



PEOPLE
PASSION
PERFORMANCE

GUIDED CHOICES BOOKLET FOR 2024-2026

Your Comprehensive Guide to Choosing GCSE Subjects for
Key Stage 4

Our Values

Opportunity – *to experience new things*

Community – *to work together to make choices*

Courage – *to make calculated decisions*

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| INTRODUCTION..... | 3 |
| KEY EVENTS & DATES TO REMEMBER..... | 3 |
| INFORMATION FOR YEAR 9 STUDENTS & FAMILIES..... | 4 |
| KEY STAGE 4 AT SIR WILLIAM STANIER SCHOOL..... | 4 |
| CHOOSING SUBJECT CHOICES ONLINE..... | 4 |
| CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATHWAY..... | 5 |
| MAKING INFORMED CHOICES FOR GCSE SUCCESS..... | 5 |
| NATIONAL CAREERS SERVICE..... | 8 |
| GCSE Art..... | 9 |
| GCSE Business..... | 10 |
| OCR Cambridge Nationals: Child Development..... | 11 |
| GCSE Computer Science..... | 12 |
| GCSE Drama..... | 13 |

Guided Choices 2024-2026

| | |
|---|----|
| GCSE English Literature..... | 14 |
| GCSE English Language..... | 15 |
| GCSE Food, Preparation and Nutrition..... | 16 |
| GCSE French..... | 17 |
| GCSE Geography..... | 18 |
| WJEC L1/2 Hospitality & Catering..... | 19 |
| BTEC in Health and Social Care..... | 20 |
| GCSE History..... | 21 |
| OCR Cambridge Nationals: IT..... | 23 |
| GCSE Mathematics..... | 24 |
| GCSE Media Studies..... | 25 |
| GCSE Music..... | 26 |
| GCSE Photography..... | 27 |
| AQA Polish: Higher tier (Grades 4-9)..... | 28 |
| GCSE Religious Studies..... | 29 |
| Core Religious Education..... | 30 |
| GCSE Science (Combined /Trilogy)..... | 31 |
| GCSE Science (Triple: Biology, Chemistry and Physics)..... | 32 |
| OCR Cambridge Nationals: Sport Studies..... | 33 |
| Access Pathway Only: Cambridge International IGCSE English as an additional language..... | 34 |

For any questions regarding the guided choices process then please email Miss Phillips – chloe.phillips@sws.cheshire.sch.uk



Course Information Guides



Guided Choices Information

Guided Choices 2024-2026

INTRODUCTION

At Sir William Stanier School, our mission is to offer a broad, ambitious, and knowledge-rich curriculum. Our students engage in lessons that are thoughtfully structured and grounded in evidence-based practices, ensuring every learner has the opportunity to thrive.

We ensure that our children are armed with the necessary knowledge and skills to make significant progress through Key Stage 3, setting a solid foundation for the challenges and opportunities of Key Stage 4.

Now marks a pivotal moment where students, their families, and our school collaborate closely to guide our young learners in making informed choices for Years 10 and 11. This period is crucial for shaping their future educational journey and career pathways.

Recognising the importance of this decision-making process, we have designed this information guide to assist you in navigating these choices as smoothly as possible. It aims to provide comprehensive insights into the choices available, ensuring that each student can select subjects that not only align with their interests and strengths but also support their long-term aspirations.

KEY EVENTS & DATES TO REMEMBER

| Date | Key Events |
|--|---|
| Friday 1 st February | Year 9 Guided Choices Assembly Period 1 – Friday 8 th February. A presentation to students and parents/carers, opening the guided choices process. |
| w/b 5 th February | Taster & GCSE Overview Lessons Begin Year 9 students have the opportunity to have taster lessons in the Key Stage 4 subjects. All subjects to give overview of GCSE Specification. Sample Practical Taster Sessions in key subjects begin |
| w/b 5 th February | 'Options Live' link emailed to students' school account Students are emailed their log in details in order for them to make their Guided Choices. This online platform is called 'Options Live'. |
| Thursday 29 th February @ 4-6pm | Guided Choices Evening |
| Thursday 14 th March | Guided Choices Link Completed All 'Options Live' forms to be completed. |
| 15 th April - onwards | Guided Choices Review If additional support is required, a member of SLT will contact students/parents/carers before final allocations are confirmed. |
| HT6 | Confirmation of Guided Choices Allocation A confirmation letter informing you and your parents/carers of the choices that have been allocated is sent home. |

Guided Choices 2024-2026

INFORMATION FOR YEAR 9 STUDENTS & FAMILIES

So far, you have been following a timetable outlined by the Key Stage 3 national curriculum. However, for Years 10 and 11, you have the opportunity to choose some of the subjects you will study. The courses you select will lead to a variety of qualifications that will prepare you for further education and life beyond school.

This booklet is intended for you and your parents/carers. It aims to help you think about the future, not just over the next two years while you are at school, but also beyond. You may choose to go to college, apply for an apprenticeship, or enter further training. It is, therefore, very important, and we urge you to read it carefully.

KEY STAGE 4 AT SIR WILLIAM STANIER SCHOOL

All students follow a compulsory core of subjects where you will achieve a qualification, which include:

- English Language & English Literature (as GCSE courses)
- Mathematics (as a GCSE course)
- Science (as either separate or combined "Trilogy" awarded GCSEs). Based on student's end of year 9 assessments, the science faculty will support all students into the appropriate qualification – triple or trilogy.

Alongside the above compulsory core of subjects where you will achieve a qualification, you will also have lessons in:

- Physical Education (a national statutory requirement throughout KS4 – you can opt to take the GCSE qualification as well)
- Personal Development
- Religious Studies

CHOOSING SUBJECT CHOICES ONLINE

This is available to be viewed online once students have set up their accounts. Students will have recently had the opportunity to practice this in school during the last half term. Students will need to log into their school email accounts to access their activation codes. A variety of subjects are on offer; more details about the courses can be found either at the end of this document or by scanning the blue 'Scan Me' button on page 2.

All courses will only run if class sizes meet the minimum requirement. Students must be aware that choices are subject to timetabling, and therefore, selecting preferred subjects to study does not guarantee that students will be able to study these subjects in Years 10 and 11. However, the school will endeavour to offer students their preferred choices.

Students will find out the subjects they will be studying as part of their GCSEs in the summer term.

STUDENTS MUST HAVE COMPLETED ALL OF THEIR CHOICES BEFORE THURSDAY 14TH MARCH

Guided Choices 2024-2026

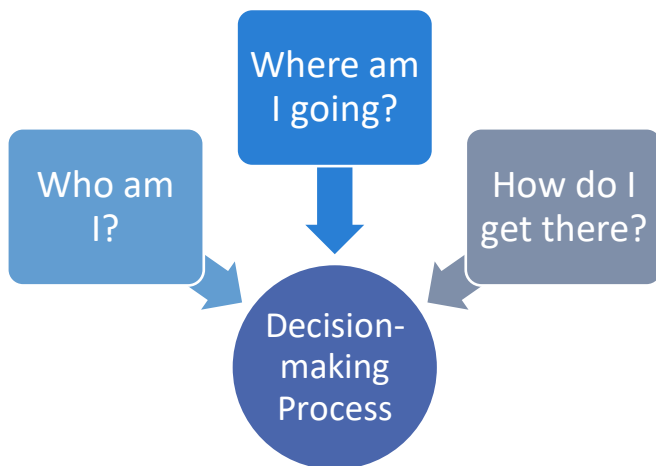
CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATHWAY

This booklet provides detailed information about each of the courses you may wish to study. Please read the details carefully to ensure that the courses are suitable for you by gaining an understanding of their content and how they are assessed.

Use the information in this booklet alongside the decision-making process described above.

It is beneficial to consider the careers you might be interested in for the future and the level of qualification you would like to, or need to, achieve for them (i.e., "Where am I going?" and "How do I get there?"). To assist with this, refer to the table below, which displays levels of qualifications available in the United Kingdom alongside the National Careers Service and other resources.

