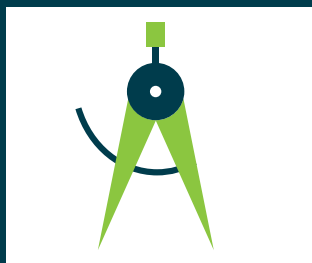


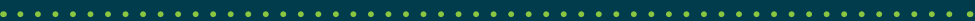
KS4 Curriculum Guide

OPTIONS CHOICES **Sept 2024 - July 2026**



CONTENTS

Letter from the Co-Headteacher	3
Message from the 6th Form Team.....	4
Choosing Options.....	5
Compulsory Subjects & The Statutory Curriculum.....	6
Routes.....	7
Option Subjects	8
English Language & English Literature GCSE.....	9
Mathematics GCSE.....	10
Science GCSE.....	11
Spanish GCSE.....	12
History GCSE.....	13
Geography GCSE.....	14
Computer Science GCSE	15
Art & Design GCSE.....	16
BTEC Sport (Level 2).....	17
Business Studies GCSE.....	18
Design & Technology GCSE – Product Design.....	19
Design & Technology GCSE – Textiles.....	20
Drama GCSE.....	21
Economics GCSE.....	22
Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE	23
Music GCSE	24
PE GCSE	25
RE GCSE	26
Sociology GCSE.....	27



Letter from the Co-Headteachers

The options process is an exciting time for students as they start to make choices about the direction their future education will take. We believe in offering a rigorous, academic curriculum which gives students the knowledge and skills to meet the demands of public examinations and prepares students for future study at top universities or high quality alternatives. The majority of our students will be directed to select subjects within the "Baccalaureate Route", which includes English, Mathematics, Science, a Language and a Humanities subject. In addition to this core set of academic subjects, they will choose two other subjects according to their own interests, talents and specialisms. Some students will be selected to follow the more flexible "Haggerston Route", studying English, Mathematics, Science, an EBACC subject and two other subjects of their choice. Alongside these subjects we will guide them towards a suitable alternative programme of study. This enables students to receive additional targeted support to ensure they achieve the best grades they are capable of in these core subjects. We try to accommodate all option choices, but each student will also need to consider a third "reserve" option in the event that one of their choices is oversubscribed.

The purpose of this booklet is to provide parents and students with information about the courses and choices available to them. It covers the compulsory curriculum that all students study at the school and the personalised options that they can take.

We will launch our options event on Monday 29th of January with material shared online for you to access. We will then run a series of sessions to support families through this process and answer any questions you may have. Information about these events will be shared with you in due course. A key event however will be our parents evening on Tuesday 27th February 2024. This event will provide you an opportunity to find out more information about the details of each course and how your child is currently performing in that subject. It is a vital part of the options process, allowing you and your child to reach the best conclusions about which subjects they should study at GCSE.

Hannah Turbet, Donna Moran
Co-Headteacher



Message from the 6th Form Team

From Year 9 to A levels - Your Academic Journey At Haggerston

Students are required to stay in education until they are 19 and whilst it may seem like a long while away the choices at GCSE can determine the Sixth Form schools or colleges and even the courses that you can take at A level/ Level 3.

All Sixth Forms have a minimum entry requirement and some subjects at A level require you to have studied this at GCSE. This is to ensure that you have the right amount of knowledge to start the A level course.

Choosing your GCSE's is an exciting time and at Haggerston Sixth Form we are more than happy to help you if you would like to know more about the requirements at A level. For example whether your choices at GCSE are suitable to study if you have a career or particular interest in mind for Post 16. For example to study A level Spanish you will need to have studied GCSE Spanish.

We recommend that you research university course requirements if you do have an idea about what you would like to do, but rest assured this is not the case for everyone at this stage! Many of our Sixth Formers are also still considering their next steps so keeping your options open and choosing subjects that you like and that you are good at for GCSE is important.

Our top tips are:

- Consider if any A levels you wish to study in the future require a GCSE in that subject
- Keep your options open by studying a wide variety of subjects if you are not sure of your future plans.

If you have any questions about A levels please see a member of the Sixth Form Team.

Ms Clarke & Ms Forbes

6th Form Team

Choosing Options

February 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 9 students will be introduced to the KS4 option subjects in February. Subjects will share videos that outline and explain their subjects.
Parents Evening	<p>Tuesday 27th of February.</p> <p>This is your child's opportunity to find out exactly how they are doing in their subjects. It's important to use this information when thinking about choices.</p>
Decision Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Material will be shared with parents on Monday 29th of February regarding the option process and how you can support your child through this process. This will include a recorded presentation as well as access to a range of subject videos explaining each course. Shortly following this date a Google Options Form will also be shared with parents to allow you to see what options are available to your child to select for their GCSEs.All students should have made their final options choices by the Tuesday 5th March deadline.Students will be asked to pick their first and second choice options and one reserve choice should their preferred subjects be oversubscribed. Should this be the case, families will be informed.
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Options will be confirmed to students in the summer term. Students will NOT normally be able to change their options after this date.



