



Year 9

Curriculum

Information

February 2022



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Introduction

Dear Pupils and Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This booklet provides details of core and optional subjects offered in our curriculum at Key Stage 4. It is designed to give you the information you need to make informed decisions about the different courses that are available to you. It would be helpful if you could read through the booklet and discuss the options with your parent(s)/carer(s).

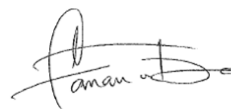
It is essential that you take time to read this booklet carefully. You also need to talk to people who can give you guidance and advice on what subjects will be best for you. This will include your parent(s)/carer(s), older siblings, subject teachers and your form tutor.

There is an Options evening scheduled for **Thursday 17th February 2022**, where you will have a chance to meet all the teachers and be able to ask any questions that you may have about our subjects. Every pupil in Year 9 will be receiving a personalised Key Stage 4 Options Form that you need to complete and return to your form tutor by **Friday 4th March 2022**.

Please note the information is correct as of February 2022, however some aspects may be subject to change at a national level.



Mrs Notta
Executive Principal



Mr Mirza
Vice Principal

What action should I take now?

Students are offered two kinds of qualifications at GCSE level, both of which are of the same value as qualifications and viewed the same by further education providers and employers:

GCSEs

These qualifications are graded 9 to 1, with 9 being the highest grade. These are academic qualifications assessed almost exclusively through examinations at the end of the course. A good pass at GCSE is regarded as a grade from grade 5 to 9.

Vocational

These qualifications are graded *Distinction** to *Pass*. They are vocational qualifications that focus specifically on the skills required by particular employment areas such as the food industry or business. They are assessed through a combination of examinations and coursework at set points during the course and units completed at school.

When making your decision you must consider:

- Your interests
- Subjects you are good at
- Types of assessment/examinations
- Subjects that will help you in the future

STUDY this booklet carefully.

THINK about the questions mentioned earlier.

SHOW your parents/carers this document and **DISCUSS** the choices with them.

CONSULT as appropriate:

- your subject teachers
- your form tutors
- the Vice Principal (Mr Mirza)
- people who are taking, or have taken, courses you are interested in
- people who have experience in the kinds of job which interest you
- the Careers Service

DECIDE for yourself!

Think about the subjects you are taking currently:

- What do you enjoy about them?
- Where are your strengths and weaknesses?
- What do you think you are good at?

GCSE English Language

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Study a wide range of writing, both fiction and non-fiction.
- Develop analytical and evaluative skills based on the texts studied.
- Write for different audiences, with differing purposes in a variety of forms; this includes imaginative and creative responses.
- Focus on speaking and listening activities involving discussion and presentation.

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

Two examinations:

Paper 1 – Creative Explorations in Reading & Writing – 50%

Paper 2 – Writers Viewpoints and Perspectives – 50%

Spoken Language Assessment – Speaking and Listening

Students will study the following areas:

- 19th Century Fiction - Reading
- Creative Writing
- 19th, 20th and 21st Century Non-Fiction - Reading
- Non-Fiction Writing

Skills Acquired:

- The ability to read a wide range of texts fluently and with good understanding.
- To read critically and make inferences based on explicit and implicit meanings.
- To read critically and use knowledge gained from reading to inform and improve their own writing.
- To use Standard English appropriately.
- To use grammar, punctuation and vocabulary appropriately and correctly
- To speak and listen with understanding.

GCSE English Literature

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Study a variety of books, plays and poetry from different periods and contexts.
- Learn about characters, themes, ideas and writers' perspectives.
- Draw conclusions and evaluate material based on critical study.
- Make salient judgements and recognise views from different perspectives and points of view.

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

Two examinations:

Paper 1 – Shakespeare and 19th Century Novel – 40%

Paper 2 – Modern Prose, Power & Conflict Poetry Anthology, Unseen Poetry – 60%

Students will study all of the following areas:

- Shakespeare - Macbeth
- 19th Century Novel – A Christmas Carol
- Modern Prose – An Inspector Calls
- Power & Conflict Anthology Poetry
- Unseen Poetry

Skills Acquired:

- Critical reading and thinking
- Literal and inferential comprehension
- Evaluation of a writer's choice of vocabulary and grammar
- Developing skills in coherent writing for a specific purpose
- Using Accurate Standard English
- Understanding Context

GCSE Mathematics

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

You will build on what you already know and can do. The course follows the specification of the new 9-1 Maths GCSE. It emphasises sound understanding of concepts, fluency in procedural skill, competency to apply mathematical skills in a range of contexts and confidence in mathematical problem solving.

