

"TO INSPIRE EXCELLENCE AND MAXIMISE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL"



OPTIONS BROCHURE 2022



Introduction

In the next few weeks, you will be making some important decisions concerning the subjects you will study at Key Stage 4 for the next two years. Our aim is to ensure you are able to study a curriculum which will enable you to have a suitable progression route into Post 16 study and beyond.

The curriculum studied will comprise of GCSE and vocational qualifications. Some subjects are compulsory but there are also choices you will need to make. The subjects that you must take are called core subjects. They are:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Core PE
- PSHE/Citizenship

You will be choosing a minimum of three options from the listed EBACC (English Baccalaureate) and Vocational qualifications. Your individual options form will outline the choices that you need to make. The EBACC subjects are a group of subjects looked upon favourably by Universities and include English, Maths, Science, History, Geography and a Language.

The Vocational Qualifications are geared towards a specific career sector and are assessed with coursework as well as examinations. These qualifications provide more applied knowledge and practical skills. At Level 2 they are equivalent to one GCSE.

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

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.

Each one of you will have your 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 we want to help you make sure that 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.



GCSE English Language

Potential Careers

A GCSE in English is a highly-respected qualification in all A-Level, college and apprenticeship courses after you finish secondary school and is a basic requirement from most employers. Careers and industries it will allow you to access can include:

- Writer
- Playwright
- Copywriter
- Publishing
- Journalism
- Lexicographer
- Public Relations
- Advertising
- TV/Media
- Law
- Teaching

About the Course

The written and spoken word surrounds us in our daily lives and empowers people to speak out against injustices. Writing is a form of art and a GCSE in English Language allows you to refine your own written expression enabling you to have a voice in this ever-changing world.

During your study of GCSE English Language, you will be exposed to a vast number of different types of writing from fiction and non-fiction sources. This enhances your ability to explore, analyse and evaluate the meaning of language. Moreover, you will develop your own writing skills and form opinions on topics that vary from climate change to school uniform.

The course has two components that comprise of studying: the reading and writing of fictional works and the study of non-fictional works.

Assessment

Paper 1

1 hour 45 minutes

50% of GCSE grade

Section A: Reading

Exploring how the writer uses language by answering 4 questions of a short fictional extract.

Section B: Writing

Writing your own descriptive piece.

Paper 2

1 hour 45 minutes

50% of GCSE grade

Section A: Reading

Exploring and comparing how writers use language answering 4 questions on two short non-fiction extracts.

Section B: Writing

Writing your own persuasive article.

GCSE English Literature

Potential Careers

A GCSE in English is a highly-respected qualification in all A-Level, college and apprenticeship courses after you finish secondary school and is a basic requirement from most employers.

Careers and industries it will allow you to access can include:

- Writer
- Playwright
- Copywriter
- Publishing
- Journalism
- Lexicographer
- Public Relations
- Advertising
- TV/Media
- Law
- Teaching

About the Course

A GCSE in English Literature allows you to meet incredible characters and read stories you will never forget. The literature you experience at GCSE will challenge your thinking on human emotions and behaviours, develop your ability to analyse language and allow you to graduate into the next chapter of your education with a highly-respected GCSE.

You will explore a blood-thirsty Scotland in the 11th century with the villainous Macbeth, spend Christmas time with Mr Scrooge, and gain an insight into the harrowing lives of many soldiers through painful poetry. There is even chance to work on your detective skills when *An Inspector Calls*. Most importantly, you will examine what key messages these writers wanted to articulate on the human experience.

The literature you study is from a plethora of the world's greatest writers delivered by the world's greatest English department.

We cannot wait to work with you in securing your GCSE.

Assessment

Paper 1

1 hour 45 minutes

40% of GCSE grade

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Paper 2

2 hours 15 minutes

60% of GCSE grade

An Inspector Calls by J. B. Priestley

Poetry

- Power and Conflict Poetry (15 poems)
- Unseen Poetry

GCSE Mathematics

Potential Careers

GCSE Mathematics opens up a huge range of opportunities in areas which are not directly related to Mathematics. It is an important qualification to hold in order to access further study in most subject areas.

Some careers which are directly related to Mathematics include:

- Construction
- Electrical and electronic engineering
- Mechanical engineering
- Civil engineering
- Accountancy
- Banking
- Actuarial science
- Computer science
- Teaching at primary, secondary, and university levels
- Architecture
- Biomedical science
- Statistician
- Astronomer

About the Course

Studying Mathematics helps us develop skills in logical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making, which are valued by employers across many sectors. Mathematics plays a significant role in society in areas such as: banking and finance, engineering, scientific research and medical sciences.

