



BRADFIELD
SECONDARY SCHOOL



OPTIONS
2026 - 2028



Our Website
www.bradfield.school



Introduction

Please find enclosed details of all optional subjects on offer for September 2026.

This is always a very exciting time for Year 9s as they consider the Key Stage 4 courses they wish to study. In addition to the core subjects that all students at Bradfield must study throughout key stage 4, students can choose 3 optional subjects.

Core subjects are

- Maths
- English: literature and language
- Science: all students will either complete separate sciences (3 GCSEs) or combined science (2 GCSEs).
- Core PE (not examined)
- Personal development (not examined)

Students will cover the options process in more detail throughout January in assemblies and form time. Dedicated careers lessons have taken place in Personal Development this term. Teachers will also allocate time for Q&A in lessons about specific subjects. I have outlined the do's and don'ts below to help our students make the best decisions for them. If you have any other questions, then please do contact those on the 'who can help?' list.

Student Do's and don'ts

- **Do** consider each subject and if this might be something you are interested in; keep an open mind
- **Do** go and speak with members of staff during the next few weeks if you have any questions
- **Do** talk to parents/carers and consider their opinions, but **don't** let anyone decide for you
- **Do** consider subjects you will enjoy and be successful in
- **Don't** decide based on other people (pupils or teachers)
- **Don't** rush, think about this carefully and keep accessing the support on offer to make the best choices for you

Who can help?

There are people in school who can support you in making the best choices. These are:

- Form tutors
- Mr Thompson - Head of Year 9
- Subject teachers
- Any member of the senior leadership team, Mrs Bott is the assistant head in charge of the options process

Please note that some subjects may not run if there are insufficient students to make the course viable. In addition, if students make late changes to their choices, we cannot guarantee this can be accommodated.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mrs G Bott: **Assistant Headteacher - Curriculum and Assessment**

Examined Core Subjects:

[English](#)

[Maths](#)

[Science](#)

Options subjects:

[Art and Design](#)

[Business Studies](#)

[Citizenship Studies](#)

[Computer Science](#)

[Drama](#)

[Food Preparation and Nutrition](#)

[Geography](#)

[Health and Social Care BTEC Technical Award](#)

[History](#)

[French](#)

[Music](#)

[PE](#)

[RE](#)

Technology Qualifications:

[Design & Technology \(Engineering\)](#)

[Design & Technology \(Product Design\)](#) OBJ

English Language and Literature

Examination Board: AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Miss Towne

Subject Teachers: Ms Hearsum, Mrs Hughes, Miss Nicholson, Mrs Pannenberg, Ms Snailum, Ms Tolley, Miss Towne, Ms Verney, Ms Younger

What will I learn to do?

English Language and English Literature are two separate GCSEs taught by your English teacher. Skills and knowledge for both are intertwined and transferrable. You will study the majority of the course content in Y10 and complete the final Literature unit in Term 1 of Y11. Y11 will then focus on consolidating knowledge as well as looking at developing exam skills in order to demonstrate learning under timed conditions.

Reading: you will be taught how to comprehend what you read and given strategies that will enable you to get the most out of every text. You will learn how to be an active reader: questioning, analysing, evaluating and criticising what you read.

Writing: you will develop a wide range of writing skills in terms of creative writing (both fiction and non-fiction) as well as academic writing for Literature. Your skills in expression will develop as well as your ability to write clearly and comprehensively which you will need when you leave school.

Spoken Language: you will be continually improving your verbal communication skills, whether it's delivering a formal speech, working as part of a team or taking on a role. You will have the opportunity to express yourself and grow as a result of listening to what others have to say.

What skills do I need?

An interest in reading and writing.

Clear expression on paper and orally.

Good listening skills.

Willingness to contribute to discussions and to develop arguments.

Ability to keep to deadlines.

Motivation to do further reading and research.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

English Language (AQA) – 2 exams (both 1 hour and 45 minutes long) No tiers or coursework: 100% exam.

English Literature (AQA) - 2 exams (1x 1hr and 45 minutes, 1x 2 hour and 15 minutes) No tiers or coursework: 100% exam.

What qualifications can I gain?

2 x GCSE grades 9 – 1

1 x Spoken Language grade (pass/merit/distinction)

What is next for me after this course?

All careers need you to have reading, writing and communication skills relevant to that of an adult so English Language and Literature benefit all future careers. Specific English related careers could include: media-related careers (journalism, script writing etc), publishing, law, marketing, advertising, theatre-related careers, teaching, any career including communication skills generally. English qualifications are very important for entry to all courses in Higher Education and to employers.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Texts studied for English Literature: Macbeth, An Inspector Calls, Macbeth, Power and Conflict Poetry.

Maths

Examination Board

GCSE Maths: Edexcel

GCSE Further Maths AQA

Level 2 Functional Skills: AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr Joyce

2ns in Department: Mr Rawson

Subject Teachers: Mr Joyce, Mr Rawson, Miss Mason, Mr Bradder, Mr Thompson, Mr Kildare, Mrs Furness

What Will I Learn to Do?

Use skills of Numeracy, Shape and space, Statistics and Probability, and Algebra to solve abstract and real life problems.

What skills do I need?

A Secure knowledge of times tables

Logical thinking

Numeracy skills including percentages, proportion, and fractions.