The Value of Mathematics (Career Pathways)

A new grade 5 (an old grade C/B) is considered the new good pass in Maths and may be the minimum requirement for many employers and college courses.

Awarding Body: Edexcel (HT) / OCR (FT)

Assessment Method:

Exams will be taken in the Summer of Year 11.

Non-Calculator Paper

33.3%

Written Exam

1 hour 30 minutes

Calculator Paper 1

33.3%

Written Exam

1 hour 30 minutes

Calculator Paper 2

33.3%

Written Exam

1 hour 30 minutes

Skills Acquired:

The Assessment objectives are as follows:

Apply standard techniques (40–50%)

Reasoning, interpreting and communicating mathematically (25–30%)

Solving non-routine problems in mathematical and non-mathematical contexts. (25–30%)

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to demonstrate and apply their knowledge and understanding and practical skills in the content below:

Biology

1. Cell biology; 2. Organisation; 3. Infection and response; 4. Bioenergetics; 5. Homeostasis and response; 6. Inheritance, variation and evolution; 7. Ecology

Chemistry

8. Atomic structure and the periodic table; 9. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; 10. Quantitative chemistry; 11. Chemical changes; 12. Energy changes; 13. The rate and extent of chemical change; 14. Organic chemistry; 15. Chemical analysis; 16. Chemistry of the atmosphere; 17. Using resources

Physics

18. Energy; 19. Electricity; 20. Particle model of matter; 21. Atomic structure; 22. Forces; 23. Waves; 24. Magnetism and electromagnetism

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

Students will sit their six written examinations at the end of the course.

Biology Paper 1: Topics 1–4, 1 hour and 15 minutes, 16.7% of the qualification, 70 marks.

Biology Paper 2: Topics 5–7, 1 hour and 15 minutes, 16.7% of the qualification, 70 marks.

Chemistry Paper 1: Chemistry topics 8–12, 1 hour and 15 minutes, 16.7% of the qualification, 70 marks.

Chemistry Paper 2: Chemistry topics 13–17, 1 hour and 15 minutes, 16.7% of the qualification, 70 marks.

Physics Paper 1: Physics topics 18–21, 1 hour and 15 minutes, 16.7% of the qualification, 70 marks.

Physics Paper 2: Physics topics 22–24, 1 hour and 15 minutes, 16.7% of the qualification, 70 marks.

Skills Acquired:

Working scientifically is the sum of the activities that scientists do and include:

- Development of scientific thinking
 - E.g. Understand how scientific methods and theories develop over time.
- Experimental skills and strategies
 - E.g. Use scientific theories and explanations to develop hypotheses.
- Analysis and evaluation
 - Presenting observations and other data using appropriate methods.
- Scientific vocabulary, quantities, units, symbols and nomenclature.
 - Recognise the importance of scientific quantities and understand how they are determined.

GCSE Biology

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to demonstrate and apply their knowledge and understanding and practical skills in the content below:

Biology

1. Cell Biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and response
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
7. Ecology

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

Students will sit their two examinations at the end of the course.

Biology Paper 1:

Topics 1–4: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and response and Bioenergetics.

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

50% of the qualification - 100 marks

Biology Paper 2:

Topics 5–7: Homeostasis and response, Inheritance, variation and evolution and Ecology.

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

50% of the qualification - 100 marks

Skills Acquired:

Working scientifically is the sum of the activities that scientists do and include:

- Development of scientific thinking
 - E.g. Understand how scientific methods and theories develop over time.
- Experimental skills and strategies
 - E.g. Use scientific theories and explanations to develop hypotheses.
- Analysis and evaluation
 - Presenting observations and other data using appropriate methods.
- Scientific vocabulary, quantities, units, symbols and nomenclature.
 - Recognise the importance of scientific quantities and understand how they are determined.

GCSE Chemistry

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to demonstrate and apply their knowledge and understanding and practical skills in the content below:

Chemistry

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry
4. Chemical changes
5. Energy changes
6. The rate and extent of chemical change
7. Organic chemistry
8. Chemical analysis
9. Chemistry of the atmosphere
10. Using resources

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

Students will sit their two examinations at the end of the course.

Chemistry Paper 1:

Chemistry topics 1 - 5: Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure, and the properties of matter, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical changes and Energy changes.

