

# Year 9 into 10 Options 2026

## Subject Guide Booklet

# It's Time to Choose



This booklet explains all about the GCSE and vocational subjects which are offered at Knutsford Academy.

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### Key Dates

<b>Tuesday January 13th</b>	<b>AIM for Options Day presentation, Options Booklet and Head of Faculty subject presentations available via Year 9 options on website.</b>
<b>Thursday Jan 15th (French Side) Thursday Jan 22nd (Spanish Side)</b>	<b>Year 9 Parents' Evenings – Discuss progress and suitability for subjects with class teachers.</b>
<b>Thursday January 15th</b>	<b>Options Form Online available for submission of choices.</b>
<b>Friday January 30th</b>	<b>Deadline for submission of choice.</b>
<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Support and guidance from form tutors, subject teachers, Mr Horner and Mr Parr.</b>
<b>February 24th</b>	<b>All options choices checked and confirmed.</b>

# Year 9 into 10 Options 2026

## Introduction

This booklet informs you about the exciting KS4 curriculum and options offered at Knutsford Academy. All subject presentations will be available on our website following the **AIM for Options day on Tuesday January 13th**.

GCSE options is an important moment in your child's education. Over the coming weeks, we will make sure that every student has the help they need to make appropriate course choices and they will be able to make changes to their choices during the process.

As well as a common Core Curriculum, **all students will need to select 4 options choices and 1 reserve**. Due to recent changes nationally regarding the EBACC, there is no restriction this year for any students regarding the study of a modern language. The main advice for students is that they should aim to maintain as broad and balanced a range of subjects whilst selecting subjects in which they have a particular interest or talent where possible.

Year 9 Parents Evening will allow you to speak with subject teachers about possible options and careers guidance will also be available about the different pathways to further and higher education or employment. **Choices will need to be submitted online via an Options Form by Friday January 30th**. There is no 'first come, first served' approach – all choices are processed with equal importance.

We try to provide all students with the opportunity to study their preferred subjects but this cannot be guaranteed. Timetabling and staffing restrictions mean that there may be limited places or certain combinations not possible. In these cases, we may need to either use reserve choices or consider Year 9 progress data in related subjects. As a result, it is important to emphasise that a student's effort in all subjects remain of the highest standard throughout Year 9, irrespective of the options which they choose.

The information provided is as accurate as it can be at this time. You will be informed of any further changes. Please keep this booklet in a safe place as you will need to refer to it in the coming months. It's time to choose!

If at any time you have any queries about your child's options, please do not hesitate to contact me at school via email [cpr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:cpr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk).

