

West Hill School

KS4

Curriculum

Pathways 2021



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Aiming High—Pathways to Success

Congratulations! You've made it halfway through your time at West Hill. Think about how different you are now from that person who stood in the yard in September 2018. There's a good chance you'll feel similar changes by the time you leave us in July 2023.

You're about to start the final terms of Key Stage 3 and turn your thoughts to what happens to you in Years 10 and 11. In reality many of you will already be working on GCSE materials in some subjects and have actually started Key Stage 4, however Years 10 and 11 will differ in several ways: new subjects may be started, you will begin examination coursework in some subjects and the preparation for examinations begins in earnest.

However, we want you to think a bit beyond even Years 10 and 11 because what you choose to do in KS4 might affect your opportunities **after** West Hill. This is called post-16 or 14-19 education and can last until you are 19 or older.

The vast majority of you reading this booklet will continue in further education in one way or another after you are 16 – on A levels or vocational courses, apprenticeships or work based training. You will have many more choices about what you do after school than your parents had – and sometimes the choice can be a bit bewildering.

It's important, therefore, that we help you prepare for this in Year 9, to make sure that you're on the right pathway for you. That's why you've already started a programme of guidance to help you decide on your priorities.

The purpose of this booklet is to help you and your parents give careful thought and consideration to your choices. You will receive lots of information – from your form teacher, subject teachers and Mrs Broadbent. For advice about your future careers, you can ask Mr Musiol and Mrs Sherrington. Remember that success in any subject requires effort, and that the more effort you put into your work, the more successful you will be.

Mr P Butterworth (Assistant Head)



What is it like being a pupil in Key Stage 4?

Whenever you move on to a new stage in your life you will probably wonder what things will be like. Remember the changes from primary to West Hill? That was a much bigger change than the one you are about to make. Many things will be the same or very similar to the way they are now. It's okay to be a little nervous!

The West Hill experience is one full of opportunities—you need to grasp them and make the most out of the next two years. It is much more than 25 periods a week.

What will be similar?

- You will still be studying a wide range of subjects.
- You will still be in familiar rooms.
- The way school works will still be the same although you will have new opportunities and privileges.
- You will know most of your teachers.
- You will know many of the other pupils in your group.



What will be different?

- You will spend more time on subjects that you have chosen yourself.
- You will have more home learning and you will need to organise your personal time to allow for this. You will need to take charge of your progress and development.
- Most of your courses will lead to an external examination, marked by teachers outside of West Hill. Some will involve coursework projects that will count towards your final grade.



Why do I have to make a choice? What sort of Pathways?

Here are some reasons:-

- You will study subjects in greater detail in Key Stage 4. There simply isn't time to cover all of your KS3 subjects.
- Not every one has the same skills and abilities. We want you to select subjects where you will succeed the most.
- Different people prefer different subjects. We recognise that you are growing up and want to offer you the chance to make decisions for yourself about what suits you best.
- You may already have ideas about your future career, so choosing some subjects may help you gain important knowledge that will help you.

This may be the first time that you have ever been asked to make an important decision about your future . It is important that you have all the information you need to make the best decision for you. Remember, it's your personal KS4 timetable that best suits your 14 -19 Pathway.

Different Pathways?

You may already have an idea of what you want to do, or where you want to go, when you move on from West Hill. It could be A Levels, it might be out to work as an apprentice, or taking up training related to a job in which you are interested. These routes are called **PATHWAYS**. We want to make sure your pathways are broad so that you can easily move on, or even cross from one to the next, should you so wish.

But I've no idea what I want to do!

Don't worry, you're not unusual. We will make sure your Pathway is 'open' allowing you more time to make up your mind. Remember, grades and your personal qualities are often more important than specific subjects.

Pathways have choices also...

GCSE? Vocational? Level 1? Level 2?

It can be confusing—that's why you will be seen by at least three separate people who will ensure that your choices suit your ability, and just as importantly, your learning style. We will consult with you and your parents along the way. We already know lots about you and will help you to make the right decisions.

Why should I consider Further Education or Apprenticeships now?

Because we want to make sure you succeed on these routes if you choose to take them. Some boys may initially choose courses which later make it hard for them to pursue certain qualifications or a different pathway. We want to make sure your KS4 timetable offers the right pathways for you to carry on smoothly after 16—whichever route you take.

What happens to help me?

To help you make the right decisions for your options, lots of things are going to happen over the next few months to ensure you make some informed choices:-

January-February

Pathways and Careers information and tasks

Guidance available from form tutors, Mrs Broadbent,
Mr Butterworth, Mr Musiol, Mrs Sherrington, LSU...

From January 25th Choices Week

February 1st Personalised Pathway forms issued

February 26th Final date for Pathway choices to be returned

June Subjects confirmed in a letter to pupils and parents

Throughout Year 7,8 and 9

You and your parents will have already received information telling you what your strengths are. You will already have an idea of the GCSE grade range that you are aiming for.

Careers talks and personal development (IDP) advice programme

Yet more advice and information! How to match your personal qualities with your courses; issues regarding maintaining a balance; education opportunities for further and higher education.

Choices Week (Starting January 25th)

This is a good time to have a look on the school website at our curriculum pages. This is where you will find more advice about the subjects which are on offer and where they could take you.

At last — the KS4 Options Form!

The form where you start to construct your preferences - with your name on it and our suggestions about the range of possibilities that might be right for you in KS4. This stage will be supported by your form teacher or mentor and senior staff. Remember we're all here to talk to you at any time.

And remember the date to hand it in — February 26th

WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND?

Remember that although you have handed in your form you can still change your mind.

We will try and provide you with the choices you want, however, we cannot guarantee this and we may have to discuss changing your original preferences with you.

Let's examine the Exams...

GCSE, Vocational Courses ? It's all a bit confusing so let's start by getting the facts straight so you know what you are letting yourself in for.

What qualifications will I get?

It depends on your course. Most exams are GCSEs. Others are more work-related and vocational, You can be assured that all of our post-16 partners recognise and value these courses. We do them because they offer the right type of learning for different individuals.

All exams fall into types called Levels. Most of our courses are Level 1 (GCSE Grades 1-3) or Level 2 (GCSE grades 4-9). As you might expect, when you make successful progress in education, so you move up a qualification level. For example, from Level 2 at West Hill to Level 3 if you start A Levels or a BTEC National award at college.

Who are these exams designed for?

You! They are designed as two year courses of study for pupils in Years 10 and 11. At KS4, it is the main means of assessing progress so far – if you like, a snapshot of how good you are at 16.

Think of the exams as gateways on your particular pathway to the next stage of your education. Your grades will let you know in which areas you have been successful and whether you want to pursue this pathway to 16-19 education or switch to an alternative route.