You will make your choices using an online form in conjunction with the National Careers Service website, which will support you by asking questions to help clarify your aspirations and guide you towards appropriate choices.



MAKING INFORMED CHOICES FOR GCSE SUCCESS

As Year 9 students stand at the threshold of making significant decisions about their GCSE subjects, it is crucial to approach these choices with both ambition and mindfulness. The subjects you select for Years 10 and 11 will not only shape your academic journey but also influence future career paths and opportunities.

Recent research underscores the profound impact GCSE grades have on life chances, particularly highlighting their predictive value over and above that of later qualifications,

including university degrees. This insight serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of selecting subjects that not only align with personal interests and strengths but also provide a solid foundation for future aspirations.

For families, guiding your child through these decisions with an understanding of their potential long-term implications is invaluable. Together, let's seize this pivotal moment to set the stage for a rewarding and fulfilling educational journey that opens doors to a world of possibilities.

Guided Choices 2024-2026

| Pathway | This pathway is ideal for students who have an interest in... | A | B | C | Careers |
|---|--|-------------------|---|------------------------------|---|
| Health Pathway | Science. Caring for others, including children, people with a physical or learning disability and the elderly | Science - Triple | Health and Social Care or Child Development | Food | Including: Nursing, Midwifery, Care Worker, Mental Health nurse, Paramedic, Speech & Language. NHS or private sector. |
| International Business Pathway | Worldwide travel. Finance. Working with people. Being an entrepreneur. | French | Business | Media Studies or Photography | Including: Entrepreneur, Human Resources, Marketing, Office Manager, Sales Manager, Law, Accounting / Finance, Advertising, International relations. |
| Digital Entrepreneur Pathway | IT. Web design. Media. Computing. Technology systems. The Online World. | Computer Science | Business | iMedia or Photography | Including: Games Developer. Website design. Graphic Designer. Media. Marketing. Software Development. Mobile app Development. |
| Ebacc Pathway (History/Geography/French) | These are subjects most likely to be required or preferred for entry to university degree courses and ones that will keep the most doors open. | Any Ebacc Subject | Any Ebacc Subject | Any Subject | Choice of almost any career in any area. |
| Sustainability and Climate Change | Interest in the planet, your environment and the impact human behaviour has on these. | Science - Triple | Geography | Food | Including: Environmental Sciences. Estate Management. Geologist. Business. Surveyor. Agriculture. Psychologist. |
| Arts Pathway | Creative. Musical. Enjoy performing. | French | Drama | Music | Including: Artist. Teaching. Art Therapy. Community Arts worker. Game Design. Graphics. Actor. Musician. Marketer in the arts industry. Entrepreneur. Many exciting careers can stem from an Art qualification whether in Theatre, Music or a specific Art. |
| Sports Management Pathway | Sports. Fitness and Health. Nutrition. | Science - Triple | Business | Sports Studies | Including: Sports Coach, Fitness Instructor, Sports Development Officer, Chef, Food Technologist, Nutritionist, Food Quality officer. |

Guided Choices 2024-2026

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------------|--|
| Law Pathway | An enquiring mind. Finding out about the past. Why people behave the way they do. | Geography | History | Media Studies | Including: Solicitor, Barrister, Probation Officer. Psychologist. Teacher. Social Worker. Civil Service. Psychology. |
| Cultural Pathway | Languages, Creative. Likes to work with hands. | French | History | Art | Including: Chef, Food Technologist, Food Quality, Nutritionist, Designer, Artist, international working. |
| Communication Pathway | Languages, interested in IT and digital careers, Creative. | Computer Science | French | Media Studies | Including: International working, Teacher, TV, Radio Web Developer, Web Designer, IT Business Analyst, App Developer |
| Overseas Pathway | Languages, Creative and practical | French | Geography | Food | Including: International working, Teacher, TV, Radio Web Developer, Web Designer, IT Business Analyst, App Developer, Chef, Food Technologist, Food quality Officer. |
| Engineering Pathway | Logical. Practical. Good at solving problems. | Studied at the UTC (Trust School) | | | Manufacturing, mechanical, electrical or electronic engineering industries. |
| Engineering Design Pathway | Logical. Interested in science and technology. Maths skills. | Studied at the UTC (Trust School) | | | Design Engineer. Development Engineer. Projects Manager. |

For any questions regarding the guided choices process then please email Miss Phillips – chloe.phillips@sws.cheshire.sch.uk or Mr Smissen – michael.smissen@sws.cheshire.sch.uk

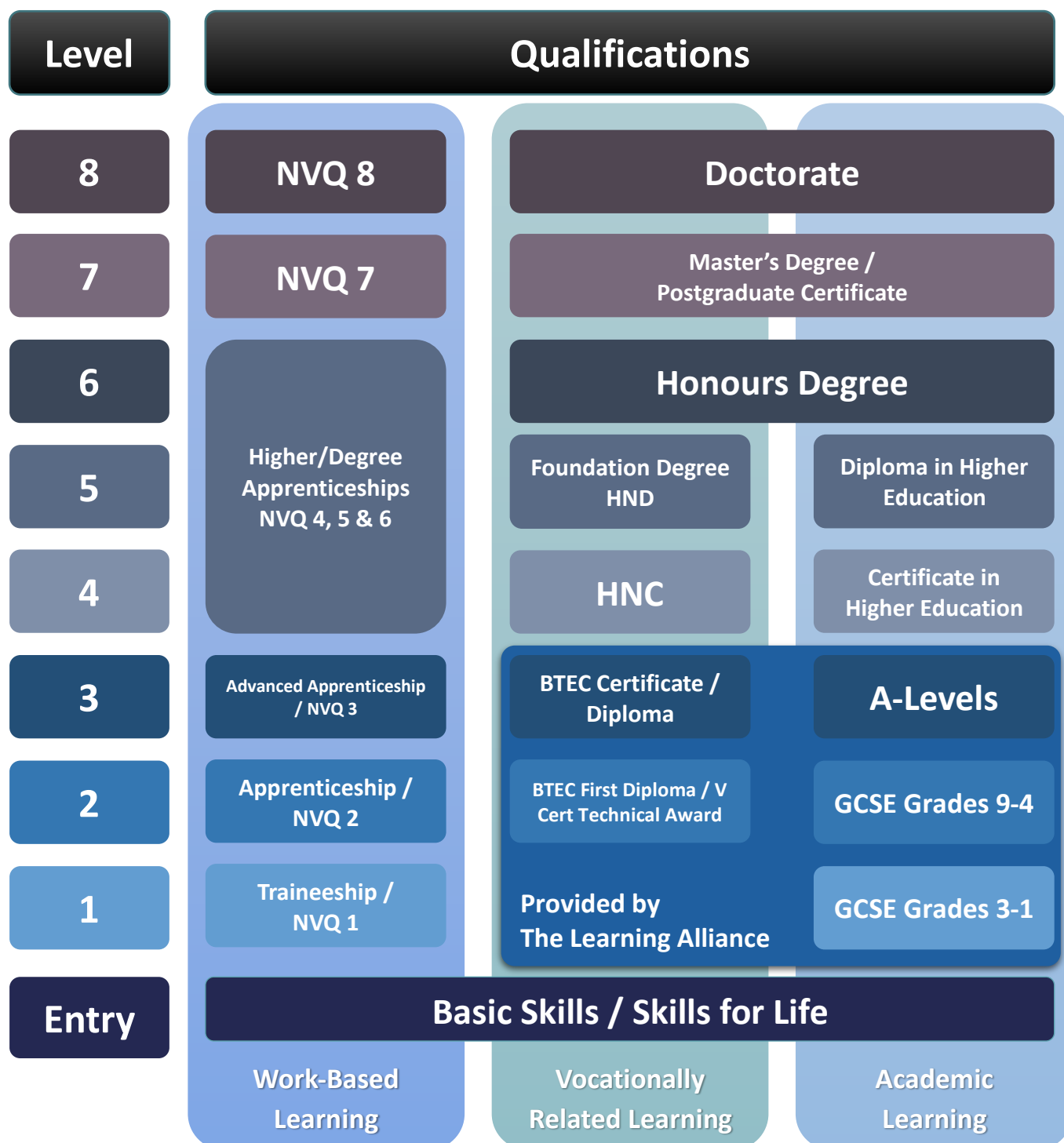
Course Information

NATIONAL CAREERS SERVICE

To submit the online form, you will need to complete the [National Careers Service "Discover your skills and careers"](#) self-assessment, answering questions about the things you like to do or are good at, and then exploring suggested careers.

