



# Key Stage 4 Options 2020



# Key Stage 4 Options

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# Key Stage 4 Options

Northgate High School provides a number of curriculum options. We can help you to match these together to find a route appropriate to your strengths and needs.

There are lots of places that you can get advice and we will work with you to check that your options are suitable before Year 10 begins.

From September 2020 your examination-based subjects will consist of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Triple Science (separate Biology, Chemistry and Physics) or Combined Science (double award) and four other option subjects.

You will choose one subject from each of the option blocks below and you will identify some reserves. Your choices **must include at least one of** French, German, Spanish, Geography, History or Computer Science.

You should consider your progress in each subject, as well as your commitment to studying it, when deciding which subjects to study.

## Option Block 1

Art  
Business  
Child Development\*  
Creative iMedia  
Food Preparation & Nutrition  
Geography  
German  
Physical Education (GCSE)\*  
Spanish\*  
Sport BTEC\*

## Option Block 2

Computer Science  
Dance\*  
D&T - Timbers / Metals  
Food Preparation & Nutrition  
French\*  
Graphic Communication  
History  
Psychology  
Sociology  
Textile & Fashion Design\*

## Option Block 3

Art  
Business  
Creative iMedia  
D&T - Electronic & Mechanical Systems\*  
Food Preparation & Nutrition  
Geography  
Graphic Communication  
History  
Music\*  
Triple Science for Combined Scientists\*

## Option Block 4

Computer Science  
D&T - Timbers / Metals  
Drama\*  
Geography  
German  
Health & Social Care\*  
History  
Psychology  
Religious Studies\*  
Sociology

\*Subjects in one block only

Unfortunately, we **cannot** change the option blocks above to accommodate other combinations. There are some subjects which examine very similar skills and are seen as effectively 'equivalent' to one another. For this reason you should usually **avoid taking**:

- Any combination of Art, Graphic Communication, and Textile and Fashion Design
- Electronic and Mechanical Systems with Natural and Manufactured Timber

# Some Questions Answered

## What are the important dates in the options process?

27 February 2020: Year 9 Parents' Evening (appointments with subject staff)

5 March 2020: Year 9 Options Evening (Options Booklets issued)

13 March 2020: Final deadline for return of Options Form

## Where can I get advice?

There are several people who can discuss your future with you, but in the end, the choices you make are up to you. You may find it useful to talk to:

- Your parents
- Your teachers
- Your tutor
- Mrs Calder (Careers Leader)

In addition, you will receive a personal interview with a senior member of staff. During this interview the member of staff will assess the appropriateness and availability of your option choices, for example ensuring that they provide enough variety and breadth.

## How should I choose courses?

You should base your choices on:

- subjects you are good at, as this should lead to better examination results: good qualifications are very important!
- subjects which interest you, that you enjoy and which you want to study
- subjects which may help you with your future career (if you already have some ideas of what this might be)

## Will I get my first choice of subjects?

We will try to give you your first choice of subjects and most students do get the choices they make. However, we cannot guarantee this because we are limited by the number of teachers of a subject, the number of students in a class and, in some cases, the number of specialist rooms available. Also, undersubscribed courses may not run. Therefore, we require you to indicate your first choices and also some reserve choices.

If you have a particular reason to study a specific subject or combination of subjects, **you should explain this on the back of the Options Form** so that this can be taken into account when allocating places to oversubscribed subjects.

## Can I swap courses if I change my mind?

Changing options can cause many difficulties, so you are strongly discouraged from making option change requests.

Therefore, it is essential to make the right choices in the first place. This is why it is important to discuss your option choices with your parents/carers and teachers now, so that you make the best choices possible. Make sure you are selecting courses for the right reasons e.g. you enjoy that subject or it fits in well with future career plans.

Once in Year 10, there will be no option changes after 25 September.

## What is the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc)?

The Ebacc is not a qualification in itself. Instead, it is a recognition that you have studied a broad mix of core subjects that keep your options open for further studies and future careers. You will have completed the English Baccalaureate if you study all of the following:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Two Sciences
- A Foreign Language
- Geography or History.

At Northgate it is not compulsory to study *all* of the English Baccalaureate subjects. However, you should consider doing this if you could do well across this broad range of subjects. We do think that you should be studying most of the subject areas shown above, and we strongly advise you to include a foreign language where this fits your strengths.

So, our advice is simple: once you have chosen **at least one of** French, German, Spanish, Geography, History or Computer Science to study, select your other three options based on what suits you best, irrespective of whether these will cover all of the Ebacc subjects.

## **The Key Stage 4 Courses**

The following pages give some detailed information about the courses you can take in Year 10.

# Art

## What will I learn?

The course teaches you about the process of making art and design, it also teaches the language of art and design enabling you to become a more thoughtful and discerning consumer of art, design, fashion, architecture etc. Within the coursework you will learn at least three of the following skills:

- 3D Sculpture, Ceramics
- 2D Drawing, Painting (watercolour, acrylic and oil painting), Print-making, Mixed Media, Textiles, Digital Photography
- Critical Studies, exploring the work of other artists and craftspeople

## How will I be assessed?

Coursework 60%

Exam 40%

All work done throughout the course is coursework. Towards the end of the course you will have an eight-week preparatory period which leads to a 10-hour exam over two days.

## How will I be taught?

You will be taught in small mixed ability groups. Teaching will involve mainly practical work but there is a requirement for a small written element to the course. Work will initially be teacher led, but as the course progresses you will be encouraged to develop your own ideas and think independently. You will be taught in one of the specialist art studios and will have access to digital cameras, scanners, and A3 printers as well as more traditional materials. You will also visit both local and national galleries to engage with art works first hand.

## Examination Board & Course Type

Edexcel – GCSE Art & Design: Art, Craft and Design

## Progression

The course provides a platform for progression into:

- A Level → Foundation Course → University
- College: 2-year Foundation
- Careers: Graphic Design, Advertising, Architecture, Illustration, Set Design, Ceramics, Product Design, Games Design, Website Design, Photography, Sculpture, Painting, Interior Design, Animation, Film and Media, Teaching, Lecturing, Landscape Design, Hairdressing, Fashion Design, Make Up Design, Textiles...

## Teacher to contact for further information

Mr D Beattie

# Business

## What will I learn?

You may be wondering how businesses operate and what makes them successful. Business teaches you just that, and requires you to write in depth and solve numerical problems to justify and evaluate business concepts.

While in Year 10 you will be introduced to the world of small businesses and will look at what makes someone a successful business person. You will find out how businesses develop an idea and spot an opportunity and turn that idea into a success. You will understand how a business operates effectively and manages money. You will also see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved.

Year 10 work is based around these business concepts:

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making the business effective
- Understanding external influences on business

In Year 11 you will study how businesses grow, the key functions or departments in a business, then look into the influences from the world that surrounds them.

Year 11 topics are:

- Growing the business
- Making marketing decisions
- Making operational decisions
- Making financial decisions
- Making human resource decisions

How will I be assessed?

- 2 exam papers, that each last 90 minutes; each is worth 50% of your GCSE.
- one exam is on the knowledge you study in Year 10, and the other on the knowledge we cover in Year 11.
- The exams are predominantly mid-long written answers with some multiple-choice questions and calculations.

