE course, including the Spoken Language endorsement (a speaking exam which will be graded separately as a result).
- Autumn Term will be preparation for an English Language mock in November.
- The final revision programme for English Language begins after February.

Assessments

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

Section A: Reading (40 marks) (25%): one literature fiction text

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

Section B: Writing (40 marks) (25%): descriptive or narrative writing

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

Section A: Reading (40 marks) (25%):

one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

Section B: Writing (40 marks) (25%)

writing to present a viewpoint

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

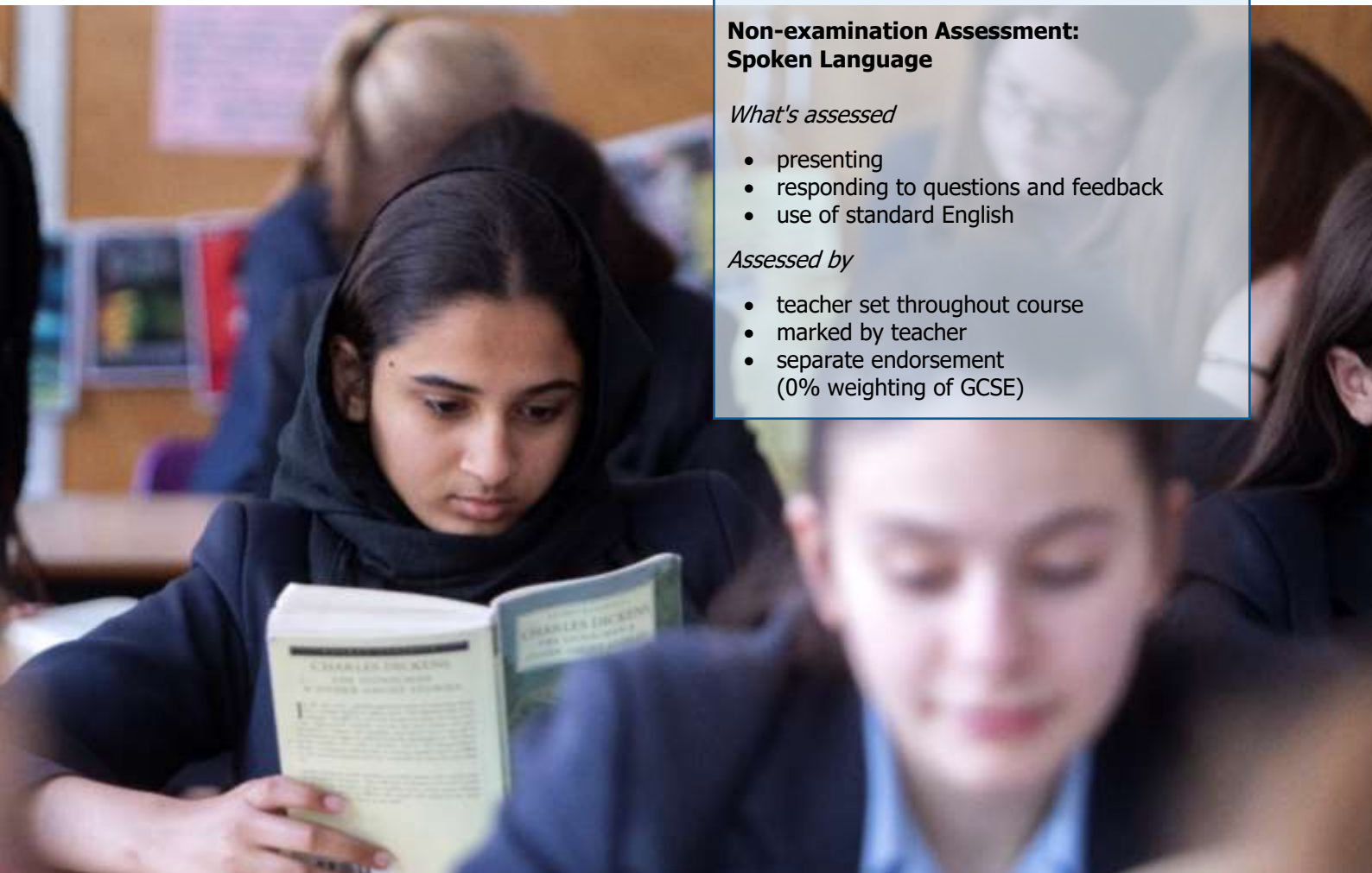
Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language

What's assessed

- presenting
- responding to questions and feedback
- use of standard English

Assessed by

- teacher set throughout course
- marked by teacher
- separate endorsement (0% weighting of GCSE)



GCSE English Literature

Course Code: AQA 8702

What will you study?

All students study a Shakespeare text, either 'Macbeth' or 'Romeo and Juliet'. You will also read and study a modern play, a 19th century novel, an anthology of poems and gain knowledge on how to analyse unseen poems. These are examined by literature essay questions across two separate exam papers.

During Year 11

- You will have completed the study of all texts, except for Shakespeare and the Unseen Poems unit.
- Autumn and the first part of Spring Term will be Shakespeare study.
- The rest of Spring term will be preparation for English Literature mock in February.
- The final revision programme for English Literature begins after February.



Assessments

All assessments are closed book: any stimulus materials required will be provided as part of the assessment.

All assessments are compulsory.

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

What's assessed

- Shakespeare plays
- The 19th century novel

How it's assessed

written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

64 marks

40% of GCSE

Questions

Section A: Shakespeare

Students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B: The 19th Century Novel

Students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry

What's assessed

- Modern prose or drama texts
- The poetry anthology
- Unseen poetry

How it's assessed

- written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

Questions

Section A: Modern Texts

Students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B: Poetry

Students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C: Unseen Poetry

Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

GCSE Mathematics

Course Code: Edexcel 1MA1

Mr Alletson, Director of Mathematics

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Mrs Foley, Director of Mathematics

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What will you study?

You will study topics across the following areas:

- Number
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Statistics

Assessment

We assess you after each unit of work you complete. You will receive a personalised break down for each assessment and an online overview for all the Units you cover.

For Higher tier, there are 19 units, and for Foundation there are 20 units of work.

You can find information on all our units on the www.chsgmaths.com website or speak to Mr Alletson or Mrs Foley for more information.

The final examination:

Paper 1 Non-Calculator Paper	1hr 30 mins
Paper 2 Calculator Allowed	1hr 30 mins
Paper 3 Calculator Allowed	1hr 30 mins

Each paper is worth 80 marks, so your total mark is out of 240.

Foundation pathway:	Grades 1-5
Higher pathway:	Grades 4 -9

Based on the outcomes from all the assessments completed in year 7 and year 8 students will be placed on an initial pathway. There are chances early on for students to change pathways based on the outcomes of their assessments.

Career paths

Engineering

42% of the engineering workforce in the UK is over the age of 45. This means there will be a huge demand for young engineers in the decades to come.

Chemical Engineer, Civil Engineer, Mechanical Engineer.

IT & the Internet

People with qualifications in Information Technology have one of the highest rates of employment in the UK.

Games Developer, Software Programmer, Network Engineer, Web Designer.

Accountancy

The number of accountancy associations in the UK has grown by 3.7% since 2006. Student numbers have been growing even more quickly.

Tax Accountant, Auditor, Forensic Accountant.

Science & Research

It's predicted that, in the next few years, 1 in 4 jobs will have been created by science and research – leading to 140,000 new science jobs by the end of 2018.

Research Scientist, Mathematician, Statistician.

Banking & Finance

51% of employers in the banking finance industry believe there is a skills shortage amongst their employees.

Retail Banker, Financial Advisor, Fund Manager, Stockbroker.

Consultancy

In the future consultants with skills and knowledge in digital technology, financial services, retail and infrastructure will be in high demand.