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

50% of the qualification - 100 marks

Chemistry Paper 2:

Chemistry topics 6 - 10: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere and Using resources.

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

50% of the qualification - 100 marks

Skills Acquired:

Working scientifically is the sum of the activities that scientists do and include:

- Development of scientific thinking
 - E.g. Understand how scientific methods and theories develop over time.
- Experimental skills and strategies
 - E.g. Use scientific theories and explanations to develop hypotheses.
- Analysis and evaluation
 - Presenting observations and other data using appropriate methods.
- Scientific vocabulary, quantities, units, symbols and nomenclature.
 - Recognise the importance of scientific quantities and understand how they are determined.

GCSE Physics

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to demonstrate and apply their knowledge and understanding and practical skills in the content below:

Physics

1. Energy
2. Electricity
3. Particle model of matter
4. Atomic structure
5. Forces
6. Waves
7. Magnetism and electromagnetism
8. Space Physics

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

Students will sit their two examinations at the end of the course.

Physics Paper 1:

Physics topics 1 - 4: Energy, Electricity, Particle model of matter and Atomic structure.

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

50% of the qualification - 100 marks

Physics Paper 2:

Physics topics 5 - 8: Forces, Waves, Magnetism and electromagnetism and Space Physics.

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

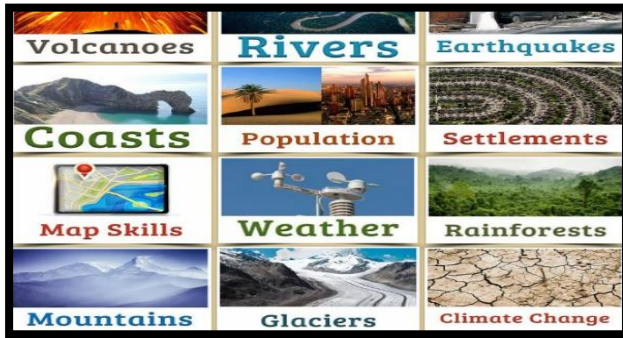
50% of the qualification - 100 marks

Skills Acquired:

Working scientifically is the sum of the activities that scientists do and include:

- Development of scientific thinking
 - E.g. Understand how scientific methods and theories develop over time.
- Experimental skills and strategies
 - E.g. Use scientific theories and explanations to develop hypotheses.
- Analysis and evaluation
 - Presenting observations and other data using appropriate methods.
- Scientific vocabulary, quantities, units, symbols and nomenclature.
 - Recognise the importance of scientific quantities and understand how they are determined.

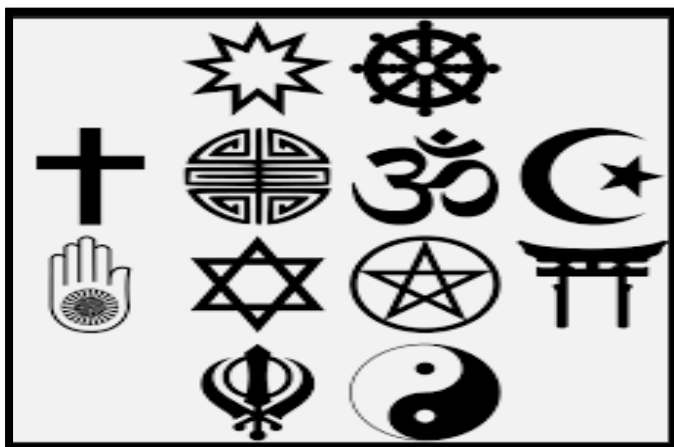
Humanities



Geography



History



Religious
Studies

GCSE Geography

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of locations, places, processes, environments and different scales. A01 15%
- Demonstrate geographical understanding of: concepts and how they are used in relation to places, environments and processes, the link between places, environments and processes. A02 25%
- Apply knowledge and understanding to interpret, analyse and evaluate geographical information and issues to make judgements. One day in the field studying the changing urban landscape of Birmingham. One day in the field studying river processes at Carding mill valley. A03 35%.
- Select, adapt and use a variety of skills and techniques to investigate questions and issues and communicate findings. A04 25%

Awarding Body: Edexcel

Assessment Method:

The Pearson Edexcel B GCSE (9–1) in Geography consists of three externally-examined papers.

Paper 1: Global Geographical Issues (Paper code: 1GBO/01). Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes 37.5% of the qualification. 94 marks.

