Burscough Priory Science College

Building My Future
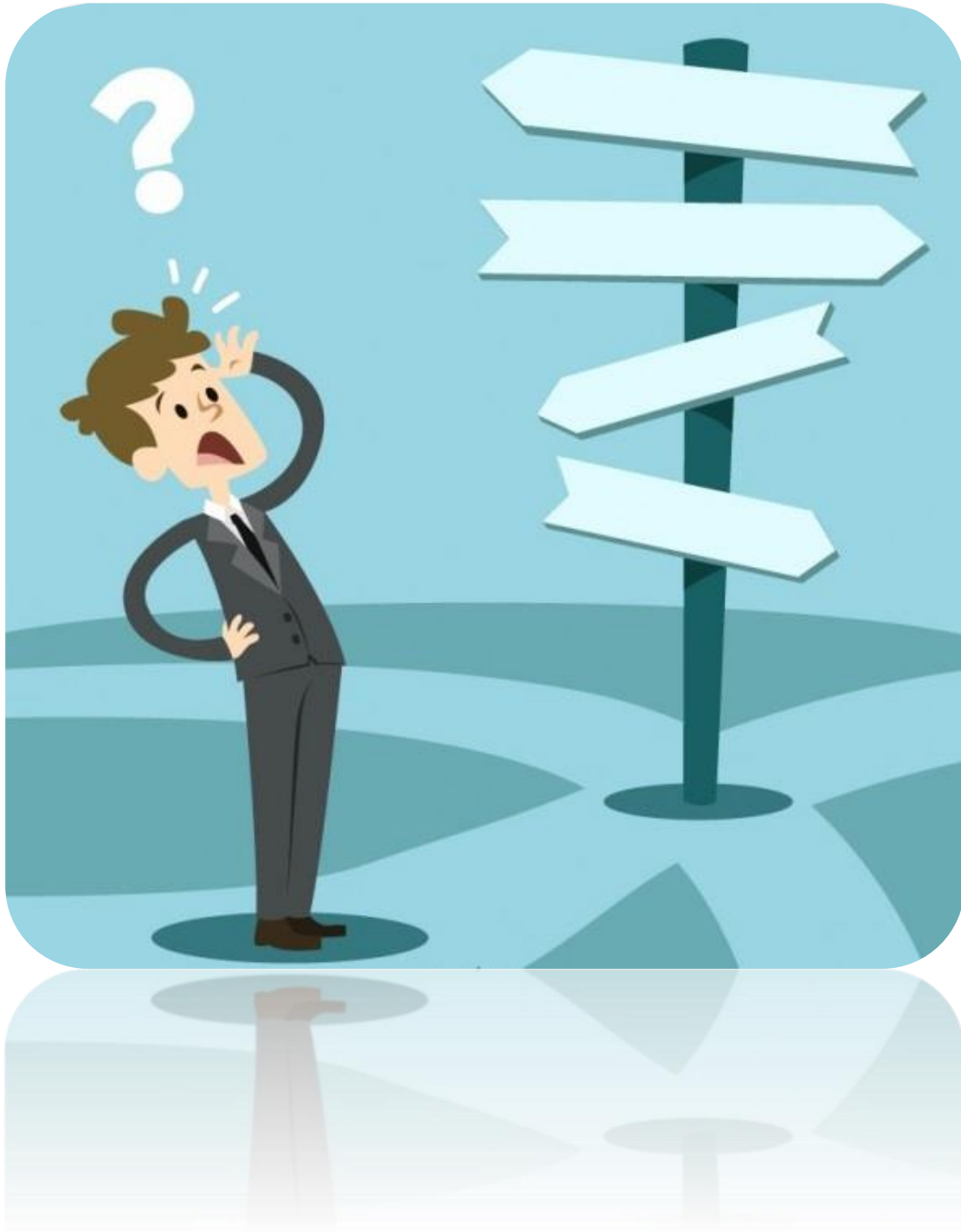
Year 8

Choices Booklet 2018

Contents

Option Choices

Art & Design

Fine Art

This is a broad course exploring practical and critical/contextual work through a range of 2D and/or 3D processes and new media and technologies. It is an endorsed course where candidates can work in appropriate art, craft and design materials and processes.

Fine Art - Students can select from a range of study areas within fine art including painting and drawing, sculpture and mixed media including collage and assemblage.

You will be expected to produce extra studies at home to support and run alongside the coursework that is done during lessons.

Your final grade is based upon the marks from unit 1 (portfolio 60%) and unit 2 (externally set task/exam 40%).