Management Consultant, Data Analyst, IT Consultant.

And, of course, Maths Teacher!



GCSE Science (Triple)

Course Code: AQA 8461 (Biology)
AQA 8462 (Chemistry)
AQA 8463 (Physics)

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Mr B Lewis, Head of Chemistry
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Mrs L Nawaid, Head of Physics
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Mr M Rahman, Head of Biology
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Course overview:

All students will take the Triple Science course. Students will study Biology, Chemistry, and Physics topics taught by specialist teachers. At the end of the course, students will be awarded a separate grade for each of the three science disciplines. This course is studied at Higher Tier (Grades 5 to 9).

What will you learn?

This course covers a wide range of scientific concepts, including:

Biology	Cells, organisation of living things, infection and disease, bioenergetics, homeostasis, inheritance, variation and evolution, and ecology.
Chemistry	Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, energy, rates of reaction, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, and chemistry of the atmosphere.
Physics	Energy, electricity, particles, atomic structure and radioactivity, forces, waves, electromagnetism, and space.

During the course students will learn about a variety of practical apparatus and techniques by studying required practical activities.

Assessment

At the end of the course, students will sit a total of six exam papers, two for each science discipline. The questions will require a mixture of simple recall, longer responses applying scientific knowledge, and demonstration of knowledge and understanding of mathematical and scientific skills.

All papers are 1 hour and 45 minutes long, with 100 marks available. The papers are equally weighted, each contributing 16.7% towards the student's final grade in that discipline.

There is no separate practical assessment.

Career paths

This course will prepare students thoroughly for further study. Students achieving the entry requirements will be able to study A Level Biology, A Level Chemistry, and A Level Physics.

An understanding of Science is essential to our everyday lives, and there are countless career paths that can be followed using the knowledge and skills gained in this course. Many of our students choose to study a scientific discipline at university and progress to careers in fields including Medicine, Biochemistry, Forensics, Pharmacology, Engineering, and Environmental Studies.



GCSE Geography

Course Code: AQA 8035

Mrs S Stangroom, Head of Geography

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Why choose Geography?

Geography is a relevant, hands-on subject that helps you to make sense of the world around you. At GCSE level a vast variety of topics are studied across both human and physical geography that help to tackle some of the most pressing challenges facing the world today.

Geography GCSE will deepen your understanding of geographical processes, the impact of complex people-environment interactions, the dynamic links between places and environments, and develop your ability to use a wide range of geographical investigative skills and approaches, including statistical skills, ICT skills (including GIS), and graphical skills. Geography enables you to become globally and environmentally informed, and thoughtful, enquiring citizens.

What will you study?

The course comprises three principal areas: the physical environment, human challenges, and geographical application

Living with the physical environment topics include:

- The challenge of natural hazards
- The living world
- Physical landscapes in the UK
- Fieldwork investigation

Challenges in the human environment topics include:

- Urban challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management
- Fieldwork investigation

Assessment

Paper 1 (35%) Living with the Physical environment topics 1 ½ hours

Paper 2 (35%) challenges in the Human environment topics 1 ½ hours

Paper 3 (30%) Geographical applications: issue evaluation and fieldwork 1 ¼ hours

Career paths

Geographers enter a very wide range of career areas and put simply there is no such thing as a geography job, just jobs that Geographers do.

Some of the careers Geographers have gone on to do include environmental planning, resource management, geographical information systems, law and human rights, accounting, media & television, politics, travel & tourism, architect, social worker, housing developer, natural disaster management, medicine, prime minister, pilot, journalist, and teacher.



GCSE History

Course code: Edexcel History 1HI0 – F7

Mr S Godman, Head of History

sgodman@carshaltongirls.org.uk

Why choose History?

Fascination

The past is an incredible place, both strange and strangely familiar. GCSE historians can explore the fascinating lives of people who came before them, understanding their actions, hopes and fears.

Understanding the world

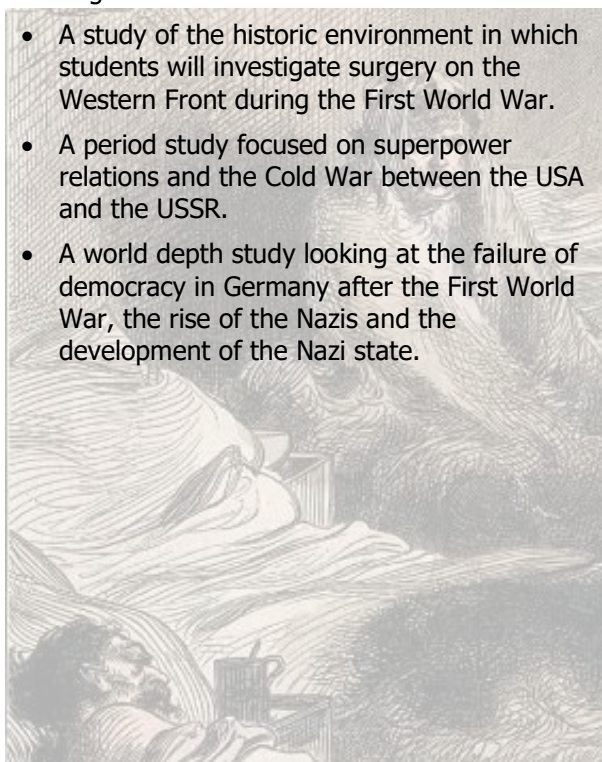
Traces of the past are everywhere around us: in the way we live our lives, speak our languages, and organise our societies. We continue to live with the results of the actions of those who came before us. Studying the past is therefore vital for understanding the world we live in today.

Transferable skills

Students of GCSE History learn how to analyse information, make judgements, and form their own written and spoken arguments. In a world increasingly shaped by social media and dominated by 'fake news', it has never been more important for young people to learn how to handle information and evidence critically.

What will you study?

- A study of development in Britain over time, tracing the history of medicine and health in Britain from c1250 to the present day.
- A British depth study focused on religion, politics, war and society in early Elizabethan England.
- A study of the historic environment in which students will investigate surgery on the Western Front during the First World War.
- A period study focused on superpower relations and the Cold War between the USA and the USSR.
- A world depth study looking at the failure of democracy in Germany after the First World War, the rise of the Nazis and the development of the Nazi state.



Assessment

There will be three exams at the end of Year 11:

Paper 1 (30%) Medicine in Britain, c1250-present and the British sector of the Western Front

Paper 2 (40%) Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88 and the Cold War 1941-91

Paper 3 (30%) Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39

Career paths

GCSE History is a respected academic course which is valued by universities and employers. As a flexible subject which equips students with highly prized research skills, History is particularly useful for entry into careers in law, business, media, retail, finance, diplomacy, human resources, and marketing.



GCSE French

Course Code: AQA French 8658

Mr Castro, Head of MFL

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Why choose French?

Learning a language enhances students' employment prospects, widens their perspective and is a skill they can develop throughout their lives. Students can continue learning French by studying A Level in the Sixth Form.

- French is spoken on every continent.
- French is spoken as a first or second language in over 40 countries.
- It is spoken by 274 million people worldwide.
- France is the leader of modern telecommunications – a market with explosive growth potential.
- Recognised language of the European Union – the world's largest trading bloc.
- It is an official language of the United Nations and its organisations.
- France is the most visited tourist destination in the world.
- On average France receives 80 million tourists a year.

What will you study?

At GCSE students read and listen to French in a wide range of contexts including the vocational and the topical. They develop their ability to talk and write about themselves and learn to take part in role-plays in the real-life situations they will encounter when they visit a French speaking country.

They will learn how to shop, order meals, book into hotels and campsites, make a phone call etc. Lessons are fun and lively; students get involved regularly in group and paired work. The emphasis is on building the students' confidence in their ability to communicate in the target language.