Can everybody take these?

Yes. But your teachers know that certain exam courses are better for some pupils than others. We will tell you which courses we think might better suit you. Some boys may take a mixture of Level 1 and Level 2, if that is right for them.

When will I take my exams?

Some assessment will take place during the course (controlled assessment/coursework) but most subjects will involve final exams in May/June 2023.

What grades can I get for KS4 exams?

Depending upon your course, GCSE grades are awarded 1 - 9, in some subjects Pass, Merit and Distinction. Results depend entirely upon the quality of your work. You should always aim for your target grades rather than the minimum grades needed to get to the next stage in your education or training.

Let's examine the Exams (continued)...

How will the marks for my course be awarded?

In some subjects the marks are made up of two parts. Firstly, coursework done in Years 10 and 11 is assessed. Added to this mark are your exam marks for the final exam performance.

GCSE Exams — May/June 2023

Although some of your assessments will have been carried out beforehand; for many there will be an examination period at the end of Year 11.

Exams are spread out over three or four weeks so you should find there is some time in between exams for revision. There's even a half-term in between to give you extra revision time. The timetable for exams is drawn up well in advance so you'll know the date of each paper a long time before the exam period.

Will we all do the same examination paper?

For some subjects you will be entered for an examination at 'tiers' – different levels of papers depending on how good you are at the subject. This means that the questions on the exam paper will be worded to enable you to answer effectively at your own level. They will be more suited to your ability and easier for you to understand.

Your teachers will tell you about tiers nearer the exam entry time. Some exam papers are the same for everybody.

What if I have problems with exams?

I just can't do exams; I go to pieces.

Take heart. If you choose the subjects that best suit you, work consistently, attend regularly, complete your coursework and revise thoroughly you could surprise yourself. Your teachers will be helping you along the way and offering more advice and information.

What if I have special learning needs that School already knows about?

For boys who already receive extra support from the LSU, the staff will help guide you towards a pathway that suits you. Our **Foundation Learning** programme has been designed to help boys working at Entry Level/Level 1 progress based on their individual needs. Also, the examination boards make some allowances for certain pupils who have particular needs. School will apply for these allowances on your behalf. You may then receive special papers or be given help with reading or writing your answers. In some cases you may receive extra time to complete the work. We will make special efforts to ensure that you perform at your best.

A closer look at Coursework and Controlled Assessments...

Why are Coursework and Controlled Assessments necessary?

There are many skills that can't be tested by the traditional written exam – practical and oral skills for example. They are also called Non Examined Assessments and it gives you the chance to demonstrate the many abilities you have and so makes the final mark you receive much fairer.

It is usually done both in class and at home and is closely supervised by your teachers. Your teachers will help you to get the best marks. Listen to their advice carefully, as it's the only bit of the course they can help you with – after all they cannot sit the end of course exam for you!

What does it consist of?

It can take various forms — practical sessions in PE or Music; projects in Technology or oral conversations in MFL. In some subjects, coursework is called 'portfolio' work or 'non examined assessments'. It is usually worth quite a lot of your final mark, often 25% but in some courses it can be more.



Who marks these Assessments?

Throughout your two years of study your teacher will set specific topics for you to do. Your teachers will mark the topics and those marks will go towards your final result. The exam boards check our marks and can amend them.

Coursework! Exams! What about me?

Whilst doing well in your exam courses in KS4 is important, it's not the only thing that matters. West Hill wants you to turn out as a responsible, mature, helpful and polite person as well. We take your personal development as seriously as your academic success.

Employers particularly are just as interested in other aspects of your personality. Everyone can succeed in these no matter how many exam awards they get.

Can you:

- Achieve your potential – in other words, meet your predicted grades – at whatever level? This shows you work hard and can meet targets.
- Get on with people?
- Solve problems?
- Use your imagination and show resourcefulness?
- Show planning skills, organisational ability and good time management?
- Demonstrate good attendance, punctuality, reliability, and responsibility?
- Find out things for yourself, independently?
- Present findings well ? (e.g. speaking, writing, PowerPoint, etc.)
- Work in a team and meet deadlines?
- Show leadership, self-confidence and honesty?

Aspects of your KS4 subjects and IDP teaching will consider these qualities. Throughout Years 10 and 11, you will have many opportunities to develop these skills to impress people in and outside of school.

Some Personal Development opportunities at KS4...

- Representative on the School Council
- Member of the District Assembly
- Sports teams and captaincy
- Prefects
- Work Experience (2 weeks)
- Clubs
- Competitions
- Workplace visits and employer talks
- Visits to colleges and universities
- Mock interviews
- Period 6 activities
- Subject technicians
- Peer Mentors
- Duke of Edinburgh Award



Your personal timetable — Your choices...

Now you know the background to the courses at KS4, it's time to look at making those important choices. Understanding what you can do after West Hill (post-16) will be a big factor in helping you with your KS4 decisions. There's lots of help for you.

Who can help?

Teachers

Subject teachers will give you advice about KS4 courses. Remember there may be a choice within a subject. Teachers can give you detailed advice about types of learning and skills needed in their subject and how assessment is undertaken. Ask before you commit yourself.

Year 9 Form Tutors

Your Form Tutor can advise you and offer useful support. They know you best of all and know how you are getting on at school. They will talk to you all individually and check your final Pathway Form to see if your choices reflect your best interests. They will help ensure you meet deadlines.

Mrs Broadbent— Head of Year 9

Mrs Broadbent knows all of Year 9 as well as their particular and often peculiar ways! If she is unable to help, she can point you towards someone who can. She will also listen in confidence if you have personal difficulties that need to be discussed.

Other Staff...

Mr Butterworth, Mrs Sherrington and Mr Musiol are all fully involved in the whole Year 9 Pathways programme. Don't hesitate to ask any one of them, general or particular questions, especially about post-16 progression. If no one else can find out information, they will be able to assist. They will also listen in confidence if you have personal difficulties that need to be discussed.

The Learning Support Unit (LSU)

Some Year 9 pupils have close involvement with staff in the LSU. Teachers there know about the Pathway process in particular our Foundation Learning programme. They can offer you support and advice, especially if you think learning problems may affect your success at KS4.

Your own KS4 Timetable...

