

The Frances Bardsley Academy for Girls



Key Stage 4 Options Booklet 2022-24

For students currently in Year 9



A Guide to Key Stage 4 Courses 2022 - 2024

This booklet is intended as a guide for both parents and students. The next two years of your education are very important and therefore the choices that you make need to be informed and appropriate. In Years 10 and 11 you will be preparing for, and sitting examinations, and completing coursework (controlled assessment) which will have a huge influence on your future career paths. We aim to give you as much advice and guidance as possible so that we can support you in making these important decisions.

In this booklet you will find:

- General information about school work at Key Stage 4, the types of courses available and advice about making the right choices
- Subject information in the form of course outlines
- A screenshot of the options form

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A Guide to Key Stage 4

At FBA, students start their GCSE courses and other Level 2 qualifications in Year 10. This allows them to study the full range of subjects for as long as possible at Key Stage 3 and gives them time to mature and consider their future plans before having to make options choices. The Key Stage 3 curriculum has been carefully planned so that it provides secure foundations for success in Key Stage 4.

All students in Year 10 and 11 follow a core curriculum which is combined with a range of options that provide a wide variety of courses with different qualifications to suit different students' needs; all of the students will study GCSE courses for all or most of their choices.

The design of the Key Stage 4 curriculum purposely aims to provide students with:

- Progression routes from Key Stage 4 towards the Sixth Form and beyond
- Flexibility in the choice of courses giving opportunities for specialisation and encouraging breadth of study
- Opportunities for all students to achieve
- Continued opportunity for guidance and support
- A wide range of learning and experience of the aesthetic and creative, human and social, linguistic and literary, mathematical, moral, physical, scientific, and technological.

Information about Examinations

Students entering Year 10 in September 2022 will study Level 2 courses which lead to the General Certificate of Education (GCSE) or the equivalent after 2 years.

| New grading structure | Current grading structure |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 9 | |
| 8 | A* |
| 7 | A |
| 6 | B |
| 5 | C |
| 4 | C |
| 3 | D |
| 2 | E |
| 1 | F |
| 1 | G |
| U | U |

The Grading System

GCSEs are awarded on a grade scale which runs from 9 (the highest grade) to 1 (the lowest grade). The grading system is designed so that there are comparable points at key grades. The bottom of a grade 7 is comparable to the bottom of the old grade A, the bottom of a new grade 4 is comparable to the bottom of the old grade C, and the bottom of the new grade 1 is comparable to the bottom of the old grade G.

Grade 4 is known as a Standard Pass and a Grade 5 or above is a Strong Pass.

Science Grades – Students will study combined science (Trilogy) or separate GCSEs– biology, chemistry and physics (Triple Science)

Combined science is two GCSEs rolled into one qualification. Students will study biology, chemistry and physics but they won't cover as much content as those students sitting separate sciences (Triple Science). Combined science students will get an award consisting of two equal or adjacent grades from 9 to 1 (e.g. 9-9, 9-8, 8-8 through to 1-1), and it will count as two GCSEs when students apply for jobs, sixth form, or to university.

The GCSE qualification is intended both to record the achievement of students leaving full time education at 16+ and to provide the groundwork for Advanced Level and Vocational studies in the Sixth Form. In the GCSE examinations a **grade 4 is Standard pass** and a **Grade 5 and above is a Strong pass**; grades 9 – 1 (A* - G) represent a continuum of achievement.

Linear Courses/ End-of-course examinations

For the reformed GCSEs, all external examinations will have to be taken at the end of the course. Students will no longer be able to sit or re-sit individual modules, although they will be able to re-sit the full GCSE.

Controlled Assessment/ Coursework

The vast majority of courses are designed to assess students through formal examinations and the amount of coursework/ controlled assessment is limited to only a few subjects. Please look carefully at the subject pages to see which subjects still assess through practical work and coursework

Spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)

In nearly all GCSE subjects, marks will be awarded for accurate spelling, punctuation and use of grammar in external GCSE examinations

English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

What is the EBacc?

The English Baccalaureate is a measure of students' performance where students have secured a 4+ grade or better across a core of academic subjects – English, Mathematics, History or Geography, the Sciences (including Computer Science) and a Language.

Why was the English Baccalaureate introduced?

- The number of non-academic qualifications taken up to age 16 had risen.
- To ensure students have the opportunity to study academic subjects which carry real weight for entry to higher education or for getting a job.
- There was a decline in the opportunity to take some core subjects, such as Modern Foreign Languages, History and Geography at Key Stage 4.
- To bring about greater fairness of opportunity so that all students have the chance to study the subjects included in the English Baccalaureate.

All students following the Frances pathway will study the full range of subjects required for the EBacc. Students following the Bardsley pathway have the option to study the full range of EBacc subjects. We recommend that students following the Bardsley pathway consider opting for subjects to achieve the EBacc.

Raising the Participation Age (RPA)

It is now the law that all young people are required to continue in education or training until their 18th birthday. Young people will need to continue to study or train in one of several ways:

- Study full-time in a school, college or with a training provider e.g. FBA Sixth Form
- Full-time work or volunteering combined with part-time education or training.
- An Apprenticeship (www.apprenticeships.org.uk).

Curriculum Information for Students and Parents

When your daughter starts Key Stage 4 in September 2022, she will begin a programme of study leading to GCSE and other examinations in the summer of 2024. The Government is encouraging everyone not to think of Key Stage 4 in isolation but to take a broader view of education from the ages of 14 – 19 and beyond.

The Key Stage 4 curriculum has a **compulsory core** which takes up the majority of the teaching time and an element of choice, as to which additional or option subjects your daughter may study.

The options subjects, PE and the creative subjects are taught in mixed ability groups across the year group.

The timetable is structured so that students are taught in sets for:

- Maths
- English
- Science

The sets for subjects are determined by the heads of department in conjunction with the senior leadership team. Significant discussion and analysis will take place before sets are assigned and these may change over the course of the two years depending on student progress and attainment.

The following factors are considered during the setting process:

1. Performance in internal assessments
2. Progress Reviews, reports and attitude to learning
3. GCSE predictions from Fischer Family Trust
4. GCSE predictions from other data

The final setting decisions will be made by the school

Curriculum Structure in Year 10 and 11

| Years 10 and 11 curriculum F band sets 1-5 | | B Band sets 6-9 | |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Core GCSE subjects | Hours per Fortnight | Core GCSE subjects | Hours per Fortnight |
| English | 8 | English | 9 |
| Mathematics | 8 | Mathematics | 9 |
| Science | 8 | Science | 10 |
| RS | 3 | RS | 3 |
| PE | 3 | PE | 4 |
| Language | 5 | | |
| Options | Hours per Fortnight | Options | Hours per Fortnight |
| Geography or History | 5 | Geography or History | 5 |
| Free Option 1 | 5 | Free Option 1 | 5 |
| Free Option 2 | 5 | Free Option 2 | 5 |
| Total Hours | 50 | | 50 |
| Total GCSEs | 10 | | 9 |

Stage 1 – Option Booklet

Read through this booklet carefully and ask teachers about the courses so that you have a good idea of what you would like to study at Key Stage 4 and beyond: Key Stage 5 (6th form), University and employment.

