

**Blackpool Aspire Academy
Curriculum Pathway
2024-26
Information &
Subject Preference Guide**

GCSE grades– What is 9-1?

1. Introduction

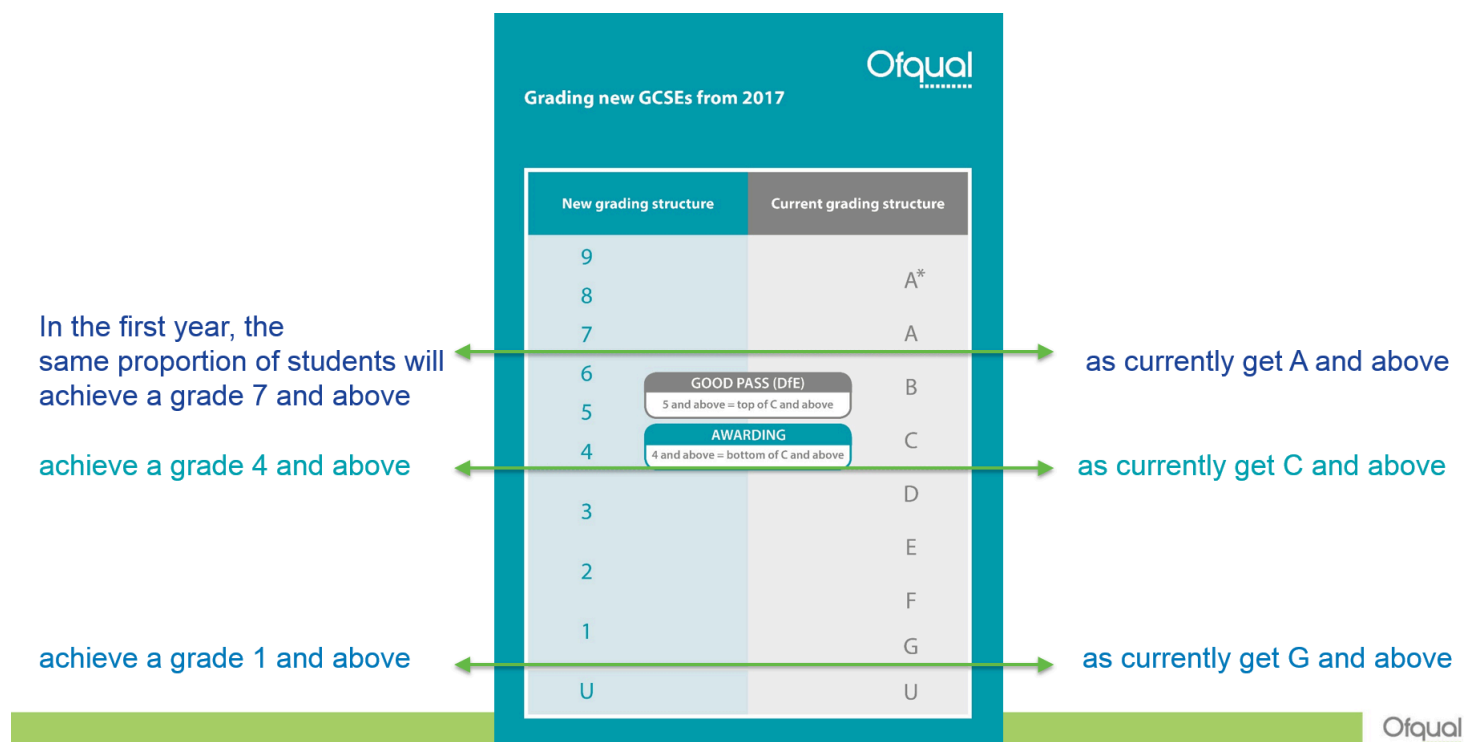
As you are probably aware the government introduced radical new changes to the structure and assessment of GCSEs several years ago. We are moved away from the familiar system of A*-G grades to a system of grading with numbers 9-1. In addition to the changes to the structure of GCSEs, the government also raised a 'good pass' from a C to a new grade 5, where a 5 represents the top third of a C and the bottom third of a B. This is to align the UK with the best education systems in the world. A "good pass" will now considered to be a 5.

2. What do GCSEs look like?

The main features of the new GCSEs are:

- A grading scale of 9 to 1 is used, with 9 being the top grade. This will allow greater differentiation between students and will help distinguish the new GCSEs from previous versions.
- Assessment will be mainly by exam, with other types of assessment used only where they are needed to test essential skills
- There is more demanding content, which has been developed by government and the exam boards
- Courses are designed for two years of study - they are not divided into different modules and students will take all their exams in one period at the end of their course
- Exams can only be split into 'foundation tier' and 'higher tier' if one exam paper does not give all students the opportunity to show their knowledge and abilities
- Resit opportunities will only be available each November in English language and Maths

3. GCSE Grading Scheme



Curriculum Structure

At this point in your son/daughter's time at Blackpool Aspire Academy we ask them to help determine what subjects and qualifications it is that they would like to study in Key Stage 4.

Certain subjects are considered essential and form the core part of the curriculum that all students will follow, this includes

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Combined Science (Unless in Set 1 and 2 who will study Separate Science)
- Physical Education
- PSHE and non-GCSE RE

All students in set 1 or 2 Science will automatically entered for Separate Science which will be taught in normal Science lessons and literary canon lessons. Students on Set 3-7 Science will study Combined Science.

Beyond this we give students the opportunity to express a preference for **three** other subjects that they wish to study, we offer a range of academic (GCSE) and vocational (BTEC and equivalent) courses that enable all students to study a broad and balanced curriculum.

We are this year offering students the opportunity to study other qualifications at Myerscough or Blackpool and the Fylde College. We are calling this option our "Compass Curriculum". Students can opt to study a qualification from Option Block C at these institutions. The option block will be taught on a Friday afternoon and students will leave school at around 12.30, returning at 5.15. More information can be found in the Compass Curriculum prospectus.

In some exceptional circumstances, it might be necessary for students to withdraw from the Compass curriculum offer. If this occurs, students will be able to study Separate Science on a Friday afternoon instead of going to the college. I must stress though that this is only in extreme cases. For the vast majority of students, once the choices are finalised they cannot be changed.

It is expected that all students will study at least one of the following subjects as part of government reforms to education.

- GCSE Geography or
- GCSE History or
- GCSE French or
- GCSE Separate Science (Set 1 and Set 2 Science Only)

These subjects are considered "gateway" subjects that employers and further education providers look very favourably on when students apply for jobs or university places. For students considering a university course a modern language is always looked on favourably.

Please look carefully at the information provided, and please discuss your son/daughter's preferences with them – this is critical point in their educational journey, and it will not be possible to make changes in Year 10 if they change their minds.

Top Tips for Future Success

You need to think long and hard about the subjects that you would like to study in Year 10; you need to think about why it is you want to do that subject!

Good reasons for expressing a subject preference

- You are good at the subject and achieve well
- You think you will enjoy the course
- It fits your career ideas and plans
- It goes well with your other choices
- It helps to give you plenty of choice post 16
- You think you might want to continue studying it post 16
- Your research shows that it will interest you and motivate you to learn.

Bad reasons for expressing a subject preference

- Your friends have chosen it
- You think it will be easy
- You think it's a good option for a boy/girl
- Someone else thinks it is a good idea
- You like the teacher you have now
- You did not have time to research your options properly



What does the next few weeks look like?

Date	Action
February Half Term Holiday	Look over the Options booklet with your child and discuss their potential choices
Thursday 29 th February- Period 5	Assembly with Mr Buchanan before students select their preferred options. This first selection will only be a DRAFT to gauge numbers for each subject
Early March	Revised option blocks will be issued based on the results of the first draft and students will select their options again in a SECOND DRAFT
Mid-March	Depending on the results of the second draft, students may be asked to complete a third draft to ensure that all students get their first choices
Late March	Final options choices will be communicated to students and parents

When students first complete the options form, this will only be a DRAFT. Student preferences vary from year to year and in order to ensure that the vast majority of students get their first choice, it may be necessary that there are at least two or three drafts involving the blocks changing. Students and parents will be informed of final choices before they finish for the Easter holidays in April.

On the next page is a copy of the draft options choice sheet which the students will fill in on February 29th.

Student Name	
Form Tutor	

All students must study at least one from Geography, History, Separate Science or French

Please indicate first and second choice for each option. Return this form to your form tutor or Mr Buchanan.

Option A	Preference
Geography	
Performing Arts	
Health and Fitness	
Hospitality and Catering	
Digital Technology	
Option B	Preference
History	
Religious Studies	
Art	
Business	
Engineering Design	
French	
Option C	Preference
Animal studies (Myerscough College)	
Motor Vehicles (Myerscough College)	
Equine studies (Myerscough College)	
Agriculture (Myerscough College)	
Horticulture (Myerscough College)	
Health and Social Care (Blackpool and the Fylde College)	
Hair and Beauty (Blackpool and the Fylde College)	
Esports (Blackpool and the Fylde College)	
Construction (Blackpool and the Fylde College)	
Public Services (Blackpool and the Fylde College)	
Travel and Tourism	
Health and Fitness	
Art	
Hospitality and Catering	

Student Signature		Date	
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Core Subjects

These subjects serve as the compulsory part of our curriculum offer, the study of English, Mathematics & Science ensures that our students are articulate, literate numerate and scientifically curious when they move on to the next stages of their lives.

All students will study for GCSEs in:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science (Science Sets 3-7) or Separate Science (Science Sets 1-2)

All students will continue to study but not receive an external qualification in:

- PSHE/Religious Education (one lesson per week)
- Physical Education (one lesson per week)

GCSE English

Why Study English Language & Literature?

English Language provides you with the key reading, writing and spoken language skills to assist you when you enter the wider world of further education and employment. It involves studying both fictional and non-fiction texts from the 19th, 20th & 21st centuries and writing in a variety of genres and styles.

English Literature provides you with the analytical skill to approach and understand a variety of literary texts including poetry, prose and plays. The subject inspires and improves your own writing style as you study esteemed and valued authors from Shakespearean times through to the modern day. The discussion of topics and ideas that influence these texts allows students to examine their own cultural heritage and the variety of perspectives that exist.

What Will I Study?

