



# YEAR 9 OPTIONS



# GUIDED OPTIONS

## The KS4 Curriculum

This booklet is designed to provide you with information about the core curriculum (studied by every student) and to help you make your options choices for KS4. It is important that you take time to think everything through very carefully. You will be supported through this process by a sequence of events that are designed to help you make the best possible decisions for you as an individual.

## Timescale for choices – Key dates

Date	Event
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Y9 Options assembly (students only)</b> This will give you an overview of the options process and you will be given the options booklet to take home to review the options available to you.
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>	<b>Y9 Options evening (students and parents)</b> You and your parents will be welcomed into school and will have the opportunity to discuss the options process and listen to short presentations from subject leaders.
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	<b>Y9 Parents evening</b> This will give you the opportunity to discuss your academic progress with your teachers. This will be a great opportunity to ask questions about your suitability for the options choices you are considering.
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Options deadline</b> This is the closing date for option choices from all students to be submitted on Bromcom.

## How do qualifications work at KS4?

There are two main types of qualification: GCSEs and Level 2 Vocational qualifications. GCSEs mostly rely on formal exams at the end of year 11 and are **graded 1 to 9**, with 9 being the top grade. A grade 4 is a 'standard pass', similar to what was a C grade. A grade 5 counts as a 'strong pass', similar to what was the top of grade C and bottom of grade B. A grade 7 is similar to a grade A.

Level 2 Vocational qualifications such as BTECs and Cambridge Nationals are assessed through portfolios of coursework and formal exams. They are ideal if you have a strong interest in the subject area and enjoy project-based work. Level 2 vocational qualifications are graded **pass, merit** and **distinction**. With these courses you need to work consistently throughout year 10 and 11, so good attendance is essential, the work you complete every lesson will contribute towards your final grade.

## Other things you need to consider.

Progress 8 is the national measure which has replaced the traditional 5 A\*-C. Eight GCSEs across a range of subjects are normally needed to progress to post 16 study or apprenticeships. Our curriculum plan for you already takes this 'Progress 8' benchmark into account.

The English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) is a student performance measure the government introduced in order to promote a breadth of academic study. This was introduced to address gaps in student knowledge as they progressed to university. Evidence shows that studying the Ebacc suite of subjects increases the chances of a student progressing successfully to further education. Consequently, we have designed our options process to ensure that all students study the Ebacc but still have plenty of subject choice. To achieve the Ebacc you need to attain at least a grade 4 in; English, Maths, Science (two qualifications), Geography or History and a Modern Foreign Language e.g. French or Spanish.

## Some subjects should not be taken together

Art, Textiles or Graphics should not both be chosen together as there is a considerable amount of overlap between the courses, therefore only one will count towards the progress 8 measure.

## We ask you to select four option choices, plus two reserve choices.

Most students are able to study their first choices. However, there are occasions when a course cannot run because the number of students opting for the course is too low. In this case students will be able to study one of their reserve choices instead.

# HOW DO I CHOOSE?

## Try to choose subjects...

- That you think you will enjoy and feel you are good at.
- That you may need for future education and/or your career.
- That you are most likely to work enthusiastically in and succeed at.
- That provide a balance and variety. By keeping a balance at this stage, you will not restrict future options.
- Talk to parent(s), carer(s), subject teachers, careers staff and students who are in KS4 and are studying the particular subject.

**DO** read the subject details in this booklet carefully and ask if you need to know more.

**DO** opt for a balanced choice of subjects to keep future careers and study options open.

**DON'T** choose a subject just because you like a particular teacher (or avoid a subject because you dislike a teacher) - it is likely you will have a different teacher next year.

**DON'T** choose a subject just because your friends are choosing it. You are deciding about your future and your friends may not be in the same group as you.

# WHAT CAN I CHOOSE?

**Core curriculum** – All students will study English Literature, English Language, Mathematics, Science, PE and PSHE (Students not choosing PE as an option choice will still complete one hour of PE a week (non examined)).

**Option 1:** Students can choose between History or Geography

**Option 2:** Students can choose between Spanish, French or Religious Studies.

**Option 3:** Open choice of all subjects

**Option 4:** Open choice of all subjects

# CORE CURRICULUM



# ENGLISH

## GCSE

Both English Language and English Literature are compulsory core subjects. Students are encouraged and challenged to develop their knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. Our exam board is AQA for both subjects.

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE

#### **What will I study?**

You will read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction extracts, developing skills in inference, analysis and evaluation of writers' structural and linguistic choices. You will develop your skills in both creative and transactional writing.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

The GCSE examinations for English Language consist of two equally weighted papers at the end of Year 11. Each paper is 105 minutes long and worth 80 marks. There is also a requirement for students to complete a short presentation for the Spoken Language endorsement during Key Stage 4, for which students can achieve a pass, merit or distinction.

### ENGLISH LITERATURE

#### **What will I study?**

- A Shakespearean play
- A 19<sup>th</sup> century novel
- A post-1914 play
- An anthology of poetry
- Unseen poetry

#### **How will I be assessed?**

The GCSE examinations for English Literature consist of two examined papers, taken at the end of Year 11. Paper 1 is 105 minutes long and worth 40% of the overall grade. Paper 2 is 135 minutes long and worth 60% of the overall grade.

# MATHEMATICS

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

GCSE Mathematics is a core subject and a compulsory component of the GCSE courses.

### Will I enjoy it?

It is a key focus of the Mathematics Department at GSHS that students are supported and encouraged to achieve the best that they can. Although at GCSE it can be challenging on occasions, it is the enjoyment of being successful that should spur students on.

### What will I study?

The GCSE Programme of Study splits the course into six elements:

1. Number
2. Algebra
3. Ratio, proportion and rates of change
4. Geometry and measures
5. Probability
6. Statistics

### How will I be assessed?

The examinations for GCSE Mathematics will consist of three, 1 hour and 30 minutes exams. Paper 1 will be a non-calculator paper, whilst Papers 2 and 3 will be calculator papers. Each paper will be worth 80 marks and all three will be sat in the summer of Year 11. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

### How can I progress?

A-Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics require Grades 7 and 8 respectively for entry. Students who wish to study course such as Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Computer Science, will also need strong results in Mathematics.