There are four parts to your timetable for Years 10 & 11:-

- Subjects you have to do
- Subjects you choose to do
- Additional Learning
- Enrichment

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Mon:1 Science COR	Tue:1 Science CTY S30	Wed:1 Bus. St BRB S29	Thu:1 English HEE IT6	Fri:1 Computer Science COO E40 IT36
Mon:2 Science JED	Tue:2 Maths WHT S31	Wed:2 Maths WHT M2	Thu:2 History WLB M2	Fri:2 Bus. St BRB H49 IT6
Mon:3 Computer Science COO IT36	Tue:3 Science COR S30	Wed:3 History WLB S30	Thu:3 Science CTY H49	Fri:3 Science JED S29 S31
Mon:4 English HEE E40	Tue:4 English HEE E40	Wed:4 Info. Tech MER E40	Thu:4 Computer Science COO IT5	Fri:4 Maths WHT IT36 M2
Mon:5 Maths WHT M2	Tue:5 Games PEA M2	Wed:5 English HEE P54	Thu:5 Bus. St BRB E40	Fri:5 History WLB IT6 H49

SUBJECTS YOU HAVE TO DO...

Everyone has to do some sort of course in:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- PE (Games)
- IDP

These compulsory subjects, except PE (Games) and IDP, lead to GCSE or equivalent awards. Your teachers will advise you about the right course for you when studying these subjects. All of these subjects use setting (different groups) to ensure you receive the right teaching for your ability level.



SUBJECTS YOU CAN CHOOSE TO DO (YOU HAVE 3 PERSONAL CHOICES)...

- Art
- Business Studies
- Business & Enterprise
- Design & Technology
- Foundation Learning
- German
- Music
- Religious Studies
- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Electronics
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Geography
- History
- PE (as a GCSE)
- Sport Studies

Your own KS4 Timetable (continued)...

But remember, we think that, based on your KS3 performance, certain subjects or courses are better for you than others. It all depends upon your attainment, learning style and, most importantly, your 14-19 Pathway. Many of these subjects have more than one course available.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING

To ensure that we develop you as a person and equip you to participate fully in adult life, everyone has to undertake an Individual Development Programme (IDP) which consists of:

- Citizenship — Underpinned by the British Values of freedom, tolerance and respect for the rule of law
- Sex and Relationships Education
- Careers Education
- Enterprise
- Work Related Learning
- Health and Drugs Awareness
- Economic Well Being and Financial Capability

Enrichment

This section really is up to you. Enrichment means all those additional opportunities in which to involve yourself; the 'extras' that West Hill has to offer. It could be the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, visits to places of employment, mock interviews with employers, visits to colleges and universities, field trips, period 6 activities ... the list goes on and on. Many of these take place in school time but lots require your commitment after school. All Year 10 pupils take part in a two week Work Experience programme at the end of the summer term.

How many qualifications will I get?

It really depends on your choices. Most boys end up with a KS4 timetable which allows them to leave school with 8, 9 or 10 examination awards.

Remember, most people are interested in **how well** you have done against your own personal targets rather than **how many** you have done. They want to know that **you have done your best** whatever grades you get.



KS4 and Careers

The subjects you choose and qualifications you take may be guided by the career you would eventually like to do. At this stage in life, you may not have any idea about what you want to do. Don't worry — you are probably the same as most pupils in Year 9!

If that is the case, try to keep your subject Pathway as broad as possible. A good mixture of subjects will help to keep your route open — wherever you eventually decide to go.

Most of your careers information and guidance will be given in detail in Years 10 and 11, but it's not too early to start thinking about areas of work that appeal to you.

Think about the type of work you might like to do and find out about what different jobs this work can lead to. Even if you know what career you would like to do, still do some homework. Find out what skills and qualifications you will need. Knowing as much as you can now about careers, jobs and the world of work will help you to choose your subject options.

Who can help with Careers?

Websites such as:

www.gmacs.co.uk

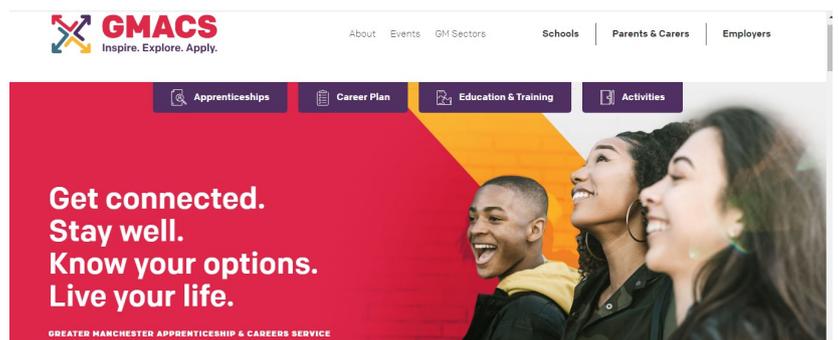
www.positive-steps.org.uk

www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk

These can be good starting points as well as a reference to other useful information.

Mr Musiol is the first point of contact in school for careers information. He will be talking to all pupils in IDP lessons about the world of work, career planning and 14-19 education. Mrs Sherrington is West Hill's IAG coordinator. She has already spoken to all Year 9 pupils about the support she can offer to support you in the process of putting together a Key Stage 4 timetable. Mrs Davidson is a Careers Adviser from Positive Steps, who will provide careers advice to specific groups of pupils.

The Learning Support Unit is another source of advice. If you struggle with exams or are worried about putting a Key Stage 4 timetable together, the LSU may be able to help, especially if you are already working with staff there. They will discuss your ideas and may be able to offer additional support or programmes which are only available to certain pupils.



What might my choices look like?

For example; you are keen to pursue a Pathway involving practical/hands-on courses You also want to do a language and you enjoy History. Having listened to your subject teachers, your choices may be:

- **Design and Technology**
- **German**
- **History**
- **Reserve – Music**

OR you want to specialise in Music and area also interested in Geography. You enjoy sport and want to do something active. Your choices may be:

- **Music**
- **PE**
- **Geography**
- **Reserve – Business Studies**

OR you have a passion for drawing , work well in programming during IT lessons but feel you need more help with your written work and the LSU have spoken to you about extra support.

Your choices may be:

- **Art**
- **Computer Science**
- **Foundation Learning**
- **Reserve – Music**

OR you are interested in subjects that involve background reading and like the sound of A levels in subjects like Economics, Law, Politics, your choices may be:

- **History**
- **Business Studies**
- **Religious Studies**
- **Reserve – Geography**

OR you really enjoy subjects with more practical activities, as well as an interest in running your own business. Your choices may be:

- **Food**
- **Business and Enterprise**
- **Geography**
- **Reserve – Art**

OR you want to become an Electrical Engineer and like the idea of working overseas, your choices may be:

- **Electronics**
- **German**
- **Computer Science**
- **Reserve – Sport Studies**

Parents' Guide...

Please help us to provide the right course for your son's needs by studying this booklet and by discussing its contents with him. In our experience, a satisfactory KS4 experience usually comes about when school, pupil and parent are all working and talking together.

Work through these questions with your son to help him think carefully about how Years 10 and 11 will help him after he leaves West Hill School. As additional information arrives (e.g. School subject reports) you may have to modify your plans together.