Year 10

Year 11



<p>'An Inspector Calls' – JB Priestley Focus on themes</p> <p>'A Christmas Carol' – C Dickens</p> <p>Descriptive Writing</p> <p>Reading and examining writers' perspectives in non-fiction texts Paper 2 Language.</p> <p>Point of View Writing – Articles & Essays</p> <p>'Conflict' Poetry cluster</p> <p>Reading and analysis of creative fictional texts.</p> <p>Revisit Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' - Focus on characters.</p>	<p>English Language Paper 1 Reading Exam Practice</p> <p>Spoken Language Assessments - Speech writing</p> <p>Narrative Writing</p> <p>'Power' poetry cluster</p> <p>Unseen Poetry Analysis</p> <p>Letter & Leaflet writing</p> <p>Revisit 'A Christmas Carol' & 'Macbeth' – focus on themes.</p> <p>Revisit 'An Inspector Calls' - characters</p> <p>Revision of bespoke language topics required for the examinations</p>
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Students are encouraged to participate in theatre visits to see live productions of the literary texts studied.

Career Opportunities

Journalism,

Publishing,

Education,

Creative Media,

Law,

Social Work,

Librarian,

Advertising,

Marketing,

Editor.

Qualification Details

- GCSE English Literature
- AQA Exam board
- 100% examination
 - Spoken Language element assessed separately – non-exam.
- GCSE English Language:
 - Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading & Writing
 - Paper 2 – Writer's Viewpoints & Perspectives
- GCSE English Literature:
 - Paper 1 – Shakespeare & the 19th century novel.
 - Paper 2 – Modern texts & poetry

What Support is on Offer?

Lesson 6 is offered by subject teachers for extra assistance. Student study guides are provided. PiXL Lit App and senecalearning.com is available for revision of literature texts.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize> recommended website.



What Next?

It is a core subject and without a qualification of 5 or above in this subject you will have to re sit the exams to the required standard in order to continue further studies at college or sixth form.

Possible learning pathways include 'AS' & 'A' Levels in English Language, English Literature, English Language & Literature, Creative Writing, Media Studies, Drama & Theatre Studies.

Who should I contact for more information?

Mrs S Johnson, Director of English.

What the Students Say:

'English lessons always make me think more deeply about things.' *Fahmidah Year 11*

'English lessons are enjoyable and topics are broken down so we understand them'.
Lauren Year 11

GCSE Mathematics

Why Study Mathematics?

Mathematics is a core subject and a compulsory part of your KS4 curriculum, this is because the over-whelming use of Mathematics in every career path and in your everyday lives. Whichever path you will want to take after you leave Blackpool Aspire Academy you will need to have received a good pass (Grade 5) in Mathematics. Without a good pass in Mathematics you will have to retake Mathematics at your set college, 6th form or apprenticeships. Mathematics promotes not only the ability to manipulate numbers but also logical thinking and problem solving which are transferable skills to future careers.

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
<p>Higher:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solving equations • Inequalities • Constructions • Transformations • Accuracy bounds • 2D shapes • 3D shapes • Probability • Similarity • Graphs • Further Trigonometry • Circle theory <p>Foundation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area/perimeter • Transformations • Ratio/proportion • 2D shapes • 3D shapes • Real life graphs • Right angled trigonometry • Constructions • Pythagoras • Quadratic algebra 	<p>Higher:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congruency • Constructions • Reciprocals • Proportionality • Vector geometry • Changing the subject • Trigonometry • Further Trigonometry • Iterations • Accuracy bounds • Graphical work <p>Foundation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rearranging equations • Quadratic algebra • Right angles triangles • Pythagoras/trigonometry • Ratio/proportion • Averages • Circles/cylinders/cones • Vectors • Probability

Career Opportunities

Forensic
accountant

Teacher

Qualification Details

- GCSE Mathematics
- Edexcel – Specification 1MA1
- The exam will be 3 papers each 1 hour 30 minutes long. The first will be non-calculator and the other two calculator papers.

What Support is on Offer?

The most important support is making sure you get the most out of every lesson as well as making sure you ask the maths teachers about any topics you are unsure on.

- Online learning platform/revision tools/resources logins. (PIXL maths, JustMaths, mathsgenie)
- Weekly lesson 6 (year 11)
- Weekly exam practice/papers (year 11)
- Maths revision packs

What Next?

Whatever you choose for your next step you have to achieve a grade 5 otherwise you will have to re-sit Mathematics.

- A Level Mathematics
- A Level Further Mathematics
- A Level Statistics
- Level 3 Core Mathematics

Who should I contact for more information?

Mr A. Thompson, Director of Mathematics a.thompson@aspire.fcat.org.uk.

What the Students Say:

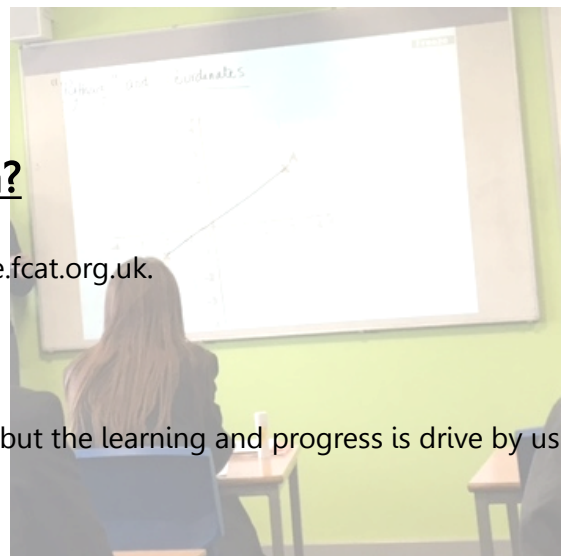
"Maths in KS4 is more independent, teachers are there to help but the learning and progress is drive by us more."

Natalie Year 10

"Don't waste any years, every year counts! Always focus in Maths" *Connor Year 11*

"My teacher is very supportive and always provides work for our ability and to help to push ourselves further to challenges us and make greater progress."

Shannon Year 11



GCSE Combined Science

(Science Sets 3-7 Only)

Why Study Combined Science?

Science is essential to understanding the world in which we live. Many of the most important aspects of our lives are driven by scientific discovery including the phones we use and the medical treatment we receive. Science is the most exciting subject to study due to the wide range of practical and theoretical work carried out.

Studying Combined Science will help you to develop skills that are essential to any future career such as planning investigations, carrying out research, teamwork and evaluation.

GCSE Combined Science is taught by a passionate and enthusiastic team of scientists specialising in all three science subjects; Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

“Science and everyday life cannot and should not be separated”

Rosalind Franklin- first person to see an image of DNA

“The scientist is not a person who gives right answers; he is one who asks the right questions”

Claude Levi-Strauss- French Anthropologist

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
<p><u>Biology-</u> Cells Organisation of Plants and Animals Bioenergetics Infection</p> <p><u>Chemistry</u> Atomic Structure Chemical Changes Energy Reactions Structure Quantitative</p> <p><u>Physics</u> Particles Energy Waves Electricity</p>	<p><u>Biology</u> Homeostasis Inheritance Ecology</p> <p><u>Chemistry</u> Rate of Reaction Organic Chemistry Chemical Analysis</p>

Career Opportunities

People with GCSE Combined Science are some of the most employable people in a wide variety of careers.

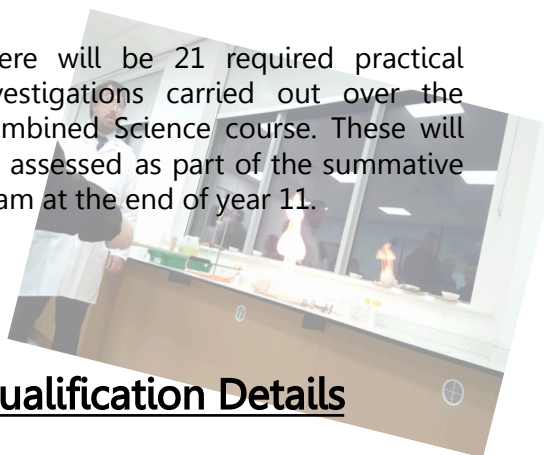
Science opens up opportunities in a wide range of careers:

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Animal Health
- Music Technology
- Sport Science
- Engineering
- Psychology

And some careers you may not have thought of...

- Finance
- Marketing
- Photography
- Art Restoration
- Media and Film Technology
- Food Technology

There will be 21 required practical investigations carried out over the Combined Science course. These will be assessed as part of the summative exam at the end of year 11.



Qualification Details

- GCSE Combined Science Trilogy (worth 2 GCSEs)
 - AQA
 - 100% Examination
 - Each examination lasts 1 hour and 15 minutes. Two exams will be taken in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

What Support is on Offer?

After school lessons are made available to all GCSE Combined Science students. These are planned specifically to the requirements of the individual student.

We use the Collins Combined Science Trilogy Revision guides. They will be handed out free of charge to all students

in year 11. Supplementary material will also be distributed in years 9 and 10.

What Next?

Blackpool Sixth Form offer:

- A Level courses in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology.
- BTEC level 3 courses in Applied Science, Health and Social Care, Engineering and Sport Science

Blackpool and the Fylde College offer:

- Engineering Diploma
- Level 3 Applied Science Diploma including Medical, Forensic and Environmental Science

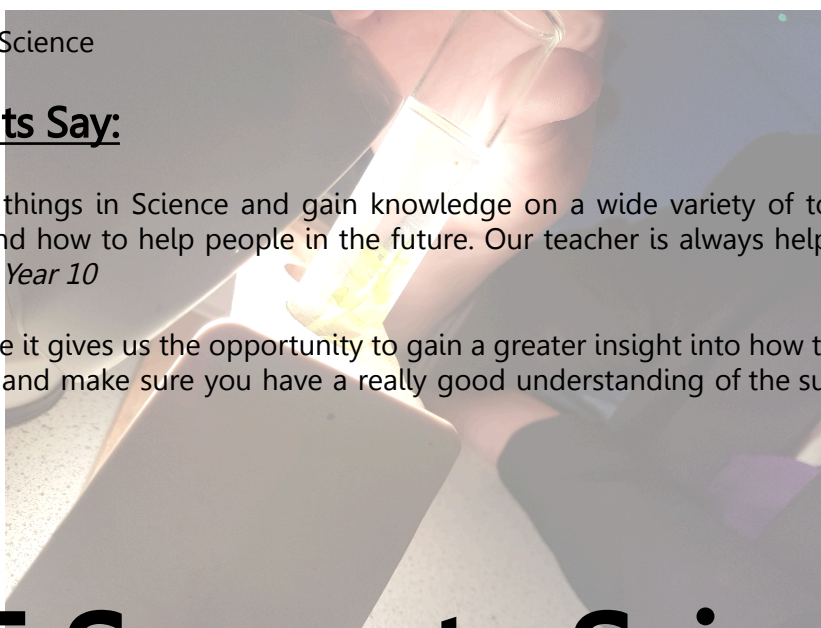
Who should I contact for more information?