Year 12 students can also take the Level 3 Mathematical Studies qualification (more commonly known as Core Mathematics) qualification as an enrichment to support post-16 studies.

# SCIENCE

## GCSE

GCSE Science is a compulsory component of the GCSE courses, where you will study Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. There are two pathways available, Separate Science or Trilogy Science. The courses are similar in content, and both provide suitable, strong foundations for students to progress onto Key Stage 5 study. In Separate Science you will have the opportunity to achieve 3 GCSEs at the end of the course, one for each discipline (Biology, Chemistry and Physics). Whereas in Trilogy Science you will have the opportunity to achieve 2 GCSE's, a combined double grade averaged across all three sciences. Students will follow the same curriculum pathway until the end of Year 10 and then a decision will be made on which pathway is taken, Separate or Trilogy Science.

### Will I enjoy it?

Although compulsory, pupils often enjoy the variety of topics covered in the 3 science subjects, as well as developing a range of different skills and grasping deeper understanding of scientific innovations.

### What will I study?

All pupils will study 4 hours of Biology, Chemistry and Physics over two weeks with specialist teachers.

**Units of work include;** (Some of the units have an increased demand of separate science content)

BIOLOGY	CHEMISTRY	PHYSICS
Cell biology Organisation Infection & Response Biogenetics Homeostasis and response Inheritance, variation and evolution Ecology	Atomic structure and the periodic table Bonding and the structure of matter Quantitative chemistry Chemical and energy changes Rate of reaction Organic chemistry Chemical analysis Chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources	Energy Electricity Atomic structure and particle model of matter Forces Waves Magnetism and electromagnetism Space

### How will I be assessed?

Our exam board is AQA, there will be 6 papers, 2 for each individual discipline. Alongside core content, students will be examined on a set of key practicals, scientific skills and maths manipulation skills that students will develop over the 2 years.

#### **Separates**

- 1 hour and 45 mins per paper
- 100 marks per paper



- Individual grade 9-1 for each discipline (3 GCSE's)
- Foundation and Higher tiers for each individual discipline

### **Trilogy**

- 1 hour and 15 mins per paper
- 70 marks per paper
- A double grade that has a 17-point grading scale from 9-9, 9-8 through to 2-1, 1-1, these grades are compiled as an average of all three sciences (2 GCSE's)
- Foundation or Higher tier

## **How can I progress?**

We offer a wide selection of courses at KS5 including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Health and Social Care Level 3 BTEC and Applied Science Level 3 BTEC. You are able to progress to KS5 study if you have studied Trilogy or Separate Sciences, however grade 6 and above is a requirement for entry.

## **PSHE**

### **Why is the subject part of the core curriculum?**

Within PSHE we teach economic wellbeing, financial capability and an understanding of British Values and character education through looking at virtues, skills and qualities needed to be a success in life.

PSHE will help students become confident, healthy, and independent individuals. This framework explores the following areas:

- Developing confidence and responsibilities and making the most of their abilities.
- Developing healthy lifestyle.
- Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people.
- Promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development of students.
- Prepare students at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of later life.

### **What will I study?**

Health and wellbeing including drugs and alcohol education, career development and future choices, study skills, identity and diversity, human rights, democracy and managing personal finance. The PSHE curriculum will be delivered in form time by form tutors.

### **How will I be assessed?**

PSHE does not lead to a formal qualification, but the progress of students will be assessed throughout the course.

## OPTION SUBJECTS

# ART & DESIGN

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

GCSE Art & Design is a creative, practical and rewarding subject. It will give you the chance to develop your painting and drawing skills and work with a wide range of art materials, techniques and processes. It will provide an excellent foundation to study all A level art-based subjects.

### Will I enjoy it?

If you are passionate about all aspects of Art & Design, work hard and love the subject you will enjoy it, as there is more scope to study your own areas of interest and make links to work that you have seen in galleries and exhibitions. There are regular after-school clubs where you can get more help if needed.

### What will I study?

You will research the work of other artists and designers and develop your own independent ideas about their work. Your artist research and analysis form an important part of your progress by providing inspiration from looking at the work of established artists. You will keep a sketchbook of all your ideas over the two years and this will show your development of projects from initial ideas and studies through to planning for final pieces of work. There will be a strong emphasis on observational drawing techniques, and you will then develop your drawings and ideas using a range of materials, including painting. There will be the opportunity to work with a wider choice of materials and techniques than you have done at KS3.

### How will I be assessed?

60% of final GCSE grade is based on coursework portfolio produced over 2 years. 40% of final grade is based on final exam project that begins in January of Year 11.

### Where next?

We offer a suite of qualifications in Art and Design at Barrow Hall College

# BUSINESS (GCSE or BTEC)

## 2 COURSE OPTIONS FOR 2023/24

### GCSE

#### **Why choose this course?**

This course will help you to develop as commercially minded and enterprising individuals. You might have the dream of starting your own business or you might just be very interested in business. If you are a budding entrepreneur, then consider one of the two options we offer as a department.

#### **Will I enjoy it?**

You will enjoy this course if you like business. Here is a good test: Watch some clips from the Apprentice and Dragons' Den; if you found them boring then this is not for you. Your lessons will be filled with interesting activities, but you must realise that there is also lots of new theory to cover. The best students are those that follow business stories outside of lessons and can link their learning to topical events. Both our courses are different so please ask questions and we will guide you to your right choice.

#### **What will I study?**

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship.
- Spotting a business opportunity.
- Putting the idea into practice.
- Making a business effective.
- External influences on business.
- Growing the business.
- Marketing decisions-Price. Place. Product, and Promotion.
- Operational decisions.
- Financial decision making (including Mathematics and analysis of numbers)
- Human resources – recruiting, motivating, training.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

All the exams are at the end of Year 11 and the exam board is Edexcel. You will sit two examinations, each being worth 50% of your overall grade. The exam papers are a mixture of multiple choice, short answer, and extended response questions. You will be expected to complete a number of calculation questions in your exams, as well as essay-based questions.

#### **Where next?**

After completing the course, students are able to continue their studies in A level Business, BTEC Business and A level Economics at Barrow Hall College.

# BTEC – Cambridge National in Enterprise & Marketing

## Why choose this course?

An aspiration for many young people is to be self-employed and start their own business. The skills required for this, such as being able to work collaboratively and creatively, solve problems and have awareness of businesses and customers, are also those requested by employers.

