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*Year 9*  
Options Booklet

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# Introduction

This booklet is to help you choose the subjects that you will be studying for the next two years, (Key Stage 4). You will be working towards examinations from which important decisions will be made about your future. This booklet will help you make the best possible start by choosing your examination courses carefully.

## What will I study in Years 10 and 11?

All learners at Unsworth study a broad and balanced curriculum which includes:

- Maths (1 GCSE)
- English Language (1 GCSE)
- English Literature (1 GCSE)
- Science (2 or 3 GCSEs)
- PE (non-examination)
- PSHCE (non-examination)
- 3 Options subjects (one of these MUST be either History, Geography or Spanish and then a range of GCSEs and vocational courses)

## How will I know which course I need for a career?

In most cases, a broad choice of courses at this stage will keep your options open for the future. As a school we cannot stress enough that the majority of future courses at college and university and apprenticeships will require good grades in English, Maths and Science. These subjects are key in ensuring all doors are open for our learner's futures.

Remember that you are required to stay in education or training until you are 18. This could be at college or in an apprenticeship. It is a good idea to make a list of careers in which you are interested and then get advice from our careers team whose support will be signposted on Options Evening. Also, you should research what our local post-16 providers currently offer.

## Can I be sure that I will have my first-choice options?

It is hoped that most learners will get their first choice of option subjects, but with many learners all choosing different subjects, it is impossible to give everybody their top choices. You should, therefore, make sure that all your choices are subjects that you want to study, because it may not be possible to change afterwards. Please ensure you select **reserve subject preferences** choices as the Leadership Team will make choices for any learners whose forms are not received or are incomplete. You have been given plenty of time to make sure that you are certain about your decisions – use this time to speak to as many different people as possible. **The deadline for submitting your Option Selection form is Friday 16th May.** It will be completed electronically.

### How do I make my choices?

1. Read the information in this booklet and on our website very carefully.
2. Talk to your subject teachers, Form Tutors, and Heads of Department.
3. Talk through your choices with your parents/carers.
4. Book an additional appointment with the careers team in school if necessary.
5. Submit your final choices by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

Remember - choose the courses you like, and you are interested in, not because your friends are picking them or due to the teacher – you may not have the same teacher next year. Also, remember that you must choose either History, Geography or Spanish.

**Everyone’s choices will be studied carefully. We will do our best to make sure that you have your first choice of courses. Some adjustments will have to be made, and these will be fully discussed with you and, if necessary, your parents/carers.**

### Which qualifications will my courses lead to?

Grades for GCSE subjects are now on a numerical 9-1 classification. In the new system 9 is the top grade and 1 is the lowest grade. Below there is a chart which illustrates how the new numbers will equate to the old letters. A score of 4 is considered a ‘Standard Pass’. A score of 5 is considered a ‘Strong Pass’. It is important to remember that anyone who does not achieve a Grade 4 in Maths or English will need to re-sit this at college – this is a government requirement.

| 9-1 Grade | 9  | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |   |
|-----------|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| GCSE      | A* |   | A | B |   | C | D | E | F | G |

Some of our courses are vocational and are graded as follows:

| 9-1 Grade | 9  | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 |  |
|-----------|----|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| BTEC      | D* |   | D | M |   | P |  |

It is important to remember that both types of qualification are equally valid and worth the same number of “points” when applying to further and higher education. Vocational courses are more practical in their focus and offer students a different learning experience with a coursework component.

### What are my options when I leave school?

When you leave Unsworth Academy you will have a range of options open to you. These include: A Levels, T Levels, Vocational Training and apprenticeships. Each of these options will have different entry requirements. Remember, if you do not get a Grade 4 in Maths or English you will have to re-sit these qualifications at college. You will need to stay in education/training until the age of 18. It is a good idea to research different options as early as possible. We would advise attending Open Evenings during Year 10.

## The English Baccalaureate (EBACC)

The Government encourages learners to study a combination of subjects that will gain them extra recognition as having obtained the English Baccalaureate, which is not a qualification but a certificate, confirming that you have achieved the required grades in a range of subjects. The English Baccalaureate consists of English Language, English Literature, Maths, Science, Geography or History and one Modern Foreign Language (MFL). As most learners' study English Language and English Literature, Maths and at least Combined Science then they would have to choose either Geography or History and complete a Spanish GCSE to have the full allocation of subjects for the complete English Baccalaureate. Learners will have to obtain a grade 4 – 9 in each subject to achieve the English Baccalaureate.

## Russell Group Universities

The Russell Group, which represents 24 leading UK universities, has altered its standpoint regarding advised subject choices. Previously, the Group published a list of “facilitating subjects” but guidance has since changed. The Russell Group Informed Choices Website is now the place to explore, and it is made clear on the site that advice is “aimed at learners aged 14 and upwards who are considering university.”

Here is a link: [informedchoices.ac.uk](http://informedchoices.ac.uk)

## Further Information and Guidance

“Success at School” is a popular website that helps young people explore careers and course links.

The link is: [successatschool.org](http://successatschool.org)

We would also advise researching the websites of our local post-16 providers. This will help understand entry requirements for A-Level and other Level 2/ 3 courses, which may well be relevant to your Year 9 Option choices.

## My Choices

All learners will study Maths, English, Science, PE and PSHCE. In addition, you will choose 3 other subjects. You **must** choose either Spanish, Geography or History. You **can** choose two or all three of these subjects. You will also need to choose a reserve subject in each block in case courses are oversubscribed or we are unable to run a course. You will complete an online form to express your preferences. Don't miss the deadline or we will have to allocate options for you.

**You will choose a priority option and reserve from each block:**

| <b><u>BLOCK 1</u></b>   | <b><u>BLOCK 2</u></b> | <b><u>BLOCK 3</u></b> |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Geography   | Geography             | Spanish               |
| Geography   | Geography             | Spanish               |
| Geography   | History               | Spanish               |
| Construction  | History               | Photography           |
| Creative iMedia   | History               | Construction          |
| Computer Science  | Photography           | Design and Technology |
| Music   | Construction          | Religious Studies     |
| Hospitality and Catering  | Performing Arts       | Performing Arts       |
| Art   | Sports Studies        | Art                   |
| Photography   |                       | Sports Studies        |
| <b>A small group of learners will study the ASDAN qualification following consultation with Mrs Atkinson and Miss Upton</b> |                       |                       |

### Subject information

The following pages give more details of the examination subjects on offer at Unsworth Academy for 2025 - 2027

# English Language & English Literature

## What will I learn?

In English Language you will learn how to analyse language in a range of unseen fiction and nonfiction texts from the 19th Century to the present day. You will also develop your ability to write creatively for a wide variety of purposes and audiences. Throughout the two years you will complete a range of assessments including essays, short stories, articles, exam questions and mock exams.