## How will I be taught?

This course is very challenging and requires a great degree of written and numerical skills. You need to be good at writing essay style questions and will learn how to develop analysing and evaluating skills in your writing. You should not be afraid of learning tricky concepts and working with numbers and formulas to solve business problems. You will learn how to make business decisions and also learn about the world of business through research and investigation as well as through practical tasks. The subject is predominantly individual based tasks with some elements of group work. The subject lends itself to class discussions and the use of video in places. GCSE business students will be expected to keep themselves up to date with business news and current topical events in order to effectively enhance their studies.

## Examination Board & Course Type

Edexcel – GCSE Business

**Progression**

Business is a successful and popular GCSE subject and leads naturally to A Level in either Business

Studies or Economics. At Advanced Level, the subjects are chosen by a large number of students and particularly those who are considering professional careers in occupations such as Accountancy, Banking, Insurance, Hotel & Catering, Tourism, Retailing and General Management.

**Teacher to contact for further information**

Mrs N DGLISH

# Child Development

This qualification is for students who wish to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in child development. At the end of this course you will gain a Level 2 qualification in Child Development. This would provide a secure starting point if you are considering a career involving working with younger children or you intend to study further pathways into teaching, child nursing, midwifery, nursery work etc.

## What will I learn?

### *R018 (Exam)*

The first unit underpins all of the other learning in this qualification. You will learn the essential knowledge and understanding for child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, care, conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety. Knowledge gained would be of use for further studies in PHSE, Biology and other Child Development qualifications.

### *R019 (Coursework)*

You will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all of these needs.

You will also gain knowledge of nutrition and hygiene practices and will be given the opportunity to evaluate dietary choices. Evaluation skills are transferable skills which would be of use in further studies in most areas.

### *R020 (Coursework)*

In Unit 3, you will gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. This unit will include researching, planning, carrying out activities with children and observing and reviewing these activities, as well as an understanding of the development norms and the benefits of play in child development. These transferable skills will support further studies in many other subjects.

## How will I be assessed?

A mixture of coursework and examinations.

## How will I be taught?

You will be taught using a variety of teaching styles:

- Visual, Audio and Kinaesthetic methods are used to suit different learners.
- Whole-class teaching, producing projects, giving individual and group presentations.
- You will be expected to work independently in order to carry out and complete controlled assessment coursework.
- ICT and the Internet are used.
- A coursework booklet is provided, with guidance notes for you to follow whilst carrying out the child study.
- Visitors into school from the child care sector.
- Visits out of school to child care placements.

## Further recommendations

You should have an interest in 'how children learn' and be prepared to consider a work placement in this sector in Year 10 to support your understanding of the knowledge gained on this course.

## Examination Board & Course Type

OCR – Cambridge Nationals Level 1/2 Child Development

## Progression

This course provides an excellent foundation for students who wish to continue their studies or follow a career and/or apprenticeship working in the childcare sector.

Post-16:

- A Levels in Health and Social Care (AS/A Level), Psychology and Sociology.
- College courses such as Child Care, Health and Social Care.
- Employment in childcare that would work alongside gaining qualifications in a related topic.
- Degrees in Psychology, Sociology, Teaching, Nursing.

**Future career prospects:**

Teacher (primary and secondary), child psychologist, educational psychologist, social worker, nursing, nursery management, nursery nurse, childminder, midwifery, play-worker, play therapist, social worker.

**Teacher to contact for further information**

Mrs H Anderson

# Computer Science

## What will I learn?

The course will cover three components:

### 1. Computer Systems

The first component is focused on computer systems covering the physical elements of computer science and the associated theory. Systems architecture, memory and storage will be looked at along with networks, topologies, security and aspects of social and legal concerns.

### 2. Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

This component is focused on the core theory of computer science and the application of computer science principles including languages, algorithms, computational logic, high and low level programming as well as the representation of data.

### 3. Programming Project

This is the non-exam assessment component where students will be challenged by a range of stimulating and engaging tasks to apply the knowledge and skills they have previously learned. Programming techniques, design, development and efficiency will be looked at along with testing and evaluation.

## How will I be assessed?

### ■ *Coursework*

The programming project will prepare you for the exam. This will take a maximum 20 hours of lesson time and will take place under supervised conditions. All of the skills necessary will be developed in previous lessons.

### ■ *Written examination*

Component 1 and 2 are examined units and carry an equal weighting of 50% of the final marks. Both exams are for 1 hour 30 minutes. Component 1 is theory and component 2 is computational thinking.

## How will I be taught?

The lessons will be a varied combination of both computer theory and of learning coding concepts using the Python coding language. You must be willing to extend your programming skills outside lessons using an online tutorial system.

The practical part of the course relies heavily on mathematical concepts and the confident use of logic and algebra. If you are not expected to achieve a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics you will find the course challenging.

## Examination Board & Course Type

OCR – GCSE Computer Science (J276)

## Progression

The course provides an excellent basis for entry into Computer Science at A Level.

## Teacher to contact for further information

Mr A Howard

# Creative iMedia

## What is Creative iMedia about?

Creative and Digital Media plays an important part in many areas of our everyday lives and is also an important part of the UK economy. There is a demand from employers for an increasingly skilled and technically literate workforce as more and more media products are produced digitally. Creative iMedia provides you with specific and transferable skills and a solid foundation in understanding and applying this subject, whether it is in employment or higher education.

## What will I learn and how will I learn it?

The first two modules are mandatory; these are followed by two optional units.

<b>Module 1: Pre-production skills</b>
The first module will enable you to understand pre-production skills used in the creative and digital media sector.
<b>How it is assessed</b> External written paper: 1 hour 15 mins Set and marked by OCR 25% of the overall grade
<b>Module 2: Creating digital graphics</b>
The second module will build on the skills, knowledge and understanding gained. The aim of this unit is for you to understand the basics of digital graphics editing for the creative and digital media sector.
<b>How it is assessed</b> Centre-assessed tasks: approximately 10 hours OCR moderated 25% of the overall grade
<b>Modules 3 &amp; 4: Optional Units</b> (Two to be chosen by teacher)
Creating 2D and 3D digital characters Creating a digital sound sequence Storytelling with a comic strip Creating a digital video sequence Creating a multi-page website Creating a digital animation Creating interactive multimedia products Digital photography Designing a game concept Developing digital games
<b>How it is assessed</b> Coursework centre-assessed tasks: approximately 10 hours OCR moderated 50% of the overall grade

## How will I be taught?

You will be taught by a mixture of whole-class teaching, individual practical tasks and group work. We hope to make some links with industry experts with the possibility of field trips to some relevant locations to the coursework.

## Examination Board & Course Type

OCR – Cambridge Nationals Certificate

## **Progression**

There are many things you can go on to do with this qualification. The course provides you with a range of skills to progress further in your education. You could go on to take an A Level in Media or Computing, or a Vocational A Level in ICT. This qualification, if further studied, can also provide employment opportunities in the IT or Media sector.

## **Teacher to contact for further information**

Mr A Howard

# Dance

## What is GCSE Dance about?

Dance is both exhilarating and liberating to watch or do. The instinct to dance is fundamentally joyous and no matter how hard you try you can't get away from that for long! Dance uses movement symbolically as a form of human expression. GCSE Dance is both physical and expressive, it promotes fitness and well-being. You will enjoy GCSE Dance if you want to study a subject that is both practical and creative, and if you enjoy working individually and as part of a team.

## What will I learn and how will I learn it?

### Component 1: Performance and Choreography

#### What is assessed? Performance

- You will choose 2 out of 4 set phrases to present for solo assessment (approximately one minute in duration)
- You will use the remaining 2 set phrases to develop a duet or a trio group performance (approximately three and a half minutes duration)

#### Choreography

You will choose one task from a list set by AQA and choreograph either a solo (two to two and a half minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (three to three and a half minutes).