Stage 2 – Online Option Evening

Attend the Option Presentation (Tuesday 18th January 2022) with your parents and look carefully at the subject information on the school website. This will help you to consider which subjects you will choose from the options available to you.

Stage 3 - Choosing your option subjects

- **Do** read this booklet carefully.
- **Do** talk through your options with your parents/carers
- **Do** choose subjects that you enjoy, that you are good at and that you may need for your future career or educational ambitions.
- **Do** think carefully about the amount of coursework/controlled assessment you will have to do for the subjects you choose.
- **Do** ask for the views of those who know you best.
- **Do** talk to teachers about your strongest subjects.
- **Do** get advice and information on your current career ideas from the web and staff in school
- **Do** remember your career ideas may change later; keep your options open.
- **Do** consider that some options depend on proven past ability in the given subject and a known commitment to extra-curricular involvement in that discipline; e.g. PE and Music.

- **Do not** choose a subject just because you like the teacher – you have no guarantee as to who the teacher will be for any particular group.
- **Do not** choose a subject because you want to be with your friends – the chances are you will be in a different group.
- **Do not** choose a subject just because you have never done it before. Ask about it, find out about it and make an informed choice about the subject. You will not be allowed to choose all new subjects.
- **Do not** assume that all examinations in each subject are the same; some will include controlled assessments.

We strongly advise that you discuss your choices with your parents and your teachers. Read through the booklet carefully before making decisions. Whatever you choose, you will need to work extremely hard in the next two years. You must learn to organise your time well and complete all coursework assignments and homework on time. We have every faith in you and know that with the support of the school and your parents you will be most successful. Please make the most of all of the opportunities on offer to you.

Filling out the Option Form

The Frances Bardsley Academy Year 9 Option Form 2022



Name: _____ Form: _____ Set: _____

Indicate your option choices by filling in the relevant boxes for the Pathway(s).

- Students in 9F1 and 9B1 – fill out the **Frances Pathway** only
- Students in 9F4 and 9B5 – fill out the **Bardsley Pathway** only
- Students in 9F2, 9F3 and 9B2, 9B3, 9B4 – fill out **both Pathways**

Pathways are allocated based on academic achievement and will be decided upon using assessment data and teacher assessment of other work

Frances Pathway

Core
English Language and Literature; French or Spanish; Mathematics; Double Science; RS; Core PE

and

Geography or History

Bardsley Pathway

Core
English Language and Literature; Mathematics; Double Science; RS; Core PE

and

Geography or History

Options

i) Choose 3 subjects in order of preference 1-3
One choice must be either **Geography or History**

ii) Choose two reserves R1 & R2

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Fine Art | |
| Art Photography | |
| Business Studies | |
| Child Development | |
| Computer Science | |
| Design Technology (Graphics) | |
| Drama | |
| Food Preparation & Nutrition | |
| Geography | |
| Health & Social Care (BTEC) | |
| History | |
| Information Technology | |
| Media Studies | |
| Music | |
| PE | |
| Statistics | |
| Triple Science | |

Options

i) Choose 3 subjects in order of preference 1-3
One choice must be either **Geography or History** or either **French or Spanish**.
Some students will do **ASDAN Certificate in Life Skills** (by invitation only)

ii) Choose two reserves R1 & R2

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| ASDAN Certificate in Life Skills | |
| Fine Art | |
| Art Photography | |
| Business Studies | |
| Child Development | |
| Computer Science | |
| Design Technology (Graphics) | |
| Drama | |
| Food Preparation & Nutrition | |
| French | |
| Geography | |
| Health & Social Care (BTEC) | |
| History | |
| Information Technology | |
| Media Studies | |
| Music | |
| PE | |
| Spanish | |

Signature: _____ (Student)

I have checked and approved my daughter's option choices for Key Stage 4

Signature: _____ (Parent/ Guardian) Date: _____

Please return this form to Mr Menlove, via your form tutor, by Friday 11th March 2022

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Students in 9F1 and 9B1 fill out the Frances pathway only, students in 8F4 and 9B5 fill out the Bardsley pathway only, students in all other sets fill out both pathways:

- 1) Choose 3 subjects in order of preference 1-3, one must be either History or Geography.
- 2) Select two reserve subjects (R1 & R2)

There are some alternative courses which are offered at the school which may be suited to students with specific learning needs e.g. ASDAN. Contact will be made with you if these are an option for your daughter.

Allocation of Subjects

We endeavour to ensure students get to study their preferred subject choices; however, this is not always possible because:

- Low numbers of students opting for a subject
- Scheduling on the timetable

If a student does not get their choices, then they will be allocated one of the reserve choices. If there is a circumstance when the reserve choices cannot be allocated, then a senior member of staff will meet with the students to discuss the alternative options. Once students have embarked on their programme of study in Year 10, it is not normally possible for changes to be made to the subjects chosen.

ASDAN Personal and Social Development Certificate: for some students, studying a modern foreign language, Geography or History is not appropriate. If you need extra support in your lessons and need to develop your basic skills to succeed in your Key Stage 4 studies, the ASDAN Certificate will be very beneficial for you. We will speak to students who we feel may benefit from this option.

Students cannot opt for Fine Art and Photography

Intervention and Student Support

During Key Stage 4, there are a range of support opportunities that are provided for students as part of both the daily timetable and outside of lesson time. Heads of Department will identify students that require support and will schedule sessions which the students have to attend.

English Language and English Literature



Former GCSE students, Rebekah Jabbar and Ellen Dennis said:

“We enjoy the creative nature of English and that there is often more than one answer to a question.”

Subject Title: English Language and English Literature

Qualification: GCSE

Examination Board: AQA

What will I study?

- A range of modern and pre-1914 texts
- Non-fiction articles
- Spoken Language (formerly Speaking & Listening)
- Poetry
- Novels
- Plays
- How to write for a range of audience and purposes.

What skills will I develop?

- The ability to express ideas clearly
- The ability to write accurately with sound, spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Reading and meaning
- Writing for an audience and purpose
- Analysis of writers' craft
- The ability to place texts within context
- Empathy and understanding of cultural and historical conditions
- The ability to express ideas clearly in front of an audience.

How will I be assessed?

The course leads to two separate GCSE qualifications in English Language and in English Literature. All students will follow the AQA examination board courses. There are no longer tiers of entry for English, so all students follow the same course regardless of ability level.

Both courses will be assessed through 100% examination at the end of the course. There are two final examinations for English Language and two for English Literature. In addition, there is a compulsory Spoken Language assessment unit, which is not an examination, but which is recorded on your GCSE certificate for English Language. Students will complete practice examination pieces throughout the course in order to monitor their progress.

Suitable for:

English Language and English Literature are compulsory subjects and are suitable for all students.

Why should I study English Language and English Literature?

English Language permeates the school curriculum, developing students' communication, reading and writing skills. English Literature enables students to learn valuable analytical, essay writing and interpretative skills.

A good grade in English and the ability to communicate clearly will ensure you are able to compete for jobs and/or go on to further study. English is an essential qualification both in academic study and in the workplace.