This course is similar in content to the GCSE Business course but focusses more on the world of Enterprise and Marketing. Students who wish to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in enterprise and marketing will enjoy this course. The course is designed to sit alongside other GCSEs and contains both practical and theoretical elements, which will prepare students for further study of qualifications in enterprise, marketing, or business.

## Will I enjoy it?

You must enjoy the world of business. There is lots of new theoretical content to learn and apply to the business world. There will be lots of interesting topics to discuss and debate and you will need a flair for innovation and creativity. You will be expected to undertake research outside the classroom, gather evidence, create new business ideas and present these back as part of your assessment.

## What will I study?

- Enterprise and Marketing concepts (Exam)
- Designing a business proposal (Coursework)
- Market & Pitch a business proposal (Coursework – Presentation & Pitch)

## How will I be assessed?

There is a combination of both coursework and an exam (see above)

## Where next?

After completing the course, students are able to continue their studies in A level Business, BTEC Business and A level Economics.

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

Are you interested in studying computer science beyond GCSE? Do you see yourself in a computer science related job such as a software developer, web developer or game designer? Or do you just really enjoy it? If you can answer “YES” to any of these questions, then this course is for you!

***To be successful in this subject we recommend pupils are currently achieving secure or mastery in Maths.***

### Will I enjoy it?

The GCSE in Computer Science is engaging and practical, encouraging creativity and problem solving. It encourages students to develop their understanding and application of the core concepts of computer science. Students also analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs.

### What will I study?

**Computer systems (01)** – introduces pupils to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural, and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

**Computational thinking, algorithms, and programming (02)** - Pupils apply knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic, translators and data representation. The skills and knowledge developed within this component will be applied practically through the programming language of Python.

**Practical Programming** – All Students will be given the opportunity to undertake a programming project during their course of study. Students will draw on some of the content in both components when engaged in Practical Programming. This will allow students to develop their learning in a practical environment.

### How will I be assessed?

- Computer systems (01) – 1 hour and 30-minute written exam (50% of GCSE).
- Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (02) - 1 hour and 30-minute written exam (50% of GCSE).
- Programming project (03) – This is not assessed but is a formal requirement of the GCSE. You will undertake a 10-hour project completed in Year 10.

### Where next?

After successfully completing GCSE, you can progress onto A Level Computer Science or Advanced Nationals in IT/Computing at Barrow Hall College.

# DANCE

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

This GCSE in Dance will encourage students to develop their creative, physical, emotional, and intellectual capacity. Dance is a powerful and expressive subject that will allow students to show their choreographic, performance and academic knowledge and application of a range of styles and techniques.

### Will I enjoy it?

Yes! If you have a genuine interest in dance and performance and want to develop your understanding of all things dance related, while continuing to develop practical and theoretical skills, this is the course for you.

***It is advised that you should be the member of a dance school or club outside of school hours, but not essential.***

### What will I study?

- Choreography
- Performance
- Dance appreciation
- Set works.
- Solo and group work

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment is carried out through a mixture of exams, coursework, and practical performance.

**Component 1:** Performance 30% and Choreography 30% solo and group work.

**Component 2:** Dance appreciation 40 % written paper 1 hour 30 minutes, Study of professional works, critical appreciation of own work, including knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills.

### How can I progress?

This course provides a perfect foundation for students wanting to go on and study either A Level or BTEC Level 3 Dance. Students will develop an understanding of all aspects of dance, and we will encourage and develop skills to promote lifelong participation.

# DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

This course allows you to develop your knowledge and understanding of all aspects of Design and Technology. You will learn about different materials, tools, and processes. You will develop a wide range of practical skills and understand how these products have evolved over time to produce the products we use in our everyday lives.

### Will I enjoy it?

Yes, this course will give you the opportunity to develop skills in making high quality products using wood, metal, and polymers (plastics). You will be expected to make a range of products, prototypes, and samples, applying technical and practical expertise to ensure that the product is fit for purpose. You will combine traditional skills and modern technologies. You will gain lots of experience in using different types of CAD/CAM software and be able to use several machines including the laser cutter.

### What will I study?

The course content enables students:

- To develop a broad knowledge of materials, components, and processes.
- To develop practical skills to produce high quality functional prototypes and products.
- To develop decision making skills through both independent, team and collaborative work.
- To be able to read, interpret and work from drawings, plans and instructions.
- To be able to produce working drawings and produce production plans.

### How will I be assessed?

A written exam (worth 50%). Topics covered are Core and Technical Principles, Specialist Technical Principles and Designing and Making Principles. There is also a non-exam assessment, which consists of a coursework portfolio and the making of an actual product (worth 50%).

### How can I progress?

You can continue to A Level Product Design in Barrow Hall College. If you decide to go onto university after college and you want to study a variety of design or manufacturing courses, then this award will help you. If not, and you decide to leave school to get an apprenticeship, this course will be useful as it also develops many transferable skills including communication and collaboration as well as hands-on practical skills and knowledge of CAD/CAM.



# DRAMA

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

GCSE Drama is an exciting creative and predominantly practical course. It will give you the opportunity to develop your exploration skills, to approach work creatively as an actor, director or designer and will enhance your powers of analysis to become an informed theatre critic. You will work in a range of genres and styles and use a wide range of techniques to explore both devising your own plays and script work. The course provides an excellent base to study an A Level in Theatre Studies.

### Will I enjoy it?

If you are passionate about Drama and Theatre, you love being challenged creatively and commit to your work 100% then you will gain much from this subject. Do you enjoy working in groups to create performances while exploring different theatre styles? Then this course is for you!

### What will I study?

#### Unit 1 (40%)

You will devise your own piece of theatre and perform it in a particular style or inspired by the techniques of a theatre practitioner. Alongside this practical work, you will develop a portfolio of evidence demonstrating the process of making your own work.

#### Unit 2 (20%)

You will work as an actor in a pair or group to perform an extract from a play which will be assessed by an external examiner.

#### Unit 3 (40%)

You will think as a performer, director and set, lighting and sound designer to explore a complete play. You will be assessed on your ability to analyse the play *Noughts and Crosses* and you will also evaluate a live performance of *Frankenstein*.