Mr Christopher Parr  
Assistant Headteacher

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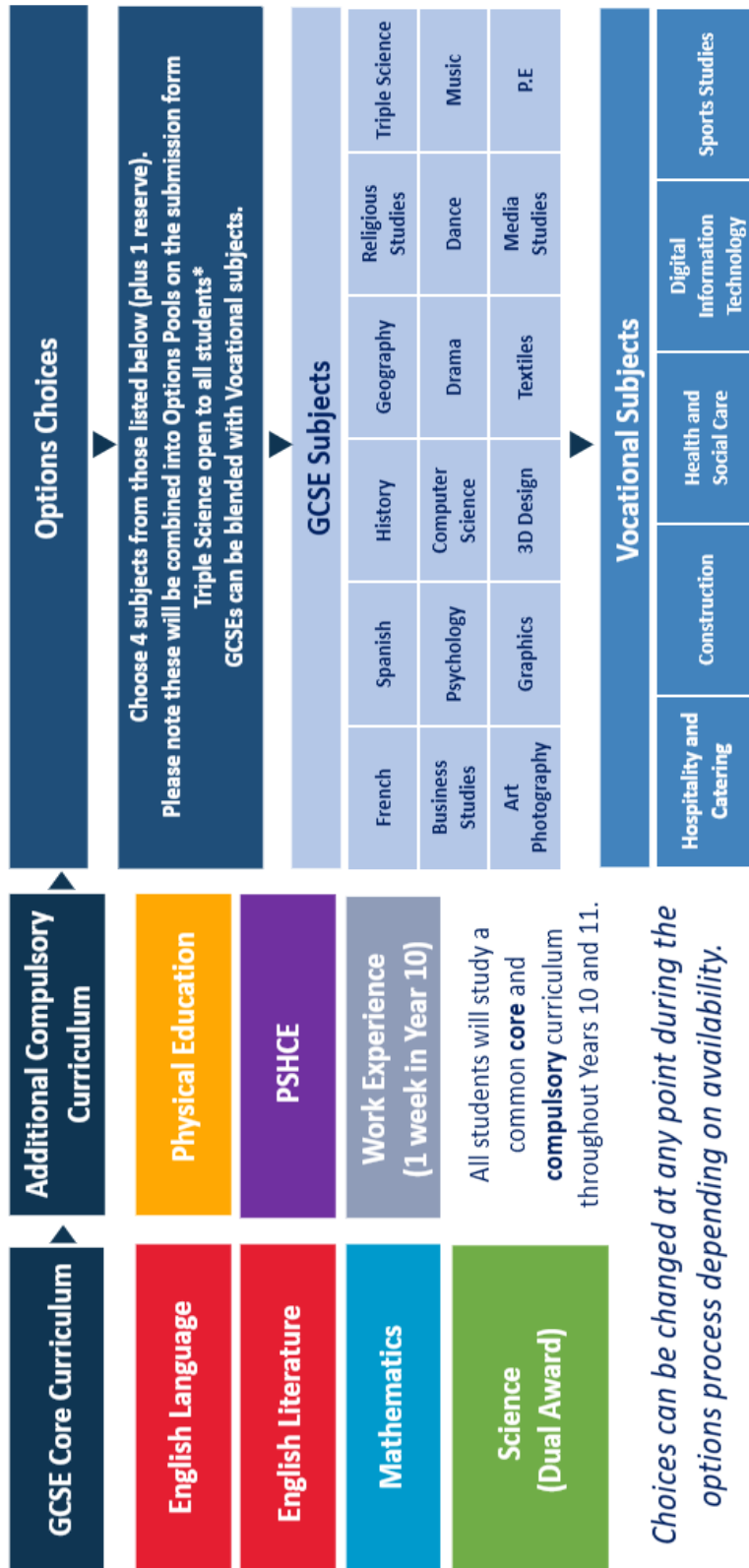
# It's Time to Choose

# Year 9 into 10 Options 2026

## Options Curriculum Overview

This curriculum diagram is fully explained in the Options Presentation.  
We are proud of the broad choice of GCSE and Vocational subjects on offer.  
**All students will choose 4 subjects and 1 reserve subject.**

### Key Stage 4 Curriculum



All students will study a common **core** and **compulsory** curriculum throughout Years 10 and 11.

*Choices can be changed at any point during the options process depending on availability.*

# Year 9 into 10 Options 2026

## Options Pools

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
Business Studies	Business Studies	Art	Dance
Computer Science	3D Design	Construction	Digital Information Technology
French	Geography	3D Design	Graphics
History	History	Drama	History
Hospitality	Music	Geography	Physical Education
Media Studies	Psychology	Health and Social Care	Psychology
Physical Education	Sports Studies	History	Triple Science
Spanish	Triple Science	Religious Studies	Textiles

### **Language Paper 1 – Explorations in creative reading and writing (assessed by exam - 50%)**

In Section A, Candidates read a literature fiction text and answer a range of questions in order to consider how established writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to capture the interest of readers.

In the writing section in section B, candidates will be writing their own creative text, inspired by the topic that they have responded to in section A to demonstrate their narrative and descriptive skills in response to a written prompt, scenario or visual image.