In English Literature you will study a range of texts and develop a deep understanding of how the writers present plot, characters, and themes, as well as how the social and historical context of the time influenced their writing. You will be expected to write essays in response to these texts to show your understanding of the language used and the effect the texts have on you as a reader.

## What will I do in lessons?

In English lessons you can expect to do a range of activities, from reading a variety of different texts, writing for different audiences and purposes, and presenting your opinion through speeches and debates. We make use of the iPads a great deal in English so they must be charged for every lesson.

## How will I be assessed?

At KS4 all students will do some form of assessment every two weeks. This may be an essay, a piece of creative writing or a quiz based on what you have learnt so far. Assessments will be marked through a range of whole class feedback, peer/self-marking and in depth marking from your class teacher. You will sit mock exams in Y10 and Y11 to prepare you for the final examinations at the end of the course.

- Language Paper 1 – Reading and Writing Fiction
- Language Paper 2 – Reading and Writing Non-Fiction
- Literature Paper 1 – Shakespeare (Macbeth) and A Christmas Carol
- Literature Paper 2 – A modern text (An Inspector Calls), Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology, and unseen poetry

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might English lead to?

GCSEs in English Language and Literature are compulsory for all future study and careers but specifically, if you were to study either of these subjects at A Level and further, you could consider careers in journalism, law, psychology, sociology, publishing, teaching, script/novel writing, film and television production, and many more.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

We run lots of trips in the English department and always try to find opportunities for GCSE students to see performances of their key texts, such as Macbeth and A Christmas Carol. We encourage all of our students to visit the library and include library lessons in the curriculum wherever possible. We have lots of author visits, interactive events linked to reading, and creative writing competitions throughout the year.

# Mathematics

Edexcel A  
1AMA1  
(higher tier)

## What will I learn?

You will cover a variety of topics that build upon your understanding of basic mathematical concepts. The main areas are:

- Number
- Algebra
- Geometry and Measure
- Ratio, Proportion
- Statistics & Probability

## What will I do in lessons?

Throughout your GCSE Math course, you'll develop problem-solving skills and learn to apply mathematical concepts to real-life situations. Staff will assess your understanding each lesson through questions and applications of your knowledge. You will also be expected to complete a weekly online homework.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through three 90 min exam papers at the end of the course. Two of the papers allow a calculator and one is non calculator. Progress and understanding will be assessed throughout the course through topic tests and end of term assessments using GCSE style questions.

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Maths lead to?

Many skills acquired throughout the GCSE mathematics course, such as, problem-solving, resilience, and logical reasoning, are transferable and applicable across diverse subject areas.

Numeracy forms the fundamental basis of mathematics, which in turn serves as a cornerstone applied extensively throughout other subject areas and any career.

Maths opens the door for any career path you want to take. Studying Maths beyond GCSE could lead to careers like engineering, finance, computer science, medical careers, cryptocurrency technology, construction. Maths qualifications are considered essential or desirable for a whole host of degrees subjects including virtually all sciences, economics and related courses and many social science courses also. There is a national shortage of mathematicians and employment prospects are good.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

The Maths Department offer a range of enrichment activities which may change year to year. Currently we offer:

- Chess Club
- Turing Tumblers Club
- Sparx Maths Club
- Period 6 interventions at year 11

# Combined Science

AQA  
TRILOGY  
worth 2 GCSE grades

## What will I learn?

Students will embark on a comprehensive journey through the fascinating realms of biology, chemistry, and physics. Throughout this engaging curriculum, learners will delve into the fundamental principles that underpin each scientific discipline, exploring topics ranging from cell biology and atomic structure to forces and waves. They will unravel the mysteries of ecosystems, chemical reactions, and electrical circuits, gaining a deeper understanding of the natural world and its phenomena. Practical experimentation will be at the heart of their learning experience, allowing them to develop crucial investigative skills while applying theoretical knowledge in real-world contexts. Moreover, students will hone their analytical thinking and problem-solving abilities, preparing them to tackle the challenges of the modern scientific landscape with confidence and enthusiasm. By the end of this course, students will emerge not only with a rich tapestry of scientific knowledge but also with a newfound appreciation for the intricacies and wonders of the universe.

## What will I do in lessons?

Students will engage in a dynamic blend of interactive activities designed to foster understanding and mastery of scientific concepts. Each session will involve a mix of teacher-led instruction, collaborative group work, and hands-on practical experiments. Through lively discussions and presentations, students will explore key scientific principles, drawing connections between theoretical concepts and real-world phenomena. They will participate in group discussions and problem-solving exercises, honing their analytical thinking and communication skills while deepening their understanding of scientific concepts. Practical laboratory sessions will provide students with opportunities to apply theoretical knowledge, conduct experiments, and develop essential scientific skills, such as observation, measurement, and data analysis. Additionally, regular assessments and formative feedback will allow students to track their progress and identify areas for improvement, ensuring a supportive and engaging learning environment where every student can thrive and succeed.

## How will I be assessed?

Your progress and understanding will be assessed through a variety of methods designed to evaluate your knowledge, skills, and understanding across biology, chemistry, and physics. Assessment comprises six equally weighted exam papers, two from each specialism. These papers consist of a mix of multiple-choice, structured, closed short-answer, and open-response questions, allowing you to demonstrate your understanding of scientific principles, apply your knowledge to different contexts, and showcase your problem-solving skills.

Additionally, your practical skills will be assessed through a series of required practical activities conducted throughout the course. While the practical activities themselves will not be assessed directly in the written exams, you will be expected to demonstrate your understanding of the underlying concepts, methods, and techniques involved. Questions related to these practical activities may appear on the exam papers, allowing you to apply your practical knowledge and skills in a theoretical context.

Overall, the assessment is designed to provide a comprehensive evaluation of your scientific knowledge, understanding, and skills, preparing you for further study or employment in science-related fields. Through a combination of written exams and practical assessments, you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your proficiency in biology, chemistry, and physics and showcase your readiness to engage with the challenges and opportunities of the scientific world.

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Science lead to?

Students will acquire a diverse array of skills that are highly sought after in both academic and professional settings. Through engaging in practical experimentation, students will develop strong analytical and problem-solving skills, honing their ability to design experiments, collect data, and draw meaningful conclusions. Moreover, the emphasis on scientific literacy and critical thinking will equip students with the capability to evaluate information and make informed decisions in a variety of contexts.