The GCSE examination course is a continuation of the topics studied at Key Stage 3. Students will revise and build up the vocabulary and grammar learned in Years 7 and 8.

The 3 general themes are as follows:

1. Identity and culture, in which students study relationships with family & friends, technology in everyday life and free time activities
2. Local, national, international and global areas of interest, in which students study home &

town, social & global issues, as well as travel & tourism.

3. Current & future study and employment, in which students learn about life at school, post-16 education, jobs, career choices and ambitions.

Assessment

There are two tiers: Foundation and Higher, and 4 examinations at the end of Year 11, assessing the following skills:

Paper 1: Listening

35 minutes (Foundation), 45 minutes (Higher)

Paper 2: Speaking

7 – 9 minutes (Foundation) + preparation time
10 – 12 minutes (Higher) + preparation time

Paper 3: Reading

45 minutes (Foundation), 1 hour (Higher)

Paper 4: Writing

1 hour (Foundation), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher)

Each of these skills is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade.

Career paths

Knowledge of a foreign language is a skill that is highly sought-after in a wide variety of careers. The following employment areas consider languages either essential or very highly desirable: business and commerce, bilingual secretarial work, The Civil Service (Diplomatic Service, Foreign and Commonwealth Service, Immigration Service), the hospitality industry, import and export, travel and tourism, translating and interpreting, teaching.

Languages do not just tell employers that you can communicate in another language but that you are open minded and interested in other cultures.



GCSE German

Course Code: AQA German 8668

Mr Castro, Head of MFL

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Why choose German?

Learning a language enhances students' employment prospects, widens their perspective and is a skill they can develop throughout their lives. Students can continue learning German by studying A Level in the Sixth Form.

- Approximately 110 million people speak German.
- German is the official language in 6 countries, among them are Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Northern Italy, Luxembourg and Lichtenstein.
- Along with Russian, German is the most common first language in Europe.
- It is one of the 10 most spoken languages in the world.
- Germany is the most important trading partner in the European Union.
- Germany is the third most industrialised nation in the world.
- In many countries German speaking tourists make up a substantial proportion of foreign tourists.
- Many of the world's largest companies are German – businesses need people with the language skills to remain competitive.

What will you study?

At GCSE students read and listen to German in a wide range of contexts including the vocational and the topical. They develop their ability to talk and write about themselves and learn to take part in role-plays in the real-life situations they will encounter when they visit a German speaking country.

They will learn how to shop, order meals, book into hotels and campsites, make a phone call etc. Lessons are fun and lively; students get involved regularly in group and paired work. The emphasis is on building the students' confidence in their ability to communicate in the target language.

The GCSE examination course is a continuation of the topics studied at Key Stage 3. Students will revise and build up the vocabulary and grammar learned in Years 7 and 8.

The 3 general themes are as follows:

1. Identity and culture, in which students study relationships with family & friends,

technology in everyday life and free time activities.

2. Local, national, international and global areas of interest, in which students study home & town, social & global issues, as well as travel & tourism.
3. Current & future study and employment, in which students learn about life at school, post-16 education, jobs, career choices and ambitions.

Assessment

There are two tiers: Foundation and Higher, and 4 examinations at the end of Year 11, assessing the following skills:

Paper 1: Listening

35 minutes (Foundation), 45 minutes (Higher)

Paper 2: Speaking

7 – 9 minutes (Foundation) + preparation time
10 – 12 minutes (Higher) + preparation time

Paper 3: Reading

45 minutes (Foundation), 1 hour (Higher)

Paper 4: Writing

1 hour (Foundation), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher)

Each of these skills is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade.

Career paths

Knowledge of a foreign language is a skill that is highly sought-after in a wide variety of careers. The following employment areas consider languages either essential or very highly desirable: business and commerce, bilingual secretarial work, The Civil Service (Diplomatic Service, Foreign and Commonwealth Service, Immigration Service), the hospitality industry, import and export, travel and tourism, translating and interpreting, teaching.

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GCSE Spanish

Course Code: AQA Spanish 8698

Mr Castro, Head of MFL

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Why choose Spanish?

Learning a language enhances students' employment prospects, widens their perspective and is a skill they can develop throughout their lives. Students can continue learning Spanish by studying A Level in the Sixth Form.

- Spanish is the world's most spoken language after Mandarin Chinese and English.
- Spanish has the second highest number of native speakers (489 million people).
- 568 million people speak Spanish worldwide.
- Spoken in 21 countries.
- Second most used language in international communication.
- It is an official language of the United Nations and its organisations.
- Latin American countries are experiencing robust growth and becoming global commercial partners.
- Businesses are increasingly operating in international markets.
- It is an advantage if going into Primary Teaching since languages are now an entitlement for pupils aged 7-11.
- Spain is the second most visited country in the world.
- Spain receives 60 million tourists a year, many from the UK.

What will you study?

At GCSE students read and listen to Spanish in a wide range of contexts including the vocational and the topical. They develop their ability to talk and write about themselves and learn to take part in role-plays in the real-life situations they will encounter when they visit a Spanish speaking country.

They will learn how to shop, order meals, book into hotels and campsites, make a phone call etc. Lessons are fun and lively; students get involved regularly in group and paired work. The emphasis is on building the students' confidence in their ability to communicate in the target language.

The GCSE examination course is a continuation of the topics studied at Key Stage 3. Students will revise and build up the vocabulary and grammar learned in Years 7 and 8.

The 3 general themes are as follows:

1. Identity and culture, in which students study relationships with family & friends, technology in everyday life and free time activities.
2. Local, national, international and global areas of interest, in which students study home & town, social & global issues, as well as travel & tourism.
3. Current & future study and employment, in which students learn about life at school, post-16 education, jobs, career choices and ambitions.

Assessment

There are two tiers: Foundation and Higher, and 4 examinations at the end of Year 11, assessing the following skills:

Paper 1: Listening

35 minutes (Foundation), 45 minutes (Higher)

Paper 2: Speaking

7 – 9 minutes (Foundation) + preparation time
10 – 12 minutes (Higher) + preparation time

Paper 3: Reading

45 minutes (Foundation), 1 hour (Higher)

Paper 4: Writing

1 hour (Foundation), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher)

Each of these skills is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade.

Career paths

Knowledge of a foreign language is a skill that is highly sought-after in a wide variety of careers. The following employment areas consider languages either essential or very highly desirable: business and commerce, bilingual secretarial work, The Civil Service (Diplomatic Service, Foreign and Commonwealth Service, Immigration Service), the hospitality industry, import and export, travel and tourism, translating and interpreting, teaching.

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Option Subjects



GCSE Art & Design: Fine Art

Course Code: AQA 8202 (C/X)

Mrs M Sypko-Shah, Head of Art

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Why choose Fine Art?

Students who enjoy art and are passionate about the subject should pick this course. Students are often worried that they may not be able to draw to a high enough standard which is why this course offers the flexibility for students to work to their own personal and individual strengths within the Arts.

You will need to show evidence of basic drawing skill, but you do not need to be expert. You need to be hardworking, co-operative, independent and committed to working outside of lessons on your artwork. Most of all, you need to be full of enthusiasm and ready to take risks and experiment with new ideas.

What will you study?

In Year 9 students will be introduced to variety of Fine Art techniques and skills. In Year 10 through to Year 11 students will have the opportunity to explore a range of media to produce practical and contextual work. All courses will include an element of drawing.