Fine Art
You will complete 3 units of coursework over years 10 and 11 that will make up your portfolio. These will be:

Cultures – explore range of materials and processes influenced by others cultures including, Aboriginal, Native American, Indian, Egyptian and African to choose from.

Natural Forms – This will use a wide selection of natural forms to use as your starting point before developing more personal ideas in materials of your choice.

Buildings/Architecture – This will be done in year 11 and be more student lead. This will be influenced by artists of your choice and developed in a very personal and individual way.

Unit 2 (externally set task 40%)
The exam board supply a broad based exam paper (usually in January) with several starting points. You have 12 weeks to prepare for the exam and to choose a question. The test takes place over ten hours and you need to produce supporting studies and references to artists as well as a final piece.

Future Careers

Either of the above courses will provide you with a sketchbook and coursework to support an application onto A level GNVQ or BTEC courses in any Art and Design course from Illustration, Fashion, Graphics, Textiles and Interior Design to Architecture and Landscape Gardening. This course may also support application onto Childcare and Hairdressing courses (consider all display and art work used in pre-school to help with language and numeracy skills).

For further information please see Miss Murphy.

GCSE COMPUTING

GCSE Computer Science

This three component course is designed to give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on 'behind the scenes'. You don't need to have studied this subject before, and assessment is based on a written exam, an on-screen examination and a programming task.

Course Content and Assessment
Computers are widely used in all aspects of business, industry, government, education, leisure and the home. In this technological age, a study of computer science, and particularly how computers are used in the solution of a variety of problems, is essential to learners.

Computer science integrates well with subjects across the curriculum. It demands both logical discipline and imaginative creativity in the selection and design of algorithms and the writing, testing and debugging of programs; it relies on an understanding of the rules of language at a fundamental level; it encourages an awareness of the management and organisation of computer systems; it extends learners' horizons beyond the school or college environment in the appreciation of the effects of computer science on society and individuals.

The WJEC Eduqas GCSE in Computer Science has been designed to give an understanding of the fundamental concepts of computer science and a broad scope of study opportunities. This specification has been designed to free centres to concentrate on innovative delivery of the course by having a streamlined, uncomplicated, future-proof structure, with realistic technological requirements.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Understanding Computer Science
Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes
50% of the qualification

This component investigates hardware, logical operations, communication, data representation and data types, operating systems, principles of programming, software engineering, program construction, security and data management and the impacts of digital technology on wider society.

Component 2: Computational Thinking and Programming
On-screen examination: 2 hours
30% of the qualification

This component investigates problem solving, algorithms and programming constructs, programming languages, data structures and data types and security and authentication.

Component 3: Software Development
Non-exam assessment: 20 hours
20% of qualification

This component requires learners to produce a programmed solution to a problem. They must analyse the problem, design a solution to the problem, develop a final programmed solution, test the solution and give suggestions for further development of the solution. Throughout the production of the solution learners are required to produce a refinement log that evidences the development of the solution.

The written exam will cover the theory learned throughout the course and will be taken at the end of Year 11.

How could it help with my future?

If you take a GCSE in Computer Science and then go on to study the subject at A Level or university, you'll have an advantage over fellow students who are picking up the subject at these higher levels. The increasing importance of information technologies means there'll be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this field.

The course is also an excellent preparation if you want to study or work in areas that rely on the skills you'll develop, especially where they're applied to technical problems. These areas include engineering, gaming, financial and resource management, science and medicine.

For further information please see Mr Collins.

<div align="center"><u>**Design and Technology Subjects**</u></div>

For further information, please see Mrs Tootle or Mrs Jones or visit the Design and Technology section of the school website to view more information and picture galleries of work produced by pupils.

GCSE Design and Technology

One GCSE subject where students combine theoretical content with practical application. With a greater emphasis on design and where mathematical skills are a key requirement, as well as an expected understanding of underlying scientific principles. The course also gives students the opportunity to demonstrate creativity and innovation. As well as offering students the opportunity to focus on a specific material or adopt a broader approach encapsulating a range of different materials.