The Government now requires students to achieve a 'good pass' at GCSE for English. Students who do not achieve this have to re-sit in Year 12 or at college, so it is well worth studying hard to achieve the Government's required expectations.

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Miss R Smyth, Head of English

Mathematics



| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Subject Title: Mathematics Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: EDEXCEL (Higher tier) AQA (Foundation tier)</p> | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">What will I study?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number 2. Algebra 3. Ratio, Proportion & Rates of Change 4. Geometry & Measures 5. Statistics 6. Probability <p>The examination will incorporate more “functional maths” which looks at mathematics in real life situations and asks students to explain their thinking.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">What skills will I develop?</p> <p>The aim of the course is to allow students to develop the skills so they can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use and apply mathematics to solve problems and answer questions. • Use number and algebra to solve and model real life situations. • Explore different areas of shape and space and measurement. • Use handling data skills to investigate different hypotheses and theories. |
| <p>How will I be assessed?</p> <p>The examination consists of 2 calculator and 1 non-calculator paper and there is no coursework, or controlled assessments.</p> <p>The GCSE has of two tiers of entry, Higher which covers grades 9 to 4 and Foundation which covers grades 5 to 1. You will study the tier most appropriate to your ability. If you want to study A-level Mathematics you will need to follow the higher tier course.</p> | |
| <p>Suitable for:</p> <p>Mathematics is a compulsory option and is suitable for all students.</p> | <p>Why should I study Mathematics?</p> <p>Mathematics develops your logical thinking and problem-solving skills making it a vital subject for any career you wish to follow and you will need it to enter most courses after 16. It is particularly useful for careers in science, engineering, business, finance and computing.</p> |
| <p>If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?</p> <p>Mr B Howarth, Head of Mathematics or Mr Dalley, Key Stage 4 Coordinator for Mathematics</p> | |

Religious Studies

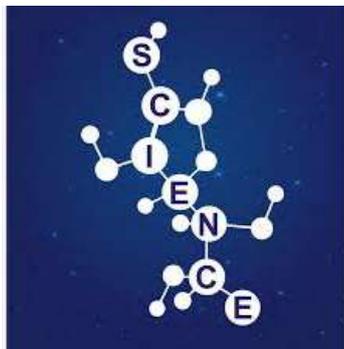


Current GCSE Student, Megan said:

I enjoy RS because you get to explore different views on religion and your own views on religion and rights. I find it very interesting to debate my opinions with others.

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Subject Title: Religious Studies B Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: EDEXCEL</p> | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">What will I study?</p> <p>GCSE Religious Studies focuses on two of the six major world religions; Christianity and Islam.</p> <p>For the Christianity and ethics unit students will study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Christian beliefs - Living the Christian life - Marriage and family life - Matters of life and death <p>For the Islam and Philosophy unit students will study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Muslim beliefs - Living the Muslim life - Peace and conflict - Crime and punishment | <p style="text-align: center;">What skills will I develop?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and debate • Valuable skills of logical argument and critical evaluation • Empathy • Literacy • Awareness of moral issues in the wider world |
| <p>How will I be assessed?</p> <p>Two exams; one for each unit lasting 1hour 45minutes. There is no coursework option.</p> | |
| <p>Suitable for:</p> <p>All students will study Religious Studies as it encourages the development of their sense of identity and belonging and it enables them to flourish individually within their communities and as citizens in a diverse society and global community.</p> | <p>Why should I study Religious Studies?</p> <p>To help you explore the significance and impact of beliefs, teachings, sources, practices and forms of expressing meaning. It will also help you to reflect on and develop your own values, opinions and attitudes in light of your learning.</p> |
| <p>If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?</p> <p>Mrs G McGrath, Head of Religious Studies</p> | |

Science



Former GCSE student Lucy Houliston-Bourne said:
 Science is so important in our everyday life, learning about our environment and how to protect it, coupled with using science to explain the things around us is both important and interesting. I think that studying science to a high level will open doors when I am considering future careers.

The type of Science course you will study will depend upon several factors which include your ability and progress in Science over the past years.

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Subject Title: Science Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: AQA | | |
| What will I study? All Science courses will cover the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology • Chemistry • Physics | What skills will I develop? During Science lessons you will be expected and encouraged to: Practical work and investigative skills Report writing Handling complex equipment ICT | |
| Examination Title GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy 2 x GCSE | Assessment Six 1 hour 15 minutes examinations each worth 16.7% Biology 1, Biology 2 Chemistry 1, Chemistry 2 Physics 1, Physics 2 | Duration of the course 2 Years (Years 10 & 11) |
| GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics 3 x GCSE (Triple Science) | Six 1 hour 45 minutes examinations each worth 50% Biology 1(50%), Biology 2(50%), Chemistry 1(50%), Chemistry 2(50%), Physics 1(50%), Physics 2(50%). | 2 Years (Years 10 & 11) |
| Suitable for: Science (Trilogy) is a core subject and will be studied by all students. <p style="text-align: center;">Remember :</p> If you wish to follow a career in science or science based A levels then opting for Triple Science, giving you three separate GCSE science qualifications, is the best pathway for you to follow. | Why should I study Science? Science qualifications are a valuable asset when deciding upon your future career opportunities. Success in science will ensure a great start in many professions including medicine, pharmacy, teaching, research, beauty therapy, dentistry, hairdressing, flying, personnel work, veterinary science, nursing.....the list really is endless. | |
| If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak? | | |
| Mr A Sullivan – Head of Science Mrs A Thrower - Head of Chemistry Mr D Kiff – Lead Practitioner (Science) | Miss C Gaskin – Head of Biology Miss N Pullen – Head of Physics | |

Art & Design: Photography



Former GCSE student Connie said 'I love doing the Photography course: it is really interesting – I saw pictures by other people and I thought I want to be able to take pictures like that and now I can.'

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| <p>Subject Title: Art & Design: Photography Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: EDEXCEL</p> | |
| <p>What will I study?</p> | <p>What skills will I develop?</p> |
| <p>You will study photographic techniques and learn about <u>creative aspects</u> of the medium. You will have to draw, make notes and keep a sketchbook of ideas to prepare each photoshoot. You will become confident in making decisions and speaking about your work. You will learn key skills that will support you in your personal thematic projects undertaken in Year 11</p> <p>You will be expected to have a smartphone and access to a range of photographic apps.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital camera skills and Photography techniques • Black and White darkroom printing • Mobile photography skills and techniques • Analysing artists and photographers • Developing ideas • Presentation and composition skills • Time management and organisation • Working independently and working to deadlines. |
| <p>How will I be assessed?</p> | |
| <p>Unit 1: Personal Portfolio in Art & Design (Photography) – Internally set and marked; assessed through controlled assessment (worth 60% of the qualification)</p> <p>Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment in Art & Design (Photography) – Externally set theme and internally marked (worth 40% of the qualification)</p> <p>Each unit is assessed separately out of 80 marks. You will be assessed using the 4 assessment objectives: <i>develop ideas, review/experiment, record, present.</i></p> | |
| <p>Art & Design Photography is the right subject if you enjoy:</p> | <p>Why should I study Photography?</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being creative, enthusiastic and imaginative • Developing your visual language skills • Visits to galleries, museums, workshops and studios • Experimenting and taking risks with your work. | <p>The Visual Arts and Photography Department is strongly committed to offering an innovative approach to making work through courses that involve both traditional and experimental exploration of material and concepts. The three courses we offer will provide you with key employability skills such as creativity, IT knowledge, communication, cultural awareness and problem solving. These are skills useful for a wide range of employment or your 6th form options. It is an excellent option that provides balance with core subjects.</p> |
| <p>If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?</p> | |
| <p>Miss B Lynch</p> | |