The broad foundation provided by opens doors to a multitude of educational and career pathways. For those considering further education, this qualification serves as an excellent springboard into a wide range of science-related degree programs at universities and colleges. From biology and chemistry to physics and environmental science, students will find themselves well-prepared to pursue undergraduate studies in diverse scientific disciplines.

In terms of career prospects, it can lead to a multitude of opportunities across various industries. Students may find employment in fields such as research and development, pharmaceuticals, healthcare, environmental science, engineering, education, and more. Additionally, the skills acquired through this course are highly transferable and can be applied to roles that require strong analytical thinking, problem-solving, and scientific literacy.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

- Medical careers day
- VEX robotics day
- STEAM drop down day
- Primary engineers
- Science week
- Bespoke Science clubs (Valentines, Christmas etc.)
- Jeans for genes fundraising



# Triple Science

AQA  
SEPARATE  
worth 3 GCSE grades

## What will I learn?

Students will embark on a comprehensive and enriching exploration of biology, chemistry, and physics at an advanced level. Delving deeper into each scientific discipline, learners will encounter a diverse range of topics that span from the molecular intricacies of genetics to the complexities of organic chemistry reactions and the principles governing the behaviour of subatomic particles. With a focus on in-depth understanding and critical analysis, students will investigate phenomena such as inheritance, chemical bonding, and quantum mechanics, gaining profound insights into the fundamental workings of the natural world. Hands-on experimentation will play a pivotal role in their learning journey, enabling them to develop advanced practical skills and engage in cutting-edge scientific inquiry. Furthermore, students will have the opportunity to explore specialised areas within each discipline, fostering a deeper appreciation for the interconnectedness of scientific concepts and their applications in various contexts. By the culmination of this rigorous course, students will emerge not only with a breadth of scientific knowledge but also with the analytical prowess and intellectual curiosity necessary to thrive in the ever-evolving landscape of scientific discovery and innovation.

## What will I do in lessons?

Lessons will offer a stimulating and rigorous exploration of biology, chemistry, and physics, tailored to the needs of advanced learners. Each session will be dynamic and multifaceted, blending teacher-led instruction with interactive discussions, group activities, and practical laboratory work. Through in-depth discussions and presentations, students will delve into complex scientific concepts, grappling with challenging topics such as genetic inheritance, chemical kinetics, and electromagnetic radiation. Collaborative group work will encourage peer-to-peer learning and foster the development of teamwork and communication skills. Hands-on laboratory experiments will be a cornerstone of the curriculum, providing students with opportunities to apply theoretical knowledge, design experiments, and analyse data. Furthermore, students will have access to specialised resources and equipment to support their exploration of advanced scientific principles. Regular assessments, including quizzes, tests, and practical assessments, will offer valuable feedback on progress and understanding, empowering students to take ownership of their learning journey and strive for excellence in their scientific pursuits.

## How will I be assessed?

Your assessment will be comprehensive and rigorous, designed to evaluate your mastery of biology, chemistry, and physics at an advanced level. Assessment in Triple Science consists of six equally weighted exam papers: two for each science subject. These papers cover a wide range of topics and question formats, including multiple-choice, structured, closed short-answer, and open-response questions.

Each exam paper assesses your understanding of the key principles, concepts, and theories within its respective science subject. You will be expected to demonstrate your knowledge of scientific facts, theories, and models, as well as your ability to apply this knowledge to different contexts and solve complex problems.

In addition to the written exams, your practical skills will be assessed through a series of required practical activities conducted throughout the course. These practical assessments aim to evaluate your ability to plan, carry out, analyse, and evaluate experiments, as well as your understanding of the underlying scientific principles and techniques involved.

The assessment is designed to provide a comprehensive and thorough evaluation of your scientific knowledge, understanding, and skills across biology, chemistry, and physics. By successfully completing the written exams and practical assessments, you will demonstrate your readiness to engage with the challenges of further study or employment in science-related fields and make valuable contributions to the scientific community.

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Science lead to?

Students will have an extensive range of skills that are invaluable in both academic and professional spheres. Through rigorous theoretical study and hands-on practical work, students develop advanced analytical, problem-solving, and critical thinking abilities. They become adept at interpreting complex data, conducting experiments, and drawing accurate conclusions, skills essential for success in scientific research and innovation.

Triple Science not only provides a solid foundation for further academic pursuits but also opens numerous career pathways across various industries. Students of Triple Science are well-prepared to pursue undergraduate degrees in specialised scientific disciplines such as biochemistry, pharmacology, astrophysics, or genetics. Additionally, they may choose to explore interdisciplinary fields like biomedical engineering or environmental science, where their comprehensive scientific knowledge and skills are highly valued.

In terms of career opportunities, Triple Science students are sought in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, healthcare, renewable energy, aerospace, and beyond. They are equipped to undertake roles in research and development, laboratory analysis, data science, engineering, teaching, and science communication etc. The versatility of Triple Science ensures that students are well-positioned to thrive in a rapidly evolving job market that increasingly demands scientific literacy, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

- Medical careers day
- VEX robotics day
- STEAM drop down day
- Primary engineers
- Science week
- Bespoke Science clubs (Valentines, Christmas etc.)
- Jeans for genes fundraising

# History

## What will I learn?

### Understanding the modern world (Paper 1) America 1920-1973 Opportunity and Inequality

- American people and the “Boom! In the 1920s
- American people and the “Bust” – New Deal, Depression, WW2
- Post WW11 – “Rock n Roll! Civil Rights, McCarthyism, JFK and Johnson

### Conflict and Tension 1918-1939

- Peace-making – end of WW1, “Big Three”, Treaty of Versailles
- League of Nations and international peace – Manchuria, Abyssinia
- Origins and causes of WW11 – Hitler, Chamberlain, Stalin

### Thematic Studies (Paper 2)

#### Section A – Power and the people: C1170 to the present day

This will cover British history and include many topics that you will already be familiar with:

- Challenging authority and feudalism (Middle Ages): Magna Carta, Simon De Monfort and the Peasants’ Revolt
- Challenging royal authority (Early Modern): Pilgrimage of Grace, English Revolution (Civil War), American Revolution
- Reform and reformers (19<sup>th</sup> Century): the Great Reform Act, Chartism, Anti-Slavery movement, the Anti-Corn Law League; factory reformers; social reformers. The Development of Trade Unions
- Part four: Equality and rights (20<sup>th</sup> Century); Suffragettes and Suffragists, Workers’ rights, Minority rights