Paper 2: UK Geographical issues (Paper code: 1GBO/02). Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes 37.5% of the qualification. 94 marks.

Paper 3: People and Environmental issues-Making Geographical Decisions (Paper code: 1GBO/03). Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes 25% of the qualification. 64 marks.

Skills Acquired:

- Use an enquiring, critical approach to make informed judgements.
- Develop and apply quantitative skills relevant to geography, including using and interpreting data. 10% of marks will be allocated to the assessment of mathematical and statistical techniques.
- Develop as effective independent learners, becoming critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds to enable students to progress to A level geography.

GCSE History

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- develop and extend their knowledge and understanding of specified key events, periods and societies in local, British, and wider world history; and of the wide diversity of human experience.
- engage in historical enquiry to develop as independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers.
- develop the ability to ask relevant questions about the past, to investigate issues critically and to make valid claims by using a range of sources in their historical context.
- develop an awareness of why people, events and developments have been accorded historical significance and how and why different interpretations have been constructed about them.

Organise and communicate their historical knowledge and understanding in different ways and reach substantiated conclusions.

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

The AQA GCSE (9–1) in History consists of two externally-examined papers.

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world.

(Paper code: 8145/1B) Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 84 marks

Paper 2: Shaping the nation

(Paper code: 8145/2B) Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 84 marks

Skills Acquired:

- Use an enquiring, critical approach to make informed judgements based on second order historical concepts including continuity, change, cause, consequence, significance, similarity and difference.
- Develop a critical familiarity with historical sources, their strengths and weaknesses.
- Develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.

GCSE Religious Studies

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of religions and non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism.
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of how religious beliefs, teachings relate to key issues such as relationships, conflict, law and order and life.
- Develop their ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments, demonstrating an understanding of differing views and values.
- Reflect on and develop their own values, ideas and attitudes.
- Reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in the light of what they have learnt and contribute to their preparation for adult life in a pluralistic society and global community.

Teaching methods: Extensive use is made of discussion, video and picture sources, examination practice, as well as traditional text books. Detailed revision materials are also provided.

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

The AQA GCSE (9–1) in Religious Studies (A) consists of two externally-examined papers.

Paper 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices (Paper code: 8062/1A).

Christian Beliefs and Practices; Sikh Beliefs and Practices. Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 96 marks plus 5 marks for SPaG.

Paper 2: Thematic studies (Paper code: 8062/2A).

Relationships and Families, Religion and Life; Religion, Peace and Conflict, Religion Crime and Punishment. Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 96 marks plus 5 marks for SPaG.

Skills Acquired:

- Use an enquiring, critical approach to make informed judgements.
- Develop a critical awareness of how religious and non-religious views of the world influence individuals, communities and societies.
- Develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.
- Develop an understanding of different points of view.
- Develop literacy and oracy skills.

Languages



French



Panjabi

GCSE French

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Develop their ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing.
- Express and develop thoughts and ideas spontaneously and fluently.
- Listen to and understand clearly articulated, standard speech at near normal speed
- Deepen their knowledge about how language works and enrich their vocabulary to increase their independent use.
- Acquire new knowledge, skills and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to authentic spoken and written material.
- Make appropriate links to other areas of the curriculum to enable bilingual and deeper learning,
- Develop language learning skills both for immediate use and prepare them for further language study.

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

The AQA GCSE (9–1) in French Studies consists of four externally-examined papers.

GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9).

Paper 1: Listening

25% weighting

Foundation Tier 40 marks- 35 minutes

Higher Tier 50 marks- 45 minutes

Paper 2: Speaking

25% weighting

Foundation Tier- 7–9 minutes

Higher Tier 60 marks--10–12 minutes

Paper 3: Reading

25% weighting

Foundation Tier 60 marks- 45 minutes

Higher Tier 60 marks-1 hour

Paper 4: Writing

25% weighting

Foundation Tier-50 marks-1 hour

Higher Tier 60 marks-1 hour15 minutes

Skills Acquired:

- Speak spontaneously, responding to unexpected questions, points of view or situations, sustaining communication by using rephrasing or repair strategies, as appropriate
- Acquire knowledge, skills and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to authentic spoken and written material.
- Develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.

