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Introduction

You have reached a pivotal stage in your education and will shortly be asked to make decisions that will affect your career pathway and the route into further education or training.

This booklet will give you information to help you make your choice of subjects at the Dukeries Academy.

The beginning of your career, and early prospects, may be affected by what you choose, as well as how you succeed, so the decision you make is an extremely important one.

Each one of you will have his or her own reasons for whatever choice you make and there is no golden rule that will fit everyone. There is no need to make any career decisions yet but to make sure you choose a well-balanced selection of courses that will keep doors open for you.

It is important to be aware of other things that might influence your choice. Choosing a subject or not because of a particular teacher or to be with your friends are not good reasons for picking an option.

You will choose 4 option subjects as well as core English, Maths Science and PE.

In this booklet there are brief outlines of the subjects you may choose. You may want to know more about some subjects and should not be afraid to ask. Staff are accustomed to students asking questions about their subjects and your tutor will always help find details for you.

In brief... – a wise choice is...

- One that ensures a broad range of education without too much emphasis on one area
- One that takes account of special talents and strengths
- One that takes account of career and higher education requirements

We strongly recommend that those considering Sixth Form, Further Education or are a talented language student (those in sets 1 and 2) should follow the English Baccalaureate. The English Baccalaureate is made up of English, Maths, History or Geography, the Sciences and a language.

How to choose the right course

- Read this booklet very carefully and talk to a variety of people so that you can make well-informed choices. Talk to your **parent** or **carer**, who will help you identify your interests and strengths.
- Talk to your **tutor** who will have knowledge about the various subjects, will be working with you on making decisions and will have information about your ability in different subjects.
- Talk to your **subject teachers** who will be able to give you more details about the courses, ask them to show you examples of question papers, examination work and give you an assessment of the standard of your own work.
 - Talk to **students** in Years 10 and 11 who are already studying the courses which interest you. They will be able to give you some ideas about the type of work they have been doing on the various courses.
 - Talk to **staff** who will be able to give you information about qualifications for particular careers.
 - Think about what will give you **satisfaction** and **success** at the end of Year 11.

The Option Process Key Dates for 2019

4 th February	2 Option Weeks when Subject Leaders promote their courses.
11 th Feb	Options forms and brochure handed out to students.
7 th March	Option evening for parents.
15 th March	Deadline for completion of Option Form with your preferences.
End of June	Academy recommendations to you and your parents/carers.

This year there will be two learning routes, (combined pathway, alternative pathway) within these routes there is a wide range of subject choices and we will attempt to give students the subjects that they choose. If due to timetable constraints, there is a clash of subjects then this will be discussed with the individual students involved. The vast majority of our students will be on the combined pathway.

Note

If a student is keen to gain the Ebacc qualification then they will need to pick History or Geography from option A and French in option B, they would then have a free choice in both option C and D.

Students are reminded that they can only choose a subject once across all the option columns.

Students on the alternative Pathway will also have three periods of additional support with English/Mathematics and other alternative provision to support their learning and progress.

Combined Pathway

All students will study the core curriculum

English Language & English Literature
Mathematics
Science (combined or triple depending on ability in Science)
Core Physical Education
Personal and Social Education including Careers (During tutor period)

Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Geography	Construction	Art & Design	Business & Enterprise
History	French	Construction	Drama
	Health & Social	Music	Engineering
	Sports Studies	Religious Education	Hospitality & Catering
		Graphic Design	Photography

Alternative Pathway

All students will study the core curriculum

English Language & English Literature
Mathematics
Science (combined)
Core Physical Education
Personal and Social Education including Careers (During tutor period)

Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Core Intervention	Construction	Art & Design	Business & Enterprise
	Health & Social	Construction	Drama
	Sports Studies	Music	Engineering
		Religious Education	Hospitality & Catering
		Graphic Design	Photography

**These are the core subjects that all students
will follow:**

Core Subjects

English

Mathematics

Science

Physical Education

Core Subjects

English

Subject Leader: Mr M Brett

Method of Assessment: AQA GCSE English Language New 9 -1 Specification
AQA GCSE English Literature New 9 - 1 Specification

English Language

Students are tested on their skills in both reading and writing, including spelling, punctuation and grammar. Assessment is through two terminal examinations. Students will read widely, on a range of topics linked closely to our understanding of modern society.

Paper 1: **Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing** – 1 hour 45 minutes – 50% of final grade

Paper 2 – **Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives** – 1 hour 45 minutes – 50% of final grade

English Literature

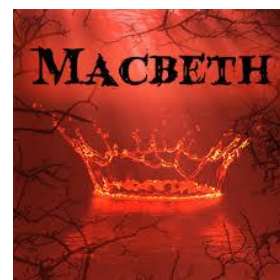
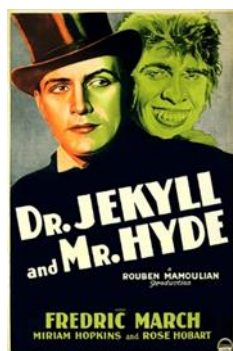
Students are tested on their understanding of a text and will study a range of texts in preparation for the examination, including: Macbeth; Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde; An Inspector Calls, and a range of 15 contemporary and literature heritage poems following the theme of Power and Conflict. Students will be challenged to memorise and analyse key lines from all of these texts in preparation for their 'closed book' examinations.