#### Section B – Elizabethan England 1568-1603

- Court and parliament, court-life, marriage, the “Golden Age” – theatre and society
- Life in Elizabethan times; poverty, voyages of discovery, rebellions, and plots
- Troubles at home and abroad; Mary Queen of Scots, plots and threats, conflict with Spain

## What will I do in lessons?

- You will be encouraged to express your opinions in class debates. You will work independently, in pairs or small groups to develop understanding
- You will be developing knowledge and the ability to challenge and question historical sources and interpretations to form an argument about past events
- Developing and applying knowledge to make connections where appropriate and identify and compare similarities and differences in a range of situations from the past and how they have shaped the modern world
- Creating sustained, well- balanced arguments – including using examples to support your points

## How will I be assessed?

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/gcse/history-8145>

- Paper 1: America 1920-1973 Opportunity and Inequality and Conflict and Tension 1918-1939 (2-hour exam)
- Paper 2: Power and the People and Elizabethan England (2-hour exam)

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might History lead to?

- Skills include demonstrating; applying; analysing; evaluating; advocacy; collaborative working; active participation; critical enquiry; decision making; ability to communicate, developing confidence to defend your ideas and formulate judgements.

Possible future A levels include History, Ancient History, Classical Civilisation

History is useful for every career but especially; Teaching, Law, Media including radio and television, Journalism, Publishing, Politics, Heritage industry, Writing, Business, Libraries and Museums, Archive work, Theatrical costume design, Archaeology, Conservation and restoration of works of art, Marketing and Advertising, Research, National and Local Government, Civil Service and Diplomatic Service, the Police and Armed Forces.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Visit to the People’s History Museum Manchester. Lectures and talks via the Historical Association, Holocaust Trust. Links with Manchester Metropolitan University.

# Geography

## What will I learn?

### Component 01: Living in the UK

Students investigate the dynamic and diverse geography in the UK, exploring the distinctive physical and human environments, the processes which drive them and the challenges they create. The three topics are:

- Landscapes of the UK
- People of the UK
- UK environmental challenges

### Component 02: The world around us

This component explores the complexities of the planet and its interconnections. Students examine the changing, dynamic nature of physical and human environments, the role of decision-makers and the sustainable nature and management of these environments. The three topics are:

- Ecosystems of the planet
- People of the planet
- Environmental threats to our planet

### Component 03: Geographical skills

Geographical skills are integrated into all aspects of the subject. Learning these skills in the context of components 01 and 02 stimulates students to “think geographically” and apply the skills in a range of contexts. The three topics are:

- Cartographic
- Graphical
- Numerical
- Statistical

Synoptic assessment is the students’ understanding of the connections between different elements of the subject, this will include material from either or both or the first two components.

Fieldwork skills include understanding and applying specific geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to real-world physical and human geographical contexts.

## What will I do in lessons?

Discover and explore the following questions!

Why are the tropical rainforests of the Amazon so important? What is the Purus Manu Conservation corridor? What is life like in Ethiopia?

How has Goat Aid supported women in the poorest communities? What is happening to our Coral reef ecosystems? What is El Nino and how does it impact Australia?

Why is the UK economy so powerful? Why is trade critical for the UK? What is the UK’s Energy Mix? Will Norfolk ever stop erosion of its beaches and cliffs? How did the UK’s coastal, upland and river landscape form?

## How will I be assessed?

- Component 01: Living in the UK today (30% - 60 marks) 1 hour paper.
- Component 02: The world around us (30% - 60 marks) 1 hour paper.
- Component 03: Geographical skills (40% - 80 marks) 1hour 30 minutes paper.

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Geography lead to?

Students are required to develop and demonstrate a range of geographical skills, including cartographic (map), graphical, numerical, and statistical skills, throughout their study of the specification. Geography is a facilitating subject for college and university as one of the key EBacc subjects. Geography provides a pathway to any career you wish through the key skills it provides key understanding of the world. The world is literally your oyster!

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

The Geography department offer a wide range of enrichment opportunities, including fieldwork for each year group – in and out of school. We also offer a David Attenborough appreciation club, a partnership with the Duke of Edinburgh Award and a retro gaming club. We are also exploring the possibility of an international trip in 2025/2026.

# Spanish

## What will I learn?

In Spanish you will learn how to communicate effectively in Spanish both orally and in writing, about a range of topics including the following.

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

You will also learn how to communicate in a range of tenses across all these topics, to translate between Spanish and English and to read and listen to authentic Spanish texts.



## What will I do in lessons?

In lesson you will develop an understanding of Spanish grammar and be able to use it effectively in your written and oral work. You will identify patterns and clues to decode language. You will also learn about Spanish culture and express and justify your opinions about a variety of topics. You will listen to and watch videos of spoken Spanish to develop your comprehension skills. And of course, you will enjoy the process of learning how language evolves and works.

## How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1: Speaking – Pre exam assessment. 7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + 15 mins preparation time /10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) + 15mins preparation time. 50 marks 25% of GCSE
- Paper 2: Listening - Written exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 60 minutes (Higher Tier) 50 marks 25% of GCSE
- Paper 3: Reading - Written exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier)/60 minutes (Higher Tier) 50 marks 25% of GCSE
- Paper 4: Writing - Written exam: 1 hour 15 (Foundation Tier)/ 1 hour 20 minutes (Higher Tier) 50 marks 25% of GCSE

## What skills will I gain and which courses/jobs might Spanish lead to?

- We are living in an increasingly global community where business operates on across global markets. There are 450 million native Spanish speakers around the world, so employers value employees that can build relationships with other international businesses.
- Travel with ease and develop friendships and relationships with non- native English speakers.
- Language study demonstrates a level of independence and communication skills that are valued in many areas of study and employment.
- You can choose to specialise in languages at university or a joint honours degree with international business studies for example.
- A wide range of careers including advertising, marketing, international sports, travel, teacher, diplomat, journalist, interpreter, translator amongst many more. Also, lots of careers value someone who can speak another language.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

There are a wide range of enrichment opportunities including a trip to Barcelona, university days to see what studying languages can be like, trips to the cinema to watch Spanish films and the Language Ambassadors program, where you organise events for younger years and also teach primary pupils Spanish.