### How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 – 40% devised performance between 5-15 mins long, written portfolio and an evaluation

Unit 2 – 20% performance exam of two extracts from a play, between 5-15 mins long.

Unit 3 – 40% written exam, Section A- *Noughts and Crosses*, Section B- *Frankenstein*

### Where next?

You can take part in lots of extracurricular events such as the school musical and take part in workshops with professional actors from the Liverpool Empire, as well as getting discounted tickets to shows. This will also help you progress into college, taking A Level Drama and Theatre Studies as a subject.

# FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure you develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing your practical cookery skills to give you a strong understanding of nutrition.

### Will I enjoy it?

Lessons are very varied. You will cook a wide range of different dishes and learn lots of skills. Example practicals are toffee profiteroles, portioning a chicken, making fresh tortellini, chocolate orange cake and banana and cinnamon swirls. We will also do practical demonstrations, food experiments and blind challenges.

### What will I study?

1. Food, nutrition, and health – macronutrients, micronutrients, nutritional needs and health.
2. Food science – Cooking of food, as well as the functional and chemical properties of food.
3. Food safety – Food spoilage, contamination, and the principles of food safety.
4. Food choice – Factors affecting food choice, British and international cuisines, sensory evaluation, food labelling and marketing.
5. Food provenance – Environmental impact and sustainability of food, food processing and production.

### How will I be assessed?

The assessment consists of a theory exam paper at the end of the course worth 50%. There will also be two non-exam assessments to be done in school, providing the other 50%. One is a Food Investigation worth 15% of your final GCSE grade and the other assesses your ability to plan, prepare and present 3 dishes to showcase your skill set. This makes up the final 35% of your mark.

### Where next?

Studying Food Preparation & Nutrition at GCSE, students can continue studying at Barrow Hall College and study the Level 3 Applied Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition. Studying Food Preparation and Nutrition can lead to exciting and well-paid career options. This course could lead you into roles such as a Chef, Food Product Developer, Buyer, Food Safety Inspectors, Nutritionists, Dietician, Quality Managers, Teacher, Food Scientist, Food Technologist, Food Photographer, Food Technician, Food Stylist, Home Economist, Food Critic, working in food magazines, radio and television.

# FRENCH

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

More than 300 million people speak French on the five continents. French is the second most widely learned foreign language after English, and the fifth most widely spoken language in the world. French is both a working language and an official language of the United Nations, the European Union, UNESCO, NATO, the International Olympic Committee, the International Red Cross and international courts. France is the world's top tourist destination and attracts more than 87 million visitors a year.

The ability to speak French and English is an advantage on the international job market. As one of the world's largest economies and a leading destination for foreign investment, France is a key economic partner. It is also becoming increasingly common for universities to specify a languages qualification as a requirement for entry.

### Will I enjoy it?

Yes! If you are willing to rise to the challenge and put in the effort, you will make progress very quickly and find your study of French language and culture very rewarding. Lessons are interactive and there is a strong emphasis on encouraging you to speak and understand French confidently. You should be prepared to participate in lessons, and to learn vocabulary at home to ensure exam success.

### What will I study?

The course is topic-based and has 4 components: Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. The topics covered build on and expand what you have already studied at KS3. There are three themes:

**Theme 1:** People and Lifestyle

**Theme 2:** Popular Culture

**Theme 3:** Communication and the world around us

### How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 Listening (25%) - Foundation 30 mins / Higher 45 mins

Paper 2 Speaking (25%) – Foundation 7-9 minutes / Higher 10-12 minutes + preparation time

Paper 3 Reading (25%) - Foundation 45 mins / Higher 1 hour

Paper 4 Writing (25%) - Foundation 1 hour / Higher 1 hour 15 minutes. There is no longer any coursework or controlled assessment. All four skill areas will be examined at the end of Year 11

### Where next?

After studying at GCSE, you may decide to continue with French at A Level. This qualification is very highly regarded by universities and employers, as students who study a language are known to have highly- developed communication and verbal-reasoning skills. Further to this, most universities offer degrees in which you can combine the study of French with other interests. From here, a wide range of employment opportunities will be open to you worldwide! Remember: languages are a skill for life.

# GEOGRAPHY

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

**'The future of humanity and indeed all life on Earth depends on us.'** (David Attenborough).

Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, but also one of the most exciting, adventurous, and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world's current problems are related to geography and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them.

### Will I enjoy it?

It's hands on, engaging and fun. Whatever your passion for the world – fascination with landscapes or concerns about the environment – geography will provide you with knowledge and skills that will reward you personally and help you in a future career. Come and join the fun of Geography and learn about our changing world.

### What will I study?

#### Paper 1 – Living with the Physical Environment

Section A: The challenge of natural hazards – Tectonic hazards, weather, and climate change.

Section B: The living world – Hot Deserts and Tropical Rainforests.

Section C: Physical landscapes of the UK – Rivers and Coasts.

#### Paper 2 – Challenges in the Human Environment

Section A: Urban issues and challenges – Lagos and Liverpool.

Section B: Economic Geography in the UK/NEE – Nigeria and the UK.

Section C: Resource Management – Water insecurity.

#### Paper 3: Geographical Applications

Section A: Decision making booklet that is studied in class 6 weeks before the exam.

Section B: Fieldwork study.

### How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 – Living with the physical environment - 35% (1 hour and 30-minute exam).

Paper 2 – Challenges in the human environment – 35% (1 hour and 30-minute exam).

Paper 3 – Geographical applications – 30% (1 hour and 30-minute exam)

### Where next?

Choosing GCSE Geography means you know about climate change, the environment, human rights and natural disasters – topics which are becoming more and more important in recent times. With this knowledge, you could pursue a career that can make a difference to human life, whether it's helping combat global warming or identifying when a natural disaster may occur. In the words of the Independent Newspaper 2018: 'Geography graduates are the least likely to be unemployed'.

# GERMAN

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

German is the language of innovators, inventors and engineers – a huge proportion of impressive achievements, including over 100 Nobel prize winners, were conceived by German speaking people – even now, Germany is considered the Silicon Valley of Europe. German is spoken in Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Liechtenstein, making it the majority native language in the whole of Europe. The ability to speak German and English is an advantage on the international job market – especially in the financial world. A huge number of multi-national corporations are German owned; Adidas, Audi, BMW, EON, to name a few. It is also becoming increasingly common for universities to specify a languages qualification as a requirement for entry.

