



**GCSE Curriculum Choice
Information and Application
Pack
2020-2021
For Year 9 Pupils**



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Introduction

Welcome to the Year 9 Curriculum Choice booklet. The purpose of this booklet is to help students and parents/guardians decide which subjects to study in Year 10 and 11, as well as providing information about the curriculum as a whole.

In the following pages, each subject is explained in greater detail. Please read the information carefully and take the opportunity to ask any questions to subject teachers.

The decisions that you make now are important as they may affect the courses you wish to study once you leave Priory and may also influence your future career aspirations.

If you have any specific subject questions, please contact the relevant subject leader, whose email addresses are on the school website.

Regards

Mr N Gee
Assistant Headteacher



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The National Curriculum

All students study the following subjects in line with statutory guidance:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Trilogy Science

Other Compulsory Courses

As part of the education of the whole student, as well as in preparation for life beyond school, all students follow non exam courses in:

- Physical Education and Games
- RE
- Personal, Social and Health Education
- Citizenship
- Careers Education and Work Experience

The Curriculum Plan

Our aim is to provide an Access Driven Curriculum (Advance Learning) to raise standards (Aim for Excellence) for all our students, matching their individual ability and aptitude (Nurture the Individual) to the courses we deliver. Maximising aptitude and developing Independent Learning (Accept Responsibility) through a structured, student-led curriculum plan.

Monitoring Pupil Progress

Tutors and subject teachers will be keeping a careful track of pupils' progress throughout Year 10 and 11. However, it is essential that pupils monitor their own progress and have their own goals and targets.

All staff will continue to ensure that pupils make good use of their homework diary to record homework, record important dates and convey information between teachers and parents.

Parents can play a key role in ensuring children achieve their potential by taking an active interest in their child's progress.

When there is a particular matter of concern, or indeed special commendation, contact with home will be made on an individual basis.

What can parents/guardians to do help?

Although parents cannot sit exams for their children, the support of parents is often a crucial feature in the success, or otherwise, of their child.

Parents/guardians can help by:

- By constantly visiting the school website, Facebook page or school newsletter to keep up to date with all the latest information.
- By checking Mrs Cowell's monthly learning newsletter for helpful learning and revision tips, and homework on Doodle.
- By checking that sufficient time is allowed for homework, along with the other activities that the student does. This may mean checking homework before they go out with friends.
- By providing a quiet place in the home where students can do homework. Although some students may find it easier to work with music in the background, instrumental music is preferential, television and song lyrics can be distracting.
- By regularly checking the student's iPad, asking where they record homework and asking them to show you examples of work they are doing.
- By talking about the progress of their work; encouraging them when it is difficult and helping when there are problems.
- By ensuring that deadlines are known and helping to plan in order to meet them.
- By encouraging students to produce the best possible work in terms of presentation, quality, quantity etc.
- By ensuring that students get enough sleep so that they are neither tired, nor late, for school.
- By providing basic equipment which can be used at home.

It is essential that parents/guardians do provide a high level of support, even if it is not always welcomed or accepted.

Remember, if you do have any concerns (subject specific or pastoral) we are here to help you. Do contact us sooner rather-than-later if you are anxious about any of your child's work.

If you cannot contact the member of staff concerned, please leave a message with the school office with an appropriate contact time and telephone number.

Making decisions

The decisions you will have to make about what to study at Key Stage 4 are very important. They will affect the rest of your life, so it is essential that you think very carefully about which subject to study.

Your choice should and will depend on your ability at various subjects, your interests and career intentions.

Things to remember

- Read through this booklet carefully.
- If in doubt, don't be afraid to ask the relevant members of staff for advice.
- Discuss your ideas with your parents.
- Choose subjects you are good at.
- Choose subjects you enjoy.
- Choose subjects you need for your career (If you aren't sure what you want to go on and do yet, we recommend studying a balance of subjects.)

Things not to do!

- Don't just pick a subject because your friends are doing it.
- Don't just pick a subject because you like the teacher (or don't like the teachers of the other subjects). Teaching staff often change what they teach in Years 10 and 11.

We try our best to give students what they want and need, but classes have minimum and maximum sizes and being offered a subject depends on numbers.

Students will not be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis but will be considered on their suitability for the course.

All students will have an interview with a member of the extended leadership team and their house progress leader about their intended choices for GCSE.