# Religious Studies

## What will I learn?

- Year 10 An introduction to Philosophy, Religion and Ethics to include Humanist Perspectives. Religion and Ethics through Christianity
- Year 11 – Religion, Philosophy and Social Justice through Islam

2 Examination papers 1 hr. 45 min

## What will I do in lessons?

- Research, analysis and presentation skills (IT SKILLS)
- Confidence, critical thinking skills and the ability to interpret information, formulate questions and solve problems
- Organisational and time management skills
- Teamworking and communication skills
- Writing skills, including accurate referencing and the ability to construct a reasoned argument
- Empathy and the ability to understand people and take on board others views
- The ability to work methodically and accurately
- Independence of mind and the ability to think for yourself

## How will I be assessed?

**Linear** = 2 Examination papers 1hr 45min for each.

Paper 1= 50% Paper 1 – Religion and Ethics through Christianity

Paper 2= 50% Paper 2 – Religion, Philosophy and Social Justice through Islam

### Examination entry and course specifications

Religious Studies GCSE – Edexcel B Paper 1 – Christianity / 1B – Paper 2 – Islam – 3C

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Religious Studies lead to?

- Develop skills that are valued by employers in a range of sectors. These include:

Jobs directly related to your degree include:

Higher education lecturer, Primary school teacher, Secondary school teacher

Jobs where your degree would be useful include:

- Advice worker, Archivist, Charity fund-raiser-Chaplain, Counsellor, Civil Service administrator, Community development worker, international aid/development worker, Mediator, Newspaper journalist, Police officer, Youth worker.

Typical employers - As a theology and religious studies graduate, you could work in a variety of different roles in a range of employment sectors.

Typical employers include:

- National and local government, including the Civil Service and government agencies, as well as non-governmental organisations (NGOs), schools, colleges and universities (for teaching and research positions), charities, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations, social services and other caring professions, the church and other religious organisations, financial and legal firms, the National Health Service (NHS), PR, advertising, sales and marketing companies, media companies.



## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Opportunity to visit a place of worship and converse with the faith leader (Q & A sessions linked to Edexcel GCSE R.S concepts).

Focus on Faith events: meet several local leaders of various faith and atheist leaders. Learn first-hand about their religion and the importance "Religious Values" hold for themselves, plus the role of religion in wider society.

# Construction

## What will I learn?

- Practical skills in bricklaying, painting and joinery.
- The principles of the built environment and have the opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding in identifying, explaining and evaluating different ideas and concepts of the built environment.
- Explore a range of professional and trade roles.
- Explore some of the different structures and buildings of the built environment.
- How to plan and manage a construction project, using project scheduling and managing risk.

## What will I do in lessons?

You will study all areas of Construction and the Built Environment including:

- Learning as much content needed for the exam through practical work and theory.
- Study bricklaying, painting and joinery trade areas of the built environment, including planning, undertaking and evaluating a construction project.

## How will I be assessed?

Component.1: Written examination (40% - 1 hour 30 minutes paper)

Component.2: Coursework, practical assessments and written coursework (60% - 30-hour task)

Examination entry and course specification:

- Eduqas is the exam board we have chosen to use for our GCSE Construction and the Built Environment
- **Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Construction and the Built Environment**

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Construction lead to?

- Construction and the Built Environment provides pupils with so many transferable skills such as communication critical thinking, independent learning, time management, health and safety, managing risk, bricklaying, joinery and painting.
- 60% of the GCSE is coursework, which is then combined with your 40% examination mark. All the Maths and application of skills is completed within the coursework and with the exam content taught as classroom theory.
- Careers are plentiful in Construction and the Built Environment and can be diverse from skilled tradespeople to construction professionals. Opportunities may include jobs in Architecture, Engineering, Site Manager, Quantity Surveyor, Surveyor, Bricklayer, Carpenter, Plasterer, Painter etc.
- Construction and the Built Environment is the second largest employment sector in the UK!

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Learners will receive TED style talks from leading construction professionals, together with educational site visits to local engineering and construction companies.



# Design Technology

## What will I learn?

- Design and making principles that use imagination, experimentation and combine ideas when designing.
- Core technical principles using the latest Computer-aided design (CAD) to generate your 3D designs.
- Specialist technical principles and how different materials perform and join together.
- Developing realistic design proposals as a result of the exploration of design opportunities and users' needs, wants and values.

## What will I do in lessons?

You will study all areas of Design & Technology including resistant materials, graphics and textiles with a core focus on:

- Learning to shape materials from their stock form and join them to make products.
- Develop sketching and presentation techniques to communicate your ideas.
- Learn how to use a variety of CAD packages so that your designs can be produced on screen, then laser cut and produce with printed technical drawings.
- Learn to make models and prototypes of your design ideas from a wide choice of materials.
- Learn as much content needed for the exam through practical design and make activities as possible.

## How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Written examination (50% - 2-hour paper)

Component 2: Design and make task, non-exam assessment (50% - 35-hour task)

Examination entry and course specification:

- AQA is the exam board we have chosen to use for GCSE Design and Technology
- GCSE Design and Technology Specification for first teaching in 2017 ([aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk))

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Design Technology lead to?

- Design & Technology provides pupils with so many transferable skills; resilience, creative problem solving and the confidence to work independently and communicate effectively.
- 15% of the exam paper is based on Maths and 10% on science. The Maths and science demands learners to demonstrate and apply mathematical and scientific principles to a practical situations or problems.
- Learners opting for Design and technology should be in middle sets for Maths and English in order to access the theory paper.
- Careers are plentiful in Design & Technology and can be diverse from designing to innovation and engineering. Opportunities may include jobs in Architecture, Engineering, Design, Textiles, Product Design, Fashion etc.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Learners will have the opportunity to enhance their creative skills and design thinking through entering local and national competitions such as V&A Innovate. The opportunity to visit the Making Rooms in Blackburn and experience commercial prototyping and real-life projects.

# Hospitality & Catering

## What will I learn?

The qualification is made up of two units:

**Unit 1:** Learn about the hospitality and catering industry, the types of hospitality and catering providers and about working in the industry. Learn about health and safety, and food safety in hospitality and catering, as well as food related causes of ill health.

**Unit 2:** Learn about the importance of nutrition and how cooking methods can impact on nutritional value. Learn how to plan nutritious menus as well as factors which affect menu planning. You will learn the skills and techniques needed to prepare, cook and present dishes as well as learning how to review your work effectively.



## What will I do in lessons?

**Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering industry:**

Learn about the hospitality and catering industry, the types of hospitality and catering providers and about working in the industry. Health and safety is paramount and learners will study food safety in hospitality and catering, as well as food related causes of ill health.

**Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in action:**

Learn about the importance of nutrition and how cooking methods can impact on nutritional value. How to plan nutritious menus as well as factors which affect menu planning. You will learn the skills and techniques needed to prepare, cook and present dishes as well as learning how to review your work effectively.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through a written examination and an assignment.

