



The
Cardinal Wiseman
Catholic School

Year 9 Curriculum Options
Handbook

Working together at KS3

February 2022

"Education for all = Achievement for all"

INTRODUCTION

In September 2022 you will be starting Key Stage 4 and your GCSE or equivalent in all your subjects.

The courses you study, and in particular the grades you achieve, are likely to influence or even determine the choices available to you at Sixth Form, at university or training at work.

The curriculum at Cardinal Wiseman offers a core of subjects that allows students to achieve academically, as well as providing a platform of flexible choice for post 16 studies, whatever you choose to do.

The curriculum model we use is often referred to as the English Baccalaureate or EBacc. You should be aware that this EBacc collection of subjects has become the preferred choice for university entrance at GCSE level.

This booklet contains information on the subjects you will be studying in Year 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4).

All students will study GCSE courses in the following core subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- RE

In line with the requirements of the EBacc, you should then choose either:

- Geography or History

And either:

- Spanish or French

You then have one further remaining subject to choose from the list on the form at the back of this booklet.

All students will also follow **a non-examination course in P.E.*



Entry to university is based on both A levels and GCSEs, so before making your final choice it is worth checking if there are any special requirements for any A Levels that you might be interested in. The Cardinal Wiseman School's current Sixth Form programme is listed on the next page.

GCSEs and BTECs are significant educational qualifications that can help determine your future career pathway, so it is important that you know exactly what is involved and what you have to do to be successful. So make sure you find out as much as possible before finalising any choices.

- Read this booklet. It has details on all the subjects and the levels at which you will be studying them.
- Attend the **Y9 Options Evening which will be on Wednesday 23rd February 2022 6-8pm at school.**
- Talk to your subject teachers, both at school and at the **Year 9 Parents' Evening on Monday 21st March 2022.**
- If anything is unclear ASK your tutor.
- Keep your parent/carer involved in these decisions – they will need to sign your form.
- If you still have an issue with any part of the process, email Miss Curran: CurranL@wiseman.ealing.sch.uk

When you have made your final choice, fill out the Form that will be sent to you electronically by no later than **Wednesday 23rd March 2022. A copy of how you make your choices is on the final page of this booklet.**



A levels and BTECs currently on offer in our Sixth Form

Art & Design	Maths * Further Maths*
Biology*	Media Studies (BTEC Extended Certificate) Film Studies
Business* (A Level and BTEC Diploma)	Photography
Chemistry*	Physics*
Drama	Product Design (DT)*
Economics	Politics
English Language*	Psychology
English Literature*	RE*
Geography*	Sociology
History*	Law*

If the subject is marked with * it means that you will have to achieve a good grade at GCSE to study a course at A Level (usually at least a grade 6). If there is no mark next to the subject it generally means you do **not** need to have studied the subject at GCSE. However, it is always best to check with the subject area to get the most up to date advice. All subjects require a minimum of grade 4 in English.

What GCSE subjects do I need for particular courses at university?

If you are thinking of applying to university you will need to have a **GCSE pass in English and Maths** (at grade 5 or higher).

The **Russell Group** universities (the top 24 in the UK) prefer you to take **facilitating subjects** – these are the subjects that will help you to gain entry to the top universities and onto competitive courses.

Facilitating subjects are:

English Language	Biology
English Literature	French
Maths	Spanish
Chemistry	Geography
Physics	History

GCSEs

From September 2016, GCSE subjects changed. Nearly all specifications have now moved away from coursework and towards exams. It's really important that you read through the subject pages in this booklet and speak with your teachers to see whether the course is suitable for you.