Mr M Dodd- Director of Science

What the Students Say:

"We learn a lot of new things in Science and gain knowledge on a wide variety of topics. It helps us to understand the world and how to help people in the future. Our teacher is always helpful and wants us to do our best" *Macauley - Year 10*

"Science is great because it gives us the opportunity to gain a greater insight into how the world works. The teachers are supportive and make sure you have a really good understanding of the subject" *Sophie - Year 10*



GCSE Separate Sciences

(Science Set 1 and 2 only)

Why Study Separate Sciences?

For students passionate and curious about Science, this is the option that you need to select. Science will be the most important subject of the 21st Century and with so many advances in the fields of technology, medicine and space exploration, why wouldn't you want to be a part of it?

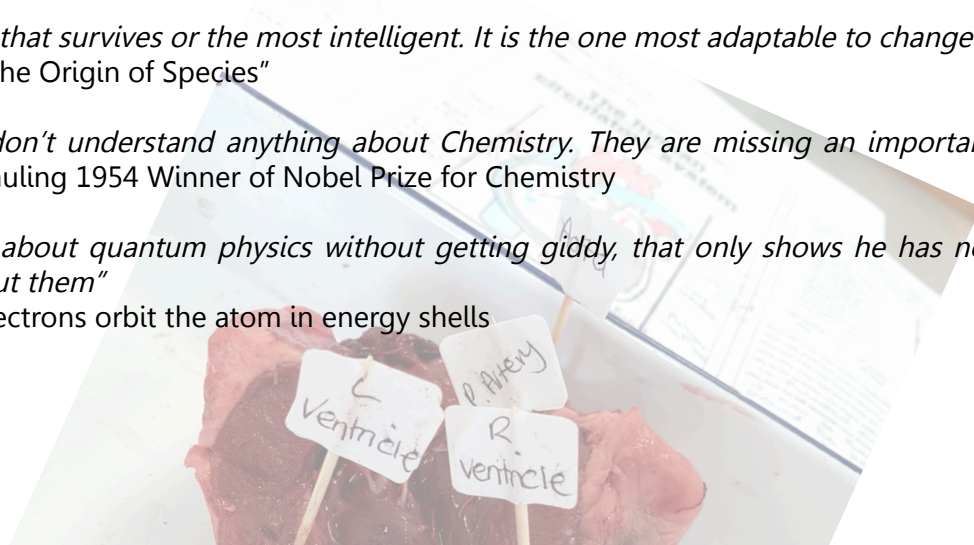
"It is not the strongest species that survives or the most intelligent. It is the one most adaptable to change"- Charles Darwin author of "On the Origin of Species"

"I feel sorry for people who don't understand anything about Chemistry. They are missing an important source of happiness!"- Linus Pauling 1954 Winner of Nobel Prize for Chemistry

"If anyone says he can think about quantum physics without getting giddy, that only shows he has not understood the first thing about them"

- Niels Bohr discovered that electrons orbit the atom in energy shells

What Will I Study?



Year 10	Year 11
<p><u>Biology-</u> Cells Organisation Bioenergetics Infection</p> <p><u>Chemistry</u> Atomic Structure Chemical Changes Energy Changes Structure and Bonding Quantitative Chemistry</p> <p><u>Physics</u> Particle Model Energy Waves Electricity</p>	<p><u>Biology</u> Homeostasis Inheritance Ecology</p> <p><u>Chemistry</u> Rate of Reaction Organic Chemistry Chemical Analysis Chemistry of the Atmosphere Using Resources</p> <p><u>Physics</u> Forces Radiation Electromagnetism Space</p>

There are 28 required practical investigations assessed in the final examinations.

Qualification Details

- GCSE Biology
 - GCSE Chemistry
 - GCSE Physics
 - AQA
 - 100% Examination
 - Each examination lasts 1 hour and 45 minutes.
- There are two in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics



What Support is on Offer?

After school lessons are made available to all GCSE Separate Science students. These are planned specifically to the requirements of the individual student.

We use the Collins Biology, Chemistry and Physics Revision guides. These will be handed out free of charge to all students in year 11. Supplementary material will also be distributed in years 9 and 10 free of charge to all students in year 11. Supplementary material will also be distributed in years 9 and 10.

Career Opportunities

Careers in Science:

Medicine
Dentistry
Zoology
Pharmacy
Chemical Engineering
Forensic Science

other careers including:

Law
Photography
Psychology
Finance
Media and Film
Teaching

What Next?

Blackpool Sixth Form College offer A Level courses in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology.

Who should I contact for more information?

Mr M Dodd- Director of Science

What the Students Say:

"Separate Science gives us an understanding of the world and provides us with life skills for the future. We learn in lots of different ways and do lots of practical experiments and group work."

Julia – Year 10

"Separate Science gives us a wide range of opportunities for our future. It provides us with important information about our world and our society. Teachers are friendly and helpful and always plan exciting lessons." *Joshua - Year 10*

Physical Education

Why Study PE?

- A broad and balanced curriculum, which fulfils National Curriculum guidelines but which also enables Aspire Academy to prioritise its curriculum to its pupils needs.
- A curriculum that develops attitudes, behaviours and establishes norms of conduct.
- A curriculum that includes leadership as a skill to develop with our pupils.
- A curriculum that allows continuity from Year 7 to Year 9.
- A curriculum which will be developed to allow continuity between different key stages.
- A curriculum which allows pupils to spend meaningful time on each unit of work.
- A curriculum which makes best use of resources and staff.
- A curriculum which is consistent for each pupil.
- A curriculum that allows pupils to progress according ability and which influences KS4.

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Options from invasion games of Basketball, Football, Rugby, and handball.• Options from Netball, Hockey, Football, Basketball.• Options from striking & fielding games e.g. Rounders, Cricket and Athletics.• Health & Fitness.• Trampolining, Table tennis and perhaps Gymnastics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Options from invasion games of Basketball, Football, Rugby, and handball.• Options from Netball, Hockey, Football, Basketball.• Options from striking & fielding games e.g. Rounders, Cricket and Athletics.• Health & Fitness.• Trampolining, Table tennis and perhaps Gymnastics.

Career Opportunities

PE Teacher
Sports Development
Sports Coaching
Sports Management
Physiotherapy & Sports Injury
Nutritionist

Qualification Details:

- There may be a chance to undertake a leadership course in 'Coach Education' or a proficiency award in a certain sport of your liking.
- The core PE you undertake will support your future study at KS4 & 5.

What Support is on Offer?

- There may be opportunities to develop your leadership, officiating and organising skills through supporting extra-curricular work before school or after school in the 'out of hours' programme.
- You may also be able to join a school team to really improve your skills.
- PE staff can also guide you to a team or club in the Blackpool & Fylde area to enhance your skills and your competitive nature, your teamwork and co-operation skills and your ability to socialise.

What Next?

- You will then be in a good position to develop your skills and techniques further at KS4 and KS5 leading to possible career choices in a range

Who should I contact for more information?

- Mrs S Elson, Subject Lead of PE

What the Students Say:

"I like doing PE because it inspires me to keep exercising and helps me to learn new skills outside of the classroom"

Jade, Year 11.

"PE is a lesson I look forward to because I like being active and trying new sports and improving. I play football and now I know how to play rugby and badminton better"

Adam, Year 10

Religious Education

(Core)

We are a diverse society, not just racially or culturally, but also religiously. This is why the study of religion is compulsory in all schools across England. Religion plays a huge part in many people's lives. It informs our worldview, and is linked with culture and identity. Our world is only getting smaller, we have to learn how to live and work together.

In year 10 and 11 our students will learn cultural tolerance and respect by exploring Medical Ethics, Religion and young people and Relationships through the six major religions of the world.

Religious Studies will give students valuable insights into the diverse beliefs & opinions held by people today. It will help with their own personal development & supports an understanding of the spiritual, moral, social & cultural questions that surface again & again in their lives.

Religion studies will help you explore the different set of practices that many people in the world live by, such as being kind to others, telling the truth, or praying. Something that all religions have in common is love and respect for each other and this is a trait that we will try to help students to gain at Blackpool Aspire Academy.

Through Religious Studies our students will gain wisdom in the following areas of life: artistic, musical and literacy. Many great politicians, actors, artists, composers, musicians and writers had deep religious and/or philosophical motivation and inspiration for their work. I believe the benefits of Studying Religious Studies at Blackpool Aspire Academy will;

- Make you happier
- Help you understand different cultures.
- Increases your understanding of global complexity.
- Increases cultural awareness.
- Improve your job prospects.

PSHE

Why Study PSHE?

Today's children and young people are growing up in a rapidly changing world, full of opportunities but with few guarantees. PSHE education is the school subject which prepares them for life and work in this changing world, helping to keep pupils safe, healthy and boosting their life chances. There is strong evidence that, when delivered by trained teachers in line with best practice, this 'curriculum for life' is popular with parents and helps children and young people to protect themselves and others both online and offline, improves their physical and emotional health, and develops character, resilience, academic attainment and employment prospects, with the greatest benefits experienced by the most disadvantaged pupils.

Here at Aspire Academy, we have catered our lessons to allow our students to grow as individuals; allowing them the opportunity to explore a range of different contexts and situations, giving them a 'toolkit' that they can dip into if needed. It is clear to all, that we need to give our children the skills that they will need to manage their own wellbeing. PSHE not only teaches the students the strategies but also provides students with a safe place to practice them and find what works for them.

PSHE is a non-examined subject which means there are not the pressures of exams for our students. This allows us to focus more on student wellbeing than data and exam results, we can adapt and change our lessons in order to deal with issues that are affecting our young people at that time and we are able to discuss events which affect them on both a personal and generational level.

What Will I Study?

KS3 & KS4

Each theme allows the students a variety of learning opportunities.

CORE THEME 1: HEALTH AND WELLBEING

CORE THEME 2: RELATIONSHIPS

CORE THEME 3: LIVING IN THE WIDER WORLD

Career Opportunities

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education is a school subject through which pupils develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives, now and in the future,

These skills and attributes help pupils to stay healthy, safe and prepare them for life and work in modern Britain. When taught well, PSHE education helps pupils to achieve their

Who should I contact for more information?

Miss L. Gregory, Head of PSHE and teacher of English.

