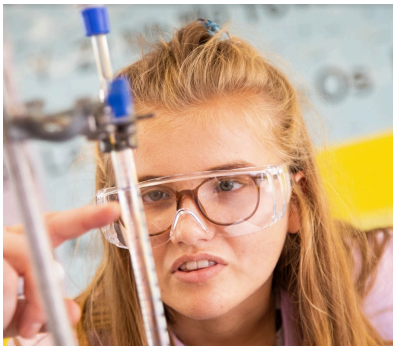


Wheatley Park School



GUIDED COURSE CHOICES CLASS of 2027



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GUIDED CHOICES INTRODUCTION

This booklet sets out the subjects that are on offer to you for study in Years 10 and 11. Please note that all students:

- Continue to study English and Maths, leading to GCSEs in these subjects:
 - GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature
 - GCSE Mathematics

Further information about these subjects is included in this booklet although no decisions need to be made about them.

- Will study either GCSE Combined Science (2 GCSEs) or GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics (3 GCSEs). Further details about the Science options can be found on pages 14 and 15.
- Continue to study PSHE education (Personal, Social, Health and Economic education) and Core PE.
- **Choose 4 subjects** to study, from those on offer, working towards GCSEs or alternative qualifications. This booklet outlines the courses and guides you through the options available for these courses.

Support available to help you make your choices

Choosing subjects to study for in the next stage of your education is a big decision. We will support you throughout the process and it is important you speak to someone if you have any questions. The following opportunities are available for you to get support making your choices:

- Find out more about the subjects on offer at the Guided Choices Evening on **Thursday January 30th**
- Talk to your teachers, particularly at the Year 9 Parents' Evening on **Thursday February 27th**, and to your form tutor about your guided choices
- You will be invited to a **1:1 meeting with a member of staff** in the next few weeks to help you make your choices. The time of this meeting is included in your pack. Please make a note of this time and ask to leave your lesson in order to arrive at the meeting 5 minutes before it is due to start.

These are important decisions that we will help you to make. Find out as much as you can and discuss your choices at home before you finally make up your mind. The school will guide you to make sure that you can make the best decisions for yourself and keep your options open in the future. We will do everything we can to meet your preferences but this cannot be guaranteed in every case and we will ask you to select a reserve option in case your first four choices are not possible.

You will need to complete the online [Guided Choices Form](#) with your final decision by **Tuesday March 11th 2025**.

INFORMATION TO CONSIDER WHEN MAKING YOUR CHOICES

1. Consider subjects you are interested in and/or feel you are successful in. These are subjects you are likely to be successful in during Years 10 and 11
2. Ensure you choose a **broad range of subjects** so that you can develop different skills. There are very few subjects at A Level that require a particular option subject at Key Stage 4 to be studied. The main exception to these are languages where, unless you are a native speaker, you will need specific knowledge and skills to have already been developed.
3. Information about each course can be found in this booklet and from your subject teachers.
4. All groups are subject to minimum and maximum class sizes and so, because of student numbers and staffing arrangements, it is possible that some courses may not run.
5. All students must choose **at least one EBacc subject from Geography, History, French, Mandarin or Spanish.**
6. Students may only choose at most one PE qualification (GCSE PE or Sport Science)
7. Students may only choose at most one of GCSE Art and GCSE Textiles

TASTER LESSONS

You do not currently study Business, Citizenship, Health and Social Care and Media Studies and Core PE lessons are very different to the GCSE PE and Sport Science courses. Therefore it could be tricky to choose one of these subjects with confidence. To support you with this decision we will run **taster lessons** for every student in each of these subjects to give you an idea of what studying it will be like.

These sessions are important for you to get a feel for what a typical lesson would be like in this subject. They are compulsory for all students, even if you think you already know what you want to choose, and it is important that everyone engages fully in these lessons.

The times of the taster lessons are included in your Guided Choices pack. **Please go to your normal lesson** at this time and your teacher will direct you.

KEY STAGE 4 QUALIFICATIONS

The majority of courses you follow will lead to a GCSE qualification. Some of the courses may lead to an alternative Level 1/2 qualification (see below). Assessment for each course is made up of a combination of examination (usually at the end of the course) and Non-Exam Assessment (NEA), similar to what used to be coursework. The exam board and breakdown of the type of assessment is included on each of the subject pages. Please do ask teachers any questions you have about this assessment.

GCSE grading changed a few years ago and now uses a numerical scale from 9 to 1. A grade 7 is equivalent to an old grade A and a grade 4 is equivalent to an old grade C.

Cambridge National qualifications

Health and Social Care and **Sport Science** are Cambridge National qualifications. These are equivalent to GCSEs although they use a different grading structure.

GCSE Grading

Old GCSE grades	New GCSE grades
A*	9
	8
A	7
B	6
	5
C	4
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	1
U	U

Cambridge National Grading

Cambridge National Grade	GCSE Equivalent
Level 2 Distinction*	8.5
Level 2 Distinction	7
Level 2 Merit	5.5
Level 2 Pass	4
Level 1 Distinction	3
Level 1 Merit	2
Level 1 Pass	1.25
Unclassified	U