Spoken Language: Students will also complete a Spoken Language Endorsement and will give a presentation on an interesting, relevant topic of their choice.

Paper 1: **Shakespeare and the 19th-Century Novel** – 1 hour 45 minutes – 40% of final grade

Paper 2: **Modern Texts and Poetry** – 2 hours 15 minutes – 60% of final grade

Texts studied will include the following:



Core Subjects

Mathematics

Subject Leader: Mr J Collins

Maths Beyond Year 9

Your child is now coming to the end of the third year of a 5-year learning journey in Mathematics.

Over the next two years we will continue to develop skills in the following strands of the subject:

Number
Ratio and Proportion
Algebra
Shape, Space and Measures
Handling Data

We will also address the functionality of maths i.e. how and when it is used in real life – sometimes this will be in unfamiliar contexts.

We want our students to demonstrate characteristics such as: determination, collaboration, enthusiasm, excitement, curiosity, persistence; we want them to make decisions and take planned risks. Also we would like them to develop their research skills in order that they become truly independent learners.

The Mathematics GCSE is assessed by written examinations (2 calculator and 1 non-calculator papers) each 1 hour 30 mins. These exams will be taken at the end of the course (end of Year 11). There are two tiers of entry:

Foundation (targeting grades 1-5)
Higher (targeting grades 4-9)

In terms of supporting your child, please ensure that they attend all lessons with appropriate equipment (including a scientific calculator). We have the following support material available to purchase: revision guides and workbooks.



Core Subjects

Science

Acting Subject Leader: Mrs E Fegan

Routes available:

GCSE: AQA Combined Science (2 GCSE passes) or AQA Triple Science which consists of separate GCSEs in Chemistry, Biology and Physics (3 GCSE passes).

The GCSE Course

The courses are designed to give students an understanding and knowledge of Science which will be useful to them in their everyday lives and which can form a sound basis for further studies.

The GCSE course is divided into 4 main areas:

- How Science Works
- Biology: Life processes and living things
- Chemistry: Materials and their properties
- Physics: Physical processes



Assessment of the GCSE Course

Science is studied by students throughout Years 10 and 11.

All GCSE courses are examined terminally which means students will be assessed at the end of their GCSE Science courses.

AQA Combined Science is assessed through 6 exams (2 each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics, 1 hr 15 minutes) each equally weighted. The exams will each be based on different subject content, but will be based around 3 assessment objectives:

AO1: Demonstrating knowledge and understanding

AO2: Application of knowledge and understanding

AO3: Analysis of information and ideas.

The AQA Triple Science qualification involve students sitting 2 exams for each Science (1hr 45 minutes each) With Triple Science, each exam has a weighting of 50% towards the final grade.

New requirements state that all Science examinations must contain a certain percentage weighting of Mathematics—10% for Biology, 20% for Chemistry and 30% for Physics. Practical skills will be continually assessed throughout the course, and students will be expected to carry out 8 required practicals for each Science in the Triple course, or 16 in the Combined course. The written exams will then include questions that draw on the students' practical science experience (equating to at least 15% of the GCSE).

Progression

The Dukeries Academy offers Science A levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, subject to entry requirements, and a Level 3 BTEC course in Applied Science.

Homework

Homework is set on a regular basis, a minimum of 45 minutes per GCSE equivalent per week. The tasks may review, consolidate or reinforce concepts taught in class.



Core Subjects



Physical Education Subject Leader C Reay



Physical Education is taken by all students. The course aims to develop knowledge and understanding, within various sporting activities, as well as further develop the students' skill levels. They will be involved in a much wider variety of sports and will have the chance to study at least 2 activities in greater depth.

Activities include; Football, Netball, Rugby, Hockey, Volleyball, Badminton, Dance, Aerobics, Athletics, Rounders, Softball, Basketball, Trampolining, and the Junior Sports Leader Award.

Kit

Full participation in and enjoyment of these activities depends upon having the correct kit each week. Parents are asked to ensure that their children are provided with at least the basic kit, plus a towel.

Valuables

Students are not allowed to wear jewellery for PE. The department will save jewellery and other items of value but students are strongly advised not to bring expensive items on the days when they have PE.

Boys

Plain Black Shorts
White Top
Reversible Green Rugby top
Green/White Socks
Training Shoes
Football Boots

Girls

Plain Black Shorts
White Top
Reversible Green Rugby top
Green/White Socks
Training Shoes

Please note: For reasons of safety and ease of movement, trainers must be lightweight and capable of being fastened securely, i.e. not fashion boot style.

It has to be appreciated that there is a risk from taking part in Hockey, Rugby and Soccer, but it can be minimised by the provision of simple equipment. It is advised that parents provide their child with the following:

Hockey — A mouth guard and shin pads.
Rugby — A mouth guard for all players and shin pads for those playing in the pack.
Football — Shin pads.

Students are always given their timetable content well in advance and parents can assume that all students will be taking part in one or more of these activities throughout the winter terms during their time at the Academy, unless there are special medical reasons.