In Mathematics we focus on developing fluency, reasoning, and problem-solving skills in the five main strands:

- Number
- Algebra
- Geometry and measures
- Ratio and proportion
- Probability and statistics

Students will follow one of two pathways: Higher Tier (ranging from grades 0 to 9); Foundation Tier (ranging from grades 0 to 5).

Studying Mathematics at each of these levels will provide the opportunity to progress onto further study in a range of subjects at Level 3.

Assessment

Paper 1 - non calculator
1 hour 30 minutes
Written exam for Higher
and Foundation Tiers

Paper 2 - calculator
1 hour 30 minutes
Written exam for Higher
and Foundation Tiers

Paper 3 - calculator
1 hour 30 minutes
Written exam for Higher
and Foundation Tiers

GCSE Science

Potential Careers

- Medicine
- Veterinary
- Research scientist
- Forensic scientist
- Chemist
- Biophysicist
- Astronomer
- Environmental scientist
- Education
- Engineer

About the Course

You will be studying one of two courses: AQA Combined Science (you gain two GCSEs) or AQA separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics (you gain three GCSEs).

Both courses are designed to give students the ability use Science which relates to the world around them. Both routes will provide students with a sound basis for further study.

The course is divided into four main areas:

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

Students will follow one of two pathways: Higher Tier (ranging from grades 0 to 9); Foundation Tier (ranging from grades 0 to 5).

Assessment

AQA Combined Science

6 written papers

1 hour 15 minutes each.

Practical skills exams are assessed continually.

You complete 8 required practical exams.

AQA GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics

6 written papers

1 hour 45 minutes each.

Practical skills exams are assessed continually.

You complete 8 required practical exams.

Core Physical Education



About the Course

In Key Stage 4 PE, you are given a variety of activities to choose from during each half-term. The options presented to you depend on the seasons of the year. There will be the opportunity to learn and develop new skills in:

- Team invasion games (football, netball, hockey, basketball)
- Striking and fielding games (rounders, softball, kwik cricket, Danish longball)
- Net games (badminton, tennis, volleyball)
- Fitness-based activities (15 Mile Challenge, fitness for lifestyle, dance).

Students also take part in other alternative activities such as dodgeball and trampolining.

It is important to remember that core PE will be on everybody's timetable every week and that participation is mandatory. You must always bring your PE kit and be ready to engage with some superb stress-relieving activities!

See you at the PE department!

Assessment

There is no assessment associated with your core PE time.

It is an excellent opportunity for you to compete, relieve stress and/or learn new skills in a friendly environment.

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

'Curriculum for Life'

About the Course

You are growing up in a rapidly changing world, full of opportunities but with few guarantees. PSHE education is the curriculum subject which prepares you for life and work in this changing world. This is a 'Curriculum for Life' course and provides students with an enjoyable way of studying how to: stay safe, enjoy physical and emotional health, develop character and resilience, achieve academically and to improve employment prospects.

PSHE is a compulsory aspect of education for all young people, meaning that everyone your age follows a PSHE curriculum. It incorporates Careers Education and Relationships and Sex Education. The programme of activities is delivered through a timetabled set lesson and during tutor time. Some aspects will be delivered as part of lessons in different subject areas - for example, some sex education topics will be delivered in Science lessons. You will also have opportunities to engage with other opportunities such as trips and visiting speakers. During Year 10 and Year 11 you will develop your existing knowledge and cover new topics that include:

- Relationships including romantic relationships and break ups
- Managing change, grief and bereavement
- Understanding different families and learning about parenting skills
- Reproductive health, pregnancy and contraception
- Promoting self-esteem and coping with stress
- Preparing for exams and revision skills
- Online safety
- The impact of drugs, alcohol and tobacco
- Careers advice and guidance - including preparation for the next stage in your education
- Citizenship and developing positive character attributes.



Assessment

Although PSHE is not formally assessed through a final examination, you will be expected to show your knowledge and understanding through a range of continuous assessment methods - for example:

- Memory recall quizzes
- In-class questioning
- Classroom discussion
- Presentations.

EBACC GCSE Subjects

The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers.

The EBacc is:

- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- The Sciences
- Geography or History
- A Language

To count towards the English part of the EBacc, pupils need to take both English Literature and English Language GCSE exams.