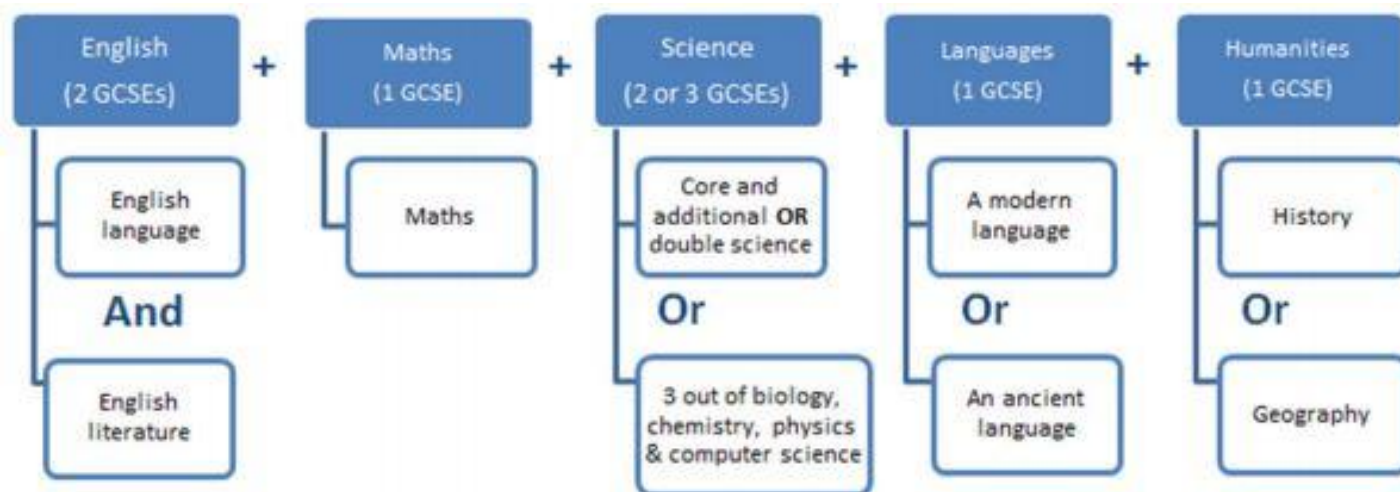
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can students change their choices during the courses?

We do not expect students to change subjects during the courses. There is limited flexibility with class sizes and any student transferring will have missed considerable learning and be significantly disadvantaged if they join a new subject.

What is the English Baccalaureate?

The English Baccalaureate was introduced in 2010. It is not a separate qualification but made up of a particular combination of GCSEs. It recognises where pupils have secured a grade 4/5 or better across a core of academic subjects :



All students are encouraged to consider choosing a language and either Geography or History in order to make them eligible for the English Baccalaureate.

What happens once I have made my choices?

Once the deadline has passed we will process all of the Guided Choices Forms and construct four blocks for the timetable with each student allocated to one subject in each block. We will endeavour to allocate students to their first four choices but this is not always possible and, where unavoidable, we will consider reserve choices. Please also ensure you enter your choices in order of preference as will prioritise using this order. After Easter we will contact students to let them know the subjects they have been allocated.

When will I start my Guided Choices courses?

We are planning to begin Guided Choices courses at the start of Term 6 of Year 9 to allow students to make a start on their GCSE courses before the summer. This will involve issuing new timetables to students at the end of Term 5 ready for the beginning of Term 6.

KEY STAGE 4 COURSE CHOICES

All students will study:

- GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Combined Science - 2 GCSEs (see pages 14-15 for more information)
- Core PE and PSHE Education

You will **choose to study four further subjects** from the lists below in order to complete your timetable.

You must choose:

- At least one subject (but up to four subjects) from the 'EBacc subjects' column
- Up to three subjects from the 'Other subjects' column
- A reserve subject from either column

EBacc subjects	Other subjects
<i>Choose at least one subject from:</i>	<i>Choose up to three subjects from:</i>
Geography	Art*
History	Business
	Citizenship
French	Computer Science
Mandarin	Design and Technology
Spanish	Drama
	Food and Nutrition
	Health and Social Care (Cambridge National)
	Media Studies
	Music
	PE**
	Religious Studies
	Sport Science** (Cambridge National)
	Textiles*
	Triple Science

* Students may only choose at most one of GCSE Art and GCSE Textiles.

** Students may only choose at most one PE qualification (GCSE PE or Sport Science).

All qualifications are GCSE qualifications unless otherwise stated (Cambridge Nationals).

PATHWAYS FOR PROGRESSION

When making your course choices you will be considering what you want to do at the end of Key Stage 4 and at the end of Key Stage 5. There are a range of choices available to you at the end of Year 11:

6th Form: A levels/BTECs

Currently, to gain entry to the Sixth Form at Wheatley Park and then study A Levels (or BTEC/AAQs in Applied Science or Health and Social Care) you need to achieve 8 GCSEs or equivalent qualifications, including grade 4s in English, Maths and at least 3 other subjects. Please talk to Mr West or any member of our Sixth Form team if you have any questions about the sixth form.

Further Education Colleges

Colleges such as the [City of Oxford College](#) and [Abingdon & Witney College](#) offer a range of academic and vocational courses as well as apprenticeships and T Levels.

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are offered by employers in a wide range of occupational areas.

You do not have to decide which of these routes is for you at this stage but it is worth being aware of where your choices may lead.

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE & GUIDANCE

Although at this stage it is important to focus on breadth and studying a good range of subjects, you may still wish to consult some of the information below to support your decision making. Please remember that being successful in your subjects is key and success is often linked to studying subjects that you enjoy and/or are currently making good progress in.

Students are currently studying careers ('Futures') in their PSHE lessons to further support them in their decision-making. It may be useful to look at which future careers are linked to different school subjects, for example by looking on the [Careerpilot](#) site. Further information on careers is available via our careers website with a dedicated page for Year 9 Guided Choices [here](#). The resources on this page include [BBC Bitesize](#) and [Icould.com](#).

Our careers adviser, Mrs Atkins, is available to provide support or advice about how your choices may link to career pathways. Mrs Atkins can be contacted at hatkins@wheatleypark.org.