Here is a reminder of how the GCSEs are being graded:

Current grade	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
New Grade	8/9	7/8	5/6	4/5	3	2/3	1	



There are also specific subjects that you need if you want to apply for the following courses that lead to particular types of career:

Architecture	Maths and Physics (Art is also desirable)
Art and Design	Fine Art and/or Photography
Business and Management	Business or Economics or Maths
Chemical Engineering	Chemistry, Physics and Maths
Criminology	Psychology or humanities subjects like History, Law or English
Design	Product Design or Art or Photography
Drama	Drama, English Literature or Language
Economics	Maths or Economics
Engineering	Maths and Physics
English	English Literature or Language and two other literary subjects
Forensic Science	Chemistry or Biology
Geography	Geography
History	History plus two other literary or art based subjects
Law	A wide range of literary or art subjects e.g. History, Law, English
Maths	Maths, Further Maths and/or Physics
Medicine	Chemistry, Biology and Maths or Physics
Modern Languages	French or Spanish or another Language
Pharmacology/Physiology	Chemistry and Biology
Theology	Philosophy and Ethics or other literary subjects
Politics	Politics, History and possibly a Language
Psychology	Psychology and other art or literary based subjects
Sociology	A range of art and science subjects
Veterinary Science	Chemistry, Biology, Maths or Physics



Some terms used in this booklet:

AQA	One of the exam boards
BTEC	An exam qualification similar to GCSE or A level
EBacc	The group of subjects which comprise the English Baccalaureate: English; Maths; Science; Geography or History; French or Spanish
EDEXCEL / Pearson	One of the exam boards
Facilitating Subjects	Subjects that will help you to gain entry to the top universities
GCE	The type or level of exam followed at A level in KS5
GCSE	The type or level of exam followed at KS4
KS4	Years 10 and 11
KS5	Years 12 and 13 (Sixth Form)
Level 2	A GCSE level or equivalent course
Level 3	An A level or equivalent course
Linear Exams	Subject courses where the exams are sat at the end of the course
Non-Examination Courses	Subjects in which you do not have to sit an exam e.g. Progression Pathways (Careers)
OCR	An exam board
Russell Group Universities	The top 24 Universities in the UK
Tier	The level of entry for GCSE, usually Foundation or Higher
WJEC / Eduqas	An exam board



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CORE

English

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: AQA English Language GCSE

Course code: 8700

Link to specification: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>

and

AQA English Literature GCSE

Course code: 8702

Link to specification: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>

Content description

All students complete both an English Language and English Literature GCSE. Our courses will inspire, challenge and motivate every student, no matter what their level of ability. Teaching for both GCSEs will include assessment strategies that support students' achievement in an untiered, closed book context through the use of extract-based questions and the range of texts the students will study has been chosen to cater for the needs of students in all educational contexts. There are texts that will be familiar to your child as well as new ones that will inspire young readers. Schemes of work take a skills-based approach to the study of English literature and it offers excellent preparation for AS and A-level English Literature, as well as giving students a grounding in a wide variety of literature that will stay with them for life.

Assessment

Assessment is 100% exam which will all be taken at the end of Year 11. There are two papers for each GCSE.

Future career paths

An English Language GCSE is essential to most career paths.

Independent learning requirements

Regular reading of a wide variety of both fiction and non-fiction texts will be advantageous to students of English Language and Literature. Suggested reading lists will be available to students at the beginning of Year 10.

Mathematics

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: Edexcel

Content description

The GCSE Mathematics curriculum is designed to provide a strong foundation for further academic and vocational study and for employment, to give students the appropriate mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding to help them progress to a full range of courses in further and higher education.

Pupils study topics on six strands of Mathematics: Number; Algebra; Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change; Geometry & Measure; Probability and Statistics. Pupils will be expected to apply their knowledge of these topics in a range of problems and contexts including real-life situations.

Assessment

There are several formative assessments throughout the course and termly summative assessments. During the summer term of year 10, as well as the autumn and spring terms in year 11, students sit trial exam series mirroring the end of the course assessment which consists of three examinations: Paper 1 - non-calculator paper and papers 2 and 3 -calculator papers. Each paper is 90 minutes long.

Future career paths

GCSE Mathematics is an important foundation for many careers and courses. Nearly all jobs and careers require a Mathematics GCSE, but in the following courses, the understanding and application of Mathematics is crucial: Accountancy, Architecture, Banking, Business Management, Computing, Economics, Engineering, Insurance, Marketing, Medicine, Physics, Psychology, Science, and Teaching.

Independent learning requirements

Pupils complete one homework task each week, which should take between 30-60 minutes to complete, but it is very important that they also develop good independent study skills. There are over 100 packs of past GCSE exam questions on SharePoint along with practice papers and mark schemes.