Algebra skills

GCSE Maths (Edexcel): Most students are entered for this course

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

GCSE Maths: Edexcel Foundation or Higher Tier

3 exam papers: 2 Calculator, 1 non-calculator – 100% Exam in Summer 2024: 1 hour 30 minutes each

What qualifications can I gain?

GCSE grades 9 – 1

What is next for me after this course?

Most Sixth form and college courses require a minimum of Level 4 to be accepted on courses.

A good GCSE in Mathematics shows evidence of logical thinking and using Mathematics to solve problems.

A-Level and Apprenticeship courses including Sciences, Maths, Geography, Engineering.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The course will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills which can be transferred to further learning and everyday life.

Level 2 certificate in Further Maths (AQA): More able students are entered for this course

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Grade 9-1 - One tier

2 exam papers: 1 Calculator, 1 non-calculator 100% Exam in Summer 2024: 1 hour 30 minutes each

What qualifications can I gain?

Level 2 certificate in Further Maths grades 9 – 1

What is next for me after this course?

A-Level Maths and/or A-Level Further Maths. Careers in Medicine, Engineering, Sciences and Finance

Is there anything else I need to know?

The course will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills which can be transferred to further learning and everyday life. Many A-Level Mathematics students find the work on GCSE Further Maths makes the further study more accessible if they have completed this course first. Students who have completed this course first tend to achieve higher grades at A-Level.

Level 2 Functional Skills (AQA): Some student are entered for this in addition to Foundation GCSE

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Level 1 or Level 2 available

1 Calculator (1 hour 30 minutes), 1 Non-calculator (30 minutes)

Equivalent to upto grade 3

What is next for me after this course?

VariousCollegecoursesandemployment

Is there anything else I need to know?

Thecoursewill developcritical thinking,analysis and problem-solving skills which can be transferred to further learning and everyday life.

SCIENCE

Examination Board: AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs Mitchell

Second in Department: Ms Allen

Subject teachers: Mrs Mitchell, Ms Allen, Mrs Alcock, Mrs Bull, Ms Callaghan, Mr Filleul, Mr Gee, Mr Holmes, Mrs Jones, Mr Jones, Mr Waller, Dr Wild

What Will I Learn to Do?

The AQA GCSE Science philosophy is science for all; the separate and combined science routes are co-teachable so decisions can be made towards the end of Y10 about the best route for each student. Both qualifications cover the foundation for understanding the material world. Students are introduced to various key concepts in biology, chemistry and physics, and develop their understanding of how these ideas can help describe diverse and complex natural phenomena. Students will develop scientific literacy alongside mathematical and practical skills.

Biology: topics include cell biology, organisation, ecology and inheritance

Chemistry: topics include atoms, bonding, chemical changes and organic chemistry

Physics: topics include energy, forces, waves and electricity

What skills do I need?

The scientific skills needed have been developed throughout your Key Stage 3 study. The KS4 topics build upon this prior knowledge to extend your understanding. You will also need to take an interest in current affairs.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Students will follow either the separate science route and achieve a GCSE in each discipline or the combined science route achieving 2 GCSEs in total. We discuss the most appropriate route for each student in the final term of Y10.

The assessment for both courses is tiered. You will be assessed at either Foundation Level (grade 5-1) or Higher Level (grade 9-4). The exam tier to be taken will be decided in Year 11.

Separate science exam duration

Biology – 2 x 1 hour 45 minutes exam at foundation or higher

Chemistry – 2 x 1 hour 45 minutes exam at foundation or higher

Physics – 2 x 1 hour 45 minutes exam at foundation or higher

With the combined science route there is a 17 point grading scale 9-9, 9-8 ... 1-2, 1-1. There are six terminal examinations which are equally weighted.

Biology – 2 x 1 hour 15 minutes exam at foundation or higher

Chemistry – 2 x 1 hour 15 minutes exam at foundation or higher

Physics – 2 x 1 hour 15 minutes exam at foundation or higher

What qualifications can I gain?

If following the separate science route – 3 GCSEs grades 9-1

If following combined science route – 2 GCSEs grades 9-1

What is next for me after this course?

Both routes allow progression to science A-level or other KS4 science qualifications if you achieve the required grade. Students considering science A-levels will find separate science a better preparation for this next step.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Many jobs such as those in healthcare and education require a pass in GCSE science. You may not need it for your chosen KS4 course but it can limit your options in the future if you do not have science GCSEs

Art & Design

Examination Board AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs Mistry

Subject Teachers: Mrs Mistry, Mr Clayton, Mrs Eyre

What Will I Learn to Do?

You will complete a wide range of activities which include making and investigating ideas and developing a deeper understanding of Art, Craft and Design. You will work in a variety of materials and media, completing art projects based within different Art disciplines such as; drawing, painting, collage, mixed media, printmaking, sculpture, graphic design, three-dimensional design, and digital photography/digital manipulation.

You will explore the work of other artists, craftspeople and designers and use their work to inspire your own. You will develop your own art skills, techniques, creativity, thinking and extend your knowledge and understanding of the visual world.

What skills do I need?

- Able to investigate and able to experiment with media...take risks.
- Strong basic art skills (such as drawing, colour work, sketching, painting, presentation techniques).
- Creativity, imagination, and a **genuine interest** in Art & Design.
- Able to independently research different topics, artists, and themes.
- Time management/working to deadlines.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

The scheme of assessment consists of two components:

- **Coursework:** 60% - A submission of 2 projects completed within Year 10 & term 1 in Year 11
- **Controlled Test:** 40% - One assignment set by the exam board, several weeks of preparing and planning an appropriate outcome which is then produced in ten hours of controlled supervised time.