Students will be expected to demonstrate practical skills in the context of their chosen areas of study within Art, Craft and Design:

- Making appropriate use of colour, line, tone, texture, shape and form.
- Produce evidence of drawing which should be appropriate to their work.
- Using different approaches to record images such as observation, analysis, expression and imagination.
- Showing in their work an understanding of imagery and genres; also understanding the ways in which sources inspire the development of ideas, relevant to fine art.
- Investigating different ways of working as appropriate to their chosen area of study.
- Working independently to develop individual and creative ideas.
- Annotating ideas.
- A sustained project will be completed as well as a selection of further work for the final coursework portfolio.

Assessment

Component 1: Portfolio

A portfolio that in total shows explicit coverage of the four assessment objectives. It must include a sustained project, evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions, and a selection of further work undertaken during the student's course of study.

- No time limits
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set and marked by the school and moderated by AQA during a visit. Moderation will normally take place in June.

Component 2: Externally set assignment

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

- Preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time
- 96 marks
- 40% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set by AQA; marked by the school and moderated by AQA during a visit.

Career paths

Success in this GCSE may lead on to the study of Art, Textiles, and Photography at A Level. The range of careers relating to the creative arts is vast and rapidly growing.

Some of these include fashion, illustration, theatre production, primary and secondary school teaching, architecture, animator, landscape design, web design, graphics, marketing, interior design, photography (commercial, fashion, food etc), cake design, curation, computer game design, car designer, game artistry, makeup artistry, special effect design, stage design, costume design, and many, many more.



GCSE Business

Course Code: Edexcel 1BS0

Ms B Sanda, Head of Business

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Why choose Business?

Business is a versatile subject that not only teaches students how businesses operate but also helps them gain invaluable entrepreneurial skills. It is a subject that combines well with any other subject, ranging from humanities to design and sciences. It is also highly regarded by employers and higher education institutions due to the diverse skills learned such as communication, teamwork, analysis, and evaluation, written and quantitative skills.

In the Business department, we are keen to pass on our industry experiences and our passion for the subject to our students. Students who study Business will learn to appreciate the world around them and develop an understanding of how they can apply business theory into real-life scenarios with ease. This will set them apart from their peers in terms of their employability and what they can offer to the organisations that they will study and work in, making them more appealing to prospective employers.

What will you study?

The course consists of two themes: Investigating Small Business and Building a Business. You will study how small, national and international businesses are operated and explore the basics of starting up a new business venture. You will also gain a good understanding of enterprise, human resources, marketing, and finance.

In Year 9, we will start by introducing the students to some key concepts such as enterprise, branding and market research through project-based activities and presentations. Once we establish a basic understanding of these concepts, we will start on Theme 1, which investigates issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business in the local and national contexts. Theme 1 will continue to be studied in the first half of Year 10.

In the second half of Year 10, students will move onto Theme 2 – Building a Business, which examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources while

considering the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows. Students will be introduced to national and global business contexts and will develop an understanding of how these contexts impact business behaviour and decisions.

Assessment

As this is a linear GCSE option, students will not be externally assessed until they are at the end of Year 11. Their grade will be 100% based on external written examinations; Paper 1 assessing students' learning in Theme 1 and Paper 2 will be assessing their learning in Theme 2. There will be regular teacher assessments throughout the 3-year programme to help students learn exam skills, judge, and monitor their progress.

There will be 2 external examinations at the end of Year 11:

Paper 1 assessing Theme 1 content – (50%)
Investigating Small Business (1 hr 30m)
90 marks; 3 sections with 2 case studies.

Paper 2 assessing Theme 2 content – (50%)
Building a Business (1 hr 30m)
90 marks; 3 sections with 2 case studies.

Career paths

Typically, many students combine business with other humanities or social sciences at Level 3 qualifications or at university. These include History, Geography, Sociology, Economics and Politics. However, since business skills and knowledge are essential to have a good understanding of how decisions are made and how resources are managed within an organisation, we are increasingly seeing students who combine this subject with Arts and Design subjects such as product Design or Fashion and Textiles as well as Maths and Sciences.

Some career paths include:

Accountant	Human resource officer
Administration	Insurance
Advertising/PR	Marketing
Banking	Procurement
Branding Executive	Project manager
Business consultant	Retail management
Finance	Stock-broker
Distribution & Logistics Manager	

Child Development Level 1/2 OCR Certificate

Course Code: J818

Mrs Driver, Assistant Head and Head of
Child Development

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Why choose Child Development?

This qualification is for learners who wish to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in child development. It is designed with both practical and theoretical elements, which will prepare students for further qualifications in Child Care, Health and Social Care, Psychology, Sociology and Biology.

Students will acquire knowledge and understanding of the development and care of children from conception to the age of five years. Studying the physical, intellectual, and social and emotional development of the child, inter-linked with the study of family, community, parenthood, and professional childcare.

Studying Child Development will also provide students with opportunities to develop researching, planning, observing, and evaluating skills all of which are transferable skills and could be applied to many subject areas.

What will you study?

In the first topic of study, **R018: Health and well-being for child development**, students will develop the essential knowledge and understanding in child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, postnatal provision, conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety.

In the second topic of study, **R019: Understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years**, students will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all these needs. This topic will also cover nutrition and hygiene practices and students will be given the opportunity to investigate feeding solutions, comparing these to nutritional requirements and evaluating the outcomes.

In the third topic of study, **R020: Understand the development of a child from birth to five years**, students will gain an understanding of the

development norms from birth to five years and the stages and benefits of play. Students will gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. This topic will include researching, planning, and carrying out activities with a child and observing and evaluating these activities, as well as comparing the child to the expected development norms.

Assessment

R018: Health and well-being for child development – Written exam - 1 hour and 15mins, OCR-set and marked. Total of 80 marks.

R019: Understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years – Coursework based unit, 30 guided learning hours. Centre-assessed tasks, OCR moderated. Total of 60 marks.

R020: Understand the development of a child from birth to five years – Coursework based unit, 30 guided learning hours. Centre-assessed tasks, OCR moderated. Total of 60 marks.

Career paths

Students with a Child Development qualification have access to a wide range of career and higher education opportunities. Some examples of careers within this field are: midwifery, nursing, occupational therapy, social work, teaching, childcare, psychologist, playworker, and working for a children's charity.



GCSE Citizenship

Course Code: Edexcel 1CS0

Ms Lagess, Head of Citizenship

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Why choose Citizenship?

The GCSE Citizenship course seeks to prepare you to become active citizens by raising awareness and understanding of your role in the world.

The course provides opportunities for you to consider social, political, ethical, and moral problems and to do this effectively, you will be encouraged to develop independent, critical, and analytical thinking skills as well as informed individual opinions and judgements.

What will you study?

The course is made up of 5 themes.

- Theme A: Living together in the UK. This unit looks at the make-up and dynamics of modern society, what it means to be British, the rights and responsibilities of those living in the UK and how these have changed in time as well as the role of the local and national government in providing for the needs of the diverse communities that exist in the UK.
- Theme B: Democracy at work in the UK. This unit aims to give you an understanding of the political process within the UK, and the different roles and responsibilities of those who hold power within the British political system.
- Theme C: Law and justice. Here we study the nature of the justice system, laws and crime, as well as the role of citizens, the police, courts and prisons in keeping this country safe.
- Theme D: Power and influence – These lessons will have a global aspect and you will cover the nature of international laws, treaties and agreements that the UK is signed up to, as well as the leadership role that the UK has in the world.
- Theme E: Taking citizenship action- The final unit will put into practice the knowledge and skills you have developed throughout the course to resolve an issue or bring about change as you take on a project of your choice in the community.

Assessment

The course is assessed through two exams:

Paper 1 1hr 45min, worth 50% of the GCSE covering Themes A, B and C

Paper 2 1hr 45min, worth 50% of the GCSE covering Themes D and E

Career paths

GCSE Citizenship provides a valuable introduction to key themes explored in various Level 3 subjects such as A-Level Law, A-Level Government & Politics, A-Level Sociology, and the Extended Project.