You may also wish to spend some time exploring the National Careers Service "**Skills Health Check**" and "**Explore Careers**" online services. The "**Skills Health Check**" offers a more in-depth collection of assessments that will generate a report to help you identify your personal and work-based skills.

Enjoy the guided choices process and choose wisely, for you!



Course Information

GCSE Art

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Exam Board | Course Length |
| AQA | 2 years |

What is GCSE Art all about?

GCSE Art, Craft and Design will develop your experimentation, design and refinement skills. You will engage with a range of artists within Natural Forms and Pop Art and create responses using a wide range of mixed media, 2D and 3D outcomes. During the course you will complete the journey of research to experimentation and how this develops into designs and a final outcome a number of times. This is to ensure that you are capable to independently lead your own project.

Course Structure

You will engage with a range of artists and experimentations within the Natural Forms and Pop Art projects. These will develop into the creation of both 2D and 3D design work and final outcomes. The work you complete across the two projects will build upon and refine the techniques and skills you have been learning throughout Key Stage 3. You will be encouraged to analyse artist work and create your own reflective work to show your interpretations and understanding of methods and mixed media.

From the January of Year 11 you will be given an exam paper from an external source where you will independently choose and develop your own theme, based on the exam paper. This allows you to demonstrate your own journey through the assessment objectives and focus your refinement on your chosen key techniques and skills.

How will I be assessed?

You will be marked based on 60% coursework and 40% externally set exam. At the end of the two-year course you will sit a 10-hour exam based on the externally set exam. Candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|---------------------|---|
| Natural Forms | Project one is worth 37% of coursework, within the 60% of overall grade Topic is covered across Year 10 HT1-3 Covers a journey across AO1-AO4 |
| Pop Art | Project two (sustained project) is worth 63% of coursework, within the 60% of overall grade Topic is covered across Year 10 HT4-6 and Year 11 HT1-2 Covers a journey across AO1-AO4 A 5 hour mock exam is included in this sustained project |
| Externally Set Exam | Independently led project is worth 40% of overall grade Candidates will choose one question/theme from the externally set paper Topic is covered across Year 11 HT3-5 A 10 hour exam is included within the externally set exam |

What could I do next with GCSE Art?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of Sixth Form or College courses based on Art, Fine Art and Design. At Cheshire College South and West they offer Design and Media and Games courses, alongside A Level courses in Fine Art, Photography, Graphic Communications and Fashion and Textiles. In the Sixth Form at UTC Crewe, they offer A Level Art and 3D Design.

Course Information

GCSE Business

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Edexcel GCSE Business | 2 Years |

What is GCSE Business all about?

GCSE Business will allow students to understand business concepts, business terminology, business objectives, the integrated nature of business activity and the impact of business on individuals and wider society. GCSE Business will allow students to apply knowledge and understanding to contemporary business issues and to different types and sizes of businesses in local, national and global contexts.

Course Structure

The subject content within the course has been organised into themes according to business contexts to ensure an integrated approach is adopted throughout the course of study. This develops students' understanding of the interdependent nature of business activity, business operations, finance, marketing and human resources as well as external influences within a business context. It also supports students in applying their knowledge and understanding of how these interdependencies underpin business decision making.

How will I be assessed?

There are two written examinations for Business - there are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|------------------------------|---|
| Investigating small Business | A 1 hour 30 min exam worth 90 marks and 50% of the GCSE: The paper is divided into three sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A: 35 marks• Section B: 30 marks• Section C: 25 marks The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions. Questions in Sections B and C will be based on business contexts in the paper. |
| Building a Business | A 1 hour 30 mins exam worth 90 marks and 50% of the GCSE: The paper is divided into three sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A: 35 marks• Section B: 30 marks• Section C: 25 marks The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions. Questions in Sections B and C will be based on business contexts in the paper. |

What could I do next with GCSE Business?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses. In South Cheshire College in Crewe, they offer several different academic and vocational qualifications at Level 3. The knowledge and skills gained from GCSE Business support students' entry into employment or other training in specific aspects of business, such as apprenticeships and vocational qualifications which focus on more specialised business areas. GCSE Business provides a strong foundation for employment, with students progressing, with further training, to a wide range of careers training such as banking, sales, product management and general management.

Course Information

OCR Cambridge Nationals: Child Development

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| OCR Child Development | 2 Years |

What is OCR Child Development all about?

Children's Learning and Development is an open and valuable option subject for boys as well as girls. The development of this course in recent years has removed the female stereotyped image it has endured in the past. The main areas of study are related to the different stages of physical, social, emotional and intellectual development from birth to adulthood; how to stimulate and create the best environment for positive development of children through these stages.

Course Structure

You will study a range of units based on different topics and themes to develop your knowledge about child development. This is a qualification where you will use your learning in practical, real-life situations, such as the importance of both pre-conception health and creating conditions in which a child can thrive, including the prevention and management of childhood illnesses and creating a safe environment.

How will I be assessed?

There are three units in total, two of which are coursework and one unit which is an exam - there are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from L1 Pass to L2 Distinction*.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--|---|
| Unit 1 Health and well-being for child development External exam | A written examination, worth 40% of the final mark. In this unit, students will learn about the importance of both pre-conception health and creating conditions in which a child can thrive, including the prevention and management of childhood illnesses and creating a safe environment. |
| Unit 2 Creating a safe environment and understand the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years Coursework | A 12-14 hour, internally assessed coursework task, worth 30% of the final grade. In this unit, students will learn how to create a safe environment for children from birth to five years in childcare settings. They will investigate and choose equipment that is both suitable and safe for use and will learn about their nutrition and dietary needs. |
| Unit 3 Understand the development of a child from birth to five years Coursework | A 10-12 hour, internally assessed coursework task, worth 30% of the final grade. In this unit, students will learn the expected developmental norms for children from one to five years. They will use observation, research techniques and skills to investigate these development norms and explore their findings. Students will also learn the importance of creating plans and providing different play activities to support children in their development. |

What could I do next with OCR Child Development?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses. At Cheshire College, they offer Health and Social Care, nursing, teaching, midwifery and teaching assistant that this course will prepare you for.

Course Information

GCSE Computer Science

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| OCR | 2 years |

What is GCSE Computer Science all about?

OCR's GCSE in Computer Science will encourage students to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation and analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs. Students will also understand the impacts of digital technology to the wider society.

Course Structure

You will study a range of units to develop your knowledge about how a computer works and the components needed such as hardware and software. You will understand the importance of network security and the ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology. You will also have the opportunity to develop your programming skills by creating coding within the software Python as well as creating algorithms and robust programs. You will build upon the techniques you already know from Key Stage 3 so that you are able to complete programming tasks and build upon your knowledge of the fundamentals of a computer and how it works.

How will I be assessed?

There are 2 units to study each consisting of an exam paper, one focusing on computer systems and one with a focus on programming, computational thinking, and algorithms, both are worth 50% each. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--|--|
| Computer Systems | 1.1 Systems architecture 1.2 Memory and storage 1.3 Computer networks, connections and protocols 1.4 Network security 1.5 Systems software 1.6 Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology The method of assessment is a written paper: 1 hour and 30 minutes, 50% of total GCSE, 80 marks. |
| Computational thinking, algorithms and programming | 2.1 Algorithms 2.2 Programming fundamentals 2.3 Producing robust programs 2.4 Boolean logic 2.5 Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments The method of assessment is a written paper: 1 hour and 30 minutes, 50% of total GCSE, 80 marks. |

What could I do next with GCSE Computer Science?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses. In South Cheshire College at Crewe, they offer A Levels in Computer Science and Cambridge Technical in IT Level 2 and Level 2 that this course will prepare you for.