Art & Design: Fine Art



Former GCSE student Nancy said
 'I chose Art because I enjoy it, it is stimulating and it is very different from the other subjects. It is fun and in no other subject can you express yourself as an individual'

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Subject Title: Art & Design: Fine Art Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: EDEXCEL | |
| What will I study? | What skills will I develop? |
| <p>The GCSE covers a range of activities and in-depth assignments. You will have the opportunity to experiment with different media in order to explore your strengths and preferences. The main aim of the course is to develop your visual language skills and for you to build a comprehensive portfolio of work to progress to further courses or employment.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing, painting, printmaking, textiles and Photoshop skills • Creative thinking • Communication • How to make critical analysis • How to develop and idea • Presentation and composition skills • Time management and organisation |
| How will I be assessed? | |
| <p>Unit 1: Personal Portfolio in Art & Design – Internally set and marked; assessed through controlled assessment (worth 60% of the qualification)</p> <p>Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment in Art & Design – Externally set theme and internally marked (worth 40% of the qualification)</p> <p>Each unit is assessed separately out of 80 marks. You will assessed using the 4 assessment objectives: <i>develop ideas, review/experiment, record, present.</i></p> | |
| <p>Art is the right subject if you enjoy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing your visual skills ✓ • Being creative, enthusiastic and imaginative ✓ • Visits to galleries, museums, workshops and studios ✓ • Experimenting and taking risks with your work ✓ <p>....then our GCSE Art and Design course is the ideal subject for you.</p> | <p>Why should I study Art?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes creative thinking • Develops problem solving skills • Promotes divergent thinking • Develops critical/analytical thinking • Outlet for self-expression • Increases self-awareness • Promotes cultural awareness • Develops appreciation for other cultures <p>Coursework teaches you self-discipline See more at: http://www.studentartguide.com/articles/reasons-to-study-art#sthash.2og6hwBc.dpuf</p> |
| If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak? | |
| Miss B Lynch | |

ASDAN Personal and Social Development



ASDAN

Subject Title: Communications Programme
Qualification: ASDAN Personal and Social Development
Examination Board: ASDAN

What will I study?

- Healthy Living
- Parenting Awareness
- Managing Social Relationships
- Using Technology in the home and community
- Managing Money
- Environmental Awareness
- Leisure Time

What skills will I develop?

- Create a Portfolio of Coursework
- Independent Study Skills
- Independent Research Skills
- Communication Skills

How will I be assessed?

At the end of unit of work internal moderation takes place to ensure all criteria is met and a portfolio is completed for external moderation at the end of the two year programme.

Suitable for:

Students are identified and invited to join this pathway by Head of Learning Support.

Why should I study ASDAN?

There are opportunities for learners to achieve personal and social development through their achievements, thereby enhancing self-confidence, ambition and contribution to their communities.

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Mrs D O'Shaughnessy

Business Studies



Current GCSE Students on why they choose business:

*I'd like to be a business manager one day, or start my own business

* Want to learn a new subject that I haven't studied before

* I find the subject interesting and love learning about how a business works

Subject Title: Business Studies

Qualification: GCSE

Examination Board: Currently: WJEC/EDUQAS. Possible transfer to OCR

What will I study?

1. Business Activity
2. Influences on Business
3. Business Operations
4. Finance
5. Marketing
6. Human Resources

You will be developing your ability to complete business calculations and use these calculations to assess the financial performance of a business.

What skills will I develop?

- Independent learning skills
- Critical thinking and reflectiveness
- A critical approach to distinguish facts from opinions and to build arguments and make informed judgements
- Research skills
- Communication skills
- Problem Solving
- Information and Communication Technology
- Group work and collaboration

How will I be assessed?

This course is 100% examination. There will be 2 examinations at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1 – Business Dynamics – 100 Marks (2 Hours)

Paper 2 – Business Considerations – 60 Marks (1.5 Hours)

Suitable for:

Anyone with a general interest in business structures, ethics, the economy, finance, marketing, human resources and management will enjoy the course.

Why should I study Business Studies?

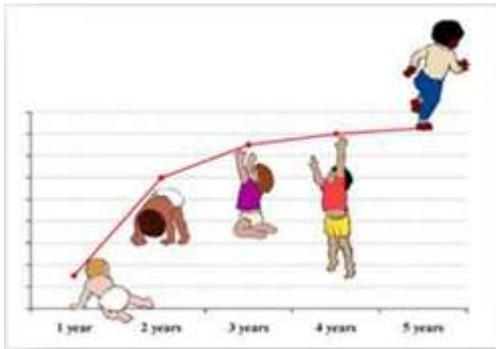
Studying Business Studies should encourage students to:

- Be inspired, moved and changed by following a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study and gain an insight into related sectors;
- Make informed decisions about learning opportunities and career choices.

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Mrs P Chukwuma – Head of Business Studies

Cambridge National Certificate in Child Development



A current student on this course said:

I chose Child Development because I hope to learn about different stages children go through. It is important because you need to understand children especially if you want to work with children as a career.

Subject Title: Cambridge National Certificate in Child Development

Qualification: Level 1/2 Certificate (equivalent to GCSE)

Examination Board: OCR

What will I study?

- Family and Parenting
- Preparation for pregnancy and birth
- Physical development
- Nutrition and Health
- Intellectual, social and emotional development
- Community support

What skills will I develop?

- Use of different resources
- Researching a variety of topics
- Planning and carrying out practical / investigative tasks
- Working safely
- Evaluating and analysing evidence
- Decision making

How will I be assessed?

There are 3 mandatory topics

- 1) Health and Well-being for Child Development - **Written examination 50%**
- 2) Understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years - **project task 25%**
- 3) Understand the developmental norms of a child from birth to five years - **project task 25%**

Suitable for:

Students who have access to at least one child aged 5 or under, who can be visited on a regular basis in order to meet project task 3 requirements.

A real interest in the lives of children from birth to 5 years.

Students who enjoy coursework and those with a good standard of English in their KS3 studies.

Why should I study Business Studies?

- To develop your knowledge and understanding of how children develop through considering their needs and wellbeing.
- To equip students with life skills to become effective parents or carers.
- Provide a sound foundation if you wish to pursue a career working with young children.
- This qualification is recognised as a progression to A levels, Further Education or on to an apprenticeship or work.
- This qualification is complemented by a wide range of GCSEs including Biology, Sociology, Psychology, Maths and English.