The knowledge gained and skills developed through this qualification are useful for a range of careers but specifically, the course can lead to future employment in campaigning/political activism, local government, civil service, social services, police and probation, teaching, and law.



GCSE Computer Science

Course Code: AQA 8525

Mr S Ahmad, Head of Computer Science
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Why choose Computer Science?

Computing is of enormous importance to the economy. The role of Computer Science as a discipline itself and as an 'underpinning' subject across science and engineering is growing rapidly. The increase in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for business.

Employers today require an ever-increasing number of technologically aware individuals, and the course provides the knowledge, skills and understanding that are in demand.

What will you study?

- Develop your understanding of current and emerging technologies and the implications of these in society.
- Gain an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on 'behind the scenes'.
- Learn key computing concepts and the fundamentals of programming to solve problems in a range of contexts.
- Create software for technologies you use; applications that run on mobile devices; interactive web enabled solutions and computer games.
- Develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills.

Assessment

There will be two exams at the end of Year 11:

Paper 1: Computational thinking and programming skills (50%)

Paper 2: Computing concepts (50%)

Career paths

You could consider studying computer science at university if you want to begin a computer science career in roles such as:

- Computer programming
- Software engineering
- Website/app design/development
- Computer game development
- Cybersecurity
- Clothes designer
- Data analyst
- MI5 MI6 and GCHQ.



GCSE Dance

Course Code: AQA 8236

Miss K Johnson, Head of Dance

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Why choose Dance?

The study of dance as an art form contributes to students' aesthetic and social development. As a physical activity it promotes fitness and well-being. Dance also supports learning across a range of subjects.

As performers, students develop confidence and self-esteem. They develop self and body awareness as well as sensitivity to others and team-working skills. Effective performance requires physical effort and the determination to succeed and improve.

As choreographers, students employ the skills of problem-solving and creativity. Effective choreography requires imagination and the ability to synthesise several elements. In directing others, students develop their interpersonal and communication skills.

As critics, students make informed decisions about the dances they see. They articulate their knowledge, opinions and preferences. Viewing professional dances fulfils students' cultural entitlement and broadens their artistic experience.

What will you study?

- Safe practice.
- The process of creating and improving choreography.
- Performance – the physical, expressive, technical, and mental skills needed for effective performance factors which influence the achievement of high-quality dance performance.
- The work of different choreographers and professional dance works.
- Critical, perceptual, evaluative, and reflective skills in response to their own work and that of others.



Assessment

Component 1:

Performance & Choreography

Performance:

1. You will learn four set phrases and perform two as a solo (approx. 1 minute)
2. Either a duet or a trio based on the remaining 2 set phrases (approx. 3—3 and a
3. half minutes)

Choreography

1. Either a solo or group choreography, of between two to three minutes. The dance is choreographed in response to a range of stimuli chosen by the exam board.

The practical component is marked out of 80 and is worth 60% of the overall GCSE Grade.

Component 2:

Dance Appreciation

1. Knowledge and Appreciation of choreographic processes and performing skills.
2. Critical Appreciation of your own work.
3. Critical Appreciation of professional dance works.

40% of the overall GCSE grade and is assessed through a 90-minute written exam.

Career paths

Teacher	Dancer
Arts administrator	Choreographer
Community arts worker	Personal trainer
Movement psychotherapist	Theatre director

Typical employers include:

- Performing dance companies, such as the English National Ballet, Northern Ballet, Royal Ballet and Rambert.
- Clubs, cabarets, and cruise ships, either in the UK or abroad.
- Musical theatre, in the West End or on tour
- Backing dancers in music videos, performances and on TV programmes.
- Community dance organisations, partly funded by the Four Arts councils, such as Sadler's Wells.
- Teaching organisations, such as Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, Stagecoach Performing Arts and the Royal Academy of Dance.

GCSE Design and Technology

Course Code: Eduqas Design and Technology C600QS

Mrs B Pearce, Head of Design and Technology

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Why choose Design and Technology?

This is a STEM subject. Through studying our Design and Technology course, you will be prepared to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world; and be aware of, and learn from, wider influences on design and technology, including historical, social, cultural, environmental, and economic factors of the design industry.

What will you study?

You will work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise to demonstrate your understanding that all design and technological activity takes place within contexts that influence the outcomes of design practice. You will learn to develop realistic design proposals because of the exploration of design opportunities and users' needs, wants and ethical values.

You will develop a broad knowledge of how materials, components and technologies including the use of smart and modern materials and electronics can be used in the design and make of products. You will develop your making skills through the construction of prototypes and toiles, using your imagination, experimentation, and the ability to refine your ideas.

Design and Technology will help to develop your decision-making skills, including the planning and organisation of time and resources when managing your projects. This subject will be taught through a combination of theory lessons and design and make tasks, using practical applications of Maths and Science throughout. It focuses on problem solving through an iterative design approach.

Assessment

The course will be assessed with both controlled assessment and examinations. They will be evenly split: 50% controlled assessment and 50% exam.

The Non-Examined Assessment task (NEA) is set by the exam board and is started in the June of Year 10. You are expected to complete research, test and develop ideas to be able to construct a final prototype.

The exam, sat in Year 11, will test the wider aspects of Design and Technology in the 21st century.

Career paths

This qualification can lead towards any of the following:

- A Levels in 3D Design, Design and Technology or Engineering.
- Foundation and Degree courses at university. Many of our A-Level students have gone on to study Product Design at degree level
- Apprenticeships

This subject could lead to a range of career opportunities including fibre technology and material engineering, STEM, product design, graphic design, teaching and other technological industries.

Extra costs and requirements

Most of the course costs are covered by the department and school. However additional costs may be incurred if students choose to build a product that includes more expensive materials and components.



GCSE Drama

Course Code: Edexcel Drama 1DR0

Mr Rogers, Head of Drama

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Why choose drama?

Within lessons you will develop your understanding of how professional theatre is created and performed and you will see live performances that will develop your understanding and appreciation of this. You will also develop your ability to use your subject knowledge to imaginatively interpret texts, both as a practitioner and a student.

Studying drama enables you to learn how to construct narrative and meaning for an audience, in a variety of styles and forms, and you'll need to enjoy experimenting with new ideas and collaborating with peers, with an open mind.

The subject necessarily involves performing in front of others during lessons, as a way to develop your theoretical and practical knowledge, even if you choose to ultimately be assessed on a design option. A compulsory requirement is that all students be prepared to rehearse outside of lesson times, when necessary.

Lessons are taught in drama studios that are well resourced and have a theatrical lighting rig that enables students to put their theoretical knowledge into practice.



In recent years, the drama department has been a member of the Schools Club Project, in collaboration with the Old Vic theatre. This has given students outstanding access to live productions and the creative processes involved, through workshops that have explored performance and design aspects of the productions seen.

What will you study?

During the drama course you will:

- Work with others, devise, perform and/or design your own original productions.
- Develop the various performance and design skills necessary to communicate clearly and theatrically with an audience.
- Adopt and sustain a variety of roles.
- Study a range of drama texts.
- Critically evaluate your own work, professional theatre performances, and the work of others in the class.

Assessment

Component 1: Devising

- 40% of the qualification – 60 marks
- Create and develop a devised performance in response to stimuli
- Analyse and evaluate the devising process and performance in a 2000-word portfolio

Component 2: Performance from Text

- 20% of the qualification – 48 marks
- Choice of group, solo and/or partner-based routes for assessment. Taken from a published play

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice

- 40% of the qualification – 60 marks
- Written examination: 1 hour, 45 minutes
- Practical exploration and study of one complete performance text
- Live theatre evaluation

Career paths

Students may go on to study drama at university which could open up a number of different subject-based routes:

Actor, broadcast presenter, community arts worker, drama-therapist, runner, broadcasting/film/video, theatre director, theatre stage manager.