Considerations

Choose options that reflect the ability, interest and any relevant career path for your son/daughter

Sensible and realistic decisions made now will underpin future success University places are reliant on outstanding GCSE and A Level results

Our expectation is that all students will go to university or into high quality professional training, such as an apprenticeship. Both of these routes rely on students achieving a good set of qualifications at GCSE level so that they can progress onto A-levels or other suitable Level 3 courses. Students must achieve at least a grade 4 in English and Mathematics in Year 11 or they will be required to re-sit these qualifications in Sixth Form or at College.



Compulsory Subjects

English	Mathematics	Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students will study for 2 GCSEs: English Language and English Literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students will study for 1 GCSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students will study either:Separate Sciences (3 GCSEs)Combined Science (2 GCSEs)

All students will also have 2 periods of PE per week. GCSE PE and BTEC Sport are available as additional GCSE/L2 options.

The Statutory Curriculum

Below is an outline of the statutory elements of our curriculum model. These are areas that all students are expected to study.

Core PE

Core PE lessons are the standard PE lessons that every student is required to take in schools. Students are required to have two hours of practical PE across the fortnight. If a student chooses GCSE/BTEC PE, these lessons are in addition to the option lessons. Our Physical Education curriculum has been designed to provide students with a variety of physical activities which promote and strengthen health and wellbeing. Along with this, we aim for students to learn key aspects of health and well being which will support them throughout their life.

PSHCE & SRE

Our Sex and Relationship and Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic curriculum is delivered during drop down "Character Days" which happen once every half term and also through assemblies and tutor group lessons. For every year group, the subject content is age appropriate and it builds on prior learning. The lessons are varied to incorporate a wide range of topics and information relevant to all aspects of a young person's well-being and personal development. At Key stage 4 our PSHCE curriculum focuses on supporting students' study skills development and ensuring all students are informed and prepared for Post-16 education.



The Statutory Curriculum (Continued)

Religious Education

Religious Education is an important part of learning about Modern British Society. It allows students to learn about their peers' belief systems and how they form part of their personal identity and belonging. At Key Stage 4 Religious Education is delivered to all students through our PSHCE curriculum. It allows students to reflect and discuss 'Big Questions' on religious, spiritual and ethical issues in a secure environment.

Routes

At Haggerston School we offer three routes to students in Year 10:

The school will recommend students to follow either route based on their prior and current attainment.

Baccalaureate Route:	Haggerston Route:	Science Specialism Route:
Students will study all of the subjects in the 'English Baccalaureate' (Compulsory subjects) as well as two option subjects of their choice, leading to 9 GCSE qualifications. This route supports students who are aiming to go to a Russell Group University, as the breadth of academic study is a strong preparation for A-Levels and beyond.	Students in this route will replace either Spanish GCSE and/or their Humanities subject with a bespoke intervention. Although they will take slightly fewer qualifications (7 or 8 GCSEs), they will have more support to ensure they get good grades in the core subjects. As with the Baccalaureate route, students will also choose two option subjects of their choice.	Students who have shown strong aptitude for Science will be selected to study Separate Science GCSEs alongside all other subjects in the 'English Baccalaureate' as well as two option subjects of their choice, leading to 10 GCSE qualifications. This route supports students who have strong independent study skills and who may wish to study Sciences at A-Levels and beyond.

GCSE Options

Year 9 students may select two more options and a reserve choice from the subjects in the following pages.

Nb. Students who have started Computer Science in Year 9 or D&T and who wish to continue should put this as a choice.

GCSE English Literature & English Language

What will you study?

In your English lessons you will study for two GCSEs: English Literature and English Language

Each term you will study a combination of English Language and English Literature. You will study a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, including drama, prose and poetry, from the 19th century up to the modern day. You will learn how to gather evidence, think analytically, develop skills of inference, reflect on the world around us and master writing with creativity and accuracy.

Careers

All employers, colleges, sixth forms, and universities will ask for your grades in English: English equips you with clear and confident communication and expression skills, as well as analytical skills that are essential to later life and success. GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature can lead to many opportunities, such as careers in journalism, law, and the media.

The Course

During the GCSE course you will study different units which will be assessed by:

- Four written exams that assess your reading and writing skills in May/June of Year 11
- On-going assessments of your speaking and listening skills

How will you be assessed?

AQA English Language:
<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>

You will be examined in these areas:

Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
Speaking and Listening	0%	(Separate endorsement)

AQA English Literature:
<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>

You will be examined in these areas:

Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel	40%	1 hour 45 minutes
Modern Texts and Poetry	60%	2 hours 15 minutes

GCSE Mathematics

What will you study?

- How to apply mathematical skills to unfamiliar situations.
- How to look for patterns in numbers and shapes and then identify rules about them.
- The knowledge and understanding of the use of mathematical language and signs.
- How to investigate using mathematics and how to develop other strategies including algebra.
- How to use calculators and computers effectively to help with your mathematics.

Careers

Mathematics can lead to a range of amazing and exciting career opportunities, including aerospace and defense, biosciences, engineering, banking and finance, IT, science and research. Mathematics is seen as a “facilitating” subject by all universities meaning that it is highly regarded no matter what you wish to study or specialise in. This is due to the problem solving nature of the course, which is a highly desirable skill. In fact, many top universities and courses now require mathematics A-Level even though it may not appear applicable e.g. Psychology, Sociology and Geography!