Course Information

GCSE Drama

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 Years |

What is GCSE Drama all about?

GCSE Drama will develop your performing skills with relation to both the Acting and Design elements that create a performance. You will explore a variety of Drama practitioners ranging including: Artaud, Brecht, Stanislavski and many more. You will build on key knowledge of the industry exploring elements of stage configuration; characterization; social, cultural and historical aspects of texts and technical theatre. You will watch several live theatre performances on stage across the North West as well as utilising an online catalogue of National Theatre Productions.

Course Structure

The course is split into Three Components-

Component 1- Understanding Drama- An exploration of an understanding of a set text and Live Theatre Review which culminates in a written examination.

Component 2- Devising Drama- You will create a piece of drama using a stimulus such as: Song, Quote, Image or Book. You will then link this into a style of performance and choose a practitioner such as Brecht, Stanislavski or Artaud and perform this practically.

Component 3- Texts in Practice- You will choose from a range of scripts and plays within the 21st and 20th Century and perform two extracts from the chosen script or play that show a character's development.

How will I be assessed?

You will be formatively and summatively assessed across three components throughout the course; with the aim to assess your practical and analytical performance knowledge; testing both your ability to execute a range of techniques within your pieces and evaluate the effectiveness of them in live theatre. Further details of the three components are outlined below. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|---------------------------|--|
| C1- Understanding Theatre | A 1 hour 45 min exam worth 80 marks: (40% of GCSE) 1. Section A – Multiple Choice Question- 4 Marks. 2. Section B: four questions on a given extract from the set play chosen (44 marks) 3. Section C: one question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single Live Theatre Production (32 marks) |
| C2- Devising Theatre | You will create a devised piece implementing the style of a chosen practitioner using a stimulus. (40% of GCSE) 1. Devising log (60 marks) 2. Devised performance (20 marks) 3. 80 marks in total |
| C3- Texts In Practice | Performance of Two extracts from ONE play (20% of GCSE) • Performance of Extract 1 (20 marks) and Extract 2 (20 marks) • 40 marks in total • 20% of GCSE |

What could I do next with GCSE Drama?

There are several job prospects from Actor, Stage manager, Make-up artist, Director, Dancer, Teacher, Camera Operator, Script Writer and many more; the possibilities are endless. If you don't think a job in the performance industry is for you then don't fret; Drama teaches and encompasses a range of skills that can benefit you in many roles. Public speaking, confidence, communication, team work and problem solving are all qualities developed in Drama that are desirable to almost all careers.

Course Information

GCSE English Literature

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 Years |

What is GCSE English Literature all about?

GCSE English Literature opens students to a world of inspiration and creativity, while also developing skills that are essential for today's global environment. It is a chance to discover how literature makes sense of the world through stories, poems, novels and plays.

Course Structure

You will study a range of extracts from Shakespeare, 19th century novel, modern texts and poetry.

How will I be assessed?

There are two written examinations for English Literature - there are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|---|---|
| Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19 th century novel | A 1 hour 45 min exam worth 64 marks and 40% of the GCSE: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A – Shakespeare - Macbeth• Section B – 19th Century Novel – Christmas Carol |
| Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry | A 2 hour and 15mins exam worth 96 marks and 60% of the GCSE: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A – Modern Texts – An Inspector Calls• Section B – Poetry – Power and Conflict• Section C – Poetry – Unseen Poetry |
| Section C: Unseen poetry | Students will answer one question on one unseen poetry and one question comparing this poem with another unseen poem |

What could I do next with GCSE English Literature?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses.

Course Information

GCSE English Language

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 Years |

What is GCSE English Language all about?

GCSE English Language will develop your reading and writing skills. You will read a range of texts written between the 19th century to the 21st century, covering a range of themes and genres. You will develop your writing so that you can write in a range of different styles and purposes as well as for different audiences.

Course Structure

You will study a range of extracts from texts on different topics and themes to develop your knowledge about how writers use language and structure to influence and interest their audiences. These extracts will be from both fiction and non-fiction texts written from 1800 to the present day.

You will have the opportunity develop your creative writing in a wide range of styles for a range of different purposes and audiences. You will build upon the techniques you already know from Key Stage 3 so that you are able to express your views in a way that will achieve the maximum amount of impact on your audience.

How will I be assessed?

There are two written examinations for English Language - there are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--|--|
| Explorations in creative reading and writing | A 1 hour 45 min exam worth 80 marks and 50% of the GCSE: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A – Reading (40 marks 25% of GCSE) 4 questions about a fiction extract you have read.• Section B – Writing (descriptive or narrative) (40 marks 25% of GCSE) 1 extended creative answer. |
| Writers' viewpoints and perspectives | A 1 hour 45 mins exam worth 80 marks and 50% of the GCSE: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A – Reading (40 marks 25% of GCSE) 4 questions about a two non-fiction extracts you have read.• Section B – Writing – writing to present a viewpoint (40 marks 25% of GCSE) 1 extended creative answer. |
| Spoken language | Spoken language will be tested by your teacher. For this element of the course, you will receive a Spoken Language endorsement which will not count towards your GCSE grade. |

What could I do next with GCSE English Language?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses.

Course Information

GCSE Food, Preparation and Nutrition

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 Years |

What is GCSE Food, Preparation and Nutrition all about?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition will develop your culinary skills as we look at a varied of preparation and cooking techniques to make restaurant standard dishes. We will also look at the Nutrition and the Food Science and properties of ingredients.

Course Structure

You will study the importance of personal/food safety & hygiene, alongside the principles of nutrition, diet, and good health. We will find out where food comes from (provenance) & how to prepare the following commodities (ingredients) meat, fish, eggs, dairy, fruit, vegetables, cereal grains & potatoes. You will build upon the practical skills you already know from Key Stage 3 so that you are able to develop your cooking and produce complex dishes.

How will I be assessed?

There are three elements to this qualification. There are two NEA task that are completed in school and a written examination. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--|---|
| Principles of food preparation and nutrition | Written examination worth 50% of the final grade. Duration 1 hour 45 minutes |
| Food preparation and nutrition in action | NEA1: Food Science Investigation NEA: Food Preparation Task Combined worth 50% of the final grade |

What could I do next with GCSE Food, Preparation and Nutrition?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form, college courses or apprenticeships. This will prepare you for future jobs in areas such as education, the armed forces, the hospitality industry, food science, agriculture or food and drink manufacturing.

Course Information

GCSE French

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 years |

What is GCSE French all about?

The French GCSE will enhance your communication skills, boost your confidence and develop your cultural knowledge and awareness. Learning a language is also proven to help improve your concentration and memory and it shows that you are able to adapt to a range of situations and can interact with different types of people.

Course Structure

In GCSE French you will learn about culture and language in France and in other French speaking countries. You will study a wide range of topics based on three themes – Identity and culture; Local, national, international and global areas of interest; and Current and future study and employment. These themes will be taught via four skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing. It will build on the knowledge of language that you have learnt during KS3 and you will go on to develop deeper knowledge and understanding of new vocabulary and grammar so that you can successfully communicate in French.

How will I be assessed?

There are two tiers – Foundation and Higher. For each tier there are 4 exams: listening, speaking, reading and writing. At the end of the two-year course, Foundation candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 5; Higher candidates will be awarded a grade from 3 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|----------------|--|
| Listening exam | Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language. F – Written exam – 35 minutes – 40 marks. H – Written exam – 45 minutes – 50 marks A series of recorded spoken French texts with questions in English or French. Worth 25% of the GCSE |
| Speaking exam | Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes. Preparation time, 12 minutes. Examination time: 7-9 minutes for Foundation; 10-12 minutes for Higher – 60 marks The exam comprises: a role play, a photo card and a general conversation in French Worth 25% of the GCSE |
| Reading | Understanding and responding to different types of written language. F – written exam – 45 minutes. H – written exam – 1 hour 60 marks A series of written French texts with questions in English or French, Worth 25% of the GCSE |
| Writing | Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes. F – written exam – 1 hour. The exam comprises: a photo card, 40-word written task, translations into French, 90-word written task – 50 marks. H – written exam – 1h 15 mins. The exam comprises: 90-word task, 150-word task, translation into French – 60 marks. Worth 25% of the GCSE |

What could I do next with GCSE French?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses and will be an asset if applying for an apprenticeship or to university.