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE grades 9 - 1

What is next for me after this course?

'A' Level Art and Design/Photography/Product Design/Textiles or college-based Art & Design BTEC/National Diploma courses all leading onto Degree courses or careers in the Creative Industry sector.

Is there anything else I need to know?

- You need a lot of commitment for this subject to successfully complete this GCSE.
- You will have to work independently and in your own time as you do in school.
- After-school clubs run every week to help you keep up to date with your work.

Business Studies

Examination Board Edexcel

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Miss Pickles

Subject Teacher: Miss Pickles

What Will I Learn to Do?

The world of business is exciting and challenging. This course will provide you with a range of business-related skills in the following ten business areas, related to Investigating Small Businesses and Building a Business:

- **Topic 1.1** Enterprise and entrepreneurship – The dynamic nature of business, risk and reward, The role of business and enterprise
- **Topic 1.2** Spotting a business opportunity - Customer needs, Market research, Market segmentation, The competitive environment.
- **Topic 1.3** Putting a business idea into practice - Business aims and objectives, Business revenues, costs and profits, Cash and cash-flow, Sources of business finance.
- **Topic 1.4** Making the business effective - The options for start-up and small businesses, Business location, The marketing mix, Business plans.
- **Topic 1.5** Understanding external influences on business - Business stakeholders, Technology and business, Legislation and business, The economy and business, External influences.
- **Topic 2.1** Growing the business - Changes in business aims and objectives, Business and globalisation, Ethics, the environment and business.
- **Topic 2.2** Making marketing decisions – Product, Price, Promotion, Place, Using the marketing mix to make business decisions.
- **Topic 2.3** Making operational decisions - Business operations, working with suppliers, Managing quality, The sales process.
- **Topic 2.4** Making financial decisions - Business calculations, Understanding business performance.
- **Topic 2.5** Making human resource decisions - Organisational structures, Effective recruitment, Effective training and development, Motivation.

You will be taught thematically to learn the theory associated with each of the business areas and then apply your knowledge in a range of real-life situations. You will be expected to apply your learning in familiar and new contexts and to combine skills from each of the areas being studied to provide the best solution for an organisation. You will study real businesses and review the impact of their business decisions on their performance and success.

What skills do I need?

You need to be competent in literacy and numeracy to cope with this course. Tasks will include extended calculations (e.g., in accounting) and extended writing (e.g., explaining marketing strategies).

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Entry is single tier—every student sits the same examination.

This course is assessed through two exams at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Investigating small business

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

50% of the qualification.

90 marks

Paper 2: Building a business.

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

50% of the qualification

90 marks

In all of the examinations, the quality of written material is specifically assessed, including use of suitable structure and style; spelling, grammar and punctuation accurate so that meaning is clear.

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE in Business Studies

What is next for me after this course?

Business Studies/Law/Accounting/Economics courses at 6th Form or at college.

Direct entry to employment in business/administration.

Citizenship Studies*

*This subject is taught as an additional qualification through twilight sessions after school on Thursday evening between 3pm and 4.30pm.

Examination Board Edexcel

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr Miskell

Subject Teacher: Mr B Miskell

What will I learn to do?

The new course is divided into 5 modules (or themes)

Theme A: Living together in the UK

Theme B: Democracy at work in the UK

Theme C: Law and justice

Theme D: Power and influence

Theme E: Taking citizenship action

Citizenship Studies is about the world we live in and issues that have an impact on decisions that are made. It explores the issues that concern the UK population and encourages critical thinking and discussion about those issues. It explores the systems in place and who has the power. It also looks at how people take an active part in democratic politics and work together for a better society, locally, nationally and globally.

You will learn about power, democracy, the operation of government and the legal system, and the role of the UK in the wider world. In addition, you will explore and learn about different controversial and topical issues with political, social, ethical, economic and environmental dimensions in local to global contexts.

You will experience taking citizenship action and learn from trying to make a difference yourself.

What skills do I need?

- a willingness to look at information carefully and explore different viewpoints; to express your ideas verbally and on paper and be able to work cooperatively as part of a group to plan and participate in an active citizenship activity.
- good literacy skills in order to complete extended answers and respond to data sources.
- the confidence to contribute to class discussions is a valuable skill.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

There are two exam papers:

Paper One: is worth 50% of the GCSE and is externally marked. It is an untiered and you have one hour 45 minutes to complete the paper.

The questions on this paper are varied in style and include multiple choice, source based and extended response questions all relating to Themes A, B and C.

Paper Two: is worth 50% of the GCSE and externally marked. It is untiered and questions on this paper are also varied. Section A relates to your Citizenship action (Theme E) which you will have carried out in year 10 as part of a group. Other questions relate to Theme D.

What qualifications can I gain? A GCSE (full course)

What is next for me after this course?

As a full GCSE subject, Citizenship is valued by employers and further education establishments in the same way that other GCSEs are valued. In addition, the knowledge and skills acquired will be useful for further studies (eg A Level) and beyond, in a wide range of subjects including Government and Politics, Law and Sociology. Information about your active citizenship will also be a valuable addition to your Curriculum Vitae. By following the course it is hoped that you will understand your responsibilities and rights as a citizen better.