Careers advice

Mrs Khan comes into Priory every Friday, during term time, and arranges career appointments with Year 9, 10 and 11 pupils.

She offers professional, independent and impartial advice and guidance on a range of post-16 options including A-Levels, specialist vocational pathways, technical courses, employer apprenticeships, training and more.

Compulsory subjects



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Course Information

English is a core subject and studied by all pupils during Key Stage 4. All pupils will be entered for the English Language GCSE. In exceptional cases, where we think it is appropriate and in discussion with parents and pupils, some students may only be entered for English Language.

Pupils will sit two exams, with one paper testing the pupil's ability to read and respond to a previously unseen extract of fiction and then write their own creative text.

The second paper will test the pupil's ability to read and respond to previously unseen non-fiction extracts from 19th and 21st century texts, then writing their own non-fiction text.

As these exams will be the only form of assessment for each pupil, they are lengthier exams than in previous years, allowing all candidates to stretch themselves.

Pupils will also complete one speaking and listening assessed task. This will be a speech or presentation followed by questions from an audience. Whilst this is part of the course, the assessment of this piece will not count towards the final grade; it will, instead, be reported separately on the GCSE certificate.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

Written Exam: Fiction Reading and Writing, 1hr 45min.

Written Exam: 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Texts, 1hr 45min.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

English Language is regarded as a major subject by the majority of employers and colleges. GCSE English is there a valuable qualification to hold and can be a springboard to A Levels, both in English and other subjects, qualifications and training. It is now a vital requirement for all post-16 courses.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs A Gidden (a.gidden@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

English is a core subject and studied by all pupils during Key Stage 4. All pupils will be entered for the English Literature GCSE with AQA.

Pupils will sit two English Literature exams. Paper One will test the pupil's abilities to respond to questions about a Shakespearean play, and in section B, a 19th century text.

Paper Two will test the pupils' abilities to respond to studied post-1914 fiction or drama texts, some previously unseen poetry and the 'power and conflict' anthology cluster.

As is the case with the English Language qualification, these exams will be the only form of assessment for the pupils and so they are lengthier exams compared to previous years.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

Written Exam: Shakespeare and 19th Century Texts, 1hr 45min.

Written Exam: Post-1914 Fiction, Anthology Poetry and Unseen Poetry, 2hrs 15min.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

English Literature is regarded as a major subject by the majority of employers and colleges. GCSE English is there a valuable qualification to hold and can be a springboard to A Levels, both in English and other subjects, qualifications and training. It is now a vital requirement for all post-16 courses.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs A Gidden (a.gidden@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

Students at Priory study all elements of the OCR GCSE in Mathematics, including numbers and the Number System, Algebra, Statistics & Probability, Ratio, Proportion & Rates of Change, Shape, Space and Measures.

The specification blends knowledge of Mathematical techniques with their application to help solve problems, both within the classroom and in the outside world.

Students will progress from GCSE grades 1 up to 5 (1 to 9 for the higher tier) and will be assessed regularly to check knowledge and understanding. Pupils will receive detailed feedback on their areas of strength and weakness, with additional work and guidance provided to improve outcomes.

Students at Priory make the use of technology for learning and intervention, including instructional videos and interactive games to provide a rounded package of support before, during and after lessons.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

One non-calculator paper and two calculator papers, each 1hr 30mins in duration, 100 marks per paper.

This course is 100% examination based. The exams comprise a mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Students who enjoy Mathematics can continue to study the subject at college, taking Core Maths or A-Level Maths. Mathematics and Numeracy are essential for many careers, including medicine, engineering, defence, education, accountancy and careers in the financial sector.

Subject Leader Name

Mr P Kenrick (p.kenrick@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

GCSE Trilogy Science is studied by all pupils at Key Stage 4. It contains elements of Biology, Chemistry and Physics and is equivalent to two GCSEs.

Pupils will sit two papers where both practical skills and subject knowledge will be tested. The exam papers consist of a mixture of multiple choice, structured and closed short answer and open response type questions.

There is no controlled assessment or coursework.