The Course

Our exam board is Edexcel. There are two tiers of entry:

- o Foundation (grades 1 – 5)
- o Higher (grades 4 - 9)

We decide on which tier is most appropriate at the end of Year 10. Each course contains content from the four different attainment targets: Number and Algebra, Shape and Space and Handling Data. You will be taught using a variety of resources including worksheets and booklets.

How will you be assessed?

The course is linear which means that there will be a final examination at the end of Year 11.

This will consist of 3 papers:

Paper 1: Non-Calculator Paper; 80 marks; 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper 2: Calculator Paper; 80 marks; 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper 3: Calculator Paper; 80 marks; 1 hour 30 minutes

Content can appear on any paper.

GCSE Science

What will you study?

Most students will be entered into combined science which consists of the following topics:

In Paper 1:

Biology: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and Response and Bioenergetics.

Chemistry: Atomic structure, Bonding, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Change and Energy Change.

Physics: Energy, Electricity, Particle Model and Atomic Structure.

In Paper 2:

Biology: Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, variation and evolution and Ecology.

Chemistry: Rates of Reaction, Organic Chemistry, Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere and Using Resources.

Physics: Forces and Motion, Waves and Electromagnetism.

Some top set students will be entered into the separate science GCSEs (Triple Science) which includes extra content in the above topics as well as extra topics, as below:

Biology: The brain, the kidneys, culturing microorganisms and preserving biodiversity.

Chemistry: Further organic chemistry, identification of ions and the Haber process.

Physics: Space, motors, static electricity and moments.

Careers

There are a multitude of careers open to students who study science, including careers in medicine, pharmacy, engineering, astronomy, forensics, education, chemistry, psychology, nursing, midwifery, microbiology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and physics.

The Course

As well as studying the topics above, students will also complete a core set of investigations, which the headteacher will confirm is completed for all students. This content will also feature in the exams (a minimum of 15% in each exam). If successful, all students will leave with a qualification in combined science, equivalent to two GCSEs, and in separate science with three GCSEs.

What is Separate Science?

The separate science award is a course which delivers three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. These include the same topics as above for combined sciences, as well as covering extra units in each of those areas. Students also complete extra scientific investigations that must be handed in with the exams. At the end of the three years they will sit six exam papers (see below) however these papers are worth more marks than the combined sciences, and contain more challenging questions. Students will leave with a qualification in three separate sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

How will you be assessed?

Combined sciences: 6 examinations each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes. (Each examination is worth 70 marks.)

Separate sciences: 6 examinations each lasting 1 hour 45 minutes (Each examination is worth 100 marks).

- Each examination is worth 16.67% of the total grade for Combined science.
- Each subject examination is worth 50% of the total grade for each subject in Separate sciences.
- Students may study the subjects at higher or foundation level

GCSE Geography (2 year course AQA)

What will you study?

Students will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use. Students are also encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes. Fieldwork is undertaken at the coast with a residential visit to Norfolk and a day trip to study regeneration in London.

Careers

Geography is a broad subject, respected in higher education and business as it combines many skills including statistical analysis, problem solving and presenting clearly structured written responses. Geography graduates have one of the highest rates of graduate employment, pursuing a wide range of career paths. It's often said that there is no such thing as a geography job; rather there are multiple jobs that geographers do. Geography can lead to careers architecture, environmental health, local government, tourism and leisure services, sports research, retailing, town centre management, travel agent, charity work, energy conservation, law and government.

The Course

You will learn in the following ways:

Compulsory fieldwork in two contrasting locations

Developing your ideas and forming conclusions through problem solving and decision-making exercises

Critical thinking using a variety of sources such as, news articles, aerial photographs, satellite images and statistics and GIS (Geographical information systems)

How will you be assessed?

You will be assessed in class by your teacher to monitor your progress through quizzing and mid unit assessments. Exam practice is built into every lesson to support students in their exam technique. The GCSE grade is awarded based on 3 formal exams at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1 – Living with the physical environment 1 hour 30 mins. 37.5% of GCSE

Paper 2 – Challenges in the human environment 1 hour 30 mins. 37.5% of GCSE

Paper 3 – Geographical applications (Fieldwork and Decision making exercise) 1 hour 30 mins. 25% of GCSE

GCSE Spanish (3 year course started in Year 9)

What will you study?

Students will continue to learn to speak, read, write and listen to Spanish in a range of public and social settings. The course aims to develop their ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing, conveying what they want to say with increasing accuracy. Students will deepen their knowledge about how language works and enrich their vocabulary so that they can increase their independent use and understanding of extended language in a wide range of contexts. They should also develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where the language is spoken.

Careers

Language students have such a wide range of career opportunities that it is difficult to list them all here but just to give you an idea: researcher, writer, interpreter, journalist, education consultant, tour guide, charity work, social media (blogging, travel reviewer...). Languages are definitely not limited to translators or teachers. They are definitely not limited to translator or teacher – no matter what you want to do, speaking another language will double your job market.