**Unit 1** will be assessed through an exam, which is worth 40% of your qualification.

**Unit 2** you will be complete an assignment where you will plan and prepare a menu in response to a brief. This will be worth 60% of your qualification and will take 12 hours.

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Hospitality and Catering lead to?

You will develop a range of skills which are attractive to employers, colleges and universities including:

- Communication, organisation, research, self-discipline and learning independently.
- Confidence, problem solving, resilience and time management.

After completing the WJEC Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering you may be interested in progressing to other qualifications relevant to working in the sector, such as: WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate/Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition Level 2/Level 3 Diplomas in Hospitality and Catering Level 2/Level 3 Diplomas in Professional Cooking Level 3 Diploma in Hospitality and Tourism Management.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Learners will partake in a 'Come Dine with Me' style evening. They will plan and cook a meal for invited guests and professionals, whilst also planning the dining area environment. Learners have the opportunity to attend college visits [and](#) local businesses.



# IT-Creative Media

## What will I learn?

- Products and job roles that form the media industry.
- The legal and ethical issues considered, and the process used to plan and create digital media products.
- How media codes are used within the creation of media products to convey meaning, create impact, and engage audiences.
- The most appropriate format and properties for different media products.
- How to develop visual identities for clients.
- To apply the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics which incorporate your visual identity to engage a target audience.
- How to design and create interactive digital media products for chosen platforms.
- How to select, edit and repurpose multimedia content of different kinds.

## What will I do in lessons?

- Investigate traditional and the digital media industries.
- Learn factors influencing product design.
- Know the different pre-production documents for different products.
- Learn about factors influencing product design.
- Learn about distribution platforms and media to reach audiences.
- Develop visual identity.
- Plan digital graphics for products.
- Create visual identity and digital graphics.
- Plan interactive digital media.
- Create interactive digital media.
- Review interactive digital media.

## How will I be assessed?

60% of the course is assignment-based work and will require completion of a set assignment by the exam board. The external exam will be required to be taken at the end of the last assessment series which will be at the end of Year 11.

### NEA

Unit R093: Creative iMedia in the Media Industry (40% exam)

Unit R094: Visual Identity and Digital Graphics (25% coursework mandatory unit)

Component 3: Interactive Digital Media (35% coursework optional unit)

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Creative Media lead to?

Unit R093: Creative iMedia in the media industry. This is assessed by taking an exam. In this unit you will learn about the media industry, digital media products, how they are planned, and the media codes which are used to convey meaning, create impact and engage audiences. Topics include:

- The media industry
- Factors influencing product design
- Pre-production planning
- Distribution considerations

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Students will develop a range of skills to help them succeed not only in the workplace but in other subjects too. These skills include analytical, digital presentation, creative thinking, problem solving, research and planning.

### Progression

- Apprenticeship Media and Broadcast Assistant Pathway (level 3)
- Cambridge Technical Information Technology and Digital Media (levels 2 + 3)
- T Level Digital Production and Development and Media Broadcast and Production (level 3)
- A Level Media Studies
- Creative and Digital media practice BA (Hons)
- Digital media and magazine publishing creative film BA (Hons)
- Television and digital media production BA (Hons)

Possible career paths include Production Runner, Broadcast Assistant, Junior Content Producer, Digital Assistant, Production Secretary, Online Community Manager, Film, TV, Radio, Animation, Photo imaging and interactive media.

# Computer Science

## What will I learn?

- Problem solving using computational thinking skills; algorithms, abstraction, decomposition.
- Programming using Python.
- How computers represent data.
- What makes up a computer system and how it all works together, including different components and Networks.
- Cyber Security, including how to detect and prevent cyber threats.
- Relational databases and SQL.
- The wider ethical, legal, and environmental impacts of technology on wider society.

## What will I do in lessons?

- Developing a deep understanding of problem solving through experience of creating logical and efficient solutions.
- Working individually and in teams to solve problems and create coded solutions to a series of real-world problems.
- Learning a vast amount of theory on a variety of topics related to Computer Science world and the curriculum.
- Engaging in class discussion and debate about the different impacts of technology on the wider society we live in.

## How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Computer Systems 50%

Paper 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming 50%

In line with the current specification, both final examinations are linear exams, are equally weighted (50%) and **there is only one tier of entry.**

### Component 01: Computer Systems

Introduces students to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

### Component 02: Computational thinking, algorithms, and programming

Students apply knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programmes, computational logic, and translators.

### Practical Programming

Students are to be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s) during their course of study which allows them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programmes using a high-level programming language. Students will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations, in particular component 02 (section B).

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Computer Science lead to?

Computer Science degree will cover a variety of modules that could explore computers and computational systems. This could include their theory, design, development and application, programming languages, software engineering and software design.

Students considering applying for an undergraduate degree in Computer Science would be advised to select one or more courses from the following:

- A Level Maths
- BTEC ICT
- BTEC Business

Computer Science graduates can expect to have a whole range of career pathways open to them including software engineering or specialist, web designer or developer, IT consultant, computer analyst, CAS technician, application analyst or developer, IT trainer, web content manager, games designer, cybersecurity, systems admin, network manager or developer and app designer or developer.

Universities also look for a range of elements within an application for Computer Science such as:

- A GCSE profile including grade 4's and above for Maths and English (some universities will also ask for grade 6/B in Maths)
- A level prediction ranging from AAA-CCC, dependent on the university
- Strong academic reference
- Work experience with reflective learning
- Extracurricular activities that have developed suitable skills and qualities

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Students will develop a range of skills to help them succeed not only in the workplace but in other subjects too. These skills include analytical, digital presentation, creative thinking, problem solving, research and planning.

### Progression

- Apprenticeship Media and Broadcast Assistant Pathway (level 3)
- Cambridge Technical Information Technology and Digital Media (levels 2 + 3)
- T Level Digital Production and Development and Media Broadcast and Production (level 3)
- A Level Media Studies
- Creative and Digital media practice BA (Hons)
- Digital media and magazine publishing creative film BA (Hons)
- Television and digital media production BA (Hons)

Possible career paths include Production Runner, Broadcast Assistant, Junior Content Producer, Digital Assistant, Production Secretary, Online Community Manager, Film, TV, Radio, Animation, Photo imaging and interactive media.