Pupils need to take one of the following options in Science:

- GCSE Combined Science – pupils take 2 GCSEs that cover the 3 main Sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- 3 single Sciences at GCSE – pupils choose 3 subjects from Biology, Chemistry and Physics

Languages

Taking any ancient or modern foreign language GCSE counts towards the languages part of the EBacc.

EBacc qualifications

To count towards the EBacc measure, qualifications must be included in the approved list of the qualifications.



GCSE Spanish

Potential Careers

Teacher

Add a little bit of body text

Interpreter

Translator

Tour Guide

International Customer Account Coordinator

Entrepreneur

Product Localisation Manager

Holiday Resort Staff / Manager

Games Tester

National Security Agent

Travel Agent

About the Course

You will develop a linguistic competence whilst studying a range of transferable skills which are relevant to further study and the world of work. The range of topics inspires students who are interested in Spanish culture and Spanish speaking countries. Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening components form the study of Spanish throughout the course.

Topic areas include:

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment..

Listening: you will listen to recorded messages, conversations, radio reports, weather forecasts and other recordings. Students identify and note the main points and extract detail from spoken texts of increasing length, speed and complexity.

Speaking: conducted by your teacher and externally moderated, three tasks are undertaken which will involve a role-play, discussion of a picture and a general conversation.

Reading and Translation: students study various examples of texts of differing lengths, such as adverts, timetables, letters, newspaper reports, invitations and short extracts from literacy texts; you are expected to demonstrate an understanding by responding to different types of questions in English and in Spanish.

Writing: students write on various topics and for different purposes throughout the course. For the 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. This also includes translation into Spanish.

Assessment

100% examination AQA Specification

Paper 1: Listening (25%)

Paper 2: Speaking (25%)

Paper 3: Reading (25%)

Paper 4: Writing (25%)

GCSE History

Potential Careers

Law

Add a little bit of body text

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!

About the Course

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.

GCSE History 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.

You will learn how to explain why there are different interpretations of the past.

History can be fascinating in itself; it helps us to understand the modern world by drawing links between key issues in the past with today.

Assessment

Edexcel GCSE History 9-1 (<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>)

100% examination

Paper 1

1 hour 15 minutes

Crime and Punishment in Britain
1000 - present/Whitechapel

Paper 2

1 hour 45 minutes

the American West 1830-1895/Anglo-
Saxon and Norman England 1060-1088

Paper 3

1 hour 20 minutes

Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939

GCSE Geography

Potential Careers

The ultimate aim of this course is to prepare students for employment or further study at A Level. The many transferrable skills you can acquire prepare students for careers in:

- Politics
- Law
- Journalism
- TV/Media
- Earth Sciences
- Geographical Information Systems Officer
- Geographical Technicians
- Teaching/Lecturer

About the Course

GCSE Geography gives students opportunities to:

- Actively engage in the process of Geography, developing as effective and independent learners, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of Geographical concepts and appreciate the relevance of these concepts to our changing world
- Develop a framework of spatial awareness in which to appreciate the importance of the location of places and environments from local to global
- Appreciate the differences and similarities in people's views of the world and its environments, societies and cultures
- Understand the significance of values and attitudes to the development and resolution of issues.

Assessment

Global Geographical Issues

1 hour 30 minutes

37.5%

Hazardous Earth

Development Dynamics

Challenge of an Urbanising World

UK Geographical Issues

1 hour 30 minutes

37.5%

The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape

The UK's Evolving Human Landscape

People and Environment Issues

Making Geographical Decisions

1 hour 30 minutes

25%

People and the Biosphere

Forests Under Threat

Making Geographical Decisions

Options Subjects

Some of the optional subjects are GCSEs but there are also a wide range of technical qualifications to choose from. These will equip students with applied knowledge and practical skills and will focus on an industry sector or occupation. These options subjects will fulfil the entry requirements for both academic and vocational study post-16, alongside GCSEs.



GCSE Art & Design

Potential Careers

Students achieving a good grade at GCSE can continue their studies at A level. This can lead to further study on a Foundation Course in Art continuing onto a degree in various areas of Art and Design.

Careers can include:

Architecture

Interior Design

Product Design

Fashion

Photography

Graphic Design

Media

Fine Art.

About the Course

The Art and Design course actively engages students in their own learning. Students are encouraged to work independently and, wherever possible, from direct observation. This broad course seeks to acknowledge students' interests, aspirations, aptitudes and culture by providing opportunities for the development of their creative, imaginative and critical abilities. Students are introduced to a variety of two and three dimensional experiences: employing a range of media, processes and techniques as a basis for their expressive, design, and critical ability. Art forms and processes could include drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, graphics, photography, and printmaking.

