



# **“Select For Success”**

# **Options Booklet**

Information for students and parents

2021





# Welcome to Option at Werneth

This booklet outlines information on the different courses that we offer our students to study at Key Stage 4. You will find information for each subject about what the course entails, how it will be assessed and progression opportunities, all of which are crucial in supporting your child to make the right choices. We hope you will therefore take the time to read the information provided and that it will support you and your child in deciding what to study.

The curriculum at Werneth offers a broad and balanced range of courses, with the essential subjects of English, Mathematics and Science at the core of our provision.

## CORE SUBJECTS:

**All students** at Werneth will be studying the following subjects as part of their compulsory education at KS4:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Science (Combined Science or 3 Separate Sciences)
- Core PE, Core RE and Core Life Learning

## OPTION CHOICES:

In addition to the core subjects **students will have 3 option choices**, the details of which will depend on the pathway on which they have been placed. Students have been placed on the pathway that best suits them and will allow them to study a set of subjects that keep their options open for their future.

**Students on the Ebacc pathway** will study at least one humanities subject from GCSE History and GCSE Geography and a Modern Foreign Language from French, Spanish or German. The remaining option choice may be selected from a wide range of high value Level 2 qualifications including GCSEs and vocational courses.

**Students on the Open pathway** must select at least one subject from an Ebacc list of subjects including History, Geography, French, Spanish, German and Computer Science. The remaining two option choices may be selected from a wide range of high value Level 2 qualifications including GCSEs and vocational courses.

In order to offer further guidance and support through this process, we have a '**virtual options evening**' available on the website, an online **Parents' Evening on 11th March** to give you an opportunity to discuss suitability with your child's teacher and a dedicated email address for all other enquiries ([options@wernethschool.com](mailto:options@wernethschool.com)).

Regards

**Miss G. Kennedy**  
**Assistant Headteacher**



## Core Subjects

English Language and English Literature  
Mathematics  
Core Science  
Core Physical Education  
Non-examined Religious Education and Life Learning

## EBACC Subjects

Geography  
History  
French  
German  
Spanish  
Triple Science  
Computer Science

## Option Subjects

Business Studies  
Dance  
Drama: Performing Arts – Acting BTEC  
Media Studies  
Film Studies  
Introduction to GCSE Music  
Physical Education  
Religious Education  
Photography  
Graphics  
Fine Art  
3D Sculpture  
Design and Technology GCSE  
Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE

## Vocational Subjects

NCFE Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Business and Enterprise  
CFE CACHE Level 2 Technical Award in Child Development and Care  
Construction  
BTEC IT Technical Award in Digital Information Technology  
NCFE Level 1/2 (Level 1 and Level 2) Technical Award in Engineering  
Level 2 Vocational Certificate in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy  
WJEC Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering Level 1&2



# Core Curriculum

# English Language and English Literature



## **Why should you study English?**

There are a number of important reasons why you should study English. Here are just a few of them:

- you need English for many courses in higher education;
- it is a qualification that many employers expect you to have;
- you will have to re-sit English at college if you do not gain a Level 5 or above.
- English gives you many skills that are used all the time in daily life and other GCSE subjects;
- English is invaluable for your future no matter what you are aiming for. A good command of the spoken and written word will help you every day – and benefit all your other GCSEs too. Whatever you end up doing, English is a must-have subject for college, university, work and life!

From Architecture to Zoology, GCSE English will help you to:

- work independently;
- be creative;
- think critically;
- communicate your ideas with confidence (handy when you're with your mates too!);
- think logically.

GCSE English could help you land that dream job...sports journalist – lawyer – film director – public relations executive – fashion journalist – author – newsreader – politician – actor – architect – creative director – scriptwriter...the list is endless.

## **You will study:**

- Reading – a variety of reading texts including media and web-sites as well as fiction and Shakespeare;
- Writing – you will learn how to write for a number of different situations;
- Speaking and Listening – you will learn how to communicate with others in a variety of situations.

## **You will learn the following:**

- how to communicate effectively with others both in written and spoken English;
- how to present yourself well both in spoken and written English;
- how to study and understand a range of texts including non-fiction and literature;
- how to work on your own and with others;
- how to monitor your own progress.

## **Assessment:**

- there will only now be one level of assessment but this will cover the full range of abilities;
- there are two subjects that you will be assessed in: English Language and English Literature;
- you will be awarded two grades on your final GCSE certificate that will reflect your achievements in both English Literature and English Language. You will be awarded a grade from 1 to 9, with 9 being the highest;
- all assessments will be completed in a range of terminal examinations at the end of Year 11;
- Spoken Language will be assessed by your teacher and a result will be awarded separately for this on your GCSE certificate.



### **English Language:**

- the English Language GCSE will encourage you to read a greater range of high quality, challenging literature and non-fiction text from a range of genres and types (from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries);
- reading and writing will be equally weighted;
- the English Language GCSE will have a focus on making sure that you are able to write clearly and accurately, in good Standard English. There will be an emphasis on spelling, punctuation and grammar including the use of vocabulary;
- there will be an emphasis on teaching you to become more confident in formal speaking;
- all students will be studying English Language.

### **English Literature**

The English Literature GCSE will encourage you to read a wide range of classic English literature fluently with the assessment of:

- a 19th century novel;
- a Shakespeare play;
- a selection of poetry since 1789, including Romantic poems;
- British fiction or drama from 1914 onwards.

Many of these texts will be assessed unseen and the quality of the writing in all responses to texts that are studied will also be assessed. It is expected that all students will study English Literature.

### **What will be studied in your first year?**

You will be studying a wide range of texts; from Shakespeare to Dickens and even some darker, more sinister writers! You'll be learning to look at how writers keep us on our toes, how they involve us in their texts and how they leave us feeling once we've read a piece. Poetry, plays, short stories and non-fiction extracts are just a few of the different texts you'll be exploring.

Mrs E Warren  
Subject Leader of English



# GCSE Mathematics

## **Why study Mathematics?**

GCSE Maths is incredibly important. It is still one of the main subjects that people look at for employment and is increasingly needed for entry to academic, vocational and professional courses - ranging from the sciences to financial services, nursing and paramedical courses. Mathematics is becoming an increasingly vital 'life skill'. Most colleges now look for grade six and above for some courses.



A good grade in GCSE Mathematics will give you a sound grounding for your future aspirations. Not only will it help you in your applications to college, university or dream job, but it will also help improve your logical thinking and ability to solve problems, a skill that will benefit you no matter where your strengths lie.

You will study:

- number;
- algebra;
- shape and measures;
- data handling.

## **You will learn the following**

Within each area you will learn and practice the skills and spend time applying these to real life situations. You will learn different strategies to help you to solve a variety of mathematical problems and investigations.

## **What will be studied in your first year?**

Mathematics is a subject where you build on your knowledge and understanding throughout your school education. In Year 9 you will be securing what you have learnt in Years 7 and 8, learning new skills in preparation for GCSE and deepening your understanding.

## **Assessment**

The course is assessed through examination only.

## **Examination**

The course is assessed with 3 x 1 ½ hours papers at the end of Year 11. A calculator is allowed on Paper 2 and Paper 3. Each of the three papers is made up of all areas of Mathematics and carries the same amount of marks. GCSE Mathematics has a Foundation Tier (Grades 1 – 5) and a Higher Tier (Grades 4 – 9). Grades 4-5 are expected to be equivalent to a Grade C.

Students must take all three question papers at the same tier.

Mr P G Brighton  
Subject Leader of Mathematics

# Core Science



Science takes two different routes at GCSE level: Combined Science or Triple Science. As a core expectation all students will study Combined Science and receive two GCSE grades. This can be increased to three GCSE grades via the Triple Science pathway. Combined Science contains elements of all three Science disciplines.

## **AQA Combined Science**

Students will complete units of work within the Chemistry, Biology and Physics disciplines. Each unit is further divided into several topics. There are six exams at the end of the course, each worth 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the overall grade. There is no longer a coursework element to the course, but there will be a series of compulsory practical procedures that will be included in the final exams.

This course gives students a range of science skills and can lead to Science A-levels at college.

All examinations for this course will take place in the Summer term of year 11 and students will gain **two** GCSE grades for their work.

## **Triple Science**

Please see additional information for Triple Science.

This course is delivered in the core teaching time as well, however students will study for an extra GCSE compared to the two that they receive from the Core Science route. Students will complete the same six units of work as with the Combined Science GCSE, but each unit will go into more depth and include more challenging concepts.

It allows students to acquire a wide range of science skills that will help them progress into further scientific study and a Science-based career.

## **What Will I Study in the First Year?**

Students will study several topics from the first Biology, Chemistry and Physics units including elements and compounds, energy and biological organisation.

Mr. M. Brighton  
Subject Leader of Science



# Core Physical Education



Every student in Key Stage 4 will have core PE lessons. You will have a 3 lessons of PE per week and will be expected to wear full Werneth PE kit to lessons.

You will get the option to play a variety of sports during these lessons.

These include:

- netball;
- badminton;
- basketball;
- orienteering;
- athletics;
- table tennis;
- cricket;
- softball
- rounders;
- football;
- tennis;
- hockey;
- trampolining;
- fitness.

Some students who excel within sport, but not necessarily practically, may be given the opportunity to complete a Sports' Leaders' Award qualification which will allow you to develop leadership and coaching skills.