MAKING YOUR CHOICES

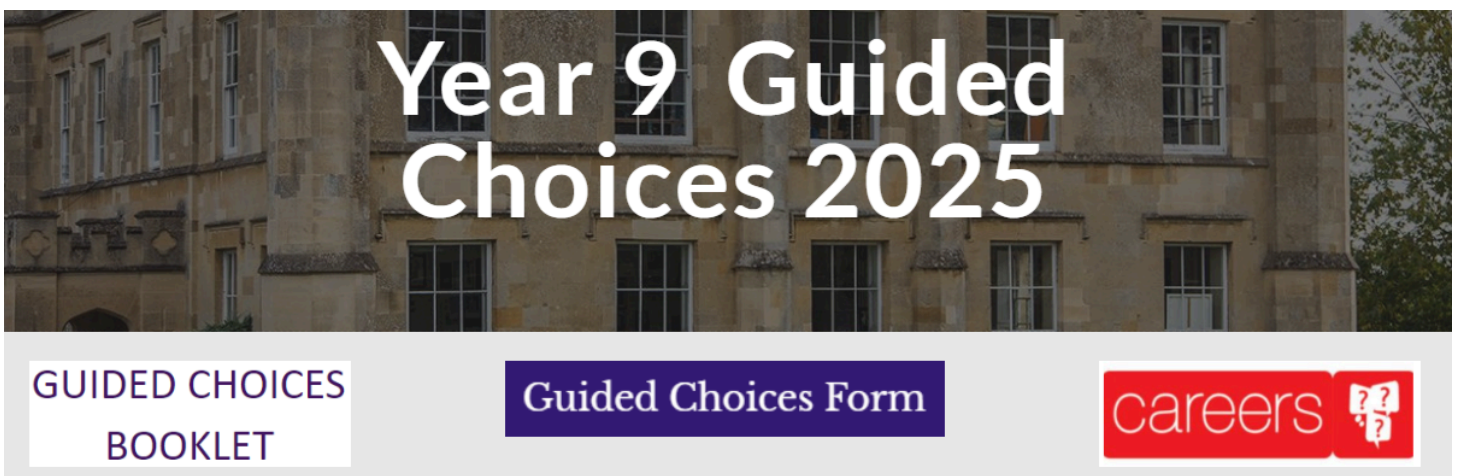
- Please use the form linked below to indicate your choices and submit this online by **11th March 2025**
- Use the drop down menus on the form to indicate which subjects you wish to study in Years 10 -11 in addition to English, Maths, Science, Core PE and Personal Development
- Ensure you enter subjects in order of preference as these will be taken into account when constructing option blocks and classes.
- Ensure you have chosen **at least one EBacc subject from Geography, History, French, Mandarin or Spanish**
- Ensure you have chosen **no more than one of PE and Sport Science**
- Ensure you have chosen **no more than one of Art and Textiles**
- Include a reserve choice at the end.
- After the deadline, all submissions will be reviewed and class allocations will be made. These will be confirmed during Term 5.

[Guided Choices Form](#)

GUIDED CHOICES SITE

All of the information regarding Guided Choices, including links to the form above, this booklet and the careers site can be found on the Guided Choices site, viewable via the student portal and the schools website (under Learning>Year 9 Guided Choices):

[Year 9 Guided Choices Site](#)



YEAR 9 GUIDED CHOICES

Subjects



ENGLISH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Ms K Wilcox	Assessment	100% Exam (+ Spoken Language endorsement)

What you will learn

In English Language, you will learn how you can become more successful in English, and happier in your personal life, by becoming a confident reader and writer. In English Language GCSE, we study:

- A range of challenging texts from the 19th to the 21st century, including speeches, advertisements, newspaper articles and stories
- How to make sure you can read effectively, ensuring that you understand, and can talk clearly about what you have read
- How to write your own creative pieces of fiction, persuasive speeches, articles and letters
- How to carefully craft what you write for different audiences
- Vocabulary and how to extend the range of words that you know



In English Literature, we study:

- Some of the best novels, plays and poems ever written in English:
 - An Inspector Calls by J B Priestley
 - Poems of Power and Conflicts by Wordsworth, Blake, Wilfred Owen, Carol Ann Duffy, John Agard and more
 - Strange Case of Dr Jekyll by Robert Louis Stevenson
 - Macbeth by William Shakespeare
- The very different contexts in which these texts were written
- How these writers use these stories to teach us about universal ideas
- How to craft our responses in mature, sophisticated writing



You will enjoy this subject if...

You want to make sure you have strong reading, writing and communication skills for the rest of your life.

What students say about this subject

"My teacher knows me really well and helps me to improve."

"English is my favourite subject!"

"I really like English lessons as the teachers know how to make me understand the books we are reading, even if they are difficult."



MATHEMATICS

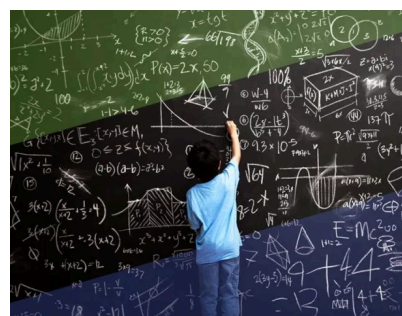
Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Mrs G Palmer	Assessment	100% Exam

What you will learn

You will undertake the AQA GCSE specification in Mathematics. The content is expansive, including the following areas of mathematics. You have already been learning the foundations of these topics in Key Stage 3.

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability
- Statistics
- Problem solving
- Mathematical reasoning and communication

This course will prepare you to negotiate the mathematical demands of future life and work in a range of contexts.



You will enjoy this subject if...

You enjoy problem solving

You like tackling problems and persevering

You enjoy studying patterns and working logically

Even if you haven't enjoyed it in the past, you will still enjoy the fresh start that new topics will bring at GCSE

What students say about this subject

"Maths will help my future."

"Maths is hard, but the teachers always find a way to make it easy to understand."

"My mistakes in Maths help me learn."

"I love it when I find something really hard to begin with and I work at it until I master it. I feel a real sense of achievement."

"Maths is so relevant to the real world in many ways I hadn't even thought of."