Students are helped to develop their individual creativity and to make informed judgements about their work. Students are inspired by other artists, designers and crafts persons.

Art combines well with almost any subject. The discipline of independent study and thought is an extremely useful one to acquire. It is a subject which can give the student confidence and a real sense of achievement.

Assessment

Component 1 - Portfolio

2 coursework projects and 1 externally assessed set examination project
60%

Component 2 - Externally Set

Assignment
A 10 hour final examination project
40%

Level 2 Certificate in Finance

Potential Careers

Successful completion of this course could open up a range of careers that include:

Arbitrator

Data Analyst

Forensic Accountant

Stockbroker

and many more!

Students can transfer their skills into any area or field of employment. Past students of Business Enterprise have gone on to train in Civil Engineering, run their own businesses or become Teachers.

About the Course

The Technical Certificate in Finance (TCF) is for learners who want to find out more about the financial services sector. It is a vocational qualification for learners who wish to learn more about financial services, financial products and their application, and finance in business.

The qualification provides an enriching and detailed introduction to the world of finance, relating to real-life application while ensuring learning is assessed in a practical and applied manner.

What will I learn?

- Achieving personal financial goals, methods of borrowing and repaying money, personal and small business banking, financial advice, creating and managing budgets
- Ethics, sustainability, business models, financial careers, principles of UK taxation and marketing
- Financial regulation, protection and the impact of debt
- Financial services providers and how they function linked to careers in banking, accounting, investment, insurance and financial technology (fintech)
- Real-life application of numeracy and mathematical skills used within financial services

Assessment

Unit 1- finance for the individual
(internal moderated coursework)

Unit 2- Finance in business
(internal moderated coursework)

Unit 3- finance services sectors
(external exam)

BTEC Construction

Potential Careers

Careers and industries this course could enable you to access can include:

Carpenters

Plumbers

Decorators

Tilers

Bricklayers

Electricians

Project Managers

Architects.

About the Course

The course is designed to develop understanding and build skills related to a range of job roles in construction. The units provide an overview of technical roles including carpenters, plumbers, decorators, tilers, bricklayers and electricians as well as professional roles such as, project managers and architects and how they work together to complete construction projects. Each unit has been designed so that the knowledge, skills and understanding are developed through tasks that have many of the characteristics of real work in construction.

During this course students will learn the following:

- Skills required for independent learning and development
- Health and Safety at work
- Carpentry skills, tiling, plumbing, decorating and a range of other building skills
- The ability to solve problems
- Plan a renovation project of a room in a house
- The fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals in a professional environment.

The qualification has been devised around the concept of a 'plan, do, review' approach to learning. Learners are introduced to a context for learning, review previous learning to plan activities, carry out activities and review outcomes and learning. The qualification provides pupils with a broad appreciation of work involved in constructing the built environment and wider opportunities for progression into further education, employment or training.

Key advantages of this course:

- Develop a range of skills both practical and academic, through applied learning that will be useful in the workplace and for future learning
- Provide a foundation of knowledge about the construction industry that will help learners progress to further study or enter the workplace
- Motivate through purposeful tasks set in a construction industry context.

Assessment

Unit 1

Safety and Security in Construction

External Examination

Unit 2

Developing Construction Projects

Internal Examination

Unit 3

Planning Construction Projects

External Examination

BTEC Creative iMedia

Potential Careers

Careers and industries this course could enable you to access can include:

- Web Designer
- Graphic Designer
- Games Developer
- Social Media Manager
- Animation Designer
- Sound Engineer
- Video Editor

About the Course

This course is designed to develop knowledge and practical skills to be used in the media industry. The course has evolved this year to lead you towards a career in a thriving and innovative market. Companies such as Google, Amazon and Apple are constantly seeking creative young people to develop new technologies and products. This subject gives you a flavour of the industry and the challenges of working towards a creative brief.

For those students who enjoy subjects such as ICT, Design and Technology, Art, Music and Drama, you will be able to apply skills and knowledge from your lessons directly into Creative iMedia. If you have no experience of digital designing, the course can offer you a beginner's guide to using industry-standard technology.

Students will be given the opportunity to create and study videos, animations, websites, comics and video games.

Assessment

Unit 1 – Practical Coursework

Visual identity and digital graphics

Unit 2 – Practical Coursework

TBC from the following: Characters and comics, animation with audio, interactive digital media, visual imaging or digital games.
Internal assessment.

