



THE **CORBET** SCHOOL

OPTIONS BOOKLET

2023

Courses of study for Years 10 and 11

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LETTER & OPTIONS FORM LINK

Dear Parent / Carer

During Years 10 and 11, pupils will pursue a broad and balanced timetable, according to the requirements of the school and the National Curriculum. Most subjects are compulsory but there is some element of choice.

The purpose of this booklet is to provide details regarding the courses on offer and the options process in general.

Please take the time to read this booklet carefully, speak to relevant teachers, and read your child's Year 9 school report. Once your son / daughter feels comfortable with selecting the courses they wish to study in Years 10 and 11, please click the link below and complete the online form to indicate their choices. The online form will allow responses from this point and must be completed by Friday 17 March 2023.

CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE OPTIONS FORM

We try to cater for all pupils and their preferences; however, as I hope you will appreciate, it is sometimes difficult to place everyone exactly according to choice. We hope that disappointment will be kept to a minimum, **but ultimately the final decision regarding pupil curriculum rests with the school. If a particular subject is oversubscribed, pupils will be selected to study the course based on their attitude and effort shown up to the present time.**

You will soon receive a letter regarding the two Year 9 parents' evenings we are running via schoolcloud on **Thursday 2 March 2023 and Thursday 9 March 2023**. I would urge you to book an appointment with teachers to discuss your child's progress and to find out more about the courses of study for Years 10 and 11.

Finally, I would like to offer you the opportunity to book an appointment with our Careers Advisor for your son / daughter should they feel they need independent guidance regarding qualifications linked to their next steps after their time at The Corbet School. Please email admin@corbetschool.net if you would like to book a careers appointment for your child.

Should you require further information, do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely



Mr G Simms
Deputy Headteacher

KEY DATES

Year 9 Reports to Parents
Thursday 16 February 2023

Year 9 Parents' Evening 1
Thursday 2 March 2023

Year 9 Parents' Evening 2
Thursday 9 March 2023

Submission of option choices
Friday 17 March 2023

SUBJECT LIST

Subjects to be studied can be split into three groups, as follows:

COMPULSORY CORE SUBJECTS:

English Language (GCSE)
English Literature (GCSE)
Mathematics (GCSE)
Science (GCSE)

COMPULSORY FOUNDATION SUBJECTS:

Careers (Non-Examination)
French (GCSE)
Physical Education (Non-Examination)
PSHEE and Citizenship (Non-Examination)
Spanish (GCSE)

OPTIONS SUBJECTS:

Art & Design (GCSE)
Computer Science (GCSE)
Creative iMedia (Cambridge National Certificate)
Design and Technology (GCSE)
Drama (GCSE)
Engineering (Cambridge National Certificate)
Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE)
Geography(GCSE)
Health and Social Care (Cambridge National Certificate)
History (GCSE)
Music (GCSE)
Physical Education (GCSE)
Religious Studies (GCSE)
Separate sciences (GCSE)

BLOCKS FOR OPTIONS SUBJECTS

Pupils are required to choose one subject from each of the options blocks below.

OPTION BLOCK A SUBJECTS
Art & Design Creative iMedia Food Preparation and Nutrition History Religious Studies Separate Sciences

OPTION BLOCK B SUBJECTS
Art & Design Computer Science Drama Geography Physical Education Religious Studies

OPTION BLOCK C SUBJECTS
Design and Technology Engineering Geography Health and Social Care History Music

COMPULSORY CORE SUBJECTS

English Language

English Literature

Mathematics

Science

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

The English Language GCSE course assesses descriptive/narrative writing as well as non-fiction writing where pupils will have to write to present a specific viewpoint. Pupils will have to demonstrate an understanding having read a range of different texts including one literature fiction text, one modern non-fiction text and one C.19th literary non-fiction text. The Spoken Language aspect of the course will be assessed within class and will involve pupils presenting ideas and responding to questions in front of a peer group audience.

English Language		
Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language
What's assessed? Section A: Reading one literature fiction text Section B: Writing descriptive or narrative writing	What's assessed? Section A: Reading one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text Section B: Writing writing to present a viewpoint	What's assessed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presenting • responding to questions and feedback • use of Standard English
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam • 1 hour 45 minutes • 80 marks • 50% of GCSE 	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam • 1 hour 45 minutes • 80 marks • 50% of GCSE 	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teacher set throughout course • marked by teacher • 0% weighting of GCSE
All texts in the examination will be unseen		

ENGLISH LITERATURE

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

In English Literature, pupils will study a range of texts including a play by Shakespeare, a 19th century novel, a modern play or novel and a range of different poetry.