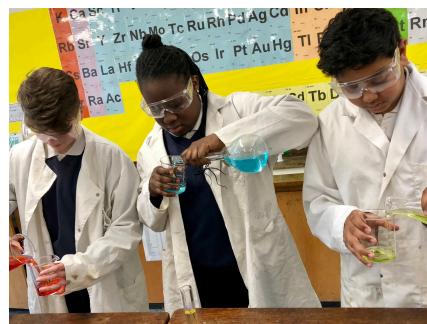
SCIENCE

Qualification Type	2 GCSEs or 3 GCSEs	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Ms H Dervey	Assessment	100% Exam

What you will learn

AQA provides each of our available qualifications for science: the combined science award and the separate science (triple) award. Students who pursue the **combined science pathway** will complete the course with **two GCSEs**.

Students who complete the **triple science pathway** will complete the course with **three GCSEs**, one in biology, chemistry and physics; often referred to as a triple science



Each of the AQA GCSE Science specifications covers a range of interesting and important topics in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Students will have lessons in all three of these subjects. Along with subject specific content, students will develop an understanding of the scientific method and core practical science skills.

All students will be taught in the topics outlined below:

Biology	B1 Cell biology, B2 Organisation, B3 Infection and response, B4 Bioenergetics, B5 Homeostasis and response, B6 Inheritance, variation and evolution, B7 Ecology
Chemistry	C1 Atomic structure and the Periodic table, C2 Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter, C3 Quantitative chemistry, C4 Chemical changes, C5 Energy changes, C6 The rate and extent of chemical change, C7 Organic chemistry, C8 Chemical analysis, C9 Chemistry of the atmosphere, C10 Using resources
Physics	P1 Energy, P2 Electricity, P3 Particle model of matter, P4 Atomic structure, P5 Forces, P6 Waves, P7 Magnetism and electromagnetism

Students who pursue **triple science** will also learn content in the following areas:

Biology	Monoclonal antibodies, Plant diseases and defences, Plant hormones, The brain & the eye, Cloning, Evolution, Food security, Role of biotechnology
Chemistry	Transition metals, Nanoparticles, Titrations, Cells, batteries and fuel cells, Alkenes & alcohols, Synthetic & naturally occurring polymers, Identification of ions, The Haber process, NPK fertilisers
Physics	Thermal insulators, Static electricity & electric fields, Pressure fluids & gases, Background radiation, Nuclear fission & fusion, Moments, levers & gears, Lenses, Black body radiation, The Generator effect, Space

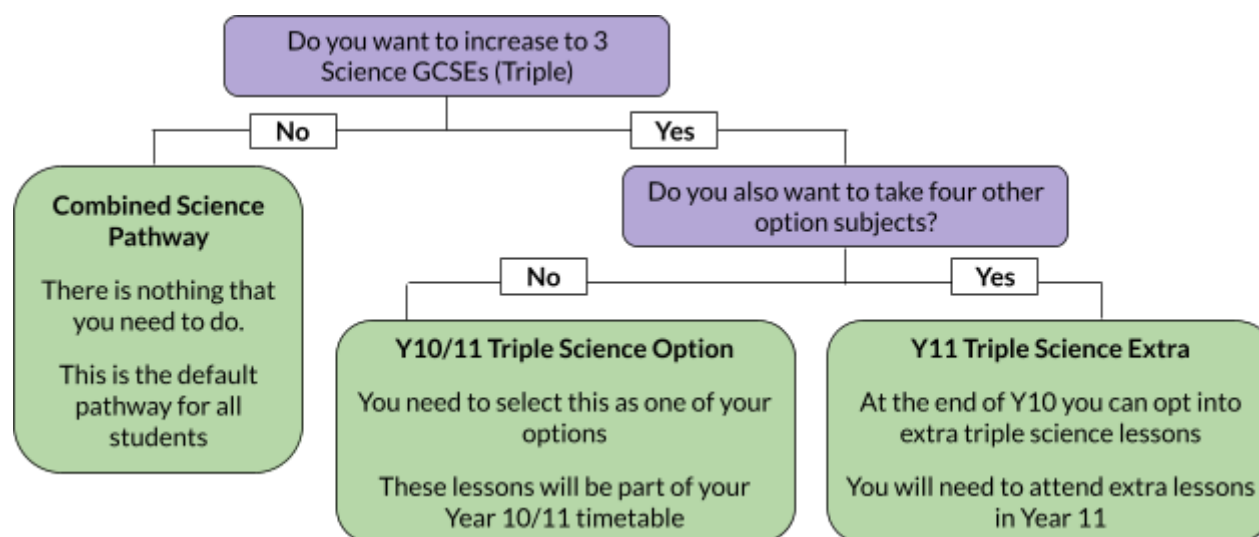


SCIENCE Pathways

Combined Science	2 GCSEs	Assessment	6 x 1h 15min exams
Triple Science	3 GCSEs: GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry, GCSE Physics	Assessment	6 x 1h 45min exams

Science pathways explained

By default, all students are enrolled onto the Combined Science (2 GCSE) pathway which will be studied through 10 lessons per fortnight across Years 10 and 11. There are two options for studying 3 Science GCSEs (Triple):



The Year 9 Triple Science option will teach the content over a two year period (Y10 and Y11)

The Year 11 Triple Science “opt in” will teach the content over an intensive one year course (only Y11)

You can take any science at A-level or BTEC if you pursue either the combined or triple science pathway

You will enjoy the **combined science** pathway if...

You are curious about the world around you, and how it functions and operates. If you do not want to be tricked by fake scientific news or pseudoscience claims. Also, if you wish to pursue one of the thousands of careers in the sciences or engineering such as a healthcare worker, pharmacist or zookeeper to name a few

You will enjoy one of the **triple** pathway if...

You enjoy science and want to learn additional content in this area!