Is there anything else I need to know?

- You will need to be able to work cooperatively as part of a group to complete theme E.
- You will also need good research, organisational and literacy skills to complete class and homework.
- Communication skills are valuable in order to contribute to formal class discussions.
- Where possible we arrange trips to develop understanding of key aspects of the course e.g. to the Sheffield Law Courts and Sheffield Town Hall Council Chamber.

Computer Science

Examination Board OCR

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs Mitchell

Subject teacher: Mr Waller

What Will I Learn To Do?

Computer Science is one of the most exciting and innovative areas of study. Students will develop skills that are highly sought after across a range of disciplines. The content has been designed to allow for a solid basis of understanding how computers work. The focus then turns to the application of this knowledge to real world scenarios such as writing and interpreting code. There is a practical programming project for learners to demonstrate their understanding.

Through this qualification, pupils will be able to:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation
- Analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- Understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- Understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society
- Apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science

The course is assessed through three units of work:

Unit J277/01: Computer systems.

Assessment: Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes. 50% of total GCSE. 80 marks.

This unit covers the body of knowledge about computer system. It covers the following topics:

- Systems Architecture
- Memory
- Storage
- Wired and wireless networks
- Network topologies, protocols and layers
- System security
- System software
- Data representation.
- Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns

Unit J277/02: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming Assessment:

Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes. 50% of total GCSE. 80 marks.

This component incorporates and builds on the knowledge and understanding gained in Component 01, encouraging learners to apply this knowledge and understanding using computational thinking. Learners will be introduced to algorithms and programming, learning about programming techniques, how to produce robust programs, computational logic, sequencing, translators and facilities of computing languages and data representation. Learners will become familiar with computing related mathematics. Much of this unit will be taught through practical activities. It covers the following topics:

- Algorithms
- Programming techniques
- Producing robust programs
- Boolean logic
- Programming Languages and Integrated Development Environment

The second part of the exam paper will contain questions which will assess students' ability to write or refine algorithms

Practical Programming Task

Students will undertake a practical task where they will be assessed in their ability to:

- Understand standard programming techniques
- Be able to design a coded solution to a problem including the ability to:
 - develop suitable algorithms
 - design suitable input and output formats
 - identify suitable variables and structures
 - identify test procedures.
- Create a coded solution fully annotating the developed code to explain its function
- Test their solution:
 - to show functionality
 - to show how it matches the design criteria
 - identifying successes and any limitations.

What skills do I need?

There is no requirement to have previously studied computer science. Strengths in English, mathematics, and science are desirable but not essential. You need to have patience and persistence, and you need to be someone who enjoys challenges and problem solving. You will be someone who enjoys thinking through problems and you gain satisfaction from working things out for yourself

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE Computer Science

What is next for me after this course?

You could study a level 3 Computing course at college/sixth form. But if you decide not to take the subject further you will have learnt skills which will be relevant in other subjects.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The course will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills which can be transferred to further learning and everyday life.

Drama

Examination Board EDUQAS (WJEC)

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs Pigott

Subject Teachers: Mrs Pigott

What will I learn to do?

You will learn to develop your creativity, confidence, character and performance skills, as well as your ability to appreciate and evaluate the work of others, work as part of a group and improve concentration and self-esteem.

Drama does this by enabling students to communicate with others and work on devising scenes and plays. It is mainly a practically based subject which promotes a theoretical and practical response to Play scripts and improvised scenes. This then develops knowledge and understanding of practical theatre skills necessary for performance presentation to an audience. The skills developed within the subject will also prepare for the workplace both in teamwork and leadership skills.

Students can choose to focus on acting or a design element, choosing between costume, lighting or set design.

Requirements outside normal lessons:

Regular theatre trips and other relevant visits when appropriate; regular completion of homework tasks and completion of a portfolio and written evaluation. Rehearsing and performing scenes to an audience. You will be required to have an interest in performing in front of an audience. Commit to afterschool rehearsals with your group when preparing for a performance exam.

Involvement in at least one extra-curricular performance either performing, backstage or Front of House.

What skills do I need?

You will learn all necessary skills as the course develops but you will need to be enthusiastic, keen to learn and willing to be fully involved in group work. You must have a willingness to perform in front of an audience. Performance experience of some kind is preferred.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Assessment

- 40% - Non exam unit – based on devising from a stimulus – all internally marked
- 20% - Performing to visiting examiner. Extracts from a script that are devised and rehearsed during lessons
- 40% - Written examination paper in response to a set text that is studied in lessons and a play review, also studied in lessons.

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE Level 1-9

What is next for me after this course?

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies, Drama can be taken in collaboration with many subjects, particularly with other Art forms such as Music. It also would help gain success with subjects such as languages and courses that focus on 'People Skills'. Drama can fit with just about any subject, it develops confidence, leadership, problem solving and the ability to work as a team, all skills which can be transferred into any employment.

Is there anything else I need to know?

We make frequent visits to the Theatre; we perform within school and the community. Actors and specialists come into school and perform workshops with the students. There is also opportunity to gain skills and knowledge with technical performance using lighting and sound.

Please specify on your options application your choice between actor or designer.