As far as you are able, you need to work with your son to be clear about the following:

His likes and what he is good at...

It is easier for your son to build a timetable around what he likes doing and where he is successful. Whilst this might give a general direction of where your son's strengths lie, (e.g. in the humanities, sciences, technical subjects) you also need to consider subjects that might be required in any areas of work in which he has shown an interest.

Course content and assessment...

Details will be given to your son during Choices Weeks when subject Heads of Departments will speak to groups about what is on offer at KS4. Make sure you talk to your son about this information, especially in subjects where he shows a definite interest.

Interests...

What kind of a person is your teenager? Does he like writing projects, helping people, working independently, designing something, being outdoors or doing something practical? These personal learning preferences and other qualities should be thought about when deciding the type of work that he might enjoy.

Post 16...

Knowing which area of work or career might best suit your son will equip you with information about which level of qualifications is needed and which post-16 Pathway might be best for him.

If you do know, it might influence his choices in Key Stage 4 at West Hill. Remember all subjects will broaden his experience and prepare him for work or study after Year 11.

The local college websites are a useful resource to start looking ahead to the opportunities that exist beyond West Hill.

A page to jot some notes on!

The next pages in this booklet give you information about the subjects that are compulsory and those that you can choose for your options. Read them carefully and if there's anything you don't understand or you need more information, talk to your form teacher, your subject teacher or the Head of Department for the subject.

Also, your parent(s) or guardian play a big part in your selection of your options—they will be as interested in your choices as you are. It is therefore very important that you discuss the whole process and your choices with them.

Don't forget you have 3 personal choices from the following list:

- Art
- Business Studies
- Design & Technology
- Engineering Manufacture
- Foundation Learning
- German
- Music
- Religious Studies
- Business and Enterprise
- Computer Science
- Electronics
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Geography
- History
- PE (as a GCSE)
- Sport Studies

Choice 1	
Choice 2	
Choice 3	
Reserve	

Compulsory Subjects 2020



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English (GCSE)

What will I do?

You will take English Language and English Literature, resulting in two separate GCSEs. Although the grades are allocated separately, the skills for these two courses are very much intertwined.

Whilst following the English Language course, you will learn skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. You will study fiction and non-fiction texts, different styles of writing and how to become a confident speaker and good listener.

The English Literature course involves you reading and showing understanding of a range of text types, covering prose (novel), drama (play) and poetry. You will be required to analyse these texts and interpret their themes, characters, language and structure. This will need some powerful thinking skills.

What is studied in English Language?

- Reading of fiction and non-fiction
- Writing for specific audiences and purposes
- Writing in a range of different forms and styles
- Speaking and Listening (although a requirement to be studied, this does not count towards your final grade)

What is studied in English Literature?

- Shakespeare: one complete play
- A 19th century novel
- Modern texts, such as short stories
- Poetry, both modern and from the Literary Heritage

How will I be assessed?

English Language (AQA Exam board)

External exam: 100%

Two exams, taken at the end of Year 11

English Literature (AQA Exam board)

External exam: 100%

Two exams, taken at the end of Year 11

Where can I find more details?

From the AQA website—www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/English/gcse

Look at English Language and English Literature—make sure you look at the new specifications, teaching from 2015 with first exams in 2017. The specification codes you need are 8700 for English Language and 8702 for English Literature.

See your English teacher or speak to Mr Hazelby (Head of English)

Mathematics (GCSE)

What will I do?

All pupils will take one GCSE in Mathematics (AQA Specification code 8300). This GCSE consists of three papers, one non-calculator and two calculator papers. All the papers last for 90 minutes and will be taken at the end of year 11. The specification awards grades from 9 (the highest) to grade 1 and is available at Higher (grade 9 to 5) or at Foundation (grade 5 to 1).

What is studied in Year 9?

The GCSE course is introduced in Year 9 and all assessments and grades reflect this. There is greater emphasis on multi-step problem solving questions that are now in the syllabus.

What is studied in Years 10/11?

The GCSE scheme of work is split into units with each unit having its own pupil assessment record. All topics will be covered throughout Years 9, 10 and 11— Number, Algebra, Ratio, Proportion and rates of change, Geometry and measures, Probability and Statistics.

How will I be assessed?

There are 3 papers at the end of Year 11. Paper 1 is non-calculator, Papers 2 and 3 both allow a calculator to be used. Each examination is 1 hour 30 minutes with a total time of 4.5 hours. Each paper has 80 marks giving the total number of marks out of 240. Grades are awarded dependent on the number of marks achieved over all 3 papers.

Where can I find more details?

From the AQA website—www.aqa.org.uk

See your Maths teacher or speak to Miss Fisher (Head of Mathematics)

Additional information...

Higher tier will include questions that will stretch the most able and also assume knowledge of the Foundation tier content. The Foundation tier will focus on core mathematical understanding and skills.

Both tiers include multi-step problem solving as well as questions which cover more than one topic area.

Biology (Separate Science GCSE)

What will I do?

The Biology course is broken into seven separate topics. This course provides a firm foundation for progression to A-level Biology. On completion of the course pupils will be awarded a GCSE in Biology.

What is studied in Years 10/11?

- Cell Biology;
- Organisation;
- Infection and response;
- Bioenergetics;
- Homeostasis and response;
- Inheritance, variation and evolution;
- Ecology

How will I be assessed?

The Biology examinations consist of two written papers, each will be 1 hour and 45 minutes long.

Each paper will assess the knowledge and understanding from different topics.

Each is equally weighted and worth 50% of the overall GCSE.

Where can I find more details?

From the AQA website—www.aqa.org.uk

See your Science teacher or speak to Mr Carty (Head of Science)

Additional information...

Note: Pupils taking the Separate Science pathway will be awarded the three separate GCSE science subjects.

Chemistry (Separate Science GCSE)

What will I do?

The Chemistry course is broken into ten separate topics. This course provides a firm foundation for progression to A-level Chemistry. On completion of the course pupils will be awarded a GCSE in Chemistry.

What is studied in Key Stage 4

- Atomic structure and the periodic table;
- Bonding, structure and the properties of matter;
- Quantitative Chemistry;
- Chemical changes;
- The rate and extent of chemical change;
- Organic Chemistry; Chemical analysis;
- Chemistry of the atmosphere;
- Using resources.

How will I be assessed?

The Chemistry examinations consist of two written papers, each will be 1 hour and 45 minutes long. Each paper will assess the knowledge and understanding from different topics. Each is equally weighted and worth 50% of the overall GCSE.

Where can I find more details?

From the AQA website—www.aqa.org.uk

See your Science teacher or speak to Mr Carty (Head of Science)

Additional information...