# Art & Design

## What will I learn?

Year 10 - Over the two years you will explore and experiment with a wide range of materials and approaches including drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, graphic design and photography. This will enable you to build up a bank of skills and techniques that you will use to create your portfolio of work which must evidence all four assessment objectives. You will be introduced to the work of a range of artists who explore different themes approaches and materials. You will respond visually to their starting points and record and develop their ideas visually. You will also be expected to analyse the work of your critical links incorporating high level language and terminology.

Year 11 – In January of Year 11 you will begin work on your final GCSE 'Externally Set Assignment' which will make up the remaining 40% of their final GCSE grade. The assignment is project based, and you are expected to respond to a starting point set by the exam board. You will complete a project where you must demonstrate your ability in the subject evidencing your skill and understanding. You will be expected to visually record the development of your ideas, including the artist's you have chosen to influence the development of your ideas along with the experiments and materials you have explored.

You will explore a range of influential artists and will be encouraged to find your own critical links which will influence the development of your ideas and approaches. You will be encouraged to visit galleries and explore a range of artists work to develop your art history and understanding of a range of artists.



## What will I do in lessons?

During the two-year course you will complete several projects which will make up your GCSE Portfolio of work (60%). Whilst completing your project work, you will need to show explicit coverage of the four GCSE assessment objectives.

In January of Year 11 you will begin work on your final GCSE Externally Set Assignment (40%) which is written by the exam board and you will be expected to respond to a starting point again evidencing all four GCSE assessment objectives.

## How will I be assessed?

60% (120 marks) - Component 1- 'Portfolio' Non-exam assessment

40% (80 marks) - Component 2 - 'Externally Set Assignment' Non-exam assessment

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Art and Design lead to?

A qualification in a creative subject as a valuable thing to hold. It demonstrates a level of independence and creative thinking that is valued in many areas of study. A-Level Art and Design courses including Fine Art, Photography and Graphic Design. If you decide to pursue a career in the Arts you could complete a Foundation Diploma in Art & Design, which will enable you to develop the necessary skills and portfolio of work to apply for a range of art or design-based degree courses.

Jobs related to your degree include:

Graphic Designer, Web Design, Magazine Features Editor, Architect, Social Media Manager, Film Director, Stylist, Photographer, Art Historian, Interior Designer, Teacher, Visual Merchandiser, Art Therapist.

Jobs where your degree would be useful include:

Design roles, Interior Designer, Teacher, Visual Merchandiser, Art Therapist, Advertising Art Director, Marketing Director, Film Director, Social Media, Median Planner, Multimedia specialist, Stylist, Visual Merchandiser.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Workshops, tutorials, extension activities, gallery experiences, engagement in faculty whole opportunities such as the school show, sessions with post 16 providers such as Holy Cross College.

# Photography

## What will I learn?

Year 10 – Over the two years you will work on the GCSE coursework sketchbooks, which will form 60% of your final GCSE. You will be introduced to the work of a range of Photographers from the 20<sup>th</sup> century; you will explore how photography was used to record imagery using innovative approaches and methods. You will be encouraged to analyse and explore the work of others expressing your own thoughts and opinions. You will use descriptive language and subject specific vocabulary and terminology. You will learn how to take a successful photograph using a range of compositional rules and will learn how to edit your photographs using Photoshop. You will record their process and the development of their ideas in sketchbooks. You will present their pages creatively sensitively exploring the nature of the topic.

Year 11 – You will begin work on their final GCSE Externally Set Assignment which makes up the remaining 40% of the course. The assignment is project based, and you are expected to respond to a starting point set by the exam board. You will complete a project which explores the theme and then produce an outcome which successfully answers the brief or starting point.

You will explore a range of influential artists and will be encouraged to find your own critical links which will influence the development of your ideas and approaches. You will be encouraged to visit galleries and explore a range of artists work to develop your art history and understanding of a range of artists and photographers.



## What will I do in lessons?

During the two-year course you will complete several projects which are created digitally, which will make up your GCSE Portfolio of work (60%). Whilst completing your project work, you will need to show explicit coverage of the four GCSE assessment objectives. As a minimum expectation your portfolio must include a sustained project along with a satellite project where you realise your intentions through engagement and experimentation exploring the work of a number of critical links.

In January of Year 11 you will begin work on your final GCSE Externally Set Assignment (40%) which is written by the exam board, and you will be expected to respond to a starting point again evidencing all four GCSE assessment objectives.

## How will I be assessed?

60% - Component 1- 'Portfolio' Non-exam assessment

40% - Component 2 - 'Externally Set Assignment' Non-exam assessment.

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Photography lead to?

A qualification in a creative subject is a valuable thing to hold. It demonstrates a level of independence and creative thinking that is valued in many areas of study. A-level Art and Design courses including Fine Art, Photography and Graphic Design. If you decide to pursue a career in the Arts you could complete a Foundation Diploma in Art and Design, which will enable you to develop the necessary skills and portfolio of work to apply for a range of art or design-based degree courses.

Jobs related to your degree include:

Graphic Designer, Magazine Features Editor, Architect, Portrait Photographer, Art Critic, Film Director, Food Stylist, Television Camera Editor, Commercial Photographer, Photojournalist, Art Historian, Interior Designer or Secondary School Teacher.

Jobs where your degree would be useful include:

Advertising Art Director, Design based roles, Digital Marketer, Film Director, Film/video editor, Media Planner, Multimedia specialist, Stylist, VFX artist, Visual Merchandiser or Web content manager.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Workshops, tutorials, extension activities, gallery experiences, engagement in faculty whole opportunities such as the school show, sessions with post 16 providers such as Holy Cross College.

# Performing Arts



## What will I learn?

You will revisit skills and techniques that you have previously looked at in KS3 and explore brand new skills and concepts such as.

- Scripted and devised performance skills
- Directing and leading others
- Learn how to communicate effectively and contribute to teamwork and performances
- Your own ability to develop your imagination & creativity
- How to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding of how to create effective performances
- How to develop, hone and improve your performance skills
- How to review and appreciate live theatre performances
- Different styles of theatre (melodrama, naturalistic, epic, physical) and practitioners of theatre such as Stanislavski, Brecht, Verbatim and Frantic Assembly

## What will I do in lessons?

- You will take part in a vast range of practical tasks from duologue pieces to small and whole class tasks in order to challenge your skills and abilities.
- You will get to watch live theatre performances and exemplar practical work
- You will research, rehearse and visit theatre productions
- You will explore the stage space and learning how to utilise a performance space
- You will work as part of a team
- You will develop your directing skills & leading others
- You will lead warmups and understand the importance of feedback

## How will I be assessed?

You are assessed over 3 different components (units).