Food Preparation & Nutrition

Examination Board AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs N Davies

Subject Teachers: Mrs N Davies

What Will I Learn?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition and the science behind the food we eat. Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance

Students will undertake a range of design and make projects and science experiments to build skills and develop subject knowledge throughout Year 10.

The non-examination assessment (NEA) completed in Y11 is split into two tasks. Food investigation and food preparation. During food investigation students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients will be assessed. During food preparation students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task will be assessed.

Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a set timeframe, planning how this will be achieved.

As part of the course student will be taken on various industrial visits to enrich the learning that takes place in the classroom.

What skills do I need?

The course builds on the skills that are developed during Key Stage 3 Food classes. Having good independent learning skills is vital, especially when completing practical tasks. Having a determination to learn new skills and having a passion for food preparation will also be beneficial.

How will the course be assessed?

Students will be assessed through two non-examination assessments (NEAs) and a 1 hour 45-minute examination. Each contributing 50% towards the final grade. Non-examination assessment is in the form of completing practical tasks and producing written reports.

What qualifications can I gain? AQA GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition

What is next for me after this course?

Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study at excellent local colleges or embark on an apprenticeship or full-time career in the catering or food and nutrition industries.

Geography

Examination Board AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr Spicer

Subject Teachers: Mrs Bott, Miss Hiley, Mr Mullet, Mr Spicer

What Will I Learn?

Geography covers the dynamics of the natural landscape and human issues related to the natural world. In the physical part of the course you will cover 'Natural Hazards', 'Ecosystems: Tropical Rainforests and Cold Environments' and 'Physical Landscapes in the UK' (with specific reference to rivers and coastal landscapes). The human side of the course covers 'Urban Issues and Challenges', 'The Changing Economic World' and 'Resource Management and Energy'.

In addition to the 'taught' modules, you will complete two days of geographical fieldwork. This will allow you to collect data to complete a geographical enquiry. *Please note there is a cost attached to these field visits.* Geographical skills are threaded through the course and are an integral part of Geography lessons.

The skills you acquire through the course will help you to become an enquiring, analytical and interesting individual; a person who can think independently about the world around them.

What skills do I need?

- Extended writing skills
- The ability to complete numerical tasks and interpret numbers through graphs, tables and maps
- Enthusiasm
- Organisational skills
- An enquiring mind; geographers always want to know more
- An interest in life beyond Bradford and Sheffield.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

You will be assessed through three final exams. Paper 1 and 2 cover the 'taught' modules, both accounting for 35% of the GCSE. Paper 3 covers an extended issue evaluation, fieldwork and geographical skills.

There is only one tier of entry.

Spelling and grammar are now assessed as part of the Geography GCSE.

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE grades 9-1

What is next for me after this course?

Geography GCSE is obviously an excellent basis for A Level Geography (though not always essential) and is a very useful basis for other scientific, business, economic and environmental courses.

The skills you will develop through a qualification in Geography are perfect preparation for other non-related career areas such as law, journalism and medicine. These careers require individuals who can think for themselves and apply a wide range of skills. The ability to develop a balanced argument and critically analyse information is crucial in these jobs; this is what Geography will prepare you for.

Is there anything else I need to know?

We set high standards, so our students are expected to work hard! Homework is set on a regular basis.

Health & Social Care - BTEC Technical Award

Examination Board Edexcel

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject: Mr Wraith

Subject Teachers: Miss Wall and Mr Wraith

About the subject - BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care is an ideal qualification for those pupils who want a broad background in Health and Social Care or are considering a career in a care profession. Examples of employment which a BTEC in Health and Social Care might lead to include nursing, physiotherapy, midwifery, social work, care assistant work and working with children, to name a few. This BTEC course is designed to suit those studying the subject for the first time.

What will you study?

You will study 3 compulsory components.

Component One

Human lifespan and development

In this unit you will:

- explore how individuals develop physically, emotionally, socially and intellectually over time
- investigate how various factors, events and choices may impact on individuals' growth and development
- discover how people adapt to life events and cope with making changes.

Component Two

Health and Social Care Services and Values

In this unit you will:

- learn which health and social care services are available.
- identify why people might need to use these services.
- discover who's involved in providing these services.
- explore what might stop people from accessing the services they need.
- look at the care values the sector must make sure people get the care and protection they need.

Component Three

Health and Wellbeing

In this unit you will:

- learn what 'being healthy' means to different people.
- explore the different factors that might influence health and wellbeing.
- identify key health indicators and how to interpret them.
- assess someone's health using what you've learnt.
- create a health and wellbeing improvement plan for that person which includes targets and recommendations of support services available.
- reflect on the potential challenges the person may face when putting the plan into action.

What skills and qualities do I need?

Like all subjects you will need good literacy and communication skills in order to complete certain assessed tasks. In lessons, an interest in people and the care sector is important as are the skills to discuss ideas and contribute to debates. An ability to interpret and analyse information is also valuable as you will be required to assess a client's health. Having done this, you will need to apply your knowledge and use problem solving skills in order to design a health improvement plan. You will also be asked to demonstrate practical caring skills (care values) when studying component two.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

There are 3 assessed components:

Component One:

- internally assessed and externally moderated
- worth 30%
- There will be 4 tasks set by the exam board to complete in February/March in Y10 over a 2-week period and over several hours.

Component Two:

- internally assessed.
- worth 30%
- There will be 5 tasks set by the exam board to complete over a 2-week period and over several hours.