Option Subjects

Design & Technology

- Hospitality & Catering
- Graphic Design
- Engineering

Expressive Arts

- Art & Design
 - Drama
- Music Practitioners
 - Photography

Humanities

- Religious Education
 - Geography
 - History

Modern Languages

- French

Others

- Media Studies
- Sport Studies
- Construction
- Health & Social
 - Business

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Examinations available:

- BTEC Level 2 Award – Hospitality
- NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies Graphic Design
- BTEC Level 2 Award - Engineering

The Courses

Design & Technology is about being able to use and control the things around us to meet our needs. Early people needed to learn how to build shelters, make clothes and prepare food to eat. All these were different ways of using the resources around them to meet their needs.

Design & Technology is about solving problems and getting ideas which can be tested to provide a solution.

Syllabus Aims

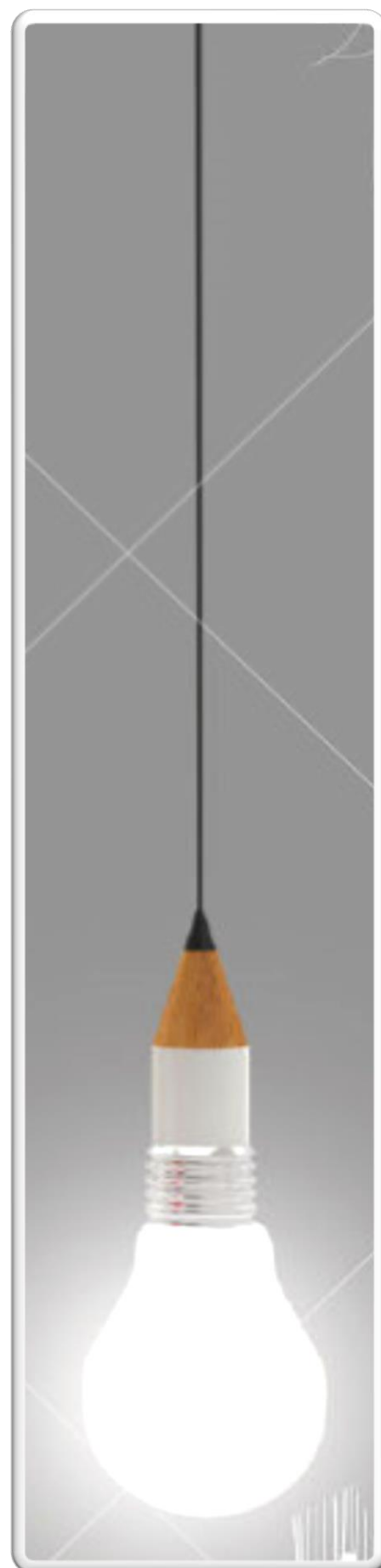
All the Design & Technology specifications, have the same aims:

- To encourage students to combine their design and making skills, with knowledge and understanding, in order to design and make quality products.
- To promote students Design & Technology capability through a wide range of contexts, materials and processes and to lead to practical results.
- To select and use resources effectively.
- To develop students critical and aesthetic ability and evaluative skills.

The Design process for each course is similar, but students specialise in a specific area: namely Engineering, Food or Product Design.

Homework

Students will be given appropriate tasks to complete. These will be wide and varied but could include the collection of ingredients and materials, research information and the collection of data. Visiting shops and outlets in order to gather information relevant to that qualification.



WJEC

LEVEL 2

**HOSPITALITY
&
CATERING**



ASSESSMENT

Portfolio of assignments, paper based examinations.

UNITS OF WORK

1 compulsory unit-internal
1 compulsory unit – External paper based examination
And
External onscreen based examination

Hospitality is one of the largest industries in the UK. It has over two million employees and makes a significant contribution to the UK economy. It is a dynamic industry that responds quickly to changing market needs, through rapid growth, innovation and diversity. This enables the hospitality industry to offer many different types of employment, with opportunities for you to work in this country and around the world.

What does the course cover?

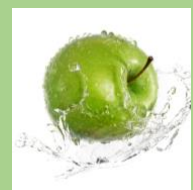
Through a range of practical work students will complete 2 units of work. There will be a requirement to complete assignments as evidence of knowledge and understanding of the tasks done, also preparation for the external testing.