English Literature	
Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel	Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry
<p>What's assessed?</p> <p>Shakespeare Pupils will answer one question on one Shakespeare play. They will be required to write in detail about an extract and then the play as a whole. <u>'Macbeth'</u></p> <p>19th-century novel Pupils will answer one question on one novel. They will be required to write in detail about an extract and then the story as a whole. <u>'A Christmas Carol'</u></p>	<p>What's assessed?</p> <p>Modern texts Pupils will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text. <u>'Blood Brothers'</u></p> <p>Poetry Pupils will answer one comparative question on poems they have studied from the anthology.</p> <p>Unseen poetry Pupils will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.</p>
<p>Assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam • 1 hour 45 minutes • 64marks • 40% of GCSE 	<p>Assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam • 2 hour 15 minutes • 96 marks • 60% of GCSE
<p>**Assessments are closed book – stimulus materials, in the form of extracts, will be provided in the examinations**</p>	

MATHEMATICS

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

All pupils in Year 10 will begin a course leading to examination at GCSE using the National Curriculum Mathematics Syllabus 8300.

Each pupil will study at one of two levels:

Level in Syllabus	Target Grades
Foundation	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Higher	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Pupils will be working towards an appropriate level of entry in one of six sets during Years 10 and 11. Movement of pupils between sets can be made so that maximum progress is made by each individual.

Pupils will take three question papers at the same tier at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1

Non calculator worth $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ Duration: 1 hour 30 mins

Paper 2

Calculator worth $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ Duration: 1 hour 30 mins

Paper 3

Calculator worth $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ Duration: 1 hour 30 mins

The approximate weighting for the topic areas assessed are:

Topic	Foundation %	Higher %
Number	25	15
Algebra	20	30
Ratio	25	20
Geometry	15	20
Probability & Statistics	15	15

The approximate overall weighting of the assessment objectives are:

Assessment objective	Foundation %	Higher %
Use and apply standard techniques	50	40
Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically	25	30
Solve problems within mathematics and other contexts	25	30

SCIENCE

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

Combined Science Trilogy

Pupils who do not take the separate science option, will work towards a double GCSE qualification in science as follows:

There will be 6 exams (two for each science); each exam will be 1 hour and 15 minutes and out of 70 marks. Each paper will contribute 16.6% to overall award of two GCSE grades

The exams will measure how pupils have achieved the following assessment objectives:

AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: scientific ideas; scientific techniques and procedures.

AO2: Apply knowledge and understanding of: scientific ideas; scientific enquiry, techniques and procedures.

AO3: Analyse information and ideas to: interpret and evaluate; make judgments and draw conclusions; develop and improve experimental procedures.

There are two tiers of assessment.

The qualification will be graded on a 17-point scale: 1–1 to 9–9 – where 9–9 is the best grade.

A pupil taking Foundation Tier assessments will be awarded a grade within the range of 1–1 to 5–5. Pupils who fail to reach the minimum standard for grade 1–1 will be recorded as U (unclassified) and will not receive a qualification certificate.

A pupil taking Higher Tier assessments will be awarded a grade within the range of 4–4 to 9–9. A pupil sitting the Higher Tier who just fails to achieve grade 4–4 will be awarded an allowed grade 4–3.

Pupils who fail to reach the minimum standard for the allowed grade 4–3 will be recorded as U (unclassified) and will not receive a qualification certificate.

Separate Sciences (Options subject)

Some pupils may follow a course leading to GCSEs in the 3 separate sciences, biology, chemistry and physics.

Pupils following this course will need to have attained good levels in KS3 science and mathematics and opted to take the separate science subjects. (Pupils can speak to class teachers and parents will have the opportunity at parents evening, to discuss best choice).

Assessment for each separate science is as follows:

Two written exam papers both 1 hour 45 minutes and out of 100 marks.

Each paper will be worth 50% towards the single GCSE.

Pupils must study all 3 sciences and therefore will have a total of 6 exams leading to the award of 3 separate GCSE.

Foundation and Higher Tiers will be available just like the double award, but each science will have a separate score from 1-9, (1-5 Foundation and 4-9 for Higher). Pupils can take separate tiers for each subject.

COMPULSORY FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

Careers

French

Physical Education

PSHEE & Citizenship

Spanish

CAREERS

Careers education and guidance is seen as a continuing process, beginning with aspects of self-awareness and self-assessment in KS3. This is further enhanced by using the Unifrog system to determine possible career routes, linking support agencies and making it accessible at home.