The Course

The course is based on three themes:

People and lifestyle

- Topic 1:** Identity and relationships with others
- Topic 2:** Healthy living and lifestyle
- Topic 3:** Education and work

Popular culture

- Topic 1:** Free time activities
- Topic 2:** Customs, festivals and celebrations
- Topic 3:** Celebrity culture

Communication and the world around us

- Topic 1:** Travel and tourism, including places of interest
- Topic 2:** Media and technology
- Topic 3:** The environment and where people live

How will you be assessed?

- 1:** Listening Examination – 25% of the overall grade **Section A:** Listening comprehension- questions in English
Section B: Dictation- sentences in Spanish
- 2:** Reading Examination – 25% of the overall grade **Section A:** Reading comprehension- questions in English
Section B: Translation- from Spanish into English
- 3:** Speaking Examination – 25% of the overall grade **a. Part 1:** Role Play **b. Part 2:** Reading aloud task and unprepared conversation
c. Part 3: Photocard- photocard + discussion of one of the three themes
- 4:** Written Examination – 25% of the overall grade
 - a. Foundation:**
 - i. Question 1: Photocard description
 - ii. Question 2: 50 words writing answering 4 bullet points
 - iii. Question 3: 5 multiple choice grammar tasks
 - iv. Question 4: Translation of sentences from English into Spanish
 - v. Question 5: 90 words writing answering 4 bullet points
 - b. Higher:**
 - i. Question 1: Translation of sentences from English into Spanish
 - ii. Question 2: 90 words writing answering 4 bullet points
 - iii. Question 3: 150 words writing answering 2 bullet points

There are two tiers: **Foundation** and **Higher**. The overall grades at Foundation range from **U up to Grade 5**. The overall grades at Higher range from **U up to Grade 9**.

GCSE History (2 year course beginning in year 10)

What will you study?

GCSE History is intended to provide students with a thorough understanding of how the world we live in today has developed. The units of study covered are engaging, relevant and build on their learning in Ks3. Through their first thematic study, Migration in Britain, students examine the complex history of Britain from the year 800 until contemporary society through the lens of the people migrating into Britain who have shaped our past and present. We zoom in on the migration and experience of the Caribbean community in Notting Hill at the end of the 1940s. Our second unit begins with a British depth study into Early Elizabethan England. Students study aspects of social, political and economic life between 1558-88. We then consider the failure of the Weimar Republic and the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany. Totalitarian dictatorship in Germany is studied, with an emphasis on how the Nazis were able to consolidate and control their hold on Germany. Finally, students look beyond Europe in their study of Super power relations in the Cold War. We examine the origins of the Cold War and the variety of conflicts, uprisings, near nuclear wars and diplomatic ties that continue to define global relations today.

Careers

A vast range of careers need communication, evidence gathering, analytical and problem solving skills. These include law, journalism, politics, teaching, social work, advertising and publishing and museum curation. Moreover, History is a highly respected academic subject that will enhance your CV and application for university. To be successful in GCSE History you will need to express and develop your own ideas through written language, debate and develop your ability to understand a range of historical sources e.g. cartoons, speeches, posters, maps, newsreels and statistics. You will be required to work independently both in the classroom and at home.

The Course

Migrants in Britain and Notting Hill (Historic environment)	c800 to present
Super power relations and the cold war	1941-91
Early Elizabethan England	1558-88
Weimar and Nazi Germany	1918-39

To be successful in GCSE History you will need to express and develop your own ideas through debate. You will develop your ability to understand a range of historical interpretations as well as sources e.g. cartoons, speeches, posters, maps, newsreels and statistics. You will be required to work independently both in the classroom and at home and in small groups.

How will you be assessed?

Examinations

Paper 1 (30%) – **Migrants in Britain**, c800 to present (thematic study) 20% with Notting Hill 1948-1970 (historic environment) 10%

Paper 2 (40%) – **Super power relations and the cold war**, 1941-91 (period study) 20% and Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88 (British depth study) 20%

Paper 3 (30%) – **Weimar and Nazi Germany**, 1918-39 (modern depth study)

GCSE Computer Science (3 year course started in Year 9)

What will you study?

Computer Systems

Systems Architecture
Memory and storage
Wired and wireless networks
Network topologies, protocols and layers
System security
System software
Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns

Computational thinking, algorithms

Algorithms
Programming techniques
Producing robust programs
Computational logic
Translators and facilities of languages
Data representation

Careers

Computer Science teaches a number of key skills which are invaluable to a career in computers and almost any other field too. Computer Science teaches creative thinking, problem solving, how computers communicate and programming. The world we live in today relies heavily on Computer technology. Understanding how they work will open up a world of opportunity to you both in school and after you have left. Computer Science enables students to go on and study a number of computing subjects at college and beyond including Software Development. Computer Science skills are not just restricted to computer technology fields. Computers are widely used in sports science, fashion design, medicine, law, engineering and many many more.

Programming

All students will have the opportunity to learn a variety of programming skills and projects. Students will learn how to code using a text based programming language to solve real life problems. These projects will give students a taste of what it will be like to be a professional programmer and also cover content that will be assessed in paper 2.

How will you be assessed?