Learning a language can lead to a wide variety of jobs both in the UK and internationally. Many jobs link specifically to languages and others value the ability to speak a different language and communicate with a wide range of people. These jobs include: translator, interpreter, jobs in the international trade sector or in embassies, diplomat, pilot, journalist, teacher, jobs within the travel and tourism industry – for example tour guide, flight attendant, train manager, airport staff. Learning a language enables you to travel the world with ease for work or for pleasure.

Course Information

GCSE Geography

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 Years |

What is GCSE Geography all about?

GCSE Geography explores the physical and human parts of the world including recent and topical events. You will develop key geographical and cartographical skills that you can apply in the real world, while you will also undertake two pieces of fieldwork. This will give you the opportunity to apply and enhance your skills while deepening your understanding of the world around you.

Course Structure

You will study a range of units covering physical features and processes using a range of case studies from around the world while deepening your understanding of the current human opportunities and challenges. Each unit will review local and global case studies for you to have stronger understanding of the world and how you can shape it for the better.

You will have the opportunity to undertake two fieldwork investigations, in which you will create your own enquiry to explore and review in both a natural and human setting. This will give you a further opportunity to work independently and as a team; two key skills that make you highly employable.

How will I be assessed?

There are three written examinations for Geography - there are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Paper 1 – Physical Geography | A 1 hour 30 min exam worth 88 marks and 35% of the GCSE: Section A – The challenge of Natural Hazards Section B – The Living World Section C – Physical Landscapes in the UK (Q3 Coasts and Q4 Rivers) |
| Paper 2 – Human Geography | A 1 hour 30 mins exam worth 88 marks and 35% of the GCSE: Section A – Urban Issues Section B – Changing Economic World Section C – Resource Management with Q6 Energy |
| Paper 3 – Geographical Skills | A 1 hour 15 min exam worth 76 marks and 30% of the GCSE: Section A – Issue evaluation (with a pre-release) Section B – Fieldwork and unseen fieldwork questions |

What could I do next with GCSE English Language?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses. In college you can study A Level Geography, Travel and Tourism and a breadth of BTEC courses all centralised around Geography. Through studying this subject you will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to access a wide variety of jobs including the army, teaching, computer programmer, market researcher, GIS specialist and an emergency manager.

Course Information

WJEC L1/2 Hospitality & Catering

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Exam Board | Course Length |
| WJEC | 2 Years |

What is Hospitality & Catering all about?

WJEC Hospitality & Catering is a great hands-on practical qualification that will encourage students to develop learning and practical skills. The course develops the student's practical skills to make and present dishes, whilst also focusing on the Hospitality Industry itself. Students will cook at least once a fortnight as a requirement of the course in order to develop their practical skills.

Course Structure

The course is broken into two units. The first unit looks at the Hospitality Industry. Students will learn about the structure, the types of establishments, job roles and requirements. This unit will be assessed by written examination. The second unit is a practical based task – Hospitality in Action. Through this unit students will be required to research and plan two dishes. They will then make these dishes as part of their assessment.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through a balance of coursework and written examinations. The coursework task is worth 60% of the final grade and the written examination is worth 40%. There are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from L1 Pass to L2 Distinction*.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| The Hospitality & Catering Industry | <ul style="list-style-type: none">External Assessment Written examination paper worth 40% of final mark |
| Hospitality & Catering in Action | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Internal Assessment Portfolio of work including practical dish assessment worth 60% of final mark. |

What could I do next with a Hospitality & Catering Qualification?

This qualification will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses. In Cheshire College South West, Crewe campus, they offer vocational qualifications building on in the Hospitality Industry or Leisure and Tourism. At Reaseheath College there is a Food Science based pathway or a Patisserie pathway. There are many local employers that also offer apprenticeships in the Hospitality or Food Industry such as Crewe Hall or Bakavour.

Course Information

BTEC in Health and Social Care

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Pearson BTEC Technical Award | 2 Years |

What is Health and Social Care all about?

This subject is about issues facing the general population, and how to meet the demands society places upon the health and social care industry. Students who chose this subject are interested in human behaviour and will want to improve the lives of others. This course will especially be relevant to those students who are interested in A level study or a career working in the health care, social care, early years and public service professions.

Course Structure

The course is made up of one mandatory exam unit, and two mandatory course work units.

How will I be assessed?

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--|--|
| Component 1: Human Lifespan Development. | Coursework totalling 1/3 of final grading. You will investigate how people grow and develop over the course of their lifespan, from infancy to older age, considering physical, intellectual, emotional and social areas of development. You will explore how different factors may impact growth and development and will have the opportunity to explore different support networks available. |
| Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values. | Coursework totalling 1/3 of final grading. You will explore health and social care services in your local area and assess how they meet the needs of individuals with complex care needs. You will also learn the care values that underpin effective professional practice – they explore how they are used to protect service users from harm. |
| Component 3: Health and Wellbeing. | 2-hour exam totalling 1/3 of final grading (worth 60 marks). You will study the factors that positively and negatively affect health and well-being by getting to grips with what being 'healthy' means. You will learn how to interpret different physiological and lifestyle factors and from this you will design an appropriate plan for improving someone's health and wellbeing. The plan will include SMART targets to help the client improve. You will have to consider the barriers which prevent someone from following the plan, and effectively manage these to ensure the outcome are achievable. |

What could I do next with Health and Social Care?

With a Level 2 qualification in Health and Social care you can either progress on to A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects, study of a vocational qualification at Level 3 (such as a BTEC National in Health and Social Care) or undertake a Level 3 apprenticeship within the Health and Social Care sector. Careers within this pathway include working in the health or the social care sector, such as nursing.

Course Information

GCSE History

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| Edexcel | 2 Years |

What is GCSE History all about?

GCSE History will deepen your understanding of past events and how they have impacted on the world we live in today. You will develop your writing skills so that you can describe, explain and analyse past events, societies and people. You will make inferences from sources and analyse source material to explain how it is useful to historians. You will also examine a range of historical interpretations, explaining why the past is viewed in different ways.

Course Structure

You will study four different topics to develop your knowledge about Britain, Europe and the wider world, either in depth, thematically or as an overview. You will have the opportunity to investigate the past, to question evidence and construct arguments. You will build upon the techniques you already know from Key Stage 3 so that you are able to produce knowledge rich, well developed and structured answers that will enable you to succeed. You will extend your knowledge by studying new areas of content and by revisiting and deepening your knowledge of content studied previously.

How will I be assessed?

There are three written examination papers for History – there are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--|---|
| Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment - Medicine in Britain, c.1250-present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches. | Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes 30% of the qualification 52 marks (16 for the historic environment, 36 for the thematic study, including 4 marks for SPaG) Section A: historic environment Students answer a question that assesses knowledge plus a two-part question based on two provided sources. Section B: thematic study Students answer three questions that assess their knowledge and understanding. The first two questions are compulsory. For the third question, students answer one from a choice of two. |
| Paper 2: Period study Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-91 | Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 40% of the qualification 64 marks (32 for the period study and 32 for the British depth study) Section A: Period study Students answer three questions that assess their knowledge and understanding. The first two questions are compulsory. For the third question, students select two out of three parts. |
| Paper 2: British depth study - Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060-88 | Section B: British depth study Students answer a single three-part question that assesses their knowledge and understanding. The first two parts are compulsory. For the third part, students select one from a choice of two. |
| Paper 3: Modern depth study - The USA, 1954–75: | Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes 30% of the qualification 52 marks (16 marks for section A and 36 marks for section B, including 4 marks for SPaG) Section A |

Course Information

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|------------------------------|---|
| conflict at home and abroad. | Students answer a question based on a provided source and a question that assesses their knowledge and understanding. Section B Students answer a single four-part question, based on two provided sources and two provided interpretations. |
|------------------------------|---|

What could I do next with GCSE History?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses. There are a wide variety of jobs that a qualification in History will support, such as Law; media roles: writers, journalists, documentary film-makers, creative historians; management; marketing; armed forces; police and teaching. It is a highly respected and valued qualification by employers and higher education providers because of its academic nature, rigour and the quality of skills the course provides to those who study it.