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Mrs T Haylock – Head of Technology

Computer Science



A current student on this course said
 "I find Computer Science very interesting. The world is becoming more technical and the skills I gain will be useful in the future. I thought this is a very good subject to take as there are many job opportunities that require computer skills"

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| Subject Title: Computer Science Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: OCR | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">What will I study?</p> <p>You will explore how computers work and learn computer programming skills. The course will cover the following topics:</p> <p>Computer Systems You will learn about memory, storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, protocols and layers, system security, system software, ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns.</p> <p>Computational thinking, algorithms and programming This unit will cover algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic, translators and facilities of programming languages and how data is represented on a computer</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">What skills will I develop?</p> <p>You will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop skills to work collaboratively • Learn technical knowledge and skills to create computer programs • Think creatively and logically • Develop problem solving skills • Critically evaluate effectiveness of computer programs |
| <p style="text-align: center;">How will I be assessed?</p> <p>The course is spilt into three main components:</p> <p>Computer Systems (50%) 1 ½ hour written examination</p> <p>Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (50%) 1 ½ hour written examination</p> | |
| <p>Suitable for:</p> <p>Students who enjoy Mathematics and if you are able to think and develop ideas in a logical manner.</p> <p>If you enjoyed Scratch or Python programming in previous years you might find Computer Science is for you.</p> | <p>Why should I study Computer Science?</p> <p>This course will provide excellent progression to further studies in the areas of computing, engineering and science; it will open up a lot of possibilities for you. Computer Science is an EBacc subject so the course is highly recognised by colleges and universities.</p> <p>You do not have to want to go on to be a computer scientist to do this course. The skills you learn will be of enormous benefit in lots of your other subjects.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?</p> <p>Mr Guchu, Ms Naqavi, Ms Terrelonge or Mr Javed</p> | |

Design and Technology



Subject Title: Design & Technology – Designing our tomorrow

Qualification: GCSE

Examination Board: AQA

What will I study?

- Materials and components
- Industrial/Commercial processes
- Analysing products
- Designing products
- Technology
- Sustainability
- Ethical design and manufacture
- Critique/evaluation

What skills will I develop?

- Thinking creatively
- Solving problems
- Designing products for the future
- Making these products using a range of tools and equipment
- Testing your ideas.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 – Non Examined Assessment (NEA) 50%

Unit 2 – Knowledge and Understanding - written exam paper worth 50%

Suitable for:

Anyone with a real interest in developing their creativity, designing and making new products using a variety of different materials.

Developing knowledge of materials and manufacturing working towards the written examination.

Suitable for those with a keen interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

If you are interested in a career in the arts, interior design, journalism, fashion, media, architecture or engineering then this GCSE course will help you pursue this idea further.

Why should I study Design & Technology – Graphic Products?

This new, exciting GCSE will encourage you to think creatively, to innovate and prepare you to become critical and creative designers.

Engineers and consumers of the future.

It is fun, it is creative and it is hugely relevant to today's world. Every product you see has been designed and made by someone!

If you are interested in a career in the arts, interior design, journalism, fashion, media, architecture or engineering then this GCSE course will help you pursue this idea further.

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Mrs Hughes or Mrs Haylock

Drama



Former GCSE student Katie Nurden said: "For me, it is the one subject where you can openly express yourself. All the topics seem interesting and enjoyable. The teachers know how you work best and give you the time to progress further and achieve the best that you can."

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| Subject Title: Drama Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: OCR | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">What will I study?</p> <p>Devising Drama: Create your own devised performance based on a chosen stimulus from the exam board stimulus paper. In addition to the performance, you will be marked on an accompanying portfolio with evidence of the process and decisions made whilst creating and developing their performance.</p> <p>Presenting and Performing Texts: Take part in a live performance. You will perform in two performances from one text and will be required to produce an accompanying document which outlines your intentions for and approach to the performance.</p> <p>Written Examination: You will study one performance text in detail. You will be assessed on your knowledge and understanding of how drama is developed and performed. You will also be required to analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance you have seen using accurate subject-specific terminology.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">What skills will I develop?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication skills – You will learn to articulate your thoughts and feeling verbally and practically. • Team skills – You will listen and cooperate with others to overcome problems. Some people may also develop vital leaderships skills needed for future careers. • Performance skills – You will build your confidence and learn how to perform to an audience using a range of techniques and styles of performance. • Devising skills – You will explore ways of creating original pieces of drama. • Analytical and essay writing skills – Although Drama is seen as a practical subject the course requires you to analyse a text, theme and live theatre production in written form. To reach the higher marks you will need to analyse your own work and the work of others paying attention to your quality of written communication. |
| <p style="text-align: center;">How will I be assessed?</p> <p>There are three ways that you are assessed in Drama these are: Practical performance skills – you will be assessed by your teacher on the quality of your performance responses to a range of stimuli and play texts. Quality of written communication – over the two years, your written responses will be marked on your ability to analyse and evaluate as well as your spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p> <p>External Written Examination (as above)</p> | |
| <p>Suitable for:</p> <p>Students who enjoy performing and are open minded. Students who achieve the highest marks in this subject are hardworking, committed and focused. Students must be aware that confidence as well as a good level of English is essential to achieving well in this subject.</p> | <p>Why should I study Drama?</p> <p>Drama is a practical, fun and academic subject. It may prepare you for many different career paths where communication and presentation skills are key. Drama may also help you in other curriculum areas such as English.</p> |
| <p>If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?</p> <p>Miss Mond – Head of Drama</p> | |

Food Preparation and Nutrition



Subject Title: Food Preparation and Nutrition

Qualification: GCSE

Examination Board: WJEC/EDUQAS

What will I study?

- Food commodities
- Principles of nutrition
- Diet and good health
- The science of food
- Where food comes from
- Cooking and food preparation.

What skills will I develop?

- How to prepare and cook a variety of different foods
- To carry out effective and safe cooking using a range of equipment
- Understand the different properties of food
- How to nutritionally analyse foods
- How to make informed choices
- How to research and analyse
- To be able to critically evaluate
- Develop recipes and meals to meet specific needs.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition – written examination (1hr & 45mins) 50%

Unit 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action which is divided into **two** assessment tasks includes a 3 hour practical -50%

Food Preparation and Nutrition is suitable for you if you enjoy:

- Cooking and learning about foods.
- Practical tasks where you can work independently to produce coursework tasks.
- Finding out about traditional food and international cuisine

Why should I study Food Preparation and Nutrition?

To equip you with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages you to cook, enables you to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows you to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed yourselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life. It allows you to study at A level, Further Education or enter an apprenticeship or work.

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Mrs Haylock – Head of Technology

French



Subject Title: French
Qualification: GCSE
Examination Board: AQA

What will I study?

Students will be required to understand and use language across a range of contexts. They will be expected to use language for a variety of purposes and with a variety of different audiences. Students will be expected to understand different types of spoken and written language. They will learn how to translate short texts from English to French. They will study literacy texts and learn about the culture and identity of countries where French is spoken.

Themes:

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

What skills will I develop?

GCSE French helps students develop their language skills in a variety of contexts and a broad understanding of the culture of countries and communities where the language is spoken. It encourages enjoyment of language learning and the recognition that language skills enable students to take their place in a multi-lingual global society.