What the Students Say:

'PSHE has really helped me to deal with my emotions this past year, especially after lock-down. I think discussing our emotions is really important' *Philip Year 11*

'I want to be a social worker when I leave school. I feel that studying PSHE has helped me develop my communication skills and allowed me to understand people better.' *Chelsea, Year 11*

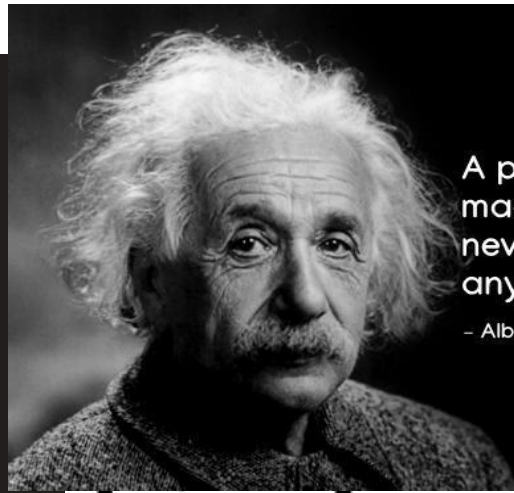
'PSHE has allowed me to develop my own tool kit that I can use when I feel frustrated or upset. I especially love the mindfulness unit and the meditations that we do in school.' *Kyle, Year 11*

SUCCESS
IS THE SUM OF SMALL EFFORTS,
REPEATED

DAY IN **DAY OUT**

Robert Collier (1885-1950)

InspirationBoost.com



A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.

- Albert Einstein

TTS.MS

Subjects

“A comfort zone is a beautiful place, but nothing ever grows there.”



**WILL IT BE
EASY?
NOPE.
WORTH IT?
ABSOLUTELY.**

**REAMS
on't
ork
less
J Do.**

lege

E Geography

GCSE Art and Design

Why Study Art GCSE?

1. The Internet has created an explosion of opportunity for digital designers and multimedia artists

The world is filled with computers, smartphones, tablets and other portable electronic devices. Almost all businesses have an online presence, with online advertising increasing by the day. The demand for web designers, app designers, software designers, graphic designers, digital illustrators, multimedia artists, video producers, online publishers, animation artists, game designers and many other digital careers is undergoing unprecedented growth.



'Let's not forget that everything man made object that you see or use has had some input from a creative person. Without this input from creatives these objects would simply not exist. Creativity and design are a part of every man-made object on the planet, or even in space.'

2. Those with a wide skill set have an advantage, in any career

Some people excel at mathematics. Others have strengths in written language. Others excel in creative areas such as Art and Design. If you are lucky enough to excel in two or three of these areas, you are part of a much smaller subset of the population. Those who are multi-skilled are astronomically more useful, well rounded, hireable and capable of excelling in a much wider range of professions.

3. Art makes you happy

In art, 'process' is as important as the product. Going through a process is part of our human nature and something that is sadly lacking in today's modern society where things are often instant. It is the process, the creation, the application which often gives us a real 'feel good' factor and it helps build resilience in all who partake in it. The fluffy, 'feel good' reasons that are usually given for selecting Art as a subject are given because they are right. **Art does fill the soul.** There is something magical about mark making, the fluidity of a line being drawn, smearing paint across a piece of paper and sculpting form with your hands. Communicating with colour, shape and form awakens the imagination; it opens a door to 'now'. If you love making art, you'll miss it when it's gone.

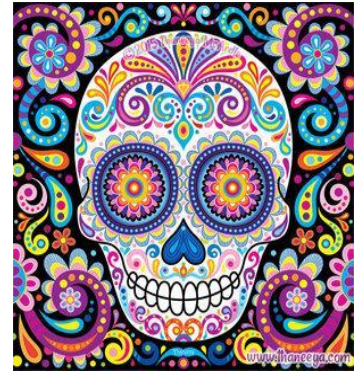


What Will I Study?

It is important to place the context of what we study into your child's Key Stage 3 experience. In Year 7 and 8 pupils have explored the seven-key art 'Formal Elements'. Things like line, tone, colour, texture, pattern, shape and form. Pupils have also learnt how to develop their own work through other artistic styles from varying world cultures and established artists. During year 9 Pupils will have covered early art history and they will have explored ancient styles of art that helped establish human beings as creatives. Our Art and Design GCSE course follows on from this firm creative foundation.



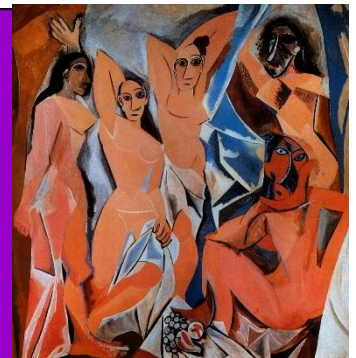
Year 10: Unit 1, The Pupils Portfolio. Medieval Art such as tattooing and body art, the Nazca Lines, printing, calligraphy, heraldry, stained glass, sugar skulls, the Aztecs. The Industrial Period – Pre Raphaelites, Impressionism, Post Impressionism, Cubism, Surrealism, Futurism, Expressionism, Pop Art and more contemporary artists of today.



Year 11: Pupils are encouraged to follow an explorative pathway, selecting artists of their choice to develop individual projects that will provide evidence for the exam. Pupils must engage in research, investigation, development of ideas, experimentation and refining of techniques, recording such as drawing and photography. This then culminates in producing a set of final studies related to their own individual project. Towards the end of Year 11, there is an externally set task, from our exam board, AQA, which asks the pupils to select one starting point from a choice of seven offered and develop this independently as a separate project. This is known as Unit 2.

Career Opportunities

Animator
Antique dealer
Architect
Archaeologist
Costume designer
Fashion designer
Fine artist,
Florist
Film and television set creator
Graphic designer
Hair dresser
Illustrator
Interior designer
Sewing machinist
Sign Writing
Theatre set design
Tattooist
Textile designer
Web designer



Qualification Details

GCSE Art and Design

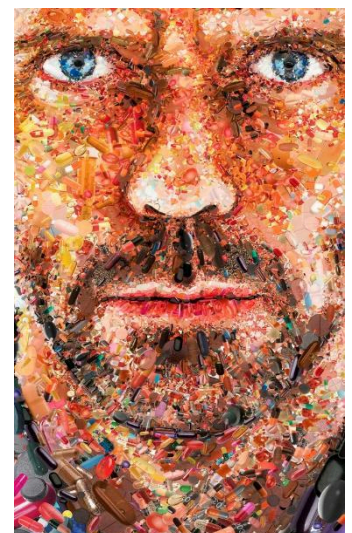
Syllabus – Art Craft and Design.

Exam Board: AQA

Unit 1: The Pupils Portfolio, Coursework that is completed over the two-year exam period. Internally set projects. 60% of the final mark.

Unit 2: Externally Set Piece from the exam board. Pupils selects one starting point out of seven offered. This element has time constraints and must be presented in two parts. A) Pupil preparation work and B) a final outcome that is created during a ten-hour controlled art session supervised period.

What Support is on Offer?



Art Extra sessions are open to any art GCSE pupil. These sessions offer the opportunity for pupils who may wish to extend projects to gain higher grades or the sessions can be used offer support and extra 1:1 help from our specialist art team. Monday to Friday lunchtimes, every day during term time and Monday to Friday 3.00pm – 4.00pm every week during term time.

What Next?

'A' level courses in any arts-based subjects.
BTEC National Diploma in any arts-based subjects.
An Apprenticeship in any creative based employment.

Who should I contact for more information?

Mr S. Iddon, Subject Lead of Art
Mrs. S Riley, Specialist Art teacher
Ms S. Matthews, Director of Arts & Technology

What the Students Say

'Art makes me feel more confident, I like the challenge and really enjoy developing my ideas and watching my art improve'. Georgia, Year 11

'I chose Art GCSE because it's calming and I am good at it but I wanted to get better and challenge myself'. Cody, Year 11

The greatest thing about Art is the range of skills you explore; you can express your feelings within art in all sorts of styles'
Wen, Year 10.

GCSE Geography

Why Study Geography?

Geography helps us to make sense of the world around us. The course will give you the chance to get to grips with some of the big global questions and understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world. So many of the world's current problems boil down to Geography, and we need the geographers of the future to help us understand them. Geography at GCSE level is both challenging and rewarding.

Geography at Aspire Academy is taught by well-qualified and highly experienced teachers, in a successful department. Since 2016 the department has held the Geographical Association's 'Centre of Excellence' award for the quality of geography teaching and learning.

Students study the AQA syllabus which investigates both physical geography and human geography. Students complete three examination papers at the end of the course. Fieldwork in the local area is carried out towards the end of Year 10, with other opportunities throughout the course to visit key geographical locations.

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
<p>Physical Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Challenge of Natural Hazards • The UK Landscape (Rivers and Coasts) • The Living World (Tropical rainforests and Hot Deserts) • Local Fieldwork and geographical skills 	<p>Human Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Issues and Challenges (with a focus on Rio de Janeiro and Liverpool) • The Changing Economic World (understanding development geography in Nigeria and the UK) • The Challenge of Resource Management (with a focus on water management) • Geographical Skills

Career Opportunities

According to the Royal Geographical Society, Geography graduates have some of the highest rates of graduate employment.

Geography is great for any kind of career that involves the environment, planning, or collecting and interpreting data. Popular careers for people with geography qualifications include: town or transport planning, surveying, conservation, sustainability, waste and water management, environmental planning, tourism, and weather forecasting.

The army, police, government, research organisations, law and business world also love the practical research skills that geographers develop.

Qualification Details

- GCSE Geography
- AQA Syllabus A
- 100% examination
- Physical Geography paper (35% of final grade)
- Human Geography paper (35% of final grade)
- Geographical skills and fieldwork (30% of final grade)

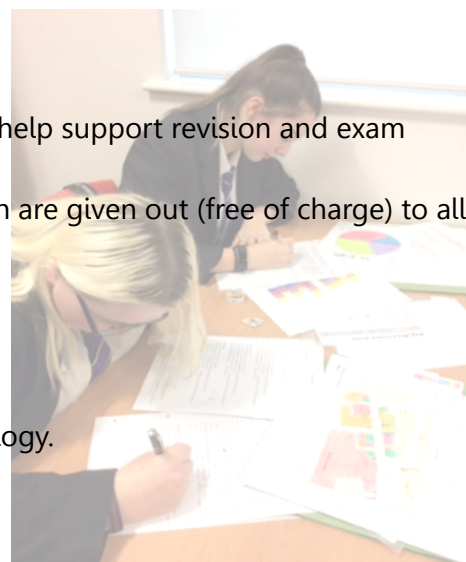
What Support is on Offer?