What students say about this subject

“I really like Science, it’s hard at times but it's really rewarding when you finally understand a difficult concept or solve a challenging equation”



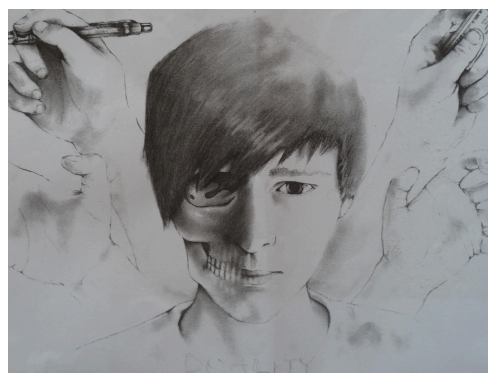
ART

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	Edexcel
Lead Teacher	Mr N Greenwood	Assessment	60% NEA 40% Externally Set Assignment

What you will learn

The course encourages you to:

- Express yourself as an individual, whilst developing practical skills in a lot of different art media.
- Develop the ability to work from observation by making a response to your environment, people and objects.
- Gain inspiration from looking at artists, designers and different art forms – including those from different cultures and times.
- Develop the ability to work imaginatively and from memory, to form your own ideas.
- Take risks and try out new ideas/methods of making art. This way you will enjoy art and rapidly gain confidence as an individual and as an artist.



Media and themes

Painting, drawing, printmaking, textiles, collage, installation, photography, ICT and 3D work in clay and other materials.

Some examples of themes are: Environment, Portraits, Still life, Structures and Surfaces.

You will enjoy this subject if..

You like being creative and using your imagination.

You enjoy drawing and using other art materials.

You have ideas to express and you find interpretation of the world around you rewarding.

What students say about this subject



"It gave us a good opportunity to look at art critically, especially on trips"

"I enjoyed developing confidence in lots of different media and techniques"

"I felt proud when my work was included in the summer art show"

"It gave me an interesting insight into preparing a portfolio for college"

"I realised how I could express myself as an individual"



BUSINESS

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Mr A Pitchfork	Assessment	100% Exam

What you will learn

There is a strong argument that in the future everyone will need to have had a business education. Whatever you do in your professional life, the chances are that it will involve some 'business'. Scientists, engineers, even artists, will inevitably have to understand at least the basics of business, and probably a lot more.

Business is not just a theory-based subject, it is about real life. It will help you to learn about businesses and the way they operate in today's society. You will gain skills which will be useful in a wide range of jobs, in the further study of Business and in your personal life.

You will study:

- Businesses in the real world
- Influences on business
- Business operations
- Finance
- Marketing
- Human resources

You will learn:

- How to analyse business problems and issues
- How to evaluate evidence and communicate your ideas clearly
- How to use business vocabulary
- To work on your own and as part of a team



You will enjoy this subject if...

- You are curious to see how different business contexts affect business decisions and how businesses try and make the right decisions
- You enjoy applying what you know to differing scenarios including real world events and 'What caused a business to be successful or fail?'
- You enjoy or are looking to improve your problem solving and decision making skills

What students say about this subject

"Business is very helpful in practical life. As we grow up we will all work in some type of business and it can be very beneficial for us to know about how things like mortgages and bank loans work."

"I love business, it is definitely one of my favourite lessons! I am so glad that I took business as an option, not only because of how much I enjoy it, but because I know that it will teach me valuable skills to use later in life."



CITIZENSHIP

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Mr D Caheny	Assessment	100% Exam

What you will learn

Citizenship studies investigates how the citizen is enabled by society to play a full and active part and how citizens are empowered to effect change within society. The theme of this course is **‘How citizens can try to make a difference’**.

You will study:

- What Human Rights are and how they are protected
- How the legal and criminal justice systems work
- The work of the UK within international organisations
- Identity and multicultural Britain
- Politics and political systems at a local, national level
- The role of the media
- How citizens can make their voices heard to make a change



You will learn:

- How to plan practical citizenship actions to benefit society
- How to create sustained and reasoned arguments and present various viewpoints
- How to recognise bias, critically evaluate arguments, weigh evidence and look for alternative interpretations and sources of evidence

Furthermore, 25% of the marks awarded for the GCSE focus on how citizens try to make a difference in society and 15% of the marks available focus on a **citizenship investigation** that students are required to undertake. You will investigate one of the following options:

- Reducing poverty by organising a collection for a local charity e.g. a food bank
- Climate action by promoting recycling, organising a litter picking initiative or working with the ‘Eco Group’
- Responsible consumption by conducting a project around the impact of fast fashion on the environment and how we, as a school community, could help highlight and respond to this issue

You will enjoy this subject if you are...

- Able to speak out and share your views
- Aware of current local and global issues
- Able to come up with lots of creative ideas
- Passionate about making change for the better
- Keen to work well with other students in groups

What students say about this subject

“You learn about events that are happening right now as well as how to vote, the systems in our government – things that will help you when you are an adult. “



COMPUTER SCIENCE

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Mr R Nixon	Assessment	100% Exam

What you will learn

Computer Science is the subject for you if you want to learn how, and make, computers work.

Computer Science helps you think about how technology is created. It allows you to understand how people work together with computers to develop world changing software.

- **Computational Thinking** - the process of thinking through a complex problem, taking the time to understand what the problem is and then develop potential solutions for evaluation. These are then presented in a way that a computer, a human, or both, can understand.
- **Theoretical content**- the fundamentals of data representation and computer networks. You will learn about the computer systems that you will create and use and delve into the world of cyber security, ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology.
- **Aspects of software development** - understand how to implement and test a design to make sure it works effectively and how to complete an overall evaluation to refine the end product.

Key Topics:

- Fundamentals of algorithms
- Computer programming
- Fundamentals of data representation
- Computer systems
- Fundamentals of computer networks
- Fundamentals of databases
- Fundamentals of cyber security
- Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of technology
- Software development



You will enjoy this subject if...