The emphasis will be on the practical use of the language and teacher will use the foreign language as much as possible in lessons. Studying at Key Stage 4 offer the opportunity to work with a Foreign Language Assistant in small groups in order to enhance your oral skills

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will take place at the end of Year 11 in the four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing). The weighting for the four skills will be 25% each.

Suitable for:

This GCSE course offers something for everyone, and is aimed at anyone with an interest in the French language and culture.

You need to have studied French in KS3 in order to take this option.

Why should I study French?

In addition to being a valued qualification in itself, GCSE can lead to A Level, which opens up possibilities at degree level and careers in Journalism, International Business, Law, the Civil Service, Leisure and Tourism, Teaching, Translating, Marketing and PR, Media and many more.

There are many good reasons for studying a language; for example, in your future career, where even at a basic level you might be asked to respond to letters or emails from abroad, make calls or liaise with foreign visitors. Alternatively, you may wish to study French to make future holidays more enjoyable!

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Madame A Lakhan – Head of MFL

Spanish



Subject Title: Spanish
Qualification: GCSE
Examination Board: AQA

What will I study?

Students will be required to understand and use language across a range of contexts. They will be expected to use language for a variety of purposes and with a variety of different audiences. Students will be expected to understand different types of spoken and written language. They will learn how to translate short texts from English to Spanish. They will study literacy texts and learn about the culture and identity of countries where Spanish is spoken.

Themes:

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

What skills will I develop?

GCSE Spanish helps students develop their language skills in a variety of contexts and a broad understanding of the culture of countries and communities where the language is spoken. It encourages enjoyment of language learning and the recognition that language skills enable students to take their place in a multi-lingual global society.

The emphasis will be on the practical use of the language and teacher will use the foreign language as much as possible in lessons.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will take place at the end of Year 11 in the four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing). The weighting for the four skills will be 25% each.

Suitable for:

This GCSE course offers something for everyone, and is aimed at anyone with an interest in the Spanish language and culture.

You need to have studied Spanish in KS3 in order to take this option.

Why should I study Spanish?

In addition to being a valued qualification in itself, GCSE can lead to A Level, which opens up possibilities at degree level and careers in Journalism, International Business, Law, the Civil Service, Leisure and Tourism, Teaching, Translating, Marketing and PR, Media and many more.

There are many good reasons for studying a language; for example, in your future career, where even at a basic level you might be asked to respond to letters or emails from abroad, make calls or liaise with foreign visitors. Alternatively, you may wish to study Spanish to make future holidays more enjoyable!

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Madame A Lakhan – Head of MFL



Geography

Former GCSE student Jade Lemon said 'I chose GCSE Geography because I have interest in the world we live in and the various opportunities it provides for me in the future.'

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| <p>Subject Title: Geography Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: AQA</p> | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">What will I study?</p> <p>1. <u>Living with the Physical Environment:</u> Three topics: The challenge of natural hazards (tectonics, tropical cyclones and climate change), The living world (ecosystems, tropical rainforests and either hot deserts or cold environments), physical landscapes in the UK (upland and lowland landscapes and two from the following three; river landscapes, coastal landscapes or glacial landscapes).</p> <p>2. <u>Challenges in the Human Landscape:</u> Three topics: Urban issues and challenges, The changing economic world and the challenge of resource management (resource management and one from the following; food, water or energy).</p> <p>3. <u>Geographical Applications:</u> Two topics: Issue evaluation and Fieldwork. Issue Evaluation: A pre-release resource booklet will be available 12 weeks before the date of the exam so that the students have the opportunity to work through the resources, enabling them to become familiar with the material. Students will not be allowed to take the original resource booklet into the examination room but will be issued with a clear copy in the exam.</p> <p>Fieldwork: A trip to Snowdonia National Park to conduct fieldwork. Students will be asked to reflect on their fieldwork experiences and apply them to questions in the examination.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">What skills will I develop?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical skills; atlas and map skills. Graphical skills, data and information research skills and investigative skills. • Think analytically and solve problems. • Develop confidence in using ICT especially GIS systems such as Google Earth • Team work – fieldwork develops teamwork and leadership skills • Communication skills: literacy and language skills; a wide range of intellectual, practical and social skills – just the combination that many employers are looking for. • Numeracy skills including; cartographic, graphical, numerical and statistical skills • Spatial awareness and a sense of place |
| <p>How will I be assessed?</p> <p>Students will study three components all of which will be assessed by examination at the end of Year 11</p> <p>Unit 1 – Living with the Physical Environment 1½ hour examination Unit 2 - Challenges in the Human Landscape 1½ hour examination Unit 3 - Geographical Applications 1 hour and 15 minutes examination</p> <p>The examination papers provide gradual progression in demand throughout the topics – multiple choice, short open, open responses and extended writing questions. There is consistent use of 12 command words so students know what to expect.</p> | |
| <p>Suitable for: All students with an interest in Geography who are curious and fascinated about the world and its people, resources, natural and human environments.</p> <p>Geography provides students with a growing knowledge about the world and helps them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the frameworks and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.</p> <p>In a time of such major global change, Geography has become even more important and helps us to make sense of the world.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Why should I study Geography?</p> <p>Geography combines well with many subjects that can lead to a wide range of careers including advertising, medicine, conservation, law, finance, civil service, teaching, disaster management, town planning and many more.</p> <p>Geography students are in high demand from employers because they gain a wide range of skills and knowledge, developed through the stimulating use of contemporary issues and real-world examples. Also, the subject is highly valued by universities; Geography is part of the English Baccalaureate (EBacc).</p> <p><i>'Employers rarely need narrow specialists. They need bright committed, inquisitive and determined individuals with the ability to draw on what is happening elsewhere in the world. The best Geographers are stars in this request.'</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">David Rhind (Chief Executive - Ordnance Survey)</p> |
| <p>If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak? Miss Wren</p> | |

Health and Social Care



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| <p>Subject Title: Health and Social Care Qualification: BTEC Tech Award Level 2 Examination Board: Pearson</p> | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">What will I study?</p> <p>Learners must complete and pass all 3 core units:</p> <p>Component 1 - Human Lifespan Development: Internal assessment of assignment brief with deadline. This will consist of 2 written assessments and will account for 30% of the final grade.</p> <p>Component 2 - Health and Social Care Services and Values: Internal assessment of assignment brief with deadline. This will consist of 2 written assessments and will account for 30% of the final.</p> <p>Component 3 - Health and Wellbeing: External assessment under timed conditions. This will consist of a 2 hour synoptic external examination and will account for 40% of the final grade.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">What skills will I develop?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills and processes, such as interpreting data to assess an individual's health and designing a plan to improve the individual's health and wellbeing. • Attitudes and care values that are vitally important in the sector, and the opportunity to practise applying them. • Knowledge that underpins the effective use of skills, processes and attitudes, including human growth and development, health and social care services and factors affecting peoples' health and wellbeing. |
| <p>How will I be assessed?</p> <p>Students will be assessed through a mixture of internal and external assessments. Students will be awarded a Level 1 Pass, Merit or Distinction, or Level 2 Pass, Merit or Distinction for each component and will achieve an overall Level 1 or Level 2 qualification.</p> | |
| <p>Suitable for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BTEC Tech Award provides students with the background knowledge and skills needed to work within the health and social care sector. • The BTEC course at Level 2 is a good stepping-stone for students wishing to pursue this area post-16. | <p>Why should I study Health and Social Care?</p> <p>It is particularly relevant to students considering entry into the caring professions. For example, education, social work, medical (i.e. nursing, midwifery) and affiliated careers, counselling, etc.</p> |
| <p>If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?</p> <p>Miss C Harris – Head of Health and Social Care</p> | |

History



Current student "I think GCSE History is really interesting. I have learnt a lot about different events in the past. We learn in many different ways and go into superb detail."