Computer Systems	1hr 30 minute written exam (Paper 1: 80 marks)	50%
Computational thinking, algorithms and programming	1hr 30 minute written exam (Paper 2: 80 marks)	50%

GCSE Art & Design

You should choose Art & Design if:

You are creative, able to solve problems and like a challenge

You would like to learn a range of new practical skills to express your ideas

You like to experiment and try different materials, ideas and techniques

You are interested in exploring and writing about the work of artists, designers and the art of other cultures

Careers

Studying GCSE Art and Design can give you all sorts of exciting career opportunities, including: being an architect, fashion designer, graphics designer, graphic novelist, art director (advertising), art therapist, art valuer, artist in residence, illustrator, multimedia artist, mural artist, museum/gallery curator, painter, printmaker, sculptor.

The Course

Drawing	Printmaking	Fine Art Textiles	Photography
Painting	Mixed Media Techniques	3D Sculpture	Life drawing classes
Critical Studies	Artist Research	Collage	Digital Art

As well as drawing skills being an important part of the GCSE you will also show skills in a wide range of techniques such as painting, printmaking, collage, sculpture, photography and mixed-media. You will need to work independently at home to complete research and collect ideas on a range of different project themes. These will be written up as part of the project.

How will you be assessed?

Art coursework is worth 60% of the final grade.

Component 1: Personal portfolio in Art & Design consisting of two different project themes. Including a 10 hour practical exam = 60% of GCSE grade.

Component 2: Year 11: Externally set exam paper preparation studies and final practical exam (10 hour exam) = 40% of GCSE grade.

BTEC Sport Level 2

You should choose BTEC Sport if:

You want to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of a vocational sports sector, and have an interest in a career with sports.

You want to investigate areas of the sports industry

You want to develop essential skills and attributes prized by employers, further education colleges and higher education institutions.

This course is ideally suited for students who want to explore the different types and providers of sport and physical activity and the equipment and technology available for participation. Students will also explore the different types of participants and their needs in order to gain an understanding of how to increase participation for others in sport and physical activity and further develop their knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology. Students will undertake practical sessions to develop skills in planning and delivering sports activity sessions to participants.

Careers

This course would lead to a Level 3 BTEC in Sport or depending on your grade, an A-Level in Physical Education. It could also lead to working in careers which involve health and nutrition, teaching, sports therapy, sports analysts, sports psychology, nutrition, physiotherapy and coaching. Business, marketing and advertising related to sports may be other possible avenues.

The Course

Learners are required to complete and achieve all three components in the qualification. These are:

- 1 - Preparing participants to take part in sport and physical activity
- 2 - Taking part and improving other participants sporting performance
- 3 - Developing fitness to improve other participants performance in Sport and Physical Activity

Throughout these units, you will split your time between the classroom where you will complete the theoretical elements and the sportshall where you will complete the more practical elements of the course. You will have the chance to put into practice what you have learnt and learn practical skills linking to coaching, refereeing and personal training.

How will you be assessed?

- Written coursework
- Written examination
- Practical performance

The level 2 BTEC course is a diverse course allowing you to study a wide range of different topics and content across the two years. There is one externally assessed unit, taken in the form of a written assessment and two internally assessed units which are externally moderated.

GCSE Business Studies

You should choose GCSE Business Studies if:

You want to learn more about being enterprising and spotting business opportunities

You want to understand the world in which we live

You are interested in understanding how the business and economic environment impacts on business performance

You want to learn how to evaluate the extent globalisation helps businesses to grow and break barriers

Careers

If you are interested in working or studying in any of the following sectors, GCSE Business Studies may be the right course for you! These include: marketing, IT, computing, retail, finance, economics, law, management, insurance, administration, and banking. You may also be someone who is interested in working for themselves or being an entrepreneur. Success in this course would enable students to progress to all types of further education including A Levels or Level 3 courses. A qualification in Business demonstrates a mind which is open to ideas, is resilient and determined.

The Course

The course is made up of ten subject areas:

Year 10: Investigating small business

1. Enterprise and entrepreneurship
2. Spotting a business opportunity
3. Putting a business idea into practice
4. Making the business effective
5. Understanding external influences on business

Year 11: Building the business

1. Growing the business
2. Making marketing decisions
3. Making operational decisions
4. Making financial decisions
5. Making human resource decisions

In class, we will spend lots of time examining examples of successful businesses and what makes them work well, what the life of a business owner looks like and how changes in law and globalisation affect the world of business. There will be lots of class discussion and pair work. You will also develop your writing both in structured and unstructured formats, learning how to draw information from a wide range of sources to help develop your understanding of the wider world and how Business plays a significant role in shaping the society in which we live.

How will you be assessed?

There are two examinations at the end of Year 11, each worth 50% of the GCSE.

Paper 1 will focus on content learnt in Year 10 and be about investigating small businesses. Paper 2 will focus on content learnt in Year 11 and on how businesses grow and adapt to the world around them.

The examination uses both multiple choice questions and extended written answers. 10% of each exam paper is numerical so being capable in Maths will be an advantage. You will need to apply your knowledge to case studies showing application, analysis and evaluation.

GCSE Design & Technology: Plastics and Timbers Focus

You should choose GCSE Design and Technology Product Design if:

You want to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world.

You want to learn about the wider influences of Design and Technology including historical, social/cultural, environmental and economic factors.

You want to solve real problems by designing and making products or systems.