Pupils should regularly use the various websites that the Maths department subscribe to in order to aid their revision, these include: Mathswatch, Mymaths, Justmaths, Mathsworkout- pupils have been given log-in details for each of these websites. Spending around 20 minutes each weekday, answering two to three questions on what's been covered in lesson that day, will help to consolidate learned concepts. All pupils have topic lists that detail the material covered each term and the accompanying MathsWatch clip numbers. They should start by watching the teaching videos to help retain knowledge and skills and then answer the interactive questions that help prepare them for mini-class tests and termly assessments, ahead of the final exams in Year 11.



Science

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: Currently the GCSE specification followed by pupils in Years 9-11 is OCR Gateway Combined Science A, unless selected for Separate Science Award.

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/82546-specification.pdf>

Content description

The National Science Curriculum now includes courses of study designed to relate the subject to students' own life experiences. We will run the following courses in Key Stage 4:

GCSE Combined Science – All students will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Exams will be taken at the end of Year 11 when pupils will attain two GCSE grades for Science. All Year 9 students follow the GCSE specification OCR Gateway Combined Science A. Students will be selected for the Separate Sciences Awards in Year 10 after assessments have been completed.

GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry, GCSE Physics as 3 Separate Science Awards – Students will be selected to study these courses. The selection will be based on assessments throughout Key Stage 3, Year 9 and early Year 10. Separate Science pupils will sit separate examinations in Biology, Chemistry and Physics at the end of Year 11, attaining three separate qualifications. This follows a decision to take advantage of the government's initiative in seeking to offer greater challenge some students.

Assessment

Separate Sciences — exams taken at the end of Year 11

Combined Science — exams taken at the end of Year 11

Future career paths

Architecture, Engineering, Medical Careers, Pharmacology, Accountancy, Finance, Law, Veterinary Science, Research Scientist, Forensic Science, Pilot, Meteorology, and many more!

Independent learning requirements

Active reading, proactively reviewing work and ensuring targets or areas of weakness are addressed. Resilience and ability to analyse data and use scientific concepts alongside data to draw conclusions. Practice, practice, practice!



Religious Studies

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: Eduqas

All students study the full EDUQAS (Route B) Religious studies GCSE course. This comprises of three components: 37.5% Catholic Theology, 37.5% Applied Catholic Theology and 25% Judaism.

Content description

Students study all three components simultaneously across three years.

Catholic Theology

Learners must be aware how varied interpretations of sources and/or teachings may give rise to diversity within traditions. Topics include;

- Theme 1: Origins and Meaning
- Theme 2: Good and Evil

Applied Catholic Theology

Learners will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the influence of religion on individuals, communities and societies. Topics include;

- Theme 3: Life and Death
- Theme 4: Sin and Forgiveness

Judaism

Learners must know, understand and express common and divergent views and the basis for beliefs, teachings and practices. Topics include;

- Judaism: Beliefs
- Judaism: Practices

Assessment

Students are assessed on all three components at the end of Year 11.

Future career paths

Religious Studies GCSE provides a foundation for further study of Religious Studies at A-level and complements other related A-level subjects including Law, History, Sociology and English Literature. Students are given an opportunity to develop their skills in evaluation and explanation using reasoned arguments and teachings. These skills are valued by employers in any sector and the GCSE is widely respected in all sectors of employment.

Independent learning requirements

Students are required to both explain and evaluate religious concepts and support their views with teachings and scripture. Students must complete summary notes and exam practice questions for homework and manage revision for end of unit assessments.



OPTION

French

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658>

Course description

Students study the following themes on which the assessments are based:

- Theme 1: Identity and culture
- Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- Theme 3: Current and future study and employment.

GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9).

Students must take all four question papers at the same tier.

All examinations take place at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1 – French listening, Paper 2 – French speaking, Paper 3 – French reading, Paper 4 – French writing

The French GCSE course is designed to develop students' ability to understand and use the language effectively for communication as well as imaginatively and creatively. The new GCSE places a greater emphasis on spontaneity. Students will develop resilience to be able to cope with the challenges of learning a modern foreign language. The themes are: identity and culture, local, national, international and global areas of interest, current and future study and employment.