Jobs where a drama degree would be useful include:

Arts administrator, Choreographer, Further education teacher, Secondary school teacher, Special effects technician, talent agent, Television floor manager, theatre manager.

It is also worth considering that qualities such as sensitivity, co-operation, problem-solving and being a reliable member of a team, which are developed throughout the drama course, are skills which are vital for any student's successful future.

GCSE Economics

Course Code: AQA 8136

Ms B Sanda, Head of Business
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Why choose Economics?

Economics is a highly versatile and academic subject that will develop your understanding of how the world works from local businesses to global corporations. You will appreciate the world around you and learn about the impact of global markets, conflicts, political decisions as well as economic policy on our society. You will also become an informed consumer where you understand the consequences of your consumption and buying behaviour. As you go through this course, you are presented with real-world issues, especially within the last 15 years, and are required to look through the lens of consumers, producers, government and the global economy.

This qualification will allow you to explore this fascinating and relevant subject in greater depth and build foundational knowledge. You can then utilise this foundation to further your education in A levels or higher. You will also develop quantitative skills such as making calculations from economic data and interpreting data presented in the form of graphs and charts.

With this subject, you will also give yourself a better chance at securing higher paid jobs as employers value their workers with an understanding of how resources are most efficiently allocated and how business decisions can be impacted by the economic events.

What will you study?

In the first section of your Economics GCSE, you will look at economic foundations such as the nature and purpose of economic activity, the factors of production and the importance of making choices. You will also learn how resources are allocated using a market mechanism. The central aspect will be an investigation of how prices are determined. This introduces you to concepts such as supply and demand, intermarket relationships and price elasticity. You will investigate the significance of costs, revenue and profit for producers, leading to an understanding of the concepts of production, productivity and economies of scale. You will then explore the importance of competition in relation to resource allocation, leading to an investigation of the factors that lead to market failure, with an emphasis on the significance of externalities.

In the second section, you are introduced to the wider economy from the perspective of the main economic groups: consumers, producers and government. You will explore the significance of interest rates including their impact on saving, borrowing and spending. The core of this unit will focus on government objectives and their role in managing the economy. A range of policies will be explored in relation to the objectives, highlighting the fact that pursuing one objective can have a detrimental effect on other objectives. You will also examine why countries trade, and the significance of the global economy, including free-trade agreements. Finally, you will explore the role of money and the significance of the financial markets in modern economies.

In both sections, you will discuss the moral, ethical and environmental issues that underpin economic decision-making and economic activity.

Assessment

As this is a linear GCSE option, students will not be externally assessed until they are at the end Year 11. Their grade will be 100% based on external written examinations; Paper 1 assessing students' learning in How Markets Work and Paper 2 will be assessing their learning in How the Economy Works. There will be regular teacher assessments throughout the 3-year programme to help students learn exam skills, judge and monitor their progress.

There will be 2 external examinations at the end of Year 11:

Paper 1 How Markets Work – (50%)
(1 hr 45m)

80 marks; 2 sections with MCQ, data response, short and extended answer questions.

Paper 2 How the Economy Works – (50%)
(1 hr 45m)

80 marks; 2 sections with MCQ, data response, short and extended answer questions.

Career paths

Typically, many students combine economics with mathematics and other humanities or social sciences at Level 3 qualifications or at university. These include History, Geography, Sociology, Government and Politics and Law. However, since economic skills and knowledge are essential to have a good understanding of policy decisions and their impact as well as how markets work and resources are managed, we are increasingly seeing students who combine this subject with Arts and Design subjects such as product Design or Fashion and Textiles as well as Sciences.

GCSE Film Studies

Course Code: WJEC/Eduqas C670QS

Mr M Nott, Head of Media and Film Studies

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Why choose Film Studies?

GCSE Film Studies is an exciting course that combines study of the history and structure of the film industry with the study of the technical side of filmmaking. Film Studies involves the close analysis of films and the techniques used by great filmmakers and allows students to learn practical filmmaking production skills which they use to film and edit their own films.

If you are interested in films and want to learn more about the film industry and the work of some of the world's greatest filmmakers, this might be the course for you. You will also develop the skills to shoot and edit films yourself so will need to be prepared to be creative. You must be prepared to work hard; although studying films themselves is an important part of the course do not expect to be sitting back just watching them every lesson!

How will it benefit me? It will...

- Help you learn about the history of film and how the film industry works.
- Introduce you to a world of film you might not have known existed.
- Enable you to develop practical film production skills by making your own films.
- As with all other academic GCSEs the course will develop your analytical and essay writing skills.

What will you study?

Students will study the following areas for their exams:

- Film Form – the techniques that are used to make a film.
- Contexts – the history of film and the film industry and how industry/historical/social/political/technological issues and developments have an influence or effect on films.
- Representations – how people, places, events, issues etc. are shown in film.
- Genre – how films can be classified by genre and how genre is used by the industry to target audience.
- Narrative – how films are structured.
- Specialist writing on film – including film criticism.

Assessment

The course will be assessed through two written exams which make up 70% of the final mark and a practical coursework project that will make up the remaining 30%.

Examination 70%

Two exam papers, testing students' knowledge of the following:

- American Film – a comparative study of a contemporary mainstream American film with one produced between 1930 and 1960.
- American Independent Film – a study of the non-mainstream American film industry with a focus on a single, independently produced American film.
- Developments in filmmaking technology and their impact on films.
- Global Film – the study of an English language film produced outside of America and the UK.
- Global Film – the study of a foreign language film.

Practical Production (Coursework) 30%

Students will have to produce either a screenplay or short film based on a genre decided by the exam board.

They will also have to write an evaluation of their film where they compare it to an industry produced film from the same genre.

Career paths

The UK has one of the biggest television and film industries in the world and there are several exciting careers in the television or film industries that GCSE Film Studies would be a first step towards. This course would also enable you to find out more about the subject before taking other qualifications.

You can study Media Studies and Film Studies at A Level at CHSG and every year several students go on to study media or film related courses at university.

Hospitality & Catering Level 1/2 Award

Course Code: WJEC/Eduqas 601/7703/2

Mrs B Pearce, Head of Design and
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Why choose Hospitality & Catering?

Studying Hospitality & Catering will give you the training needed to be involved in the running of a fast-paced and exciting industry, including all sector such as food and beverages, and/or accommodation services, this includes restaurants, hotels, pubs, and bars, also including airlines and tourist attractions, hospitals, and sports venues.

What will you study?

This course is designed to develop your practical cooking skills, as well as to giving you an insight and understanding of how the Hospitality and Catering industry works at various levels. This ranges from management positions to housekeeping, and to the kitchen the restaurant brigades.

According to the British Hospitality Association, hospitality and catering is Britain's fourth largest industry and accounts for 10% of the total workload, making you more employable.

The course will cover the following areas of study:

- Knowledge of the industry.
- Career pathways and job roles, rights, and responsibilities.
- The Laws relating to the hospitality and catering industry.
- Nutritional information.
- Diet and health related issues, including distinct groups of people.
- Food commodities.
- Meal planning and food provenance.
- Cooking techniques and food safety.



Assessment

This course is made up of two mandatory units:

- Unit 1 – The Hospitality and Catering Industry

This is the theory element which leads up to one online exam – worth 40% of final grade.

- Unit 2 – Is a scenario-based coursework project with practical cooking exam – worth 60% of final grade.

The practical exam – 4 hours to prepare, cook and serve 2 dishes with accompaniments linked to a scenario given by the examination board.