Lesson 6 revision lessons are made available to all geographers to help support revision and exam technique.

The Geography department produces its own revision guides which are given out (free of charge) to all GCSE Geography students.

What Next?

Blackpool Sixth Form offer AS/A level Geography, AS/A level Sociology.



Blackpool and the Fylde offer course in Marine Biology and Coastal Management (Foundation Course), Travel and Tourism (Level 2 and 3 BTEC) and Travel Services (Level 2 and 3 BTEC).

Who should I contact for more information?

Miss L. Stevenson, Head of Geography and Director of Humanities.

What the Students Say:

'For me, Geography has opened my eyes to the world. I have a greater knowledge and understanding of the physical and human world in which I live. I thoroughly enjoy Geography lessons and would recommend the subject to any Year 9 student who is considering it as an option.' *Tia, Year 11*

'I love Geography! Each of the units we study are very different, but all of them are linked in some way, meaning that topics are easier to understand than other subjects.' *Jodie, Year 11*

'Geography has made me understand the physical aspects of the world in a lot more detail. It has informed me about how our world works and has raised questions about the world that I had never considered before. I enjoy the lessons and the work is really interesting.' *Tayla, Year 11*

GCSE History

Why Study History?

It would be great to know what could happen before we make an important decision wouldn't it? Well, studying History can help us do this on a big scale.

By analysing past events we learn about the **consequences** of people's actions, from kings & queens to the London baker who forgot to put his fire out on September 2nd 1666...

If we apply this knowledge to the present, governments, businesses and individuals can learn lessons from past mistakes or successes and make informed choices about their futures.

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
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Germany 1890-1945. A study of how Germany became a great world power, suffered defeat and humiliation in World War One, struggled to regain their status and finally succumbed to the rule of Adolf Hitler and the Nazis.

Conflict and Tension 1918-1939. A study of how world leaders tried and ultimately failed to build a lasting peace in Europe and around the world.

Elizabethan England c1568- 1603. A study of how a young woman from a difficult family, dealt with complex problems including religious bigotry and sexism to become arguably England's greatest monarch.

The Health and the People c1000- Present Day. A study of how and why the health and life expectancy of British people has changed so dramatically over the last 1000 years.

Career Opportunities -

Any qualification in History is highly valued by further and higher education institutions due to the analytical and critical reasoning skills that they develop.

Law
Teaching
Police Force
Armed Forces
Journalism
Business Management
Media
Politics

Qualification Details

- GCSE History. AQA.
- 100% examination based at the end of Year 11.
 - 50% Paper 1- Germany 1890-1945 and Conflict and Tension 1918-1939.
 - 50% Paper 2- Elizabethan England c1568-1603 and The Health and the People c1000- Present Day.

What Support is on Offer?

During Year 11 students will be invited to attend Lesson 6 to consolidate extend previous learning.

CGP Revision guides will be provided to all History students.

What Next?

History is highly valued by all post-16 institutions and is included in the English Baccalaureate. This means that a GCSE in History can help you to study any post-16 course.

More specific History related courses are as follows:

A-Level Ancient History- Classical Civilisation

A-Level History- Medieval and Modern

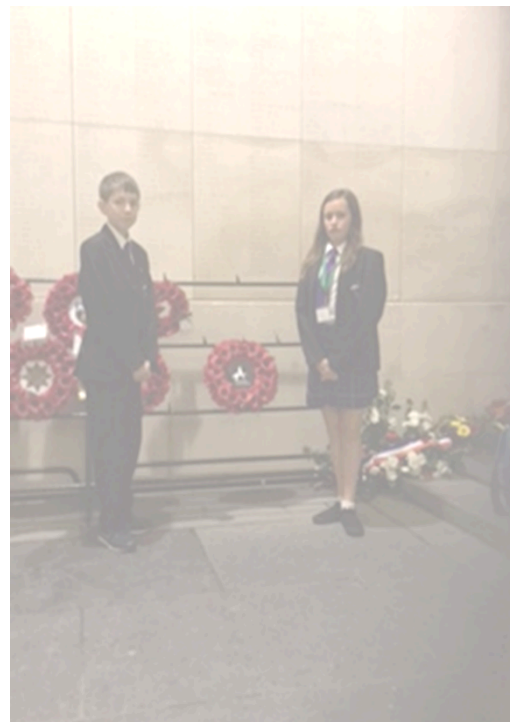
Who should I contact for more information?

Mr D Carter, Subject Leader of History d.carter@aspire.fcat.org.uk
Miss L. Stevenson, Director of Humanities

What the Students Say:

"I would recommend GCSE History because the topics you study are really interesting. Also, the teachers bring the lessons to life." *Freya Year 10*

"You should choose GCSE History because learning about History is important to help us to not make the same mistakes of the past again. The whole new world of knowledge that can be unlocked by studying GCSE History is incredible and with amazing teaching staff there to support you, it would be a mistake not to choose it!" *Jack. Year 10*



GCSE French

Why Study French?

Learning languages gives pupils opportunities to develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills with increasing confidence, independence and creativity. Pupils will explore the similarities and differences between French and English and learn how language can be manipulated and applied in different ways. Communication skills, together with understanding the structure of language, lay the foundations for future study. Learning a foreign language will also support the development of literacy skills in your own language. The ability to understand and communicate in another language is a lifelong skill. Future employability is enhanced by knowledge of a foreign language and opens doors to a wide range of opportunities.

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
Themes include: Me, my family and friends. Healthy Lifestyle Family celebrations Customs and festivals Town and Region Holidays and Travel Leisure and Hobbies	Themes include: School Future Aspirations Study and Work Environment International and global dimensions World problems

Qualification Details

Qualification Title: GCSE French (Grade 9-1)

Examination Board: AQA

GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (grades 1-5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4-9)

The following units are assessed:

- **Unit 1 Listening (25%)**
 - Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language
- **Unit 2 Speaking (25%)**
 - Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes
- **Unit 3 Reading (25%)**
 - Understanding and responding to different types of written language
- **Unit 4 Writing (25%)**
 - Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes

Career Opportunities

Knowing a foreign language can help you in many aspects of your life, including travel and work. But did you know that you can find some of the coolest jobs just by knowing another language?

Media (journalism) and film

What Support is on Offer?

Departmental support opportunities include focused lesson 6 support sessions e.g. for help with speaking, revision guides with CD for listening practice, online revision and consolidation materials with personal logins and passwords.

Recommended websites:

www.linguascope.com

www.languagesonline.org.uk

www.funwithlanguages.vacau.com

www.languageskills.co.uk



What Next?

Languages are an invaluable skill to have. Having a language can increase your salary from 8 to 20% and gives you a head start on other potential employees as by speaking another language you're vital to any company who does international business (and there's a lot of them). Plus, a language is also a pre-requisite for lots of university courses so it's something to consider if you're thinking about university in the future. Languages are key to the exciting multinational world we live in!

Languages at A-level (such as A Level French at Blackpool Sixth) offer you a fantastic opportunity to work towards becoming a linguist.

Who should I contact for more information?

Mrs J. Barnett, Subject Lead of Modern Languages

What the Students Say:

"Taking French was a really good decision. It is not as hard as I thought it would be and it will open up a lot of opportunities for me in life" *Demi, Year 10*

"I really enjoy how we practise our French skills in different ways. I think that taking French could lead to travelling around the world." *Joshua, Year 10*

GCSE Religious Studies

Why Study Religious Studies?

GCSE RS will turn your world upside down, turn childish thoughts into mature ideas, and turn darkness into light. The topics studied in Religious Studies inevitably lead to fascinating and mystifying, sometimes outrageous aspects of the human experience. The topics studied will be based on concepts surrounding

popular culture, violence, the environment, social change and emotional life. In addition to the content of the units studied, the focus on critical thinking about religion, Empathy and tolerance towards other cultures and customs, Religious knowledge, the knowledge about religions and religious cultures, is a powerful resource to use throughout the rest of your life. Let's face it: religion is one of the most powerful social and cultural forces in human history.

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
<p>Students shall study the beliefs and practices of Christianity and Islam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The nature of God. ● God as omnipotent, loving and just, ● The problem of evil and suffering. ● Resurrection and life after death ● Crucifixion of Jesus Christ ● Worship ● Persecution ● Allah ● Hajj ● Key beliefs of Sunni and Shia Islam ● Predestination ● Muhammed (PBUH) ● The Five pillars of Islam 	<p>Students shall investigate the topics below through two religions. Christianity and Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peace and Conflict: Beliefs about war, Terrorism and Violence, Just War and Pacifism. ● Crime and Punishment: Reasons for Crime, Christian and Muslim attitudes towards criminals, Christian and Muslim attitude the death penalty ● Religion and life: Origins of the universe, The environment, Origins of Human life, Abortion, Euthanasia and Death and afterlife. ● Relationships and family: Human sexuality, Family planning, Sexual relationships, Marriage, family life and Gender equality.

Qualification Details

- GCSE
- AQA
- All assessment is linear, with exams taking place at the end of Year 11.
- Paper 1: students are required to study two religions in depth.
- Paper 2: students must study philosophical and ethical themes.
- The assessment objectives (AOs): AO1 (knowledge and understanding) and AO2 (analysis and evaluation). Both are worth 50% at GCSE

What Support is on Offer?

Opportunities are available for students who need to catch up on work and obtain a deeper understanding of the topics studied, in lesson 6. This session runs afterschool. Revision guides and extra learning material can be obtained from Mr Butt, C16.

What Next?

Blackpool Sixth Form College you can go onto study AS/A Level Courses - A Level Religion, Ethics and Philosophy. You will need a 5 in GCSE English and a grade 5 or above in Religious Studies is preferred.

Who should I contact for more information?

Mr A. Butt, Subject Lead of Religious Education
Miss L. Stevenson, Director of Humanities

What the Students Say:

'We get to learn through various activities such as class debates, day trips and personalised activities to help you learn. I really enjoy giving my opinion and debating controversial issues.' *Joshua, Year 10*

'Religious Studies is an interesting and diverse subject to take. It allows expansion of knowledge and respect for all people.' *Hannah, Year 10*

'Religious Studies is an ecstatic subject because it emphasises the importance of tolerance and diversity.' *Leon, Year 10*

Career Opportunities

Jobs directly related to Religious Studies include:

- National and local government, including the Civil Service and government agencies, as well as non-governmental organisations (NGOs);
- Schools, colleges and universities (for teaching and research positions);
- Charities, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations;
- Social services and other caring professions;
- The church and other religious organisations;

Hospitality and Catering

Why Study Hospitality and Catering?