You want to be a creator and contributor not just a user and consumer.

Careers

In this ever evolving world, Design & Technology equips you with the tools to be an effective communicator, problem solver and creative thinker. Not only are these skills necessary in daily life, but they are essential for a range of careers found in a wide variety of industries. Some of these careers include Product Design/Development, Aerospace Engineering, Architecture, Interior Design, Surface Design, Automotive Design, Computer Aided Design, Furniture Design and Animation to name but a few. Design and Technology is unique in that it will equip you for careers that don't even exist yet!

The Course

You will Study:

- the Technical Principles of Timbers and Plastics and;
- the Designing and Making Principles needed to design and make Timbers and Plastic products.

This will allow you to develop knowledge and understanding of Design and Technology, its impact on daily life, and develop a broad understanding of materials, systems and processes.

Each of the above areas is further divided into core knowledge and understanding and in-depth knowledge and understanding. The in-depth focus of this GCSE will be on Polymers and Timbers.

How will you be assessed?

Component 1:

Design and Technology in the 21st Century:

Written Paper. 50% of the GCSE

A mix of short answer, structured and extended writing questions assessing candidates' knowledge and understanding of:

- Technical Principles.
- Designing and Making principles along with their ability to:
- Analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in Design and Technology.

Component 2:

Design and Make Task:

NEA (non-examined assessment) 50%:

A sustained design and make task, based on a contextual challenge set by Eduqas, assessing candidates' ability to:

- Identify, investigate and outline design possibilities.
- Design and make Textiles prototypes.:
- Analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in Design and Technology.

GCSE Design & Technology: Textiles Focus

You should choose GCSE Design and Technology if:

You want to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world.

You want to learn about the wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social/cultural, environmental and economic factors.

You want to solve real problems by designing and making Textiles products

You want to be a creator and contributor not just a user and consumer.

Careers

In this constantly changing world, Design & Technology with Textiles equips you with the tools to be an effective communicator, problem solver and creative thinker. Not only are these skills useful in daily life, but they are essential for a range of careers found in a wide variety of industries. Some of these careers include Product Design/Development, Interior Design, Surface Design, Fashion Design, Fashion Journalism, Furniture Design, Clothing/Textile Technology and even Animation to name but a few. Design and Technology is unique in that it will equip you for careers that don't even exist yet!

The Course

You will Study:

- the Technical Principles of Fibres and Textiles and;
- the Designing and Making Principles needed to design and make Textiles products.

This will allow you to develop knowledge and understanding of Design and Technology and Textiles, its impact on daily life, and develop a broad understanding of materials, systems and processes.

Each of the above areas is further divided into core knowledge and understanding in-depth knowledge and understanding and in-Depth focus of this GCSE will be on Textiles.

How will you be assessed?

Component 1:

Design and Technology in the 21st Century:

Written Paper. 50% of the GCSE

A mix of short answer, structured and extended writing questions assessing candidates' knowledge and understanding of:

- Technical Principles.
- Designing and Making principles along with their ability to:
- Analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in Design and Technology.

Component 2:

Design and Make Task:

NEA (non-examined assessment)50%:

A sustained design and make task, based on a contextual challenge set by Eduqas, assessing candidates' ability to:

- Identify, investigate and outline design possibilities.
- Design and make Textiles prototypes.:
- Analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in Design and Technology.

GCSE Drama

You should choose Drama if:

- You enjoy PERFORMING in your drama lessons and prefer learning in practical a way
- You are interested in discussing ideas and issues
- You enjoy working in groups as well as being prepared to rehearse in your own time
- You are creative and imaginative
- You are interested in visiting the theatre and watching plays

Careers

GCSE Drama is not just about acting! In Drama you will learn and develop many skills that will help you progress in other subjects and enhance any career you choose, for example: confidence, clear communication and presentation skills. However, there are specific careers linked with Drama in the theatre, TV and film industry including: performance, make-up, costume, set design, technical professions such as stage management, lighting and sound technicians, directors, producers, radio and multi-media. You could also go into teaching or drama therapy.

The Course

Components	Overview
Component 1 Devising a performance from a stimulus For example: change, injustice or war	Create, develop and perform a devised performance from a stimulus. Analyse and evaluate the devising process and performance in a portfolio.
Component 2 Performance of a modern text For example: Stephenson's adaptation of 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time' or Macmillan's adaptation of '1984'.	Create and perform two extracts from a performance text. These performances can be in a group, monologue or duologue.
Component 3 Written exam – Theatre Makers in Practice	Section A – Bringing Texts to Life 5 questions asking you how you would perform, direct and design Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls' (Also studied in GCSE English) Section B – Live Theatre Evaluation 2 questions to describe, analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance you have seen.

How will you be assessed?

- Component 1: Total 40 % - 60 marks, Performance - 15 marks, Portfolio - 45 marks** (This work will be assessed by your teachers and externally moderated by an examiner). Devising a performance from a stimulus.
- Component 2: Total 20% - 48 marks** (This work will be externally assessed by a visiting examiner). Performance of a modern text.
- Component 3: Total 40% - 60 marks, Section A – 45 marks, Section B – 15 marks** (This work will be externally assessed by an examiner). Written exam – Theatre Makers in Practice.