In Years 10 and 11, pupils are encouraged to use resources in the Careers Area within the library and will be identified by the Careers Co-ordinator for a careers interview. Pupils are also able to request a careers appointment at any stage during the year if they feel it would be beneficial.

Careers Education and Guidance is delivered within the PSHEE programme. Activities include Work Experience preparation, Post 16 Opportunities, regular visits from guest speakers and past pupils to support aspirations, and Application Form preparation that includes personal statements of achievement by pupils. The use of Unifrog as a web based careers decision-making activity is also used. Furthermore, there is an opportunity for pupils to visit a Further Education College to experience Workshops and Taster Days.

FRENCH

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

Pupils follow a two year French course leading to entry for the full GCSE. The course covers and assesses the four skills of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. The GCSE course builds on the topics, skills and grammar rules which have been learned in Years 7 - 9. Pupils have the opportunity of developing their language skills in different contexts and they are able to build up a more extensive knowledge of linguistic structures and vocabulary.

The emphasis of the GCSE course is to enable candidates to use French for successful communication. A pass at GCSE grade 6 or above also provides a sound basis for continued language learning to Advanced Level French. The GCSE offers a choice of interesting topic areas for the writing and speaking examinations and topics are taught using a range of methods to engage pupils in their language learning. All four skills of Writing, Speaking, Listening and Reading are assessed via summative examinations at the end of the two year GCSE course, in the Summer Term of Year 11.

Subject content

Pupils study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based.

Theme 1: Identity and culture

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

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

Assessments

GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Pupils must take all four question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series.

Paper 1: Listening: Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language

Written exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier)

40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier)

25% of GCSE

Paper 2: Speaking: Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes

Non-exam assessment

7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time

10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time

60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)

25% of GCSE

Paper 3: Reading: Understanding and responding to different types of written language

Written exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier)

60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)

25% of GCSE

Paper 4: Writing: Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes

Written exam: 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier)

50 marks at Foundation Tier and 60 marks at Higher Tier

25% of GCSE

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

What does Physical Education in Years 10 & 11 involve?

In a similar format to Years 7 to 9, you will follow a balanced programme of sporting and physical activities.

You will have the opportunity to

- Further develop your physical and social skills, and personal confidence through a variety of physical activities.
- develop leadership skills and responsibility through leadership activities
- Opportunities for competitive sports and co-operative activities which will improve your fitness

You will often be given more responsibility for your own learning and development.

What sports or physical activities will I experience in Years 10 and 11?

These are some of the areas which we aim to offer:

- Badminton
- Boxercise
- Cricket
- Dance
- Fitness
- Football
- Netball
- Rounders
- Rugby
- Table Tennis
- Tennis

What is expected of me in Physical Education lessons during Years 10 & 11?

As in Key Stage 3, you will be expected to bring and change into correct Physical Education kit for each of your lessons – whether you are actively participating or not.

You should put maximum effort and concentration into each of your Physical Education lessons and good behaviour is expected throughout.

It is essential that you take part in every possible Physical Education lesson as this will benefit your physical, social and mental health, and help support you with your academic learning.

If for any genuine reason you are unable to do so, you will be expected to participate in the lesson by taking on another role such as referee or coach. (See above information about bringing and changing into your PE kit).

PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH & ECONOMIC EDUCATION AND CITIZENSHIP

PSHEE and Citizenship is a means of delivering a number of cross-curricular themes, under the National Curriculum, i.e.

- Developing as a citizen
- Personal, social, health & economic education
- Economic wellbeing
- Financial capability
- Careers education & guidance

The PSHEE & Citizenship course in Years 10 & 11 has been devised with six broad aims in mind:

1. To support the growth of self-awareness, self-confidence and a positive self-image.
2. To provide pupils with access to information and guidance relevant to their personal and working lives.
3. To help pupils to communicate with others about their concerns, needs and views.
4. To help pupils appreciate the concerns, needs and views of others.
5. To develop understanding of effective decision-making and planning.
6. To assist pupils in making the transition from school to adult life.

In seeking to meet these aims the course provides opportunities for pupils to consider decisions of significance in their lives concerned with health, relationships, careers and leisure, and to enable them to understand more about the social, economic, legal, financial, political, technological and environmental contexts in which decisions are made.

Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education

This is divided into three main areas:

1. **Personal Wellbeing - understanding yourself and handling relationships** units cover: developing identity and image, managing emotions, relationships, coping with crisis, challenging offensive behaviour, managing study time, developing own values, marriage and commitment, parenthood and parenting.
2. **Personal Wellbeing – keeping healthy** units cover: healthy eating, safer sex and contraception, drinking, smoking, health matters, managing stress and dealing with depression, drugs, emergency first aid.
3. **Economic Wellbeing & Financial Capability** units cover: thinking ahead, planning your future, managing your money, financing businesses, enterprise challenge, the UK economy, the global economy.

Citizenship

Aim: To help understand how to play a full part as a citizen in British Society and as a citizen of the world. This is divided into topics: Britain – a diverse society, human rights, rights and responsibilities, the law, crime and punishment, government, media matters, working for change, global challenges (environmental, war, terrorism, poverty, health and education) and community projects.

SPANISH

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

Pupils follow a two year Spanish course leading to entry for the full GCSE. The course covers and assesses the four skills of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. The GCSE course builds on the topics, skills and grammar rules which have been learned in Years 7 - 9. Pupils have the opportunity of developing their language skills in different contexts and they are able to build up a more extensive knowledge of linguistic structures and vocabulary.

The emphasis of the GCSE course is to enable candidates to use Spanish for successful communication. A pass at GCSE grade 6 or above also provides a sound basis for continued language learning to Advanced Level Spanish. The GCSE offers a choice of interesting topic areas for the writing and speaking examinations and topics are taught using a range of methods to engage pupils in their language learning. All four skills of Writing, Speaking, Listening and Reading are assessed via summative examinations at the end of the two year GCSE course, in the Summer Term of Year 11.

Subject content

Pupils study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based.

Theme 1: Identity and culture

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

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

Assessments

GCSE Spanish has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Pupils must take all four question papers at the same tier.

Paper 1: Listening: Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language

Written exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier)

40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier)

25% of GCSE

Paper 2: Speaking: Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes.

7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time

10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time

60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)

25% of GCSE

Paper 3: Reading: Understanding and responding to different types of written language

Written exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier)

60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)

25% of GCSE

Paper 4: Writing: Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes

Written exam: 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier)

50 marks at Foundation Tier and 60 marks at Higher Tier: 25% of GCSE.

OPTIONS SUBJECTS

Art & Design

Computer Science

Creative iMedia

Design and Technology

Drama

Engineering

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Geography

Health and Social Care

History

Music

Physical Education

Religious Studies

Separate Sciences (detail included on page 10)

ART & DESIGN

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: OCR

What is GCSE Art and Design?

The GCSE Art and Design course allows students to develop knowledge, skills and understanding that enables them to express their creativity and imagination through responses to visual and written stimuli. Building upon the skills we explore in key stage 3, you will work with a range of art media, such as drawing, painting, clay building and printing.

Will I enjoy the GCSE Art and Design course?

You will enjoy this course if you:

- **You are a creative individual who has an ability in, and enjoys drawing**
- **Are self-motivated and enjoy independent study**
- **Wish to enhance skills in presenting work creativity and with flair, editing and combining portfolio work**
- **You have a passion for Art and Design**

How will I be assessed?

The course is split into two components:

Component 1: Portfolio/ coursework (60%)

Your coursework, completed in lessons and teacher guided, is worth 60% of your final assessment. Your portfolio themes are:

- Portfolio 1: **Distortion**
- Portfolio 2: **Natural & Man-made**

Component 2: Externally set task (40%)

In the spring term of Year 11, we begin our externally set task. The OCR exam board offers 5 themes to students. Students will select a theme of their choice and will spend approximately 10 weeks developing a portfolio of work that explores the theme, covering the three GCSE art assessment objectives of **observation, development, research**. Students will then sit a 10-hour exam in the art rooms, which takes place over the course of two days. During the exam, students will complete a final response based upon their externally set task theme portfolio.

We endeavor to visit a gallery in Year 10 to explore our theme further, and to experience and see at first hand the work of other artists. Previous trips have included visits to the National Portrait Gallery and the Tate Gallery, Liverpool.

How can I use a GCSE Art and Design qualification?

This course is great for developing a range of transferable skills, such as creative thinking, analysis through research, communication and imaginative problem solving. It is particularly useful for those students wishing to follow art and design courses at Higher and Further Education, and to those looking to pursue a career within a creative sector.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

LEVEL: GCSE
BOARD: OCR

GCSE Computer Science is a course designed for those pupils who wish to investigate how computers work. Pupils will be required to develop a technical understanding of computer systems and programming. *This course will count towards the English Baccalaureate qualification.*

Topics covered by the course will include -

Paper 1:

Systems Architecture, Memory and Storage, Data Representation, Networks, Computer Crime and Security, Systems Software, Legal/Ethical/Environmental issues when developing new technology.