Component Three:

- externally assessed as an exam
- worth 40% of the final grade
- 2 hours exam, worth 60 marks

What qualifications can I gain? BTEC Technical Award (equivalent to a single GCSE)

What is next for me after this course?

As it is a level 2 course the BTEC Tech Award is valued by employers and further education establishments in the same way as GCSE subjects are valued.

This course is also ideal for progression to more detailed study of health, social care and early years or other related courses.

What areas of ICT will be used/developed through the subject?

The course would require you to use and apply ICT skills, including using the internet to research and Microsoft word to complete assessed work.

History

Examination Board Edexcel **Who can I ask about this course?**

Head of Subject Area: Mr Hickman Subject Teachers: Mr Hickman, Miss Ross, Miss Soal

What will I learn to do?

GCSE History offers the chance to explore an exciting range of topics and many of the key issues that face us all during this century. We examine the History of Medicine from Medieval to modern times (and the impact upon surgery of the First World War), the Cold War (including the Cuban missile crisis), Hitler's rise to power (along with how life changed under his leadership) and the incredible reigns of Richard and John – a time of wars, persecution, scandals and civil war.

You will learn to test opinions against facts, develop your communication and revision skills, problem solve, think critically about evidence, debate and analyse issues from different perspectives and learn empathy - a skill that is of vital importance both now and in the future. Our updated History course is designed for 21st Century thinking! 'Study the past if you would define the future' (Confucius).

Gain knowledge through trips – the Thackeray medical museum, Holocaust centre and Belgium battlefields are among the many we run.

What skills do I need?

Enthusiasm, a free thinking and critical mind... historians always question before they believe anything! An interest in people and different viewpoints also helps, as does good organisational, revision, reading and communication skills.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

There is no longer any coursework – all assessment is in the form of end of course written examinations (not tiered).

We support you in getting good marks by giving you end of unit exam style tests in Year 10 and Year 11. This helps you to become familiar with the time-management and revision demands of the real exam and should mean that, if you revise regularly and work consistently hard, that you should achieve a very good final grade. We show you how to get full marks on each type of questions in a very student friendly way. Our experience shows that this helps students who work hard to gain really high marks in final examinations.

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE grades 9-1

What is next for me after this course?

Anything; History is incredibly useful to so many careers as it develops so many great skills; law, business, marketing, journalism, media and broadcasting, international diplomacy, social work and psychology to name a few. The list is endless.

Communication and independent research are a key part of History, which are essential skills for any job interview and career in the professional world. History is often about problem solving and understanding people – which are key attributes for those considering a career in medicine, nursing, social work and the armed forces.

History has never been more important. The strong focus that History places upon empathy and understanding events from different perspectives is of huge importance in the 21st Century, as our world becomes increasingly divided and faces increasingly sophisticated methods of media spin, misinformation and disinformation. Historians separate fact from opinion, challenging unhealthy stereotypes & policies that may prove to be misguided, as well as developing and communicating the solutions needed for the future wellbeing and survival of all nationalities, races and species that live on the planet.

French

Examination Board AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Miss Sherlock

Teachers: Mrs Copp, Mr Mathieu, Miss Bradley, Miss Sherlock

What Will I Learn to do?

You will learn to communicate in the target language and explore the culture of French-speaking countries. The 3 themes we cover are:

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- Theme 2: Popular culture
- Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

You will develop a wide range of language learning skills which will help you to learn other languages in the future and enjoy life wherever you may be.

What skills do I need?

You will need to:

- Have a curiosity about language, culture, and the world around you.
- Listen actively and participate in lessons.
- Take part in pair work and group work and communicate with others.
- Be committed and motivated to work independently.
- Be prepared to work on and use all four key language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Assessed by a tiered exam (Foundation for grades 5-1, Higher for grades 9-4) in each of 4 skills:

- Listening (25%)
- Speaking (conducted by class teachers) (25%)
- Reading (25%)
- Writing (25%)

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE grades 9-1

What is next for me after this course?

- French is the 6th most spoken language in the world and there are 29 countries where French is an official language – travelling, studying, or working in any of these countries is a fantastic opportunity, with huge potential for meeting new people and having exciting experiences.
- Speaking French can boost your earning potential – an employers' survey showed that, on average, bilingual people earned £3000 more per year than people who only speak English.
- Many industries need French speakers: as well as translation and interpreting, business, hospitality, tourism, law, engineering, civil service, and even espionage are all sectors that require language skills.
- You will be prepared for French AS or A-level.
- French can be combined with other subjects at university, and this often gives you the opportunity to study abroad for a year.
Learning one foreign language actually makes it easier to learn others – so whether you want to learn Japanese, Swahili, Italian, or any other language in the future, your French GCSE will give you the skills to do so.
- Studying a foreign language improves your communication skills in your native language. Studies also show that people who learn foreign languages are more creative, more empathetic, and have better problem-solving skills than those who don't.

Music

Examination Board AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area : Miss Hetherington

Subject teachers: Miss Hetherington

What Will I Learn To Do?

In GCSE Music you will extend and develop your skills in the following areas:

- Composing music
- Performing music
- Listening to and analysing music
- Appraising and appreciating music

Composition

You will learn techniques of composition that build on skills developed in KS3. Much of the work will be undertaken using composition software including Soundtrap and Sibelius. This will enable you to create multi-track pieces and printable scores (written music with all parts displayed clearly).