Unit 3 – Creative iMedia in the media industry

1 hour 30 mins written exam
External assessment

GCSE Design Technology

Potential Careers

Careers and industries this course could enable you to access can include:

Industrial Design

Advertising

Product Development

Architecture

Marketing and other creative industries.

About the Course

This course has been designed to encourage students to be able to design and make products with creativity and originality. Students will be asked to develop their ability to respond to contextual problems in inventive and creative ways by thoroughly refining their solutions. This can include commercially available products like furniture and lighting but they need not limit themselves to these. Design and Technology allows students to import skills from a number of other subjects including: English, Science, Mathematics, History, Geography and Art.

Students will be enthused and challenged by the range of practical activities as the course seeks to build upon the multimedia approach of the last two years. Students will also:

- Gain core knowledge and understanding of design and technology
- Develop and use a range of transferable skills, including technical skills, art and design and product construction
- Develop an awareness and understanding of environmental issues and sustainable development
- Apply their knowledge and understanding of design and technology by using evaluation and problem-solving skills
- Develop as effective and independent learners.

Assessment

Exam - Component 1

Written exam; externally assessed

1 hour 45 minutes

50% of qualification - 100 marks

NEA Component 2

Non examined assessment; - internally assessed and externally moderated

50% of qualification - 100 marks

GCSE Drama

Potential Careers

Careers and industries it will allow you to access can include:

Actor

Director

Playwright

Stage Manager

Light/Sound/Set Designer

TV/Theatre Producer

Broadcaster

Arts administrator

Drama Therapist

Journalist

Youth worker

Barrister

Teacher

Events Organiser

Technician

Public Relations

About the Course

This is a fantastic course that explores the world of theatre both practically and academically. You will be able to explore your creativity and develop not only Drama specific skills, but ones that you will need whatever post 16 options or career choice you make.

Component 1 – Devising.

You will work as part of a group to create your own piece of Drama. You will write a 2000 word portfolio about the devising process and the final piece you produced.

Component 2 - Performance from text.

You will perform two different sections of a published play in front of a visiting examiner.

Component 3 - Theatre makers in practice.

You will study the play An Inspector Calls and answer questions as an actor, director and designer. You will also go to the theatre and write about a play you have watched.

Please remember, you WILL have to perform in front of a variety of different audiences including the rest of your drama class, other year groups and parents/carers/friends/family. You will also take part in the Christmas Showcase. Your performances will be videoed and you will not always get to pick who you work with. If you love being creative, challenging yourself and performing, this is the course for you!

Assessment

Component 1

A recording of your performance and your written portfolio

Internally assessed

Component 2

Two live performances

A visiting examiner will watch and mark both performances

Externally assessed

Component 3

Written Examination

1 hour 45 minutes

BTEC Health & Social Care

Potential Careers

- Nursing
- Police
- Paramedics
- Care Assistants
- Primary Teachers

About the Course

This course is a real vocational introduction into the world of Health and Social Care and will suit students who want to work in the care sector.

Pupils will study all aspects of human development from birth through to later adulthood. The course focuses on the physical, intellectual, social and emotional development of individuals and how the environment can have an impact on their development.

Assessment

Unit 1
Engineering Design
Internal Examination

Unit 2
Health and Social Care
Services and Values
Internal Assessment

Unit 3
Health and Wellbeing
External Assessment

BTEC Hospitality and Catering

Potential Careers

This course would be suitable for someone wanting to go into a career as a:

Nutritionist

Food Technologist

Chef

Caterer

Events Manager.

About the Course

This course will appeal to students who have an interest in food. Hospitality and catering is a truly international industry providing countless employment opportunities at home and abroad; it is one of the biggest growth areas of work in the country. It employs over 2.4 million people and turns over £90 billion.

Students study a wide range of the key concepts in hospitality and catering through both theoretical and practical means. Year 10 will begin to build practical skills that will enable them to be ready to cook a range of menus. Students will have a vast understanding of the importance of nutrition when planning menus: how to plan a menu, food preparation and cooking techniques. In order to understand this fully, students will gain knowledge of the environment and provision where hospitality and catering providers operate. Students will acquire the following skills:

- Essential practical skills in food preparation
- Food safety when storing, preparing and cooking food
- Designing an exciting menu that meets the needs of the client
- Serving food in an attractive manner.