Pupils will study the following topics:

- Cell biology
- Organisation
- Infection and response
- Bioenergetics
- Homeostasis and response
- Inheritance, variation and evolution
- Ecology
- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
- Quantitative chemistry
- Chemical changes
- Energy changes
- The rate and extent of chemical change
- Organic chemistry
- Chemical analysis
- Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Using resources
- Energy
- Electricity
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure
- Forces
- Waves
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Space physics (physics only)

Exam/Coursework Requirements

6 x written exams, each 1hr 15mins long and worth 17.5% each.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Sciences is regarded as a vital subject by the majority of employers and all colleges and universities. The skills and knowledge gained are a foundation for many A Level subjects, not just the traditional Sciences, and provide an essential grounding to ensure pupils are prepared for the changing needs of a modern economy.

Subject Leader Name

Mr D Bedford (d.bedford@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Optional subjects



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Technical Awards

Throughout the option booklet you will see a range of BTEC qualifications and V Cert qualifications. These qualifications are generally referred to as Technical Awards.

Technical Awards are broad, high-quality Level 2 qualifications that equip students with applied knowledge and associated practical skills. They focus on the applied study of an industry sector or occupational area, or the acquisition of practical and technical skills.

Technical Awards will fulfil entry requirements for both academic and vocational study post-16, alongside GCSEs.

All Technical Awards will count as equivalent to one GCSE in the Key Stage 4 performance tables.



Course Information

During the two year GCSE course you will have three lessons a week. You will complete two coursework projects and one externally set project. The first coursework project is 'Beetles, Bugs and Butterflies' or 'Flora and Fauna' and the second is any theme of your choosing.

You have the opportunity to create any art work you want and you can steer projects towards Graphics, Textiles, Fashion, 3D Design, Applied Brief (a project for a company), Fine Art, Critical and Contextual Studies or Photography. You must include at least two of these areas within your work. You can see a wide variety this year in the Gallery.

Your projects will include the same types of things at KS3: Research, accurate drawing, experimenting with materials, writing about artists, developing ideas, making a final piece and evaluating your work.

You will also have the opportunity to visit Liverpool's Walker Art Gallery and The World Museum.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

Coursework: 60%

Two projects in two terms each.

Externally Set Project: 40%

One project in one term. One 10 hour exam to create the final piece (over two days).

All work is assessed by Priory staff and moderated by Eduqas.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Should your work at GCSE start to mirror that of A Level or Level 3 BTEC, Mrs Hopes will coach you to produce projects to that standard. We can also steer projects towards your chosen career involving Art & Design. Career choices may include: Architecture, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Surface Pattern Design, Graphic Design, Photography, Textile Design, Tattoo Artist, Ceramic Design, Fashion Accessory Design, Illustration, Costume Design.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs T Hopes (t.hopes@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Please note, pupils cannot choose to study both GCSE Art & Design and NCFE Graphic Design, you can only choose one of these.

Course Information

Pupils can opt to study more science and take three GCSEs in the separate sciences - GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Pupils will continue to study the core trilogy science, which is compulsory (see page 10 where the topics are outlined). The pupils study these topics in greater depth and in GCSE Physics there is an additional Space topic.

Pupils will sit two papers and where both their practical skills and their subject knowledge will be tested. The exam papers consist of a mixture of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response type questions.

There is no controlled assessment or coursework.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

2x written exams, each 1hr 45mins long and worth 50% each.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

All three Sciences are regarded as vital subjects by the majority of employers and all colleges and universities. The skills and knowledge gained are a foundation for many A Level subjects, not just the traditional Sciences, and provide an essential grounding to ensure pupils are prepared for the changing needs of a modern economy.

Subject Leader Name

Mr D Bedford (d.bedford@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Biology
Chemistry &
Physics

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Course Information

Introduction

This V Cert Level 2 qualification has been designed for learners with an interest in child development and care. It includes the knowledge and understanding of child development and well-being necessary for working with children in a variety of settings. It is aimed at a range of learners who wish to be introduced to childcare and development of children aged 0-5 years. It also gives learners an insight into their preferred learning styles and assists in developing their ability to study

Aims

This qualification will enable you to develop significant transferable knowledge and study skills that will support progression to further learning, including:

- an awareness of learning styles
- an introduction in to working with children in a variety of settings
- an understanding of roles and responsibilities when working in a setting
- an understanding of Equality and Diversity within a childcare setting
- an understanding of the stages and sequence of child development
- an introduction to observing children and how it supports development
- an introduction to the influences that affect holistic development
- an introduction to everyday care routines and the types of activities that can support the development of independence
- an introduction to supporting children through transition.