GCSE Chemistry is an important science. It gives students a good understanding of the nature of substances, how they react together and how our knowledge of Chemistry is used in business and industry.

Note: Pupils taking the Separate Science pathway will be awarded the three separate GCSE science subjects.

Physics (Separate Science GCSE)

What will I do?

The Physics course is broken into eight separate topics. This course provides a firm foundation for progression to A-level Physics. On completion of the course pupils will be awarded a GCSE in Physics.

What is studied in Key Stage 4?

- Forces; Energy; Waves
- Electricity
- Magnetism and Electromagnetism;
- Particle model of matter;
- Atomic structure
- Space physics

How will I be assessed?

The Physics examinations consist of two written papers, each will be 1 hour and 45 minutes long. Each paper will assess the knowledge and understanding from different topics. Each is equally weighted and worth 50% of the overall GCSE.

Where can I find more details?

From the AQA website—www.aqa.org.uk

See your Science teacher or speak to Mr Carty (Head of Science)

Additional information...

How science works is an important element of GCSE Physics. Students taking GCSE Physics can use the knowledge and skills they gain to specialise in any of the three separate sciences.

Note: Pupils taking the Separate Science pathway will be awarded the three separate GCSE science subjects.

Combined Science: Trilogy (GCSE)

What will I do?

The students studying the Combined Science (Trilogy) course will study each of the three Sciences during Years 10 and 11. This is a double award and is equivalent to two GCSEs. In addition to the topics listed below, students will be required to undertake 16 specific practical scientific experiments.

What is studied in Years 10/11?

Biology

- Cell Biology
- Organisation
- Infection and response;
- Bioenergetics
- Homeostasis and response
- Inheritance, variation and evolution
- Ecology

Chemistry

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding, structure and the properties of matter
- Quantitative Chemistry
- Chemical changes
- The rate and extent of chemical change
- Organic Chemistry
- Chemical analysis
- Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Using resources

Physics

- Forces
- Energy
- Waves
- Electricity
- Magnetism and Electromagnetism
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure

How will I be assessed?

At the end of year 11, each pupil will sit six written examination papers, each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes, Pupils will sit either the higher or foundation tier papers.

Each paper is equally weighted and worth 16.7% of the overall GCSE.

Where can I find more details?

From the AQA website—www.aqa.org.uk

See your Science teacher or speak to Mr Carty (Head of Science)

Additional information...

Note: Pupils that achieve the higher grades in combined science are still able to progress to study A-level Chemistry, Physics and Biology.

Independent Learning

What will I do?

All students will have **one** 'IT lesson' per week in order to support them through KS4.

The standard expectation is that they will use this lesson to support their wider learning needs. Whilst supervised, they are expected to work independently to embed their learning.

This will involve revising, working on extension tasks and completing work to a higher standard.

In addition this slot is also used to provide some wider support for KS4 activities.

What is involved during Years 10 & 11

Year 10

- Public Speaking
- Work Experience preparation
- Revision techniques

Year 11

- Post 16 applications
- Mock Interviews and CVs
- Practical application of software

Additional information...

In addition staff will use this lesson to help students develop independent learning skills.

This may involve subject specific inputs as well wider generic skills to help prepare them for final assessments as well as progressing to Post 16 learning environments.

Where can I find more details?

See Mrs Broadbent or Mr Merlo

Optional Subjects 2020



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Art (GCSE)

What will I do?

Project work designed to meet the assessment objectives for the AQA GCSE Art and Design (Fine Art) course. The work you produce could include: drawing, painting, sculpture, installation, photography and the moving image, printmaking, mixed media and land art.

You will be building on the art skills you have gained at Key Stage 3 and developing your own individual approach to art.

You will need to research Artists and art styles through history, to ensure that you gain a sound knowledge of the world of Fine Art.

You will be expected to experiment with different media, refine your work and take inspiration from other artists as you develop your own ideas.

All work must be well presented, annotated and mounted on card.

What is studied in Year 10?

- There will be 2 major coursework projects to complete in Year 10. These will cover aspects such as Natural Forms, Portraits, Objects, Landscape/Townscapes etc
- You will have an A1 size folder, a smaller A2 folder and a sketchbook.

What is studied in Year 11?

- The Mock Exam for Art begins in September and continues through the Autumn term ending at Christmas.
- From January, you will be preparing work for the Externally Set task [Exam Project]. The questions are set by the exam board [AQA].

How will I be assessed?

There will be continuous verbal assessments of tasks you have completed – or on which you are working. Formal assessment – based on the exam criteria will take place at the end of each project.

You will be given very clear feedback of your progress at various stages of the course and estimated exam results at appropriate times.

Where can I find more details?

From the AQA website — www.aqa.org.uk (Art & Design)

See your Art teacher or speak to Mr Butler (Head of Art)

Additional information...

Pupils will follow the AQA **Fine Art** course. Groups are mixed ability – with a full range of abilities within each group. We have an excellent pass rate record. Many boys continue taking the subject in further and higher education.

Business & Enterprise (NCFE Technical Award)

What will I do?

The NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Business and Enterprise is designed to provide pupils with the skills, knowledge and understanding of the applied study of good business and enterprise practices and an understanding of working in the sector.

Pupils are challenged through a hands-on practical content as well as note taking and assessments.

What is studied?

- 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

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 Introduction to Business and Enterprise	Externally assessed. 40% weighting
Unit 2 Business Project	Internally assessed. 60% weighting

Where can I find more details?

More information can be found from the NCFE website: Ncfe.org.uk

Speak to Mrs Broadbent (Head of Business Studies) or Mr Merlo

Additional information...

Depending on the grade the pupil achieves they can 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 a Finance, Marketing or Human Resources

Business Studies (GCSE)

What will I do?

You'll start by exploring the world of small businesses. How and why do business ideas come about? What makes a successful business? You'll learn how to develop an idea, spot an opportunity and turn it into a successful business.

Then you'll move on to investigating business growth. How does a business develop beyond the start-up phase? You'll learn about key business concepts and issues and decisions you need to make when growing a business and working in a global business.

If you enjoy: Communicating and explaining your ideas, thinking creatively and making decisions, working with numbers to solve business problems, learning about the world of business through real and relevant local and international brands then the GCSE Business course is the right subject for you.

How will I be assessed?

The qualification will be assessed in two equally weighted exam papers. There is no coursework.

Paper One	Paper Two
Written exam: 90 minutes, 90 marks 50% of the total GCSE.	Written exam: 90 minutes, 90 marks 50% of the total GCSE
Multiple choice, calculation, short-answer and extended-writing questions	Multiple choice, calculation, short-answer and extended-writing questions

Where can I find more details?