Students may be given an opportunity to attend a local fitness centre where they can either swim or use the gym.

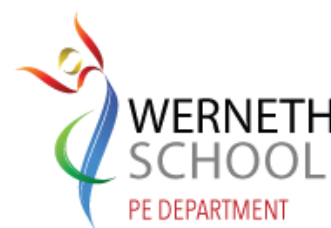
Core PE is about participation, playing sport and developing a healthy lifestyle. We expect you to be properly equipped for lessons so that you can perform in each and every lesson. The lessons will be active and are about participation. We want you to play sport with your friends and develop habits in physical activity that will last a lifetime.

## **What will you study in the first year?**

Students will take part in a new range of sports such as hockey, basketball, lacrosse and football.

Miss T. Sloane

Subject Leader of Physical Education



# Non-Examined Religious Studies and Life Learning



If you do not opt to take Religious Studies as one of your options, you will follow the non-GCSE pathway which combines both Religious Studies and Life Learning.

Religious Studies is a statutory requirement for all KS4 students and, combining it with Life Learning, allows the opportunity for students to empathise with others, as well as developing their own ideas on life issues. Students develop an awareness of real-life issues such as war, abortion and prejudice. In addition to this, students reflect on issues that will personally affect them such as relationships, mental health and managing their finances. In lessons there are plenty of opportunities for discussion as well as written tasks.

A key part of the course involves preparation for post-16 education including researching the different pathways and courses available, preparing CVs, application forms and covering letters.

The Life Learning Department is an established and popular addition to the curriculum at Werneth School since the 2016-2017 academic year. It replaces the PSCE department that was previously in place.

It is a planned program of learning through which pupils acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to manage their lives now and in the future. As part of a whole school approach, it develops the qualities and attributes pupils need to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society.

Life Learning is centered on providing pupils with experiences to become work ready, life ready and further study ready. This shall be achieved by focusing on 3 core principles - health and well-being, relationships and living in the wider world. Life Learning is a statutory requirement for all pupils and the core themes shall be developed and personalised for each child throughout Key Stage 4.

Although there are no examinations, student's classwork and behaviour are reported to parents and carers as normal via reports.

Miss A. Elder  
Subject Leader of Religious Studies

Mrs N. Smith-O'Connell  
Subject Leader of Life Learning





# EBACC Subjects



# Geography

**"Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future."**

**Michael Palin**

## **Why Geography?**

Without Geography you are nowhere. It is a living, breathing and ever changing subject. Geography is the perfect supplement for any of your child's GCSEs. It helps with their development in Science, English and Maths due to its dynamic and ranging nature. Geography is no longer just important but essential to your child's education and future. Geography is an academic discipline that suits hard workers who are ready to push themselves and learn new skills. It is an exciting subject that will broaden your horizon, increase your awareness of the world around you and open your eyes to the wonders of the planet you live on. It is about more than just seeing mesmerising places around the world. It is about understanding the complexity of our planet and appreciating the diversity of cultures that exist across its continents.

## **Why should you study Geography?**

You will develop skills that colleges and employers are looking for such as:

- Communication skills
- Graphical and mathematical skills
- Technological skills, including ICT and map reading
- Interpersonal skills through debate
- Literacy and numeracy skills
- Problem-solving skills

## **You will also:**

- Have opportunities to go on trips
- Develop a knowledge and understanding of current global events
- Investigate the earth's processes and dynamics
- Gain an understanding and appreciation of the cultures of people from all over the world
- Understand the links between politics, economics and societal issues as well as scientific and atmospheric processes
- Develop a better understanding of culture for future traveling in an ever more connected world

## **Key strengths required for studying this subject:**

- Excellent literacy and numeracy skills
- Have an interest in the world and global issues
- Be confident to work independently and in groups
- Well behaved and ready to learn

## Outline of the Course

The OCR A course we study is an issue-based thematic approach to Geography with an insight into current and future challenges at a local, national and global scale. There is a strong emphasis on the understanding of physical processes in the environment; as well as human management of society, the economy and of resources and how these elements interlink. Students are afforded the opportunity to develop their fieldwork skills by going on trips to both human and physical environments. Pupils will also develop numerical, graphical and writing skills they can take into all three of their core subjects.

### Section 1: Living in the UK

In this section you will focus on the dynamic nature of the UK. You will study coastal environments and how the sea interacts with our society. You will study rivers and how they form the landscapes we see all round us. You will then venture through our weather systems as well how we use energy now and in the future. You will also study how the UK's urban environments have developed and the impact our population has on our economy as well as how we import and export goods.

### Section 2: The world around us

This section covers Geography at a global scale. Here you will study coral reefs and rainforests and the creatures within them; as well as how they interact with our planet and are of such importance to us as humans. You will study long-term climate change and global weather systems including tropical revolving storms. You will learn how global atmospheric systems interact with ocean systems in the Pacific to bring us the weather we have in the UK. You will then study developing countries such as Ethiopia and rapidly growing cities around the world. You will delve into how their cultures and societies differ from ours and how our quality of life should never be underestimated.

### Section 3: Geographical skills

This section involves the undertaking of different fieldwork tasks that will be assessed in the final examinations. Here the pupils will take part in trips and write up their findings in an investigation style. These trips are an amazing opportunity for our pupils to see their learning in the real world. This paper is also a chance for pupils to use their initiative in some unseen content.

The GCSE exams - Grades Available: 1-9

**Paper 1 - Living in the UK                      30% - 1 Hour - 60 marks**

**Paper 2 - The world around us            30% - 1 Hour - 60 marks**

**Paper 3 - Geographical skills                40% - 1.5 Hours - 80 marks**

There is a world out there to go and explore; let Geography be the start of that journey.

Mr J Nicholls  
Subject Leader of Geography





# History



## **Why should you study History?**

GCSE History will help you understand how the world you live in was shaped, and make you consider today's society and its place in history. Employers and universities regard History qualifications very highly - GCSE History may just be your ticket to a better future. History is also a fascinating subject and one which will help you to develop your English skills and give you an increased awareness of the world. History is about telling stories, if you like true stories then History is for you.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

History is closely linked to English. If you have good written skills, you should do well in this subject. If you like analysing evidence and forming different interpretations and testing the truth, then History is also for you.

## **Where will it take you?**

History is very much a pure academic subject. It will help you to study any of the Humanities' subjects at A Level. History qualifications can be used in business, the civil service, the military, the police, and other occupations which require analytical skills;

## **Brief overview of what will be studied**

The GCSE exam is split into four topic areas which will be examined across two exam papers at the end of Year 11:

- The American West, c.1835-c1895.
- Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060-1088
- Medicine through time, c1250-present (feat. WWI depth study)
- The USA, 1954-1975: conflict at home and abroad

## **When and in what way will you be assessed?**

Three examination papers on the Edexcel specification.

**Paper 1:** Thematic study and historic environment: Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.

Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes

30%\* of the qualification 52 marks (16 for the historic environment, 36 for the thematic study)

**Paper 2:** Period study and British depth study Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88 and The American West, c1835–c1895.

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes

40%\* of the qualification 64 marks (32 for the period study and 32 for the British depth study)

**Paper 3:** Modern depth study: The USA, 1954–75: conflict at home and abroad.

Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes

30%\* of the qualification 52 marks

## **What will be studied in your first year?**

During the first year of this course, the aim is to learn content for the examination topics, whilst also developing and practising extended essay writing skills and how to analyse historical sources.

Key strengths required for studying this subject:

- Good literacy skills.
- Students should be good at English;
- Students should be independent learners.

Miss S. Mosley – Subject Leader of History

# French



## **Why you should study French:**

- more than 200 million people speak French worldwide;
- French is the second most widely-learned foreign language after English, and the ninth most widely spoken language in the world;
- with a qualification in a language, you can get a job in any multi-national company;
- people who study languages have a huge employment potential;
- the majority of universities consider a GCSE in a modern foreign language very favourably;
- even if you don't use a language in your future job, having a language GCSE shows employers and colleges that you are a hard worker.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

You will succeed in a French GCSE if you:

- enjoy talking about a variety of topics;
- have enjoyed it and have achieved well in Years 7 and 8;
- can work independently as well as in lessons;
- complete work to deadlines with teacher support.

## **Where will it take you?**

- Studying a language at GCSE makes you much more employable, both abroad and within the UK. You will learn excellent communication skills by learning to listen and to speak to people in different ways. You will also gain reading and writing skills and, most importantly, learning a language helps you to understand different cultures. Learning languages gets you far and it shows you can work hard.

## **Brief overview of what will be studied**

- Our aim is to enable all students to develop their French language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence;
- There are many fun ways to study a language and a variety of modern software is used to support the course content;
- The course will be split into three broad themes:-
  - Identity and culture;
  - Local, national, international and global areas of interest;
  - Current and future study and employment.

## **When and where will you be assessed?**

- GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (Grades 1-5) and a Higher Tier (Grades 4-9). Students will be assessed in four skill areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing – all of which are worth 25% of the final grade.

## **What will you study in the first year?**

- The course will be taught over three years, beginning in Year 9. Students will have a foundation year which will be consolidated and developed as the course continues in Years 10 and 11.

