



# GUIDED PATHWAYS

## WHICH DIRECTION WILL YOU TAKE?

Complete the online Microsoft Form by the deadline of  
Tuesday 22nd February 2022 at 9am.



# YEAR 9 GUIDED PATHWAYS 2022

This is an important stage in your child's education and we aim to provide you with the necessary information to understand the guided pathways.

This booklet contains a description of the content and assessment of each subject offered. Please read through this information carefully with your son or daughter.

Your child will have a number of aspects to consider depending on their pathway. There will be compulsory elements as well as some choices to make.

All students will study a number of compulsory subjects during Years 10 and 11:

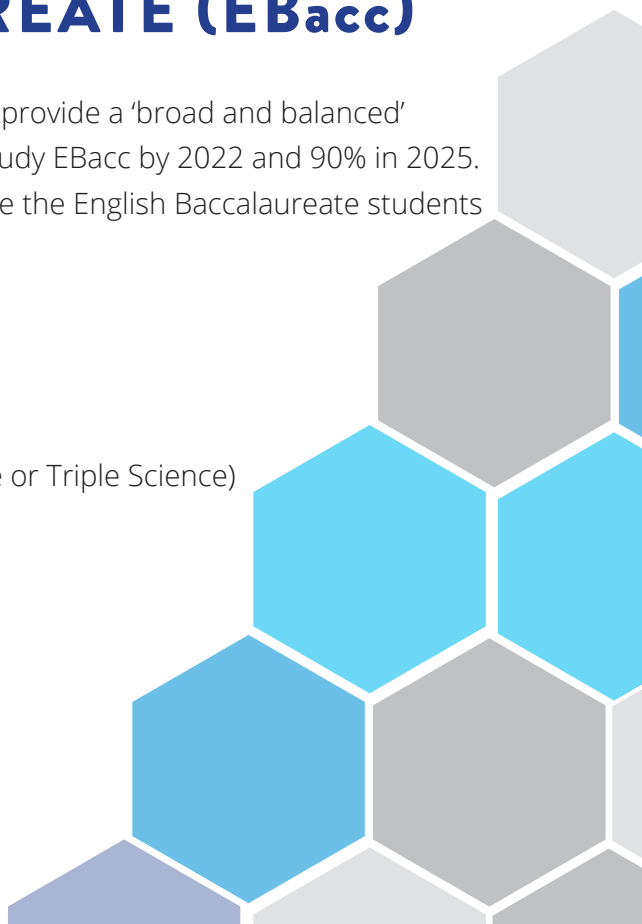
- English Language - GCSE
- English Literature - GCSE
- Mathematics - GCSE
- Combined Science (2 GCSEs) or Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics, 3 GCSEs)  
Decisions regarding Science entries will be made later in the year.
- Physical Education (Core)
- Life Studies
- 9PQL and 9PQH Language groups will take French or Spanish as well as a Humanities subject (History or Geography)

We look forward to sharing more information with you during our online Pathways Evening Event on 10th February 2022, between 4.30pm and 6.30pm.

## THE ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE (EBacc)

This is a combination of subjects which the Government believes provide a 'broad and balanced' education. The Government ambition is for 75% of students to study EBacc by 2022 and 90% in 2025. Some of our students will be taking the EBacc pathway. To achieve the English Baccalaureate students must achieve a GCSE grade 5+ or above in the following subjects:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- 2 Sciences (can include Combined Science, Computer Science or Triple Science)
- A foreign language
- A Humanities subject (History or Geography)



# QUALIFICATIONS

## GCSEs

- GCSE consists of a mix of mainly written examinations with a limited number of subjects retaining internal Non Examination Assessments.
- All students in Year 10 will be following the most recently updated specifications in all subjects and are therefore assessed using the new numerical grading system which runs from grades 9 - 1. For some subjects such as English, Maths and Science, students will begin to develop an understanding of GCSE style work in the latter part of Year 9. It is important to take into account the considerable rise in standards introduced in these specifications for these subjects. The table shows how the new GCSE grades compare to the 'old GCSE grades':

New Grade	Old GCSE Grade
1 (Lowest Pass Grade)	G and F
2	E
3	D
4	C (bottom C)
5	C/B (top C and bottom B)
6	B (mid and top B)
7	A
8	A*
9 (Exceptional GCSE Pass Grade)	Higher than A*

- Subjects with dual award are given two grades e.g. 9-9, 9-8, 8-7 etc.
- Some subjects have two tiers of assessment – Foundation and Higher. Foundation Tier leads to grades 5 to 1. Higher Tier leads to grades 9 to 4. Decisions on which tier of entry are made later in the course and be based on the professional judgement of the teacher.
- GCSEs can be used to meet the entry requirements for Level 3 courses (e.g. 'A' levels, L3 Btecs and 'T' Levels), apprenticeships, jobs and other forms of training.
- Having 5+ GCSEs at Grade 5 or above (including English and Maths) gives you a wider choice of post 16 options.

## Technical Awards and Vocational Qualifications

These are work-related qualifications such as BTEC, NCFE etc. and they cover a broad range of knowledge and skills in an area of work. They may be offered at Entry Level, Level 1 or Level 2 or most commonly Level 1/2.

# PARTICIPATION AGE

## Raising of the Participation Age

The Education and Skills Act 2008 raises the age of participation in learning to 18. This means that students currently in Year 9 will continue learning to the age of 18.