GCSE Economics

You should choose GCSE Economics if:

You want to learn about how the economy works and how it impacts everyone's daily lives

You want to understand how current events around the world can impact your everyday life

You want to learn about how consumers, firms and governments attempt to make rational decisions and the consequences of their decisions

You have a deep passion for wanting to solve the economic problems that exists in society

Careers

Many people studying Economics will choose to pursue the subject or a related subject at A-level or university. Careers in finance, banking, the financial sector and retailing are popular choices for students of Economics.

Some students may choose the apprenticeship route. Economics has been studied by lots of popular and successful people in the world of business, politics, journalism and broadcasting.

The Course

Introduction to Economics

- 1.1 Main economic groups and factors of production
- 1.2 The basic economic problem

The role of markets and money

- 2.1 The role of markets
- 2.2 Demand
- 2.3 Supply
- 2.4 Price
- 2.5 Competition
- 2.6 Production
- 2.7 The labour market
- 2.8 The role of money and financial markets

Economic objectives & the role of government

- 3.1 Economic growth
- 3.2 Low unemployment
- 3.3 Fair distribution of income
- 3.4 Price stability
- 3.5 Fiscal policy
- 3.6 Monetary policy
- 3.7 Supply side policies
- 3.8 Limitations of markets International trade and the global economy
- 4.1 Importance of international trade
- 4.2 Balance of payments
- 4.3 Exchange rates
- 4.4 Globalisation

How does GCSE Economics differ from GCSE Business?

There are a few overlaps between GCSE Business and GCSE Economics but they are very different. Both use a lot of technical language and examine how changes in the world around affect the decisions that businesses make and the consequences to the businesses. However, the difference is that while GCSE Business only focuses on businesses, Economics considers individuals and the government, to create a more complete picture about how we are all living in an interconnected world. This is why Economics complements so many different subjects such as Geography, History, Politics, Maths, Sociology, Psychology and Business too.

How will you be assessed?

OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Economics is a fully linear course and consists of two mandatory components that are externally assessed.

There will be two question papers assessing the two components. Each question paper will have 20 multiple choice questions and short case studies with related short and medium response questions as well the opportunity for extended writing **(maximum of 6 marks)**.

Paper 1: (50%) Introduction to Economics - 80 marks - 1 hour 30 min exam

Paper 2: (50%) National and International Economics - 80 marks - 1 hour 30 min exam

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

You should choose GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition if:

You have a passion for Food
You thrive in a fast paced cooking environment and can manage your time effectively
You are intrigued at the science of food – how ingredients work individually and when combined in recipes
You are able to demonstrate quick thinking and problem solving skills,
You are interested in the nutritional impact of food and how different people have different dietary and energy requirements?
You are interested in the environmental, social and moral impact of food when buying and consuming it?
You can work independently and in a team to produce a range of dishes as well record and evaluate your findings/experience.

Please be aware: of three lessons per fortnight, two will be theory and one will be practical, in which you apply the theory learnt whilst developing a wide range of skills and working across the different ingredient areas

Careers

A GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition could lead to further qualifications and degrees related to Nutrition, Food Technology and Food Production which in turn could help you become a: Dietician, Nutritionist, Food Scientist, Food Manufacturing specialist, Chef, Catering Staff, Restaurant Manager, Food Technologist, Food Product Development Scientist, Food Safety Auditor, Food Writer, Restaurant Critic, Well-Being and Health Consultant - these are jobs that could see you working in all sorts of areas and across the world.

It will also give you the platform to be an independent and healthy adult with invaluable life skills.

The Course

How to safely, independently and confidently prepare and cook a variety of dishes showcasing a wide range of technical skills.	Understand which nutrients our body needs, the impact too much or too little has on our body's and how to have a healthy balanced diet	How to evaluate food based on the senses and how to effectively identify areas of improvement
How to present food so that it looks appetising, but also considers portion control	How to adapt recipes to suit a range of dietary requirements	How to plan and produce a variety of dishes within a given amount of time
Understand the working and scientific characteristics of ingredients and their role within recipes.	How to maintain food safety when storing, preparing and cooking foods	

How will you be assessed?

Component 1: 50% final written exam: This component will consist of questions focused on six areas of content

Component 2: 50% NEA (non-examined assessment). **Assessment 1: (15%)** - The Food Investigation Assessment: A scientific food investigation which will assess your knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to scientific principles underlying the preparation and cooking of food. **Assessment 2: (35%)**- The Food Preparation Assessment: Prepare, cook and present a menu which assesses your knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food.

GCSE Music

You should choose Music if:

You enjoy singing, playing instruments, performing and listening to music

You enjoy composing your own music, e.g. songwriting and want to develop these skills

You are keen to discover and experiment with different musical sounds, genres and cultures from bhangra, salsa and disco to the traditions of western classical music

You wish to extend on your performance skills as an individual and as part of an ensemble

You may be interested in a musical career; teaching, lecturing, a musician (singer/instrumentalist), management, recording, producing, concert promoting

Careers

Among the possible careers after GCSE Music are: BBC Radio Presenter, Music Publisher and Editor, Producer, Recording Studio Manager, Researcher and a Film Music Technician.