GCSE Panjabi

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Develop their ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing.
- Express and develop thoughts and ideas spontaneously and fluently.
- Listen to and understand clearly articulated, standard speech at near normal speed
- Deepen their knowledge about how language works and enrich their vocabulary to increase their independent use.
- Acquire new knowledge, skills and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to authentic spoken and written material.
- Make appropriate links to other areas of the curriculum to enable bilingual and deeper learning,
- Develop language learning skills both for immediate use and prepare them for further language study.

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

Panjabi Studies consists of four externally-examined papers.

Paper 1: Listening

25% weighting

Foundation Tier 40 marks- 35 minutes

Higher Tier 50 marks- 45 minutes

Paper 2: Speaking

25% weighting

Foundation Tier- 7–9 minutes

Higher Tier 60 marks--10–12 minutes

Paper 3: Reading

25% weighting

Foundation Tier 60 marks- 45 minutes

Higher Tier 60 marks-1 hour

Paper 4: Writing

25% weighting

Foundation Tier-50 marks-1 hour

Higher Tier 60 marks-1 hour15 minutes

Skills Acquired:

- Speak spontaneously, responding to unexpected questions, points of view or situations, sustaining communication by using rephrasing or repair strategies, as appropriate
- Acquire knowledge, skills and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to authentic spoken and written material.
- Develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.

Other Options



GCSE Art

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

Students are required to develop knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to their chosen title through integrated practical, critical and contextual study.

Students may work in any medium or combination of media. They can work entirely in digital media or entirely non-digital media, or in a mixture of both.

Students must learn through practical experience and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of sources that inform their creative intentions. Intentions should be realised through purposeful engagement with visual language, visual concepts, media, materials and the application of appropriate techniques and working methods.

Students must develop and apply relevant subject-specific skills in order to use visual language to communicate personal ideas, meanings and responses. Students must, over time, reflect critically upon their creative journey and its effectiveness in relation to the realisation of personal intentions.

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

Component 1: Portfolio

A portfolio that in total shows explicit coverage of the four assessment objectives.

How it is assessed

- No time limits
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

Component 2: Externally set assignment

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

How it's assessed • Preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time • 96 marks • 40% of GCSE

Skills Acquired:

- Art based study can be defined as practice that involves the development of personal work and lines of enquiry determined by the need to explore an idea, convey an experience or respond to a theme or issue.
- Craft based study can be defined as practice that involves making activities that draw upon knowledge of tools, materials and processes, and associated intellectual, creative and practical skills.
- Design based study can be defined as practice that involves developing a response to a specific need, brief or starting point, taking account of established requirements, constraints and/or parameters.

GCSE Business Studies

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Know and understand business concepts, business terminology, business objectives, the integrated nature of business activity and the impact of business on individuals and wider society
- Apply knowledge and understanding to contemporary business issues and to different types and sizes of businesses in local, national and global contexts
- Develop as enterprising individuals with the ability to think commercially and creatively to demonstrate business acumen, and draw on evidence to make informed business decisions and solve business problems
- Investigate and analyse real business opportunities and issues to construct well-argued, well-evidenced, balanced and structured arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of business.

Awarding Body: Edexcel

Assessment Method:

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Business consists of two externally-examined papers.

Paper 1: Investigating small business

(Paper code: 1BS0/01) Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes 50% of the qualification 90 marks

Paper 2: Building a business (Paper code: 1BS0/02) Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes 50% of the qualification 90 marks

Skills Acquired:

- Valuable thinking and programming skills that are extremely attractive in the modern workplace
- A deep understanding of computational thinking and how to apply it through a chosen programming language
- Use an enquiring, critical approach to make informed judgements
- Develop and apply quantitative skills relevant to business, including using and interpreting data
- Develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds

GCSE Computer Science

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

Computer Systems; Component 1

Study how processors work, investigate computer memory and storage, explore modern network layouts and how they function, build skills in the ever-important realm of cyber security, investigate how types of software are used within computer systems, stretch wider comprehension of how computers and computing affect ethical, legal, cultural and environmental issues.

Computational thinking, algorithms, and programming; Component 2

Study fundamental algorithms in computer science, build a firm foundation in programming techniques, produce programs through diagrams, thoroughly test programs and make them resistant to misuse, explore Boolean algebra (AND, OR, NOT), understand how we store data within computers in binary form.

Awarding Body: OCR

Assessment Method:

The GCSE (9–1) in Computer Science consists of two externally-examined papers.