### **Language Paper 2 – Writer's viewpoints and perspectives (assessed by exam - 50%)**

In section A, candidates will read two linked sources from different time lessons and genres in order to consider how each presents a perspective or viewpoint to influence the reader. Candidates will respond to a range of questions.

In section B, candidates will produce a written text to a specified audience, purpose and form in which they give their own perspective on the theme that has been introduced to them in section A.

### **Non examination assessment – Speaking and Listening (assessed in the classroom and awarded a separate certificate)**

Students will be marked on three assessed pieces:

Presenting - Discussing and Listening - Role-playing

**Contact – Mr R Foster – [RFR@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:RFR@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)**

## English Literature GCSE (Edexcel)

### **English Literature**

#### **Literature Paper 1 – Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century novel (assessed by exam - 40%)**

Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on the play they have read in class. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on the novel they have read in class. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

#### **Literature Paper 2 - Poetry Across Time (assessed by exam - 60%)**

Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

**Contact – Mr R Foster – [RFR@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:RFR@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)**

All students follow a course of study that covers the six core areas of Mathematics outlined in the National Curriculum:

1- Number      2- Algebra      3- Ratio and proportion of change  
4- Probability      5- Statistics      6 - Geometry and measure

The course is designed to refine and develop students' skills from the level they have achieved at the end of Year 9 and to prepare them fully for entry in the GCSE examination at the end of Year 11.

Achievement and attainment are monitored closely throughout the course and feedback given to students on a regular basis.

Students will be entered for the GCSE examination at one of two levels:

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

Some students will also have the opportunity to study Further Maths GCSE in Year 11.

### Assessment

GCSE Maths is assessed by examination.

The examination consists of three papers.

Paper 1: Non-Calculator,

Paper 2: Calculator

Paper 3: Calculator

All papers carry equal weighting and are out of 80 marks.

Content can be examined across any of the papers

Contact – Mrs A McGeehan [amc@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:amc@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Double Science GCSE (AQA)

**Please note this is a core option that all students take at GCSE**

### GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

The GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy course enables students to explore exciting topics in biology, chemistry and physics and develop their knowledge and understanding of science. Subject specialists teach the appropriate topics, focusing on their area of expertise. It is suitable for students of all abilities and aspirations and the course encourages students to understand theoretical concepts alongside developing practical skills.

Students sit six exams – gaining the equivalent of two GCSEs. It's excellent preparation if students want to study science after Key Stage 4.

Contact – Mrs E Riley [ery@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:ery@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

**As an alternative to the core option of Combined Science, students can extend this to Triple Science. This will count as one of your additional four options that you choose.**

### **GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics**

**GCSE Biology** enables students to gain a good understanding of human biology, organisms, evolution and the environment. Students can see how science is used to solve problems ranging from infectious diseases to creating biofuels.

**GCSE Chemistry** gives students the opportunity to understand the nature of substances and how they react together, how Chemistry is used in business and industry and how our use of raw materials in fuels and manufacturing can affect the global and local environment.

**GCSE Physics** offers students the chance to gain a good understanding of the use and transfer of energy, waves and their uses, radioactivity and the application of Physics. Students will learn to ask and answer questions about the fundamental laws that govern natural phenomena and will be engaged by concepts like nuclear fusion and evidence of the Big Bang.

**Contact – Mrs E Riley [ery@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:ery@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)**

## Business GCSE (OCR)

### **Overview of subject**

**Business GCSE covers six areas:**

- Business activity
- Marketing
- People
- Operations
- Finance
- Influences on business
- The interdependent nature of business

**To be successful at Business you need:**

- Literacy skills – comprehension, terminology
- Numeracy skills – basic, KS3
- An interest in business!