#### How it is assessed

Internally marked and externally moderated.

#### Performance

- 30% of GCSE
- 40 Marks – 15 marks for set phrase solo performance and 25 marks for duet/trio performance

#### Choreography

- 30% of GCSE
- 40 Marks

**Total component 60%**

### Component 2: Dance appreciation

#### What is assessed?

- Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills.
- Critical appreciation of own work.
- Critical appreciation of professional works.

#### How it is assessed

- 40% of GCSE
- Written exam: 1 Hour 30 Minutes
- 80 marks

#### Questions

Based on your own practice in performance and choreography and the AQA dance anthology.

## **How will I be taught?**

You will be taught by a mixture of whole-class teaching, practical dance exercises, practical performances and written work. Workshops are provided and led by current practitioners and you will also get the chance to talk to dancers and choreographers in pre and post-performance talks during dance visits. Use of Lighting, Sound, Digital Camera and Video recording equipment are all common practice within the Dance Department.

## **Examination Board & Course Type**

AQA - GCSE

## **Progression**

There are many things you can go on and do with a GCSE in Dance. The course provides you with a range of skills to progress further in your education. These skills include developing a creative and confident mind, teamwork skills that allow you to work closely with others and perform under pressure, and skills that enhance an appreciation of art and culture where critique and analysis are used to develop questions and justify thoughts.

You could go on to take an A Level in Dance or Performance Studies, or a Vocational A Level in Performing Arts or a BTEC National Certificate or Diploma in Performing Arts. This qualification, if further studied, can also provide employment opportunities in such careers as an entertainer or a dancer.

## **Teacher to contact for further information**

Miss H L Patrick

# Design and Technology

## – Focusing on Electronic & Mechanical Systems

### What will I learn?

This is the new qualification that is replacing all previous Design & Technology GCSE options. It focuses on the design process and understanding how to develop products to successful outcomes. It will develop your drawing and design skills, further your knowledge of technical products and will be biased towards electronic & mechanical devices.

### How will I be tested?

This qualification consists of two components:

<b>Component 1:</b>	<b>Design and Technology in the 21st Century Written Examination (2 hours).</b>
	A mix of short answers, structured and extended writing questions assessing your knowledge and understanding of technical principles, designing and making principles and their ability to analyse and evaluate design decisions.
<b>Component 2:</b>	<b>Design and Make Task (35 hours)</b>
	A sustained design and make task, based on a contextual challenge set by the exam board, assessing your ability to identify, investigate and outline design possibilities. Simulate, design, develop and make circuit prototypes, analyse and evaluate design decisions and the practical outcome.

### How will I be taught?

The subject content is presented under two headings: technical principles & designing, and making principles. Within each area, the content is further divided into core knowledge & understanding, and in-depth knowledge & understanding. In this case we cover the core knowledge content and then specialise in the area of electronic systems, programmable components and mechanical devices.

You will be taught through a series of projects which include elements of practical skills, theoretical knowledge and design skills for working with electronic systems. Homework tasks, videos, practical demonstrations and computer aided design software will be used as key learning tools.

### Examination Board & Course Type

AQA – GCSE Design & Technology

### Progression

A GCSE in Design & Technology is required for entry into A Level Graphic Design and A Level Product Design at grade 6. Many students that have studied a similar route have gone on to careers in Aerospace, Marine & Power Engineering, Architecture, Construction & Product Designing.

Many important life skills such as time management, planning and organisational skills are key to the designing and making process.

As well as a GCSE Level qualification you will also leave the course with a portfolio of design evidence and a practical piece of work that can be shown to future employers and educational institutes to help demonstrate your designing, practical skills and potential for the future.

### Teacher to contact for further information

Mr S Day

# Design & Technology

## – Focusing on Natural & Manufactured Timber / Ferrous & Non-Ferrous Metals

This is the new GCSE qualification that is replacing all previous Design & Technology GCSE options. It focuses on the design process and understanding how to develop products to successful outcomes. It will develop your drawing and design skills, further your knowledge of technical products and will be biased towards natural and manufactured timbers.

### How will I be tested?

<b>Component 1:</b>	<b>Design and Technology in the 21st Century Written Examination 2 Hours</b>
	A mix of short answers, structured and extended writing questions assessing candidates' knowledge and understanding of technical principles, designing and making principles and their ability to analyse and evaluate design decisions.
<b>Component 2:</b>	<b>Design and Make Task of 35 Hours</b>
	A sustained design and make task, based on a contextual challenge set by the exam board, assessing candidates' ability to identify, investigate and outline design possibilities. Design and make prototypes, analyse and evaluate design decisions.

### How will I be taught?

The subject content is presented under two headings: technical principles & designing and making principles. Within each area, the content is further divided into core knowledge & understanding and in-depth knowledge & understanding. In this case we cover the core knowledge content and then specialise in the area of natural and manufactured timber.

You will be taught through a series of projects which include elements of practical skills, theoretical knowledge and design skills for working with timber. Homework tasks, videos, practical demonstrations and computer aided design software will be used as key learning tools.

### Progression

A GCSE in Design & Technology is required for entry into A Level Graphic Design and A Level Product Design at grade 6. Many students that have studied a similar route have gone on to careers in Aerospace, Marine & Power Engineering, Architecture, Construction & Product Designing. Many important life skills such as time management, planning and organisational skills are key to the designing and making process.

As well as a GCSE Level qualification you will also leave the course with a portfolio of design evidence and a practical piece of work that can be shown to future employers and educational institutes to help demonstrate your designing, practical skills and potential for the future.

### Examination Board & Course Type

EDUQAS – GCSE Design & Technology

### Teacher to contact for further information

Mr S Day

# Drama

## What is GCSE Drama about?

All the world's a stage, and a qualification in GCSE Drama will prepare you for the role of a lifetime by providing you with the skills to communicate clearly and confidently, work closely with others and perform under pressure. This course is an enjoyable and practical approach to Drama, with the emphasis on learning through doing. By following the GCSE Drama course you will gather knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre and of the influences that inform the way drama is devised and structured. It allows you to improve your performance skills, by creating your own work and preparing existing texts for performance. You will become multi-skilled, which gives you the opportunity to progress further in your education.

## What will I learn and how will I learn it?

GCSE Drama will equip you with a range of skills much sought after in the wider world of work and education. GCSE Drama will:

- Develop ways of communicating confidently and creatively
- Encourage cooperation and the understanding of others
- Provide the skills of working with others – you can choose to work individually, in pairs or in a group for all units
- Introduce the tools and the language of drama
- Look at actions and their consequences in a dramatic setting
- Explore the creative work of the designer, deviser and director...as well as the performer

The course consists of three units of study:

<b>Component 1 Devising Drama</b>	<b>Component 2 Text Performance</b>	<b>Component 3 Written Exam</b>
<p>You will create a devised performance in groups. You will select a starting point from a range of stimuli provided by the exam board. All performances are supported by a written portfolio which is evidence of your devising process.</p>	<p>You will study a set text and take part in two performances from two extracts of the text. Performance length varies according to the size of the group but can be anything between 2 and 15 minutes. You will produce an accompanying concept document which outlines your intentions for the work.</p>	<p><b>Section A</b> You will answer questions which focus on the process of creating and developing a performance.</p> <p><b>Section B</b> You will have to review a performance that you have seen on your course.</p>
<p>Non Examined Assessment 40 Marks for the evidence in the portfolio 20 Marks for the final performance</p>	<p>Performance to a Visiting Examiner 20 Marks for written intention 40 Marks for performance</p>	<p>Written Exam 1 hour and 30 minutes 50 Marks Section A 30 Marks Section B</p>

### **How will I be taught?**

You will be taught by a mixture of whole-class teaching, practical drama exercises, practical performances and structured written notes. Workshops are provided and led by current practitioners and you also get the chance to talk to actors and directors in pre and post-performance talks during theatre visits. Use of Lighting, Sound, Digital Camera and Video recording equipment are all common practice within the Drama Department.