Your child can choose to learn at college, with a training provider through an apprenticeship or with employer if training is included.

In addition, those students who don't achieve Grade 4 + in Maths and English GCSEs will continue to study these until they achieve the standard required or reach the age of 18, whichever occurs first.

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# GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## Course Content

The English Language course develops the skills of reading, writing and spoken language. In the Reading Component students read a range of 19th, 20th and 21st century texts, improving their reading comprehension and knowledge of the writers' craft. In response to reading texts, students develop the skills of retrieval, explanation, synthesis, analysis, comparison and evaluation.

In the Writing Component students develop skills in communicating clearly and effectively for a given purpose and audience. Technical accuracy of writing is developed, alongside building a varied range of sentence structures and vocabulary.

In the Spoken Language Component students develop skills in spoken Standard English to demonstrate presentation skills in a formal setting.

## Exam Board & Certificate

Eduqas English Language - studied by all groups, Single Award

## Assessment

The course is assessed by 100% examination and will be graded 1-9 (9 being the highest).

The grade is comprised of 50% examination assessment of reading skills and 50% examination assessment of writing skills. The assessment of the Spoken Language Component, although a compulsory part of the course, does not contribute to the overall grade.

### ASSESSMENT COMPONENT 1: EXAMINATION - 1 hour 45 minutes

\* Section A (20%) - Reading

A range of questions on one extract of literature from the twentieth century

\*Section B (20%) - Writing

One creative writing task drawn from a selection of four titles

### ASSESSMENT COMPONENT 2: EXAMINATION — 2 hours

\*Section A (30%) - Reading

A range of questions on two extracts of non-fiction writing from the nineteenth and twenty-first centuries

\*Section B (30%) - Writing

Two compulsory transactional writing tasks

### ASSESSMENT COMPONENT 3: SPOKEN LANGUAGE

\*One formal presentation, including responses to questions

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements for GCSE English Language.

# GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

## Course Content

Students read a range of literary texts from the 16th century onwards, developing the skills of comprehension and analysis. In response to literary texts students develop critical writing that is informed by textual evidence and analyses language, structure and context.

## Exam Board & Certificate

Eduqas English Language - studied by all groups, Single Award

## Assessment

The course is assessed by 100% examination and will be graded 1-9 (9 being the highest). 5% of the total marks reflect accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar. Students are not allowed to take copies of the studied texts into the examinations.

### ASSESSMENT COMPONENT 1:

Shakespeare and Poetry Examination - 2 hours

\* Section A (20%) - Shakespeare

One question based on an extract from a play and one essay

\* Section B (20%) - Poetry from 1789 to present day

Two questions based on the Eduqas Poetry Anthology, one of which involves comparison

### ASSESSMENT COMPONENT 2:

**Prose/Drama and Unseen Poetry Examination - 2 hours 30 minutes**

\*Section A (20%) - Post 1914 Prose/Drama

One essay question

\* Section B (20%) - 19th Century Prose

One essay question

\* Section C (20%) - Unseen Poetry

Two questions on unseen poems, one of which involves comparison.

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements for GCSE English Language.



# GCSE MATHEMATICS

## Course Content

The aim and objectives of the Edexcel GCSE (9 - 1) in Mathematics are to enable students to :

- Develop fluent knowledge, skills, and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts, including: number, algebra, ratio, proportion, rates of change, geometry, measures, statistics and probability.
- Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems.
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences, and draw conclusions.
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

## Exam Board & Certificate

Pearson Edexcel, Single Award

## Assessment

This is a linear course which means that the examinations are taken at the end of the course in the summer term of Year 11. There are three examination papers; two with a calculator and one without a calculator.

Examinations are available at 2 levels; Higher and Foundation, where grades are available as follows:

**HIGHER:** Grades 9-4

**FOUNDATION:** Grades 5-1

Each tier assesses the functional elements of mathematics; 30% for the Foundation tier and 25% of the Higher tier.

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements for GCSE Mathematics.

## Additional Requirements

Throughout Key Stage 4 students will be required to equip themselves with standard mathematical equipment, such as a pair of compasses, protractors etc. as well as a **Casio scientific calculator**.

# GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE

## Course Content

The qualification Combined Science covers all of the three sciences and will be taught in separate biology, chemistry and physics topics. Many of these topics build on the work covered at Key Stage 3.

The course is now fully linear, with knowledge and understanding being developed from first principles. Year 10 will begin with essential concepts and each topic will gradually build in depth of knowledge and understanding.

Topics include:

Cell Biology and Organisation

Bioenergetics

Atomic Structure and Periodic Table

Bonding and Properties

Forces, Energy and Waves

## Exam Board & Certificate

AQA, GCSE Combined Science Trilogy, Double award, worth 2 GCSEs is awarded at the end of Year 11.

## Assessment

The examination consists of 6 papers available at both Foundation and Higher Tier. Each science will be covered by 2 separate papers. There will be a mixture of different question styles, including short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A suite of required practical tasks are completed by the students during the course and these practicals will be assessed and will make up 15% of the GCSE terminal examinations.

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

## Further Information

This course awards dual GCSE grades eg. 9,9 through to 1,1. The combined science course is suitable for all students including those who may wish to study separate science A levels. Final decisions about science pathways will be made during year 9 by the class teachers.