Paper 2:

Algorithms, Programming Fundamentals, Producing Robust Programs, Boolean Logic, Programming Languages.

Pupils will learn programming in order to undertake programming tasks as part of this course. Pupils will learn how design, write, test and refine programs. This will support them in their exam as well as provide a practical element to the course.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will consist of 2 written examination papers, worth 50% each.

- Computer systems - 1 hour 30 minutes
- Computational thinking, programming, and algorithms – 1 hour 30 minutes

Who is it for?

- Pupils who wish to take the programming aspect from KS3 to a higher level.
- Pupils who enjoy the technical aspects of computing.
- Pupils who are thinking of taking an A level computing course.

CREATIVE iMEDIA

LEVEL: Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate (GCSE Equivalent)

BOARD: OCR

OCR Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in Creative iMedia is a hands-on qualification for those looking to develop and hone creative ICT, Graphics and Media skills. Pupils will build upon skills they have learnt at Key Stage Three and be able to use software packages to produce products for a set audience and purpose. Pupils will also investigate how the media industry works focussing on film, music, theatre, journalism, games and literature.

The course is split into three units which include:

Unit 1 Creative iMedia in the Media Industry

- **Focus on film, tv, radio, print, gaming, the web, digital advertising**
- **Factors influencing product design**
- **Pre-Production Planning**

Unit 2 Visual Identity and Digital Graphics

- **Understand brand identity**
- **Planning digital graphics**
- **Creating a visual identity and a digital graphic**

Unit 3 Digital Games

- **Study Digital Games Concepts**
- **Learn Game Making Skills**
- **Plan and Produce a Digital Game**

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will consist of three Units.

One written examination and two coursework units which are internally assessed and externally moderated.

Unit 1 has a 1 hour written exam.

Units 2 and 3 are coursework units. Work is assessed in school and moderated by the exam board. Approximately 17 hours of work in each unit, not including preparation work.

Units 3 is chosen by the teacher and may change depending on availability of software and the skillset and interests of the cohort.

Who is it for?

- Pupils who are interested in aspects of the media industry.
- Pupils who enjoy the creative side of using computer software to create products such as graphics and sound editing.
- Pupils who are interested in taking ICT and Media based courses at A-Level or BTEC Level 3.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

What is GCSE Design and Technology all about?

The GCSE Design and Technology course is all about designing and making products that solve real and relevant problems. Pupils will learn about modern and new technologies, materials, and processes.

You may choose to study just one material area, or you may make products that combine a range of different materials.

Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that: Involves using your imagination and creativity to design products.

- involves learning about the properties of different materials.
- involves learning how to select, shape and combine materials to make useful products.
- gives you the opportunity to investigate how existing products and technologies work.
- gives you the opportunity to be innovative and try out different ideas to meet the needs of a client.

What about exams?

2 hour written exam

100 marks

50% of GCSE

A mixture of short and extended answer questions. (15% of the marks will be for questions that assess pupils' ability to apply their mathematical knowledge to solve design problems)

Is there any coursework?

Yes, 50% of the course is coursework or non-examined assessment and this must be undertaken in Year 11.

A choice of project titles, which are set by the exam board, will be available for pupils to choose from.

What could I do with GCSE Design and Technology?

GCSE Design and Technology is a great course for developing pupils' communication and problem-solving skills which are valued by employers within all professions and industries. It is particularly useful for pupils who may be considering a career in design and engineering, specific examples include: product design, design engineering, architecture, automotive design and furniture design.

DRAMA

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: OCR

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

- Develop ways of communicating confidently and creatively
- Encourage co-operation and the understanding of others
- Provide the skills of working with others – learners work in pairs or in a group of up to six for both 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

What does the course involve? There are three parts to the course:

Devising drama

Learners will research and explore a stimulus, work collaboratively and create their own devised drama. (01/02) 60 marks Non-exam assessment 30% of total GCSE

Presenting and performing texts

Learners develop and apply theatrical skills in acting or design by presenting a showcase of two extracts from a performance text. (03/04) 60 marks Non-exam assessment (Visiting examination) 30% of total GCSE

Drama: performance and response

(Written exam) Learners will explore practically a performance text to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of drama. Learners will analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance. (05) 80 marks Exam assessment 1 hour 30 minutes (Written paper) 40% of total GCSE

How Will I Be Assessed? The most important element in your assessment for your coursework will be the quality of your performances in front of your chosen audiences. These will be supported by a written log or record that you will complete during the rehearsal process together with a final evaluation. These are marked in an overall balance of 50% performance 50% portfolio. The performances will be recorded on DVD to help with moderation. You will also perform to a visiting examiner. You will usually work on your performances in a small group but may work with one other person (the minimum group size is two). As you can see above, there will also be a written examination at the end of the course which will be worth 40% of your final grade.