***It is recommended that you are achieving at Mastering level in French or Spanish to consider taking a new language from scratch.***

### Will I enjoy it?

If you love learning a new language, then yes! This is a beginner's course, leading to a GCSE in just two years. This means that you will have to put in a lot of effort and work independently outside of lessons to ensure that you make good progress. Your teachers will help you as much as you help yourself! Learning a language from scratch is hugely rewarding and impressive to prospective colleges and employers.

### What will I study?

The course is topic-based and has 4 components: Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing.

There are three themes:

**Theme 1:** People and Lifestyle

**Theme 2:** Popular Culture

**Theme 3:** Communication and the world around us

### How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 Listening (25%) - Foundation 35 mins / Higher 45 mins

Paper 2 Speaking (25%) – Foundation 7-9 minutes / Higher 10-12 minutes + preparation time

Paper 3 Reading (25%) - Foundation 45 mins / Higher 1 hour

Paper 4 Writing (25%) - Foundation 1 hour 10 minutes / Higher 1 hour 15 minutes.

All four skill areas will be examined at the end of Year 11

### Where next?

After studying at GCSE, you may decide to continue with German at A Level. This qualification is very highly regarded by universities and employers, as students who study a language are known to have highly- developed communication and verbal-reasoning skills. Further to this, most universities offer degrees in which you can combine the study of German with other interests. From here, a wide range of employment opportunities will be open to you worldwide! Remember: languages are a skill for life!

# GRAPHIC DESIGN

## V-CERT, TECHNICAL AWARD

### Why choose this course?

Graphic design and the creative industries are the fastest growing industries in the UK. In an ever visual and digital world this course prepares students for all aspects of this industry from basic typography to digital graphic design, from design history to the industrial processes behind mass production of packaging. It complements digital, computing, and creative art & design-based subjects.

### Will I enjoy it?

It is a creative subject and will explore techniques on and off the computers. We use the Adobe Master collection, which is industry standard graphic software. The design and industrial theory will be taught, where possible, through making and practical experience.

### What will I study?

The 6 content areas are:

1. Components of graphic design
2. Work of graphic designers
3. Requirements of a graphic design brief
4. Planning, development, and experimentation
5. Graphic design production
6. Design, present and promote graphic design work.

In Year 10 you will complete bite size projects to develop your skills, as part of this you will produce a small portfolio to demonstrate them. Knowledge and design theory will be embedded within these projects and reinforced practically where possible. Your practical skills, design history, technical drawing skills, printing and CAD experience, and practical applications of design in business and industry will be brought together in your project work.

In Year 11 you will work on exam board set coursework which is 60% of the course.

### How will I be assessed?

The qualification has 2 assessments externally set by NCFE: one non-exam assessment 60% (coursework portfolio) and one written examined assessment 40%.

### Where next?

Graphic design is a fast-growing sector, be part of it. You can continue onto A Level Art & Design (Graphic Communication) in Barrow Hall College, which counts as an Art subject for Architecture, gaming or web design or Art Foundation at university. Or you could continue with a design apprenticeship before or after A-level.

# HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

## BTEC

### Why choose this course?

This course is designed to equip students with the practical health and social care skills they need to progress to further general or vocational study. They will develop a broad understanding of health and social care, enabling them to make informed decisions about their career opportunities.

### Will I enjoy it?

Within Health and Social Care, we employ a variety of different activities, teaching styles and resources that cater for all our students. We deliver a mixture of topic areas that students can relate to and are interested in, and we guide them into developing and expanding their own thoughts and ideas.

### What will I study?

Unit 1: - Human lifespan development

The study of how people grow and develop over the course of their life and how they deal with life events.

Unit 2: - Health & social care services

The study and practical exploration of health and social care services and how they meet the needs of real service users. Students also must be able to demonstrate the key care values in a health and social care context.

Unit 3: - Health & Well-being

The study of factors that affect health and the interpretation of health indicators. Pupils also must design a health and well-being plan and show how to overcome obstacles.

### How will I be assessed?

Overall, 60 % internally assessed 40% externally assessed. Unit 1 and Unit 2 have a weighting of 30% each. Unit 3 has a weighting of 40%.

### Where next?

This course leads perfectly onto our Level 3 BTEC in Health and Social care that is offered at Barrow Hall College. Our pupils who do the Level 3 course can then either go onto a relevant degree course or go into an apprenticeship.

# HISTORY

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

The main reason for choosing History is that you love the subject, and that you want to study over 1000 years of history. History is considered an academic subject and a GCSE in the subject is considered highly by universities and employers. History will teach you skills that you will find invaluable in Higher Education and the workplace - analysis, evaluation, decision making, teamwork, problem solving and written and communication.

### Will I enjoy it?

Absolutely, GCSE History encourages you to be argumentative and to have an opinion of your own. It is important to be able to debate and articulate your own ideas. Our lessons are designed to allow you to take part in group work, debates, independent work, presentations, and discussions. A lot of students continue to study History at A level because of their enjoyment of History at GCSE.

### What will I study?

#### PAPER 1: UNDERSTANDING THE MODERN WORLD

##### **Section A: Germany 1890 - 1945 Democracy and Dictatorship**

In this depth study we will look at the Germany's role in the causes of the First World War and how that led to the collapse of the Kaiser Reich. We will then study Germany's attempt to form a democracy and how that would eventually lead to the rise of the Nazis and life in Germany under a dictatorship.

##### **Section B: Conflict and tension, 1918-1939**

You will look at how Britain, France and the USA tried to punish Germany at the end of First World War, but also how they tried to make sure that another World War did not break out. Hitler broke the promise Germany made in the Treaty of Versailles, increased German strength, and set Europe on the road to war.

#### PAPER 2: SHAPING THE BRITISH NATION

##### **Section A: Power and the People C1200-Modern day**

In this thematic breadth study, we will look at how power has changed hands from medieval Britain to the modern day. We will complete 13 case studies from Magna Carta in 1215 to the Brixton Riots of the 1980s, for each study we will consider the causes and consequences of these events and how they can be compared.