To pass this course at level 1 or 2 you must complete all of the assessment criteria, as well as the written and practical exams. The assessment criteria are the modules of work set by the exam board. Both units include pass, merit and distinction tasks, to ensure that students reach their potential, which are equivalent to GCSEs.



Career paths

This course leads on to a Level 3 course in Food Preparation and Nutrition. We have had many students who have successfully gone on to study Professional Chef Diplomas at college. This course can also lead to university courses in hotel and hospitality management or events management.

This course could lead to a career as a sommelier or food scientist, environmental health officer, dietician, arts administrator, baker, brewery worker, butcher, cake decorator, catering manager, chef, or a publican.

Extra costs and requirements

Students will need to provide their own ingredients for cooking. Practical food lessons can take place up to once a fortnight. In addition, they will need named containers to take their food home in. We currently ask for a yearly £15 donation to cover the cost of extras that are used in practical lessons and for experimental work.

GCSE Media Studies

Course Code: WJEC/Eduqas C680QS

Mr M Nott, Head of Media and Film Studies

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Why choose Media Studies?

GCSE Media Studies is an exciting course that combines the study of the media industry and the analysis of pieces of media with practical production.

Who should study the course? If you are interested in films, television, newspaper, and radio and want to learn how to discuss and write about them and develop the skills to make them yourself then this course could be for you. You must be prepared to work extremely hard; do not expect to be just watching television!

How will it benefit me? It will...

- Help you learn about the way the Media works and shapes our ideas and beliefs.
- Enable you to develop practical media production skills by making your own media productions.
- Help you to understand how the media has changed over time and appreciate how modern technologies are changing the way in which we use the media.

What will you study?

Students will have to study the following areas of the media:

- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Advertising
- Television
- Radio
- Film Promotion
- Video Games
- Music Video
- Online and Digital Media

Students will also have to study the following areas:

- Institutions – the companies and organisations Media Representations – how people, places, events etc. are shown in the media.
- Media Audiences.
- Media Forms – the techniques that are used to make pieces of media.
- Media responsible for making pieces of media.
- Contemporary Media Issues – important current issues and debates about the media.
- Media Theory.

Assessment

The course will be assessed through two exams which make up 70% of the final mark and a practical coursework project that will make up the remaining 30%.

Examination 70%	Two exam papers, testing your knowledge of the topics above.
Coursework 30%	You will have to produce a piece of practical work set by the exam board, you will also have to submit research and planning materials.

Career paths

What can this course lead to? There are a number of exciting careers in media in advertising, the press, TV or radio industries or maybe in an area of the media that will be completely new by the time you enter the world of work.

This course will enable you to find out more about the opportunities before taking other qualifications. You can study Media Studies at A level in the 6th form or at college. Every year several students go on to university to study Media related courses.



GCSE Music

Course Code: Eduqas Music (C660QS)

Miss S Ogden, Head of Music

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Why choose Music?

In Music, ***no two lessons are the same*** as we have the chance to focus on our practical and theory skills. You have the chance to ***be creative*** and if you enjoy ***listening*** to music, ***making*** music, ***performing*** music then you can develop your skills and get a GCSE out of it!

If you don't already play an instrument or sing, you can take the opportunity to learn new skills which could stay with you for life, already playing an instrument is not a pre-requisite.

If you love listening to music, then this will also be beneficial. In the future, ***creativity is going to be one of the most important and in-demand skills*** at work (World Economic Forum). When business leaders across the world were surveyed, they ***voted creativity as the most important workplace skill*** to help their businesses survive and grow.

This means that the study of creative subjects, like Music, is becoming even more important and relevant to young people to give you the chance to succeed – whatever your ambitions. At the same time, you will find many opportunities to develop and improve your ***personal wellbeing*** both independently and as part of a wider community. Music can get you to many different places in the world and into many different careers due to the flexibility, organisation and dedication developed as a musician.

What will you study?

The course is split into 3 parts: Performance, Composition and Listening & Appraising. Typical classroom activities at GCSE include:

- Performing (playing music) on your own and in a group. This could be in any style, on any instrument or voice, including DJ skills, rapping, singing, band and orchestral instruments.
- Exploring how great pieces of music were put together, then when you have learnt some of the techniques, composing your own music. This involves using computer software, such as GarageBand, BandLab and MuseScore, writing for a specific purpose, writing songs etc.
- Listening to a variety of music and learning how to identify the facts about what you hear. You will already have heard about the elements of music in your Key Stage 3

lessons. At GCSE you focus on how they are used for different purposes. You will also analyse scores and lead sheets whilst developing music theory knowledge. You will learn about several different genres of music including House, Pop, Musical Theatre, Orchestral, Jazz to name a few!

Assessment

Performing

Weighting: 30%
Assessment: Teacher assessed and moderated
Details: A minimum of two pieces, lasting a total of 4-6 minutes: One piece must be an ensemble, one piece linked to an Area of Study.
When: From September of Year 11

Composing

Weighting: 30%
Assessment: Teacher assessed and moderated
Details: Two pieces: one in response to a brief set by Eduqas and one free composition.
When: From September of Year 11

Listening and Appraising

Weighting: 40%
Assessment: Externally assessed
Details: Listening examination: 8 questions, 2 on each area of study: Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music, Popular Music.
When: End of Year 11

Career paths

The possibilities from Music are endless. Music will enable you to demonstrate many skills which employers, and universities are looking for. Future roles could include musician, music producer, doctor, lawyer, accountant, music therapist, composer, gaming composer, teacher, community musician, orchestral player, sound engineer, foley editor, TV & film industries, talent agent, army, nursing, data engineer, consultancy, business owner, DJ.



GCSE PE

Course Code: Edexcel 1PE0

Miss R Golightly, Head of PE

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Why choose PE?

The GCSE course is designed to allow you to study Physical Education in an academic setting, allowing you to critically analyse and evaluate physical performance and apply your experience of practical activities in developing your knowledge and understanding of Physical Education.

This course offers students the opportunity to develop their skills in a wide range of sports and activities and helps to improve performance. Students will learn about exercise, how the body works to help you exercise and then through training how performance can be improved.

The course allows you to explore a range of activities in the role of performer, including both team and individual activities. The course can also start you on a career path in Physical Education and Sport through A Level and Degree Level Sports Subjects.

What will you study?

Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems

- Topic 1: Applied anatomy and physiology - for example, heart and lungs.
- Topic 2: Movement analysis - for example, levers and planes.
- Topic 3: Physical training - for example, components of fitness and principles of training.

Component 2: Health and Performance

- Topic 1: Health, fitness and wellbeing - for example, diet.
- Topic 2: Sport psychology - for example, SMART targets.
- Topic 3: Socio-cultural influences - for example, sporting behaviour.

The theory component is 60% of your overall GCSE grade.

Component 3: Practical Performance

The assessment consists of students completing three physical activities from a set list.

- You will learn skills during individual and team activities and overall performance skills.
- One must be a team activity.
- One must be an individual activity.
- The final activity can be a free choice.

The practical component is marked out of 105 and is worth 30% of the overall GCSE Grade.

Component 4: Personal Exercise Programme

1. Aim and planning analysis.
2. Carrying out and monitoring the PEP.
3. Evaluation of the PEP.

The coursework component is marked out of 20 and is worth 10% of the overall GCSE Grade.

Assessment

Theory:

60% of the course is assessed via two written exams at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes / Marked out of 90.

Paper 2: Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes / Marked out of 70.

Practical:

40% of the course is assessed via a practical exam and coursework at the end of Year 11.

30% of the course is assessed via three different sports (team sport, individual sport, and either a sport or individual sport).

10% of the course is assessed via a piece of coursework. You will analyse a Sports Performance of your choice and create an action plan which aims to improve this performance.