Course Information

OCR Cambridge Nationals: IT

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| OCR | 2 years |

What is OCR IT all about?

Cambridge National in IT will help students to develop and understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of IT, including the use of IT in the digital world and Internet of Everything. It will allow students to develop learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations and develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the IT sector and more widely.

Course Structure

This qualification will enable you to learn about the different design tools that can be used, the principles of human computer interfaces and the use of data and testing when creating IT solutions or products. You will also understand the uses of Internet of Everything and the application of this in everyday life. You will develop the skills to plan and design a spreadsheet solution to meet a client's requirements. Finally, you will develop the knowledge and skills relating to the purpose, use and types of Augmented Reality (AR) in different contexts and how it is used on different digital devices.

How will I be assessed?

There are three units in total, two are coursework, and one unit is an exam - there are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from L1 Pass to L2 Distinction*.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--|---|
| IT in the digital world | This is assessed by taking an exam and is worth 40% of the qualification. In this unit you will learn about design and testing concepts for creating an IT solution or product, and the uses of IT in the digital world. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human Computer Interface (HCI) in everyday life• Data and testing• Cyber-security and legislation |
| Data manipulation using Spreadsheets | This is assessed by completing a set assignment which is worth 30% of the qualification. In this unit you will learn how to plan, design, create, test and evaluate a data manipulation spreadsheet solution to meet client's requirements. You will be able to evaluate your solution based on the user requirements. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning and designing the spreadsheet solution |
| Using Augmented Reality to present information | This is assessed by completing a set assignment which is worth 30% of the qualification. In this unit you will learn how to design, create, test and review an Augmented Reality model prototype to meet a client's requirements. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Augmented Reality (AR)• Designing an Augmented Reality (AR) model prototype• Creating an Augmented Reality (AR) model prototype• Testing and reviewing |

What could I do next with OCR IT?

This Cambridge National in IT will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses. In South Cheshire College in Crewe, they offer a range of academic, technical and applied post-16 study including A-Level Computer Science, Level 3 Technical and Applied General Qualifications, such as the Cambridge Technical in Information Technology, Cambridge Technical in Digital Media, T-Level in Digital Production, Design and Development, Digital Support Services, Digital Business Services and other Level 2 qualifications, such as the Cambridge Technical in Information Technology, Cambridge Technical in Digital Media that this course will prepare you for.

Course Information

GCSE Mathematics

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Exam Board | Course Length |
| Edexcel | 2 Years |

What is Mathematics all about?

GCSE Mathematics will enable students to develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts. Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems. Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions. And comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

Course Structure

The course is made up of a final exam at the end of the 2 years of three papers.

How will I be assessed?

| Paper | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--------------|---|
| Paper 1 | Non-Calculator Paper – 1hr 30mins This exam covers all of the topics taught throughout the course, with the exception of topics which require the use of a calculator to complete. |
| Paper 2 | Calculator Paper – 1hr 30mins This exam covers all of the topics taught throughout the course. |
| Paper 3 | Calculator Paper – 1hr 30mins This exam covers all of the topics taught throughout the course. |

What could I do next with GCSE Mathematics?

Being one of the core subjects, obtaining a GCSE in Mathematics opens the doorway for a variety of different courses, and can be the limiting factor for some students to study the level of course which is best for them. With a high grade in GCSE Mathematics, students can go on to study A-Levels in Mathematics, and also in a range of scientific courses, such as A-Level Physics, Biology and Chemistry. It also opens the way for future careers, as most employers are looking for a good grade in GCSE Mathematics as a criteria for application.

Course Information

GCSE Media Studies

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| Eduqas | 2 Years |

What is GCSE Media Studies all about?

GCSE Media Studies is relevant to students lives and for the opportunities it provides for exploring contemporary issues through the use of different media in creative and practical ways.

Course Structure

GCSE Media Studies engages students in the in-depth study of media products in relation to the four areas of the theoretical framework: media language, media representation, media industries & media audiences.

How will I be assessed?

There are two written examinations for Media Studies - there are no tiers of entry for this subject. There is also a Non-exam assessment (NEA). At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|---------------------------|--|
| Media One | <p>Section A will focus on Media Language and Media Representations. Questions in this section can test any two of the following forms: magazines advertising and marketing newspapers online, social and participatory media and video games.</p> <p>Section B will focus on Media Industries and Media Audiences. Questions in this section can test any two of the following forms: radio music video newspapers online, social and participatory media and video games film (industries only).</p> |
| Media Two | <p>Section A will be based on a screening from an extract of one of the television Close Study Products and can test any area of the theoretical framework.</p> <p>Section B will be based on either newspapers or online, social and participatory media and video games and can test any area of the framework.</p> |
| Non-exam assessment (NEA) | <p>Application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework. Ability to create media products. Choice of one of five briefs set annually by exam board.</p> |

What could I do next with GCSE Media Studies?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses.

Course Information

GCSE Music

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Exam Board | Course Length |
| OCR | 2 Years |

What is GCSE Music all about?

GCSE Music will develop your performing skills through learning an instrument of your choice; composing skills by following a set brief as well as developing your own solo piece and analytical and application skills when listening to music from different areas of study. You will listen to a range of extracts covering a variety of themes, periods and genres.

Course Structure

Performance: You will learn a 2-minute solo performance on your chosen instrument as well as participate in a 2 minute ensemble piece with your peers. You will experience private and group tuition to develop and improve your skills in preparation for your final recorded examination.

Composition: You will create and develop musical pieces of your own based on a series of briefs and your own inspired creativity. This aspect of the course will be created on a technical music platform that you can access from home.

How will I be assessed?

Compositions and performances will be completed and submitted by May of the second year of the course and will involve supplementary coursework. In the summer of the second year of the course you will sit a 1hr and 30minute written assessment on designed to test your knowledge of four different areas of study including: Concerto through time, Rhythms of the world, Film music and Conventions of pop. Each question on the written examination will revolve around an unheard song and questions ranging from multiple choice to essay style. These questions enable you to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--|--|
| Integrated Portfolio (60 Marks) 30% Non – exam assessment | Students develop their understanding of performance and composition through exploration of their own instrument within styles and genres of their choosing. They demonstrate their playing skills and abilities by practising and performing a piece musically, accurately and with appropriate interpretation. In the composition element of this component, they demonstrate knowledge of composition techniques, use of musical elements and resources, including specific instrumental and technology techniques. |
| Practical Component (60 Marks) 30% Non -exam assessment | Students develop their skills and understanding of performance and composition. The focus of the performance aspect of this component is on the demands of performing with an ensemble. Students are also required to compose a piece of music appropriate for one of the areas of study in response to a set brief. |
| Listening and Appraising (80 Marks) 40% Exam assessment | This component focuses on areas of study 2, 3, 4, and 5. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language. |

What could I do next with GCSE Music?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of performance sixth form or college courses. A qualification in Music will allow you to learn an abundance of transferable skills, but also open doors into the industry. If you feel a career in Music is not for you do not worry; GCSE Music allows you to develop your creativity, problem solving, confidence and team work skills – all of which are desirable to almost any career path.

Course Information

GCSE Photography

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 Years |

What is GCSE Photography all about?

GCSE Photography will develop your skills and understanding of the concepts of professional photography. You will journey through studying photographers, planning photoshoots, experimenting with the camera and editing your own photographs. This process will provide you with the skill set to be able to capture your own photographs to create a personal response. You will study the core concepts of a digital camera and the impact and the importance of elements such as lighting, viewpoint, lens and shutter speed.