Will I Like It? This is a performance based qualification and so if you don't like getting up in front of an audience to perform, this is certainly NOT the course for you. If, however, you enjoy acting as a skill and want to learn more about it, to find out about possible careers in acting (or in the theatre generally) or simply to improve your levels of confidence when dealing with people, this could be just the thing you are looking for!

Do I Have To Be Able To Sing? Absolutely not! This is an acting based course and taking part in musical performances is not necessary. That does not mean of course that you CAN'T introduce a musical element to your work if you so choose. One of the great things about the course is its *flexibility*. Whatever kind of acting you are interested in; there should be something to suit you.

ENGINEERING

LEVEL: Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate (GCSE Equivalent)

BOARD: OCR

What is Level 2 engineering all about?

The level 2 Cambridge National in Engineering Design helps pupils understand the processes of engineering design and how market requirements inform client briefs. Through practical activities they develop skills in computer modelling and making skills. They will also learn how to communicate design ideas effectively.

Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that:

- Will give you plenty of opportunities to develop your practical and making skills.
- Allows you to take products apart and investigate how they work.
- Involves learning about computer aided design and the use of computers in engineering.

What about exams?

There is a 1-hour exam that assesses pupil's knowledge of engineering principles and design.

40% of total grade. Exam board set and marked.

Structure of assessment?

There are three units of assessment:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Principles of engineering design | (40% exam) |
| 2. Communicating designs | (30% portfolio) |
| 3. Design, evaluation and making | (30% portfolio) |

Pupils will learn the important engineering principles of design and develop their making skills throughout the course in a practical hands-on way. As well as traditional 2D and 3D technical drawing skills, pupils will learn computer aided design skills using industry standard CAD systems.

What could I do with Level 2 Engineering?

A *level 2* qualification in *engineering* can help you take your first steps towards a career in design and engineering. It can lead to a more specialised level 3 vocational or academic engineering course or an apprenticeship. The UK engineering sector is rapidly growing and there is an increasing need for qualified engineers in all fields within the industry.

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

What is Food Preparation and Nutrition?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure pupils develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing pupils' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that:

- allows you to develop your ability to plan, prepare and cook dishes
- allows you to develop your passion for food and work in a practical way
- allow you to understand the science of cooking and why ingredients are needed in dishes

PUPILS WILL BE EXPECTED TO COOK ONCE A FORTNIGHT TO DEVELOP SKILLS – THIS WILL OBVIOUSLY HAVE FINANCIAL and ORGANISATIONAL IMPLICATIONS.

What about exams?

There is a 1 hour 45-minute exam that assesses pupil's knowledge and understanding in the following topic areas:

- Food science
- Food, nutrition, and health
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance

Structure of assessment?

50% exam. Split into 2 sections, section A is multiple choice questions

50% non-exam assessment (NEA):

NEA 1 Food Investigation (15%) – pupils write a report on their understanding of the scientific principles that underpin the preparation and cooking of food. They will complete practical experiments to demonstrate these principles

NEA 2 Food preparation assessment (35%) – Pupils will plan, prepare, cook and present a three course menu within 3 hours.

What could I do with GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition?

Upon completion of this course, pupils will be qualified to go on to further study or embark on an apprenticeship or full time career in the catering or food industries.

Employment in the Food & Nutrition Sector can range from;

- Food Scientist
- Dietician / Nutritionist / Sports Nutrition
- New Product Development Technologist
- Chef / Business Owner
- Quality Control / Environmental Health
- Food Journalism

GEOGRAPHY

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

This is a linear course which means all assessment takes place at the end of the course.

New grading and assessment structure

Previously, a grade A* represents the highest grade and G is the lowest. For GCSE, there will be a new grading system to report achievement:

Grades 1 – 9

New Grade 4 roughly equivalent to current Grade C

New Grade 7 roughly equivalent to current Grade A.