Do you like cooking? Are you creative? Want to use ingredients to produce new and exciting dishes? Do you want to learn in a practical way and be assessed both internally and externally? Want to learn about balanced diets? Can you work safely in a team and independently? Want to learn theory as well as practical? Then Hospitality and Catering is for you! If you choose Hospitality and Catering here are some of the facts. Hospitality and Catering is a Technical award assessed through 2 units, 1 internal and 1 external exam. During this course you will develop your knowledge and understanding of different areas such as, nutrients, food intolerances, healthy living, Hospitality & Catering job roles and structure. You will develop your practical skills using different Catering equipment to produce a range of dishes. You will be internally assessed through your ability to plan, prepare, cook, present & review a range of nutritional dishes. Throughout this course you will explore dishes from around the world to widen your understanding of the Hospitality and Catering industry. As well as completing practical activities you will also gain knowledge and understanding of the Hospitality & Catering industry which will support the externally assessed exam.

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
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During year 10 you will develop vital culinary skills that will help you with planning, preparing, cooking & reviewing nutritional dishes. You will also investigate areas such as

- Food poisoning, intolerances and nutrients.
- Importance of nutrition when planning meals and how cooking methods can impact on nutritional value
- Understand Menu planning
- Understand the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate.
- Understand how hospitality and catering providers operate.
- Cook a range of dishes
- Review dishes including the planning, preparation and cooking stages
- Understand how Hospitality and Catering provision meets health and safety requirements. Internal assessment, nutritional needs of target group. Environmental issues and food safety.

Internal assessment scenario.

- Understand the importance of nutrition when planning meals.
- Understand Menu planning and what affects menu planning.
- Understand how cooking methods can impact nutrients
- How environmental issues impact menu planning.
- Be able to cook dishes.
- Understand how Hospitality and catering provision meets health and safety requirements.
- Review the planning, preparation and cooking stages

Exam content focusing on:

- Learn about the hospitality and catering industry, the types of hospitality and catering providers and about working in the industry.
- Learn about health and safety, and food safety in hospitality and catering, as well as food related causes of ill health.
- Understand the importance of nutrition when planning meals.
- Understand Menu planning
- Understand the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate.
- Understand how hospitality and catering providers operate.
- Understand how Hospitality and catering provision meets health and safety requirements.

Career Opportunities

Head Chef
Sous Chef
Pastry Chef
Larder Chef
Sauce Chef
Nutritionist
Kitchen Porter
Restaurant manager
Waiter / Waitress
Receptionist
Housekeeper
Conference manager
Hotelier
Front of house
Bar keeper
Food critic

Qualification Details

- WJEC Level 2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering (Technical award)

Course Content breakdown

Externally assessed unit

- Unit 1 - The Hospitality and Catering Industry – 40%

Internally assessed unit

- Unit 2 - Hospitality and Catering in Action – 60%

What Support is on Offer?

Lesson 6 will be available to focus on exam revision.

There are also a range of websites to support with subject content:

www.foodsafety.gov
<http://homefoodsafety.org/app>
www.nutrition.org.uk
www.food4life.org.uk/key-stage-four/health-and-nutrition/nutritional-requirements/
www.gdalabel.org.uk/gda/gda_values.aspx

What Next?

Level 3 Hospitality & Catering qualifications, Science & Nutrition certificates, Food preparation & cookery qualifications.

Apprenticeships in Cookery

Who should I contact for more information?

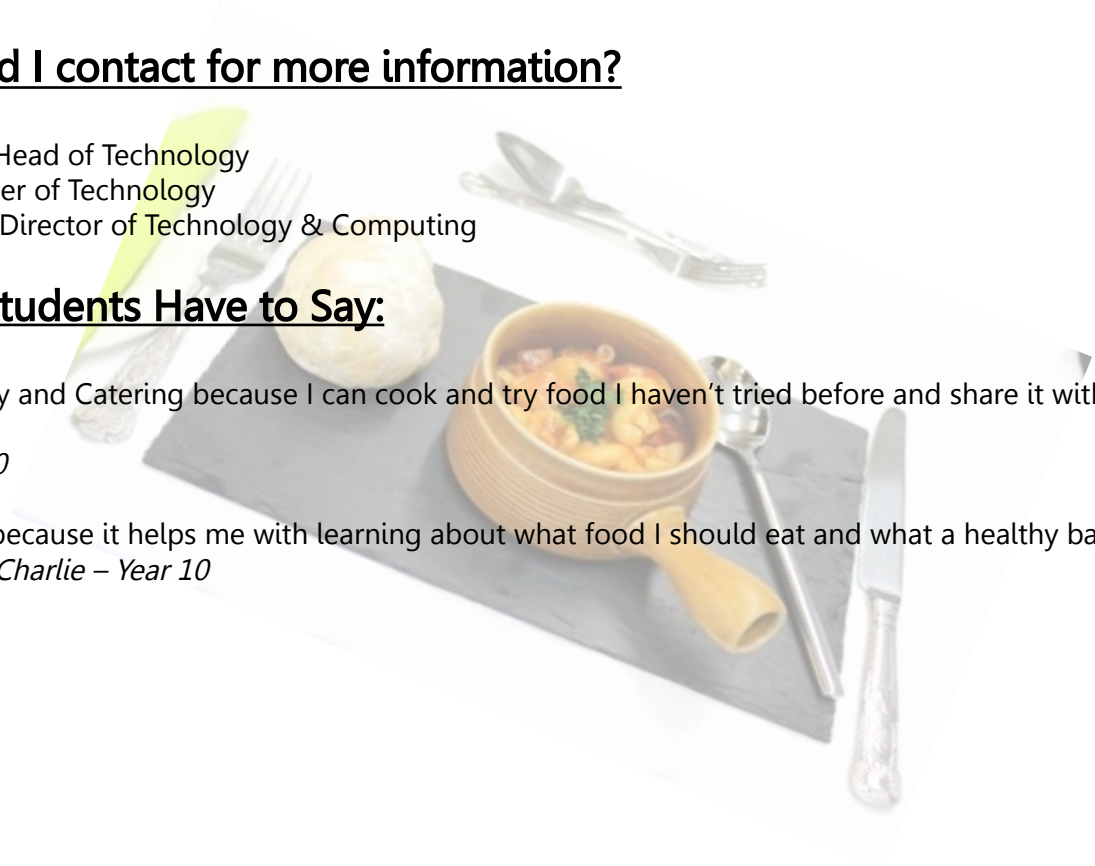
Mr J Barnhurst, Head of Technology
Miss Lees, Teacher of Technology
Ms S Matthews, Director of Technology & Computing

What the Students Have to Say:

"I like Hospitality and Catering because I can cook and try food I haven't tried before and share it with my family."

Charlie – Year 10

"I like Catering because it helps me with learning about what food I should eat and what a healthy balanced diet looks like." *Charlie – Year 10*



Engineering Design

Why Study Engineering design?

You may be interested in this if you want an engaging qualification where you will use what you learn in practical, real-life situations, such as:

- Using both 2D and 3D engineering design techniques
- Designing new products to meet a design brief
- Communicating engineering design ideas. This will help you to develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the engineering design and development sector. The qualification will also help you to develop learning and skills that can be used in other life and work situations, such as:
 - Completing research to inform engineering design ideas
 - Solving problems by exploring different engineering design options
 - Finding imaginative solutions through creative thinking.

What Will I Study?

R038: Principles of engineering design This is assessed by an exam. In this unit you will learn about the design process, and all of the stages that are involved.

Topics include:

- o Designing processes
- o Designing requirements
- o Communicating design outcomes
- o Evaluating design ideas

R039: Communicating designs This is assessed by a set assignment. In this unit you will learn how to use sketching and engineering drawings to communicate your ideas.

Topics include:

- o Manual production of freehand sketches
- o Manual production of engineering drawings
- o Use of computer aided design (CAD)

R040: Design, evaluation and modelling This is assessed by a set assignment. In this unit you will learn how to create and test models of your design.

Topics include:

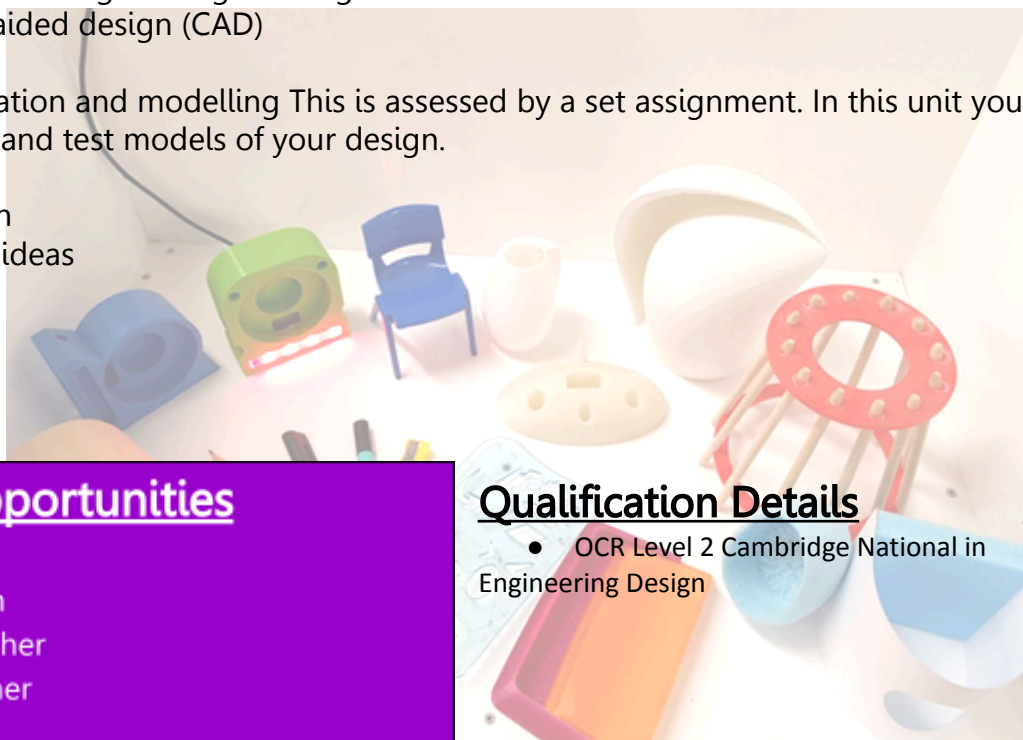
- o Product evaluation
- o Modelling design ideas