Mr D. Smith  
Subject Leader of Modern Foreign Languages

# German



## **Why you should study German:**

- there are more native speakers of German, than of any other language in the EU;
- 100 million speakers worldwide;
- after America, China and Japan, Germany has the strongest economy in the world!
- people who study languages have a huge employment potential;
- with a qualification in a language you can get a job in many multi-national companies;
- many universities look favourably on a GCSE in a modern foreign language for entry into any degree course.
- there are many German companies which have offices in the UK, all of which need German speakers and create 315,00 jobs in the UK. Companies such as BMW, Audi, VW, Mercedes-Benz, Bosch, Siemens, BASF, Bayer Pharmaceuticals, Wella, Nivea, Lufthansa and Adidas;
- German is a widely-used language on the Internet.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

You will succeed in a German GCSE if you:

- enjoy talking about a variety of topics;
- have enjoyed MFL in Years 7 and 8;
- can work independently as well as in lessons;
- complete work to deadlines with teacher support.

## **Where will it take you?**

- studying a language at GCSE makes you much more employable. You will learn great communication skills by learning to listen and to speak to people in different ways. You will also gain reading and writing skills and, most importantly, learning a language helps you to understand different cultures. Learning languages gets you far and it shows you can work hard;

## **Brief overview of what will be studied**

- Our aim is to enable all students to begin and consequently develop their German language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence.
- There are many fun ways to study a language and a variety of modern software is used to support the course content;
- The course will be split into three broad themes:-
  - Identity and culture;
  - Local, national, international and global areas of interest;
  - Current and future study and employment.

## **When and where will you be assessed?**

- GCSE German has a Foundation Tier (Grades 1-5) and a Higher Tier (Grades 4-9). Students will be assessed in four skill areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing – all of which are worth 25% of the final grade.

## **What will be studied in your first year?**

- The course will be taught over three years, beginning in Year 9. Students will have a foundation year which will be consolidated and developed as the course continues in Years 10 and 11.

Mr D. Smith  
Subject Leader of Modern Foreign Languages

# Spanish



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## **Why should you study Spanish?**

- there are over 390 million speakers of Spanish worldwide and it is the fourth most spoken language;
- Spain is one of the most popular holiday destinations for British people, and the language will also get you around most of South America and help you in North America too!
- Spanish is easy and fun to speak, with very few rules to remember when it comes to pronunciation;
- with a qualification in a language you can get a job in many multi-national companies;
- having a GCSE language shows employers, colleges, universities that you are a hard worker.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

You will succeed in a Spanish GCSE if you:

- enjoy talking about a variety of topics;
- have enjoyed it and have achieved well in KS3;
- can work independently as well as in lessons;
- complete work to deadlines with teacher support.

## **Where will it take you?**

- Studying a language at GCSE makes you much more employable, both abroad and within the UK. You will learn excellent communication skills by learning to listen and to speak to people in different ways. You will also gain reading and writing skills and, most importantly, learning a language helps you to understand different cultures. Learning languages gets you far and it shows you can work hard.

## **Brief overview of what will be studied**

- Our aim is to enable all students to begin and consequently develop their Spanish language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence;
- There are many fun ways to study a language and a variety of modern software is used to support the course content;
- The course will be split into three broad themes:-
  - Identity and culture;
  - Local, national, international and global areas of interest;
  - Current and future study and employment.

## **When and where will you be assessed?**

- GCSE Spanish has a Foundation Tier (Grades 1-5) and a Higher Tier (Grades 4-9). Students will be assessed in four skill areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing – all of which are worth 25% of the final grade.

## **What will be studied in your first year?**

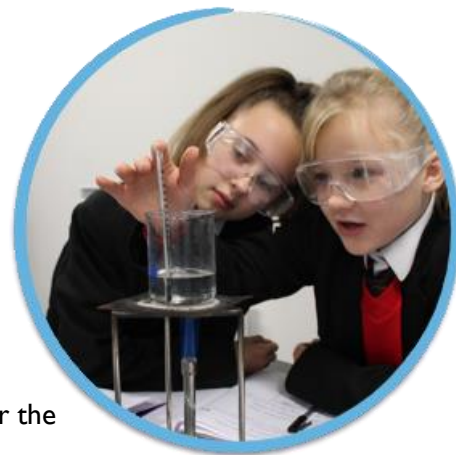
- The course will be taught over three years, beginning in Year 9. Students will have a foundation year which will be consolidated and developed as the course continues in Years 10 and 11.

Mr D. Smith  
Subject Leader of Modern Foreign Languages

# Triple Science

The Triple Science course allows students to study a wide range of Sciences which will allow students to progress onto Science A-levels, and a Science based career.

The course is worth three separate GCSEs individually assessed in Biology, Physics and Chemistry. These qualifications are delivered using the core curriculum time. As a result, students are not required to use an option choice to study Triple Science. Students will be taught by subject specialist teachers for the three different elements.



The key features of the course are:

- to develop interest in and enthusiasm for Science;
- develop a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods;
- acquire and apply skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works and its essential role in society;
- acquire scientific skills, knowledge and understanding necessary for progression to further learning.

Students will be taught by three independent subject specialists. Each unit is further divided into several topics. For each discipline of Science there are two exams, each worth 50% of the final grade. This results in a total of six exams. There is no longer a coursework element to the course but there will be a series of compulsory practical procedures that will be included in the final exams.

All exams will take place in the Summer of Year 11.

Triple Science is ideally suited to students that have a positive attitude to learning and an aptitude for the subject. Prospective Triple Science Students will initially be identified by their classroom teachers in the Spring term of year 9. Pupils who are selected will be notified prior to the start of year ten and can discuss the pathway with a member of the Science faculty.

## **Key strengths required for studying this subject:**

- Good literacy and numeracy skills;
- A good record of effort in classwork and homework throughout years 7, 8 and 9
- A good behaviour record throughout years 7, 8 and 9
- A keen interest in Science with thoughts of possibly studying a Science subject at A-level.
- A desire to follow a pathway into a scientific career.

## **What Will I Study in the First Year?**

Students will study several topics from the first Biology, Chemistry and Physics units including elements and compounds, energy and biological organisation.

Mr. M. Brighton  
Subject Leader of Science



# Computer Science GCSE (Edexcel)



## **Why should you study the Computer Science GCSE?**

Computer Science will offer you a unique opportunity to gain an understanding of how computers work, are used to create computer programs to find solutions to real-life problems. Computer Science develops valuable programming and computational thinking skills, which are increasingly relevant to a wide variety of modern digital careers.

## **Year 9**

Students will be introduced to the concept of problem solving and programming through the use text based (HTML, Java Script and Python) programming. They will also learn about the hardware components that make up our digital devices, computer networking and the psychological impact of social media.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

You must be hard working and have interests in current and emerging technologies and be interested in pursuing a career in computing. The course requires commitment, dedication to your work and effort throughout the course. Excellent attendance is essential due to the nature of learning new skills and knowledge. An ability to think creatively and problem solve would be an advantage.

## **Where will it take you?**

If you are interested in the ways computer/electronic devices work and in the creation of application programs or simply want to develop your skills in preparation for a career in programming, electronics, game design, computer networking or system development then this is the option for you. Anyone who wants to work with computer systems in the future and study any of the Computer Science disciplines at College and University will benefit from this course.

## **This GCSE will enable you to:**

- become a discerning computer user, able to make informed decisions regarding hardware, software, storage, memory, networks and programming;
- acquire and apply creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of computers and computer programs in a range of contexts;
- understand how computer systems work;
- use computational thinking to design, create and develop your own programming solutions to given problems;
- improve your understanding of current technologies and trends towards the future.
- develop your understanding of the legal, social, economic, ethical and environmental issues that arise in this digital age;
- recognise potential risks when computing, and develop safe and secure systems using professional standards;
- communicate effectively digitally, orally and in writing.

## **When and in what way will it be assessed?**

The course will run over the 3 years with 3 examinations at the end of Year 11.

Mr R. Babar  
Subject Leader of Computing and IT



# Option Subjects

# Business Studies

## Developing Enterprising Minds



### Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy

- Learning about the world of business through real local and international brands
- Communicating and explaining your ideas
- Thinking creatively and making decisions
- Working with numbers to solve business problems.
- 

Then Business Studies is the right subject for you.

### What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

It does not matter if you haven't studied business before. You might have an interest in business and want to start your own business one day. You may have an enquiring mind and be interested in learning about the world around you, how businesses are set up, and what it is that makes someone a great entrepreneur. This course will help you to understand all this and more.

### What will I learn?

What is Business studies? In GCSE Business Studies, you will learn about how the world of business works and its relevance to almost every aspect of modern society. Amongst other topics, you will learn about planning, finance, marketing and economics and discover some of the methods and techniques used to analyse an organisation's performance. The course we follow is: Edexcel GCSE Business Studies

**Why choose Business studies?** Business Studies will allow you to develop a variety of transferable skills that will improve your employability and stay with you for the rest of your life, regardless of what career you choose.

### How will I be assessed?

You will complete two 1 hour 30 minutes exams at the end of the course to gain your grade.

### Below is a list of the skills you will develop and perfect throughout your business studies course:

Good **decision-making** is an invaluable quality. • You will also develop your **numeracy skills** in Business Studies as you study investment, funding and how to use and interpret financial data. • Studying how organisations adjust to a **changing market** will teach you how to be an adaptable, flexible person. • You will learn to be **organised** and to **plan ahead**. • **Problem solving** is a significant part of Business Studies. • **Presentation skills** are important so a subject that allows you to develop them is a definite advantage.