Assessment:

Paper 1: Listening exam: (35 minutes at Foundation Tier and 45 minutes at Higher Tier with 5 minutes' reading time at the start.) Students will answer questions in English and in French. There will be a variety of types of spoken language. 25%

Paper 2: Speaking exam: A role play, a photo card and 2 general conversations will be completed in exam conditions at the end of the course. Students are given 12 minutes of preparation time. 25%

Paper 3: Reading exam: (45 minutes at Foundation Tier and 1 hour at Higher Tier.) Students will answer a variety of questions in English and in French based on a variety of literary extracts. Students will complete a translation task from French into English (35 words for foundation tier and 50 words for higher tier.) 25%

Paper 4: Writing exam: (1 hour at Foundation Tier and 1 hour 15 minutes at Higher Tier). Students will complete a variety of tasks, in response to set bullet points. Students will also translate a short text from English into French. 25%.

Future Career Paths

Teaching, translating, interpreting, subtitling, finance, food and drink, law, sales and marketing, transport, tourism, leisure, public sector, teaching English as a foreign language, International Organisations such as the UN and EU.

Independent Learning Requirements

H/W tasks will include; learning new vocabulary and structures, listening and reading tasks, writing paragraphs, preparing answers orally, reading articles and answering questions to demonstrate understanding of texts. Frog, Quizlet and Kerboodle websites will support this.



Spanish

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/spanish-8698>

Content description

The Spanish GCSE course is designed to develop students' ability to understand and use the language effectively for communication as well as imaginatively and creatively. Through studying the language, students develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where Spanish is spoken.

Assessment

Students study the following themes on which the assessments are based:

- Theme 1: Identity and culture
- Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- Theme 3: Current and future study and employment.

GCSE Spanish has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. All examinations take place at the end of Year 11.

Unit 1: Listening Students will answer a variety of questions in English and in Spanish. (35 minutes at Foundation Tier and 45 minutes at Higher Tier with 5 minutes' reading time at the start.)

Unit 2: Speaking A role play, a photo card and a general conversation will be completed in exam conditions at the end of the course.

Unit 3: Reading Students will answer a variety of questions and translations in English and in Spanish. (45 minutes at Foundation Tier and 1 hour at Higher Tier).

Unit 4: Writing Students will complete a variety of written tasks including translations. (1 hour at Foundation Tier and 1 hour 15 minutes at Higher Tier).

Future career paths

Teaching, Translating, Interpreting, Finance, Food and Drink, Law, Sales and Marketing, Transport, Tourism, Leisure, Public Sector, International Organisations such as the UN/ EU.

Independent learning requirements

To be successful in GCSE Spanish, a considerable amount of Independent learning is essential. Every week students are expected to devote time to learning new vocabulary and structures. Students will be expected to read and research around the topics in addition to class work and homework. There are listening and reading homework tasks as well as weekly vocabulary tests. Frog, Quizlet and Kerboodle are useful websites and are widely accessed by all students. Other homework tasks will include writing paragraphs in Spanish, preparation and delivery of model answers and oral presentations, reading and understanding articles in Spanish.



Geography

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: Edexcel A. Linear Examinations – NO CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT

Component description

Component 1: The Physical Environment

37.5% of GCSE (94 raw marks available in 1 hour and 30-minute written exam)

The changing UK landscapes of the UK: An overview of the distribution and characteristics of the UK's changing landscapes, River landscapes and processes and Coastal landscapes and processes.

Weather hazards and climate change: An overview of the global circulation of atmosphere and climate change over time and two detailed studies of tropical cyclones and drought.

Ecosystems, biodiversity and management: An overview of the distribution and characteristics of global and UK ecosystems - tropical rainforests and deciduous woodlands.

Component 2: The Human Environment

37.5% of GCSE (94 raw marks available in 1 hour and 30-minute written exam)

Changing cities: This covers an overview of global urban processes and trends and detailed case studies of a major UK city and a major city in a developing or emerging country.