The Course

- You will receive free paired or one to one lessons with a professional musician on the instrument of your choice for the duration of the course. This will support the performance and composition aspects of the course
- Perform on your own and as part of a group/ensemble
- Create four mini compositions in Year 10 to support your musical development, including a short sonata, a dance music piece, a tv show theme, and a pop song.
- Produce two recorded compositions
- Learn to use Musescore, Garageband and Ableton live on Macbook
- Work through ABRSM Theory content to support your music theory
- Prepare for auditions for post-16 options
- Develop appreciation for many types of music
- Attend concerts and further your listening repertoire to all styles of music
- Show a real commitment and enthusiasm for the subject
- Themes include: Film, Music, Pop History, Rhythms of the World and Concerto Through Time
- We will be following the OCR syllabus at GCSE Level.

How will you be assessed?

- Coursework for music is 60% of the total mark, and a listening exam is worth 40%.
- The listening examination (40%) is a one hour paper based around some of the following musical genres: Film Music, Pop Music, Rhythms of the World and Concerto Through Time
- The coursework involves performance and composition using either a musical instrument of your choice or your voice.

GCSE Physical Education

You should choose GCSE Physical Education if:

You want to learn about the body and anatomy of sport

You have aspirations to have a career related to sport

You enjoy participating in sport and are able to practically perform to a high standard

You enjoy discussing and debating current events and topics in sport.

You regularly participate in sport and are able to practically perform to a high standard.

Careers

A GCSE in Physical Education could lead to a career in a sport. It could also lead to working in careers which involve health and nutrition, teaching, sports therapy, sports analysts, sports psychology, physiotherapy and coaching. Business, marketing and advertising related to sports may be other possible avenues.

Taking the GCSE PE course is the perfect starting point if you wish to study A-Level PE. For those looking to continue to degree level, there are BSCs available in Sport and Exercise Science, Sport and Coaching and Sports Therapy to name but a few!

The Course

Over the two year course, you will study many different topics related to sport which are broken down into four components. You will have six hours of GCSE PE over two weeks and you will split your time between practical lessons and theory lessons in the classroom. By doing this, you will cover all content related to the theoretical and practical parts of the course. You will also have core PE lessons in addition to your timetable GCSE lessons.

How will you be assessed?

Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems – Written exam 1hr 30min (36% of the qualification)

Component 2: Health and Performance – Written exam 1hr 15min (24% of the qualification)

Component 3: Practical Performance – (30% of the qualification)

Component 4: Personal Exercise Programme – (10% of the qualification)

GCSE Religious Education

You should choose GCSE RE if:

- You have found Key Stage 3 RE interesting and enjoyable.
- You enjoy thinking about and discussing religious and moral issues.
- You want to understand how religion has shaped the world's history, literature, art, culture, politics, ethics and economics
- You want to understand how religious traditions have laid the foundation for human rights, social justice, mutual understanding and world peace.
- You are interested in current affairs and enjoy listening to debates about the religious and ethical issues of our world.
- You want to study a rigorous subject that will teach you the life skills of critical thinking, evaluation, cultural understanding and empathy.

Careers

RE is a gateway subject that opens avenues to further study in many fields and a diverse range of desirable careers. The elements of critical thinking and extended writing lend themselves to the study of a wide range of university courses and elements of ethics embedded into the current RE curriculum support careers in everything from Law to Medicine.

The Course

You will study Christianity, Islam and non-religious views. As we look at each issue in turn, the topics will include: ethics (euthanasia, abortion, adultery, attitudes to sexuality, war, the question of good and evil, peace and justice), philosophy (the origins of the universe, the search for truth and the nature of belief) and the details of what it means to live a religious life.

How will you be assessed?

Students will sit two final exams. Unit assessments and revision workbooks will support preparation for this throughout the course.

GCSE Sociology

You should choose GCSE Sociology if:

You are interested in the way in which wider society shapes us and influences our beliefs and behaviours.

Sociology GCSE is based on applying your understanding of sociological theories & concepts, such as functionalism, Marxism & feminism, to different aspects of society including the education system and families. In addition, you will analyse crime and deviance, as well as social stratifications and inequality in society. Throughout the course you will develop your ability to debate issues, analyse and evaluate different perspectives, articulate your ideas clearly in essays and develop your own opinions about the world around you.

Careers

Studying sociology will develop your critical thinking, analytical and evaluative skills, in addition to developing your ability to communicate your ideas, all of which are skills necessary for a wide range of careers, including in law, business or journalism. By developing a nuanced and thoughtful understanding of society and the way it influences human behaviour, students who have studied sociology are suitable for careers that involve interacting with members of the public, such as teaching, social work, counselling or policing.

The Course

You will learn in the following ways:

1. The sociological approach

2. Social structures, social processes and social issues

3. Families

4. Education

5. Crime and deviance

6. Social stratification

7. Sociological research methods

How will you be assessed?

Examinations.

Paper 1 – The sociology of families and education: The sociology of families and education:

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 100 marks. 50% of GCSE

Paper 2 – The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification:

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes. 100 marks. 50% of GCSE

OPTIONS CHOICES Sept 2023 - July 2025

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