# GCSE TRIPLE SCIENCE

## Course Content

This course covers topics in Biology, Chemistry and Physics in greater depth and detail than the Combined Science Course. Throughout the course students will develop knowledge and skills in:

**BIOLOGY** - Cell Biology and Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution, Plant Biology and the Environment.

**CHEMISTRY** - Atomic Structure, Bonding and Properties, Products from oil, Chemical Reactions and Identification and Analysis of Substances.

**PHYSICS** - Energy and Electricity, Waves and Radiation, Forces, Astronomy and Electromagnetism.

Triple Science is an exciting, but challenging academic course. The GCSE separate Sciences will provide a solid foundation for future progression into many areas of work and industry.

## Exam Board & Certificate

AQA, GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry, GCSE Physics

3 individual GCSEs grades 9-1 will be awarded. It is not possible to select individual subjects all 3 must be studied.

## Assessment

Assessment will be by written papers at the end of Year 11 although progress checks in the form of previous papers are made throughout Year 10 and Year 11. For each of the three sciences, there are two written papers, each of which are 1 hour and 45 minutes. A suite of required practical tasks are completed by the students during the course and will make up 15% of the GCSE final examinations.

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

## Further Information

GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics cover a wide variety of highly regarded transferable skills including: problem solving, use of creativity, decision making and reasoning, critical thinking, ICT literacy, communication, teamwork, trust, adaptability, self-management and the ability to be self-motivating.

Thus GCSE Separate Sciences will provide a solid foundation for future progression into many areas of work and industry.

Due to the academic demands of this course, including higher level mathematics, access to this course will not be automatic. Final decisions about science pathways will be made during year 9 by the class teachers.

# GCSE ART & DESIGN

## Course Content

A creative, personalised and exciting course providing experience and experimentation in several areas of Art and Design:

- Fine Art (drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed media)
- Graphic Communication (illustration, packaging, digital imaging)
- 3D Design (ceramics, sculpture).
- Photography (studio lighting, digital, techniques and processes)
- Textiles (constructed and embellished fabrics, costume)

The course is broad based and you are encouraged to work to your strengths and interests. eg. choice of media, hobbies and interests. The course involves looking at the work of artists/designers and craftspeople, with participation in gallery visits/workshops with artists.

## Exam Board & Certificate

AQA, GCSE Art and Design (Art, craft and design), Single Award

## Assessment

**Unit 1:** 60% Portfolio of work over 2 years (2 assignments completed in class and homework time).

**Unit 2:** 40% Externally Set Assignment (guided preparation, 10 hours supervised exam time).

## Controlled Assessment

**Students will produce:**

- Sketchbooks
- 2D & 3D Artwork
- Exhibition work

### TEACHING

Each student is supported so they develop individually and express themselves creatively. Students are able to reflect on and develop their work through the constant dialogue between student and teacher. They are encouraged to develop their strengths e.g. choice of media. The controlled assessment starts in the January of Year 11 and is an externally set assignment. Time is given to develop, refine, record and then a 10 hour exam allows students to create and present their final artwork.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

**Development of employability skills:**

Creativity, problem solving, generation of ideas, imagination.

**Career opportunities for example:**

- Graphic Design
  - Media (Film/TV)
  - Fashion/Textile Design
  - Arts Business
  - Jewellery Design
  - Printmaking
  - Teaching
  - Curator
  - Animation
  - Website Design
  - Ceramic Artist
  - Photography
  - Illustration
  - Architecture
  - Game Design
  - Fine Artist
  - Advertising
  - Interior Design
  - Set Design
  - Sculptor
  - Art Historian
- **Leads to A Levels, BTEC and study at degree level (BA Hons).**

# GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES

## Course Content

If you enjoy communicating ideas; thinking creatively; making decisions; solving problems and learning about business through local and international brands, then GCSE Business is the right subject for you!

You'll start by exploring the world of businesses through the lens of an entrepreneur, learning how to develop an idea, spot an opportunity and turn it into a successful business. You will understand how to make business effective, manage money and see how the world around us affects businesses.

Then you'll move onto investigating business growth. How does a business develop beyond the start-up phase? You'll learn about key business concepts and decisions, issues and decisions you need to make when growing a business and working in a global business. You'll learn about meeting customer needs, marketing, operational, financial and human resourcing decisions and you'll explore how the wider world impacts the business as it grows.

This qualification is useful for the following careers: Accountant, Investment Banker, Human Resources, Marketing, Insurance, Management Consultant, Project Manager and Entrepreneur.

## Exam Board & Certificate

AQA - GCSE Business, Single Award

## Assessment

**PAPER 1—THEME 1:** Written exam (50%) - Influences of operations and HRM on business activity - 90 minutes written paper.

**PAPER 2—THEME 2:** Written exam (50%) - Influences of marketing and finance on business activity - 90 minutes written paper.

There are three sections in each paper. Each section increases in complexity, starting with multiple choice questions, moving to a case study/data response stimuli with questions. There is one tier of entry.

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

This is a really interesting course that develops enterprising minds! After this qualification you'll understand the world of business and have developed skills in:

- Making decisions and persuasive arguments
- Creative and practical problem solving
- Understanding data, finance and communication.
- It's a great step to prepare you for further and higher education and a GCSE business course prepares you for a role within business which helps you gain an understanding of what is involved in a business-related profession, like accountancy, law, marketing or the leisure and tourism industry.

# GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE

## Course Content

Computer Science helps you think about how technology is created. It allows you to understand how people work together to develop world changing programs and applications such as Facebook and Spotify. Be part of one of the most disruptive and innovative industries. Gain skills and develop your understanding of how to create and develop programs and software to build your career potential.

Students will learn about how computers function, how they store and process data, how they connect and communicate with other computers, and how they can be used to solve problems.

Computational thinking: Learn the process of thinking through a complex problem, breaking it down into small parts and develop potential solutions. Theoretical content: You'll delve in to the world of cyber security and the ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology along with data representation and computer networks.

Software development: Learn core concepts of computer programming and understand how to implement and test a design to make sure it works effectively. Learn a programming language such as Visual Basics.

Wide variety of job prospects including: Programmer, Day trader, Machine learning, CAD designer, Games Developer, Software Developer, Teacher, Music data analyst, MI5 MI6 and GCHQ.

## Exam Board & Certificate

OCR, GCSE Computing, Single Award

## Assessment

**PAPER 1:** Written paper: 1 hour and 30 minutes 50% of total GCSE 80 marks.  
This paper consists of multiple-choice questions, short response questions and extended response questions. Topics include systems architecture, memory and storage, computer networks, connections and protocols.

**PAPER 2:** Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of total GCSE 80 marks.  
Topics for this paper include algorithms, programming fundamentals and producing robust programs.  
  
This paper has 2 sections: section A and Section B. Students must answer both sections. In section B, questions assessing students' ability to write algorithms must be answered using either the OCR exam reference language or the high-level programming language they are familiar with.

**PRACTICAL PROGRAMMING:** All students are given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s). either to a specification or to solve a problem (or problems) , during their course of study. Students may draw on some of the content in both components when engaged in practical programming.

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

## Why Should I Choose this Course

Computer Science compliments subjects that use problem solving, data analysis and understanding how to interpret results to provide a clear working path. Alongside the practical expertise you'll gain transferable skills which are valued in both higher education and the world of work such as: problem-solving and analysis how to develop your skills to understand identify and solve problems.

# ENGINEERING (NCFE TECHNICAL AWARD LEVEL 1/2)

## Course Content

Throughout this qualification, learners will gain valuable knowledge of: • engineering disciplines • the science and mathematics that is applied in engineering • how to read engineering drawings • properties and characteristics of engineering materials and know why specific materials are selected for engineering applications • engineering tools, equipment and machines • production planning techniques • processing skills and techniques applied to materials for a manufacturing task equipment.

## Exam Board & Certificate

NCFE Level 1 / Level 2 Technical Award in Engineering

## Assessment

- UNIT 1 -** Externally assessed written examination – 1.5 hours - 40%  
A mixture of multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-response questions.
- UNIT 2 -** Internally assessed: synoptic project – 72 hours - 60%  
The synoptic project will be externally set by NCFE, internally graded by the centre and externally quality assured by NCFE

## Synoptic project

A different synoptic project brief will be released every December. Therefore learners must use the synoptic project brief released in the December of the academic session they wish to finish the overall qualification. Learners will have one opportunity to resubmit.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

This Level 1/2 qualification is appropriate for learners who are looking to develop a significant core of knowledge and understanding in engineering and be able to apply their learning. This qualification has been designed to sit alongside the requirements of core GCSE subjects and is appropriate for learners who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on experiences and through content which is concrete and directly related to those experiences. It is distinct from GCSE Engineering, as it encourages the learner to use knowledge and practical tools to focus on developing transferable skills in practical engineering accompanied by the theoretical knowledge to help with progression into employment and onto further education. The study of engineering is the application of maths and science to solve real world problems. This involves an understanding of the different disciplines of engineering and how they have shaped the products and projects of the modern world. Learners will be able to read technical drawings, select appropriate materials along with tools and machinery, and know how to carry out a practical task, working in a safe manner in line with current health and safety legislation. The qualification focuses on an applied study of the engineering sector and learners will gain a broad understanding and knowledge of working in the sector.

This qualification can form part of entry requirements for further study.

# GCSE FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

## Course Content

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. The course involves a mix of the scientific theory of how and why food is cooked, along with practical cookery skills to give students an understanding of all aspects of food preparation and nutrition.

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food Science
- Food Safety
- Food Choice
- Food Provenance

## Exam Board & Certificate

AQA, GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition Single Award. In some circumstances we offer an alternative vocational course, equivalent to GCSE but geared towards catering and hospitality. This decision is made depending upon the needs of the group.

## Assessment

Paper 1 (Exam) - 50%

Paper 1 - 1.5 hour exam assessing theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition, covering all aspects of the course

Multiple choice questions (20 marks)

Five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks)

## Non-Exam Assessment (NEA)

**Task 1: Food investigation and 1,500 - 2,000 words portfolio - 15%**

Assesses students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

**Task 2: Food preparation assessment and portfolio including photographic evidence - 35%**

Assesses students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

This course is ideal for students who have a love of cooking for pleasure as well as those wishing to pursue a career in the food industry. It gives students a practical as well as theoretical knowledge of many food preparation skills and an understanding of healthy diets as aspects of nutrition.