The students will study how hospitality and catering meets health and safety requirements and can cause ill health. Students will have the opportunity to create their own menu, cook and serve the food they create. There will be opportunities for students to work with and learn from outside agencies in both the theoretical and practical aspect of the course.

Assessment

Unit 1

The Hospitality & Catering Industry

External Examination

Unit 2

Hospitality & Catering in Action

Internal Examination

CNAT SPORTS STUDIES

Potential Careers

Exercise physiologist
Fitness centre manager
Personal trainer
Primary school teacher
Secondary school teacher
Sports administrator
Sports coach
Sports development officer
Sports therapist

About the Course

The Cambridge Nationals in Sports Studies take a more sector-based focus, whilst also encompassing some core sport/Physical Education themes. Students have the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge about different types of sport and physical activity, skills development and sports leadership to their own practical performance. They will learn about contemporary issues in sport such as funding, participation, ethics and role models & sports in the media. Students will develop an appreciation of the importance of sport locally and nationally, different ways of being involved in sport and how this shapes the sports industry.

Assessment

Unit 1: Contemporary Issues in Sport

40% of the course
Written Exam

Unit 2: Performance and Leadership in Sport

40% of the course
Practical and Written Coursework Assignment

Unit 3: Sport and the Media

20% of the course
Written Coursework Assignment

GCSE Photography

Potential Careers

Photography could lead to academic or vocational degrees relating to:

Art careers	Textiles Design
Photographer	Advertising
Graphic Design	Publishing
Theatre Design	Interior Design
Animation	Fashion Design
Video Game Designer	Retail Design
Museum Curator	Exhibition Design,
Fashion Design & Media Journalism	Artist
Architecture	Video/Film Maker
Product Design	Teaching

About the Course

This course allows students to communicate visually through the versatile and creative medium of photography. This is a digital photography course and there will be a strong emphasis on the formal elements of picture making. Pattern, shape and colour will be explored as well as light, movement and composition. Students will be taught the mechanics of how a camera works and focus on the skills that make an interesting photograph as opposed to a snapshot. They will learn the how to use the manual settings of the camera for shoots taken in a variety of conditions and situations.

We have a number of Canon DSLR cameras for use in lessons. Although it would be useful to own a DSLR camera, it is not essential. Homework shoots can be taken on a phone/camera as long as students have a way of uploading to the school system. Adobe Photoshop skills are taught as a tool enabling students to alter their pictures or create new images. Students will study the different genres of photography and get inspiration from traditional as well as contemporary photographers.

This course would suit any student who enjoys taking photographs and wants to learn the creative possibilities when using the medium of 'light'. The coursework earns marks over the entire course resulting in a final grade. Students will use sketchpads and workbooks to demonstrate all practical learning, ideas development and critical analysis.

You will develop skills in creative and practical problem solving, develop ideas through research, practical application, analysis and critique and gain better organisation. These transferable skills gained through study of Photography are, in general, of wide applicability.

Assessment

Component 1 Portfolio

Students will be assessed on 2 coursework projects. Students will create a body of work in response to a theme demonstrating their knowledge of materials, techniques and artists. The coursework portfolio amounts to 60% of the overall grade.

Component 2

Externally set assignment
The exam project is the final 40% of the GCSE grade and culminates in a 10 hour practical exam.

GCSE Religious Studies

Potential Careers

Journalism

Education

Law

Civil Service

Counselling

Police Officer

Doctor/Vet

Youth Worker

Chaplain

Community Development

Travel and Tourism

...the above list is only a few of the countless options available to you!

About the Course

Why study religious studies?

In today's ever-changing world, it has never been more important to gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture.

It is important to note that you do not have to be religious to choose Religious Studies at GCSE! The course is designed for you to skilfully challenge and question people's beliefs, values, attitudes, and practices whilst giving you the opportunity to reflect on your own opinions and ideas.

The course will help you develop analytical and critical thinking skills and the ability to work with abstract ideas and research skills. These are all vital transferable skills which will be extremely useful for your work in other subjects.

GCSE Religious Studies is a popular course which has consistently achieved some of the best results in the country. Many students go onto study Philosophy and Ethics at A-level.

Course Details

You will study religious, philosophical, and ethical issues in the modern world. This will involve exploring important, current issues such as same-sex relationships, abortion, climate change, the death penalty, human rights and many more! You will also study two world religions in depth: Christianity and Judaism.

Assessment

External Examination
Paper 1
Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Issues
in the Modern World
(2 hours)

External Examination
Paper 2
Christianity
1 hour

External Examination
Paper 3
Judaism
1 hour