### **Examination Board & Course Type**

OCR - GCSE

### **Progression**

There are many things you can go on and do with a GCSE in Drama as it provides you with a range of skills to progress further in your education and the work place. GCSE Drama will prove valuable to anyone considering a future role or position that requires Creativity, Confidence, Communication, Team work and/or Leadership skills. You could go on to take an A Level in Drama, Theatre Studies or Performance Studies, or a Vocational A Level in Performing Arts or a BTEC National Certificate or Diploma in Performing Arts or Performance Design and Technology.

### **Teacher to contact for further information**

Miss H L Patrick

# English Language and English Literature

## What will I learn?

In September 2020 you will embark upon two GCSEs in English Language and Literature. The course is divided up as follows:

## How will I be assessed?

### *English Language GCSE*

All of the GCSE will be assessed at the end of Year 11 via two exam papers.

#### ■ **Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (50%)**

To test your reading ability you will be given an unseen extract from a novel. You will then answer a series of questions on how it is written, considering the writer's use of language and structure and effect. To test your writing ability you will be given a photograph to describe or asked to write a piece of narrative writing to test your creative skills.

#### ■ **Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives (50%)**

You will be given two unseen texts, one non-fiction and one literary non-fiction. You will answer a series of questions to test your reading ability, considering how language is used for effect and how the two texts compare and contrast in terms of writers' attitudes. To test your writing ability you will be asked to write in a particular form, presenting a particular point of view, such as an article for a newspaper.

### **Spoken Language Endorsement (not assessed as part of GCSE)**

Throughout the two year course you will also take part in a number of speaking and listening activities. You will deliver a Spoken Language assessed presentation.

### *English Literature GCSE*

All of the GCSE will be assessed by two exam papers at the end of Year 11.

#### ■ **Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th century novel (40%)**

This paper will assess your knowledge and understanding of two set texts, a play by William Shakespeare and a novel published in the 19th century. You will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole. You will also be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole. You will not be allowed to take your set texts into the exam with you.

#### ■ **Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry (60%)**

You will study a modern novel or play and fifteen poems from an anthology studied in class and you will answer one essay question on each of them. You will also respond to and compare two unseen poems. You will not be allowed to take your set texts into the exam with you.

## How will I be taught?

English Language and English Literature are treated as a combined course in which you will experience a wide range of teaching methods designed to encourage participation, independence, enjoyment and success.

## Examination Board & Course Type

AQA - GCSE Language 8700 & Literature 8702

## Progression

These subjects both lead directly to A Level English Language and English Literature courses. A good pass grade in English is also a requirement for some other subjects at A Level. Employers value the subject as it focuses on success in the core life skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

## Teachers to contact for further information

Miss G Smy or Mrs C Wright

# Food Preparation and Nutrition

## What will I learn?

This is a new GCSE course which focuses on:

- A wide range of practical skills including knife skills, sauce making, setting a mixture, raising agents, looking into different types of dough, preparation techniques with meat, fish and vegetables and cooking methods such as using the grill and oven.
- Investigating the properties of food commodities such as flour, milk, eggs & cheese.
- The relationship between diet and health.
- Nutritional and dietary needs of different groups of people.
- Energy balance and the relationship between food intake and physical activity.
- The analysis of the micro and macronutrients.
- Looking into and understanding food provenance.
- The food processing and production systems.
- Factors affecting food choice.
- Investigating food science.

This is a practical course which is heavily supported by detailed and through understanding shown through accompanying written work. The key factors that you should think about when choosing this option include a real enthusiasm for food and cooking with an interest in why food behaves as it does when cooked and how we choose and cook with food in the UK. It is worth remembering that everyone eats and this course is about the choices we make as individuals and as a society.

## How will I be assessed?

The course is divided into three units, one of which will be assessed through a written external examination and two that will be assessed through non exam assessment (NEA).

- **Exam** – Written exam at the end of Year 11 worth 50%
- **Non Exam Assessment 1** – Food commodity investigation – 15% and completed at the start of Year 11
- **Non Exam Assessment 2** – Food preparation task (you will have a 3-hour practical exam with accompanying written work) – 35% and completed in Year 11.

## How will I be taught?

You will be taught through a range of strategies including practical work, experimental work and formal teaching. You are expected and encouraged to become an independent learner who can work with a range of information to present your own opinions.

You will be expected to provide your own ingredients for focused practical tasks where a dish or product is produced. Some ingredients will be provided for other tasks.

## Examination Board & Course Type

OCR - GCSE

## Progression

This subject can lead on to careers in the food industry, including product development, marketing, dietician, sports nutritionist, teaching, journalism and food writing.

## Teacher to contact for further information

Miss H Carpenter

# Geography

## What is GCSE Geography about?

There has never been a better or more important time to study geography. With a growing interest in global issues such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation, natural disasters and poverty, geography is one of the most relevant courses you could choose to study. Put simply, it is the subject which holds the key to our future.

Whatever your passion for the world whether it is a fascination with landscapes or a concern about inequality, geography will provide you with knowledge and help you to develop many transferable skills.

## What will I learn?

Throughout the course you will:

- Study the features of the earth and understand how they were formed.
- Develop knowledge about our rapidly changing world and how humans are impacting on the planet.
- Gain an understanding and appreciation of the cultures and backgrounds of people from all over the world.
- Study topics first hand on fieldtrips and learn the skills of data collection and analysis.
- Develop intellectual skills such as thinking critically about issues, evaluating evidence and developing reasoned arguments.
- Build transferable skills such as teamwork, problem solving, ICT skills and communication skills (presentation, writing, debating).

## How will I be assessed?

The course consists of three examinations:

**Paper 1 – Living with the Physical Environment** – 35% of the final GCSE: 1½ hour examination

- *The Challenge of Natural Hazards*  
Tectonic hazards, tropical storms, extreme weather & climate
- *Physical Landscapes of the UK*  
Coastal landscapes & river landscapes
- *The Living World*  
Tropical rainforests & Hot Desert environments

**Paper 2 – Challenges in the Human Environment** – 35% of the final GCSE: 1½ hour examination

- *Urban Challenges*  
Investigating cities in the developed and developing world
- *The Changing Economic World*  
Causes & consequences of the development gap, a study of a developing/emerging country & an investigation into the economic challenges & opportunities facing the UK
- *The Challenge of Resource Management*  
The global distribution of resources, resource challenges in the UK & a study on food supply

**Paper 3 – Geographical Applications** – 30% of the final GCSE: 1 hour examination

- *Issue Evaluation*  
A decision-making exercise involving a contemporary geographical issue
- *Fieldwork*  
Questions based on the use of fieldwork materials from an unfamiliar context & questions based on students' own enquiry work

## **Examination Board & Course Type**

AQA - GCSE Geography

### **Progression**

A GCSE in Geography graded at 5 and above will count towards the English Baccalaureate. GCSE Geography also encourages students to continue the subject at A Level where it makes an excellent link between science and arts subjects.