Performance

You will have the opportunity to develop performance skills within solo and ensemble contexts. You will record several performances so that you can see your progress against the GCSE standards.

You are expected to be demonstrating an interest in Music through an involvement in at least one school extra-curricular club or performance event. Alternatively, there is an expectation that you are actively involved in Music outside of school.

Listening and Appraising

Over the two years you will develop aural (listening) skills through dedicated listening lessons and starter activities. You will learn specifically about the key elements of music and will develop your knowledge of these through the exploration of four *Areas of Study*. These are as follows:

- Western Classical Tradition – 1650-1910
- Popular Music
- Traditional Music
- Western Classical Tradition 1910 onwards

Analysis

You will study certain pieces of music known as “Set Works”. These pieces are chosen by the exam board. You will analyse the music, looking specifically at the ways in which the composer has used the key musical elements: rhythm, melody, harmony, structure, tonality, texture and instrumentation/sonority. The set works are as follows:

- Beethoven: Symphony No.1, Movement 1: Adagio molto – Allegro con brio
- Queen – the following three tracks: • Bohemian Rhapsody • The Seven Seas of Rhye • Love of my Life

What skills do I need?

- Ability to perform on an instrument or voice. Students who do not currently have individual instrumental lessons are encouraged to do so to support their progress at GCSE.
- Basic keyboard skills including some knowledge of notation
- ICT skills, including the ability to use Soundtrap
- Some ability to read music (note values - crotchets, quavers etc., and note placements on the staff)

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

The course has three assessed components:

Assessment Component	Description	Who Assesses this component?
Component 1 Understanding Music	Candidates sit an exam at the end of Y11 in which they are assessed on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ listening skills▪ understanding of set works	AQA
Component 2 Performing Music	Candidates submit the following for assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ a recorded solo performance▪ a recorded ensemble performance	Music Staff – moderated by AQA
Component 3 Composing Music	Candidates submit the following for assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ a composition in a style of their choice▪ a composition in response to a brief set by the exam board	Music Staff – moderated by AQA

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE

What is next for me after this course?

This is a recognised GCSE course and, as such, will count towards achieving the number of GCSEs as specified by any further education establishments or employers.

If you wish to further your music studies, the following options are open to you within Sheffield:

- A Level Music - All Saints, Birkdale, High Storrs, King Egberts, King Edwards, Sheffield Academies, and Tapton
- A Level Music Technology - available at High Storrs, Sheffield Academies, & Tapton
- BTEC National Diplomas - available at Rotherham College, Sheffield College (including a Popular Music course)

Physical Education

Examination Board AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr Gardner

Subject Teachers: Mr Gardner, Mr Thompson, Miss Lawton, Mr Wraith

What Will I Learn To Do?

The GCSE PE is made up of two components, theory content and practical. It is important to understand that this course is **70% theory** and 30% practical so more time will be spent in classrooms learning, with some lessons used to get practical grades. You will cover demanding and complex theoretical topics that include anatomy and physiology, components of fitness and methods of training. You will be taught these in theory lessons in preparation for two written exams at the end of Year 11.

You will submit three scores from these activities, one assessment for a team sport, one for an individual and finally one from either of the categories. The activities are listed below:

Team Activities			Individual Activities		
Association Football	Badminton	Basketball	Amateur Boxing	Athletics	Badminton
Camogie	Cricket	Dance Hockey	Canoeing	Cycling	Dance
Gaelic Football	Handball	Netball Rugby	Diving	Golf	Gymnastics
Hurling	Lacrosse	Union Tennis	Equestrian	Kayaking	Rock Climbing
Rowing	Rugby League	Figure Skating	Rowing	Sculling	Skiing
Squash	Table Tennis		Snowboarding	Squash	Swimming
Volleyball	Acrobatic Gymnastics		Table-Tennis	Tennis	Trampolining
Futsal	Ice Hockey	Inline Roller Hockey	Canoeing/kayaking (sprint)	Figure Skating	Windsurfing
Sailing	Sculling	Water Polo	Sailing	Sculling	

Online homework is integral to our learning, completed every week via a website called the ever learner where you will watch videos on content before coming to the lesson and do weekly quizzing, these are vital tools we use in helping students to retrieve and retain learning over the course of 2 years.

What skills do I need?

- A commitment to learn about the theoretical aspects of the course.
- A desire to improve as a physical performer
- A range of advanced physical skills
- An appreciation that sport is more than performing
- Commitment and motivation to be involved in all aspects of sport at Bradfield.

You MUST be taking part in a sport outside of school competitively.

You MUST have shown commitment to Bradfield PE extracurricular the last 3 years

You MUST also take part in a different sport every week as part of school clubs or out of school.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

- 2x1hour15minutes written exam paper; these are worth 60% of your final grade
- 10% written analysis of performance assessment
- 30% practical performance in physical activity and sport

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE grade from 9-1

What is next for me after this course?

Studying Sports Studies or PE at A-Level or other Level 3 qualification in sport. In the longer term a variety of

careers including working in Sports Development; Leisure Management; Coaching/Education; Sports Psychology and Sport Science.

Isthereanythingelse I needtoknow?

Some sports we cannot do at Bradfield, if you take part in these you can submit video evidence to achieve grades in these activities.