**Contact – Mrs F Routs [frs@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:frs@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)**

### **Assessment**

Business is assessed through four skills

AO1 – Knowledge

AO2 – Application of knowledge to a business scenario

AO3 – Analysis and evaluation, reasoned judgements, conclusions

You sit two external exams (worth 50% each)

1 hour 30 mins, multiple choice, data response questions

**Contact Mrs F Routs [frs@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:frs@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)**

The advancements in technology are incredible, and whilst IT skills will make students competent users of technology – Computer Science can unlock students’ potential and position them as the creators of the next technological innovation, groundbreaking app or global reaching website.

During the course, students explore the ideas of computational thinking and problem solving and look at how computer programs are developed. Students learn to program in Python and become competent coders.

Students will also study data representation, internal hardware and experience taking computers apart, learning about the components. They will study networking and cyber security and gain a critical awareness of how organisations maintain their systems securely.

### Assessment

#### Paper 1 (Exam 50%)

Students are assessed on computational thinking, algorithms and programming concepts.

#### Paper 2 (Exam 50%)

Students are assessed on a wide range of computer science topic areas such as networking, security, computer hardware and SQL

Contact – Mr D Cole [dce@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:dce@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Dance GCSE (AQA)

The GCSE Dance course is assessed both practically and theoretically in order to provide students with the necessary skills to springboard progression into A Level study.

#### Why choose GCSE Dance?

- You are a student who enjoys the subject and you are prepared to progress your knowledge and realisation of performance and choreography.
- Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity.
- This course recognises the role of dance in young people’s lives and students will study a range of dance styles. They can choose any style to perform and choreograph in, providing it meets the assessment criteria.
- The study of the anthology of professional works will develop students’ ability to critically appraise dances of different styles and cultural influences and provides a springboard for engaging practical tasks.

### Assessment

The practical area of the course assesses students’ **performance** as both a soloist and as part of ensemble equating to 30% of the final GCSE marks. In addition students will study the **craft of choreography** (30% of the final marks) which will be realised through the composition of either a solo or group piece.

The theoretical element of the course involves critical appreciation of students’ own work and professional dance works prescribed by the AQA. This will culminate in a **written paper** totalling 40% of the GCSE qualification

Contact – Mrs L Scott [lst@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:lst@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)



### Overview of subject

GCSE PE covers three main areas

- 1 - Application of theoretical knowledge to practical performance
- 2 - Practical performance
- 3 – Personal Exercise Plan

The theoretical topics include;

Anatomy & physiology, Movement analysis, Physical training, Health, fitness & well-being, Sport psychology, Socio-cultural influences

Lessons are practical AND classroom based.

### Assessment

PE is assessed as follows:

- 1- 2 Written exams - 60%
- 2- Practical performance - 30%
- 3- PEP - 10%

Contact – Miss N Walsh [nwh@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:nwh@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Psychology GCSE (OCR)

The task of understanding human (and animal) behaviour is challenging and extremely interesting. This course allows students to study psychology at an introductory level, yet also gain enough insight into the subject to allow them to complete the course with a rounded knowledge on a range of psychological approaches, issues and processes.

Topics studied include:

YEAR 10 (50%)

**Criminal Behaviour**, Psychological Problems, Development, and Investigating Behaviour

YEAR 11 (50%)

**Memory**, Social Influence, Sleep & Dreaming and Investigating Behaviour

### Assessment

All assessment is examination based and there is no coursework or controlled assessment for this course. Both examinations take place at the end of the second year.

- 1 – Year 10 topics (1 hour 30 min)
- 2 – Year 11 topics (1 hour 30 min)

Contact – Mr R Walker [rwr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:rwr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

This course is intended to develop understanding and ability within the subject area of 3 dimensional design.

The students will be set a range of exciting projects to develop creative and imaginative thinking. The course offers an exploratory approach to materials, techniques and processes associated with 3 dimensional design.

Each project is underpinned by visual research and design development across 2 and 3 dimensions. The projects provide a broad, structured learning experience whilst also preparing for the terminal exam (an extended candidate-initiated piece of work). Final assessment will be based upon an exhibition set up by the candidate.