Course Content

Unit 1: An introduction to working with children aged 0-5 years

Unit 2: Development and well-being 0-5 years

Unit 3: Child care and development 0-5 years

Assessment

Externally set and marked written examination (Unit 03) 50%

Internally assessed portfolio of evidence (Units 01, 03, 04) 50%

Methods of Learning

Where possible a practical approach to learning will be undertaken, this will be followed up with classroom based evaluations and portfolio work, where students will have the opportunity to work both individually and in groups, working on research projects, presentations, discussions, reading and note-making, extended writing, creative and problem-solving.

Progression Opportunities

A V Cert Levels 2 Certificate in Child Development and Care will enable progression to further study, training or employment, and enable students to make informed choices with regard to a career in the child care industry.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs A Holland (a.holland@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

Introduction

GCSE Computer Science is a subject that will enable pupils to develop skills in:

- Problem solving
- Computational thinking
- Analytical thinking

Students are introduced to core principles of computer science and develop skills in problem solving and computational thinking. Following on from more visual programming environments, programming skills are further developed using high-level textual programming languages. Students develop knowledge and understanding of how technology can be used to help proactively with current issues that impact on modern society, preparing them for their next steps in today's global world.

Pupils will study the following topics

- Algorithms
- Decomposition
- Programming
- Binary
- Data representation
- Data storage, compression and encryption
- Hardware
- Software
- Networks and network security
- Emerging trends, issues and impact

Exam/Coursework Requirements

Written Exam (Paper 1) – 1 hour 30 minutes (50%)

On Screen Exam (Paper 2) – 2 hours (50%)

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Further study for Computer Science at A Level and university degrees.

Typical jobs in the sector include; application analyst, cyber security analyst, computer hardware engineer, data analyst, database administrator, forensic computer analyst, game designer, games developer, IT consultant, multimedia programmer, software engineer, systems analyst, web designer, web developer.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs S Qadri (s.qadri@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

This course involves exploring ideas, thoughts, and feelings through choreography and by evaluating other people's work.

You will learn what techniques are best to employ in different situations, then learn how to communicate what you have discovered to an audience, thinking about elements such as lighting, sound, and costume.

You will also learn how to take movement and choreography and turn them into engaging pieces of theatre.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

Component 1 – Exploring the performing arts

Assessment: this is an internal assessment, which is worth 30%.

Aim: get a taste of what it's like to be a professional dancer across different styles.

During Component 1, you will observe and reproduce existing repertoire, as well as explore:

- Performance styles, creative intentions and purpose.
- Performance roles, responsibilities and skills.
- Performance techniques, approaches and processes.
- How practitioners create and influence what is performed.

Component 2 – Developing skills and techniques

Assessment: this is an internal assessment, which is worth 30%;

Aim: develop skills and techniques in the chosen discipline of dancing.

During Component 2, you will:

- Gain physical, interpretative, and rehearsal skills during workshops and classes.
- Apply their technical, stylistic and interpretative skills in performances.
- Reflect on their progress and use of performance, as well as how they could improve.

Component 3 – Performing to a brief

Assessment: externally assessed task where students work in groups of between 3 and 7 members to create a performance based on a set brief and is worth 40%.

Aim: consider how practitioners adapt their skills for different contexts and put this into practice in a performance.

To do this you will:

Use the brief and what you've learned to come up with ideas for the performance.

Choose the skills and techniques you'll need.

Build on your skills in classes, workshops, and rehearsals.

Review the development process within an ideas and skills log.

Perform a piece lasting 10-15 minutes (which is filmed) to your chosen target audience.

Reflect on the performance in an evaluation report.

Dance

BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts (Dance)

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Students with a Pass – Distinction* in BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts (Dance) can expect to be looked on favourably by colleges and employers who are keen to work with people who have the confidence and inter-personal skills the subject affords them.

Employers are now looking for learners with creativity, this course lends itself to you having one of the most desired skills employers are looking for in the 21st century.

The transferable skills of cooperation, commitment, communication, and confidence are highly sought after and BTEC Dance equips you with these.

There are A-Levels and BTEC Dance courses available at the likes of Runshaw, Cardinal Newman and Preston's College and can lead to places at performing arts colleges, theatre schools and more.

Subject Leader Name

Miss F Howell (f.howell@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

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Course Information

This qualification is designed for learners who want an introduction to all aspects of engineering that includes a vocational and project-based element.