Visit the Pearson qualifications website for more information about what you will be studying and how you will be assessed.

Speak to Mrs Broadbent (Head of Business Studies) or Mr Merlo.

Additional information...

After this qualification you'll understand the world of business and have developed skills in:

- making decisions and developing persuasive arguments
- creative and practical problem solving
- understanding data, finance and communication.

It's also a great step preparing you for further and higher education such as A-levels and BTEC courses.

A GCSE Business course could help prepare you for an entrepreneurial role and help you to gain an understanding of what is involved in a business-related profession, like accountancy, law, marketing or the leisure and tourism industry.

Computer Science (GCSE)

What will I do?

Here at West Hill, we offer a GCSE Computer Science course as an option choice. You will be following the Edexcel (GCSE) Computer Science (2020) syllabus.

GCSE Computer Science will develop not only your practical understanding of computers and the ability to program but also your ability to think logically and solve complex practical logical problems to

What is studied in Year 10 & 11?

Over the two years:

- Computer hardware structure
- Computer software
- Flow charts & pseudo-code
- Understanding the CPU architecture
- Practical programming (high percentage throughout)

- Understanding algorithms
- Software prototyping and testing
- Binary calculations
- Understanding the social issues of computers
- Preparation for the exam

How will I be assessed?

You will be required to sit two examination assessments, both taken in Year 11. Each of the two papers are each worth 50% of your final grade.

Paper 1 is a standard written paper entitled 'Principles of Computer Science'. This is the theory paper (90 minutes)

Paper 2 is a practical 'on-computer' coding exam entitled 'Application of Computational Thinking' using the Python programming language (120 minutes)

Where can I find more details?

Speak to Mr Cookson (Head of ICT/Computing)

Website : <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/computer-science-2020.html>

Additional information...

Note - Computer Science is a subject option that will require of you the ability to think logically to solve practical programming problems and will need you to understand and be able to apply some in-depth mathematical concepts and principles. Maths is heavily used in Computer Science.

Design & Technology (GCSE)

What will I do?

The Design & Technology course involves designing and making, using a wide range of materials. During the two year course students will carry out a number of mini-projects in order to develop their understanding of research, designing, materials, tools/equipment, processes, computer-aided design and manufacture (CAD/CAM) as well as Health and Safety issues in readiness for their final GCSE assessments.

What is studied in Year 10 & 11?

Over the two years:

- Impact of new technologies
- Materials & new material developments
- Manufacturing Processes
- Design Skills
- Product Analysis
- Mechanical Movement
- Sustainability
- Design and Make Project

How will I be assessed?

The AQA GCSE (9-1) design technology course is in two parts, a non-examined assessment in the form of a Design and Make Project and a written externally assessed exam.

Design and Make Project (50%). A contextual challenge theme is provided and pupils have the freedom to design, innovate and create a prototype solution to a design brief they develop. The project requires investigating, designing, making and evaluating to be completed independently by pupils and allows them to use processes and materials most suitable to their individual project.

Written Exam (50%). This assesses pupils' knowledge of a wide range of materials, processes and tools used in design as well as their ability to analyse and evaluate design decisions of existing products and the wider social, moral, ethical and environmental issues in Design & Technology. Maths skills are also assessed within the written exam through contextual calculations and marks for these make up 15% of the GCSE.

Where can I find more details?

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/gcse/design-and-technology-8552

See Mr Dean or Mr Diamond (Head of Technology)

Additional information...

The course is aimed at pupils who have an interest in designing and working with all materials and learning more about them, through both practical tasks and theory. Pupils must be able to work independently, draw on very broad subject knowledge and have a passion for creative problem solving.

Electronics (GCSE)

What will I do?

You will learn how electricity flows around a circuit and how to predict its behaviour.

You will understand electronic system design processes.

You will learn how to read and interpret circuit diagrams.

You will use CAD/CAM methods to design and construct electronic circuits safely and accurately.

You will test and diagnose the circuits and components you have built using appropriate test equipment.

You will learn how to program your own PIC (Peripheral Interface Controller)

What is studied in Year 10?

- Electronic circuit theory (Ohms law etc.)
- C.A.D. /C.A.M Circuit board design and manufacture
- Electronic circuit construction techniques.
- Component and circuit test procedures
- Electronic systems and subsystems

What is studied in Year 11?

- Non-examined assessment. In the course of this you will design and make an electronic system as a solution to a specified problem
- Preparation for final examination

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Discovering Electronics. Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes — 40% of qualification

Component 2: Application of Electronics. Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes — 40% of qualification

Component 3: Extended system design and realisation task. Non-exam assessment — 20% of qualification

Where can I find more details?

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/electronics-gcse>

Speak to Mr Diamond (Head of Technology)

Additional information...

The exact Technology course studied will be determined following discussions between pupils, parents and the Technology team.

Electronics has a significant **scientific** and **mathematical** content within its programme of study.

Progression to is to A-levels, BTECs or apprenticeships.

Engineering Manufacture (Cambridge National)

What will I do?

The students will acquire the knowledge and skills required to operate both traditional and modern manufacturing tools and equipment. Their ability to make products in accordance with a design specification as well as their understanding of the processes and systems required to transfer a design concept into a quality mass produced product, will be developed.

Students will be able to identify different types of engineering materials and their uses; they will be familiar with the purpose and uses of a variety of production processes in the industry.

Students' skills in preparing and planning for the production of a manufactured item will be developed. They will understand the principles of mass production, including preproduction and production processes.

What is studied in Year 10?

- Preparing and planning for manufacture of an engineered product
- Production of an engineered product using computer aided manufacture

What is studied in Year 11?

- Engineering materials, processes and production. (Externally assessed)
- Quality control of engineered products

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will be by means of an externally assessed exam and 3 controlled assessment projects. This qualification has both Level 2 (Certificate) and Level 1 (Award) as possible outcomes.

Where can I find more details?

OCR website — Look for **Cambridge Nationals Engineering Manufacture Level 1/2 Award/Certificate - Course codes J832, J842.**

Speak to Mr Diamond (Head of Technology)

Additional information...

This qualification provides a valuable foundation in engineering manufacture, preparing students for further study qualifications in Engineering, Business, Computer Science, Art and Design and other related careers. Alternatively, the qualification prepares those wishing to go on to an apprenticeship in a wide range of engineering related subjects. The skills and knowledge gained are directly useful for practical application in the workplace. The exact Technology course studied will be determined following discussions between pupils, parents and the Technology team.

Food Preparation & Nutrition (GCSE)

What will I do?

The GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

What is studied in Year 10?

1. Food commodities
2. Principles of nutrition
3. Diet and good health
4. The science of food
5. Where food comes from
6. Cooking and food preparation.

What is studied in Year 11?