### Assessment

There are two parts to the assessment:

- 1 - An exhibition of a candidate's portfolio selected from work undertaken during the course of study (60%), plus
- 2- An externally set task which has a period of preparation followed by a 10 hour sustained focussed study (40%).

Contact – Mr G Robinson [grn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:grn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Drama GCSE (AQA)

Drama GCSE is a predominantly practical course. The course is divided into two elements, Drama Coursework and Drama Performance.

Throughout the course students will:

Further their understanding of improvisation and relevant dramatic and theatrical skills

Experience improvisation and scripted drama tasks in a range of different group compositions

Develop a theatrical vocabulary and learn to use this in written responses to their own practical work and the work of others (including live theatre)

Be expected to demonstrate an enjoyment of Drama and Theatre and to contribute actively to all aspects of the course.

### Assessment

**Written Exam** (1 hour 45 minutes)

Content: Theatre roles, terminology, study of a set play, and live theatre review.

**Weighting: 40%**

**Practical + Written Portfolio**

Students create and perform a devised piece and produce a portfolio reflecting the process.

**Weighting: 40%**

**Performance Exam**

Students perform **two extracts** from a published play (no written work).

**Weighting: 20%**

Contact – Miss H Mayne [hme@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:hme@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

The Textile Design course is concerned with the investigation, understanding and manipulation of materials. An appreciation of fabric surface qualities, their modification and enrichment will be developed. The course encourages a lively creative approach using drawings as initial starting points and will enable students to express their ideas and feelings in a textile-based art form.

Techniques such as appliqué, hand and machine embroidery, transfer printing and batiking will be explored to produce work in both two and three dimensions. Students will also be encouraged to design and construct a garment or fashion accessory.

### Assessment

There are two parts to the assessment:

1 - An exhibition of a candidate's portfolio selected from work undertaken during the course of study (60%), plus

2- An externally set task which has a period of preparation followed by a 10 hour sustained focussed study (40%).

Contact – Mrs L Mason [lmn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:lmn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Fine Art GCSE (AQA)

The aim of the Fine Art GCSE course is to provide students with a broad and creative insight into Fine Art as a form of artistic expression and visual communication in contemporary society. The course will allow students to make informed decisions about their own creative practice in a culture of experimentation, exploration and critical reflection.

Students are expected to develop their own visual style, drawing upon the taught workshops experimenting with a wide range of techniques, processes and media including drawing, painting, collage, ceramics, photography, printmaking and any combination of these media exploring Fine Art practice.

Year 10 allows students to creatively develop their coursework portfolio and explore the work of artists and any other visual source in depth. Year 11 involves the completion of the coursework Portfolio and the development of a personal response for the Externally Set Controlled Assessment unit.

### Assessment

Assessment is over two units of work - Coursework Portfolio 60% and the Externally Set Controlled Assessment 40% of the final GCSE grade.

The Externally Set Assessment involves a period of creative preparation in which the students independently develop their ideas followed by a 10 hour period of sustained focussed study.



Contact – Mrs L Mason [lmn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:lmn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

- This GCSE specification is new.
- It has been re-worked to make it more accessible to you and to help you enjoy your language GCSE experience even more.
- That means the GCSE exams you sit in French will not be the same as any older friends or family members you know.
- The first exams for this GCSE are in 2026.
- This GCSE has a Higher Tier (Grades 4-9) and a Foundation Tier (Grades 1-5). You must take all papers at the same tier.

### What will I learn about ?

The thematic contexts of this course are:

My personal world

Lifestyle and wellbeing

My neighbourhood

Media and technology

Studying and my future

Travel and tourism

### Assessment

There are four parts of the assessment for each language GCSE these are:

1- Listening 25% of the marks

2- Reading 25% of the marks

3- Speaking 25% of the marks

4- Writing 25% of the marks

Contact – Head of Languages Mrs G Speakman [gsn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:gsn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Geography GCSE (AQA)

Geography is a subject that explores the interaction between humans and a landscape of often extreme environments.