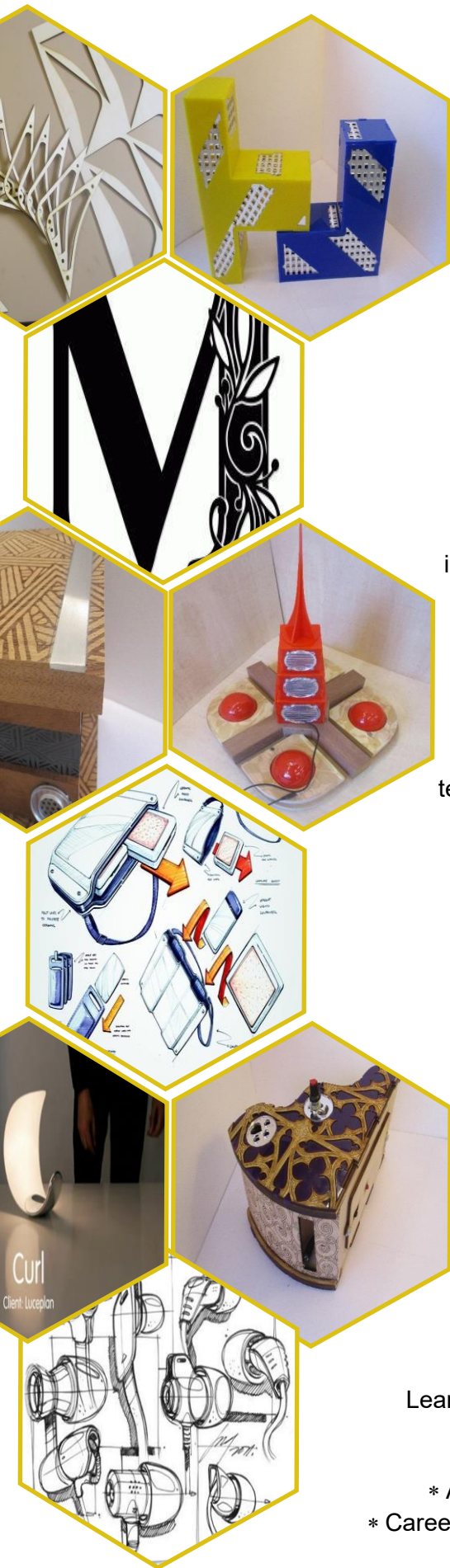
Unit 1:
The Hospitality and Catering Industry –
Onscreen assessment/
Paper based assessment

For this unit you will be expected to understand the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate.

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action

Learners apply their learning to safely prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes. They will draw on their learning of different types of provision and kitchen and front of house operations in Unit 1, as well as personal safety in their preparations.





What is Graphic Design?

The Design industry encompasses many different careers.

All sectors of the industry require design workers who are able to use their creative skills to translate a client's designs into finished pieces using hand-eye co-ordination and through the safe use of appropriate tools.

Graphic designers, who work independently, will research and understand current market trends, making, promoting and marketing their products effectively. All designers are continually learning and developing new skills and techniques by experimenting with new materials and production practices.

GRAPHIC DESIGN:

NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Graphics
Subject Leader: Mrs N Naylor

Assignments:

Unit 01 Introduction to Graphic Design

Internally assessed portfolio of evidence based around key skills and techniques learnt.

Unit 02 Graphic Design Practice

Internally assessed portfolio of evidence that showcases design skills and creative solutions.

Unit 03 Responding to a Graphic Design Brief

Externally assessed assignment-brief released in year 11

Unit 04 Graphic Design Portfolio

The opportunity to apply all skills learned in previous units to design & manufacture a graphics related product

Course Content

During the design and making you will cover:
The Design Process, Wood, Plastic, Fabric, Metal,
Application of ICT
Drawing and Designing
Tools and Equipment/Health and Safety
Project Management & Costing,
CAD/CAM & Industrial Processes

Progression opportunities

Learners who achieve this qualification could progress onto further Level 3 qualifications and A levels, such as:

- * NCFE Level 3 Certificate in Creative Craft
- * A level Product Design, Resistant Materials, Textiles, Art and Design
- * Careers: Interior Design, Architecture, Product Design, Animation, Construction, furniture design, transport design and many more.

Award:
WJEC
Certificate in
Engineering

What is Engineering?

BTEC Certificate in Engineering is a vocational, practical courses which is an ideal qualification for students who want a background in engineering and will allow them to progress on to further education courses or apprenticeships.

Students will build upon the skills obtained at Key Stage 3 of the National Curriculum.

The course will encourage students to develop a knowledge of the key aspects of engineering, design and production planning processes, and an awareness of how the industry applies new technologies in the production of engineered products.

Skills in numeracy and literacy are also a requirement.



What does the course cover?

Through a range of practical work students will complete 3 units of work. There will be a requirement to complete assignments as evidence of knowledge and understanding of the tasks done, also preparation for the external testing.

Design & Technology

ENGINEERING

Assessment

Portfolio of assignments, onscreen testing and/or paper based examinations.

UNITS OF WORK

2 compulsory units internal
1 compulsory unit – External test



THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Are my practical skills, Maths and English of a good standard?
- Can I understand technical terms and use them to get ideas across?
- Can I explain my ideas in detail using words and pictures?
- Can I work consistently well over a long period?
- Can I work sensibly and safely in a practical area?
- What types of things do I want to do after I leave school (further education, apprenticeship, training scheme etc)?

Art and Design

Subject Leader: Mr G Stewart



Art & Design

The main aim of the course is to develop your artistic skills and your ability to understand how artists work. We want to give you as many opportunities as possible to succeed and to get the most out of the course.

The course covers many aspects of art and you will study areas such as observational drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, digital imagery and 3D work. We encourage you to develop your own ideas, to start thinking for yourself and to express your personality in your work. You will also engage with the work of historical and contemporary artists.

Who is the course suitable for?

If you want to go into an art-related career when you are older, or if you are just interested in art and design and enjoy expressing yourself in creative and practical ways, then this could be for you.

To do well you need to:

- Have good observational drawing skills.
- Have a creative mind.
- Produce a sketchbook which shows the development and investigation of your ideas.
- Explore and write about the work of Artists, Craftspeople and Designers.
- Research Art History and ideas connected with your work at home.

Careers

Studying art will enable you to make the progression onto a level 3 course in art and design. If you think you want a future career in the creative industries then art is a must for you.