Assessment 1: The Food Investigation Assessment
Investigate the working characteristics, function and chemical properties of ingredients through practical experimentation and use the findings to achieve a particular result

Assessment 2: The Food Preparation Assessment
Plan, prepare, cook and present a selection of dishes, to meet particular requirements such as a dietary need, lifestyle choice or specific context.

How will I be assessed?

The *GCSE Food and Nutrition* consists of two components:

Component 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition. Written examination taken at the end of Year 11 — 1 hour 45 minutes. 50% of qualification

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action. Non-examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated. Assessment 1: 8 hours. Assessment 2: 12 hours. 50% of qualification .

Where can I find more details?

www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/food-preparation-and-nutrition-gcse

See Miss Mason or speak to Mr Diamond (Head of Technology)

Additional information...

It is essential that all deadline dates for each assignment are met.

Ingredients must be provided from home on the allocated practical days.

Foundation Learning

What will I do?

Some of our pupils benefit from additional support and this can be provided via our 'Foundation Learning' programme.

This personalised programme is tailored to engage with pupil interests and aspirations and is aimed at Entry Level/Level 1 learners.

Pupils will work through a personalised programme of study to develop skills directly to improve their grades across the curriculum. This option provides opportunities and challenge to develop skills and confidence in a range of contexts built around:

- literacy and numeracy
- learning to learn
- personal development
- preparation for work

Many boys benefit from the small group size and the close links with our 'Learning Support Unit', which provides on-going support in areas such as key skills and preparing for progression after West Hill.

This can ensure boys gain most from Key Stage 4 and emerge with secure post 16 progression opportunities.

Where can I find more details?

See any member of staff in the LSU area, Mr O'Dowd or Mrs Heap who can provide more information with examples of the type of support and programmes that can be followed.

Geography (GCSE)

What will I do?

The Geography GCSE qualification (AQA GCSE Geography 8035) studies geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes, investigating the links between them. Students will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Geography is an extremely wide discipline which ranges from climate change and disappearing rainforests one week to poverty and deprivation in the next and then global shifts in economic power and the increasingly important challenge of sustainable resource use. Students who take GCSE Geography will gain a wide range of knowledge that is topical and relevant to the world around them. This specification also encourages students to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

Studying Geography will enable students to acquire the skills of: understanding, reading and interpreting maps; interpreting photographs, including satellite images; drawing maps, diagrams, graphs and tables; collecting, analysing, presenting and interpreting raw data.

What is studied in Years 10/11?

Living with the physical environment (Paper 1)

The challenge of natural hazards
Physical landscapes in the UK
The living world

Challenges in the human environment (Paper 2)

Urban issues and challenges
The changing economic world
The challenge of resource management

Geographical applications (Paper 3)

Issue evaluation
Fieldwork

How will I be assessed?

Linear exams in summer 2022 will consist of 3 differently weighted papers. Paper 1 and 2 are each worth 35% of the overall grade, with Paper 3 worth the remaining 30%.

Paper 1: Living with the physical environment

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 88 marks (including 3 marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology (SPGST))
- 35% of GCSE

Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 88 marks (including 3 marks for SPGST)
- 35% of GCSE

Paper 3: Geographical applications

- Written exam: 1 hour 15mins
- 76 marks (including 6 marks for SPGST)
- 30% of GCSE
- Pre-release resources made available from mid-March in the year of the exam

All pupils will sit the same exam.

Where can I find more details?

From the AQA website—www.aqa.org.uk (GCSE Geography 8035)

See your Geography teacher or speak to Mr Hill (Head of Geography)

Additional information...

Geography Residential

Part of the qualification requires students to take up the opportunity to attend a 2 night residential field trip to Liverpool and Wales in preparation for their Geographical Application Paper. This residential will give students the experience of Human and Physical Geography in the field. In Liverpool we will study the transformation of Liverpool's city centre through urban regeneration and complete human fieldwork. In Wales students will collect primary river data to explore the difference between courses of a river and how human intervention can impact natural processes.

German Language (GCSE)

What will I do?

GCSE builds on many of the themes already studied at KS3. Lessons include a variety of activities with the emphasis on boys being able to use the language to express their own ideas and opinions.

Boys considering this course must be prepared to learn vocabulary weekly.

Examining body AQA.

What is studied in Year 10?

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Family/Free time

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Home / Travel

What is studied in Year 11?

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

School /Jobs.

Examination practice

How will I be assessed?

25% writing – lists, translations into and from German, short text.

25% speaking – role play and general conversation. Foundation 7-9 minutes. Higher 10 -12 minutes.

25% reading – Foundation or Higher level paper taken in May/June of Year 11.

25% listening– Foundation or Higher level paper taken in May/June of Year 11.

Where can I find more details?

From the website—www.aqa.org.uk

See your Languages teacher or speak to Mrs Kenworthy (Head of Modern Foreign Languages)

Additional information...

There may be opportunities to engage in a visit to Germany.

There are local visits involving language activities.

This course facilitates progression to A-level German.

History (GCSE)

What will I do?

GCSE History will give you the opportunity to study significant events and people that have shaped the world we live in. You will follow the Pearson Edexcel specification and focus on four main topics: Medicine in Britain 1250-present, Early Elizabethan England 1558-88, Superpower relations and the Cold War 1941-91 and Germany 1918-39.

You will enjoy and be successful on this course if you are interested in:

- Reading, researching and writing at length.
- Investigating how and why people's lives and understanding have changed over time and their impact on our past.
- Discussing why there are sometimes different, but equally valid points of view on the same subject.

History is a subject that will develop your skills of analysis and evaluation and help prepare you for academic courses at an advanced level in subjects such as History, Law, Government and Politics. You will become much more critical of what you read and hear in the news and it will develop your abilities to reason and argue your point of view clearly.

What is studied in Year 10?

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.

Paper 3 Modern depth study:

Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39.

What is studied in Year 11?

Paper 2 Period study and British depth study:

Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88 and Superpower Relations and the Cold War 1941-91.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes. Worth 30% of the qualification.

Paper 2: Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes. Worth 40% of the qualification.

Paper 3: Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes. Worth 30% of the qualification.

There is no coursework. All three exam papers will be sat at the end of Year 11.

Where can I find more details?

Visit the Edexcel website—www.edexcel.com (Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in History (1H10))

See your History teacher or speak to Mrs Anderton (Head of History)

Additional information...

Remember, this is a course that requires good communication skills and high levels of literacy and articulation.

Music (GCSE)

What will I do?

GCSE Music offers students the opportunity to build upon skills learnt during KS3. The three areas of Performing, Listening and Composing are the basic components that make up the course.