Who should not pick this course?

You should not pick this course if you believe it will just be extra Core PE lessons, it is a scientific based course which is complemented by practical ability to help you achieve your best grade.

RE

Examination Board

AQA

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mr Ward

Subject Teachers: Mr Ward, Ms Kelly

What Will I Learn to Do?

An in-depth study of two religions: Christianity & Islam

Study of four thematic units: Religion, Peace and Conflict, Relationships and Families, Religion, Crime and Punishment, Religion and Life

Study religion and belief within the context of society today.

Form opinions on a variety of religious and moral and ethical issues.

Investigate and analyse a range of religious and non-religious viewpoints.

What skills do I need?

An open and enquiring mind, an interest in modern society

Good levels of literacy

The ability to evaluate and analyse differing opinions and be able to construct a balanced argument.

How will the course be assessed and is it tiered?

Two external examination papers (One tier, levels 1-9)

The course is linear, and all examinations take place in Y11.

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE grades 9 - 1

What is next for me after this course?

A Level Philosophy and Ethics

Training for careers in all disciplines, but especially those dealing with people, such as teaching, the Police force, and nursing. It is also a popular A Level for those considering Medicine or Law.

Is there anything else I need to know?

You do not need to be religious to follow this course - it caters for students of any religious persuasion or none.

What area of ICT will be used/developed through the subject?

Research/Investigative skills Presentations skills

Analysis of the media

Technology Subjects:

Design & Technology (Engineering)

Examination Board OCR

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs Davies

Subject Teachers: Miss Ball, Mr Humberstone

What Will I Learn?

GCSE Design & Technology (Engineering) is an exciting specification that allows students to express their technical skills across a range of Engineering areas.

The course is split into two sections; the NEA (non-examination assessment) is worth 50% of the overall grade and the formal examination makes up the other 50% of the overall grade.

GCSE Engineering is a practical subject which requires the application of knowledge and understanding when developing ideas, planning, producing products and evaluating them. The course helps students develop the ability to design and make products with technical skill and originality, using a range of materials and techniques.

Much of the practical work will focus on metal and plastics as the main materials. Student will also become adept in the use of CAD/CAM, electronics and programmable systems. Students will use a wide range of machinery, materials, processes, hand tools and equipment throughout the course.

The final product that is designed and made for the NEA will be completely individual to each student based on the brief given by the exam board.

Students choosing this option need to have a real passion for Engineering and be motivated to widen their skill set using a range of design media and manufacturing processes.

The academic demands of this course are rigorous and students will be required to work outside of lesson time.

Lunch time and after-school sessions will be put on and independent study will be required throughout the two-year course. There is a strong link with Material Science throughout the course and it is expected that students will need to be competent in this area if they are to be successful.

What skills do I need?

The course builds on the skills that are developed during Key Stage 3 Design and Technology and Engineering. Having good independent learning skills is vital, especially when completing practical tasks. Having a determination to learn new skills and having a passion for design will also be beneficial.

How will the course be assessed?

The course is assessed through non-examination assessment in the form of a design and make activity which forms 50% of the final grade. The remaining 50% is assessed through a formal examination at the end of year 11.

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE Design & Technology

What is next for me after this course?

The course will provide a good foundation for A-Level Design and Technology or Technical Level 3 qualifications. It will provide a basis for a career in manufacturing or engineering. Many students use this course as the basis for engineering apprenticeships.

Design & Technology (Product Design)

Examination Board OCR

Who can I ask about this course?

Head of Subject Area: Mrs N Davies

Subject Teachers: Miss Ball, Mr Humberstone

What Will I Learn?

GCSE Design & Technology (Product Design) is an exciting specification that allows students to express their creativity and skills across a range of DT areas.

The course is split into two sections; the NEA (non-examination assessment) is worth 50% of the overall grade and the formal examination makes up the other 50% of the overall grade.

GCSE Design and Technology is a practical subject which requires the application of knowledge and understanding when developing ideas, planning, producing products and evaluating them. The course helps students develop the ability to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of materials and techniques.

Much of the practical work will focus on wood, metal and plastics as the main materials. Students will use a wide range of machinery, materials, processes, hand tools and equipment throughout the course.

The final product that is designed and made for the NEA will be completely individual to each student based on the brief given by the exam board.

Students choosing this option need to have a real passion for creative design and be motivated to widen their skill set using a range of design media and manufacturing processes.

The academic demands of this course are rigorous, and students will be required to work outside of lesson time.

Lunchtime and after-school sessions will be put on and independent study will be required throughout the two-year course. There is a strong link with Material Science throughout the course and it is expected that students will need to be competent in this area if they are to be successful.

What skills do I need?

The course builds on the skills that are developed during Key Stage 3 Design and Technology. Graphics and design are key parts of the course. Having good independent learning skills is vital, especially when completing practical tasks. Having a determination to learn new skills and having a passion for design will also be beneficial.

How will the course be assessed?

The course is assessed through non-examination assessment in the form of a design and make activity which forms 50% of the final grade. The remaining 50% is assessed through a formal examination at the end of year 11.

What qualifications can I gain? GCSE Design & Technology

What is next for me after this course?

The course will provide a very good foundation for A-Level Design and Technology or Technical Level 3 qualifications. It will provide a basis for a career in design, manufacturing or engineering. The course can also be the foundation for design and technical apprenticeships.