- Architecture
- Graphic Design
- Teaching
- Jewellery Design
- Fashion
- Television work
- Shoe Design
- Textile Design
- Film making
- Printing
- Pottery
- Animation
- Illustration
- Costume Design,
- Theatre Design
- Garden Design

Drama

Subject Leader: Mrs J Schrodel

Course Overview

BTEC Tech Award Level 2 Performing Arts

BTEC drama is an exciting, interesting and thought provoking course which explores the world of drama from both a practical and academic angle. You will explore a wide range of play texts which vary in style and content and will devise your own pieces of drama from a wide range of stimuli. You will perform, direct and design during the course as well going to the theatre to watch a variety of professional productions.

How will you be assessed?

There are 3 components to the BTEC

Component 1: You will study three different plays and three different theatre practitioners from both a practical and academic angle. You will record the work that you have completed both on video and in a written portfolio. This will be internally assessed.

Component 2: You will work in groups to rehearse and then perform a section of text from a published play in front of an invited audience. You will record your rehearsal process and evaluate your final performance in a written portfolio. This will be internally assessed.

Component 3: You will create your own piece of drama based on a stimulus provided by the exam board. This will be recorded and sent to the exam board for marking along with a written devising log.

Course Duration

2 years (2 – 3 hours per week)

Entry Requirements

- A genuine interest in drama and performance
- The willingness and confidence to perform to an audience
- The ability to work with a range of people – not just your friends
- The commitment to attend extra rehearsals, performances and theatre visits outside of school hours.
- There may be a cost involved for going to watch professional performances – help is available for those students who need it.

Progression

You can continue to study drama at BTEC Level 3 and university, but even if you are not interested in a career in the theatre/film industry GCSE Drama teaches you **SO MANY** key skills that you will need in **ANY** career, or when applying to **ANY** university to do **ANY** course. Team work, leadership, communication, creativity, working to deadlines, organisation, problem solving, empathy, presentation, pride, commitment, time management and speaking and listening to name but a few!



Music

Examination available: RSL Music

RSL Level 2 Certificate in Performance/Technology and Composition

Subject Leader: Miss J Otway

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

- Involves performing (singing or playing an instrument) or expanding your Garageband skills.
- Includes keeping up to date with written and video diaries demonstrating your improvement.
- Requires good research skills and musical knowledge on a style of music of your choice.
- Allows you to play music with others in rock groups, bands and singing ensembles and/or develop your knowledge of using a Digital Audio Station like Garageband.

What will I be expected to do?

The course is a vocational course and is assessed using points and the grading system Distinction, Merit and Pass. It is made up of three elements:

Everyone must complete:

201ta Music Knowledge Development is worth 4 points. Students will research the development of a specified music style and a contrasting style of music. Compare these styles, as well as, discuss music terminology heard within the music.

An external exam with a choice of two units:

202ta Live Performance is worth 8 points. This is an externally assessed unit. The students will work as a group to organise a music performance. Every student must play a group or solo performance of 10-15 minutes. This will be for a set amount of time and occasion set by RSL. This unit will take place in Year 11 between January and March.

Or

203ta Music Sequencing and Production is worth 8 points. This is an externally assessed unit. The student will work on their own developing skills on a Digital Audio Station (Garageband). They will be asked to create a 3 minute composition to a set brief. They must include drum tracks, chords and bass lines.

Choice Units

204ta instrumental study 204ta, 205ta Composing Music 205ta or 207ta Using a DAW.

Progression after RSL Practitioners Music:

- [RSL Level 2 Music Practitioners in performance](#) prepares students for [RSL Level 3 Music Practitioners in performance](#).
- Music at college level.
- A level music (with extra theory lessons after school).
- In addition to this, RSL Music helps develop a wide variety of skills and is useful in pursuing careers in the music industry, publishing, the Armed Forces, entertainment, teaching and generally any job which involves communication and expressive skills.



Photography

Subject Leader: Mr G Stewart

Examination available: GCSE



Photography at Dukeries Academy

You will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of techniques and processes, used within Digital Photography. You will produce a portfolio of work based different themes from the topics below:

- Still Life photography, (working from natural or manufactured objects).
- Documentary photography, photo journalism, narrative photography, reportage
- Photography involving a moving image, (television, film and animation).
- New media practice such as computer manipulated photography

Students will be expected to demonstrate skills and techniques within the use of photography. These skills will include:

- The ability to explore formal elements of visual language, line, form, colour, tone, pattern, texture, in the context of lens-based and light-based media
- Showing in their work the use of viewpoint, composition, focus control, depth of field, movement and narrative
- Using appropriate techniques, technologies and equipment for recording images and lighting subjects
- Understanding the value of working individually and as a member of a team

Who is the course suitable for?

The course is suitable for students who have a genuine interest in photography. If you look at the world with a creative eye and can be committed and hardworking, this course is practical, creative and fun. Photography is certainly not an easy option, it will demand an investment in your time and a great deal of independent work outside of school.

If you want to work within the area of photography when you are older, or you are interested in art and design and want to record in an alternative way to drawing, then this is the course for you.

Careers

Studying Photography will enable you to make the progression onto a level 3 course in photography or art and design. Photography, graphic design or creative imaging.