##### **Section B: The reign of Elizabeth I 1558 - 1603**

In this depth study we will study the reign of Elizabeth I, covering a period of social change with the introduction of the poor laws of 1601, how religion drove challenges to the power of Elizabeth from both at home and abroad and finally to see how Elizabeth went in search of foreign colonies in the new world.

### How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 – 2-hour exam worth 50% (end of Y11), Paper 2 – 2-hour exam worth 50% (end of Y11)

### Where next?

We will encourage a lifelong passion for history that will stay with you long past your exams at the end of year 11 and onto a History A-level at Barrow Hall College.



# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

## CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL

### Why choose this course?

Are you interested in studying IT beyond GCSE? Do you see yourself in an IT related job such as a software developer, data analyst, web developer or game designer? Or do you just really enjoy it? If you can answer “YES” to any of these questions, then this course is for you!

### Will I enjoy it?

The IT Cambridge Nationals course is engaging and practical, encouraging creativity and problem solving. The course is designed to inspire and equip students with the confidence to use skills that are relevant to the IT sector and more widely. It will also give you a chance to show your creative side when learning about, and developing your own AR (Augmented Reality) app.

### What will I study?

**RO50 IT in the Digital World**– In this unit you will learn about design and testing concepts for creating an IT solution or product, and the uses of IT in the digital world. Topics include, Design Tools, Human Computer Interface in everyday life, Data and Testing, Cyber Security and Legislation, Digital Communications, Internet of Everything.

**RO60 Data Manipulation using Spreadsheets**- In this unit, students will learn the skills to be able to plan and design a spreadsheet solution to meet client requirements. They will be able to use a range of tools and techniques to create a spreadsheet solution based on their design, which they will test. Students will be able to evaluate their solution based on the user requirements.

**RO70 Using Augmented Reality to Present Information** – In this unit, students will learn the purpose, use and types of augmented reality (AR) in different contexts and how they are used on different digital devices. They will develop the skills to be able to design and create an AR model prototype, using a range of tools and techniques. Students will also be able to test and review their AR model prototype.

### How will I be assessed?

RO50 IT in the Digital World – 1 hour 30-minute written exam, externally marked (40% of final grade).  
RO60 Data Manipulation using Spreadsheets - Coursework based Centre assessed task (30% of final)  
RO70 Using Augmented Reality to Present Information - Coursework based Centre assessed task (30% of final grade)

### How can I progress?

After successfully completing GCSE, you can progress onto A Level Computer Science or Advanced Nationals in IT/Computing at Barrow Hall College.

# MEDIA STUDIES

BTEC Tech Award

## Why choose this course?

"We live in a world where there is more and more information, and less and less meaning" – Jean Baudrillard

In the UK there are more than 3 million jobs in the ever-changing Media Industry, with this only increasing as more technologies are being developed. This course will teach you the knowledge and skills that you would use within the Media Industry such as Adobe Photoshop, Premiere Pro, Cinematography, Sound production and many more. You will gain a key understanding of the codes and conventions of different Media Products and complete case studies based on your chosen Media Products.

## Will I enjoy it?

Do you have a passion for Film, Video Games, Magazine Production, or aspire to gain a better understanding of the Media world surrounding us? Do you want to learn valuable skills that can be used both in and out of the classroom including being able to use the Adobe CC Suite from home? Then this course will be for you.

Due to the nature of the Media Studies course, you will have the opportunity to analyse several Media Products over the course including Films, Film Trailers, Music Videos, Magazines.

## What will I study?

The course has 3 components, which form the units of study.

Component 1: Exploring Media Products

Component 2: Developing Digital Media Production Skills

Component 3: Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief

## How will I be assessed?

Component 1 (30%) – A Case study of a Film, Magazine & Videogame of your choice to fit a brief.

Component 2 (30%) – Designing your own Magazine Cover and Article for a specific purpose.

Component 3 (40%) – **Exam** creating a leaflet in photoshop for a specific target audience.

## Where next?

After studying at KS4, you may continue with Media Studies at KS5. At Sixth Form you will develop your necessary Key Stylistic Codes, Key Codes & Conventions and apply these to further products and plan and create your own Horror Film. From here, a wide range of employment opportunities will be open to you for you to develop your skills even further. Even if you don't intend to be in the Media Industry, you will be able to learn transferrable skills that will support you in all parts of life.

# MUSIC

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

Music is a fun, enjoyable and practical subject with only one written exam! If you are a keen musician and are interested in performing, composing and listening to different styles of Music, then this is definitely the course for you.

### Will I enjoy it?

Yes! If you are creative and hardworking, you will love these lessons. You do need to be able to play an instrument and/ or be able to sing if you opt for GCSE Music. We would be recommending being at least Grade 2/3 (ABRSM or Rock School) standard at the start of the course in Year 10. We generally have small class sizes, meaning strong relationships are formed and end results are consistently on or above original target. We pride ourselves that our dedicated staff go the extra mile.

### What will I study?

During the course you will study the following: -

**Performance (30%)** - Perform one piece of music on your own and one in a group. You must be having instrumental/ vocal lessons on your instrument/ voice as we do not teach how to play instruments in curriculum time. It is not too late to sign up now- see any music teacher.

**Composition (30%)** - Write two pieces of music over two years; one 'free' composition and one composition to a set brief.

**Listening & Contextual Understanding (40%)** – 1hr 30mins written exam taken at the end of Year 11. Listen to excerpts of music from 1650 - present day and answer questions about them.

### How will I be assessed?

60% coursework! The performances are recorded in the recording studio and composition is completed and assessed as coursework, both during Year 10 and Year 11. The listening and analysis is an external written exam taken at the end of Year 11.

### Where next?

This course feeds into our A Level Music course, which will develop your skills even further. After the A Level course, some of our students go on to study the subject at university, others take Music as it is their hobby. The course teaches invaluable life skills such as commitment, communication, teamwork, creative thinking, leadership, and independent and collaborative learning. Music GCSE makes our students highly employable.

# MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

## LEVEL 2 TECHNICAL AWARD

### Why choose this course?

Music Technology teaches you the musical and technical skills to record, write and produce music. Choose this subject if you have a good ear for music, are interested in the process of how professional music is created and enjoy learning in a practical environment. You don't need to play an instrument to succeed in this course, but basic keyboard skills are useful.