Paper 1: Computer Systems (01):

1 hour and 30 minutes
Written paper (no calculators allowed)
80 marks (50%)

Paper 2: Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming (02):

1 hour and 30 minutes
Written paper (no calculators allowed)
80 marks (50%)

Skills Acquired:

- Valuable thinking and programming skills that are extremely attractive in the modern workplace
- A deep understanding of computational thinking and how to apply it through a chosen programming language.

Cambridge National Creative iMedia

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

Equip learners with a range of creative media skills and provide opportunities to develop, in context, desirable, transferable skills such as research, planning, and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively. Through the use of these skills, learners will ultimately be creating fit-for-purpose creative media products.

The Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia will also challenge all learners, including high attaining learners, by introducing them to demanding material and techniques; encouraging independence and creativity and providing tasks that engage with the most taxing aspects of the National Curriculum.

The 'hands on' approach that will be required for both teaching and learning has strong relevance to the way young people use the technology required in creative media.

Awarding Body: OCR

Assessment Method:

There are two mandatory units:

- **Creative iMedia in the media industry**
(Exam - 40%)
- **Visual identity and digital graphics** (Coursework - 25%)

And one optional unit:

- **Interactive digital media**
(Coursework - 35%).
- Grades are based on assessment across all three units.
- Students will be awarded a grade from Pass at Level 1 through to Distinction* at level 2.

Skills Acquired:

- To be able to plan for professional products.
- Be able to use a variety of software e.g. Photoshop and Audacity.
- Understanding a file type.
- Be able to evaluate products.

GCSE Design Technology

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to understand:

- New and emerging technologies
- Energy generation and storage
- Developments in new materials
- Systems approach to designing
- Mechanical devices
- Materials and their working properties.

This GCSE Design and Technology specification sets out the knowledge, understanding and skills required to undertake the iterative design process of exploring, creating and evaluating

Students must also demonstrate mathematical and scientific knowledge and understanding, in relation to design and technology.

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

Written exam: 2 hours

100 marks
50% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment (NEA):

30–35 hours approximately
100 marks
50% of GCSE

Assessment criteria:

- Identifying and investigating design possibilities
- Producing a design brief and specification
- Generating design ideas
- Developing design ideas
- Realising design ideas
- Analysing & evaluating

Skills Acquired:

- Understanding Manufacturing Processes
- Effective Product Analysis
- Developing Imaginative and creative ideas
- Project Management
- Computer Aided Design

GCSE Drama

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

Component 1: Understanding drama

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of one set play from a choice of six
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

Component 2: Devising drama (practical)

- Process of creating devised drama
- Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer or designer)
- Analysis and evaluation of own work

Component 3: Texts in practice (practical)

- Performance of two extracts from one play

Awarding Body: AQA

Assessment Method:

How it's assessed

Component 1:

- Written exam: 105 minutes
- Open book
- 80 marks
- 40% of GCSE

Component 2:

- Devising log (60 marks)
- Devised performance (20 marks)
- 40% of GCSE

Component 3:

- 40 marks in total
- 20% of GCSE

Skills Acquired:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- apply knowledge and understanding when making, performing and responding to drama
- explore performance texts; their social, cultural and historical context
- develop a range of theatrical skills and apply them to create performance
- contribute as an individual to a theatrical performance
- develop an awareness and understanding of the roles and processes undertaken in contemporary professional theatre practice

Knowledge and Understanding

- Students must develop knowledge and understanding of the following:
- Characteristics of performance text(s) and dramatic work(s)
- Social, cultural and historical contexts
- How meaning is interpreted and communicated
- The roles and responsibilities of theatre makers in contemporary professional practice

What does a GCSE drama qualification tell an employer / college about me?

Having a drama qualification on your CV helps you stand out, setting you apart from others as an excellent communicator, team player who can show leadership and creative skills. Skills that are highly desirable and much needed in the workplace.

BTEC Enterprise

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- development of key skills that prove aptitude in planning and carrying out an enterprise activity, including market research, planning, carrying out financial transactions, communication and problem solving
- knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, such as the features and characteristics of enterprises and entrepreneurs, and the internal and external factors that can affect the performance of an enterprise
- attitudes and ways of working that are considered most important for enterprise, including communicating and interacting with customers, monitoring and reflecting on performance of enterprise and own use of skills.

Awarding Body: Edexcel

Assessment Method:

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award (L1 Pass – L2 Distinction*) in Enterprise consists of two internal and one external & synoptic assessment.