- Commercial Portrait Photographer
- Photo journalism
- Commercial Industrial photography
- Advertising and Marketing
- Scientific and Medical Photography
- Film Making
- Fashion photography

Religious Education

Subject Leader: Mr D McGill



Examination available: GCSE Religious Studies
(Eduqas Full course)

The Course

The course is designed to enable students to develop their knowledge and understanding of religious and non-religious views and engage with questions of belief, value, meaning and purpose. The course will develop students' ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of the subject

Students will explore in detail the religious teachings and practices of two major world religions. This includes studying Judaism (25%) and Christianity (25%) and the diverse beliefs that exist within these religions. Furthermore, students will study major philosophical and ethical issues in the modern world (50%) exploring topics such as relationships, forgiveness, punishment and human rights.

The department has a lead role in the provision of students' Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural opportunities—an essential part of the Academy's ethos in ensuring all students are suitably prepared for life.

Religious Studies is currently taught for three lesson per week.

The course and the department are non-confessional.

Assessment

Students are entered for three exams at the end of Year 11. There is no coursework requirement. All students are entered for the same exams and all are able to achieve a grade 1-9.

Homework Expectations

Homework is set on a fortnightly basis and consists of research opportunities and exam practice in preparation for examinations.

Progression after GCSE

The department offers the opportunity for GCSE students to enrol on the A2 Religious Studies course. This will explore complex philosophical questions, ethical theories and difficult moral dilemmas. The minimum requirement for acceptance on this course is as follows: Religious Studies - Grade 7 and English - Grade 7.



Geography

Subject Leader: Miss H Ash



Examination available: GCSE Geography AQA

The Course

We live in an interesting, but an ever-changing world, including natural problems such as flooding, coastal erosion and global warming and human issues such as sources of energy, pollution, urbanisation and global development. All these issues are investigated in the new Geography course. The GCSE Geography course is designed to help young people gain an understanding of the modern world. There are a vast number of careers that can make use of this Geographical understanding. Throughout the course you will be encouraged, by your teacher, to find things out for yourself. This will involve:

Using maps.	Atlases, O.S. Maps, Road Maps, Google Earth etc.
Reading texts.	Photos, diagrams, graphs, etc.
Visiting places.	Fieldwork (in the Peak District)
Watching and	Use of DVD, PowerPoint etc.
Designing presentations.	

The course is divided into **THREE** main units:

Component 1 – The Physical Environment (1 hour 30 minutes written examination)

Section A: The challenge of natural hazards

Section B: The living world

Section C: Physical landscapes of the UK

Component 2 – The Human Environment (1 hour 30 minutes written examination)

Section A: Urban issues and challenges

Section B: The changing economic world

Section C: The challenge of resource management

Component 3 – Geographical investigations: Fieldwork and Issue evaluation (1 hour and 30 minutes written examination)

Section A – Issue Evaluation

Section B - Fieldwork

Assessment

Many students enjoy the fieldwork, where they visit an area, like the Peak District, to investigate a particular issue for themselves. Working in small groups, students collect the information and then write a report when they get back to class. There is one piece of coursework based on a fieldwork exercise. 2 days of fieldwork are compulsory for GCSE geography students, and data collected will be essential for their third paper.

Homework

Homework will be set on a weekly basis. This is a vital part of the course. Homework tasks will vary from research to extended written tasks. Staff will assess the work and give verbal written feedback.

History

Subject Leader: Mrs E Vassiliades

Exam Board and Syllabus: Edexcel GCSE (9-1) in History (1HI0)

More information can be found on the Edexcel web site:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>

Why study History?

GCSE History is a well-respected and popular qualification. It is both a key to further study and the world of work, where you can show that you have the skills to analyse and report on complex problems – skills that are very much in demand in the modern world. History GCSE helps you to develop as an independent, critical and reflective learner. You will use a range of historical sources to come to judgements about the past. In addition you will learn how to explain why there are different interpretations about the past. Furthermore, History can be fascinating in itself in helping us to understand both our world today and the world in the past and to help draw links between key issues that still affect all of us today

Course Details

You will learn about Crime and Punishment from Saxons to modern day Britain. You will then study the problems faced by people living in the East End of London in the 19th Century and the difficulties of policing these slum areas. Next we will look at the Norman Conquest of England and the American West studying the impact that white settlers had on the way of life of the Plains Indians. Finally we will investigate how Adolf Hitler was able to become a dictator of Germany.



Paper	Unit	Topic (provisional)	Assessment Type	% of Final Grade
Paper 1	Thematic study and historic environment	Crime and Punishment in Britain and Whitechapel	Written Examination 1 hour and 15 minutes	30%
Paper 2	Period Study and British depth study	The American West Anglo- Saxon and Norman England	Written Examination 1 hour and 45 minutes	40 %
Paper 3	Modern Depth Study	Weimar and Nazi Germany	Written Examination 1 hour and 20 minutes	30%

Further Study and Careers in History

Students achieving a 7 or above in History may progress to take an A level course. With a History degree you could pursue a career in any of the following areas: Law, Media, Finance, Government, Administration, Planning and Policy, Communications, Journalism and Publishing, Public Relations, Advertising and Marketing, Management, Education at all levels, Libraries and Museums – and many more!

French

Subject Leader: Mr N Burns

Examination available: GCSE French

Foundation: GCSE Grades 1-5

Higher: GCSE Grades 6-9



Topic Areas: Identity and Culture. Local, National. International and Global areas of interest. Current and Future study and Employment.