Geographers enter a very wide range of career areas; there is no such thing as a geography job but there are jobs that Geographers do. Studying Geography provides you with valuable skills and a firm base for life-long learning.

Some examples of careers include: conservation worker, environmental health officer, architect, urban planner, pollution analyst, environmental consultant, financial risk assessor, accountant, transport/logistics manager, lawyer, economic advisor, aid worker, human rights officer, travel writer, refugee and asylum advisor, diplomat, surveyor, teacher, human resource manager, market research analyst, weather presenter, flood protection manager, cartographer.

A wider range of possible careers can be found on the Royal Geographical Society's website – [www.rgs.org](http://www.rgs.org)

### **Teacher to contact for further information**

Ms A Turner

# Graphic Communication

## What will I learn?

You will learn to use a variety of drawing, painting and computer-aided techniques to enable you to design and produce graphics for posters, fashion items, illustrations, including cartoons and animation, games, packaging and display units. You will learn how to gather research effectively including looking at the work of other designers and artists during at least one organised trip in Year 10.

## How will I be assessed?

This qualification consists of two parts:

Part one is worth 60% of the GCSE and consists of at least two practical projects set and marked by your teacher both of which include sketch book work and a practical finished outcome such as a CD case, cereal packet or t-shirt etc.

The second part is a controlled assessment project set by the exam board and is worth 40% of the GCSE, you will have a choice of projects and produce the work as if it were a normal coursework project. There is no written examination, just a supervised time of 10 hours to make the final piece in the classroom.

## How will I be taught?

You will be taught through at least three practical coursework projects across Years 10 and 11. (You choose only the best two to enter for the GCSE). You will use industry-standard computer graphics software and printers (including one of only two printers in the school capable of printing larger than A3) in a room fully dedicated to and equipped for graphic art.

## Examination Board & Course Type

AQA – GCSE Art & Design: Graphic Communication

## Progression

GCSE Grade 6 in Graphics, Resistant Materials or a visual art subject is required for entry into A Level Graphic Design. GCSE Grade 6 in Graphics, Resistant Materials or Electronics is required for entry into A Level Product Design.

Many students who have studied this route have gone on to careers in Graphic Design, Packaging Design, Fashion Design, Interior Design and Animation.

As well as a GCSE grade, you will also leave the course with a portfolio of design evidence and a practical piece of work that can be shown to future employers and educational institutes to help demonstrate the student's designing, practical skills and potential for the future.

## Teacher to contact for further information

Mr M Gaffney

# Health and Social Care

## Overview

The Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Health and Social Care will be designed to encourage and inspire you into following a worthwhile qualification that provides insight into the health, social and early years' sectors. It is designed to create independent students that can make informed decisions about further learning opportunities or continuing into related career choices.

This qualification is designed to enable you to build on transferable skills such as communication and interpersonal skills which will support your choice of vocation. It also offers an understanding into the legal requirements and values of care needed to work in the care industry. Its main focus is to understand human development throughout the life stages at factors that may affect each stage.

## How will I be assessed?

To gain this qualification you are required to complete two mandatory units and two optional units.

### Mandatory units:

■ **R021: Essentials Values of Care for use in care settings.** (Examination unit)

This mandatory unit focuses on the rights of individuals and will instill the values of care to be used when working in a health, social care or early years' environment. All good practice is based on these values and enables those who use and work in care settings to apply quality practice. The unit also provides an overview of legislation and its impact on the care settings and covers the hygiene, safety and security matters that relate to promoting a healthy and safe environment.

■ **R022: Communication and working with individuals in health, social care and early years setting.** (Internally assessed externally moderated)

This unit will provide you with the underpinning knowledge and understanding of how to communicate effectively and what personal qualities will contribute to the creation of a caring environment when working with individuals in a health, social care and early years setting. Effective communication is important to an individual's well-being in everyday life. Practitioners need to communicate with and make connections with individuals using services all the time and it is their ability to utilise good communication skills and personal qualities that means they are able to communicate with and relate to those individuals effectively. Being able to communicate effectively and to employ personal qualities to relate to others can influence every aspect of a person's life, providing a key foundation on which to grow. On completion of this unit you will be able to appreciate how the way you communicate and the personal qualities that you utilise when working with individuals in a health, social care or early years setting will have an impact on the care of those individuals.

### Optional Units:

■ **R029: Understanding the nutrients needed for good health.**

(Internally assessed and externally moderated)

This unit gives you an overview of the importance of diet throughout the life stages, giving you the knowledge and skills to enable you to make choices which will affect your body throughout your life. Food is essential to our health and social well-being, throughout our daily lives from birth to old age. What we eat is often determined by a considerable number of factors, such as work-life balance, finance, where we live, food preparation skills, our health and religion. On completion of this unit you will have an understanding of the key nutrients required for good health from childhood to old age and be able to apply this knowledge in practical situations.

■ **R031: Using basic first aid procedures.** (Internally assessed externally moderated)

This unit will provide you with a knowledge and understanding of basic common first aid procedures that could be used within health and social care settings. Understanding and applying basic first aid procedures could potentially save lives. Basic knowledge of first aid could make a huge difference in any emergency situation. On completion of this unit, you will be able to assess the scene of an accident in health, social care and early years' settings for risks and continuing dangers.

You will know what information is needed when contacting the emergency services. You will know and be able to perform a variety of basic first aid procedures that could occur in a range of health, social care and early years' settings.

### **How will I be taught?**

This award in Health and Social Care is designed for you to gain the knowledge, understanding and skills required for some independent learning and development, not exclusively including:

- a range of generic and transferable skills
- the ability to solve problems
- the skills of research
- an understanding of the demands of working in the sectors
- the ability to apply learning in related health and social care contexts

### **How will I be assessed?**

Three units of course work and one examination.

### **Examination Board & Course Type**

OCR Cambridge Nationals Level 1/2

### **Progression**

This Level 1/2 Vocational qualification in Health and Social Care has elements of psychology, social policy and sociology that complement studies in humanities and related subjects. The main purpose of the qualification is to support access to further education and training, such as:

- Applied Level 3 in Health and Social Care (in development)
- Level 3 in Medical Science
- GCE in Sociology
- GCE in Psychology
- Access course in Nursing/Midwifery/Health Studies, The Forces. Teaching.

Supportive for those wishing to work the apprenticeship or job routes into any care environment from babies to older adults.

### **Teacher to contact for further information**

Mrs H Anderson

# History

## What will I learn?

The units are listed below.

### 1. Understanding the Modern World

- Germany , 1890 - 1945: Democracy and Dictatorship
- Conflict and Tension, 1918 - 1939

### 2. Shaping the Nation

- Britain: Health and the People: 1000AD to present day
- Elizabethan England: c 1568 - 1603

All units are assessed by two exams in Year 11.

## How will I be taught?

You will develop a range of skills including

- How to write developed explanations
- How to research and present information independently
- How to summarise and cross reference a range of information
- Working in groups
- Discussion
- Effective use of ICT and Internet research

## Examination Board & Course Type

AQA – GCSE History

## Progression

History links well to both careers and further study as it also develops self-confidence and the ability to deal with information, as well as building literacy skills.

History GCSE counts towards the English Baccalaureate.