Students will study mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, aerospace engineering, communications engineering, chemical engineering, civil engineering, automotive engineering, biomedical engineering, and software engineering – with opportunities to specialise in Year 11.

The NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Engineering complements GCSE qualifications and is graded Level 2 Pass/Merit/Distinction/Distinction* (equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5–1).

What will the learner study as part of this qualification?

This qualification shows learners how to:

- understand engineering disciplines
- understand how science and maths are applied in engineering
- understand how to read engineering drawings
- understand properties and characteristics of engineering materials and know why specific materials are selected for engineering applications
- understand engineering tools, equipment and machines
- produce hand-drawn engineering drawings
- produce Computer Aided Design (CAD) engineering drawings
- demonstrate production planning techniques
- demonstrate processing skills and techniques applied to materials for a manufacturing task
- understand how to create, present and review art and design work

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

Learners will develop skills and knowledge:

- in adapting their own ideas and responding to feedback
- in evaluating their own work
- analysing data and making decisions
- that are essential for the engineering sector, such as understanding how to read drawings; responding to data; independent working; working to deadlines; efficient use of resources
- practical application of tools and machinery, whilst adhering to health and safety legislation and guidance

Exam/Coursework Requirements

The course consists of four internally assessed coursework units, and one externally assessed exam.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Further Education Routes:

- A Levels in Maths, Further Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Design and Technology.
- Learners could progress into employment or onto an apprenticeship in any area of the engineering sector.
- This qualification will also prepare learners for recruitment into the armed forces in the Army, Royal Air Force or the Royal Navy.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs S Lawe (s.lawe@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Design & Technology (Engineering)

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Course Information

NCFE Graphic Design is a course for students interested in any aspect of Graphic Design, including accurately sourcing ideas and understanding processes and techniques.

Being a Graphic Designer is the profession of visual communication that combines images, words and ideas to convey information to an audience. It involves designing print or electronic forms of visual information for advertisement, publication or website.

The NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Graphic Design complements GCSE qualifications and is aimed at those who are interested in any aspect of graphic design, including sourcing ideas and design. It is equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5-4.

What will the learner study as part of this qualification?

This qualification shows learners how to:

- identify and experiment with graphic design components
- explore graphic designers, their work and working in the industry
- work to graphic design briefs, refining and selecting ideas
- form a graphic design portfolio and explore creative direction.

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

Learners will develop skills and knowledge:

- in using different tools and equipment competently
- when experimenting with materials and techniques
- in adapting their own ideas and responding to feedback
- in evaluating their own work
- that are essential for the modern workplace, such as team working; presentation skills; independent working; working to deadlines; efficient use of resources.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

The course consists of four internally assessed coursework units, and one externally assessed exam.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Learners who achieve this V Cert qualification could progress onto Level 3 qualifications and A Levels, such as:

- Level 3 Applied General Certificate in Art & Design
- A Level Design and Technology.

Typical jobs in the Graphic Design sector include; Graphic Designer, Product/Brand Manager, Cartographer, Illustrator, Web Designer, Typographer, Graphic Crafts Maker, Brand Designer, Creative Director, Technical Illustrator, Packaging Designer or Editor.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs S Lawe (s.lawe@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Please note, pupils cannot choose to study both GCSE Art & Design and NCFE Graphic Design, you can only choose one of these.

Design & Technology (Graphic Design)

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Course Information

This course involves exploring ideas, thoughts, and feelings through making and performing drama and by evaluating other people's work.

You will learn what techniques are best to employ in different situations, then learn how to communicate what you have discovered to an audience, thinking about elements such as lighting, sound, and costume.

You will also learn how to take words on a page and turn them into engaging pieces of theatre.

On this specific course you can choose several routes:

Acting | Musical Theatre | Lighting | Costume | Make-up | Set design

These will all follow the same components.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

Component 1 – Exploring the performing arts

Assessment: this is an internal assessment, which is worth 30%.

Aim: get a taste of what it's like to be a professional actor across different styles.

During Component 1, you will observe and reproduce existing repertoire, as well as explore:

- Performance styles, creative intentions and purpose.
- Performance roles, responsibilities and skills.
- Performance techniques, approaches and processes.
- How practitioners create and influence what is performed.

Component 2 – Developing skills and techniques

Assessment: this is an internal assessment, which is worth 30%; Aim: develop skills and techniques in the chosen discipline of acting.