Listening (25% of final mark)

You will continue to listen to recorded messages, conversations, radio reports, weather forecasts etc. You should be able to identify and note the main points and extract some detail from spoken texts of increasing length, speed and complexity. You show your understanding by choosing the appropriate answer from multiple choice, fill in blanks or some short answers in English.

Speaking (25% of final mark)

The format is the same at foundation and higher tier and will be conducted by your teacher and externally moderated. You will complete three tasks which will involve a role-play, discussion of a picture and a general conversation. The materials will be handed to you before the assessment when you will have 12 minutes preparation time.

Reading (25% of final mark)

You will see various examples of texts of differing lengths, e.g. adverts, timetables, letters, newspaper reports invitations and short extracts from literacy texts and you will be expected to demonstrate your understanding by responding to different types of questions in English and also in French at higher tier. The reading exam also involves translation into English.

Writing (25% of final mark)

You will write on various topics and for different purposes throughout the course to help you practise for the writing exam. For foundation tier you will be expected to produce written answers from 40-90 words and for the higher tier up to 150 words about any given topic from the course. The writing exam also involves translation from English into French.

Separate examinations in listening, reading and writing are sat at the end of the course along with the speaking exam which is teacher-conducted. Candidates must be entered for either foundation or higher tier for all papers and are not able to mix and match.

Homework

Students are expected to learn new vocabulary after every lesson, and they will usually have one written homework or longer task to complete each week.





BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport

Subject Leader: Miss C Reay

For all those who have enjoyed PE over the last 3 years, there is a further challenge the BTEC Sport qualification!!!!



There are **3 mandatory** units which makes up 75% of qualification.

Unit 1: Fitness for Sport and Exercise – this unit will allow you to explore components of fitness, fitness testing, methods of training, principles of training and how to measure exercise intensity. Your knowledge and application will be assessed through an online examination.

Unit 2: Practical Sports performance.

- You are assessed on your practical performance in **TWO** sports, an individual and team sport.
- The assessment will require you to apply a range of skills and tactical understanding in both condition practices and competitive situations.
- Assessment for this unit includes both practical performance and coursework.

Unit 3: Applying the Principles of Personal Training.

- The focus of this unit is on training to improve and enhance personal fitness for one activity/sport you have studied and participated in unit 2.
- You will design and complete a personal training program that will be based upon a component of fitness and a method of training to improve/maintain your fitness levels for your chosen activity.
- You will also gain awareness of muscular skeletal and cardio respiratory system and how it responds during exercise.
- Assessment for this unit includes both practical performance and coursework.

There is **1 optional** unit (25% of qualification)

Unit 6: Leading Sport Activities – what makes the winners of the top leagues so successful? Why did Mo Farah select those tactics to run the race in a specific way which lead him to win Gold and the Olympics? What qualities and responsibilities do you need to be a successful leader? You will also have the exciting opportunity to plan and deliver a range of sporting activities. Assessment for this unit includes both practical performance and coursework.

Assessment

- In total there are FOUR UNITS. EACH UNIT IS WORTH 25% of your final grade.
- Units 2, 3 & 6 are all internally assessed and are graded as a PASS, MERIT or DISTINCTION.
- Unit 1 is externally assessed using an online exam

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT before choosing the BTEC FIRST AWARD in SPORT

- Do you enjoy Physical Education lessons?
- Do you always remember to bring your kit and take part in Physical Education lessons?
- Are you fully aware of the fact that you will need to complete coursework for units 2, 5 & 6? – NOT JUST PRACTICAL!!
- Do you like the idea of being a leader and organising events
- Do you like the idea of working with Primary school students and acting as a coach/leader

Progression after BTEC Sports Leadership

For those students who want to study PE at a higher level there is the opportunity to continue their interests in the sixth form and study Level 3 BTEC Extended Certificate in Sport, in Years 12 and 13. By studying Sport at GCSE level this provides a very sound and useful stepping stone to studying PE as a level 3 qualification and possibly then at university.

Construction

Teacher in Charge: M Varney/M Iddon

If you work in Construction you'll be joining one of Britain's largest industries in a career that will be challenging, exciting and rewarding. Britain has a reputation for world class design, inspirational architecture and the highest quality building work. You may enjoy the hands on satisfaction of actually building things or you may be more interested in the design or management of projects. Either way, no one day is the same as the next. You could be working in the office or outdoors and there are lots of opportunities to progress. You might end up running your own business. Now is a particularly exciting time to be starting a career in construction. Women are especially well represented in Construction, over 200,000 women work in a variety of construction roles- especially where they are the boss!



The vocational course we are able to offer is:

WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Constructing the Built Environment

WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Constructing the Built Environment offers a learning experience that focuses learning for 14-19 year olds through applied learning, i.e. acquiring and applying knowledge, skills and understanding through purposeful tasks set in sector or subject contexts that have many of the characteristics of real work.

Each qualification is built from discrete units, but allows for both synoptic learning and assessment. Each unit has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning in the unit.

The applied purpose is the vehicle through which the learning contained in the unit is made relevant and purposeful. It is also the means by which learners are enthused, engaged and motivated to study how buildings are constructed. The applied purpose provides the opportunity for authentic work related learning, but more than this, it will require learners to consider how the use and application of their learning impacts on individuals, employers, society and the environment.