Most students choose music because they enjoy playing their instrument. Therefore, a large percentage of marks are allocated to performance. Students are required to perform individually and in a group. Although not compulsory, it is advantageous if a student is learning an instrument *before* they enter Year 10. GCSE music is also accessible to pupils with a music technology and DJ background. For further advice and guidance regarding this, see Mr Wells.

Students will be taught composition techniques and how to incorporate these into their own compositions. They will use the Apple Mac suite and learn how to use the music software 'Sibelius' and 'Garageband' in order to compose two original compositions in their chosen style.

Throughout the course, students will listen to a range of musical genres and study two set works selected by the exam board. Through this process they will learn the history of music, musical vocabulary and how to recognise musical techniques and devices used by composers. All of which is required knowledge for their final written exam.

What is studied in Year 10?

- How to compose using composing techniques
- Listening to a variety of musical genres
- Learning to recognise musical devices, techniques and characteristics
- History of Music and Composers
- Performance opportunities

What is studied in Year 11?

- Performance
- Composition
- Listening and appraising preparation for the final written examination.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Understanding Music (written exam) – 40%

Unit 2: Performing Music – 30%

Unit 3: Composing Music – 30%

Where can I find more details?

From the AQA website—www.aqa.org.uk

See your Music teacher or speak to Mr Wells (Head of Music)

Additional information...

Students choosing Music must be committed to playing their instrument, attending their weekly instrumental lesson and regularly practising their instrument to a satisfactory standard.

Participation and commitment to school music ensembles is expected and additional groups outside of school are recommended to improve their all round musical skills.

Physical Education (GCSE)

What will I do?

- Develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance.
- Understand how the physiological and psychological state affects performance in physical activity and sport.
- Perform effectively in different physical activities by developing skills and techniques and selecting and using tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas.
- Develop my ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance in physical activity and sport.
- Understand the contribution which physical activity and sport make to health, fitness and well-being.

What is studied in Year 10?

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Effects of exercise on the body
- Components of fitness
- Movement analysis
- Injury prevention
- Principles of training

What is studied in Year 11?

- Engagement patterns
- Ethical & socio-cultural issues in sport.
- Sports psychology
- Health, fitness and well-being
- AEP (coursework)
- Benefits of exercise
- Commercialisation

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 Externally assessed through 2 written examination papers each of 1 hour. This will contribute a maximum of 60% towards your total marks. The examinations will be taken at the end of Year 11.

Unit 2 Assessed in two sections.

Section 1 – Three practical performances in the role of player in **competition**. Worth 30% of the total marks.

Section 2 – Analysis of Performance in one of the chosen activities. This will be worth 10% and will include a written Personal Exercise Programme.

Note: Unit 2 is on-going assessment and is finally assessed in the March of Year 11.

Where can I find more details?

From the OCR website—www.ocr.org.uk (GCSE Physical Education)

See your PE teacher or speak to Mr Battarbee (Head of PE)

Additional information...

- Playing in sports in competitive situations is key. This can be **in** and/or **out** of school.
- You are examined in 3 different sports: 1 Team ,1 Individual and 1 other (either Team or Individual).
- A good general knowledge of sport and a willingness to **try and succeed** in every sport offered to you.

Religious Studies (GCSE)

What will I do?

You will explore your own, religious and atheist responses to challenging moral questions on issues such as capital punishment, war and matters of life and death. You will also develop a deep and detailed understanding of core Islamic and Christian beliefs and you will be able to explain how these beliefs are reflected in the lives of believers today. The thematic element of the course makes up 50% of what you will be studying with 50% of the study time spent on learning about religious beliefs and their application in the world today.

You do not have to be religious to study this course. You simply need to be interested in ethical questions, debates, learning about what different religious people believe and what others think. You should be willing to think deeply about your own opinions and be prepared to evaluate religious responses to the ultimate questions that face us all, such as 'What happens to us when we die?' and 'Is it ever okay to go to war?'

What is studied in Year 10?

Religion and Ethics (Christianity)

- Christian Beliefs
- Marriage and the Family
- Living the Religious Life
- Matters of Life and Death

What is studied in Year 11?

Religion, Peace and Conflict (Islam)

- Islamic Beliefs
- Crime and Punishment
- Living the Islamic Life
- Peace & Conflict

How will I be assessed?

The course is examined at the end of Year 11. Two examinations will be taken, one examination will cover the content studied in Year 10 (Religion and Ethics: Christianity) and the other the content studied in Year 11 (Religion, Peace and Conflict: Islam).

Each exam is 1 hour and 45 minutes long.

Where can I find more details?

From the Edexcel website (Religious Studies B: Paper 1 (Religion and Ethics: Christianity) and Paper 2 (Religion, Peace and Conflict: Islam))

See your RE teacher or speak to Mr Harrison (Head of RE).

Additional information...

You will study the issues raised from a religious, global and personal perspective. You will enjoy and therefore, do well in the course if you are interested in:

Learning about and from religion.

Debating and understanding why there are sometimes different, but equally valid, points of view on the same subject.

Finding out about people's lives, beliefs and changing opinions.

Ultimate Questions (Why are we here? Why do things happen?)

This course may be right for you if you are interested in a career in law, the police service, politics or medicine because of the ethical component in the course. Likewise, as you are learning about people and why they believe what they do, this will support you in any career that involves working with and understanding others.

Sport Studies (Cambridge National)

What will I do?

- Develop a wide range of highly desirable and transferable skills such as communication, problem solving, team work and performing under pressure.
- Develop your own performance.
- Learn how to become an effective leader.
- Gain knowledge about the national sports context.
- The bulk of learning and assessment is through practical means.

What is studied ?

Unit 1 – Contemporary issues in sport

Topics include – barriers to participation, hosting the Olympic Games, Olympic values, cheating in sport and the development and structure of sport within the UK.

Unit 2 – Developing sports skills

Students take part in physical activity. It will include one team and one individual sport, plus officiating.

Unit 3 - Sports Leadership

Students learn about some of the knowledge, understanding and practical skills required to be an effective sports leader. They put their knowledge into practice by planning and delivering safe and effective sporting activity sessions.

Unit 4 – Developing knowledge and skills in outdoor activities

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of the relationship between sports and media as well as their ability to evaluate and interpret the different ways in which sports teams may be represented by the media.

How will I be assessed?

Each unit contributes 25% of the final mark. Unit 1 is assessed by a 1 hour exam. The remaining three units are non-examined assessment.

Where can I find more details?

Ask Mr Battarbee (Head of Department) or Mr Davies (2nd in Department). Alternatively visit:- www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/sport-studies-level-1-2-j803-j813/

Additional information...

Depending on the grade the pupil achieves they can progress to:

Level 3 vocational qualifications such as Cambridge Technicals or even A levels.