Subject content

1. Living with the physical environment

Section A: The challenge of natural hazards

Section B: Physical landscapes in the UK

Section C: The living world

How it's assessed

Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes

88 marks (including 3 marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology)

35% of GCSE

2. Challenges in the human environment

Section A: Urban issues and challenges

Section B: The changing economic world

Section C: The challenge of resource management

How it's assessed

Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes

88 marks (including 3 marks for SPGST)

35% of GCSE

3. Geographical applications

There will be two field trips one to study an urban environment and one to study a rural environment.

Section A: Issue evaluation

Section B: Fieldwork

How it's assessed

Written exam: 1 hour and 15 minutes

76 marks (including 6 marks for SPGST)

30% of GCSE

Pre-release resources made available from 15 March in the year of the exam

4. Geographical skills

Geographical skills will be tested in all three exams.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

LEVEL: Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate (GCSE Equivalent)

BOARD: OCR

What knowledge and skills will I develop as part of this qualification?

To work in a health and social care setting, it is essential to understand the rights of individuals, person-centred values and how they can be applied. This qualification will help you develop this knowledge and to understand the importance of effective communication skills when working in these settings. You will also develop the skills needed to ensure a safe and hygienic environment for those in care.

What will I study?

You will study the key aspects of health and social care, and have the opportunity to apply what you learn through a number of practical experiences. This will involve the studying of three units.

EXAM 40% (Principles of care in health and social care settings)

This unit is assessed by an **exam**. In this unit you will learn about the key topics that are important when caring for and protecting people in health and social care.

COURSEWORK 30% (Supporting individuals through life events)

This unit is assessed by a **Set Assignment**. In this unit you will learn about growth and development through the life stages. You will also learn how to understand the needs of individuals who have been affected by life events and how to recommend support to meet their needs.

COURSEWORK 30% (Creative and therapeutic activities)

This unit is assessed by a **Set Assignment**. In this unit you will research therapies and learn about how they can benefit people. You will also learn about the benefits of creative activities and you will plan and deliver a creative activity to a group or individual.

Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that will allow you to learn about an incredibly broad and varied career sector. It also allows you to gain a qualification through continuous assessment. This means that from start to finish the work you produce counts towards your final grade and not just the exam you sit at the end of the course.

How Will I be graded?

All results are awarded on the following scale:

Level 2 – Distinction* (*2), Distinction (D2), Merit (M2), Pass (P2)

Level 1 – Distinction (D1), Merit (M1), Pass (P1) and Fail/Unclassified.

What could I do with Level 1/2 Health and Social Care?

The skills learned as part of this course will help you progress onto further study in the health and social care sector. This may be level 3 vocational qualifications, such as the Cambridge Technical in health and social care: A levels in psychology, biology or sociology and the following apprenticeships: Adult care worker; Allied health professions Support; Health and Social Care; Healthcare science assistant; Maternity or Paediatric support.

HISTORY

LEVEL: GCSE
BOARD: PEARSON

Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment

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

Content overview: Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000–present and Whitechapel, c1870–c1900: crime, policing and the inner city

Assessment overview Section A: historic environment Pupils answer a question that assesses knowledge plus a two-part question based on two provided sources.

Section B: thematic study Pupils answer three questions that assess their knowledge and understanding. The first two questions are compulsory. For the third question, pupils answer one from a choice of two.

Paper 2: Period study and British depth study

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 40% of the qualification

Content overview:

- Section A: Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91
- Section B: Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88

Assessment overview:

Section A: Period study Pupils answer three questions that assess their knowledge and understanding. The first two questions are compulsory. For the third question, pupils select two out of three parts.

Section B: British depth study Pupils answer a single three-part question that assesses their knowledge and understanding. The first two parts are compulsory. For the third part, pupils select one from a choice of two.

Paper 3: Modern depth study

Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes 30% of the qualification

Content overview a modern depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39

Assessment overview Section A: Pupils answer a question based on a provided source and a question that assesses their knowledge and understanding.

Section B Pupils answer a single four-part question, based on two provided sources and two provided interpretations.

MUSIC

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

What is GCSE Music all about?

GCSE Music is all about making and listening to music. It covers performing, composing and listening to a wide variety of musical styles including popular music, world music and classical music. There are opportunities to use music technology (Sibelius) to notate your own music.

Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that:

- involves **performing** as a soloist and as a member of a group.
- involves **listening** to all kinds of music.
- involves **composing** music.

How does it follow on from what I have learned before?

You will improve and expand on listening work you have completed in Y7-9 with a strong focus on the musical elements. You will study music history and learn more about how and why music was written and/or performed. You will continue to develop your instrumental skills throughout Y10 and Y11.

How will I be assessed?