Global development: This covers an overview of the causes and consequences of uneven global development and detailed case studies of challenges that affect a developing country.

Resource management: This covers an overview of the global and UK distribution of food, energy and water and a detailed study of either energy or water resources management.

Component 3: Geographical Investigations – Fieldwork and UK Challenges

25% of GCSE (64 raw marks available in 1 hour and 30-minute written exam)

Geographical investigations – fieldwork: Investigation physical environments – river landscapes & Investigating human landscapes – central/inner urban area.

Geographical investigations – UK challenges: Students are required to investigate a contemporary challenge for the UK – UK resource consumption and environmental sustainability challenge, UK settlement, population and economic challenges, UK landscape challenges and UK climate challenges.

This course has the following key features:

- Engaging fieldwork with **2 days of fieldtrips during term time.**
- Lots of links to careers especially STEM based subjects and jobs linked to the 'green sector' of the economy
- Literacy: Extended writing opportunities – 12 and 16 mark extended response.
- Numeracy: short and long calculation questions & Integrated geographical skills, techniques and technologies to investigate, analyse and evaluate questions and issues

e.g. Atlas and map skills, graphical skills, research skills, investigative skills, cartographic skills, numerical skills and statistical skills, Geographical Information Systems

- No tiered papers – no higher and foundation papers. Everyone has the *same* opportunity to get the highest possible grade!



OPTION

History

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: AQA

Content description

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world.

A. A Period study: America 1920-1973: Opportunity and inequality

- American people and the 'Boom'.
- Bust-Americans' experiences of the Depression and the New Deal.
- Post-war America.

B. Wider world depth study: Conflict and tension between East and West, The Cold War 1945-1972

- The origins of the Cold War.
- The development of the Cold War.
- Transformation of the Cold War.

Paper 2: Shaping the nation.

A. Britain: Power of the people: c.1170 – present day. A thematic study examining change and continuity across a long sweep of history covering the Medieval, Early Modern and Modern eras.

- Challenging Royal authority and feudalism in the Medieval era.
- Challenging Royal Authority in Early Modern Britain.
- Reform and Reformers.
- Equality and rights.

B. British depth study: Restoration England, 1660-1685

- Crown, Parliament, plots and court life.
- Life in Restoration England.
- Land, trade and war.
- The historic environment of Restoration England.

Assessment

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world. Examination: 50% of the GCSE, 2 hours.

Paper 2: Shaping the nation. Examination: 50% of the GCSE, 2 hours.

Future career paths

Highly respected academic subject which is rated by top universities. The most common profession for History graduates is Law but as a humanities subject History leaves open a wide range of potential career paths.

Independent learning requirements

Students will be set weekly homework tasks and be expected to review lesson material independently and regularly outside of class. Students will be given regular 'flipped learning' tasks; essential preparation for the next lesson to be completed at home.

Design & Technology

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: AQA

Content Description

This is a lively, motivational and innovative course which allows students to display flair, imagination and creativity through a whole range of practical and theoretical activities. The course covers a wide spectrum of core areas such as new and emerging technologies, sustainable design, energy generation and storage and developments in new materials and processes. Students must have a genuine interest in all things creative and be able to communicate their thoughts and ideas through sketching and modelling. Students will choose to specialise in a specific material area and be trained in various design & technology techniques, industry standard design software and CAD/CAM applications.

<u>Written Assessment</u>	<u>Non-Exam Assessment</u>
What is assessed?	What is assessed?
Core Technical Principles (20 Marks) Specialist Technical Principles (30 Marks) Designing and Making Principles (50 Marks)	<u>Practical applications of:</u> Core Technical Principles Specialist Technical Principles Designing and Making Principles
How it's assessed?	How it's assessed?
Written Exam: 2 Hours 100 Marks Worth 50% of GCSE	30 – 35 Hours Coursework Based 100 Marks Worth 50% of GCSE

Future Career Paths

Graphic Design, Illustration, Architecture, Product Design, Print Design, Construction, Carpenter, Furniture Designer

Independent Learning Requirements

The course consists of internally assessed 'Non-Exam Assessment', which means that the project work has to be undertaken in school and authenticated by the teacher. Regular homework tasks will be given and will directly relate to the controlled assessment and exam. This will include research and design tasks, focused practical tasks and drawing and exam practice.