Career Opportunities

Engineer
CAD Technician
Market Researcher
Product Designer
Car Designer
Fashion Designer
Architect
Aerospace Engineer
Medical Engineer

Qualification Details

- OCR Level 2 Cambridge National in Engineering Design

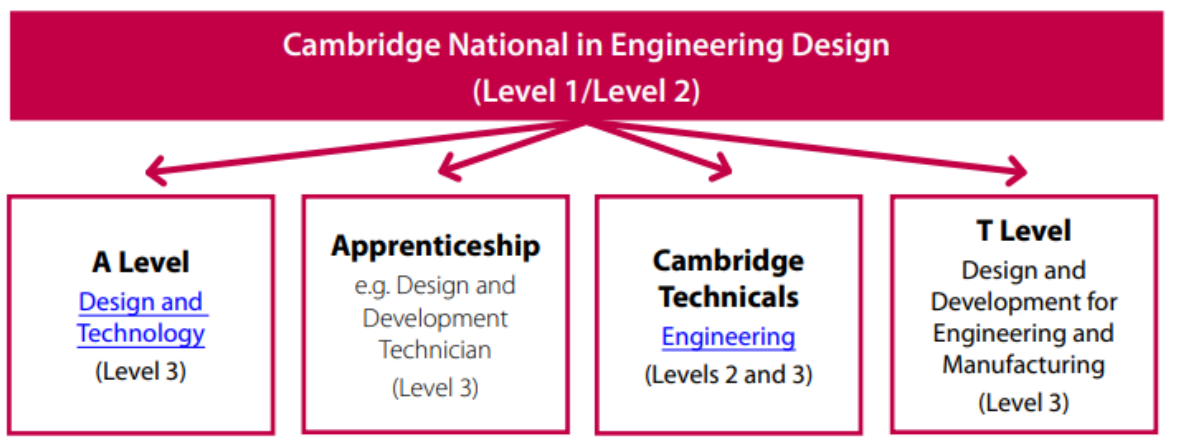


What Support is on Offer?

Lesson 6 will be available to focus on NEA & Exam content

Unit no.	Unit title
R038	Principles of engineering design
R039	Communicating designs
R040	Design evaluation and modelling

What Next?



Who should I contact for more information?

Mr J Barnhurst, Head of Technology
Miss Lees, Teacher of Technology
Ms S Matthews, Director of Technology & Computing

Business & Marketing

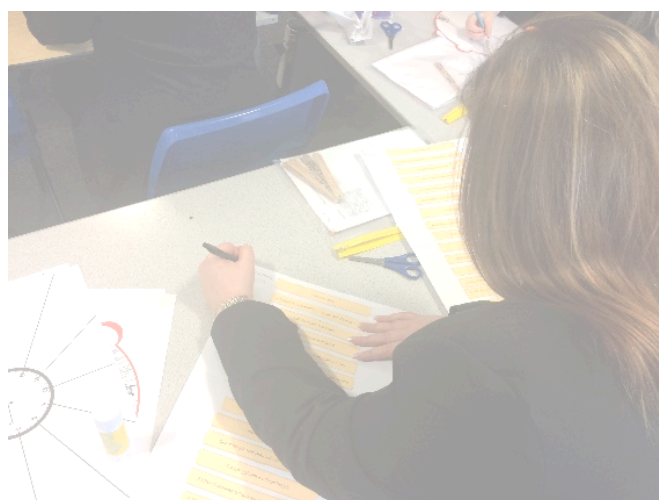
Why Study Business?

Knowledge of how and why businesses operate will be of great relevance to all young people, as they finish their education and enter the world of work. Businesses are part of our everyday lives, providing us with the products we need, communicating relentlessly with us through advertising, providing employment and inventing new products and services that transform how we live. This course focuses on what businesses are and how they organise themselves to achieve their objectives.

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exploring the different types of business.• What does it mean to be an entrepreneur?• Market Research• Aims & Objectives in a Business• What is Marketing?• Market segmentation and target marketing• Rewards and Risks in a business• The marketing mix (4P's)• Marketing methods• Writing a Business plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sources of finance• Cash Flow Forecasts & Budgets• Break-Even & Margin of Safety• Profit & Loss Accounts• Tax, VAT & National Insurance• Financial Records

During the course the students will sit an external exam (40% of final grade) and have to create a marketing and business plan for a selected product (60% of final grade).



Qualification Details

- Level 2 Certificate in Enterprise & Marketing
- OCR exam board
- It is assessed 40% externally through an exam; 60% internally through a portfolio of evidence.

What Support is on Offer?

- Lesson 6 to support revision
- Customised revision materials and practice papers
- A wide range of revision websites and online quizzes to help with the learning and revision of difficult topics

What Next?

Following completing this qualification, students have the following options:

- A Level Economics
- A Level Business
- Level 3 Qualification in Business & Enterprise
- Apprenticeships in Business

Career Opportunities

Management

Trading

Accountancy

Banking

Retail & Sales

Advertising

Media

Human Resources

Law

Catering

Administration

Systems Analyst

Public Relations

Marketing

Who should I contact for more information?

Ms S. Matthews, Director of
Technology & Arts

What the Students Say:

"It is a bit tough to start with as it is a new subject, but it is fun and gets easier"

Rebekah – Year 10

"Business gives the chance to learn about things in Blackpool and beyond that you just don't realise."

Nicole – Year 10

Digital Technologies

Why Study Digital Technologies

ICT plays an important role in nearly all careers in 21st Century businesses and is an important life skill as technology impacts on so many facets of our modern lives.

- ICT is a useful route into further and higher education.
- You could develop a career on the creative side of new media like web-design or online publishing, or you might follow a path that leads into even more technical ICT areas.
- You might be more interested in managing the whole ICT process in a business, or you might use your software knowledge to take you into sales & marketing.

What Will I Study?

During the course you will look at the following:

Year 10	Year 11
<p>Using Augmented Reality to present information In this unit, students you will learn the purpose, use and types of augmented reality (AR) in different contexts. You will develop the skills to be able to design and create an AR model prototype, using a range of tools and techniques. You will also be able to test and review your AR model prototype.</p> <p>Analysing & manipulating data In this unit, you will learn the skills to be able to plan and design a solution to meet client requirements. You will be able to use a range of tools and techniques to create a solution based on you design, which you will test.</p>	<p>You will focus on the knowledge and understanding to apply design tools for applications, principles of human computer interfaces and the use of data and testing in different contexts when creating IT solutions or products.</p> <p>You will cover uses of Internet of Everything and the application of this in everyday life, cyber-security and legislations related to the use of IT systems, and the different types of digital communications software, devices, and distribution channels.</p>

Qualification Details

- Digital Technologies
- OCR
- 40% External Exam; 60% Portfolio of Products

What Support is on Offer?

- Lesson 6 to support revision
- Customised revision materials and practice papers
- A wide range of revision websites and online quizzes to help with the learning and revision of difficult topics



Career Opportunities

Mobile application developer

What Next?

- A Level in ICT or Level 3 equivalent
- Apprenticeship in the IT industry
- A Level in Graphic Design

Who should I contact for more information?

Ms S. Matthews, Director of Technology & Arts

What the Students Say:

"This builds on everything I learnt in KS3– it is challenging but interesting" *Ben, Year 10*

"This is a very creative subject that works well with everything I learn in other lessons" *Patrick, Year 10*

Health & Fitness

Why Study Health and Fitness?

- Inspire and enthuse learners to consider a career in the sport sector.
- Give learners the opportunity to gain a broad knowledge of and develop skills in, the sport sector.
- Support progression to a more specialised level 3 vocational or academic sports course or an apprenticeship.
- Give learners the potential opportunity, in due course to enter employment within a wide range of job roles.

What Will I Study?

- NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness

Year 10	Year 11
Area 1 – Structure and function of the body systems Area 2 – Effects of health and fitness activities on the body Area 3 – Health and Fitness and the components of fitness Area 4 – Principles of training Areas 5- Testing and developing components of fitness	Area 6 – Impact of lifestyle on health and fitness Areas 7 Applying health and fitness analysis and setting goals Area 8 – Structure of a health and fitness programme and how to prepare safely

You will also still study PE in your core PE lessons, once a week. There will be opportunities for you to lead parts of these lessons and to develop your understanding further in sporting activities. It will be helpful if you:

- Be well organised e.g. bringing P.E kit
- Have a commitment to extra-curricular sport
- Have good levels of achievement in English and mathematics
- Be prepared to work equally hard in both theory and practical aspects of the course
- Show good leadership qualities
- Have the confidence to take on the role of a coach

Qualification Details

NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness

Course consisting of 2 Assessments

Assessment 1 – External examination – 1hr 30-minute examination – 40% of final mark

Assessment 2- Synoptic project (coursework) – 60% of final mark

What Support is on Offer?

- Lesson 6 to support revision and training programme development
- Revision materials and examination questions
- Revision websites and videos

Career Opportunities

PE Teacher
Sports Development
Sports Coaching
Sports Management
Physiotherapy & Sports Injury
Nutritionist
Public/Armed services
All active careers from landscaping to the Fire brigade.

What Next?

BTEC National Diploma in Sport
A Level Physical Education

Who should I contact for more information?

Mrs Elson, Subject Lead of PE

What the Students Say:

"I have enjoyed the course as it has provided me with a good understanding of the body systems which will help me with my chosen career in the NHS. *Josh Year 11.*

"I have enjoyed building different training programmes to improve my own fitness. These programmes I often use now in the gym." *Dennis Year 11.*

Performing Arts

Why Study Performing Arts?

On the Performing Arts Course you will study acting / musical theatre, rehearsal skills and will perform for audiences in groups and on your own. You will also research characters and storylines and plan productions that you take part in. There are three pathways but you will only choose one: acting, dancing or musical theatre. The course culminates in a large scale performance and production for a live audience. This will:

- be inspirational in enthusing learners into studying Performance and learning about how to enter the Performing Arts Industry
- give learners the opportunity to gain a broad knowledge of, and develop, skills in Performing Arts
- instil rehearsal discipline into learners
- support progression to a more specialised level 3 vocational or academic Performing Arts course
- teach presentation skills

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
Component 1 You will develop your understanding of the performing arts by examining practitioners' work and the process used to create the performance. This includes background research of three plays, musicals or dances.	Component 2 You will continue to develop your performing arts skills and techniques through the reproduction of acting, dance or musical theatre repertoires. You will learn rehearsal discipline and will perform for an audience which is also filmed.
Component 2 You will develop your performing arts skills and techniques through the reproduction of acting, dance or musical theatre repertoires. You will learn rehearsal discipline and will perform for an audience which is also filmed.	Component 3 You will be given the opportunity to work as part of a group to create a workshop performance in response to a given brief and stimulus. You will learn rehearsal discipline and will perform for an audience which is also filmed.