Health and Social Care

Teacher in Charge: Miss N Salter

BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care



What is the course about?

This course is a real vocational introduction into the world of Health and Social Care and for students who want to work in the care sector. This course is ideal for potential nursing, police, paramedics, care assistance, primary teachers.

How will I be assessed?

The qualification is a level 2 award and is graded at a Pass, Merit and distinction. Allowing every pupils to achieve their aspirational targets.

What do I study?

The course is broken down into 3 units of study, each with their own assessment which will be combined to their overall grade.



Unit 1: Human lifespan Development (internal assessment)

Unit 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values (internal assessment)

Unit 3: Health and Wellbeing (external assessment)

Next step

You can continue studying Health and Social Care within the Sixth Form and achieve UCAS point to study at university, which many pupils have done with this course. Whilst it's not compulsory to complete level 2 it will give you a solid grounding of the content studied.



Business Studies

Teacher in Charge: Miss N Salter



BTEC Level 2 Tech Certificate in Business Enterprise

What is the course about?

All businesses need enterprising employees to drive their organisations forward, to have ideas and initiatives to instigate growth, and to ensure that businesses survive in this fast-changing world.

People with enterprising skills can be a real asset to an organisation and these skills provide the basis for developing the entrepreneurial skills needed to run an enterprise.

Enterprise is a key government focus, and is set to form an important part of the UK's global economic status, both now and in the future.

Enterprise skills provide a fantastic progression pathway into a number of roles in an organisation, and are transferable into all businesses.



How will I be assessed?

The qualification is a level 2 award and is graded at a Pass, Merit and distinction.

Allowing every pupils to achieve their aspirational targets.

What do I study?

The course is broken down into 3 units of study, each with their own assessment which will be combined to their overall grade.

Unit 1: The Business Enterprise Environment

(Internal assessment)

Unit 2: Researching a concept for a new or revised product or Service

(internal assessment)

Unit 3: Promoting and Financing an Enterprise Idea

(External assessment)



Next step

You can continue studying Business Studies within the Sixth Form and achieve UCAS point to study at university, which many pupils have done with this course. Whilst it's not compulsory to complete level 2 it will give you a solid grounding of the content studied.

Closing Comments

When you have attended the Options talks, chatted to your teachers, parents/carers and read the information about the courses on offer ask yourself the following questions about each of the subjects you may be considering. These may help you to make up your mind.

1. Do I think I would enjoy studying this subject?
2. Is there an exam or coursework or assignments?
3. What grades can I get?
4. Will I be good at it? Does my subject teacher agree?
5. Does this subject help me to do what I want to do in the future?
6. What are my reasons for wanting to take this subject?

List your reasons for selecting each subject:

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Will I automatically get my first choice?

The simple answer is no.

- We may have to reconsider offering a course if only a very few students make this choice.
- Sometimes, we have to limit the number of students on a particular subject/course for safety reasons or because of the equipment needed.
- We have to take into consideration your performances so far this year, the levels you achieve, your attendance and your effort. Some subjects may require a level of knowledge, skill and understanding that is clearly not appropriate for you. If this is the case we will have to ask you to choose again.

Will the courses be exactly as described?

- There may be some changes to the content of a few courses. However, the details of the courses mentioned in this booklet will give a good idea about the types of things likely to be studied on each course.

When will I have to sit my examinations and controlled assessments?

- Schools have to react to changes imposed by the Government. Examinations are now going to take place at the end of the course. It goes without saying that good performance in these exams is essential. It is important therefore, to ensure that you prepare as well for these exams as you will do for any exams taken in your last weeks of school. You will also need to make sure that any controlled assessments are completed to the best of your ability and handed in on time where appropriate.
- The fact that your controlled assessments may take place at any point during your course means it is essential that you and your parents/carers **do not book holidays during term time**. If you miss a piece of controlled assessment, there may not now be an opportunity to take the examination again.

Can I change my mind later?

The simple answer is no.

- That is why you have to put some careful thought into your choices in the first place. We do however, all make mistakes and it is important for everyone to understand how complicated the whole process is. We have to make sure that none of the groups are too big or too small. We have to make sure that there is a good balance in the groups. This all takes time and changes can disrupt the balance we achieve. On rare occasions, it is possible for a small number of changes in the first half term of the academic year. After this point, there would be too much work for you to make up. That is why it is so important to think very carefully about the choices you make at the first time of asking.

Where can I get more help to make my choices?

This booklet is written for Year 9 students and their parents/carers. The choice of option subjects is an important one and should be made jointly by students and their parents/carers with the guidance of teachers and careers advisers.

For more information on option choices you can:

Speak to your tutor, subject teachers, and discuss your strengths and weaknesses.

Look at the descriptions of the courses mentioned in this booklet on the Academy website
– talk to the members of staff who teach those courses.

Visit the Careers Library. This contains all sorts of resources to help you make your option choices.

Check the internet for information about jobs, careers, how to make choices and decisions. Some websites which contain useful information for parents and students are:

www.sortitonline.com

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

This will give you links to the National Careers helpline and guide you to chatlines and forums that will help you with decisions about what choices to make next.

Talk to family/brothers/sisters/friends.