During the course we study the Fundamentals of Photography, Miniatures, Mobile Photography, Food and Shape and Space. During Year 11 you will also engage with the externally set task from the exam board. Over the 2 year course you will explore a range of photographic methods, photograph both in school and in the wider community to give yourself a broad portfolio of work. You will further your understanding of photography by utilising image editing software such as Photoshop to take your images to the next level of creativity.

Course Structure

The course consists of 60% Coursework and 40% Externally set task.

The Fundamentals of Photography, Miniatures, Mobile Photography, Food and Shape and Space will make up the coursework component of the course and is teacher led. In the January of Year 11 the pupils will receive an exam paper from AQA where they can choose their preferred topic to focus on. This will be a more independently led project.

Within each project pupils will complete the journey through all 4 assessment objectives:

- AO1 Artist Research, AO2 Experimentation, AO3 Design Development, AO4 Personal Response/Final Outcome

Year 10 is all coursework and focuses on learning and refining the fundamental skills within photography through a range of subject matters. Towards the end of Year 10 you will complete a Mock Exam.

Year 11 is based on coursework for the first term and focuses on practising more independence in your experimentation and development of a project. In the second term of Year 11 you will make an informed choice based on the externally set task and will lead your own project.

How will I be assessed?

There are no external exams for this course. Your final grade will be made up of 60% coursework and 40% externally set task. In Year 10 you will sit a 5-hour Mock Exam and in Year 11 you will sit a 10 hour Final Exam based on the externally set task. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|---|--|
| Component 1: Portfolio 60% | A portfolio of work will be created based on a subject, theme or brief provided to you. This will allow you to evidence your journey and progress of developing your skills. The portfolio will showcase your initial ideas thoughts and creations and show your journey as your increase and further develop your skills within this subject area of photography. This portfolio will also show your trials and experiments with different setting, image editing skills etc. This is the perfect opportunity to show your own creativity and love for the world of photography |
| Component 2: Externally set assignment 40% | 40% of the course is the exam project which is given out in January in Year 11 with 75% of the marks for this given to prep work and 25% given to the final piece which is created in 10 hours of supervised time over 2 days in April/May. |

What could I do next with GCSE Photography?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses. This course provides a strong foundation for further study at AS and A-level as well as vocational pathways. To support this progression, the assessment objectives, structure and titles are very similar to those detailed in the AS and A-level Art and Design specification.

Course Information

AQA Polish: Higher tier (Grades 4-9)

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---|
| AQA | Varied and personalised to student's needs. |

What is the Polish exam all about?

This exam allows our Polish community to gain an additional qualification in their home language. It is an opportunity to show employers the wider language and skill set that being bilingual can offer.

Course Structure

The subject content is organised into three broad themes: Identity and culture; local, national, international and global areas of interest and current and future study and employment. This provides context for the acquisition of vocabulary and the study of grammar and structures. The students will be required to demonstrate their understanding, provide information and opinions about these themes within their speaking, listening, reading and writing tasks.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be expected to read and understand a variety of written and spoken text on familiar topics. They will also be required to demonstrate an understanding of the main ideas, opinions and attitudes, as well as select and extract relevant details and decide the meaning of occasional unknown words from context.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|--|---|
| Paper 1: Listening Approx 45mins 50 marks 25% of grade | Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language. Students will listen to a recording and answer questions in response. Section A- questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally Section B- questions in Polish to be answered in Polish or non-verbally. |
| Paper 2: Reading 1 hour 60 marks 25% of grade | Understanding and responding to different types of written language. Section A – questions in English to be answered in English or non-verbally Section B- questions in Polish, to be answered in Polish or non-verbally Section C- translation from Polish to English (a minimum of 50 words) |
| Paper 3: Speaking Approx 10 –12 mins 60 marks 25% of grade | Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes. Role-play- 15 marks (2 minutes) Photo card – 15 marks (3 minutes) General conversation on a familiar topic but unknown until preparation time- 30 marks (5-7 minutes) |
| Paper 4: Writing 1 hour and 15 minutes 60 marks 25% of grade | Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes. Question 1- structured writing task (student responds to four compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total)- there is a choice of two questions (16 marks) Question 2- open-ended writing task (student responds to two compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total)- there is a choice from two questions – 32 marks Questions 3- translation from English into Polish (minimum 50 words) - 12 marks. |

What could I do next with AQA Polish?

This Polish GCSE will widen your employment choices such as translations, international companies, working abroad and working multi-agency businesses. It will also strengthen your employability status as business will value your bilingual abilities.

Course Information

GCSE Religious Studies

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 Years |

What is GCSE Religious Studies all about?

GCSE Religious Studies allows you to gain an in-depth knowledge of the two biggest religions, and then use this knowledge to delve into some of the biggest ethical dilemmas we face in today's world. Is it ever okay to experiment on animals? Is there such a thing as a justifiable war? Should we bring back the death penalty?

Course Structure

You will study two of the world's major religions, Christianity and Islam. Within this, you will explore how the specific teachings of these religions impact society today, as we understand why religious people believe & behave in the ways that they do. You will then move on to study four philosophical and ethical themes, exploring some of the deepest dilemmas we face in modern society.

How will I be assessed?

There are two written examinations for Religious Studies - there are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the course, candidates will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9. Each section of the paper has the same format.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|---|---|
| Paper 1- The Study of Religions: Beliefs, Teachings & practices | A 1 hour 45 min exam worth 102 marks and 50% of the GCSE: Section 1 – Christian Beliefs (24 marks + 3 SPaG) Section 2 – Christian Practices (24 marks) Section 3 – Islamic Beliefs (24 marks + 3 SPaG) Section 4 – Islamic Practices (24 marks) |
| Paper 2- Thematic Studies | A 1 hour 45 min exam worth 99 marks and 50% of the GCSE: Theme A – Relationships & Families (24 marks) Theme B – Religion & Life (24 marks) Theme D – Religion, Peace & Conflict (24 marks) Theme E – Religion, Crime & Punishment (24 marks) |
| Question Styles | Each section of Paper 1 & Paper 2 follows the same format. |

What could I do next with GCSE Religious Studies?

A GCSE in Religious Studies is a stepping-stone to future opportunities, as the skills you develop will support you in further studies and employment. As you enter the world of work, you will work alongside people with different beliefs than your own. Religious Studies will teach the skills and understanding needed to work with people of various faiths and cultures. These skills are vitally important in many careers- especially in professions such as the police, teaching, the law, criminology, forensics, the caring professions and in the armed forces- in fact in any profession that brings you into contact with people.

Course Information

Core Religious Education

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Exam Board | Course Length |
| AQA Unit Award Scheme | 2 Years |

What is Core Religious Education all about?

Core Religious Education is a statutory requirement in all schools, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum developing students ready for life in modern Britain. You will apply your prior knowledge from KS3 to some of the biggest ethical dilemmas we face in today's world.

Course Structure

As students are legally required to study Religious Education, we aim to ensure students remain engaged with their learning and receive credit for the time and effort they spend studying the subject. As such, we will help students to receive Unit Award Scheme certificates for their studies, where their class work is used as evidence.

How will I be assessed?

There are no examinations for the Unit Award Scheme Qualifications, as your class work will be used as evidence.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Prejudice & Discrimination | In this unit you will study the historical persecution of Jews, using schemes of learning approved by the Holocaust Educational Trust. |
| Religious Expression | In this unit you will study topics including religious dress, religious acts & cultural appropriation. |
| Is there ever a just war? | In this unit you will study religious views on war, including the use of weapons of mass destruction & terrorism. |
| How important is marriage? | In this unit you will study different types of relationships, including marriage & divorce, as well as learning around religious issues such as the use of contraception. |
| What are the rights of animals? | In this unit you will study the rights of animals, including the use of animals for food, animal hunting & animal experimentation. |
| How should criminals be treated? | In this unit you will study topics including the reasons for crime, various types of punishment and religious views on the use of the death penalty. |
| Matters of Life & Death | In this unit you will study one of the world's most contentious issues, abortion, as well as organ transplants, saviour siblings & euthanasia. |

What could I do next with Core Religious Education?