## Teacher to contact for further information

Miss Z Quinton

# Languages – French, German or Spanish

## What will I learn?

You will learn to communicate in French, German or Spanish on the following topics:

- 1. Identity and Culture:**
  - Daily life
  - Relationships, friends and family
  - Cultural life
- 2. Local Area, Holiday and Travel:**
  - Travel and tourist attractions
  - Holidays
  - Town, region and country
- 3. International and Global Dimension:**
  - Environment
  - Events – sports, music etc
- 4. School**
  - What school is like
  - School activities
- 5. Future Aspirations, Study and Work**
  - Languages beyond the classroom
  - Ambitions
  - Work

## How will I be assessed?

In *French, German and Spanish*, the language is assessed at Foundation or Higher level.

<b>Listening</b>	25%	Foundation: 35mins	Higher: 45mins
<b>Reading</b>	25%	Foundation: 45mins	Higher: 1hr
<b>Speaking</b>	25%	Foundation: 7-9mins	Higher: 10-12mins
<b>Writing</b>	25%	Foundation: 1hr 10mins	Higher: 1hr 20mins

## How will I be taught?

You will already be familiar with the way languages are taught in Key Stage 3. New language is introduced by whole-class teaching using the interactive white board, course-book, DVDs or CDs. Then it is practised with a partner or in a small group, using role-play and language games. The work is then consolidated by writing activities. You will use ICT regularly. The German and French departments also run an exchange visit.

## Examination Board & Course Type

Edexcel - GCSE

## Progression

The aim of these courses is to enable you to use the language confidently both in Britain and abroad and to give you an understanding and appreciation of the culture of the country where the language is mainly spoken. The GCSE course will give you a firm foundation for study at A Level.

## Teachers to contact for further information

French: Dr V Ohakwe  
German: Mr A Cobbold  
Spanish: Miss E Williams

# Mathematics

## What will I learn?

You will develop the ability to

- use and apply mathematics effectively in everyday situations
- set out mathematical problems clearly using the appropriate symbols
- think abstractly using algebra
- organise and present information in a variety of forms (e.g. tabular or graphical)
- perform calculations by suitable methods (including mental methods and the use of calculators)
- work accurately
- recognise patterns and structure
- recognise and use spatial relationships in 2 and 3 dimensions
- use mathematical instruments to draw to an acceptable degree of accuracy
- carry out investigational work
- discuss mathematical ideas.

## How will I be assessed?

The course will be assessed through written examination papers only.

You will be entered for your final examination papers at different levels, according to your individual progress and attainment:

Higher level will award grades 4-9 (with 9 being the highest)

Foundation level will award grades 1-5

GCSE examination papers are set with the expectation that you will have a scientific calculator. These are available from the school library at £6.50.

## How will I be taught?

There are opportunities for a variety of learning styles. These include problem-solving; investigations; practical Mathematics; teacher exposition; routine practice; use of spreadsheet, database, dynamic geometry and graphing computer programs; strategy games and discussion. Homework will be regularly set in order to consolidate on previously learned concepts and to gauge understanding.

All specialist mathematics rooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards.

## Examination Board & Course Type

OCR - GCSE

## Progression

GCSE Grade 5 in Mathematics may be required for many post-16 courses and careers; Grade 6 will be needed for A Level Mathematics and Computing and Grade 7 for Further Mathematics.

## Teacher to contact for further information

Mr C Dawson

# Music

## What will I learn?

This course is divided into three units:

- Performing
- Composing
- Listening

Each unit will be integrated into a programme of study looking at a variety of styles and genres of music. The course will be divided into four main areas of study incorporating these different styles and genres. The four areas are as follows:

- Instrumental Music (1700-1820)
- Vocal Music
- Music for Stage and Screen
- Fusions

In each area of study, you will undertake an in depth study of two set works (a total of eight set works over two years). You will also be required to complete some wider listening of other pieces of music in a similar style and apply your knowledge to more unfamiliar music.

The set works are listed below:

<b>AREA OF STUDY 1</b>	Set Works:	<b>AREA OF STUDY 2</b>	Set Works:
Instrumental Music 1700-1820	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Bach:</b> 3rd Movement from Brandenburg Concerto No.5 in D</li> <li>■ <b>Beethoven:</b> 1st Movement from Piano Sonata No 8 in C minor</li> </ul>	Vocal Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>H Purcell:</b> Music for a While</li> <li>■ <b>Queen:</b> Killer Queen</li> </ul>
<b>AREA OF STUDY 3</b>	Set Works:	<b>AREA OF STUDY 4</b>	Set Works:
Music for Stage and Screen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>S Schwartz:</b> Defying Gravity from Wicked</li> <li>■ <b>J Williams:</b> A New Hope Star Wars Episode IV</li> </ul>	Fusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Afro Celt Sound System:</b> Release</li> <li>■ <b>Esperanza Spalding:</b> Samba Em Preludio</li> </ul>

## How will I be assessed?

60% of the course is coursework and you will be internally assessed for these units by your teacher. These units will then be moderated by an external examiner. The written examination is externally assessed.

Performance coursework (30%):	You will perform at least two pieces (one piece <b>MUST</b> be as part of an ensemble). The two pieces must have a combined duration of four minutes in total. The second piece can be either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble.
Composition Coursework (30%):	You will submit two compositions in contrasting styles with a combined duration of at least three minutes.
Written Examination (40%):	You will sit a 1¼-hours written paper with listening CD. There are two parts to the exam. <b>Part A</b> contains listening questions based on the set works and some unfamiliar music in similar styles to your set works. <b>Part B</b> contains an essay comparison question based on one of the set works and an unfamiliar piece of music.

## How will I be taught?

You will be taught via a mixture of whole-class teaching, written and listening work, practical music exercises and practical performance sessions. Use of computers and recording equipment are common practice in the music department.

## Examination Board & Course Type

Edexcel - GCSE

## Progression

The course provides a good basis for study of Music at A Level. It is advisable to boost knowledge with ABRSM Grade 5 theory if considering progressing to A Level in the subject.

## Teacher to contact for further information

Miss J Tournay-Godfrey

## Physical Education (GCSE)

The new GCSE Physical Education specification allows for an in-depth study of the body in performance; investigating the body systems at work and looking at the socio-cultural context of the sports performer.

It also gives you the opportunity to demonstrate your physical ability as a practical performer in different activities whilst encouraging you to analyse and evaluate your own and others performance.

### How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed via written examination including short and extended answer questions. The theory content is worth 60% and is examined over two papers which are both 1 hour 15 minutes in length. Paper 1 will test your knowledge of the human body and movement in physical activity and sport. Paper 2 will test your knowledge of the socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport.

Within the practically assessed area of the course, which accounts for 40% of the qualification, you will demonstrate your practical performance within isolated skills practices and competitive situations. It is for this reason that it is **highly advantageous** for GCSE Physical Education students to be **playing competitive sport** outside of normal lesson times to ensure that you progress to the appropriate standard. You will also complete controlled assessment work relating to analysis and evaluation of your own performance in a chosen activity.

### How will I be taught?

You will have two lessons per week

During theory lessons you will cover the following content:

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis
- Physical training
- Use of data
- Sports psychology
- Social-cultural influences on participation
- Health, fitness and well-being

During practical lessons you will demonstrate your physical capabilities in three activities (one team, one individual and one other). You will demonstrate skills in isolated practices as well as in a fully competitive game or situation.

You will then analyse your own performance and make judgements on your own strengths and weaknesses, highlighting areas for improvement during controlled assessment.

### Examination Board & Course Type

AQA - GCSE

### Progression

This qualification forms a sound basis for progress to further education within A Level and BTEC and other National Diploma studies.