Component 1: 30% September - May Year 10 Exploring the Performing Arts: You will watch live performances and recreate work in your own practical work to then create a research portfolio of written evidence, which shows your understanding of different theatrical styles.

Component 2: 30% September - December Year 11 Developing Skills in the Performing Arts: You will rehearse and perform a scripted performance in a group to a live audience

Component 3: 40% January – May Year 11 Responding to a theme: You will devise a performance in small groups, based on a stimulus given by the exam board. Normally 2 or 3 words aiming towards a 7–15-minute original performance.

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Computer Science lead to?

Drama provides excellent preparation for a performing arts career and enhances your ability to be a strong and effective communicator within the working world.

You will learn to be independent, resilient, organised and reliable. You will explore empathy and put yourself in other people's situations allowing you to understand cultures and backgrounds.

It is highly effective in developing your confidence and ability to work as part of a team. Therefore, it will provide a great foundation into any career which requires confidence, creativity and communication.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

There couldn't be more opportunities in performing arts for enrichment, every year there are 3 whole school performances to be involved in; Christmas Showcase, School Production and the Summer Spectacular.

We have connections with local colleges such as Pendleton, Holy Cross and Bury College who offer master classes, workshops, visits and matinee performance tickets to see performing arts at the next level.

We work closely with The Palace Theatre, Royal Exchange, The Octagon and the Opera House who offer industry talks, behind the scenes insights, theatre tours and performance opportunities.

In both years of the course, we try to see a live performance of a text we are exploring, this has been Blood Brothers, Hamilton, Curious Incident, Everybody's Talking about Jamie and The Lion King.

We are passionate about expanding your knowledge of the theatre and the different careers available and look at SFX makeup, set design, costume etc. and have industry professionals visit our school for Q+A sessions, practical workshops, demonstrations and many more for learners to be involved in.

# Music



## What will I learn?

The course structure consists of:

- Year 10 – Component 1- Exploring Music Products and Styles
- Year 10 – Component 2- Music Skills Development
- Year 11 – Component 3- Responding to a Music Brief – Externally set brief by BTEC devising and creating a musical performance for an audience.

## What will I do in lessons?

You will participate in a vast number of practical workshops that will include both individual and group tasks, learning to work independently and as part of a team • You will have the opportunity to progress in your own instrument and expand your musical skills in other instrumental areas • You will explore compositional techniques through both active music making and use of DAW software • You will learn about DAW software including GarageBand and BandLab and production techniques including use of FX, quantizing, sampling and how to use loops effectively • You will create both performing and studio setups focusing on sound balance and health and safety techniques • You will research, explore and play a variety of musical styles • You will develop effective practice techniques and the ability to plan and progress your practice skills • You will develop your critical thinking skills through constructive self and peer feedback

## How will I be assessed?

Learners controlled assessments will be their musical performances/composition/product creation. There is no written exam in this qualification. There is a controlled written supporting piece, and learners are marked over the 3 units:

- Unit 1- 30%
- Unit 2- 30%
- Unit 3- 40%

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Music lead to?

College opportunities

- A-Level Music, theatre studies, performing arts, music production, music tech.
- BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts, Dance, Music, Drama.

Jobs related to your degree include higher education lecturer, primary school teacher, secondary school teacher, musical performer in TV and the theatre, composer, lyricist, dancer, musician, and producer.

Jobs where your degree would be useful include:

- Arts administrator – manage projects and activities in the creative sector.
- Broadcast journalist – report the news on TV, radio and online.
- Cinematographer – is the head of the camera and lighting crew working on a film or a TV set.
- Copywriter – write advertising and marketing content.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

There couldn't be more opportunities in music for enrichment including: • Daily enrichment in school including choir, band, rock band, drum club and guitar club • Small group instrumental lessons • Every year there are 3 whole school performances to be involved in; Christmas Showcase, School Production and the Summer Spectacular. • Other performance opportunities include Friday Lunchtime Live and we have connections with the North Care Alliance and local care homes such as Elmhurst where we perform on a regular basis • We have connections with Bury Music Service, local colleges such as Pendleton and Holy Cross who offer masterclasses and performance opportunities • We are passionate about expanding your knowledge of the music industry and the different careers available • Careers opportunities where we look at sharing our specialist skills with each other and some students opt to contribute towards teaching other students instruments • Industry professionals visit our school from for Q+A sessions, practical workshops, demonstrations and much more.



# Sports Studies

## What will I learn?

### Increasing awareness of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities Content:

- Provision for several types of outdoor and adventurous activities in the UK.
- Equipment, clothing, and safety aspects of participating in outdoor and adventurous activities.
- Plan for and be able to participate in an outdoor and adventurous activity.
- Evaluate participation in an outdoor and adventurous activity.

### Performance and Leadership in Sports Activities Content:

- Key components of performance.
- Applying practice methods to support improvement in a sporting activity.
- Organising and planning a sports activity session.
- Leading a sports activity session.
- Reviewing your own performance in planning and leading a sports activity session.

### Contemporary Issues in Sport Content:

- Issues which affect participation in sport.
- The role of sport in promoting values.
- The implications of hosting a major sporting event for a city or country.
- The role National Governing Bodies (NGBs) playing the development of their sport.
- The use of technology in sport.



## What will I do in lessons?

Y10 and Y11:

Theory and practical lessons designed to aid development and understanding of the course content and development of necessary skills.

How to develop a vast range of knowledge and understanding from the world of sport, performance and OAA

How to apply your knowledge to real-life examples

## How will I be assessed?

20% internally assessed set assignment – Increasing awareness of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities.

40% internally assessed set assignment – Performance and leadership in sport activities.

40% exam at the end of the course – Contemporary issues in sport.

## What skills will I gain, and which courses/jobs might Computer Science lead to?

When you have completed the qualification, you will have developed a significant core of knowledge and theoretical content that you will be able to apply to the sport and activity sector.

The course will help you to develop specific skills and knowledge, such as time management and group work, which will benefit you for progression to further study.

After you have finished the course, you may want to go on to further study, taking BTECs, A levels or a mixture of both, in sport, physical education, and/or other related areas, such as psychology, providing you have passed relevant GCSEs.

## What enrichment opportunities are there?

Pupils are expected to attend extra-curricular practice for at least 4 hours per week. This can include sports practices outside of school or within school. Within school we have a rich extra curricular offer such as netball, basketball, football, table tennis and badminton taking place at dinners and after school. Their development in these sessions will go towards evidence of their practical grade in Year 11. The students will also embark on a high ropes trip to Heaton Park. This will form part of their controlled assessment.