Students will be qualified to go on to further study or embark on an apprenticeship or full time career in the catering or food industries.



# GCSE FRENCH

## Course Content

The course develops and builds on the skills and knowledge learnt at Key Stage 3.

The topics covered are:

**Identity and Culture** - Me, my family and friends; Technology in everyday life; Free time activities; Customs and festivals in target language-speaking countries.

**Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest** - Home, town, neighbourhood and religion; social issues; Global issues; Travel and tourism.

**Current and Future Study and Employment** - My studies; Life at school/college; Education post 16; Jobs; career choices and ambitions.

## Exam Board & Certificate

AQA , GCSE French Single Award

## Assessment

Students are assessed in the four main skills, each one accounting for 25% of the final grade. They are entered for either Foundation Tier or Higher Tier.

**LISTENING EXAM** - the paper is divided into Section A and Section B. Questions and answers in Section A are in English. In Section B, questions and answers are in French.

**SPEAKING EXAM** - this takes place in April-May of the second year. It comprises of a short role play, a short discussion based on a photo card and general conversation.

**READING EXAM** - the paper is divided into Sections A, B and C. Questions and answers in Section A are in English. In Section B, questions and answers are in French. Finally Section C comprises of a short translation from French into English.

**WRITING EXAM** - there are four questions at Foundation Tier and three at Higher Tier. Both tiers include a short translation into French and a short piece of writing in response to bullet points.

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

French is spoken on 5 continents, officially by 29 countries and as a second by many more. Achieving a grade 5 or above in French will contribute to the additional English Baccalaureate qualification (EBacc). Many universities will favour those applicants who possess this qualification, whilst some may not even consider applicants without a GCSE in language. Why? Because language learning equips the student with a raft of transferable skills, presentational skills, problem solving skills, team working skills, listening skills and good learning strategies. Languages, therefore make you highly employable. Jobs may require a language for different reasons - because it is integral to the position, because it is an added bonus or because it is an indicator of general ability and outlook.

Many employers frequently recruit applicants with conversational ability, who may not be word perfect, as they believe they can help break the ice, deepen cultural understanding and open business access to new markets. Any career can be enhanced by languages, and those with language skills earn considerably more than those who don't. Simply put, in today's economic climate, a GCSE language is invaluable.

# GCSE GEOGRAPHY

## Course Content

### PAPER 1: LIVING WITH THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

This section includes the study of:

- **The Challenge of Natural Hazards** - Tectonic Hazards, Weather Hazards and Climate Change.
- **The Living World** - Ecosystems, Tropical Rainforests and Hot Environments.
- **Physical Landscapes in the UK** - Coastal Landscapes and River Landscapes
- **Geographical Skills** e.g. Map Skills

### PAPER 2: CHALLENGES IN THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

This section includes the study of:

- **Urban Issues and Challenges**
- **Changing Economic World** - Why are there gaps between development in high income and low income countries? How can we close that gap?
- **The Challenge of Resource Management** - Resource management and a choice of Supply and Demand regarding Food, Water or Energy.

### PAPER 3: GEOGRAPHICAL APPLICATIONS

- **Geographical Skills** e.g. Analysis of source material.
- **Issue evaluation/decision making**
- **Fieldwork** (1x Urban, 1x Rural)
- **Geographical Skills**

## Exam Board & Certificate

AQA, GCSE Geography, Single Award

## Assessment

**PAPER 1** - 1 hr 30 minutes - Living with the Physical Geography (35% of total marks) - Year 11 exam in June

**PAPER 2** - 1 hr 30 minutes - Human Geography (35% of total marks) - Year 11 exam in June

**PAPER 3** - 1hr 15 minutes. Pre released material 12 week prior to exam date. (30% of total marks)

There is only one tier of entry and grades will be awarded 9-1 based by outcome from the 3 exam papers.

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

The course contains more relevant topics to today's society - such as global supply and demand of food/ water and energy. Jobs in the future will be heavily linked to reducing the impact of climate change, and adapting to the effects of climate change. Many of the units contain links to sustaining our planet whether this be population, environment or economy. The skills and knowledge acquired in Geography can be transferred to any work situation whether it is linked to Geography or not. It complements art subjects such as History or English and Science subjects, since Geography itself can be classed as an art or science. The skills and knowledge gained from the GCSE Geography course are useful whether going straight into work or into further education.

# GCSE HISTORY

## Course Content

Students for GCSE History will sit two exams, both are worth 50% of the overall grade. Controlled assessment no longer applies and students will sit both of their exams at the end of Year 11. The new number system grading policy will be adopted by GCSE History, as with all other subjects. Paper One is based on Modern World History and Paper Two is based around shaping Britain as a nation.

## Exam Board & Certificate

AQA , GCSE Modern World History, Single Award

## Assessment

**Paper One** has two sections. **Section A** will focus on Germany, 1890–1945: Areas covered in **Section A** include: The role and rule of Kaiser Wilhelm, the impact of WW1 on Germany, the establishment of Hitler's Dictatorship: the Reichstag fire; Night of the Long Knives; Hitler becomes Führer, the Final Solution and the impact of the Holocaust and censorship and propaganda; SS and Gestapo; opposition to the Nazis. **Section B** will focus on Conflict and tension, 1918–1939. Areas covered in **Section B** include: The armistice: aims of the peacemakers; Wilson and the Fourteen Points; Clemenceau and Lloyd George; the extent to which they achieved their aims, the Versailles Settlement: Diktat; territorial changes; military restrictions; war guilt and reparations, the development of tension: Hitler's aims and Allied reactions. Escalation of tension: re-militarisation of the Rhineland; Anschluss; reasons for and against the policy of appeasement; the Sudeten Crisis and Munich; the ending of appeasement, the outbreak of war: the occupation of Czechoslovakia; the role of the USSR and the Nazi-Soviet Pact; the invasion of Poland and outbreak of war.