### Teacher to contact for further information

Mr S Clark

# Psychology

## What will I learn?

Have you ever wondered why people behave the way that they do? Have you ever wondered how you would be different if your environment was different? Would you be more intelligent if you went to a private school? Do you always make your own decisions, or do you 'follow the crowd'? Are people born bad?

Psychology tries to answer questions like these by studying behaviour and looking for the reasons why people act in the ways they do.

The course is separated into two units.

### Unit 1 – Cognition and Behaviour

Unit 1 consists of memory, perception, development and research methods.

#### *Memory*

You will look at the different processes and structures of memory. You will also consider factors affecting the accuracy of memory, including interference, context and false memories.

#### *Perception*

You will look at the differences between sensation and perception. You will consider the effects of nature and nurture on perception. You will also study explanations for visual illusions.

#### *Development*

You will study early brain development and the roles of nature and nurture in the brain's growth. You will study Piaget's theory of the development of intelligence in children. You will also study the effects of learning styles and approaches on development, including the role of a growth mindset.

#### *Research Methods*

You will look at the different ways to investigate behaviour and how to make the study of people as scientific as possible.

### Unit 2 – Social Context and Behaviour

Unit 2 consists of social influence, language, thought and communication, brain and neuropsychology and psychological problems.

#### *Social Influence*

You will study factors affecting conformity and obedience. You will look at factors affecting whether or not you will help a stranger in need of assistance. Finally, you will study the behaviour of crowds and why they behave aggressively or prosocially.

#### *Language, Thought and Communication*

You will study the development of language and differences between human and animal communication. You will also study the different types of non-verbal communication and explanations of how they develop.

### *Brain and Neuropsychology*

You will study the nervous system, including the role of the autonomic nervous system in the fight or flight response. You will consider how brain scans have been used to examine the functions of different parts of the brain. Finally, you will look at the effects of brain damage on motor abilities and behaviour.

### *Psychological Problems*

You will study mental illness including its effects on the individual and society. You will focus on depression, considering theories explaining its causes and ways of treating it. Finally, you will study addiction, looking at why some people develop addictions and how to treat them.

### **How will I be assessed?**

There are two examination papers each worth 50% of your GCSE.

### **How will I be taught?**

Teaching methods will include whole class teaching, discussion, debate, presentations, individual and group work and investigation. You will also use DVDs, the Internet and articles from magazines and newspapers.

### **Examination Board & Course Type**

AQA - GCSE

### **Progression**

This course will be excellent preparation for those who want to go on and study Psychology at A Level, although many of the skills you learn will be transferable to other subjects. Students who have studied Psychology in the past have gone on to careers in Educational Psychology, Forensic Psychology, the Police Force, Nursing, Teaching, Advertising and lots of other professions involving working with people.

### **Teacher to contact for further information**

Mr S Wootton

# Religious Studies

## What will I learn?

This course is divided into two components:

### **Component 1: The study of beliefs, teachings and practices from Christianity and Islam**

You should study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam specified in the specification and their basis in Christian and Islamic sources of wisdom and authority. You should be able to refer to scripture and/or sacred texts where appropriate. You should study the influence of the beliefs, teachings and practices studied on individuals, communities and societies. Common and divergent views within Christianity and Islam (in the way beliefs and teachings are understood and expressed) should be included throughout.

### **Component 2: Thematic Studies – Religious, philosophical and ethical studies**

You should consider different religious, philosophical and ethical arguments and their impact and influence in the modern world. You should be aware of different perspectives on the issues studied, within and/or between religions, as well as non-religious views. You should demonstrate your understanding of religion through their application of teachings from religion and beliefs and through specific references to sources of wisdom and authority including scripture and/or sacred texts as appropriate.

1. Religion and life
2. Religion, peace and conflict
3. Religion, crime and punishment
4. Religion, human rights and social justice

You will learn how Christians have responded to each of the moral and philosophical issues and will be expected to express and develop your personal viewpoints.

## How will I be assessed?

This AQA course is assessed by two 1¾ hour written examinations. The GCSE course is now linear. Students will take both component examination question papers in the summer term of Year 11.

## How will I be taught?

You will be taught by a mixture of teacher-led presentations, whole-class discussions, small-group discussions (focused on developing problem-solving skills through the exploration of various case-studies), classroom tests, and watching provocative and stimulating DVDs. We engage in 'e-mentoring', supplying resources such as spare DVDs, and responding with you via e-mail.

## Examination Board & Course Type

AQA - GCSE

## Progression

The moral issues component provides an excellent basis for study of Religious Studies (i.e. Philosophy and Ethics) at A Level.

## Teacher to contact for further information

Mr C Hopton

# Sociology

## What will I learn?

Sociology studies how society works. It will help you to understand how individuals fit into a wider social network and encourage you to question beliefs about society which you may have previously taken for granted. Sociologists are interested in why society works in the way it that does and the extent to which our behaviour and opportunities can be shaped by our social class, gender, ethnicity, age and sexuality.

You should choose Sociology if you are interested in the world around you. It is a subject that you will have experience of and one that will help you understand many aspects of your future. You can bring your own life events and ideas into the classroom in a way you might not be able to in other subjects.

The topics that will be studied in GCSE Sociology are:

- The sociological approach
- Social structures, social processes and social issues
- Families
- Education
- Crime and deviance
- Social stratification
- Sociological research methods

## How will I be assessed?

- Two written exam papers (1 hour and 45 minutes each) both worth 50% of your GCSE.
- A mixture of multiple choice questions, short responses and extended essays.
- There is no coursework in Sociology.

## How will I be taught?

This course is active, enjoyable and challenging. You need to be good at communicating and prepared to debate and discuss contemporary issues. There is a mixture of whole class teaching, group work and individually based approaches to the subject, including the use of ICT and video. Good GCSE Sociology students will keep themselves up to date with current affairs and topical events.

## Examination Board & Course Type

AQA – GCSE Sociology

## Progression

There are many careers where a qualification in Sociology is useful. For example, many sociologists go into social work – community projects, charity work, welfare advisors and other areas of social services. Other careers include the civil service, prison officers, journalists, the police and teaching.

## Teacher to contact for further information

Mr S Evans

## **BTEC First Award in Sport Level 1 / Level 2**

### **2-Year Level 2 award equivalent to 1 GCSE**

#### **How will I learn?**

You will receive 2 x 75-minute lessons a week. One theory based and one practical.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

You will be internally assessed against unit outcomes and receive a summative end-of-unit grade. These are pass, merit or distinction. To achieve a 'pass' you must have satisfied all the pass criteria. To achieve a 'merit' you must additionally have satisfied all the merit criteria. To achieve a 'distinction' you must additionally have satisfied all the distinction criteria. There are no formal examinations on this course. If you do not meet the level 2 criteria you will be graded against the level 1 criteria.

#### **How will I be taught?**

You will follow 4 units, 3 of which are compulsory, and one which has been selected to offer balance and breadth to your learning.

#### **Unit 1: Fitness for Sport and Exercise (30 GLH)**

Know about the components of fitness and the principles of training. Explore different fitness training methods. Investigate fitness testing to determine fitness levels.

#### **Unit 2: Practical Sports Performance (30 GLH)**

Understand the rules, regulations and scoring systems for selected sports. Practically demonstrate skills, techniques and tactics in selected sports. Be able to review sports performance.

#### **Unit 3: Applying the Principles of Personal Training (30 GLH)**

Design a personal fitness training programme. Know about exercise adherence factors and strategies for continued training success. Implement a self-designed personal fitness training programme to achieve own goals and objectives. Review a personal fitness training programme. Design a personal fitness training programme. Know about the musculoskeletal system and cardiorespiratory system and the effects on the body during fitness training. Implement a self-designed personal fitness training programme to achieve own goals and objectives. Review a personal fitness training programme.