OPTION

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

EXAM BOARD DETAILS:

AQA Specification code: 8585 Qualification: GCSE

Content description

In year 10 pupils work through a series of topics that encourage independent learning and planning. Students will develop a working knowledge of the following topic areas:

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

This is to prepare for the two assessed projects in year 11 which are set by the exam board – the non- examination assessment (**NEA 1 and NEA 2**) will consist of two tasks, involving practical work.

Assessment

<p><u>Unit 1:</u> 1hr 45mins - Written external Examination</p>	<p><u>UNIT 2 consists of:</u> NEA 1: Food Investigation Task 1 - Students will practically investigate ingredients and explain how they work and why. NEA 2: Food Preparation Task 2- students will plan, prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a three hour controlled assessment.</p>
<p>50% of total marks</p>	<p>50% of total marks</p>

In addition to the general practical skills (weighing, measuring, preparing, selecting/ adjusting cooking times / modifying and sensory analysis), there are also twelve areas of food practical skills; knife skills, fruit and vegetable preparation, use of cooker, use of equipment, cooking methods, preparation; combine and shape, sauce making, tenderisation and marinating, dough making, raising agents and setting mixtures.

Future career paths: This course is suitable for all pupils who wish to be able to prepare, cook and serve well-balanced meals now and in the future. You may also wish to **pursue a career in the food industry, for example food product design, sales and marketing or hospitality. To pursue post 16 study in Hospitality and Catering**, the GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition provides the ideal foundation on which to extend your knowledge and experience.



OPTION

Art and Design: Fine art

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: Edexcel FA01 and FA02

Content Description

This course encourages the student to have an adventurous approach to art, whilst building strong technical skills. You will develop an understanding of historical and contemporary art to further enhance your own critical thinking. To support your projects, you will have the opportunity to visit museums and galleries outside of school and you will be encouraged to work with a wide range of materials from painting, printing and sculpture.

Assessment

Assessment is continuous throughout the course.

Unit 1: Consists of a personal portfolio of work developed over the two-year period. This is worth 60% of the total mark.

Unit 2: Consists of an externally set assignment where the outcome is produced over a ten-hour practical examination. This is worth 40% of the total mark

Future Career Paths

Architect, [Animator](#), [Art therapist](#), [Ceramics designer](#), [Fashion designer](#), [Fine artist](#), [Furniture designer](#), [Games developer](#), [Graphic designer](#), [Illustrator](#), [Industrial/product designer](#), [Interior and spatial designer](#), [Make-up artist](#), [Medical illustrator](#), [Photographer](#), [Production designer](#), [Theatre/television/film](#), [Textile designer](#) and [Web designer](#)

Independent Learning Requirements

The majority of this work will be kept in the sketchbooks and work journals that will be assessed at the end of the course as part of the coursework element. Students are expected to complete homework tasks and to attend catch up classes at least once a week. Homework consists of tasks related to research, evaluation, investigation and documentation. Students are expected to record and evaluate the development of their own work. They should also explore the work of other artists and designers who have made a significant contribution to the history of art and design.

Drama

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: Eduqas - Drama GCSE

Content description

Drama is an exciting, inspiring and practical course. Students will be involved in a variety of scripted and devised performances and understand the process and skills that are needed to create a piece of drama on stage. Students will also study the design aspects of a performance. Additionally, it provides opportunities to attend live theatre performances and to develop skills, as informed and thoughtful audience members. Through following the specification, learners will be given opportunities to participate in and interpret their own and others' drama. Students will learn a variety of skills that are highly valued in any walk of life. These include teamwork, confidence, presentation skills, empathy, analysis and evaluation. The course is for those who have a passion for performance.

Component 1 – Devising Theatre- practical exam and written coursework (40%)

You will participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre in response to a stimulus given by the exam board. You will be assessed on your performance, a written evaluation of your performance and a written portfolio.