<u>**Specification**</u>
1. Core technical Principles
2. Specialist Technical Principles
3. Designing and Making Principles

<u>**Weighting**</u>
- <u>**50% WRITTEN PAPER**</u> (2 hours) – 100 marks, 15 of the 100 marks are for application of mathematics.
  Made up of three sections:
  - ➢ A – Core technical principles (20 marks)
    Consists of multiple choice and short answer questions.
  - ➢ B – Specialist technical principles (30 marks)
    Consists of longer responses questions.
  - ➢ C – Designing and making principles (50 marks)
    Consists of standard questions.
- <u>**50% NON-EXAMINED ASSESSMENT (NEA)**</u> (30-35 hours) – 100 marks, single design and make task selected from a range of given contexts/briefs. 20-25 page portfolio.
  Made up of 4 sections:
  - ➢ 1 – Investigating (20 marks)
  - ➢ 2 – Designing (30 marks)
  - ➢ 3 – Making (30 marks)
  - ➢ 4 – Analysing and Evaluating (20 marks)

<u>**Sample Briefs for NEA (subject to change every year)**</u>
- A high profile event
- Addressing the needs of the elderly
- The contemporary home
- Children's learning and development
- The world of travel and tourism

KEY FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- o Provides sound progression from KS3
- o Offers relevant and interesting content for study
- o Focuses on the production of a prototype
- o Flexibility of adopting a broad multi-material or more specialized approach
- o The opportunity to work with a wide range of materials or to specialize once the core has been covered.
- o Enables progression to further study at A-level or Level 3 vocational courses.
- o Would serve to compliment study in related Level ½ Technical Awards or GCSE Engineering

For further information, please see Mrs Tootle or Mrs Jones

Other Design & Technology Subjects

GCSE (9-1) Food Preparation and Nutrition

What qualification does this lead to? 1 GCSE   Exam Board: OCR
All students who want to learn the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook; whilst applying the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating.

How is the course assessed?
Component 1: Written Exam 50%
On the principles of food preparation and nutrition
Component 2: Controlled Assessments 50%
Which will include undertaking practical tasks.

What will I learn?
This specification in food preparation and nutrition enables learners to make connections between theory and practice so that they are able to apply their understanding of food science and nutrition to practical cooking. This content relates to the study of both food and drinks.
Areas of content are, food commodities, principles of nutrition, diet and good health, the science of food, where food comes from, as well as cooking and food preparation.

How will I learn?
Food investigations, demonstrations, practical activities, independent learning, group work and computer based learning.

Careers/further education information
This course is suitable for students wishing to progress to further/higher education or wishing to pursue employment in the catering/hospitality trade.
Further Education:
Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition and AS/A Level. Vocational Courses
Hospitality and Catering courses at college provide NVQ/GNVQ to degree level.
Jobs/Careers include Hotel or Restaurant Management, Special Event Organiser, Chef, Dietician, Environmental Health Officer, Food Scientist, Teacher.

For further information contact: Mrs S Tootle

Drama Department

The Performing Arts Department will offer AQA G.C.S.E Drama

Component 1 – **UNDERSTANDING DRAMA**
This is a written exam that you will sit at the end of Year 11. In this exam there are three sections:
- **Knowledge of theatre** – this is multiple choice and will ask you questions about roles in the theatre (e.g.: what a stage manager does), and different stage types (e.g.: what is the advantage of performing 'in the round.'
- **Questions about the set text** (Blood Brothers). In this section you will talk about HOW and WHY you would perform a scene. You must be able to show you understand the character, plot, context and themes and how this impacts the performance. You will also talk about design – for example, what costume could be used for certain characters?
- **Evaluation of theatre** – In year 11 you will go and watch a piece of live theatre. I will then evaluate how they have used performance and design techniques to make a successful performance.

This exam is worth 40% of the GCSE.

Component 2 – **DEVISING**
You will create our own piece of theatre. This will be based on a given stimulus, which could be a picture, a song, a news story etc. After individually researching and exploring your ideas you will work in a group to develop an original piece, incorporating a range of theatrical styles and forms. You will also complete a devising log during the rehearsal process, where you will talk about the decisions your group has made, and why you have come to these choices.
The performance, and the accompanying written work is worth 40% of the GCSE.

Component 3 – **TEXTS IN PRACTICE**
In year 11 an examiner will come in to watch a practical performance. This performance will be two sections of a published play. Students must learn how to contribute to text-based drama in a live theatre context for an audience, drawing in skills from the first two components. A key focus will be your ability to interpret text and communicate meaning.

This practical examination is worth 20% of the GCSE.

For further information please see Mrs Hill

Modern Foreign Language: French

Modern Foreign Language Choices: French

A second language not only gives you the means to communicate with people from different countries and cultures - it also develops a wide variety of skills that are transferable and useful in every area of life. Learning a language encourages learners to be creative and take risks; it develops vital communication skills and, importantly, improves literacy in your own language; in addition, it promotes understanding and tolerance of other cultures and traditions. Having even a basic knowledge of a foreign language will not only improve your employment prospects in any field of work but also widen your opportunities for further education post-GCSE. There is no doubt that employers and providers of further education recognise the tremendous importance and far-reaching value of language qualifications.