**Paper Two** has two sections. **Section A** is a thematic study which will enable students to gain an understanding of how medicine has developed over time. It will allow students to compare and contrast medical advancements and enable to them to explain how medicine has helped to improve people's lives. **Section B** is a British depth study focusing on one particular time period or significant figure that has helped shape our nation. The study which we have chosen is based on Queen Elizabeth I.

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

GCSE History is a valued qualification in the eyes of both employers and Colleges of Higher Education. Students obtaining a GCSE in History have a distinct advantage when pursuing academic studies at a higher level as they have not merely proved that they can retain dates, facts and details about events in the past, but they have the skills needed to comprehend, analyse, interpret and evaluate the events they have studied. These skills are important and benefit students who go onto further study in a full range of courses, not just related to history. Careers in which GCSE History and a higher History qualification are highly regarded include: Accountancy, Armed Forces, Banking, Civil Services, Journalism, Law, Politics, Television, Media and Teaching.

# GCSE MEDIA STUDIES

## Course Content

Media plays a central role in contemporary society and culture. In GCSE Media Studies students learn how media products shape perceptions through representations, viewpoints and messages. Exploration of the media includes analysis of a wide range of media products including film, television, music video/ online media, video games, newspapers, radio, magazines, advertising and marketing. In addition to studying media products, students learn about media industries and their commercial importance in society. Alongside the effect of media ownership and control, students learn about product processes and how audiences are targeted for economic gain. GCSE Media Studies also gives students the opportunity to use their acquired knowledge on media creatively, by developing their own media product. For example, students may be asked to create their own print or online magazine, or create marketing material for a new film.

## Exam Board & Certificate

Eduqas GCSE Media Studies, Single Award

## Assessment

The course is assessed by 70% examination and 30% controlled assessment.

It will be graded 1-9 (9 being the highest).

### Assessment Component 1 (40%): Examination - 1 hour 35 minutes

#### Section A - Exploring Media Language and Representation

- One question assessing media language in relation to a set product
- One two-part question assessing representation in relation to a set product

#### Section B - Media Industries and Audiences

- One question on media industries
- One question on audiences

### Assessment Component 2 (30%): Understanding Media Forms and Products — 1 hour 30 minutes

#### Section A - Television

- One question on media language or representation
- One question on media industries, audiences or contexts.

#### Section B - Music (music videos and online media)

- One question on media language or representation
- One question on media industries, audiences or contexts.

## Controlled Assessment

Assessment Component 3 (30%) requires students to produce their own media product for an intended audience in response to a choice of briefs set by the examination board, applying knowledge and understanding of media language and representation.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

During the GCSE Media course you'll develop and practise a range of skills which will equip you for progression to A Level study. These skills will also help you hugely in other areas of the academy's curriculum, such as English, Humanities and the Arts. Looking further ahead, over one hundred universities offer courses in Media, Communications and Cultural Studies in the UK. A qualification in Media Studies helps you to move towards these courses, as well as to those in a range of other areas. If university isn't for you, there is a huge array of career opportunities in the media, and it's an industry that is growing very quickly. If you are interested in the idea of a career in TV and film production, advertising, journalism, interactive media, digital marketing, technical production, special effects, web design, then studying Media at GCSE level is a great place to start.

Media Studies nurtures emotionally intelligent, perceptive and socially aware critical thinkers who are alert to the world around them.

# GCSE MUSIC

## Course Content

GCSE Music is designed for students who sing or play an instrument and have a genuine interest in all styles of Music including Classical, Jazz, Film and Popular. The course ideally suits students who have achieved or are the equivalent of grade 2 ABRSM or above. All of the local colleges offer A-level courses in Music meaning that choosing the subject will give students the best opportunity to continue studying Music at college. Students will undertake three main activities throughout the course:

These include:

- Listening & Appraising Music
- Performing Music
- Composing Music

BTEC students will also design and organise a concert in school as part of one of the modules.

## Exam Board & Certificate

Eduqas GCSE Single Award

## Assessment

Listening & Appraising (1.5 hour examination) - 40% weighting

Performing (1 x solo performance, 1 x group performance) - 30% weighting

Composing Music (1 x composition to a brief 1 x free composition) - 30% weighting

## Controlled Assessment

Compositional work will need to be tracked using a composing log and students will be expected to develop musical ideas and write about how they did this. One hour per week in lesson time will be allocated for composing and each student will need to be able to work independently on their own compositions. The aim is to complete one composition in Year 10 (free composition) and one composition in Year 11 (composition set to a brief).

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

Students opting for Music will need to have a genuine interest in the subject and be prepared to study in a structured and enjoyable manner. The course is practical-based and prepares students for further study in A Levels, BTEC, NVQ, GNVQ and study at degree level. It is essential that students who opt for Music can play an instrument or sing before starting the course in September. Music is not an easy option and requires self-motivation, confidence and team working skills to succeed.