For the 'Physical Geography' section of the course students study topics such as tsunamis, volcanoes, earthquakes, hurricanes, rivers, glaciers and coasts. There is an emphasis on comparing the reactions of rich and poor countries to geographical issues, such as the effects that the 2011 Japanese tsunami had compared to the 2004 Asian tsunami which killed more than 250000 people.

Human Geography involves studying changing cities in the UK, major cities in the rich and poor world, and relevant issues such as food management, energy supply and the changing economic world. These are topics that feature highly in modern lifestyles and often appear on both global and local news programmes.

### Assessment

**Exam 1-** Living with the physical environment (35%)

**Exam 2-** Challenges in the human environment (35%)

**Exam 3-** Geographical Applications, including fieldwork (30%)

Contact – Head of Humanities, Mr P Atkinson [pan@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:pan@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Graphic Design GCSE (AQA)

This course is taught by experienced subject specialists using industry and higher education standard software and hardware. The course explores the fundamental principles that underpin effective graphic design. Students will be set a range of projects to develop an ability to apply knowledge, skills and creativity to solving specific design and communication problems. Each project will follow the design process and experiment with a variety of media, including digital media, such as Adobe Photoshop / Illustrator and Indesign. The projects provide a broad, structured learning experience whilst also preparing for the final exam.

Aspects of the course include: Designing for Digital Media, Advertising, Typography, Illustration, Computer generated design, Animation, Photography and video.

### Assessment

There are two parts to the assessment:

1 - An exhibition of a candidate's portfolio selected from work undertaken during the course of study (60%), plus

2- An externally set task which has a period of preparation followed by a 10 hour sustained focussed study (40%).

Contact – Mrs T Cameron [tcn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:tcn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## History GCSE (AQA)

There are four elements of the History GCSE course:

- 1- Britain: health and the people: a thematic study from the Black Death to the NHS
- 2- Norman England, 1066 to 1100: a British depth study focusing on life under Norman Conquest and control
- 3 - Germany 1890-1945: a period study including a focus on the rise and fall of Hitler
- 4- Conflict and tension, 1918-1939: a wider world depth study from the aftermath of World War I to the outbreak of World War II

The study of History at GCSE level will help students to develop a broad range of analytical, organisational and written skills that will equip them well for future study and employment

### Assessment

There are two examination papers at the end of the two years of study.

There is a keen emphasis on the development of historical skills as well as on a sound knowledge and understanding of the various elements of the course.

Contact – Mr P Scott [pst@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:pst@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Media Studies GCSE (OCR)

Through studying GCSE Media, students will develop their analytical and critical thinking skills. The course covers a wide range of both contemporary and historic media forms, which will build their understanding of the cultural and political debates surrounding media.

The following media forms will be covered in depth throughout the two-year course: Television, Radio, Newspapers, Magazines, Music Videos and Film Marketing.

The students will build their knowledge of media representation, media audiences, media language and media industries.

### Assessment

#### Paper 1

Television and promoting media

1 hour 45 minutes

Written exam – 35% of total GCSE

#### Paper 2

Music and news

1 hour 15 minutes

Written exam – 35% of total GCSE

#### NEA

Creating Media

Non-exam assessment – 30% of total GCSE

Contact – Mrs R Brook [rbk@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:rbk@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Music GCSE (EDUCAS)

Eduqas GCSE Music combines practical performance, creative composition, and analytical listening.

It is assessed through three components: **Performing** (30%), **Composing** (30%), and **Appraising** (40%).

For Performing, students present at least two pieces, including one ensemble, with a total duration of 4–6 minutes.