The AQA French GCSE course uses topics as a means to learning essential grammar and everyday vocabulary, includes the following important areas of study and includes all four language skills – speaking, reading, listening and writing:

1   Identity and culture (including family life and free-time activities)

2   Local, national and global areas of interest (including town and travel)

3   Current and future study and employment (including school and career plans)

Writing: 25% of the final GCSE mark is obtained from the written skill which is judged by two written assignments pieces completed in the final exam.

Speaking: Pupils prepare and rehearse various conversation questions in advance of the final recorded speaking assessment which also comprises a role-play scenario. This exam counts towards a further 25% of the final GCSE mark. As with the writing component, pupils who prepare well in advance by maintaining their revision of vocabulary and their mastery of grammar will score better.

Reading and Listening: Each skill accounts for 25% of the overall qualification and is also tested by a final examination. Pupils will have prepared and practised in advance, having built up a wide range of topic vocabulary and finely-tuned comprehension skills throughout the course.

Entry Level: Pupils are entered at the tier most suitable to their level of competence, be that Foundation or Higher tier, depending on the target route.

Further detail or information, contact Ms. Morris or one of the department staff.

Information Technology

This qualification is for students who can think creatively and innovatively to produce digital products. IT explores how technology works and helps you gain the skills needed in today's digital world. It will qualify you to operate confidently in many different areas – not just in our daily lives but in everything from business commerce and communication, to politics and even the music industry. You will learn how to use IT effectively and safely and it is a real world qualification, whether you see your future including university, training or going straight out to work.

What will the student study as part of this qualification?

All students will study two at least two mandatory topics with the option of choosing more upon completion. The first topic will focus on developing the students' understanding of production skills that are used in the creative and digital media sector. Meeting the needs of the client, planning and creating preproduction documentation and reviewing output.

The second topic of study will build on the first, enabling students to demonstrate production skills and techniques as they plan and create new digital graphics to meet a specific client brief in a business context. Knowledge and understanding will be reinforced and enhanced as students create their own unique digital solution.

What knowledge and skills will the student develop as part of this qualification and how might these be of use and value in further studies?

IT enables students to plan and create documents that are typically used in the workplace and initiate innovative use of technology. The set of underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills they develop through this qualification will help them to complete topics where they are required to identify a client need, plan an approach to meet this need, design a creative and digital solution and evaluate its fitness for purpose.

Depending on the options chosen, a student will develop a range of skills in the use of digital packages. This will enable them to express their own creativity when designing a creative and digital media solution – for example creating a video trailer to advertise a forthcoming movie or create a spreadsheet to forecast profits for a business.

The hands-on approach of this qualification has strong relevance to the way young people use the technology required in today's society. In addition to developing creative media digital skills and business knowledge, students will acquire a number of essential transferable skills such as planning, research and analysis, working with other people and communicating effectively in a digital environment; all of which are relevant to work or going on to further study.

For more information, please see Mrs Blundell.

Music

<u>**G.C.S.E. MUSIC**</u>
Introduction
If you enjoy performing and creating your own music or having instrumental or singing lessons then G.C.S.E. Music is definitely for you. During KS3 you will have learnt many of the basic skills required and any musical activities you do in and out of school will help you with this course. Regular private practise is essential to ensure the development of performance skills to the highest possible level. Using music technology will be an integral part of the course

Description of the course
There are three sections in this course: composition, performance and understanding music. During the course you will study a wide range of music including popular, classical, traditional and world music. You will learn to write music in a variety of styles, composing both in groups and by yourself. You will also be expected and encouraged to perform regularly throughout the course. Homework includes regular instrumental/singing practise of performance pieces, work on compositions and listening assignments. Wider listening out of school is beneficial and is strongly encouraged.

Assessment
A total of 60% of the marks are awarded for practical and creative tasks for which there is no formal written examination. For the remaining 40%, students have to complete a written examination where they will have to write about music they listen to and also music they have studied.

- Composition 30% of the G.C.S.E. marks. You have to compose two pieces of music lasting no less than three minutes
- Performance 30% of the G.C.S.E. marks. You have to perform a solo and group piece lasting more than four minutes

Understanding music 40% of the G.C.S.E. marks You have to sit a written paper which last an hour and 30 minutes

Using this qualification
Through studying Music you will gain skills in performance, composition and listening. By working in groups and independently, you will grow in confidence and be able to work as part of a team. You could go on to study Music or Music Technology at A' level or at university. Music goes well with many other subjects and can lead to exciting and creative jobs, such as:
- Music with ICT: jobs in music technology and music production
- Music with Drama: jobs in TV and radio
- Music with Physics: Sound engineering
- Music with Technology: Music production

For further information please see Mrs Nelson.