# PERFORMING ARTS (BTEC TECHNICAL AWARD LEVEL 1/2)

## Course Content

The Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on four areas of equal importance, which cover the:

- Development of key skills that prove your aptitude in performing arts such as reproducing repertoire or responding to stimuli.
- Process that underpins effective ways of working in the performing arts, such as development of ideas, rehearsal and performance.
- Attitudes that are considered most important in the performing arts, including personal management and communication.
- Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector, such as roles, responsibilities, performance disciplines and styles.

## Exam Board & Certificate

Edexcel Pearson BTEC Award in Performing Arts, Level 1/2

## Assessment

### COMPONENT 1: EXPLORING THE PERFORMING ARTS

Students develop their understanding of the performing arts by examining the work of performing arts professionals and the processes used to create performance.

### COMPONENT 2: DEVELOPING SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES

Students will develop their performing arts skills and technique through the reproduction of acting, dance and/or musical theatre repertoire as performers or designers.

### COMPONENT 3: PERFORMING TO A BRIEF

Students will be given the opportunity to work as part of a group to contribute to a workshop performance as either a performer or designer in response to a brief and a stimulus.

## Controlled Assessment

Components 1 and 2 are internally assessed assignments, set by the exam board.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

Choosing to study BTEC Performing Arts is an important decision and one you should have made for the right reasons. The course is demanding, intensive and designed to allow those students with a talent or interest in Drama, Dance or Musical Theatre to achieve a good qualification. You will enjoy the course if you want to study a subject that is both practical and creative. You will find that Performing Arts will help you feel more confident and prepare you to deal with a range of different situations and people, regardless of whether you wish to work within the industry.

After completing the course you can continue on to further vocational and academic study as well as apprenticeships and traineeships. The transferable skills such as self-reflection, communication, teamwork and problem solving will also support progress in the present and the future.

# GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

## Course Content

This is a new and exciting course that aims to provide students with a broad knowledge and understanding of digital photography and image manipulation. Through experimental work and technique, students will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of photographic skills that will inform their own personal interests and self directed study.

**The course offers practical experience in:**

- Traditional methods of photography
- Exploration of photographic media, techniques and processes Image manipulation in Photoshop
- Lighting and studio technique
- Professional working practice
- Creative layout and presentation technique

## Exam Board & Certificate

AQA, GCSE Art and Design, Photography, Single Award

## Assessment

60% Portfolio of work over 2 years (2 assignments completed in class and homework time).

40% Externally Set Assignment (Guided preparation, 10 hours supervised exam time).

## Controlled Assessment

Over the two year course students will complete two units of work and an externally set assignment. The first unit will focus on experimental work within digital photography, image manipulation and creative sketchbook work.

### TEACHING

Each student is supported so that they develop individually and express themselves creatively. Students are able to reflect on and develop their work through the constant dialogue between student and teacher. They are encouraged to develop their strengths through their own personal interests and areas of study. The course involves looking at the work of artists and photographers, with participation in gallery visits/workshops and competitions.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

**Development of employability skills:**

Creativity and imagination, technical ability, image manipulation and computer skills.

**Career opportunities for example:**

- General or social - weddings and portraits.
- Advertising and editorial - advertisements, magazines and photo
- Libraries and other news publications.
- Fashion - photographing models and clothing for magazines and catalogues.
- Corporate (industrial/commercial) - company promotional material
- Scientific or medical.

# GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## Course Content

Students will consider a range of philosophical, religious and ethical issues such as Good and Evil and Human Rights alongside a detailed study of Christianity and Islam. Students will deepen their understanding of divisive issues in our society, reflect and develop their own responses to these and gain understanding of a range of answers given to the issues from Christianity, Islam and non-religious world-views.

## Exam Board & Certificate

Eduqas, GCSE Religious Studies, Single Award

## Assessment

**PAPER 1: (2 hours, 50% of grade)** Issues of Relationships, Issues of Life and Death, Issues of Good and Evil and Issues of Human Rights

**PAPER 2: (1 hour, 25% of grade)** Beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity

**PAPER 3: (1 hour, 25% of grade)** Beliefs, teachings and practices of Islam

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

This course contains many issues which are relevant in today's society such as marriage/divorce, gender roles, abortion, euthanasia, good/evil, free will, suffering, justice, poverty and human rights. We will explore a variety of diverse viewpoints, gain understanding of the beliefs that affect people's attitudes and develop students own responses to them. In addition to gain knowledge of a wide range of social issues the course also develops a student's skill at evaluating viewpoints, developing their ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments. It challenges them to reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in the light of what they have learnt and contributes to their preparation for adult life in a pluralistic society and global community. Religious studies nurtures emotionally intelligent, perceptive, socially aware students who are alert to the world around them.

**Employability skills:** Analysis, evaluation, making considered judgments, making well argued and balanced written arguments, empathy and understanding others.

**Career links:** Police and social work, medical professionals e.g. nursing, journalism, legal professions e.g. solicitors, management, media, teaching and any role that might involve interacting with people from a variety of backgrounds.