Subject Title: History

Qualification: GCSE

Examination Board: OCR B (Schools History Project)

What will I study?

Students will study the following five examination topics:

Topic 1: The People's Health, c.1250 to present

This topic will be 20% of the total GCSE

Topic 2: The Elizabethans, 1580–1603

This topic will be 20% of the total GCSE

Topics 1 & 2 will be examined in a one 1 hour 45-minute examination.

Topic 3: The Making of America, 1789–1900

This topic will be 20% of the total GCSE

Topic 4: Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945

This topic will be 20% of the total GCSE

Topics 3 & 4 will be examined in a one 1 hour 45-minute examination.

Topic 5: History Around Us

A study of a local historic environment. This topic will be 20% of the total GCSE and will be examined in a one-hour examination.

What skills will I develop?

- How to evaluate and interpret the past.
- The ability to describe, analyse and explain the past through the written and spoken word.
- The ability to communicate ideas clearly, supporting your points with clear evidence.
- The use of research skills and independent learning through ICT.
- Thinking skills, using evidence to form a reasoned judgement.
- The ability to understand and use critically a range of source material.
- The ability to see things from different perspectives and points of view.

How will I be assessed?

History GCSE will be assessed in three written examinations taken at the end of the course in Year 11. There will not be any coursework.

Suitable for:

History GCSE is for anyone who enjoys learning about the past.

History is an academic subject which requires students to learn large amounts of new knowledge. The examinations require students to apply this knowledge and write detailed responses.

Why should I study History?

'History is the story of who we are and how we've got to be there. So it is fundamentally important to our sense of ourselves.' Dr Suzannah Lipscomb

History is a very popular and successful subject at Frances Bardsley Academy. Students make very good progress and enjoy learning about the past.

The study of History teaches many transferable skills that are highly valued by further education establishments and employers. It is also one of the subjects in the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). If you are successful at History, the subject will help you to enter virtually any career of your choice.

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Mr G Hall - Head of History

Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies



Current student said:

“ICT is the future and I don’t want to be left behind. It’s important to learn skills that are needed in the modern world we live in.”

Subject Title: Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies

Qualification: Level 1/2 Certificate (equivalent to GCSE)

Examination Board: OCR

What will I study?

This qualification will teach you what different technologies could be used, why you should use them and how to make best use of them to gather, store, manipulate and present data. You will learn about tools and techniques for use in different digital hardware and software technologies, and how these can be combined to create digital solutions to manage and communicate data and information. You will also be taught what data and information are and the legal, ethical and moral factors when using technology to gather, store and present data and information, and how to reduce the risks of cyber-attacks. You will also learn to follow a project life cycle to plan, create and evaluate an IT solution.

What skills will I develop?

You will develop a range of practical skills in IT such as:

- Using different hardware and software applications
- Project management, a transferable skill which can be applied in monitoring future projects in work or continued study.
- Gain confidence to use a range of information technology that is currently available.
- Awareness of the importance of legal, moral, ethical and security factors when using technology.

How will I be assessed?

The course is split into two main components:
R050: IT in the digital world (40%)
 Written Exam - Set by OCR and marked by OCR
R060: Developing spreadsheet solutions (30%)
R070: Using AR to present information (30%)
 Both R060 and R070 are assessed by a Set Assignments, marked by your teacher and moderated by OCR (Approximately 20 hours)

Suitable for:

Students who wish to develop knowledge and highly-marketable practical skills in using information technologies.

Students who want to progress onto other related study, such as qualifications in IT or progression into employment through Apprenticeships in areas such as Digital Marketer or Business Administrator.

Why should I study Information Technology?

Good use of Information Technology is an essential part of any successful business. It enables creative and collaborative working, solving of problems and use of the best techniques and technologies to communicate meaningful information. The skills, knowledge and understanding you will develop through this qualification are very relevant to both work and further study.

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Mr Guchu, Ms Naqavi, Ms Terrelonge or Mr Javed

Media Studies



'I enjoy Media because we learn more about our society through the ways in which is represented, such as hidden messages and meanings. I enjoy analysing a range of media texts and studying them in detail'.
 'I enjoy being able to design posters and promoting my ideas for a new film'.
 'It's a creative subject and very engaging, interactive, and fun'.

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| Subject Title: Media Studies Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: EDUQAS | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">What will I study?</p> <p>GCSE Media Studies is an exciting subject that will allow you to develop an understanding of key media concepts, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The analysis of media texts • Analysing how media texts construct representations and whether these conform to or challenge stereotypes • Considering how TV and film make use of media language, such as cinematography, and editing to create effect and meaning • Looking at why audiences consume certain media texts and the pleasures they gain from these • Understanding how genres are recognisable to audiences. <p>Media Studies will make you think about modern media issues and will raise many fascinating questions, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What messages do newspapers put across to their readers? How truthful are the stories? • How is the internet used to promote and sell music? What is the impact of social media? • How are Hollywood movies shot and edited? • Should we trust adverts? • How are audiences now becoming media producers? | <p style="text-align: center;">What skills will I develop?</p> <p>During the GCSE Media Studies course, you will develop a variety of skills including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to think and work independently as well as part of a group • The ability to analyse both still and moving image media texts • The ability to plan, film, edit and, evaluate your own media product • The ability to use editing software, including IMovie and Photoshop • Producing print based media, including film posters and magazines <p style="text-align: center;">What are the key concepts?</p> <p>You study the key media concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media language • Media representation • Media industries • Media audiences • Media theory/ theorists • Contexts <p>Which forms do we study?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio-visual forms (TV, film, radio) • Online forms (video games, music videos) • Print forms (magazines, advertising) |
| <p style="text-align: center;">How will I be assessed?</p> <p>You will be assessed through one marked piece of work every sixth lesson; all work is assessed using success criteria developed within lessons. At the end of each term, you will sit an exam-style assessment in preparation for the final examinations. This qualification is linear: you will sit all your examinations and submit your non-exam assessment at the end of the course. Component One, Exploring the Media, will assess your understanding of the key concepts in a variety of products, both set products and from your own independent research, across a range of industries; Component Two, Understanding Media Forms and Products, will assess your understanding of the key concepts through the study of set texts from the television and music industry. You will also complete an NEA (non-exam assessment), in which you will apply your knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework. You will develop your practical skills in relation to the media format of your choice.</p> | |
| <p>Suitable for:</p> <p>If you have an interest in the media, and you are an enthusiastic and independent learner, and would like to develop valuable analytical and practical skills, choose GCSE Media Studies. This is a very exciting, popular, and successful subject that can lead to interesting further study courses and careers, and one that will also allow you to develop your own creative skills.</p> | <p>Why should I study Media Studies?</p> <p>Media Studies is an interesting and exciting subject and one that will allow you to develop and demonstrate your own technical and creative skills. The knowledge and skills that will be developed through the study of Media Studies are increasingly important within UK and global economy. The creative industries are a growing sector of employment in the UK.</p> |
| <p>If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?</p> <p>Miss C Venis – Head of Media Studies- FO3/ FO6</p> | |

Music



Subject Title: Music
Qualification: GCSE
Examination Board: EDEXCEL

What will I study?