Qualifications & knowledge around Religious Education provide a stepping-stone to future opportunities, as the skills you develop will support you in further studies and employment. As you enter the world of work, you will work alongside people with different beliefs than your own. Religious Studies will teach the skills and understanding needed to work with people of various faiths and cultures. These skills are vitally important in many careers- especially in professions such as the police, teaching, the law, criminology, forensics, the caring professions and in the armed forces- in fact in any profession that brings you into contact with people.

Course Information

GCSE Science (Combined /Trilogy)

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 Years |

What is Science all about?

Combined science explores the wonders of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. During the course of study you will develop skills to work scientifically, work independently, and gain knowledge on the concepts that underpin the understanding of the world.

Course Structure

The course offers an extensive coverage of modern and traditional science topics. Pupils are required to complete a large number of 'required' practical's throughout the course as well as studying the role of science in society and how science works.

How will I be assessed?

Combined Science is assessed by 100% examinations, these are split into 6. You will have Biology Paper 1 and 2, Chemistry Paper 1 and 2, and Physics Paper 1 and 2 exams. Each exam lasts for 1 hour and 15 minutes, with a maximum of 70 marks per paper. The total marks on each paper will scored out of 420 (total marks) and then you are awarded with 2 grades equivalent to 2 GCSE's. In Science there are 2 tiers (Higher and Foundation).

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|------------|--|
| Biology | 2 written exams each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes with a maximum mark of 70 each. Biology Paper 1: Topics assessed are cell biology, organisation, infection and response and bioenergetics. Biology Paper 2: Topics assessed are Homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology. |
| Chemistry | 2 written exams each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes with a maximum mark of 70 each. Chemistry Paper 1: Topics assessed are atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure and the properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes and energy changes. Chemistry Paper 2: Topics assessed are the rate and extent of a chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources. |
| Physics | 2 written exams each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes with a maximum mark of 70 each. Physics Paper 1: Topics assessed are energy, electricity, particle model of matter, atomic structure. Physics Paper 2: Topics assessed are forces, waves, magnetism and electromagnetism. |

What could I do next with Science?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses.

Course Information

GCSE Science (Triple: Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|------------|---------------|
| AQA | 2 Years |

What is Science all about?

Triple science explores the wonders of Biology, Chemistry and Physics deeper. During the course of study, you will develop skills to work scientifically, work independently, and gain knowledge on the concepts that underpin the understanding of the world.

Course Structure

The course offers an extensive coverage of modern and traditional science topics. Pupils are required to complete a large number of 'required' practical's throughout the course as well as studying the role of science in society and how science works. Note carefully that triple science contains extra topics to combined science trilogy and that these are seen as the bridge between GCSE and A' Level.

How will I be assessed?

Triple Science is assessed by 100% examinations, these are split into 6. You will have Biology Paper 1 and 2, Chemistry Paper 1 and 2, and Physics Paper 1 and 2 exams. Each exam lasts for 1 hour and 45 minutes, with a maximum of 100 marks per paper. Each student will be awarded with a GCSE in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. In Science there are 2 tiers (Higher and Foundation).

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|------------|--|
| Biology | 2 written exams each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes with a maximum mark of 70 each. Biology Paper 1: Topics assessed are cell biology, organisation, infection and response and bioenergetics. Biology Paper 2: Topics assessed are Homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology. |
| Chemistry | 2 written exams each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes with a maximum mark of 70 each. Chemistry Paper 1: Topics assessed are atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure and the properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes and energy changes. Chemistry Paper 2: Topics assessed are the rate and extent of a chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources. |
| Physics | 2 written exams each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes with a maximum mark of 70 each. Physics Paper 1: Topics assessed are energy, electricity, particle model of matter, atomic structure. Physics Paper 2: Topics assessed are forces, waves, magnetism and electromagnetism, space. |

What could I do next with Triple Science?

This qualification is suitable for pupils wishing to pursue specific further qualifications in science such as A' Level. Pupils who wish to study Biology, Physics or Chemistry at A-Level and pursue a career in a scientific field should opt for triple science. However, pupils who wish to study scientific qualifications such as BTEC's are able to opt for this qualification.

Course Information

OCR Cambridge Nationals: Sport Studies

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|-------------------|---------------|
| OCR Sport Studies | 2 Years |

What is OCR Sport Studies all about?

OCR Sport Studies will encourage students to think for themselves about the study of sport and the application to real life practical sport, leadership and evaluation of the skills required there. They will study up to the minute topics affecting sport through the contemporary issues unit, both play and lead sporting activities, as well as having the chance to explore the world of sport and the media.

Course Structure

You will study a range of units based on different topics and themes to develop your knowledge about sport. This is a qualification where you will use your learning in practical, real-life situations, such as understanding contemporary issues in sport and how they impact on different sporting activities. You will also be learning how to apply your skills as both a performer in two different sporting activities and as a leader in one sporting activity. Secondly, this will help you to understand the relationship between sport and the media and applying this to real life examples.

How will I be assessed?

There are three units in total, two of which are coursework and one unit which is an exam - there are no tiers of entry for this subject. At the end of the two-year course, candidates will be awarded a grade from L1 Pass to L2 Distinction*.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|---|--|
| Contemporary issues in sport | A 1 hour 15 min exam worth 80 marks and 40% of the GCSE: Topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issues which affect participation in sport• The implications of hosting a major sporting event for a city or country• The role National Governing Bodies (NGBs) play in the development of their sport |
| Performance and leadership in sports activities | A unit of coursework worth 60 marks and 30% of the GCSE: Topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applying practice methods to support improvement in a sporting activity• Organising and planning a sports activity session• Leading a sports activity session |
| Sport and the media | A unit of coursework worth 40 marks and 30% of the GCSE: Topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The different sources of media that cover sport• Positive effects of the media in sport• Negative effects of the media in sport |

What could I do next with OCR Sport Studies?

This GCSE will open the door to a wide variety of sixth form or college courses. At Cheshire College, they offer Sports coaching and development, that this course will prepare you for.

Course Information

Access Pathway Only: Cambridge International IGCSE English as an additional language

| Exam Board | Course Length |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Cambridge International | 2 Years |

What is the Cambridge International IGCSE all about?

This IGCSE course is for students whose first language is not English. This course is aimed for students with an English proficiency of A1-B1. It develops a set of transferable skills for understanding and communicating in everyday situations in English. Learners begin to develop cultural awareness of countries and communities where English is spoken. They acquire the essential linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment.

Course Structure

The subject content is organised into five broad topic areas: everyday activities, personal and social life, the world around us, the world of work, the international world. This provides context for the acquisition of vocabulary and the study of grammar and structures. The lessons will allow students to enhance their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills by meeting the required assessment objectives.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be expected to read and understand a variety of written and spoken text on familiar topics. They will also be required to demonstrate an understanding of the main ideas, opinions and attitudes, as well as select and extract relevant details and decide the meaning of occasional unknown words from context.

| Unit Title | Description / Method of Assessment |
|---|---|
| Paper 1: Listening Approx 50 mins 40 marks 25% of grade | Students listen to a number of recordings and answer multiple-choice and matching questions. |
| Paper 2: Reading 1 hour 45 marks 25% of grade | Students read a number of texts and answer multiple-choice and matching questions as well as questions requiring short answers. |
| Paper 3: Speaking Approx 10 mins 40 marks 25% of grade | Students complete one role play and conversations on two topics |
| Paper 4: Writing 1 hour 45 marks 25% of grade | Students complete a form-filling task, one directed writing task and one task in the form of an email/letter or article/blog. |

What could I do next with Cambridge International IGCSE English as an additional language?

Cambridge IGCSE's are accepted and valued in leading universities and employers around the world as evidence of academic achievement. This IGCSE will be completed alongside their GCSE in English.