### Will I enjoy it?

You will enjoy this course if you like to learn in a practical environment and have an interest in music and how it is created and produced.

### What will I study?

#### **Content Area 1 – Introduction to Music Technology and the Music Business**

Learn about different jobs in the music industry and how to market and promote music.

#### **Content Area 2 – The Digital Audio Workstation**

Learn about the hardware and software required to produce music and how you can get the best out of them for your own tracks.

#### **Content Area 3 – Musical Elements, Musical Style, and Music Technology**

Learn about the musical features required to craft original and engaging music of your own.

#### **Content Area 4 – Sound Creation**

Learn to create new and original sounds using a variety of types and methods of sound creation.

#### **Content Area 5 – Multitrack Recording**

Learn how to use the recording studio to create a multitrack recording of your own.

### How will I be assessed?

#### **60% - Non-Exam Assessment**

Having built up your skills and knowledge of music production in Year 10, you will be given 17 hours in Year 11 to create your own project using everything you have learnt.

#### **40% - Written Exam**

A written paper testing your knowledge of music technology and the music industry, focusing on the 5 content areas listed above.

### Where next?

This course feeds into our A Level Music Technology course, which will develop your skills and critical ear even further. After the A-Level course, lots of our students go on to study the subject at university. Alternatively, the course prepares you for entering directly into the workplace, as Pro Tools is the industry standard music production software.

# PHOTOGRAPHY

## GCSE

### **Why choose this course?**

GCSE Photography is a creative, practical and rewarding subject. It will give you the chance to develop your photography and digital skills and work with a wide range of techniques and processes. It will provide an excellent foundation to study all A level art-based subjects.

### **Will I enjoy it?**

If you are passionate about all aspects of Photography, work hard and love the subject you will enjoy it, as there is more scope to study your own areas of interest and make links to work that you have seen in galleries and exhibitions. There are regular after-school clubs where you can get more help if needed.

### **What will I study?**

You will research the work of other photographers and artists and develop your own independent ideas about their work.

Your photographer research and analysis form an important part of your progress by providing inspiration from looking at the work of established artists. You will keep a digital record of all your ideas over the two years and this will show your development of projects from initial ideas and studies, through to planning for final piece(s) of work.

### **How will I be assessed?**

60% of final GCSE grade is based on coursework portfolio produced over the 2 years. 40% of final grade is based on final exam project that begins in January of Year 11.

### **Where next?**

You can progress onto A Level Photography at Barrow Hall College.

# PSYCHOLOGY

## GCSE Psychology: Edexcel

### Why choose this course?

Psychology is the fascinating study of the mind and how it influences behaviour. It is a demanding subject with many new facts and key terms that you will need to recall. However, it is an extremely engaging and thought-provoking subject that is worth the extra hard work! You will be supported by experienced teacher-examiners and a variety of teaching resources to aid your learning from activity booklets, core notes, exam booklets and an extensive revision schedule. We also have a regularly updated SharePoint site where students can find a variety of revision resources and have access to our slides.

***To be successful in this subject we recommend students are currently achieving secure or mastery in their Maths and English.***

### Will I enjoy it?

Psychology is a triple threat! You will revisit some science topics such as experiments, hypotheses, independent variables, dependent variables and the brain. You will also need your KS3 Maths skills such as mean, mode, median, range and ratio. Finally, you are also expected to write 5 essays over the two papers so will need good English skills. A typical psychologist will be interested in conducting their own research whilst being able to think outside the box and share and debate their opinions. There are a wide range of topics that students can relate to and are interested in. For example, popular topics include psychological problems such as depression and addiction to criminal psychology where students will get to explore the range of explanations for criminality. Students will also get to explore sleep and dreaming and discover a range of theories behind the meaning of dreams.

### What will I study?

- Topic 1: Development – How did you develop?
- Topic 2: Memory – How does your memory work?
- Topic 3: Psychological problems – How would psychological problems affect you?
- Topic 4: The brain and neuropsychology – How does your brain affect you?
- Topic 5: Social influence – How do others affect you?
- Topic 6: Criminal psychology – Why do people become criminals?
- Topic 7: Sleep and dreaming – Why do you need to sleep and dream?
- Topic 8: Research methods – How do you carry out psychological research?

### How will I be assessed?

The course is 100% exam based and the students will take 2 exams at the end of Year 11.

- Paper 1 = 1hr 45mins - (Topics 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5) - 55% of your GCSE result
- Paper 2 = 1hr 20mins - (Topics 6, 7 & 8) - 45% of your GCSE result

### Where next?

Many of our GCSE students continue to study Psychology further at A Level at Barrow Hall College and then at Degree Level. Psychology GCSE is an excellent pathway for other A Levels such as Sociology, Criminology, Philosophy, and ethics and more! Due to the wide range of topics studied and vast number of transferable skills learnt, Psychology can offer a pathway to many career options.

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## GCSE

### What will I learn in RS?

The course is split in to two parts:

#### The study of Religions

Beliefs and teachings: This section focuses on the specific beliefs and teachings of a religion. For example, beliefs about God and the roles of Jesus and Muhammad.

Practices: This section looks at the way the religious beliefs affect the lives of believers. For example, the Five Pillars of Islam, worship, and pilgrimage.

#### Thematic Studies

Religion and Life: Animal rights, abortion, euthanasia, origins of life  
Crime and Punishment: Causes of crime, aims of punishment, the death penalty, the treatment of criminals  
Peace and Conflict: Causes of war, terrorism, nuclear weapons, pacifism.

Relationships and Family: Marriage, divorce, sexuality, contraception

### What are RS lessons like?

Every lesson will be different depending on the topic being covered. Some lessons will be more discussion based whilst others will include more written tasks.

Activities in class include discussions, debates, role play, presentations, internet research, group work, interpreting images and a variety of written tasks.

### How is the course assessed?

There will be two 1hr 45 min exams at the end of Year 11.

### Where next?

In short, lots! A GCSE in RS will open a number of doors to you whether you stay on at Barrow Hall College, move somewhere else to continue your studies or go straight into a job. RS shows that you can think for yourself, take an interest in the world around you and accept other people's beliefs and attitudes.

Careers that RS can lead to include Health care, childcare, medicine, psychologist, customer services, law, police, psychology, public services, management, teaching, social work, and archaeology.