# GCSE SPANISH

## For those students who study Spanish in Year 9

### Course Content

The course develops and builds on the skills and knowledge learnt at Key Stage 3. The topics covered are:

**IDENTITY AND CULTURE** - Me, my family and friends; Technology in everyday life; Free time activities; Customs and festivals in target language-speaking countries.

**LOCAL, NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL AREAS OF INTEREST** - Home, town, neighbourhood and religion; social issues; Global issues; Travel and tourism.

**CURRENT AND FUTURE STUDY AND EMPLOYMENT** - My studies; Life at school/college; Education post 16; Jobs; career choices and ambitions.

### Exam Board & Certificate

AQA , GCSE Spanish, Single Award

### Assessment

Students are assessed in the four main skills, each one accounting for 25% of the final grade. They are entered for either Foundation Tier or Higher Tier.

**LISTENING EXAM** - the paper is divided into Section A and Section B. Questions and answers in Section A are in English. In Section B, questions and answers are in Spanish.

**SPEAKING EXAM** - this take place in April-May of the second year. It comprises a short role play, a short discussion based on a photo card and finally general conversation.

**READING EXAM** - the paper is divided into Sections A, B and C. Questions and answers in Section A are in English. In Section B, questions and answers are in Spanish. Finally Section C comprises a short translation from Spanish into English.

**WRITING EXAM** - there are four questions at Foundation Tier and three at Higher Tier. Both tiers include a short translation into Spanish and a short piece of writing in response to bullet points.

### Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

### Why Should I Choose this Course?

Spanish is the official language of 21 countries and is the 2nd most spoken language in the world. Achieving a grade 5 or above in Spanish will contribute to the additional English Baccalaureate qualification (EBacc). Many universities will favour those applicants who possess this qualification, whilst some may not even consider applicants without a GCSE in language. Why? Because language learning equips the student with a raft of transferable skills, presentational skills, problem solving skills, team working skills, listening skills and good learning strategies. Languages, therefore make you highly employable. Jobs may require a language for different reasons - because it is integral to the position, because it is an added bonus or because it is an indicator of general ability and outlook.

Many employers frequently recruit applicants with conversational ability, who may not be word perfect, as they believe they can help break the ice, deepen cultural understanding and open business access to new markets. Any career can be enhanced by languages, and those with language skills earn considerably more than those who don't. Simply put, in today's economic climate, a GCSE language is invaluable.

# SPORTS STUDIES (CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL LEVEL 1/2)

## Course Content

This qualification encourages students to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Sport Studies. It aims to enhance learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations. Students will be challenged to develop independence and confidence in using skills that are relevant to the Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and Health sector and more widely.

They will research topical and contemporary issues in sport, including; why people do and do not participate in sport, the promotion of ethics and values, the roles of National Governing Bodies and the impact that high profile events have in sport, as well as how technology is used within sport. There is also a practical element to the course and students will develop skills as a performer in two different sporting activities and learn how to lead sporting activity sessions.

## Exam Board & Certificate

OCR, Technical Award

## Assessment

To achieve this qualification, students must complete three units: one externally assessed and two Non Examined Assessment (NEA) units. There are two mandatory units and one optional unit from a choice of two.

The two mandatory units are:

- Contemporary issues in sport and performance and leadership in sports activities
- The two optional units (PE Department selects one) are:
- Sports and the media or Increasing awareness of outdoor and adventurous activities

## Controlled Assessment

There are no controlled assessment requirements.

## Why Should I Choose this Course?

Completion of this course will help students develop the skills of team working, research and planning and understand that sports performance goes far beyond just the simple physical activity of sport. It will provide the knowledge and skills required to progress into a career in the sports industry as well as providing them with a valuable social-science based background if they choose to progress at Level 3 into a more Media or Leadership-focused course.

# THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE FORM YOU NEED TO COMPLETE ONLINE.

All students should have one tick in Block A, one tick in Block B and one tick in Block C.

All students must choose at least one of the Ebacc subjects (Computer Science, Modern Foreign Language, Geography or History).

In addition, students who are in 9PQL or 9PQH will also take French or Spanish, as well as History or Geography.

**Complete the online Microsoft Form by the deadline of Tuesday 22nd February 2022 at 9am. The links to the form will be shared with students via the student bulletin. Information will be shared with parents and carers via Synergy.**

## LHA GUIDED PATHWAYS - SPRING 2022



### GUIDED PATHWAYS - SPRING 2022

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tutor: \_\_\_\_\_

#### GCSE ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE SUBJECTS

All students must choose at least ONE of the subjects in the Ebacc section below. Those in groups PQL and PQH must select French or Spanish plus either Geography or History. Any remaining choices should be made from the Other Subjects section.

#### GCSE ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE SUBJECTS

BLOCK A	✓	BLOCK B	✓	BLOCK C	✓
Geography		French		Computer Science	
History		Spanish		Geography	
		History			

#### OTHER SUBJECTS

Art and Design		Art and Design		Art and Design Photography	
Engineering BTEC		Business Studies		Media Studies	
Food Preparation and Nutrition		Physical Education BTEC		Music	
Religious Studies				Performing Arts BTEC	
				Physical Education BTEC	

#### FOUNDATION PATHWAY - by invitation

Personal & Social Development					
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#### OTHER INFORMATION

All groups can only run if there is sufficient demand.

**Please complete the Microsoft Form version of this by 9am on 22nd February 2022**

Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Parent/Carer \_\_\_\_\_



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