Composing requires two original works: one responding to an Eduqas-set brief and one free composition, totalling 3–6 minutes. Appraising is a 1 hour 15-minute listening exam with eight questions across four Areas of Study: Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music, and Popular Music. Students study musical elements such as melody, harmony, texture, and structure, alongside contextual understanding of time, place, and purpose. Set works include Bach's *Badinerie* and Toto's *Africa*, which provide stylistic reference points for analysis and performance.

The course builds technical fluency, creativity, and critical listening while promoting cultural awareness and confidence. It also develops transferable skills like problem-solving and analytical thinking, supporting progression to A-level Music and related fields. Eduqas GCSE Music provides a strong foundation for practical and intellectual engagement, preparing students for further study and varied career paths.

### Assessment

The course consists of three components:

Performing (30%),

Composing (30%)

Listening (40%).

The performance and composition units are assessed practically, while the listening unit is also assessed by examination.

Contact – Mr H Graham [hgm@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:hgm@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

### Overview of subject

The opportunity to develop a range of skills that will be useful in both academic studies and future life.

The topics covered will be relevant to a wide variety of careers including journalism, medicine, policing, and law and is a good companion subject to subjects such as history, psychology and English.

The course aims to promote an enquiring, critical and sympathetic approach to the study of religious and ethical issues, helping you to identify and explore questions about the meaning and purpose of life, and to reflect on religious views and your own responses to social and moral issues.

The course consists of three units:  
Beliefs, practice and ways of life of Christianity and Islam (50%)  
Ethical Themes (50%)

### Assessment

The qualification has no coursework or controlled assessment but instead consists of two written examinations corresponding to the above units.

These exams will assess the knowledge and understanding of the topics learnt as well as the skills of analysis and evaluation in considering and responding to religious, ethical, and social questions.

You do not need to be a religious believer to study RS, all you need is a real interest in questioning why the world is as it is!

**Contact – Miss L Appleton** [lan@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:lan@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Spanish GCSE (Edexcel)

- This GCSE specification is new.
- It has been re-worked to make it more accessible to you and to help you enjoy your language GCSE experience even more.
- That means the GCSE exams you sit in Spanish will not be the same as any older friends or family members you know.
- The first exams for this GCSE are in 2026.
- This GCSE has a Higher Tier (Grades 4-9) and a Foundation Tier (Grades 1-5). You must take all papers at the same tier.

#### What will I learn about ?

The thematic contexts of this course are:

My personal world  
Lifestyle and wellbeing  
My neighbourhood  
Media and technology  
Studying and my future  
Travel and tourism

### Assessment

There are four parts of the assessment for each language GCSE these are:

- 1- Listening 25% of the marks
- 2- Reading 25% of the marks
- 3- Speaking 25% of the marks
- 4- Writing 25% of the marks

**Contact – Mrs G Speakman** [gsn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:gsn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)



## Hospitality and Catering (WJEC Level 1 or 2)

**Unit one-** The purpose of this unit is for learners to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the catering and hospitality industry, including

- The environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate
- How hospitality and catering provision operates
- Hygiene and safety requirements
- Know how food can cause ill health

**Unit two-** The purpose of this unit is for learners to safely plan, prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes. This includes the importance of nutrition; menu planning and show their skills when preparing and cooking chosen dishes.

An example task would be;

- Propose 2 dishes: one suitable for a teenager on a school activity holiday and one for the staff on this trip
- Plan for the production of two dishes that could be included on the menu.
- Prepare, cook and present the two dishes.