Component 1: Exploring Enterprises

Written internal assessment report (36 GLH)

Component 2: Planning for and Running an Enterprise

Written internal assessment report (36 GLH)

Component 3: Promotion and Finance for Enterprise

Written external assessment (48 GLH)

Skills Acquired:

- Research – which will aid in better understanding how enterprises in the real world operate
- Developing ideas through participating in activities enterprises in the real world conduct themselves such as effective business and finance planning

BTEC Health and Social Care

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Investigate how, in real situations, human development is affected by different factors and that people deal differently with life events.
- Explore, health and social care services and how they meet the needs of real service users whilst also developing skills in applying care values.
- Study the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators, and how to design a health and wellbeing improvement plan.

Awarding Body: Edexcel

Assessment Method:

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care

Unit 1: Human lifespan development 30%

Unit 2: Health and social care services and values 30%

Unit 3: Health and well-being 40%.
(Externally Assessed Task)

Skills Acquired:

- Effective communication
- Use of verbal and non-verbal interpersonal skills
- Good listening skills
- Empathy
- Knowledge of how to lead a healthy lifestyle
- Careers linked to this course include; Nursing, Hospital management, Childcare, Psychologist, Social Work, Teaching and Nursery Nursing.

Vocational Hospitality and Catering

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Awards enable learners to gain knowledge, understanding and skills relating to a specific vocational sector. In addition to development sector specific knowledge and understanding, these qualifications also support learners to develop the essential employability skills that are valued by employers, further and higher education.

Unit 1

The Hospitality and Catering Industry

Unit 2

Hospitality and Catering in Action

Awarding Body: Eduqas

Assessment Method:

Written exam:

40%

90 minutes

Number of marks: 90

Task 2: NEA:

60%

9 hours

In this unit pupils will gain knowledge of the nutritional needs of a range of client groups in order for you to plan nutritional dishes to go on a menu. Pupils will learn and develop safe and hygienic food preparation, cooking and finishing skills required to produce nutritional dishes.

Skills Acquired:

Learners apply their learning by considering all aspects of the vocational sector. Learners will be able to use their learning of different types of establishment and job roles to determine the best option. They will then apply their learning in relation to front of house and kitchen operations to determine how the proposed hospitality and catering provision will operate efficiently, legally and financially.

Learners apply their learning to safely prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes. They will draw on their learning of different types of provision and kitchen and front of house operations in Unit 1, as well as personal safety in their preparations. The content is relevant not only to employees within food production, but also those with a responsibility for food safety in the industry, nutritionists and managers and owners. This extends the learners appreciation of the whole vocational area beyond the kitchen environment.

BTEC Sports

Course Outline:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

Unit 1 – Fitness for sport and exercise: Learners will learn about the components of physical and skill related fitness considering training and testing methods

Unit 2 – Practical sports: Students will improve and develop their own practical performance in 2 sports as well as examining that of other athletes. Knowledge and application of rules, regulations, officials' roles and responsibilities in various sports will also be investigated and assessed

Unit 3 – Training for personal fitness: This is a synoptic unit taking in information learnt in Unit 1 and 2. Learners will extend their study of the principles of training from Unit 1 and develop understanding of the effects of exercise. Finally, they have opportunity to design a personal fitness training programme using sports from Unit 2 learning strategies for training success and review progress (mandatory internally assessed).

Other internally assessed options for this unit are; Unit 4 – The Mind and Sports Performance, Unit 5 – The Sports Performer in Action and Unit 6 – Leading sports activities.

Awarding Body: Edexcel

Assessment Method:

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Sport consists of four units in total. One mandatory externally assessed. Two mandatory internally assessed units and one optional specialist unit.

Unit 1: Fitness for Sport and Exercise (Mandatory)

Onscreen test set and marked by the exam board. 1 hour and 15 minutes 25% of the qualification 60 marks

Each unit has approximately 30 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) not including independent study time, for the completion of coursework.

Skills Acquired:

- Team working, working from a prescribed brief, working to deadlines and presenting information effectively; taking responsibility for own learning
- Accurately completing administrative tasks and processes.
- Opens doors to progression to further study, apprenticeships and responsibility in the workplace.
- Incorporate key aspects of the industry, such as fitness testing and training for sport and exercise, the psychology of sport, practical sports performance and sports leadership.

Contact Us

We hope you found this booklet useful, if you need more help or information please speak to one of your subject teachers, Head of Department or SLT.

Useful Information

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