- You have an interest in computer programming
- You want to understand how the computer works
- You want to design and develop new computer systems
- You have an interest in cyber security
- You enjoy solving puzzles

What students say about this subject

"It includes such a variety of topics. Something for every person no matter what they're interested in!"

"Computing is a great choice. Dedicated staff and easy-to-use resources help you be successful!"

"Computing is a valuable option because the lessons are fun, and technology is the world's future!"

"I love computer science and always look forward to my next lesson! It is a subject that I feel will not only help me academically, but also with skills for later in life."



DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Ms E Roser	Assessment	50% NEA, 50% Exam

What you will learn

You will explore and develop a range of designing and making techniques. This will help to broaden your knowledge of the iterative design process as well as manufacturing techniques and build your confidence and skills with tools and equipment.

Throughout the course you will study and learn:

- About a range of different materials (timber based materials, metals, polymers and technical textiles) and their properties.
- About electronic and mechanical systems
- To consider sustainable design alongside social and moral issues during the design and making process.
- How different types of technology are used to design and manufacture products
- About new developments in sustainable materials.
- To select appropriate methods of production for their own outcomes and be able to identify and justify methods of commercial manufacture.



You will gain skills in:

- Materials selection.
- Construction techniques.
- Finishing techniques.
- Designing to meet a set brief.
- Selecting the most appropriate tools and materials for specific tasks.

You will enjoy this subject if...

- You like being creative and using your imagination.
- Have an interest in design.
- Are interested in commercial production.
- You enjoy Mathematics and Science

What students say about this subject

"Design and Technology helped me gain valuable skills for the future"

"Design and Technology helps me learn a range of construction methods with a wide range of materials"



DRAMA

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	OCR
Lead Teacher	Mr S Foster	Assessment	60% NEA, 40% Exam

What you will learn

Drama will help you learn communication and group work skills. These are skills for life whatever career path you choose, and it will also develop your acting, directing and technical theatre skills.

Drama is all about understanding what it is like to put yourself in somebody else's shoes and to explore ideas, situations and feelings through using specifically selected drama techniques.



You will learn about Drama practitioners: Stanislavski, Artaud, Brecht and Frantic Assembly and how their ideas work in performance. You will experiment with their ideas, which have been introduced in their basic form through Years 7-9, and put this into practice in your lessons. You will acquire a precise language for describing the performance and technical aspects of drama to help you to develop your devising and

script skills. We will begin to explore stimuli and, whilst working in groups you will create your own devised drama based on your exploration. You will also develop your confidence working with text; exploring and staging a variety of texts and performing them to a wider audience. You will be working on styles of writing: script, evaluation and creative log.

For your written exam, you will study a set text and watch a play which you will then analyse.

You will enjoy this subject if...

You want to develop as performers or designers; you will explore the technical aspects of theatre including designing sets / lights / sound / makeup and costume.

You intend to go on to work in any of the creative industries or where you will need some of the skills you have developed.

You want to improve your confidence.

What students say about this subject

"Great if you want to work on your team building skills, confidence and creativity."

"Good for working with people you wouldn't normally know."

"Gives you the freedom to explore what you want to do."

"I've become more confident as a person using Drama."

"I've got better at improvisation skills."

"Makes you more interested in theatre... you see how other people view plays."



FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Miss G Wardlaw	Assessment	50% NEA, 50% Exam

What you will learn

You will gain an understanding of how food impacts on the body and a range of practical cookery skills. You will study and learn:

- to prepare yourself and the environment for cooking
- the nutrition of food and its function within the body
- to modify recipes for health to achieve balanced diets
- to assess a diet and make recommendations for improvements
- to plan, produce and evaluate dishes for a set purpose
- to understand the science behind recipes
- to understand some of the environmental issues within food production

You will gain skills in:

- creating menus to meet briefs
- adapting recipes
- evaluating your own work
- using literacy, numeracy and ICT to support your learning
- planning, research, communication and problem-solving
- practical life skills



You will enjoy this subject if...

- you are a keen, enthusiastic, competent cook with good independence and time management
- you have an interest in working in the hospitality and catering field
- you have an interest in health and well-being
- you have an interest in food science
- you have a passion for food

What students say about this subject

'You get to learn about what's in your food, it's really interesting'

'You learn how to be more independent, and great life skills'

'You learn about the benefits of eating healthy, and the importance of all the different vitamins and minerals'

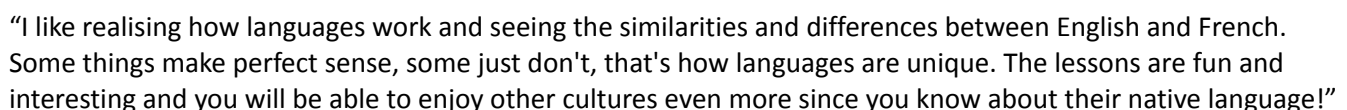
What you will learn

VINCENT CASSEL LEA SEYDOUX

LA BELLE ET LA BÊTE

CHRISTOPHE GOUZON

ANDRÉ DUSOLLIÈRE





GEOGRAPHY

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	Eduqas A
Lead Teacher	Miss F Hancock	Assessment	100% Exam

What you will learn

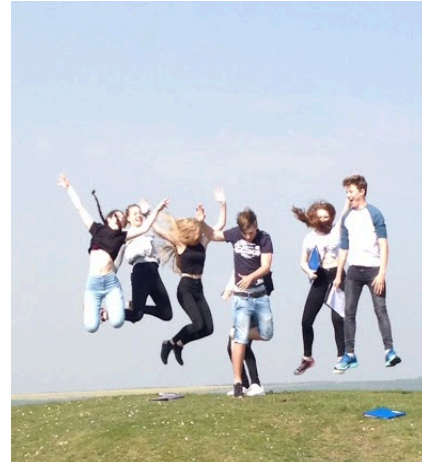
You will learn how the physical and human world interact and the consequences of this.

You will be able to conduct your own fieldwork investigation using Geographical equipment and strategies.