# SPANISH

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

After Mandarin, Spanish is spoken by more native speakers than any other language in the world today. Spanish embraces a wealth of cultures since as well as Spain, it is spoken across Latin America and there are even 53 million Spanish speakers in the USA. With an ever-increasing presence in the global market, emerging economies in Latin America are providing job opportunities for people with a knowledge of Spanish.

More and more universities are asking for a qualification in a language as a basic entry requirement for a range of courses. Careers in business, marketing, journalism, law and the tourist industry all demand good communication skills, and the ability to speak a foreign language will give you the edge when applying for jobs.

### Will I enjoy it?

Yes! Learning a language at GCSE is a really satisfying and fulfilling experience. Lessons include a variety of activities and include plenty of opportunities for you to communicate in Spanish allowing you to develop your speaking skills with confidence. The nature of the subject means that pair work and groupwork form an essential part of the structure of the lessons. Outside of the classroom you will be encouraged to use a range of resources to support your learning.

### What will I study?

The course is topic-based and has 4 components: Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. The topics covered build on and expand what you have already studied at KS3. There are three themes:

**Theme 1:** People and Lifestyle

**Theme 2:** Popular Culture

**Theme 3:** Communication and the world around us

### How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1 Listening (25%) - Foundation 30 mins / Higher 45 mins
- Paper 2 Speaking (25%) – Foundation 7-9 minutes / Higher 10-12 minutes + preparation time
- Paper 3 Reading (25%) - Foundation 45 mins / Higher 1 hour
- Paper 4 Writing (25%) - Foundation 1 hour / Higher 1 hour 15 minutes

### Where next?

After studying at GCSE, you may decide to continue to study Spanish at A Level. This is a highly regarded qualification by universities and employers as it is recognised that students who study a language have highly- developed communication and verbal-reasoning skills. Further to this, many universities offer degrees in which you can combine the study of Spanish with other interests.



# SPORTS STUDIES

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

This GCSE in Sports Studies will help students gain understanding of how physical activities benefit health, fitness, and wellbeing, whilst also equipping students with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values they need to be able to develop and maintain their performance in physical activities.

### Will I enjoy it?

Yes! If you have a genuine interest in sport and want to develop your understanding of all things sport related, while continuing to develop practical skills, this is the course for you.

### What will I study?

The topic areas that will be covered include:

- Applied anatomy and physiology.
- Movement analysis
- Physical training
- Health, fitness and well-being
- Sport psychology
- Socio-cultural influences
- Practical performance and Personal Exercise programme

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment is carried out through a mixture of exams, coursework and practical performance.

**Paper 1-** Written examination: 80 marks – 1 hour 30 mins- 36% of the qualification 80 marks.

**Paper 2-** Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes- 24% of the qualification 60 marks

**Practical performance-** Performance in 3 sports- internally marked and externally moderated 30% of the qualification 105 marks (35 marks per activity)

**Personal Exercise programme** - internally marked and externally moderated 10% of the qualification 20 marks

### Where next?

This course provides a perfect foundation for students wanting to go on and study either A Level or BTEC Level 3 Sport.

Students will develop an understanding of all aspects of sport, and we will encourage and develop skills to promote lifelong participation.

# STATISTICS

## GCSE

### Why choose this course?

Statistics is about making decisions when there is uncertainty. Perhaps one of the most versatile areas of mathematics, it gives students the skills to collect, analyse, interpret and present data. It complements subjects such as GCSE Biology, Psychology, Geography and Business, and opens the door to a variety of careers – from weather forecasting to data science and analytics in areas such as sport to the biological sciences.

### Will I enjoy it?

You will enjoy it if you have an interest in mathematics. If you enjoy problem-solving and decision making you will enjoy taking GCSE Statistics because you will be collecting data and having to make logical decisions in a short space of time based upon the data you have analysed. It is also a fantastic opportunity to study new areas of mathematics such as linear regression, the binomial distribution, Spearman's Rank Correlation Coefficient and standard deviation to name but a few. These are incredible areas that allow you to extend your knowledge and enhance your work and understanding in the statistical components of other subjects.

### What will I study?

You will look at five key areas in statistics that go alongside the Statistical Enquiry Cycle: the planning of statistical investigations, the methods used in data collection, the generating and analysis of statistical diagrams, the calculation of statistical measures to compare data and the interpretation of results and relating them back to a hypothesis or questions that have been posed.

### How will I be assessed?

The GCSE assessments in Statistics can be sat at Higher or Foundation Tiers. The final examinations at each tier will consist of two written papers lasting 1 hour 45 minutes and each paper will be marked out of 80. Calculators are allowed to be used for each paper.

### Where next?

You can also help to accelerate your progress in GCSE Mathematics as you will be reviewing some topics that are interlinked with your GCSE Statistics such as Cumulative Frequency, Box Plots, Histograms, Tree Diagrams and Venn Diagrams. In addition, linking the concepts that you are being introduced to you to other subjects that you are taking will enhance your skills across your curriculum.

# TEXTILE DESIGN

## GCSE

### **Why choose this course?**

GCSE Textile Design is a creative, practical and rewarding subject with opportunities to progress to A level. It will give you the chance to work with new materials and techniques including sewing machines and fabrics and to work with the heat press and heat transfer design techniques.

### **Will I enjoy it?**

If you are passionate about all aspects of Textiles, fashion and design, work hard and love the subject you will enjoy it as there is more scope to study your own areas of interest and make links to work that you have seen produced by contemporary artists and designers. There are regular after-school clubs where you can get more help if needed.

### **What will I study?**

You will research the work of other textile artists and designers and develop your own independent ideas about their work. Your artist research and analysis form an important part of your progress by providing inspiration from looking at the work of established crafts people and designers. You will keep a sketchbook of all your ideas over the two years and this will show your development of projects from initial ideas and studies through to planning for final pieces of work. The course will include observational drawing techniques and you will then develop your ideas using a range of fabrics, textile techniques and processes to produce a wide range of samples. You will then refine and develop your skills further to produce your final pieces.

### **How will I be assessed?**

60% of final GCSE grade is based on coursework portfolio produced over the 2 years.

40% of final grade is based on final exam project that begins in January of Year 11.

### **Where next?**

After successfully completing the GCSE, you can progress onto A Level at Barrow Hall College.