- There is a 1.5 hour written/listening exam in the summer of Year 11. You will listen to a CD and answer questions on different genres of music ranging dating from 1600AD - Present day from all around the world and write two essays on pieces of music you have studied (40%).
- You will be required to perform (sing or play) and record two pieces - one as a soloist and one as a member of a group (30%)
- You will also compose 2 pieces of your own music. One of these is free choice, the other is set by the examiners. You must produce a score and a recording for each of these.

Do I need to be able to play a musical instrument or read music?

You need to be willing to play a musical instrument or sing in order to record the performance requirement of the course. Although it helps, you do not need to take additional instrumental tuition. You will however need to practise your chosen instrument daily to be able to perform a piece at a minimum of Grade 1 standard by the end of Y11. To receive a higher GCSE grade, you must be able to perform a piece of Grade 4-5 standard.

You do not need to know how to read music to take GCSE music, but you do need to be willing to learn. This is taught as part of the course in order to be able to answer questions on the Listening Paper and to use the composition writing software Sibelius.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: AQA

What is GCSE Physical Education all about?

- You will learn about:-
 - Applied anatomy and physiology
 - Movement analysis
 - Physical training
 - Use of data
 - Sports psychology
 - Socio-cultural influences
 - Health, fitness and well-being
- PE will offer you the opportunity to develop your skills, understanding and knowledge in sport and physical activities.
- It will help you to improve your own performance.

What about exams?

- You will sit two exams at the end of Year 11
- Both written papers will be 1 hour 15 minutes long
- The exams are 60% of GCSE

What about Non-Examined Assessment (Coursework)?

- You will be assessed in three different physical activities in a role of player/performer (one in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third in either team or individual activity) (30% of GCSE)
- You will also complete an analysis and evaluation of a performance to bring about improvement in one activity (10% of GCSE)

Will I enjoy this course?

If you are interested in fitness, health, sciences and want to learn more about the world of sport and develop your own performance then this could be the course for you! It would also be an advantage if you were involved in sport outside lessons, for example a school sports club.

What could I do next with GCSE Physical Education?

- This is a full GCSE and a good grade would indicate that you were able to cope with the academic and practical demands of this stimulating course.
- It would prove an excellent foundation for any advanced Physical Education course or more vocationally related course such as leisure and recreation.
- Employment opportunities where your skills will be particularly valued include the sport and leisure industry, travel and tourism, physiotherapy and teaching.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

LEVEL: GCSE

BOARD: Eduqas

The GCSE Religious Studies qualification is designed to develop your knowledge of religious and non-religious beliefs, such as Christianity, Judaism, Atheism and Humanism. You will also develop the ability to construct well argued, well informed, balanced verbal and written responses. This course will challenge you to reflect upon your own beliefs and values and give you the opportunity to explore your own views which will help contribute to your preparation for adult life.

What does the course involve? There are three areas of study as outlined below:

<p>Area of study 1: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World</p> <p>Written Examination: 2 hours 50% of qualification</p> <p>Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Issues of Relationships (including sex, contraception, cohabitation, marriage, divorce, homosexuality)● Issues of Life and Death (including, abortion, euthanasia, creation, the environment, animal rights, the afterlife)● Issues of Good and Evil (including crime and punishment, forgiveness, the death penalty, suffering)● Issues of Human Rights (including human rights, social justice, prejudice and discrimination, poverty)
<p>Area of study 2: The study of Christianity</p> <p>Written Examination: 1 hour 25% of qualification</p> <p>Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Beliefs and teachings (including God, the life of Jesus, the afterlife, creation)● Practices (including forms of worship, sacraments, pilgrimage and celebration, the worldwide church)
<p>Area of study 3: The study of Judaism</p> <p>Written Examination: 1 hour 25% of qualification</p> <p>Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Beliefs and teachings (including God, Messiah, the afterlife, creation, life on earth)● Practices (including forms of worship in Britain and elsewhere, the synagogue, festivals, rituals, daily life)

Who is it for?

Religious Studies is about being able to look at an issue such as abortion from many different points of view. You need to be able to use non-religious as well as Christian and Jewish arguments to put forward a well-balanced argument. This course needs you to be able to use quotes from holy texts and scripture to reach the higher grades.

Why choose Religious Studies?

A qualification in Religious Studies is good preparation for further study in many AS/A level courses. It gives pupils the ability to critically think and respectfully debate. Religious studies is a widely recognised subject in the world of work as a valued subject in its own right due to the skills it develops. This subject lends itself to many vocations and careers such as Law, Social Care, Journalism, Politics, Primary and Secondary Education, Human Resources and Public Service to name a few.