### What next after the course?

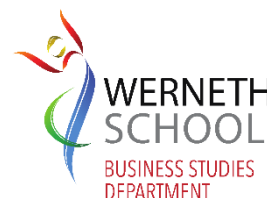
This GCSE course opens exciting opportunities to study business-related subjects at AS or A-level. Business can be the gateway into a number of great career choices: as well as being a fascinating subject in its own right, it is a useful subsidiary subject alongside almost any degree course at university. Some common courses to combine with Business are Law, Accounting, Economics, Journalism, English, ICT and Engineering.

### Future employment opportunities?

We live in a corporate world and the markets operate around us constantly. Because of this, business is a universal subject. There are few, if any, careers for which an understanding of business would not be of some benefit. Business Studies is also a key to attaining highly paid and challenging roles in all levels of management.

### Next Steps

Talk to Mrs Clayton about taking Business Studies. Subject Leader of Business



# Dance



## **Why should you study Dance?**

Because you:

- you want to study a subject that is both practical and creative;
- you want to study professional dance works in a range of styles;
- you would like to have the opportunity to take part in professional dance workshops and go on theatre trips;
- you would like to be involved in performance evenings and leadership opportunities;
- you have a passion for dance;
- You want to develop transferrable skills.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

Werneth has a very strong tradition of boys and girls achieving exam success through Dance. Dance is a heavily practical based subject and should interest students who enjoy being physically challenged and working creatively. Dance is a very social subject requiring a great deal of interaction and co-operation with others. Someone who is capable of working as part of a group and as an individual. A high level of participation and commitment is an essential requirement. There is also a strong emphasis on written work and each component requires students to use their English language skills to complete written coursework.

**Work will be videoed on a regular basis to track progress and this a requirement of the course.**

## **Where will it take you?**

The study of a Performing Art can enrich any career pathway as it develops the skills of leadership, independence, creativity, ICT, critical thinking, problem solving and analytical thinking, and the ability to work with others.

Jobs in the Performing Arts and Media Industry are diverse and would be an obvious route for students wishing to specialise for example: performance, performing arts' management and writer within the Arts. Other career routes would include teaching, youth work, police, public services, sport therapy and physiotherapy and working in education.

## **Overview of what will be studied in BTEC Dance**

### **Component 1: Studying professional repertoire**

You will study 3 professional works in a range of styles, you will make judgements on their context and workshop practical approaches to the creation of the work. The final assessment is a written report and research journal on your findings.

### **Component 2: Preparing for an audition**

You will study a variety of styles of dance. You will develop your dance skills and reflect on your personal development in a workshop diary, sessions will be videoed to show your progress. You will look at professional dance works and learn a variety of repertoire. Your final performance will be a 2 – 3 minute performance of one of the professional works.

### **Component 3: Dance festival (External exam)**

You will be given an assignment brief set by the exam board. You will work in a group to create a 10 – 15 minute dance piece as a response to the brief. You will demonstrate your creativity and collaboration skills. Your final performance will be showcased in front of a live audience. You will then reflect on your work in the form of a written evaluation report.

## **Assessment**

You will be continually assessed through the course and given feedback on how to improve. You will complete internally assessed exam work through Years 10 and 11. However the final external exam which is both practical and written will take place during Year 11.

### **Key strengths required for studying this subject:**

- enjoy physical activity;
- to have good/excellent attendance as practical work is continually assessed;
- to be committed to making personal progress;
- to want to be involved in performance opportunities;
- to be prepared to attend and participate in performance evenings;
- to be an organised individual and be able to work in a team;
- you **MUST** follow the courses health and safety requirements **eg: kit must be worn for every lesson, bare feet (no shoes or socks are allowed), long hair must be tied back.**

### **Commitment – What you will need to be prepared to do:**

Students must be aware that because of the practical nature of the subject, homework can be set as attendance at rehearsals. **These rehearsals, after school and during dinnertimes are classed as an essential part of the course and students must be willing to commit to them. You will also have to take part in performance evenings, shows and school events as these are assessed.**

### **What can I do after I have completed the course?**

After you have completed the course you can go onto higher levels of study. These include  
BTEC National of Performing Arts (Dance/Acting) route, Level 3 (equivalent to A Level);  
A-Level Dance;  
National Cambridge, Level 3 Performing Arts;  
RSL Performing Arts

Miss K. Hibbert  
Head of Dance



# Drama

## Performing Arts: Acting and GCSE Drama



### **Why should you study Drama and Acting?**

The UK's Creative Industries Sector is growing every year and it makes up a big cornerstone of our economy. By studying Drama and Acting, you will gain creative thinking skills that are vital to all creative endeavours.

Drama is about understanding what it is like to put yourself in somebody else's shoes. You will play many parts and learn about many different people. You will create your own work as well as looking at plays from the professional repertoire. You will develop your own creativity and opinions, and you will gain essential skills in communication, presentation, team-work and empathy.

You will have many opportunities to get involved with outside activities, such as professional drama workshops, theatre trips, various performance evenings and school productions.

### **Who is it suitable for?**

Acting and Drama are suitable for everyone!

Anyone can take either GCSE Drama or BTEC in Performing Arts: Acting, as long as they are willing to get fully involved in drama-making, performance and study. Performance is a major part of both courses so you must be willing to perform for others - at the minimum, you will have to perform for a small audience of your peers. However, you may find the opportunity to perform in large-scale productions too!

Drama involves a great deal of team-work, communication and cooperation with others, so you must be prepared to work positively with everyone!

If you are a creative person and like to learn by doing, then the BTEC in Performing Arts: Acting is for you.

If you like to be creative and perform, along with reading, exploring plays and characters, learning about theatre technology and design, and if you're not shy about writing exams - talk to us! There's a new option to pursue a GCSE Drama too, and it's more suited to students who wish to explore the academic side of Theatre and Drama.

### **Where will it take you?**

The career paths ahead for students of Acting and Drama are immeasurable. You can pursue not only Theatre, TV and Film, but also the ever-growing digital world, which includes media, advertising and culture. The Creative Industries sector is growing so fast that jobs that you might have in the future haven't been invented yet.

Drama will prepare you for a wide variety of careers because you will learn to be flexible, imaginative, confident and resilient. Past students have used their qualification and the extra-curricular experience to enrich their applications for college and university. Some students continue with courses or jobs in the Performing Arts, while many have gone on to do A-Levels and College Courses in the Humanities, Social Studies and Media. Drama is a very popular option with students wanting to go into Law. Ultimately, Drama will give you a good grounding to pursue any career or course you choose.

### **Brief Overview of what will be studied:**

- improvisation and devised drama
- famous theatre practitioners, playwrights and their plays
- physical theatre and acting techniques
- use of stage, lighting, costumes, make-up, props and set design;
- theatre production, including multimedia
- Project Management: how to plan and structure productions from rehearsals to performance

### **When and in what way will you be assessed?**

At both BTEC and GCSE, learning is essentially practical, and yet you will have to write about the work you do too. Assessment is different for each module but will usually involve:

- taking part in workshops and small-scale performances;
- writing a log and/or video diaries, including critical thinking about your success and how to improve
- rehearsing and performing for audiences in school
- presentations of theory work and research, and learning to present in a variety of formats
- The GCSE course also includes an exam, which accounts for 40% of the final grade.

### **Commitment – What you will need to be prepared to do:**

Students must be prepared to attend rehearsal outside of regularly scheduled lessons, such as during dinner and/or after school. You will need to learn-lines, keep up to date with homework and assignments and find ways to make this course work for you! **Rehearsals are classed as an essential part of the course and students must be willing to commit to them. You will also have to take part in performance evenings, shows and school events as these are assessed.**

### **What can I do after I've completed the course?**

You can go on to higher levels of study in Acting/Drama and the Performing Arts at most colleges and Sixth-Forms in Stockport and Greater Manchester.

Courses include:

- Drama and Theatre Studies at AS and A2 Level;
- BTEC National Performing Arts (Acting) Level 3 (equivalent to A Level).

You will also have the know-how to find ways to continue in the professional realm, such as by joining an agency, or simply joining local drama groups and enjoying a life-long love of the performing arts.

Mrs E. Brothers  
Subject Leader of Drama

# Media Studies



## **Why should you study Media Studies?**

- fast growing subject at GCSE and A-Level;
- realistic career chances such as:
  - working in journalism;
  - careers in advertising and marketing;
  - working in television and radio;
- opportunities for working in industry – the North West is a leading region for creative media.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

- Students who are interested in a career in media;
- Students who enjoy or have strengths in Art/English or ICT;
- Students who like to work creatively and think analytically;
- Students who are independent learners.

## **Where will it take you?**

Further Education College - A-Levels - Film Studies. Media Studies, Photography, Communication Studies, English Language and Literature.

Careers – journalism, TV, film, advertising and marketing.

## **Brief overview of what will be studied**

Units on newspapers, TV drama, film industry, genre films and advertising.

## **What will be studied in your first year?**

- Adverts;
- Newspapers;
- Music videos;
- Television dramas;
- Action films;
- Magazine covers.

## **When and in what way will you be assessed?**

Component 1 = 35% - Exploring the Media (written exam).

Component 2 = 35% - Understanding media forms and products (1hr 30 minutes) written exam.