You will use various methods of presenting fieldwork data.

You will learn about: Rivers, Coasts, Tectonics (earthquakes and volcanoes), Hurricanes, Storm Surges, Ecosystems, Weather and Climate, Economic Development, Social Development, Global Cities, Changing Retail Patterns, Globalisation, Population Change, Geographical Skills, Conducting fieldwork and Numeracy for Geographers.

You will complete two days of Geography fieldwork. Students this year visited Lulworth Cove and Swanage in Dorset and Cardiff city centre.



You will enjoy this subject if...

You like finding out how different features were formed.

You like learning about how people change places.

You like understanding the cause and effects of different phenomena.

You like working with others to conduct fieldwork investigations.

What students say about this subject

"In Geography I have learned about cool things like volcanoes and earthquakes and how they occur and how natural and human things shape the world we live in today. It's a really fascinating subject!"

"I like Geography because we're always learning something new about lots of different topics. Since Year 7 I've learnt all about the physical and human aspects of geography."

"I love Geography - it's my favourite subject. I have learnt: coasts, hazards, population, rivers, land formations and tourism."



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Qualification Type	Cambridge National Certificate	Exam Board	OCR
Lead Teacher	Miss G Wardlaw	Assessment	60% NEA, 40% Exam

What you will learn

Coursework units (Y10)

- **R033: Supporting individuals through life events (30%)** This unit allows students to understand how to support individuals at different life stages, and the emotional and physical effects of certain life events.
- **R035: Health promotion campaigns (30%).** In this unit you get to explore the different public health promotion campaigns at a local, national, and international level that help us to keep healthy and safe, and their impact on society. You also explore factors that influence our health and well being. This module involves designing and **presenting** your very own health promotion campaign.



Examination Units (Y11)

- **R032: Principles of care in health and social care (40%).** This unit encompasses the core values of care that underpin health and social care. Topics include individuals rights, Person centred values, effective communication, and protecting vulnerable service users.

You will enjoy this subject if...

You are interested in a career in care or you are curious about human development and health and social care.

Future related careers available in the healthcare and education sectors could include Nurse, Midwife, Social Worker, Mental Health Worker, Counsellor, Early Years Teacher and Play Therapist.

What students say about this subject

"[Health and Social Care] is more realistic, you are able to relate to it as it is based around real life scenarios"

"If you are interested and want to work in health and social care, you are able to have an idea of what to expect"



HISTORY

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	Edexcel
Lead Teacher	Mr S Haque	Assessment	100% Exam

What you will learn

History in Year 10:

Topic 1 - Medicine in Britain, c. 1250 - present

- We begin by studying the history of medicine in Britain and how it changed over time. We take a look at the strange beliefs and gruesome practices around medicine in medieval times and how these developed over the last 750 years to what we now have today.



Topic 2 - Superpower Relations and the Cold War, 1941 - 1991

- We then study the Cold War - a time of tension between two rival superpowers - the capitalist USA and the communist Soviet Union. As part of our studies, we look at how close the world came to nuclear war and why the USA failed to win the Vietnam War.



Topic 3 - The reigns of King Richard I and King John, 1189 - 1216

- We finish the year by learning about two of England's most famous kings. Richard the Lionheart was considered the greatest warrior-king of his time while it was said that "hell is too good for a horrible person" like John, Richard's younger brother, and the man who became the next king.



History in Year 11:

Topic 4 - Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918 - 1939

- Our final topic looks at the story of Germany after World War I. We learn how the country became a brand new democracy before Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party won power at a time of great hardship for people. We then investigate how the Nazis tried to control every part of people's lives.



You will enjoy this subject if...

- You are curious about the past.
- You are willing to develop your writing skills.
- You like finding out about interesting stories and people.

What students say about this subject

"The topics mean that we are always studying something new, which keeps it interesting."

"Our teachers know a lot."

"History is important because it helps us understand why the world is like it is today."

"The resources that we have make it really easy for us to study outside of class."



MANDARIN

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Miss G Wang	Assessment	25% each for Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing exams

What you will learn

- Develop your linguistic skills by studying topics such as: education, work, health, social issues, new technologies, the media, tourism and the environment.
- Develop communication skills, presentation skills, problem solving skills, organisational skills, team working skills and other interpersonal skills.
- Read short extracts from Chinese literature, listen to Chinese music, watch Chinese films and order Chinese food.
- Develop a good understanding of Chinese so that you can communicate confidently in most circumstances.



You will need to have studied Mandarin in Year 9 to choose Mandarin Chinese for GCSE.

You will enjoy this subject if...

- You are curious about other cultures and history
- You enjoy the challenge of learning a very different language; Chinese grammar is very straightforward and the Chinese writing system is beautiful.
- You like communicating; Mandarin Chinese is the most spoken language in the world with 1.3 billion speakers
- You like travelling; Learning Mandarin allows you to uncover the fascinating country of China on your own
- You like Chinese food (eg. noodles, dumplings and bubble tea)
- You like school trips; an opportunity to visit the Chinatown in London is offered to students studying Mandarin for GCSE

What students say about this subject

"Learning a language can benefit in later life. I chose Mandarin because it's one of the most spoken languages in the world. I would love a wide range of languages to help in later life"

"The teacher is encouraging and always being fun whilst still effectively teaching"

"Mandarin is a very rewarding subject to take - it's not only super fun, but also gives you a wider view into the world and its cultures!"



MEDIA STUDIES

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Miss A Morley	Assessment	30% NEA, 70% Exam

What you will learn

Media Studies offers you an interactive and engaging course that will develop your creative, analytical and communication skills. You'll cover a wide range of topics so there's something for everyone. Most importantly, you will get an in-depth understanding of how the media represents the world.

By studying media you can view, research, and analyse a variety of media forms such as : television, film, radio, newspapers, magazines, advertising, online and social media, video games and music videos. Plus - you will also get the chance to develop your practical skills and create your own product.