During Component 2, you will:

- Gain physical, interpretative, vocal and rehearsal skills during workshops and classes.
- Apply their technical, stylistic and interpretative skills in performances.
- Reflect on their progress and use of performance, as well as how they could improve.

Component 3 – Performing to a brief

Assessment: externally assessed task where students work in groups of between 3 and 7 members to create a performance based on a set brief and is worth 40%.

Aim: consider how practitioners adapt their skills for different contexts and put this into practice in a performance.

To do this you will:

Use the brief and what you've learned to come up with ideas for the performance.

Choose the skills and techniques you'll need.

Build on your skills in classes, workshops and rehearsals.

Review the development process within an ideas and skills log.

Perform a piece lasting 10-15 minutes (which is filmed) to your chosen target audience.

Drama
BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts (Acting)

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Drama

BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts (Acting)

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Students with a Pass – Distinction* in BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts (Acting) can expect to be looked on favourably by colleges and employers who are keen to work with people who have the confidence and inter-personal skills the subject affords them. Students can be fully prepared for interviews and/or any future public speaking.

Employers are now looking for employees with creativity, this course lends itself to you having one of the most desired skills employers are looking for in the 21st century.

The transferable skills of cooperation, commitment, communication, and confidence are highly sought after and BTEC Performing Arts equips you with these.

There are A-Levels and BTEC Performing Arts (Level 3) courses available at the likes of Runshaw, Cardinal Newman and Preston's College and can lead to places at performing arts colleges, theatre schools and more.

Subject Leader Name

Miss F Howell (f.howell@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

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Course Information

AQA GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials.

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

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

Exam/Coursework Requirements

These elements are undertaken in Year 11.

1x Written Exam (1hr 45m) worth 100 marks and 50% of the GCSE

1x Food Investigation Task worth 15% of the GCSE

1x Food Preparation Assessment worth 35% of the GCSE

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

A food qualification can lead to a range of career opportunities within the food industry, such as food technologist, dietetics and sports nutrition, hotel and catering management, retailing as well as the many careers related to food production.

Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study, embark on apprenticeship programmes or full time careers in the catering or food industries.

It will also train students in a variety of skills from decision making, to problem solving, to team work - all of which are important life and employment skills.

This course can be continued at Runshaw College and Preston's College where such courses as Events Management, as well as food related courses, may be taken.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs L Cowell (l.cowell@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

Introduction

GCSE French is a linear course, meaning that students will sit their exams at the end of the course.

At Priory, we are passionate about the benefits that learning a language can bring. We strongly believe in languages as a skill for life and something students should enjoy and find rewarding.

This AQA course is enjoyable and one which will expand student's cultural knowledge whilst developing their language skills.

The course encourages students to develop their ability and ambition to communicate with native speakers in both speaking and writing. The study of French should also broaden horizons and encourage students to step beyond familiar cultural boundaries and develop new ways of seeing the world.

Students study the following themes on which assessments and exams are based:

- Identity and culture.
- Local, national, international and global areas of interest.
- Current and future study and employment

Exam/Coursework Requirements

	Foundation	Higher	Worth
Listening	35 mins	45 mins	25%
Speaking	7-9 mins	10-12 mins	25%
Reading	45 mins	1 hour	25%
Writing	1 hour	1 hour 15 mins	25%

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

The course can lead to further studies in French and to have a second language on your CV can improve employment prospects.

The study of a language can also open many doors into international employment.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs A Scully (a.scully@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

GCSE Geography helps you to develop knowledge of issues, places and environments around the world as well as within the UK and more locally based geography.

Being a geographer allows you the luxury of knowing and understanding your physical landscape and the urban environment in which most of us live today. It is a dynamic subject that can be both current and rapidly changing as the world's population continues to increase so quickly.

You will improve your skills and understanding of maps, Google Earth and a range of problem solving skills as your studies take place both inside and outside the classroom - so you must be willing to work outdoors, enjoy travel and working in groups!

It is a traditional academic course that will equip you with skills that are needed to explain the world around you, as well as providing you with a GCSE that is acknowledged as great preparation for College and University courses.

The course is based on eight units which are assessed by three end of course exams worth 100% of the qualification. There are also fieldwork days, including trips to Bowness, Blackpool, Liverpool, Formby, Heysham, Wycoller and more. Some of these fieldwork trips take place during school time and some either after school or at weekends (they are also compulsory).