Component 3 = 30% - Creating media products, non-exam assessment (coursework);

## **Key strengths required for studying this subject:**

- good literacy skills;
- some ability to use ICT programmes such as Corel Paint, Word and PowerPoint;
- ability to think creatively and analytically;
- be a good independent learner.

S. McKeown

Subject Leader of Media Studies



# Film Studies



## **Why should you study Film Studies?**

Film Studies is a brand new GCSE aiming to develop students' understanding of film. The course will help develop analytical skills which will help improve literacy. Film Studies is one of the most popular and fast growing options in further education and university.

The school has purchased industry-standard ICT equipment which the students will be using in this subject. Film provides a sophisticated insight to the culture and politics of certain eras.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

- Students who have good literacy levels;
- Student who have competence in ICT;
- Students who enjoy watching films from different cultures as well as mainstream cinema;
- Students who enjoy being creative.

## **Where will it take you?**

- A-Levels in Film Studies, Media Studies, English Language and Literature, and Cultural Studies;
- Creative and Media Diploma;
- Careers in Journalism, Web Design, Film-Making and Production.

## **Brief overview**

Students will study different genres of film from different cultural periods. They will analyse films and learn how they are made. Students will also have the opportunity to produce their own films or screenplays and then evaluate their process.

## **When and in what way will you be assessed?**

Component 1: Key developments in US film, written exam, 1hr 30 minutes, 35% of qualifications;

Component 2: Global films: Narrative representation and film style, written exam, 1hr 30 minutes, 35% of qualifications;

Component 3: Production: Non exam assessment, 30% of qualification.

## **What will be studied in your first year?**

- the language of film;
- Study a range of genre including comedy, drama, action and
- film posters.

## **Key strengths required for studying this subject:**

- good literacy skills;
- some ability to use ICT programmes such as Photoshop, Fireworks, video editing or a desire to learn;
- ability to think creatively;
- be a good independent learner.

S. McKeown

Subject Leader of Film Studies

# Introduction to GCSE Music

## (for Singers and Instrumentalists)



### **Why should you study Music?**

Music will almost certainly be an integral part of your life even if you do not intend to follow music as a career. Music helps develop critical and creative thinking, teamwork and self-discipline: all skills required to be successful in any profession.

### **Who is it suitable for?**

The course is for students to further develop their instrumental or vocal skills. If you already play an instrument or are a confident singer then you should seriously consider using these skills to your advantage in this course.

### **Where will it take you?**

GCSE Music will give you a good foundation for any music-related career. Additionally the skills developed to be successful in GCSE music are required for any high earning profession or management position. Successful students over recent years have gone on to be not only professional musicians but also scientists, lawyers, accountants, structural engineers and even politics students. Many of these students have stated that on reflection, GCSE Music was one of the most enjoyable and important aspects of their school life.

### **When and in what way will you be assessed?**

The GCSE Course itself has 2 basic exam elements.

#### **Coursework: Performing & Composing (60%)**

You will have to perform two pieces on your chosen instrument or voice and compose two pieces of music related to chosen aspects of the course. Final submission for this portfolio will be completed mainly across Year 11.

#### **Listening Paper (40%)**

There is a 90 minute examination paper where you will listen to various extracts of music and you will answer questions based on the topics covered during the course.

### **What will you study in the first year?**

We will look at a range of styles of music from recent history and from around the world but there will be a focus on:

- developing skills on your chosen instrument(s) or singing;
- developing skills using a range of music technologies;
- film Music;
- popular music styles from the 1950's to present day;
- looking at your own chosen style of music.

Mr C Barnett  
Subject Leader - Music



# GCSE Physical Education

## **Why should I study Physical Education?**

If you enjoy taking part in a wide range of sporting activities and would like to understand the wider impact of sport in the community and you enjoy biology and the workings of the human body and want to understand how it is affected through exercise, then this could be the course for you.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

Students who are keen on sport and are talented in a variety of sports. You will need to have a good level of scientific understanding to be able to measure performance against physiological factors of the human body.

GCSE PE is particularly suitable to students who have achieved a high standard of performance in a range of sports during Year 7 and 8.

Students who take GCSE PE require an exceptional kit and participation record. It is compulsory for GCSE PE students to wear full Werneth PE uniform to all practical lessons. Failure to do so will result in students not participating in practical lessons which will seriously affect their grade. The course is not recommended for students who have a poor level of participation during Year 7 and 8. Poor participation equates to failing to bring PE uniform three times in a term.

The new GCSE syllabus is extremely demanding and is a 70% theoretical exam and a 30% practical exam in 3 sports.

## **Where will it take you?**

GCSE PE will allow you to study a range of subjects at college and is suitable for progression into a number of sporting occupations. Studying a full GCSE in PE would allow you to access A-Level PE at college (Grade B or higher recommended), giving access with further A-Level qualifications to a possible career in teaching PE.

A GCSE in PE could also enable you to take at BTEC National Diploma which is a gateway to future jobs in sports' development, leisure management and coaching.

## **Brief overview of what will be studied?**

### Practical

Students will be taught how to perform, analyse and develop their performances in the following sporting activities. Boys: rugby, badminton, fitness, basketball, table tennis, cricket and athletics\*. Girls: netball, fitness, badminton, trampolining, dance, and athletics. Students may also enjoy the opportunity to gain some experience of personal survival.

### Theory

You will study individual factors that affect participation in physical activity. Identify and learn the principles and types of training, fitness testing and training and how exercise affects the body. You will develop a wider knowledge of sport and culture from the perspective of media and sponsorship, and learn the significance of Physical Education within the National Curriculum. Students will also study a wide range of current sporting issues including drugs, hooliganism and commercialisation

## **What will be studied in your first year?**

In Year 9 students will continue to participate in a range of sports. They will be examined on each activity area. They will also start to study the theoretical aspect of the course using topics such as fitness testing, training and recording data.

## **When and how will I be assessed?**

Students are assessed every half term via a practical Controlled Assessment, at the end of each year students will be assessed and modified by an external examiner. At the end of Year 11 students will sit two full GCSE PE exams.

**\*Boys GCSE PE curriculum does not include FOOTBALL, this is only taught in Year 10 and 11 Core PE.**



## **Key Strengths**

- Always bring correct PE uniform to every PE lesson;
- Rarely miss lessons through colds, coughs and bugs;
- A strong performer at a variety of sports. That means at least two team sports such as netball, basketball, rugby, football and hockey and two individual sports such as badminton, athletics, trampolining,
- You regularly attend extra-curricular PE clubs after school. This will be a compulsory part of the GCSE and you will be graded on this aspect;
- You have represented school teams in Years 7 and 8;
- You are a member of a team outside of school that plays regular fixtures or competitions;
- You have demonstrated the ability to lead activities in leadership lessons, after-school clubs or with your club/team outside school.

Miss T. Sloane  
Subject Leader of Physical Education

# Religious Studies at GCSE

If you opt to choose the GCSE pathway for Religious Studies, you will follow a two year programme which will be examined in two papers taken at the end of Year 11.

Students will learn how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture, and develop valuable skills that will help prepare them for further study.

Each written examination consists of a range of 1, 2, 4, and 12 mark questions. The 12 mark questions are essay style debate questions.

Each exam lasts 1 hour and 45 minutes.

## Paper One

The first paper is focused on beliefs, teachings and practices of **two** religions. This will include gaining knowledge about the key principles of their faith as well as examining how faith impacts on a person's daily life.

## Paper Two

The second paper is based on philosophical and ethical issues. This part of the course studies themes such as **peace and conflict, crime and punishment, human rights, the ethical treatment of animals and abortion**. It is excellent for pupils who enjoy debating moral issues that shape the world.

## Why should you study Religious Studies at KS4?

- Whether you go on to study at university or college, or go out into the world of work, you will meet people from all walks of life with different religious and moral opinions. GCSE Religious Studies will help you to understand and appreciate them;
- Employers respect the subject which enables students to develop arguments and express opinions as well as making students more aware of different attitudes in society;
- Teaching, journalism, social work, child care, police work and lawyers are just a few of the careers where a GCSE in Religious Studies would be useful;
- Being able to evaluate differing opinions, will help you to develop similar skills in your other subjects;
- Studying the ultimate questions of life may give you a good foundation for dealing with religious and moral issues when you become an adult.

As with all your subjects, you should choose Religious Studies because you enjoy it and find it interesting and not because your friends are taking it, or because your family want you to take it. Make your own choice.

Miss A. Elder  
Subject Leader of Religious Studies



# Photography

Photography is a fantastic technology used in a wide variety of areas to create images, record information and present ideas. We work with professional photographers and do photo shoots in the city, in the country or in school.

## Do you have the skills?

Students who do well in this course are creative and good at ICT - you will need to learn to use Photoshop in the course. We will need you to be mature and independent because of the tasks we undertake including visits, workshops and using equipment. Deadlines must be met and you will need to be prepared to create an artistic sketchbook and work on projects at home.

## The course content...

Using digital photography and Photoshop you will complete a portfolio on themes such as portraits, close-up, architecture and natural forms. The course is 60% coursework and 40% exam. The exam is a small project and outcome which covers 12 weeks in Year 11.

## What can I do with this GCSE?

There are many photography courses at college either as an 'A' Level or as part of an art foundation course. The career pathways Photography is useful for are:

- photographer;
- graphic designer;
- advertising;
- journalism;
- TV and media.