Career paths

Typical employers include:

- Professional sports clubs
- National sporting associations, governing bodies, and other related sporting agencies
- Private health and fitness clubs, spas and public sports and recreation facilities
- Local authorities
- Schools, further education, and higher education institutions
- Health sector, including the NHS

Jobs include sports scientist, PE teacher, physiotherapist, professional sports person, sports coach/consultant, sports policy maker at local and national level, diet and fitness instructor and personal trainer.

GCSE Photography

Course Code: AQA 8206 (C/X)

Mrs M Sypko-Shah, Head of Art

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Why choose Photography?

Students who enjoy photography and are passionate about the subject should pick this course. You need to be hardworking, co-operative, independent and committed to working outside of lessons on your artwork. Most of all, you need to be full of enthusiasm and ready to take risks and experiment with innovative ideas.

Photography is also the most diverse and democratic of the visual arts. It has multiple functions, contexts, and meanings.

Photography is an art of selection rather than invention. Photography is unlike other visual arts in that it begins with a world full of things rather than with a blank slate. However, photography is also an art of production, not just reflection.

Creative subjects are vitally important in helping young people develop imagination and resourcefulness, resilience, problem-solving, team-working, and technical skills as well as broader creative thinking. Creative industries contributed more than £111bn to the UK economy, equivalent to £306 million every day. A recent government report showed that creative industries is growing five times faster than the national economy.

Creativity helps with wellbeing. Studying Photography help to develop critical thinking and teaches you research and analytical skills, skills which are important and valued in many careers outside creative industries.

What will you study?

In Year 9 students will be introduced to variety of techniques and skills in Photography. In Year 10 through to Year 11 students will have the opportunity to explore a range of media to produce practical and contextual work. Students will learn digital manipulation on Photoshop and physical manipulation of images.

Photography: lens-based and light-based media, including theme-based photography (portrait, landscape, and still life), experimental imagery, photographic installation, photojournalism, dark room processes, digital processes - Photoshop.

Students will be expected to demonstrate practical skills in the context of their chosen areas of study within Photography:

- Making appropriate use of colour, line, tone, texture, shape, and form.

- Produce evidence of photographs taking which should be appropriate to their work.
- Using different approaches to record images such as observation, analysis, expression, and imagination.
- Showing in their work an understanding of imagery and genres; also understanding the ways in which sources inspire the development of ideas, relevant to photography.
- Investigating diverse ways of working as appropriate to their chosen area of study.
- Working independently to develop individual and creative ideas.
- Annotating ideas.
- A sustained project will be completed as well as a selection of further work for the final coursework portfolio.

Assessment

Component 1: Portfolio

A portfolio that in total shows explicit coverage of the four assessment objectives. It must include a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work undertaken during the student's course of study.

- No time limits
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set and marked by the school and moderated by AQA during a visit. Moderation will normally take place in June.

Component 2: Externally set assignment

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

- Preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time
- 96 marks
- 40% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set by AQA; marked by the school and moderated by AQA during a visit.

Career paths

Success in this GCSE may lead on to the study of Photography at A Level. The range of careers relating to the creative arts is vast and rapidly growing. Some of these are:

Advertising, commercial photographer, editorial photographer, fashion photographer, food photographer, film editing, photo imaging careers, photographic processor, photojournalist, professional photographer, scientific photographer and special effects technician.

GCSE Religious Studies

Course Code: Edexcel B 1RBO

Mrs Collins, Head of Religious Studies

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Why choose Religious Studies?

Whether you are religious or not, the influence of religion on society is still keenly felt in the 21st century. Many of our laws, morals and social conventions owe their existence to religion. Yet, the world is changing, more rapidly than at any point in history. The challenges facing religion continue to grow, whether it be through the challenge of science, or a changing society in which new values contradict centuries' long-standing tradition. Will science prove that God is not real? Should same sex couples be allowed to marry in a church? Can passages in the Qur'an still be used to justify the use of the death penalty?

Above is a small selection of the questions you will be able to explore by taking GCSE Religious Studies. Put simply, Religious Studies allows access to ultimate questions that other subjects do not cover. Equally important are the questions that lie at the heart of all enquiries into religious belief, that you will return to in every lesson throughout the course: what do I think? How can I justify my beliefs? No discussion is off limits, and no reasoned response will be dismissed without thorough investigation.

What will you study?

The course is split into two parts – one that covers Christianity and the other that covers Islam.

The **Christianity half** of the course contains four units:

- **Christian Beliefs:** an introduction to the religion, covering key beliefs about God, Jesus, life after death and the problem of evil
- **Marriage and the Family:** you will debate a range of moral issues such as sexual relationships, divorce, contraception and gender equality
- **Living the Christian Life:** allows for an investigation into what it means to be a Christian, and you will learn about the nature worship, prayer, pilgrimage and celebrations
- **Matters of Life and Death:** you will get the chance to ask (and answer) some ultimate questions about the origins of the universe and life, the sanctity of life, abortion and euthanasia.

In the **Islamic half** of the course, there are a further four units:

- **Muslim Beliefs:** you will cover beliefs about Allah, the Prophets, holy books, angels and life after death
- **Crime and Punishment:** you will explore what justice means, different aims of punishment, what forgiveness is and debate whether the death penalty can ever be used
- **Living the Muslim Life:** allows for an investigation into what it means to be a Muslim, and you will learn about the nature of prayer, fasting, pilgrimage and celebrations.
- **Peace and Conflict:** this unit will provide opportunities to debate the use of violence and warfare.

As well as examining the beliefs of the relevant religion in each unit, you will also be studying alternate, non-religious responses to the issues encountered, including those of groups such as Humanists.

Assessment

The course is 100% examination assessed. At the end of Year 11, you will take two exams (both 1 hour and 45 minutes). One exam will be on the Christian half of the course and the other will be on the Islamic half. Both exams contribute 50% towards your overall grade:

Paper 1B: Religion and Ethics through Christianity

Paper 2C: Religion, Peace and Conflict through Islam

Each paper will have four sections within it, as indicated in the 'What will you study?' section. Throughout the course, you will have regular opportunities to complete practice exam style activities. These internal assessments will be used to help judge your progress throughout the course and feedback will be given to help you improve.

Career paths

At the heart of Religious Studies is the ability to communicate – to express your view in a rational and reasoned manner and to be able to listen to, and understand, the views of others. Throughout the course, you will develop skills that can be used in careers such as journalism, law, counselling, education, media and public service.

GCSE Sociology

Course Code: AQA 8192

Miss Winders, Head of Sociology
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Why choose Sociology?

Sociology is the *study of the society* in which we live. It examines how we are influenced and shaped through being members of groups and organisations. Sociology provides description and analysis of the patterns and structures in human relationships and encourages us to see the world through the eyes of other people.

Sociology is a *challenging*, academic subject and, as such, is highly regarded by universities and employers. Sociology students are encouraged to think independently, take an interest in current affairs, and approach new subjects with an enquiring mind.

Sociology helps develop skills of:

- Analysis
- Evaluation
- Problem solving
- Communication
- Forming arguments

What will you study?

The course consists of six topics:

- Sociological theory
- Sociological research methods
- Family and households
- Education
- Social stratification
- Crime and deviance

Sociology students work on forming arguments, from a range of perspectives, on key debates in society. For example, considering why people commit crime and what social factors impact on educational achievement.

Assessment

AQA Sociology is assessed through 100% examination. Each paper is worth 50% of the GCSE and has 100 marks. The exam paper is made up of a range of short and extended essay responses.

Paper 1: The sociology of families and education

Paper 2: The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification

Career paths

The course teaches you the ability to process information and analyse it from varying perspectives. This is a key skill needed in many occupations. The Sociology course is particularly useful for those considering pursuing a career in:

- Law
- Local government
- Teaching
- Business
- Journalism
- The media



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