Please ensure you want to come into school for extra days in your own personal time before choosing Geography, however these trips and extra sessions are fun and usually free!

Classes are three, one hour classes per week and units range from rivers and flooding, to the urban world we live in, to weather, to changing rural environments to tourism and more!

Exam/Coursework Requirements

3 x exams

Paper One: Physical Geography (1 hr 30 mins)

Paper Two: Human Geography (1 hr 30 mins)

Paper Three: Skills Geography (1 hr 30 mins)

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Geography can lead you to study Geography and Geology at A Level, BTEC Leisure and Tourism and Public Services.

By studying and pursuing Geography, it can lead to careers in Travel, the Emergency Services, Leisure, Tourism, Armed Forces, Weather, Environmental Agencies, Geology, Natural Sciences, Water, GIS Systems, Transport and more.

Subject Leader Name

Mr A Watters (a.watters@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
GCSE Geography	Edexcel	Spec A 1GA0	https:// qualifications.pearson.com/en/ qualifications/edexcel-gcses.html

Course Information

GCSE History is a demanding subject. This course has been devised to allow pupils to study interesting historical subjects which have a relevance to the world that we live in today.

The study of History at GCSE level develops skills in pupils and equips them for adult life. Pupils will develop the ability to think critically, to formulate ideas, evaluate evidence and communicate clearly. Many pupils taking GCSE History at Priory choose to study further at A-Level.

Pupils will study History for three periods per week and the course consists of three topics/papers.

The course believes in the importance of learning from history, not being bound by our past but learning from it. The new specification enables students to study different aspects of the past, so they can engage with key issues such as conflict, understand what drives change and how the past influences the present.

Across the Key Stage 4 course, students will study four main topics that will be assessed at the end of Year 11 across two examination papers.

Year 10	Year 11
Paper 1	Paper 2
USA 1920 - 1973	Health & People (History of Medicine) c.1000 – present day
Conflict & Tension 1918 - 1939	Restoration England 1660 - 1685

Exam/Coursework Requirements

Students will complete two exams at the end of the course. Each paper is weighted to 50%.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

History is positively welcomed by many employers and the subject should be considered by those interested in careers in Law, Archaeology, Journalism, Economics and Politics to name a few.

Local colleges consider a GCSE in History as a rigorous, academic qualification and it shows that a pupil is highly literate, articulate, thoughtful and able to see two sides of an argument.

Subject Leader Name

Mr A Eccles (a.eccles@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Website
GCSE History	AQA	8145	www.aqa.org.uk

Course Information

Introduction

We are pleased to be offering the OCR Cambridge National in Creative iMedia. This course will equip pupils with a range of creative digital media skills and provide opportunities to develop desirable, transferable skills such as research, planning and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively.

Pupils will start at pre-production and develop their skills through practical assignments as they create final multimedia products. Creative iMedia focuses on the creative use of IT to produce media products such as websites, graphics, interactive displays, apps, movies, games and much more.

Pupils will sit one exam where both their practical skills and their subject knowledge will be tested. They will also be completing three additional units of work in class that will develop their understanding of the client brief, time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques that form part of the planning and creation process.

Pupils will study the following topics

- Pre-Production Skills
- Creating Digital Graphics
- Creating a multipage website
- Creating interactive multimedia products

Exam/Coursework Requirements

Written exam (Paper 1) – 1 hour 15 minutes (25%)

Coursework – 3 units worth 25% each (75%)

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Employment within the information technology and/or areas within the creative industries, such as electronic publishing or multimedia production.

Typical jobs in the sector include; Advertising Manager, Animator, Digital Graphic Designer, Digital Video Editor, Marketing Expert / Manager, Multimedia Designer, Photographer, Project Management, Radio Producer, Social Media Content Manager, Technology Support Specialist, Web Developer / Manager.

Subject Leader Name

Mrs S Qadri (s.qadri@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

The GCSE Music course centres around preparation for the final listening exam and ongoing composing coursework, interspersed with performance workshop sessions. It is imperative that the GCSE Music candidate is working with their specialist instrumental teacher over the course of the two years in order to receive targeted and specialist support in the performance element to dovetail with their classroom work which will be mainly listening and composing.

The new specification has raised the proportion of the GCSE Music listening exam to 40% which will centre around correct application of subject specific vocabulary and a broad listening experience to music across both genre and time. This will be through both studying set works and responding to unfamiliar music.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

Listening Exam: 68% Unfamiliar Music, 32% Study Pieces.