# Graphics

Graphic Design is the combination of text, illustration and photography to produce artwork which can be used in a wide variety of advertising and promotional products. Artwork designed can be for the music industry, food, travel, sport and any other area where clients need to grab the customer's attention!

## Do you have the skills?

Students who do well in this course are creative and good at ICT - you will need to learn to use Photoshop in the course. You will need to be able to create effective layout and design choosing appropriate images for your customer base. Deadlines must be met and you will need to be prepared to create an artistic sketchbook and work on projects at home.

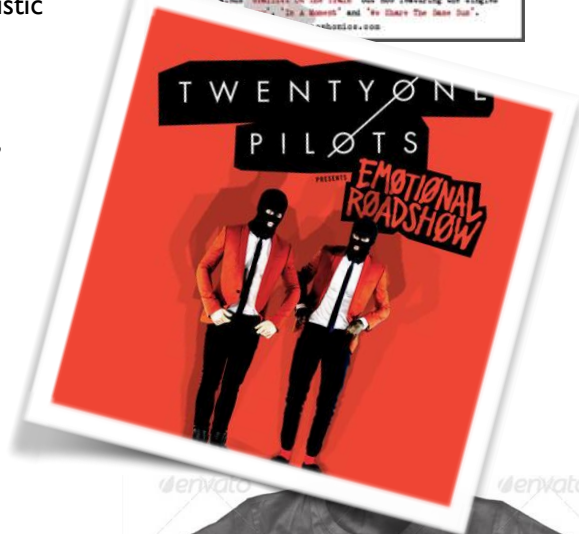
## The course content...

Using text, photography, illustration and manipulating these in Photoshop, you will complete a portfolio on themes such as festival T-Shirts, superheroes, CD/album design and iconic posters. The course is 60% coursework and 40% exam. The exam is a small project and outcome which covers 12 weeks in Year 11.

## What can I do with this GCSE?

There are many of Graphic Design courses at college either as an 'A' Level or as part of an art foundation course. The career pathways Graphic Design is useful for are:

- graphic designer;
- media;
- TV;
- Advertising;
- Journalist;
- Interior designer.



# Fine Art

Fine Art is our course for those students who enjoy traditional painting and drawing and can produce work to a high standard. This course will allow you to develop your skills and techniques and introduce you to watercolour, charcoal, soft pastel, oil pastel, ink and wax and a variety of other mixed materials.

## Do you have the skills?

Students who do well in this course are usually those who have a flair for painting and drawing, are good at drawing and shading and enjoy learning new techniques and applying them to their own creative outcomes. You will need to create a detailed sketchbook of your artwork and work at home to meet your coursework deadlines.

## The course content...

Using many different techniques, you will produce 2 canvases in the coursework stage from your sketchbook research and experiments. Themes in the past have included Sea life, Animals as Humans, Portraits, Abstract Forms, and Nature. The course is 60% coursework and 40% exam. The exam is a small project and outcome which covers 12 weeks in Year 11.

## What can I do with this GCSE?

Fine Art is a wonderful start to studying Art & Design at college either as an 'A' Level or part of a foundation course. The career pathways Fine Art is useful for are:

- Illustrator;
- Animation;
- Set designer for the theatre and TV.





# 3D Sculpture

3D Sculpture is a course where you can realise your design ideas in 3 dimensions. You will have the chance to work with mod-roc, wire, paper mache and card. Your designs can be large or small and decorated to the limits of your imagination.

## Do you have the skills?

Students who do well in this course are creative and can work well modelling their designs in a certain theme using many different materials and techniques. You will need to draw your design ideas first and then make selections of the materials you wish to use after experimenting in your preparation stage. You will need to create a detailed sketchbook and work at home to meet your coursework deadlines.

## The course content...

Using many different materials you will create 2 of your designs into 3D during the coursework stage. The themes you may follow could include masks, shoes, giant cakes, animal heads and weird and wonderful birds and creatures. The course is 60% coursework and 40% exam. The exam is a small project and outcome which covers 12 weeks in Year 11.

## What can I do with this GCSE?

3D is a great example of how creative you are and how good you can model. There are many art and design courses at college. Career pathways 3D Sculpture is useful for are:

- set design for the theatre and TV;
- product design;
- interior designer.



# Design & Technology GCSE

## Design and Technology GCSE

This course combines Product Design and Fashion giving students an understanding of the iterative design process and how this impacts on the way we live.

It is a modern and relevant course enabling students to gain knowledge of contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices.

### Why should you study Design and Technology?

The Design and Technology industry is one of the worlds leading industries employing more than 1.63 million in Textiles alone.

It is an exciting course that pulls together other curriculum areas, enabling you to see how the skills you have learnt fit into the real world.

Unlike most subjects, in Design and Technology you actually get to design and make something useful.

You will use your creativity and imagination to solve real and relevant problems, considering your own and others' needs, wants and values. You will work with all materials to design and make a variety of products using CAD/CAM and other tools and machinery.

### Programme of study

The course builds on subject knowledge that has been taught at KS3.

The course is split into 3 sections;

1. **Skill building** - This takes place in year 10 from September to June. Students will complete 4 design and making projects giving them an opportunity to build skills and knowledge in preparation for the NEA (coursework design project).  
Each project will incorporate different aspects of the Design industry as well as looking at environmental issues and new and emerging Technologies.
2. **Non-Exam Assessment (coursework)** - this is worth **50% of the GCSE** and takes place from June in year 10 to Christmas in year 11.  
It involves creating a design portfolio and making a working prototype.  
Students are given a contextual challenge, which will be a general topic area for them to investigate and formulate ideas for their own design and make project.
3. **Exam** – this is also worth **50% of the GCSE**.  
It tests the knowledge students have gained throughout the course.  
Revision will take place after Christmas in year 11 until the exam. This will be in the form of note taking, practice exam questions and practical activities.

### Who is it suitable for?

If you are interested in design and making as a career, hobby or to compliment a more academic curriculum. **You have a good level of Literacy, science and Maths, a good imagination, are experimental, creative independent** and have **good communication skills** then Design and Technology may be for you.

If you have any questions come and see me (Miss Smith) in room A13

Miss J. Smith

Teacher of Design and Technology

For more information go to: [www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology](http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology)



# Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE



## Why should you study Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE?

Do you have a passion for food? If you are **academically minded** but still want to have a **practical subject** then this course teaches the science behind our food as well as allowing you to be creative and make a wide variety of high skill dishes.

**You will be expected to bring ingredients and will cook at least once every two weeks in the double lesson.**

## Who is it suitable for?

**You will need to have a good level of Literacy, science and Maths**, a good imagination, are experimental, independent and have good communication skills. ***This course is suitable for those students wishing to follow a practical subject, providing expert life skills. You must have a passion to want to learn how to prepare and cook dishes the professional way and you will be expected to bring ingredients. You must be organised, hardworking and able to work in a team.***

## Where will it take you?

By studying food preparation and nutrition learners will:

1. be able to demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a variety of food commodities whilst using different cooking techniques and equipment
2. develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks
3. understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health
4. understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices
5. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food
6. understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

It provides you with a good background in cooking and knife skills as well as a starting point for careers including teaching, Home Economist, Food Technologist and jobs in the Food and Catering Industry, as well as providing you with excellent life skills.

## What will be studied in your first year?

In Year 9 you will study an introduction to the course concentrating on building practical skills and looking at the science behind food and nutrition and healthy eating. You will also complete an assessment task based on preparing and cooking a range of healthy dishes. **You will be cooking at least every other week and you will be expected to bring ingredients.**

## When and in what way will you be assessed?

**Examination assessment – based on the six areas of content above**

Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes, **50% of the qualification**, 100 marks

**Non-examination assessment**

**50% of the qualification**, 100 marks based on 2 assessments set in Year 11 –

**Assessment 1: The Food Investigation Assessment 15% of total qualification**

A Food Investigation will be set that will require each learner to:

- (i) research and plan the task
- (b) investigate the working characteristics, function and chemical properties of ingredients through practical experimentation and use the findings to achieve a particular result

- (c) analyse and evaluate the task
- (ii) produce a report which evidences all of the above and includes photographs and/or visual recordings to support the investigation

**Assessment 2: The Food Preparation Assessment 35% of total qualification**

This assessment will require learners to Plan, prepare, cook and present a selection of dishes, to meet particular requirements such as a dietary need, lifestyle choice or specific context.

**Key strengths required for studying this subject:**

- be prepared to purchase and bring ingredients;
- enthusiasm to make and do practical tasks;
- be organised and planned;
- be able to work under pressure and to deadlines;
- have good communication and teamwork skills;
- be computer literate.

Mrs R. Oakes (Subject Leader of Technology)

More information available at <http://www.edugas.co.uk/qualifications/food-preparation-and-nutrition/>

## Choose Food prep or Catering?

Two new subjects for you to choose from



**Both subjects do the same amount of practical making and the same practical skill building so you CANNOT study both  
YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO BRING INGREDIENTS**

### **GCSE Food preparation and nutrition**

- Looks at the food nutrition in detail.
- Is science based – 50% coursework
- Requires independence and more academic.
- Cook at least every other week.
  - More choice in making.
  - Must want to cook and be prepared to bring ingredients
    - 50% external exam

### **• WJEC Hospitality and Catering award**

- Looks at the hospitality industry.
  - Is portfolio practical based -
- 60% skills based theoretical and practical task
  - Taught to cook like a chef.
- Cook at least every other week.
  - Told what making to learn necessary skills.
- Must be able to cook and have some skill and be prepared to bring ingredients
  - 40% external exam



# Vocational Subjects



# NCFE Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Business and Enterprise



## Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is for learners who want an introduction to business and enterprise that includes a vocational and project-based element. This will appeal to you if you wish to pursue a career in the business and enterprise sector or progress to further study.