Component 2- Performing from a Text- practical exam (20%)

In groups of 2-5 people, you will study one play and choose two extracts to perform to an external examiner. You are assessed on your acting ability. You may also choose a design skill for this component (lighting, sound or costume) you will be assessed on your design in performance and on a written portfolio and presentation.

Component 3- Interpreting Theatre- written exam (40%)

This written exam paper is split into two sections. Section A is a series of questions from one set text you will have studied through the course. Section B is an evaluation of a piece of live theatre you will have seen during the course.

Future career paths

Professional Performer, Director, Costume Design, Set Design, Sound Design, Lighting Design, Arts Administrator, Public Speaking, any job role that involves being customer facing.

Independent learning requirement

Students will need to attend theatre visits and attend trips to support learning. Homework is set regularly and is accessible on Microsoft Teams. Students are expected to attend after school rehearsals and compulsory intervention sessions (written or practical).



OPTION

Music

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: Eduqas

Content description

GCSE Music is a highly practical course, encouraging students to explore their skills and creativity through the study of four areas of study and two set works. Learning is largely practical and collaborative, and students are encouraged to follow their own interests and develop their own specialisms.

Area of Study 1 – forms and structures (set work: J.S. Bach *Badiniere*)

Area of Study 2 – ensembles

Area of Study 3 – film music

Area of Study 4 – popular music (set work: Toto *Africa*)

Assessment

The Music GCSE has three assessed components. 60% of the assessment is coursework and 40% examination:

Component 1: Performance (30%)

You will be required to perform music as a soloist and as part of an ensemble. We strongly recommend that GCSE students receive individual instrumental lessons.

Component 2: Composition (30%)

During the course you will compose two pieces of music. One will be to a student-selected brief, the other to a brief linking to one of the areas of study.

Component 3: Appraising (40%)

A Listening test assessing your knowledge of the four areas of study, including the two set works

Future career paths

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| - Professional musician | - Arts Admin |
| - Education | - Media |
| - Music Therapy | - Film/Television/Radio |
| - Journalist | - Any job that involves working with people and creative thinking |
| - Music Critic | - Any job that involves problem solving |
| - Arts Education | |

Independent learning requirements

Students should be practising regularly on a musical instrument (or voice), and we recommend that GCSE students receive individual instrumental lessons to support this. Homework will be set regularly to support learning in class.



OPTION

GCSE PE

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: AQA

Code 8582

Link to specification <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physical-education/gcse/physical-education-8582>

Content description

<u>Practical Content</u>		<u>Theory Content</u>	
<i>Team Sports(Must offer at least one, max 2)</i>	<i>Individual Sports(Must offer at least one, max 2)</i>	Topic	Explanation
<i>Football</i>	<i>Amateur Boxing</i>	Applied Anatomy and Physiology	Musculoskeletal System, Cardio-Respiratory System, Effects of Exercise
<i>Basketball</i>	<i>Table Tennis</i>	Movement Analysis	Levers, Planes and Axes of Movement
<i>Handball</i>	<i>Tennis</i>	Physical Training	Health, Fitness and Exercise, Types of Training, Principles of Training
<i>Hockey</i>	<i>Badminton</i>	Use of Data	Qualitative and Quantitative, Analysis
<i>Rugby</i>	<i>Swimming</i>	Sports Psychology	Classification of Skills, Goal Setting, Information Processing, Mental Preparation
<i>Gaelic Football</i>	<i>Rock Climbing</i>		
<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Gymnastics</i>	Socio-Cultural Influences	Social groups, Cultural Issues, Drugs, Hooliganism
<i>Volleyball</i>	<i>Dance</i>	Health Fitness and Wellbeing	Body Types, Diet, Healthy Lifestyles
<i>Netball</i>	<i>Athletics</i>		

Any specific qualities required

Students will need to take part in sport both inside and outside of school, to a good level. Students' suitability for the course will be discussed with their PE teacher and guidance will be given at Parents' Evening.

Assessment:

Practical	Performer in 3 Sport- 30%	
Theory	Exam 1- The human body and movement in physical activity- 30%	Exam 2- Socio Cultural influences and wellbeing in physical activity- 30%
Coursework	Written or Oral presentation on analysis of performance-10%	

Independent learning requirements

H/W on Teams and EverLearner online Platform, compulsory attendance at Extra-Curricular Clubs both inside and outside of school, Controlled assessment preparation.