It is useful for students to visit as many performances as possible during the course and develop an interest in various types of performances.

Qualification Details

- Certification: BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award Performing Arts
- Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel
- Weighting of units: Components 1 & 2 30% each of the total marks (Internally Marked, Externally Moderated) Component 3 40% of the total marks (Externally Marked)

What Support is on Offer?

There are opportunities to attend lesson 6 at various points during the course. On the build up to the final performance we hold an Easter Holidays rehearsal session. Scripts and resources will be provided during the course and must be brought into each session and looked after. Some costumes are the actor's own but can be provided by school if required.

Career Opportunities

Performing Artiste (Actor/Dancer/Musician)
Performing Arts Teacher
Stage Manager
Drama Therapist
Television Production Assistant
Holiday Venue Entertainer
TV/Radio Presenter
Theatre Director
Arts Administrator

What Next?

BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts (Extended Certificate / Diploma)
A-Level Drama & Theatre Studies
A-Level English Literature
A-Level Media Studies

Who should I contact for more information?

Miss Mackay, Subject Lead of Performing Arts

What the Students Say:

"This course helps you develop your acting skills and confidence. I have had so much fun on this course. I have made friends, been able to express myself and have learned self-discipline which is very important in Performing Arts. The teachers are brilliant and know how to work you hard but still enjoy and have fun with the tasks."

Adam Year 10

"The Performing Arts Course is amazing. I have acted on my own and in groups and learned singing technique. I have had lots of fun while developing my Performing Arts skills. I have learned a lot about rehearsal discipline, confident performing and expression. I would like to study Performing Arts in my future. The teachers are fun and fantastic!"

Nikkita Year 10

BTEC Travel and Tourism

Why Study Travel and Tourism?

The travel and tourism sector is the UK's third largest employer and one of the fastest growing employment sectors in the UK. It creates jobs for nearly 3 million people and contributes £120 billion to the UK economy every year. Blackpool is uniquely placed as the UK's biggest and brightest coastal tourist resort and Blackpool's population is more reliant than any other location in the UK, on the tourism industry. So, if tourism interests you, then the BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Travel and Tourism is for you!

You will be assessed in two different ways. Components 1 and 2 are assessed internally, meaning that you will work on assignments set by your teacher. You will be given an assignment brief and you will be expected to work independently to apply your knowledge and skills. This work is then internally assessed by your teacher and externally moderated by the examination board.

Component 3 is assessed by examination at the end of Year 11.

What Will I Study?

Year 10	Year 11
Component 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations (internally assessed and externally moderated) Component 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism (internally assessed and externally moderated)	Component 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Influences on Global Travel and Tourism (externally assessed via an examination at the end of Year 11)

Qualification Details

- BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 Tech Award in Travel and Tourism
- Exam board: Pearson
- 40% examination. 60% internally assessed.
- Component 1: Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations (30% of final grade – internally assessed and externally moderated)
- Component 2: Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism (30% of final grade – internally assessed and externally moderated)
- Component 3: Influences on Global Travel and Tourism (40% of final grade – externally assessed)

Career Opportunities

Travel and Tourism not only helps you to understand the global industry, but also develop key skills including:

- Customer service
- Marketing strategies

There are many career opportunities, here are just a few:

What Support is on Offer?

Lesson 6 revision lessons are made available to all BTEC Travel and Tourism students to help support revision and exam technique.

The Travel and Tourism department produces its own revision guides which are given out (free of charge) to all students.

What Next?

Blackpool Sixth Form offer Level 3 BTEC Travel and Tourism (BTEC National).

Blackpool and the Fylde offer Level 3 City and Guilds Hospitality, Tourism and Events.

Who should I contact for more information?

Miss L. Stevenson, Head of Geography, Travel and Tourism and Director of Humanities.

What the Students Say:

'Travel and tourism has really made me think about the world of tourism. It's not just Blackpool, it's the whole world! I love learning about how people's holiday choices have changed over time and the impacts of global events on the tourism industry.'

Jack, Year 11

'I want to work in travel and tourism when I'm older and this course has really helped me to see how organisations such as tour operators work. I have really enjoyed looking at how companies use customer service and marketing to improve their image and sales.'

Harlee, Year 11

Engineering Design

Why Study Engineering design?

You may be interested in this if you want an engaging qualification where you will use what you learn in practical, real-life situations, such as:

- Using both 2D and 3D engineering design techniques
- Designing new products to meet a design brief
- Communicating engineering design ideas. This will help you to develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the engineering design and development sector. The qualification will also help you to develop learning and skills that can be used in other life and work situations, such as:
 - Completing research to inform engineering design ideas
 - Solving problems by exploring different engineering design options
 - Finding imaginative solutions through creative thinking.

What Will I Study?

R038: Principles of engineering design This is assessed by an exam. In this unit you will learn about the design process, and all of the stages that are involved.

Topics include:

- o Designing processes
- o Designing requirements
- o Communicating design outcomes
- o Evaluating design ideas

R039: Communicating designs This is assessed by a set assignment. In this unit you will learn how to use sketching and engineering drawings to communicate your ideas.

Topics include:

- o Manual production of freehand sketches
- o Manual production of engineering drawings
- o Use of computer aided design (CAD)

R040: Design, evaluation and modelling This is assessed by a set assignment. In this unit you will learn how to create and test models of your design.

Topics include:

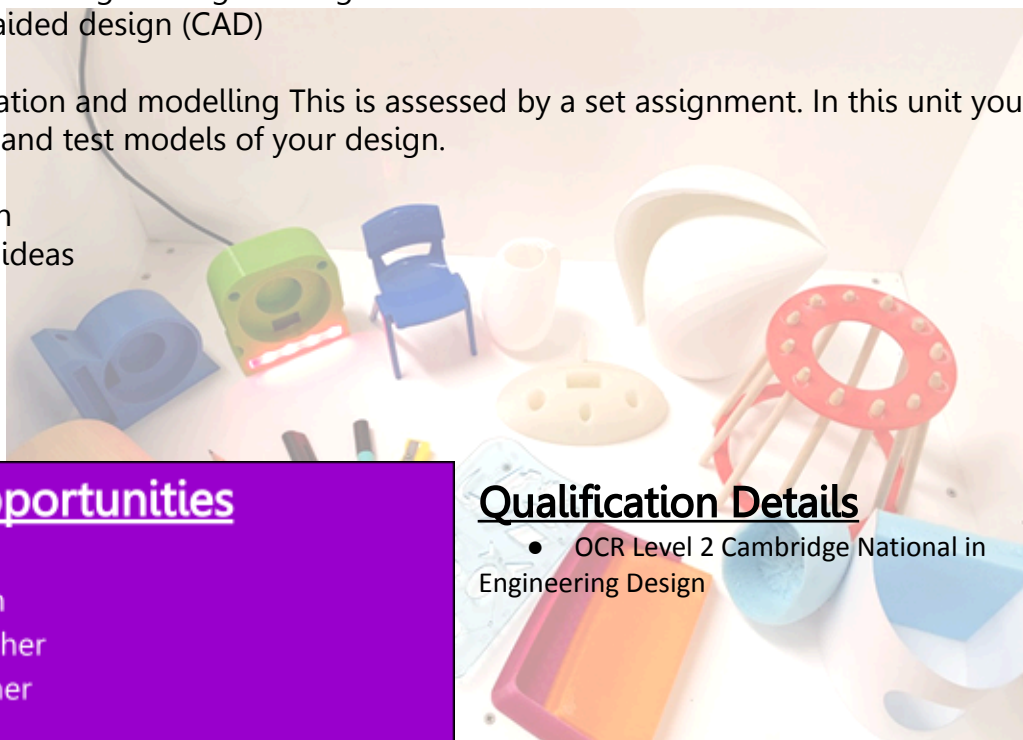
- o Product evaluation
- o Modelling design ideas

Career Opportunities

Engineer
CAD Technician
Market Researcher
Product Designer
Car Designer
Fashion Designer
Architect
Aerospace Engineer
Medical Engineer

Qualification Details

- OCR Level 2 Cambridge National in Engineering Design

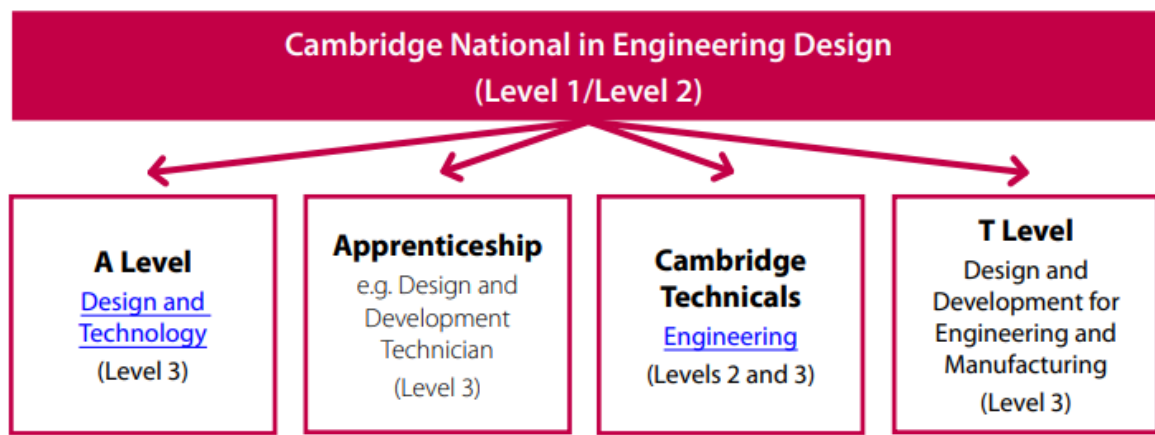


What Support is on Offer?

Lesson 6 will be available to focus on NEA & Exam content

Unit no.	Unit title
R038	Principles of engineering design
R039	Communicating designs
R040	Design evaluation and modelling

What Next?



Who should I contact for more information?

Mr J Barnhurst, Head of Technology
Ms S Matthews, Director of Technology & Computing

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You are the
choices you

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The best we can be