## Learners will develop skills and knowledge:

In adapting your own ideas and responding to feedback in evaluating your own work, analysing data and making decisions that are essential for the business and enterprise sector, such as evaluation skills; responding to data; independent working; working to deadlines; efficient use of resources. The knowledge and skills gained will provide a secure foundation for careers in the business and enterprise sector.

## Qualification content

Throughout this qualification, you will gain valuable knowledge of:

- entrepreneurial characteristics and business aims and objectives
- legal structures, organisational structures and stakeholder engagement
- the marketing mix, market research, market types and orientation types
- internal and external influences on business
- research, resource planning and growth for business
- human resource requirements for a business start-up
- sources of enterprise funding and business finance
- business and enterprise planning.

## Why choose Business studies?

Business Studies will allow you to develop a variety of transferable skills that will improve your employability and stay with you for the rest of your life, regardless of what career you choose.

## How will I be assessed?

You will complete an externally assessed written examination for unit one and an internally assessed synoptic project for unit two,

## What's next?

You could progress to:

- Level 2 Technical Certificates in; Accounting, Accounting and Business, Business Administration, Business and Enterprise, Customer Service Operations, Business Support
- Level 3 Applied General in; Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, Financial Studies, Business and Enterprise, Applied Business, Business
- Level 3 Technical Level in; Coordinating Business Support, Business: Marketing
- An apprenticeship within sectors such as Finance, Marketing or Human Resources.

## Next Steps

Talk to Mrs Clayton about taking Business Studies. Subject Leader of Business





# NCFE CACHE Level 2 Technical Award in Child Development and Care

## Who is this qualification for?

The Level 2 Technical Award in Child Development and Care has been designed to meet the needs of learners from the age of 14 years. It will provide an opportunity to gain a vocational qualification that gives a basic introduction to the sector. It includes the knowledge and understanding of child development and well-being.

## What will you study as part of this qualification?

This qualification provides you with an introduction to child development and well-being. You will need to complete 3 mandatory units to achieve this qualification.

The mandatory units are:

- Unit 1: An introduction to working with children aged 0-5 years
- Unit 2: Development and well-being 0-5 years
- Unit 3: Childcare and development 0-5 years

## Is this qualification right for you?

This qualification is a good choice for you if you wish to gain an understanding of child development and well-being. This qualification is ideal for you if you wish to progress to further learning in this area, as it supports progression to a broad range of vocational training courses at Level 2 and above.

## Why should you take this qualification?

This qualification serves as an introduction to child development and well-being and counts as one GCSE.

## What could this qualification lead to?

Progression to further relevant level 2 programmes of study or level 3 programmes of study including those from our Early Years Educator suite. You may also progress to an Apprenticeship route in early years or childcare at either Level 2 or Level 3.

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

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

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

**Please see Mrs Clayton in C55 for more information.**

# Construction



We are hoping to offer a construction course for a small number of students in partnership with B4Box. The students will follow a Multi trade course including Joinery, Painting and Decorating, Plastering and Tiling. The course takes place off site and students who gain a place on the course make have to be prepared to make their own way to B4box and return to school at lunchtime in Year 10.

In Year 11 students are offsite for a full day and may miss an English or Maths lesson.

Places are very limited and we always have more students who wish to do this than can be accommodated. If your son or daughter wishes to be considered for a place on the construction course please select 3 options, not including construction, and write on the option/email return that they would like to be considered for the construction course.

Construction places will be allocated once the course is confirmed.

# BTEC IT Technical Award in Digital Information Technology



BTEC aims to empower learners to play an active role in the digital sector rather than being simply consumers of digital content. Tailor-made to meet the needs of today's creative industries, this qualification covers imaging, creative multimedia and website development

## **Year 9**

Students will learn a wide variety of software skills to prepare them for the beginning of the course. They will complete a mini project in the development of digital products similar to the assessed course work in years 10-11 to support their understanding of requirements and future assessment.

## **Why should you study BTEC?**

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

- development of key skills that prove your aptitude in digital information technology, such as project planning, designing and creating user interfaces, creating dashboards to present and interpret data;
- process that underpins effective ways of working in digital information technology, such as project planning, the iterative design process, cyber security, virtual teams, legal and ethical codes of conduct;
- attitudes that are considered most important in digital information technology, including personal management and communication;
- knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as how different user interfaces meet user needs, how organisations collect and use data to make decisions, virtual workplaces, cyber security and legal and ethical issues.

## **Who is it suitable for?**

For learners who want to acquire technical knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by studying the knowledge, understanding and skills related to data management, data interpretation, data presentation and data protection as part of their Key Stage 4 learning. The qualification recognises the value of learning skills, knowledge and vocational attributes to complement GCSEs. The qualification will broaden the learners experience and understanding of the varied progression options available to them.

## **Where will it take you?**

- A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects
- study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in IT, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the digital sector.

## **Brief overview of what will be studied and how it will be assessed**

### **Component 1: Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques (30%)**

Students will do coursework in lessons which will be assessed by their teacher and verified by the exam board.

### **Component 2: Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data (30%)**

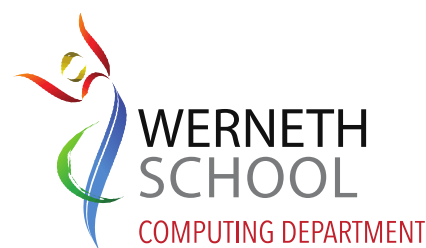
Students will do coursework in lessons which will be assessed by their teacher and verified by the exam board.

### **Component 3: Effective Digital Working Practices (40%)**

Students will do an exam which will be assessed and verified by the exam board.

Mr R Babar

Subject Leader of Computing and IT



# NCFE Level 1/2 (Level 1 and Level 2)

## Technical Award in Engineering



### Who is this qualification for?

Those who like to problem solve and are willing to provide written, photographic and making skills to provide evidence to complete the course.

To be clear, the making element is approximately a third of the total course content.

- This qualification is designed for learners who want an introduction to engineering that includes a vocational and project-based element using different materials including wood.
- The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the engineering sector or progress to further study.
- You will need to be able to work both as part of a team and work independently. You will complete both practical and written theory work as evidence for the qualification.
- The course is split 40% for Unit 1, an exam: Understanding the Engineering world and 60% for Unit 2 a project based coursework for Skills and Techniques in Engineering
- This vocational qualification will count as equivalent to one GCSE in the Key Stage 4 performance tables at a Level 2 pass.
- This qualification encourages the learner to use knowledge and practical tools to focus on developing transferable skills in practical engineering accompanied by the theoretical knowledge to help with progression into employment and onto further education.
- This qualification has been designed to sit alongside the requirements of core GCSE subjects and is appropriate for learners who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on experiences and through content which is concrete and directly related to those experiences.
- The qualification focuses on an applied study of the engineering sector and learners will gain a broad understanding and knowledge of working in the sector.

Throughout this qualification, learners will gain valuable knowledge of:

- *engineering disciplines*
- *the science and mathematics that is applied in engineering*
- *how to read engineering drawings*
- *properties and characteristics of engineering materials and know why specific materials are selected for engineering applications*
- *engineering tools, equipment and machines*
- *processing skills and techniques applied to materials for a manufacturing task equipment.*
- *production planning techniques*

To be awarded Level 1/2 Technical Award in Engineering, learners are required to successfully complete 2 mandatory units.

Learners must also achieve a minimum of a Level 1 pass in the internal and external assessments.

### Course Structure

NCFE Level 1/2 (Level 1 and Level 2) Technical Award in Engineering.				
<b>Unit 01</b>	<b>Understanding the Engineering World (H/616/8968)</b>			
	48 GLH	<b>40% Weighting</b>	Externally Assessed: Written Examination (externally marked)	Unit Grades: NYA, L1P, L1M, L1D, L2P, L2M, L2D
<b>Unit 02</b>	<b>Skills and Techniques in Engineering (K/616/8969)</b>			
	72 GLH	<b>60% Weighting</b>	Internally Assessed: Synoptic Project (externally quality assured)	Unit Grades: NYA, L1P, L1M, L1D, L2P, L2M, L2D
<b>COURSE TOTAL</b>	120 GLH	<b>100%</b>	Overall Qualification Grades: NYA, L1P, L1M, L1D, L1D*, L2P, L2M, L2D, L2D*	

### Assessment

Unit 1 will be a written 90 minute exam in the first term of Y11 and is 40% of the final grading (a second attempt is also an option later in the academic year).

How it's assessed:

Unit 1 will be externally assessed – students will have started to produce their own folder of evidence as a revision guide during 10 and complete it during year 11.

Unit 2 will be carried out in Y11 the students having been set a design brief/problem by December of year 11 and involves students using all their practical skills learnt in Y9 and Y10 to carry out an internal assessment brief. The applied purpose of the unit is for learners to safely plan, organise and produce a made product using the correct

materials, tools and equipment in a safe manner with written and photographic evidence to show their understanding of the Assessment Objectives (AOs) for the course.