Performing (30%) - You are required to perform as a soloist and as a member of a group. To ensure that you can achieve an appropriate grade, you will need to be learning an instrument or receiving singing lessons from a specialist teacher

Composing (30%) - By the end of Year 11, you will need to have composed two pieces, The first one is based on a brief given by Edexcel and the second one is a free choice. Throughout the course you will be taught how to compose in different styles, selecting your best work for submissions at the end of the course.

Appraising (40%) - You will be studying a selection of pieces of music from different genres. You will be given analytical notes and we will teach you how to understand about notations, traditions, textures, structures, harmony and devices. The exam will be based on the set works and music that you may not have heard before.

What skills will I develop?

- Solo performing
- Ensemble performing
- Group work
- Oratory and presentation skills
- Theoretical knowledge
- Essay writing
- Listening skills
- Composing in a range of musical styles
- Confidence and the ability to perform publically.

How will I be assessed?

- Solo and group performances which will make up 30% of the final grade
- Two compositions which make up 30% of the final grade.
- An examination lasting minutes testing you on your appraising skills.

Suitable for:

- Are you a committed singer or instrumentalist?
- How would you feel about writing your own songs or instrumental pieces?
- Would you enjoy finding out about music of contrasting genres from many different parts of the world? (Classical, pop, jazz and folk?)

If any of the above appeal to you, then Music may be a good choice for GCSE.

You do not need to be a brilliant musician to take this option, just enthusiastic with a willingness to listen and learn.

Why should I study Music?

- To learn transferable skills including working in groups, presenting to a class and writing essays
- To broaden your knowledge of musical styles including classical, pop jazz, world and 20th century music
- To develop your musical skills including performing, composing and use of Music Technology
- College tutors and employers like to see Music students as it shows how adept you are at working as a team / individual and good at problem solving.

If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?

Mr Riches – Head of Music

Physical Education



Current GCSE student Maddie Biggs said, I chose PE because....."I enjoy all aspects of PE and sport and this seemed like the next step".

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| <p>Subject Title: Physical Education Qualification: GCSE Examination Board: OCR</p> | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">What will I study?</p> <p>The theory component will consist of the following:</p> <p><u>Applied Anatomy and Physiology</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure and function of the skeletal/muscular system, movement analysis • The cardiovascular and respiratory system • Effects of exercise on body systems • Physical training, fitness components, principles of training and Injury prevention <p><u>Socio-Cultural Issues and Sport Psychology</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social groups and participation patterns • Commercialisation • Ethical and socio-cultural issues in sport • Sports psychology • Health, fitness and well-being | <p style="text-align: center;">What skills will I develop?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop theoretical knowledge to improve performance • Understand how physiology and psychology affects performance • Perform effectively in individual or team activities • Develop the ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance • Understand the contribution which physical activity and sport make to health, fitness and well-being • Understand key socio-cultural influences which can affect individual's involvement in sport |
| <p>How will I be assessed?</p> <p>Practical element will have a weighting of 40% and 60% for the Theory</p> <p>Practical coursework requires activities to be taught from at least three of the six categories: Games, Athletic activities, Gymnastic activities, Outdoor and adventurous activities, Dance and exercise and fitness. Students must put forward a game and one individual activity plus one other for final assessment.</p> <p>You may also be assessed in a sporting activity that you follow at a high standard outside school e.g. horse riding and skiing etc.</p> | |
| <p>Suitable for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students who are committed to extra-curricular PE clubs and take part regularly • Students who participate in a sport/sports outside of school to a good standard • Students who are interested in the study of sport, linking the theory to the practical • Students who have a good science background • Students who thrive in team situations | <p style="text-align: center;">Why should I study Physical Education?</p> <p>A qualification in PE will impress any employer because they are aware of the need for teamwork to be successful. You will become more confident in your own ability and will have a greater understanding of health, fitness and general well-being issues. Students who are looking to pursue careers in coaching, officiating, leadership, personal training, physiotherapy, medicine, sports science and media will find this qualification useful.</p> |
| <p>If I have any further questions about this course, to whom do I speak?</p> <p>Miss M Cambridge, Miss Macnab</p> | |

Core Physical Education

During Years 9, 10 and 11, you will participate in PE lessons. All lessons are offered as options ranging from aesthetic activities such as Aerobics, Pilates and Yoga to as variety of games such as Lacrosse, Tag Rugby and Netball. Health and Fitness are an integral part of the Physical Education programme.

Final Instructions

We hope that the information included in this booklet has been useful and helped guide the option choices that will be made. If you have any further enquiries please contact the following people:

- 1) General enquiries about options and individual interviews– Mr Menlove (Vice Principal)
- 2) Careers advice – Miss R Woods (Careers Advisor)
- 3) Individual subject enquiries – please contact the Head of Department

Timetable for Option Choices

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|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Information Booklet Distributed | Monday 17 th January |
| Year 9 Options online talk at 5.00pm and 6.00pm | Tuesday 18 th January |
| Individual Pathway Interviews on request and by appointment | From 7 th February |
| Year 9 Parents' Evening | Wednesday 9 th February |
| Option forms to be distributed to students | Monday 21 st February |
| Completed forms to be handed in to form tutors | Friday 11 th March |

Subjects, Examination Boards and Heads of Department

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|------------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| Art & Design and Photography | EDEXCEL | Miss B Lynch |
| Business Studies | | Mrs P Chukwuma |
| Cambridge National Certificate in Child Development | OCR | Mrs T Haylock |
| Communications Programme | ASDAN | Mrs D O'Shaughnessy |
| Computer Science | OCR | Mrs S Naqavi/Miss M Terrelonge |
| Design & Technology | AQA | Mrs T Haylock |
| Drama | OCR | Miss H Mond |
| English | AQA | Mrs R Smyth |
| English Literature | AQA | Mrs R Smyth |
| Food Preparation and Nutrition | Eduqas | Mrs T Haylock |
| Geography | AQA | Miss N Wren |
| BTEC First Health and Social Care | Pearson | Miss C Harris |
| History | OCR | Mr G Hall |
| Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies | OCR | Mrs Naqavi/Miss Terrelonge |
| Mathematics | Edexcel | Mr B Howarth or Mr R Dalley |
| Media Studies | Eduqas | Miss C Venis |
| Modern Languages: French or Spanish | AQA | Madame A Lakhan |
| Music | Edexcel | Mr T Riches |
| Physical Education | OCR | Ms M Cambridge |
| Religious Studies | Edexcel | Mrs G McGrath |
| Science | AQA | Mr A Sullivan |
| Statistics | Edexcel | Mrs B Swindale |