### Assessment

Grades are awarded on the following scale:

L1 Pass, L1 Merit, L1 Distinction,  
L1 Distinction\*, L2 Pass, L2 Merit,  
L2 Distinction, L2 Distinction\*

Unit 1 - External Assessed, written examination in year 2, 1 hr 20 minutes, 80 marks

Unit 2- Internally assessed, over 12 hours of which 4 hours are practical, 120 marks, resources permitted for some sections

Contact – Mrs N Szkolar [nsr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:nsr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Construction (Level 1 or 2)

Level 2 Construction is a largely practical course with three areas. All of the course is delivered through real life scenarios and construction projects:

### Areas of Content

- 1.1 The sector
- 1.2 The built environment life cycle
- 1.3 Types of building and structure
- 1.4 Technologies and materials
- 1.5 Building structures and forms
- 1.6 Sustainable construction methods
- 1.7 Trades, employment and careers
- 1.8 Health and safety

### Assessment

Most of L2 Construction is assessed through practical work

1- Introduction to the Built Environment (Onscreen external assessment 40%)

2- Constructing the Built Environment (Internal Practical Assessment 60%)

Contact – Mrs L Mason [lmn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:lmn@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)



### Overview of subject

The Cambridge National in Sport Studies provides the starting point for a route to employment into many areas of sport, including roles in the sport and active leisure sector, such as sports leader and sports media. On this course, you will be encouraged to develop personal skills, practical performance and an appreciation of contemporary issues in sport.

3 units over 2 years;

Unit 1: Contemporary issues in sport – Externally assessed

Unit 2: Performance and Leadership in Sports Activities – Internally assessed

Unit 3: Increasing awareness of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities - Internally assessed

### Assessment

7 levels of grading;

Level 1 pass

Level 1 merit

Level 1 distinction

Level 2 pass

Level 2 merit

Level 2 distinction

Level 2 distinction\*

1 formal written exam (unit 1) –  
1 hour 15 minutes

Contact – Mrs Nikki Walsh [nwh@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:nwh@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

## Digital Information Technology (Edexcel)

### Overview of subject

**Component 1: Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques.** You will develop your understanding of what makes an effective user interface and how to effectively manage a project. You will use this understanding to plan, design and create a user interface.

**Component 2: Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data.** You will understand the characteristics of data and information and how they help organisations in decision making. You will use data manipulation methods to create a dashboard to present and draw conclusions from information.

**Component 3: Effective Digital Working Practices.** You will explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications associated with their use.

### Assessment

Component 1 and Component 2 are internal assessments which are marked in school.

Component 3 is a on minute exam set and marked by Pearson.

Contact – Mr David Cole [dce@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:dce@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

### **Overview of subject**

#### **Component 1 – Human Lifespan Development**

You will investigate how, in real situations, human development is affected by different factors and that people deal differently with life events.

#### **Component 2 – Health and Social Care Services and Values**

You will study and explore practically, health and social care services and how they meet the needs of real service users. You also develop skills in applying care values.

#### **Component 3 – Health and Wellbeing**

You will study the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators, and how to design a health and wellbeing improvement plan.

### **Assessment**

Contains 40% synoptic external assessment. (Exam)

Contains 60% internal assessment. (Coursework)

Be graded as a  
Pass/Merit/Distinction at level 1  
or level 2.

**Contact – Miss C Moss – [cms@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:cms@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)**

# Year 9 into 10 Options 2026

## Support, Contacts and Key Dates



Options booklet, options presentation, subject talks with Heads of Faculty on Year 9 Options pages of website

Academy and Exam Board Websites

Mr Horner, Head of Year: [thr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:thr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

Subject teachers: Please refer to the options booklet

Mrs Pickford, Careers Guidance: [jpf@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:jpf@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

Mr Parr, Options Queries: [cpr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:cpr@knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

Tuesday January 13th	AIM for Options Day presentation, Options Booklet and Head of Faculty subject presentations available via Year 9 options on website.
Thursday Jan 15th (French Side) Thursday Jan 22nd (Spanish Side)	Year 9 Parents' Evenings – Discuss progress and suitability for subjects with class teachers.
Thursday January 15th	Options Form Online available for submission of choices.
Friday January 30th	Deadline for submission of choice.
Ongoing	Support and guidance from form tutors, subject teachers, Mr Horner and Mr Parr.
February 24th	All options choices checked and confirmed.

# It's Time to Choose