Business Studies

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Business

Code: (1BS0)

Subject link: https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Business/2017/teaching-and-learning-materials/GCSE_Business_Subject_Guide.pdf

****Suitable for Maths Sets 1-3 only***

Content description

The Edexcel GCSE Business specification will give students the opportunity to explore real business issues and how businesses work. Students can apply their knowledge and understanding to different business contexts ranging from small enterprises to large multinationals and businesses operating in local, national and global contexts. Students develop an understanding of how these contexts impact on business behaviour. This GCSE is linear which means that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course.

Assessment

The GCSE is made up of six subject content areas and there are two external exams; both exams are sat in the summer of Year 11.

Paper 1: Investigating small business	What's assessed? Enterprise and entrepreneurship Spotting a business opportunity Putting a business idea into practice Making the business effective Understanding external influences on business	How it's assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes• 90 marks• 50% of GCSE
Paper 2: Influences of marketing and finance on business activity	What's assessed? Growing the business Making marketing decisions Making operational decisions Making financial decisions Making human resource decisions	How it's assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes• 90 marks• 50% of GCSE For both exam papers, questions are a mixture of the following: multiple choice, short answer questions, calculations and case study/data response stimuli with questions.

Future career paths

Business Studies can lead to further study at degree level in a variety of fields e.g. Accounting and Finance, Marketing, Retail Management, Human Resource Management, Media linked with Business etc.

Independent learning requirements

The policy of the Business Studies Department is to set 1 piece of homework a week.

In addition, students will be expected to work independently at home and make use of the school ICT facilities. Students may find the following resources helpful in supporting GCSE Business: BBC Business News, Dragons Den, The Apprentice, BBC Bitesize and Tutor2u.



Computer Science

EXAM BOARD DETAILS: OCR GCSE Computer Science (9-1) Code: J277

Link to specification: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/558027-specification-gcse-computer-science-j277.pdf>

Content description

This exciting GCSE gives you an excellent opportunity to investigate how computers work and how they are used, and to develop computer programming and problem-solving skills. You will work with binary and Boolean Logic, investigate different types of programming from assembler to HTML and will be taught to write efficient programs using Python. In addition, you will study networks including the internet and security including cybercrime and prevention.

- **Computer Systems** – This is an exam based unit covering the physical elements of computer science and the associated theory.
- **Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming** – This is an exam based unit focused on the core theory of computer science and the application of computer science principles.

Assessment

- **Computer Systems** - is a 1hr 30min written paper worth 50% of the final grade.
- **Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming** - is a 1hr 30min written paper worth 50% of the final grade.

Future career paths

A computer science qualification is a good basis for work as an IT technician, IT consultant, computer engineer, software engineer, analyst, data modeller, systems administrator, network administrator, software applications developer and programmer. The course is also an excellent preparation if you want to study or work in areas that rely on the skills you'll develop, especially where they are applied to technical problems. These areas include engineering, financial and resource management, science and medicine.

Independent learning requirements

This course is best suited to logical thinkers, independent learners and talented problem solvers and programmers.

YEAR 9 SUBJECT CHOICE FORM 2022

You will be sent an electronic form to complete, which will ask you to make your option choices based on the form below: Please select **three** first choice subjects. You can only choose **ONE** subject in each block. Please also select one reserve subject in each block, in case there is an issue with your first choice subject. If for some reason you cannot be allocated your first choice subject, you will have an opportunity to discuss your alternatives with Miss Curran before any selection is made.

Deadline: Wednesday 23rd March 2022 (via an electronic form)

***Courses will run depending on the number of students opting for the subject.**

<i>Block 1</i>		<i>Block 2</i>		<i>Block 3</i>	
Art & Design		Geography		French	
Business Studies <i>*For Maths sets 1-3 only</i>		History		Spanish	
Computer Science					
Drama					
Food Preparation and Nutrition					
Geography					
Design and Technology					
History					
Music					
PE (GCSE)					