How it's assessed:

Unit 2 will be internally assessed and is 60% of the final grading

Performance bands are provided for Level 1 Pass (GCSE grade 1), Level 2 Pass (GCSE grade 4) Level 2 Merit (GCSE grade 6), Level 2 Distinction (GCSE grade 7) and Level 2 distinction\* (GCSE grade 9). Evidence must clearly show how the learner has met the standard for the higher grades

**Assessment Objectives (AOs)**

The assessment of this technical award is mapped against assessment objectives (AOs). These AOs provide a consistent framework for learners and are applied synoptically, allowing learners to show their knowledge, understanding and skills from across the full breadth of the qualification.

The AOs that will be assessed against the content in the technical awards are:

<b>AO1</b>	<b>Recall knowledge and show understanding</b> The emphasis here is for learners to recall and communicate the fundamental elements of knowledge and understanding.
<b>AO2</b>	<b>Apply knowledge and understanding</b> The emphasis here is for learners to apply their knowledge and understanding to real-world contexts and novel situations, including finding creative solutions.
<b>AO3</b>	<b>Analyse and evaluate knowledge and understanding</b> The emphasis here is for learners to develop analytical thinking skills to make reasoned judgements and reach conclusions.
<b>AO4</b>	<b>Demonstrate and apply technical skills and processes</b> The emphasis here is for learners to demonstrate the essential technical skills relevant to the vocational sector, by applying the appropriate processes, tools and techniques.
<b>AO5</b>	<b>Manage and evaluate the project</b> The emphasis here is for learners to develop the necessary skills of forethought, time management, self-reliance and self-reflection.

Learners will have a maximum of **two** submission attempts for both Internal and External assessments:

**The second submission should be used for learners who receive a 'Not Yet Achieved' for their first submission, or wish to improve their grades.**

**Internal submission attempts**

First submission

Date for the first submission – **March 2021**

Second submission

Date for the second submission – **May 2021**

**External exam dates**

First Attempt

**November 2021** results returned to school by early February 2022

Second Attempt

**March 2022** results returned to school by late March/early April 2022

**Where to next?**

Depending on the grade the learner achieves in this qualification, they could progress to Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications and/or GCSE/A Levels.

Learners who **achieve at Level 2** might consider progression to Level 3 qualifications post-16 such as:

- Level 3 Applied General in Engineering. This qualification prepares learners for progression to higher education in the engineering sector
- Level 3 Technical Level National Foundation Diploma in Engineering
- A Levels in Maths, Further Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Design and Technology. These will support progression to higher education
- learners could progress into employment or onto an apprenticeship

This qualification will also prepare learners for recruitment into the armed forces in the Army, Royal Air Force or the Royal Navy.

- The understanding and skills gained through this qualification could be useful to progress onto an apprenticeship in the engineering sector through a variety of occupations which are available within sectors such as an Aerospace Software Development Engineer, Aircraft Maintenance Certifying Engineer, Automotive Engine Test Engineer and Food and Drink Engineer.

Mr G. Neilson – Engineering Lead

More information is available at:

<https://www.qualhub.co.uk/qualification-search/qualification-detail/ncfe-level-12-technical-award-in-engineering-4593>

# Level 2 Vocational Certificate in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy



In Year 10, you will have the opportunity to study a Level 2 Vocational Certificate in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy. This is a nationally recognised course, and is the equivalent of a GCSE. It is recognised by all colleges and further and higher education institutes. Upon completion, you will be awarded either a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction\*.

## **What will I learn?**

We will cover 4 modules.

1. Enterprise in the Hair and Beauty Sector (Coursework)
2. Understanding the Hair and Beauty Sector (Exam)
3. Research in the Hair and Beauty Sector (Coursework)
4. Responding to a Design Brief. (Coursework).

## **Brief overview of what will be studied**

Throughout the full duration of your course, we will cover a range of practical lessons using mannequins, hair tools, manicure products and we will also cover nail art and make up application and design.

In Year 10 we cover all aspects of managing a successful hair or beauty business, GDP, the contributions to the economy and different types of businesses. We also look at health and safety in the salon and good hygiene.

In Year 11 we will research current trends and themes. We look at why trends occur and research how the hair and beauty industry is impacted by such trends in an ever-changing world.

For our final piece of work, we cover design briefs and how to successfully execute a brief for a client; e.g a Year 11 attending a prom, a bride, a halloween party look, or even a festival goer. We utilise a range of materials and textiles and we also use media and social media as often as we can in order to deliver high quality work.

## **When and where will you be assessed?**

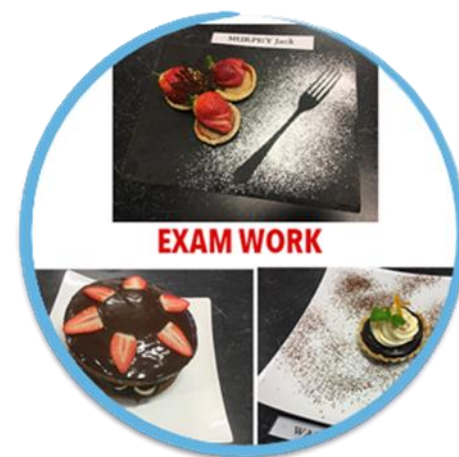
This certificate is very much 75% theory based and 25% practical based.

If you have a genuine interest in Hair and Beauty, you will really enjoy this course. It will also give you a great head start should you wish to have a career in this sector when you leave school.

Email [jennifer.angove@wernethschool.com](mailto:jennifer.angove@wernethschool.com) if you have any further questions.



# WJEC Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering Level 1&2



**Who is it suitable for?**

***This course is suitable for those students wishing to follow a practical subject, providing expert life skills. You must have a passion to want to learn how to prepare and cook dishes the professional way and you will be expected to bring ingredients.***

***You must be organised, hardworking and able to work in a team.***

-This award is open to all students and is ideally suited to students with a preference for high level practical cooking skills and theoretical knowledge of the hospitality industry. It is tailored towards specific career areas and has a focus on creativity and practical skills.

-This vocational qualification will count as equivalent to one GCSE in the Key Stage 4 performance tables at a level 2 pass.

-This qualification is intended for learners who wish to learn about food preparation in the catering industry.

-Students will be expected to make a range of food products and develop skills related to professional food preparation including food hygiene, food presentation and considering portion control.

- They will be expected to apply technical and practical knowledge to ensure that food meets customer needs and is appropriate for a given occasion. They will have the opportunity to use a wide range of practical skills and techniques, gaining an understanding of catering and an awareness of related career paths within the food industry.

**You will be expected to bring ingredients and will cook at least once every two weeks in the double lesson**

This is the qualification structure:

WJEC Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering				
Unit number	Unit title		Assessment	GLH
1	The hospitality and catering industry	Mandatory	External	48
2	Hospitality and catering in action	Mandatory	Internal	72

Learners must complete both units.

***Unit 1 will be taught throughout Y9 and Y10 and involves understanding the theoretical knowledge behind the hospitality and catering industry along with focused practical lessons to develop preparing, cooking and presentation skills.***

Learners will be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of the following:

- LO1 Understand the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate
- LO2 Understand how hospitality and catering provision operates
- LO3 Understand how hospitality and catering provision meets health and safety requirements
- LO4 Know how food can cause ill health
- LO5 Be able to propose a hospitality and catering provision to meet specific requirements

### How it's assessed:

Unit 1 will be externally assessed with a written 90 minute exam at the end of Y10 and is 40% of the final grading

**Unit 2 will be carried out in Y11 and involves students using all their practical skills learnt in Y9 and Y10 to carry out an internal assessment brief. The applied purpose of the unit is for learners to safely plan, prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes.**

Learners will complete a written piece of coursework on the following:

- LO1 understand the importance of nutrition when planning menus
- LO2 understand menu planning
- LO3 be able to cook dishes

**And complete a 3 hour practical exam to prepare, cook and serve two dishes**

### How it's assessed:

Unit 2 will be internally assessed and is 60% of the final grading

Performance bands are provided for Level 1 Pass (GCSE grade 1), Level 2 Pass (GCSE grade 4) Level 2 Merit (GCSE grade 6), Level 2 Distinction (GCSE grade 7) and Level 2 distinction\* (GCSE grade 9). Evidence must clearly show how the learner has met the standard for the higher grades

Mrs R. Oakes (Subject Leader of Technology)

More information available at

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering/hospitality-and-catering-level-1-2-award.html>

## Choose Food prep or Catering?

Two new subjects for you to choose from



**Both subjects do the same amount of practical making and the same practical skill building so you CANNOT study both  
YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO BRING INGREDIENTS**

### GCSE Food preparation and nutrition

- Looks at the food nutrition in detail.
- Is science based – 50% coursework
- Requires independence and more academic.
- Cook at least every other week.
  - More choice in making.
  - Must want to cook and be prepared to bring ingredients
  - 50% external exam

### • WJEC Hospitality and Catering award

- Looks at the hospitality industry.
  - Is portfolio practical based -
- 60% skills based theoretical and practical task
  - Taught to cook like a chef.
- Cook at least every other week.
  - Told what making to learn necessary skills.
- Must be able to cook and have some skill and be prepared to bring ingredients
- 40% external exam