#### **Unit 6: Leading Sports Activities (30 GLH)**

Know the attributes associated with successful sports leadership. Undertake the planning and leading of sports activities. Review the planning and leading of sports activities

#### **Examination Board & Course Type.**

Edexcel - BTEC First Level 1 / Level 2 Award.

#### **Progression.**

The award has been developed to provide you with a stimulating and engaging introduction into the world of sport. This is achieved through practical participation and performance in a range of sports, exercise and health related fitness activities. BTEC Firsts have been designed to build on learning from Key Stages 3 and 4, for those that wish to explore a vocational route through post-16 education. They provide a suitable foundation for progression to further study for qualifications such as A Level PE or employment within the Sports Industry.

#### **Teacher to contact for further information**

Mr S Clark

# Textile and Fashion Design

Exciting and highly creative, this design course will be focused on the following elements:

- Fashion design and illustration
- Costume design
- Constructed textiles
- Printed and dyed textiles
- Surface pattern
- Stitched and/or embellished textiles
- Digital textiles

You can experiment in your sketchbooks with various textile-based media and develop ideas for a final garment based on your own inspiration and that of other artists and designers. This course will develop your creative research, designing and manufacture skills. You will use digital technology to print onto your own fabrics and develop these fabrics into a fashion garment, costume or interior product.

## What will I learn?

1. You will learn how to collect inspirational images relevant to the project title and produce drawings and sketches from these. You will also learn how to critically analyse your investigation work. This will all be documented in your A3 sketchbook.
2. You will learn about different art and textile based media relevant to the project you are studying. You will learn how to manipulate these exciting decorative techniques and get time to do personal experimentation.
3. You will learn about new vibrant artists and designers, their work and their inspiration. You will be able to develop your own work in the style of one or more of your chosen artists. You will learn how to critically explain how you have been influenced in your own work.
4. You will learn how to develop your ideas into either a Fashion, Costume or Interior final piece using traditional and contemporary methods of manufacture.

## How will I be assessed?

<b>Component 1: Portfolio</b> <b>Portfolio and sketchbooks, Year 10/11</b>	<b>Component 2:</b> <b>Externally set assignment</b> <b>Practical Exam, Year 11</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ No time limit</li><li>■ 96 marks</li><li>■ 60% of GCSE</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time</li><li>■ 96 marks</li><li>■ 40% of GCSE</li></ul>

## How will I be taught?

The course specification will be taught through a wide range of focussed practical tasks. The majority of work will be completed during lesson time and through set homework tasks. Assessment and the relevant feedback will be given on a regular basis.

## Examination Board & Course Type

AQA – GCSE Art & Design: Textile Design

**Progression**

Northgate High School offers AQA Art & Design, A Level Textile Design and Fashion. Many students will progress through to higher education in studying, Design, Fashion, Architecture, Interior Design and much more.

**Teacher to contact for further information**

Mrs A Fisk

## **Triple Science Option for Combined Scientists**

### **Important information**

All students have already been allocated to a Combined Science or Triple Science pathway for their normal Science lessons. The Combined Science: Trilogy course covers all 3 sciences and leads to 2 combined GCSE grades. The Triple Science course leads to 3 separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The 'Triple Science for Combined Scientists' option is only for students who are studying Combined Science. It allows you to study Triple Science by using up an option block to give extra lesson time. Students already studying Triple Science should not choose this option.

### **Is this the option for me?**

If you are currently studying Combined Science and are keen and enthusiastic to learn more, then selecting to follow the Triple Science route as one of your options subjects could be perfect for you.

### **What will I learn?**

The course teaching is divided into the three science subjects: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Each subject is sub-divided into several theory modules, covering a vast range of ideas about how organisms and the world around them work. You will also learn how to conduct investigations and how to record and analyse the results, as well as evaluating your methods. You will gain and apply skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works and the essential role of science in society.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Throughout the course you will complete end-of-unit tests in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, as well as graded homework tasks. However, final GCSE grades are all determined by exams taken at the end of Year 11. These GCSEs will be graded 9-1.

If you choose this option you will be entered for 'Triple' Science. On this course, you will study more topics in each of the subject areas. This leads to 3 separate GCSEs: GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics, each with separate grades awarded.

In your extra science lessons you will complete additional 'Required Practicals' in each of the three sciences. It is expected that you will complete these, and they will be assessed in the final exams.

Theory exams will contain a mixture of multiple-choice questions, short, structured questions and questions requiring extended responses. They will also test some core maths skills as well as the practical and investigative skills needed to be a good scientist. There will be six exams in total: two for each science subject.

### **How will I be taught?**

You will continue to work on the combined science content with your existing group and in addition will spend two lessons per week learning the extra topics and required practicals needed for triple science.

### **Examination Board and Course Type**

AQA GCSE

### **Progression**

Science is relevant to all whether you enter employment at 16 or go on to further study. These GCSEs provide excellent preparation for all post-16 courses including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology, PE, Geography and Food Technology at A level.

### **Teacher to contact for further information**

Mrs H Rojek

## Options Form Rules

Once you have read the Options Booklet, you need to fill in the Options Form.

For each of the 4 blocks, you must select a first choice subject which you should mark with a tick: ✓.

You must also select 3 reserve choices. Choices must not be repeated, so in total you will select 7 different subjects.

When forms are processed, we will automatically try moving your options between different blocks to give you the best chance of getting all of your first choices.

### **Are there any restrictions to the courses I can choose?**

Your first choices must include **at least one of** French, German, Spanish, Geography, History or Computer Science, although you can pick as many of these subjects as you wish.

You should usually **avoid** choosing any combination of Art, Graphic Communication, and Textiles and Fashion Design.

You should usually **avoid** choosing Electronic and Mechanical Systems with Natural and Manufactured Timber.

### **What should I do with my form?**

Once you have made your choices your form should be signed by both you and a parent/carer, and returned to the Pastoral Office in Middle School by **Friday 13 March 2020** at the latest.

### **What will happen next?**

After you have made your choices you will have an interview with a senior member of staff. You may be advised to change one or more options if you have chosen a very narrow range of subjects, or if your achievement to date indicates that your choices are not suitable for you.



Name ..... Tutor Group.....

### Options Form

In each block, put a tick (✓) next to your first choice.

Your first choices must include **at least one** of French, German, Spanish, Geography, History or Computer Science.

**Option Block 1**

- Art
- Business
- Child Development\*
- Creative iMedia
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Geography
- German
- Physical Education (GCSE)\*
- Spanish\*
- Sport BTEC\*

**Option Block 2**

- Computer Science
- Dance\*
- D&T - Timber / Metals
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- French\*
- Graphic Communication
- History
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Textile & Fashion Design\*

**Option Block 3**

- Art
- Business
- Creative iMedia
- D&T – Electronic & Mechanical Systems\*
- Food Preparation & Nutrition
- Geography
- Graphic Communication
- History
- Music\*
- Triple Science for Combined Scientists\*

**Option Block 4**

- Computer Science
- D&T – Timber / Metals
- Drama\*
- Geography
- German
- Health & Social Care\*
- History
- Psychology
- Religious Studies\*
- Sociology

**\*Subjects in one block only**

Please identify **3 reserve choices**, in preference order (best first):

- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....

Parent Signature: .....

Student Signature: .....

Return this form to the Middle School office by **Friday 13 March 2020**.