The skills you will learn will be useful in many career directions relating to the media such as advertising and marketing.



You will enjoy this subject if...

You are open-minded to new ideas that may challenge the way you think about things.

You like to understand what's happening in real-life

You are a creative thinker and want to know more about the media-rich world we live in.



What students say about this subject

"I understand the world around me a lot more now"

"I enjoy doing the practical work"

"I have learnt so much about how powerful the media industry is"

"I really enjoy studying media products and seeing the ways that media producers try to sell us products"



MUSIC

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	AQA
Lead Teacher	Mr M Ahmad	Assessment	60% NEA, 40% Exam

What you will learn



Music is one of the most important and fundamental activities that defines humanity. Wherever you go in the world you will find cultures and communities making music.

Learning about music and learning to play and sing music are great opportunities to develop skills that are of proven benefit in later life.

You will learn core musical skills such as how to develop skill as a player or singer. You will also develop composing skills and write your own music. Additionally, you will learn to listen to music in a different way. You will learn to recognise how music is constructed and how to describe the elements of music that make up different styles.

You will enjoy this subject if...



You enjoy performing music using voice or instruments, and like developing and extending your skills.

You are open-minded about music in different styles, and like finding out about them.

You like developing your own creative ideas and working independently.

You are already involved in extracurricular music - Singing Club, Modern Music Ensemble, Soul Band, or the School Show.

You intend to go on to work in any of the creative industries or where you will need some of the skills developed during the course.

What students say about this subject

"The best thing about music is it's a way of expressing yourself"

"I have learnt about developing melodies and catching the listener's attention"

"I have learnt lots in the theory side of music and how to write a successful composition"

Do I need to be having private instrumental lessons?

It is not essential, but advisable, that you are having private music lessons. It is, however, essential that you are prepared to perform in front of an audience to a standard equivalent to at least Grade 3 by the end of the course. For more information please speak to your Music teacher.



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	Edexcel
Lead Teacher	Mr D Caheny	Assessment	100% Exam

What you will learn

Religious Studies is not about making you religious; it is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious and moral issues so that you become a responsible citizen of a multiethnic and multifait society free from the ignorance which causes prejudice, hatred and violence.

We learn about the beliefs and practices of Christians and Muslims and the diversity found in these major world faiths. We also learn to contrast the ethical viewpoints of these religions with humanist and atheist views and draw our own conclusions.

Learning to think, analyse and justify our opinions is all part of the exciting process that you go through when studying this relevant subject. Helping you understand the way people's beliefs affect the way they live their lives is hugely important in understanding people in the world today and we believe studying RS will help you be a better citizen in the 21st century.



You will enjoy this subject if...

You enjoy learning about different religions, cultures and their beliefs.

You like debating controversial issues and exploring ethical and philosophical viewpoints in an in depth way.



What students say about this subject

"RE is a great way to learn about many things. Whether it be religion, politics or societal events. It's a great way to express your opinions without getting judged. Plus if you like arguing and debating it is the perfect subject!"

"RE is a great subject to take if you want to develop your understanding of different religions and cultures. You will learn about issues not normally addressed in other subjects such as euthanasia."

"You learn about the world around you, how and why it works that way. You learn more about what you identify with in terms of religion and belief and where you stand."



SPANISH

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	Edexcel
Lead Teacher	Mr L Cansdale	Assessment	25% each for Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing exams

What you will learn

You will:

- Develop your linguistic skills by studying topics such as: education, work, health, social issues, new technologies, the media, tourism and the environment
- Develop communication skills, presentation skills, problem solving skills, organisational skills, team working skills and other interpersonal skills
- Read short extracts from Spanish literature, listen to Spanish music
- Develop a good understanding of Spanish so that you can communicate confidently in most circumstances



You will need to have studied Spanish in Year 9 to choose Spanish for GCSE.

You will enjoy this subject if...

- You are curious about other cultures
- You like communicating
- You want to give your brain a boost. Learning a language has been proven time and time again to have many cognitive benefits
- You want to become a better learner. Learning a language helps you to develop your memory, your lateral thinking, your exam techniques in a range of subjects, your creativity and even your ability in maths!
- You want to better understand how the English language works
- You like travelling. Spanish is spoken on every continent and is an official language of 53 countries
- You like listening to Spanish influenced (e.g Despacito) music and would like to understand it
- You like school trips. A residential trip to Spain is offered to students studying Spanish for GCSE

What students say about this subject

"You should take Spanish because it's very useful to take a language for the future and also Spanish is a completely new language so basically everyone is starting at the same level as you and it's fun to learn together."

"Languages are really underrated, and they will help you get a good job."

"If you want to learn a language, understanding a bit of French and Spanish will make it so much easier and you can benefit from it in the future."



TEXTILES

Qualification Type	GCSE	Exam Board	Edexcel
Lead Teacher	Mrs L Sutcliffe	Assessment	60% NEA 40% Externally Set Assignment

What you will learn

You will gain skills in:

- Decorative textile techniques.
- Constructing garments.
- Adapting commercial patterns.
- Looking at the work of a range of artists, designers and makers and using this research to help develop your own ideas.
- Being experimental and trying out new ideas/ techniques. This will help you to gain confidence in trying out ideas and help you become more individual in the work you produce.
- Using your own observations (drawings, photos and trips) to develop your ideas



Example techniques you will explore:

- Lino printing, screen printing, mono printing, loose applique, freehand machine embroidery, foiling, dye techniques, hand embroidery, felting, fabric shaping.

You will enjoy this subject if you...

- Like being creative and using your imagination.
- Have an interest in fashion
- Have an interest in art
- Are interested in design.



What students say about this subject

"I like using the techniques we learn in class to then use in my own designs"

"We have tried a lot of fun and interesting techniques"

"I really enjoy how mixed media it is"



Everyone Learning, Everyone Caring