1.5 hour final exam equalling 40% of total marks.

Vocal or instrumental performance: 4mins minimum in total.

Two performances — One solo and one ensemble.

Coursework preparation and recorded in the final year.

Total 30% of final marks.

Composition.

1. To a brief
2. Free composition

Total 30% of final marks.

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Continued musical study could open doors to careers throughout the musical arts, including performer, composer, musicologist, Radio or TV presenter, music teacher, musical director, recording engineer, music therapist, choreographer, musical producer, DJ, conductor and more.

Subject Leader Name

Mr A Taylor (a.taylor@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

Students will complete a study of Christianity and Islam focusing on beliefs and tradition as well as practices within the two principle faiths.

Students will also study the following four themes of Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World.

Theme 1: Issues of Relationships

Theme 2: Issues of Life and Death

Theme 3: Issues of Good and Evil

Theme 4: Issues of Human Rights

The component consists of debating philosophical and ethical themes focusing on the impacts and beliefs of several groups within society including those of faith and those without.

Exam/Coursework Requirements

The courses consists of 3 examination as follows:

Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World

50% 2hr examination

Study of Christianity

25% 1hr examination

Study of Islam

25% 1hr examination

Progression (Where can the course lead?)

Community development work

Youth worker/social work

Work within the public sector such as police, nurse etc

Subject Leader Name

Mrs K Ham (k.ham@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Course Information

Introduction

This V Cert Level 2 qualification is designed for learners with an interest in sport. It will provide learners with experience of using different training techniques and methods to enable them to use these within further education or apprenticeships. It will also provide them with the opportunity to develop and experience their own fitness programme.

Aims

- Focus on an applied study of the health and fitness industry sector
- Offer breadth and depth of study, incorporating a significant core of knowledge and theoretical content with broad-ranging applicability
- Provide opportunities to acquire a number of practical and technical skills

Course Content

Unit 01 Principles of health and fitness

Unit 02 Healthy lifestyles

Unit 03 Preparing and planning for health and fitness

Unit 04 Develop a personal health and fitness programme

Assessment

Externally set and marked written examination (Unit 02) 40%

Internally assessed portfolio of evidence (Units 01, 03, 04) 60%

Methods of learning

Where possible a practical approach to learning will be undertaken, this will be followed up with classroom based evaluations and portfolio work, where students will have the opportunity to work both individually and in groups, working on research projects, presentations, discussions, reading and note-making, extended writing, creative and problem-solving relating to the leisure industry.

Progression opportunities

A V CERT Levels 2 Certificate in Sport (Health and Fitness) will enable progression to further study, training or employment, and enable students to make informed choices with regard to a career in the sport and leisure industry. They may progress to study further qualifications such as BTEC Level 3 in sport, A Level Physical Education and progress into Higher Education.

Subject Leader Name

Mr M Bullock (m.bullock@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

In Year 11 a number of pupils may also be offered the opportunity to extend their study to include GCSE PE. This decision will be made exclusively by the PE department and will take into account a pupils practical ability in three different sports and also their performance in the V-Cert exam.

YEAR 9 OPTIONS

Deadline Monday, 8 March 2021



All pupils will make their option choices using an online form. Please click on the link below to take you to the form. Please note this form should not be accessed before the parents/options evening.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=id9BE8UjUUqLD9VLKlqMFp7MGKsaqzNDIcHSpNbUvdURU5OSFBJWE9EOEtKMUNJU003MIRWV0tZUC4u>

ALL PUPILS WILL STUDY GCSES IN:

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Trilogy Science,

IN ADDITION ALL PUPILS WILL STUDY THE FOLLOWING NON EXAM SUBJECTS:

Core PE and RE

OPTION CHOICES

Pupils will have to choose ONE subject from this section

GEOGRAPHY

HISTORY

FRENCH

Pupils will have to choose TWO subjects from this section plus TWO reserve subjects.

ART & DESIGN**

SEPARATE SCIENCES (BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS)

CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND CARE

COMPUTER SCIENCE

DANCE

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY GRAPHIC DESIGN**

DRAMA

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

FRENCH

GEOGRAPHY

HISTORY

ICT

MUSIC

RE

SPORT (HEALTH AND FITNESS)

**Pupils cannot study both GCSE Art & Design and Design Technology Graphic Design.