



ST. ANNE'S
R.C. VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

TO KNOW, LOVE AND SERVE GOD

Making Informed Choices

Year 9

2025-2026

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 4th March 2026 Year 9 Options Information Assembly

Week beginning 23rd February 2026 Subject Presentations

Please bring this booklet to the Year 9 Options Evening on Tuesday 10th March 2026.

6.00pm-6.20pm: formal presentation will outline the options process

6.20pm-7.00pm: an opportunity to visit subjects and talk to subject specialists

We will also have our Careers Advisor on hand if you have any questions.

Wednesday 25th March 2026 Options form need to be handed into your Head of Year

Following this, a letter to parents and pupils will be sent with the final suite of chosen qualification offer.

THE KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM

At St Anne's RC Voluntary Academy our priority is to ensure that the curriculum we offer our students promotes the development of Catholic values in everyone. In addition, we encourage all our students to become responsible, contributing, and caring members of society.

We are continuing in our effort to develop a range of courses to enable all students, regardless of their academic ability, to experience a challenging, broad, and balanced curriculum which both implicitly and explicitly prepares them for the world of work.

THE KEY STAGE FOUR CURRICULUM

CORE SUBJECTS

Religious Education
English Language and English Literature
Mathematics
Combined Science
Core Physical Education

Humanities and Language Choices

Geography
History
Spanish
Computer Science

Other GCSE Choices

Art & Design
Business Studies
Citizenship
Design and Technology
Drama
Food Preparation & Nutrition
Music
P.E.
Triple Science

Other Non-GCSE Choices

Health & Social

MAKING SENSIBLE CHOICES

The choices your child makes about what to study at Key Stage 4 are very important and decisions should be made carefully and thoughtfully. Below are some suggestions to help when advising your child.

1. Take your time. Important decisions need lots of thinking about.
2. Talk to your parents and discuss your ideas with them.
3. Find out as much information as you can about the option subjects you are interested in:
 - Talk to teachers in charge of various subjects. Read the subject pages in this booklet which tells you about each qualification.
 - Ask your Head of Year, for advice
 - Talk to the present Year 10/11 students who are studying the options you are interested in.
4. Look at your past Progress Checks. Think about where your strengths lie. **Which subjects are you good at?** You are more likely to be successful in these subjects.
5. **Don't pick a subject just because your friends are opting for it.** There is no guarantee that you will be in the same group, and it is better in Years 10 and 11 to focus on the subjects you are going to achieve well in.
6. You must also remember that some of the group sizes may be too large or too small and we may have to ask you to make an alternative choice. **It is very important to think carefully about reserve choices.**

The remainder of the booklet gives you more detailed information relation to the different subjects on offer at Key Stage 4.

Websites that might help with your choice: -

- www.russellgroup.ac.uk(The Russell group represents the top 20 leading universities)
- www.careerpath.com

- www.apprenticeships.org.uk
- www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk
- www.careersbox.co.uk

ASSESSMENT

GCSE Courses 2026-2028

The content and skills required for all GCSE courses is challenging. All examinations are linear and take place at the end of the two years. When pupils receive their GCSE in these subjects, they will be awarded a number from 9 (highest) to 1 (lowest).

Tiering in GCSE Examinations

There is no tiering for the GCSE English qualification. All pupils will sit the same examination paper.

Mathematics, Science, Spanish will be examined through a Higher and Foundation Tier - the distribution of the numbered grades 1 to 9 between the two tiers is 5 to 9 for Higher and 1 to 5 for Foundation.

Why is tiering used in some GCSE examinations?

Tiering provides students with the opportunity to show what they know, understand and do by presenting them with question papers that are targeted at a band of attainment. For each tier of entry, the written question papers will:

- Be at an appropriate level of difficulty for the range of grades available at that tier.
- Prompt the higher attaining pupils to respond at a greater depth.
- Provide opportunities for the lower attaining pupils to show what they know.
- Use appropriate language.

| | Old GCSEs | New GCSEs | BTEC | BTEC Technical Award |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|------|----------------------|
| Level 2 | A* | 9 8 | L2D* | L2D* |
| | A | 7 | L2D | L2D |
| | B | 6 | L2M | L2M |
| | C | 5 | L2P | L2P |
| | | | | |
| Level 1 | D | 4 | | L1D |
| | E | 3 | L1P | |
| | F | 2 | | L1M |
| | G | 1 | | L1P |

CORE

CORE: Combined Science (2 GCSEs)



COURSE CONTENT:

Biology: Cell biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution and Ecology.

Chemistry: Atomic Structure and the Periodic table, Bonding, Structure and the Properties of Matter, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Changes, Energy Changes, The Rate and Extent of Chemical Change, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the Atmosphere and Using Resources.

Physics: Energy, Electricity, Particle Model of Matter, Atomic Structure, Forces, Waves, Magnetism and Electromagnetism.

Specification

Combined Science Trilogy (8464)

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment Details

During the course content taught in each unit is assessed in three ways:

- Multiple choice questions
- Formative assessment (1 per unit)
- Summative assessment (1 per unit)

Final Examinations

- 6 exams in total - Each Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) has 2 papers
- Each exam is 16.7% of the GCSE
- Each exam is 1hr 15min
- Each exam includes multiple choice, structured, closed, short answer and open response questions.

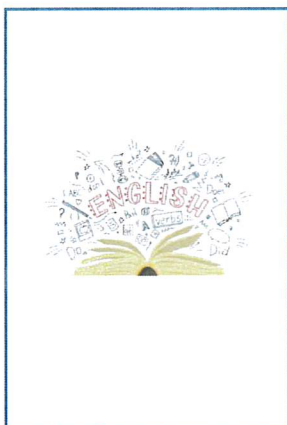
Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

- Good Mathematics and Literacy skills are essential
- Good work ethic and the ability to revise from the 1st day of the course

Staff Contact for Further Information

Mrs Rogerson, Head of Department, Ms Poscha, 2nd in Department

CORE: GCSE English Language and English Literature



COURSE CONTENT:

All students take two GCSEs in English Language (8700) and English Literature (8702).

- ✓ Reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts
- ✓ Inferring, analysing and exploring meanings and ways of creating meaning
- ✓ Writing coherent responses with technical accuracy

Specification

8700/8702

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment Details

Students are assessed on their ability to read and respond to unseen fiction and non-fiction texts, as well as their ability to communicate ideas and perspectives in their writing. They also study a 19th Century Novel, a Shakespeare play, a modern drama and a poetry anthology as part of the literature qualification, writing essays on these texts.

Final Examinations

English Language:

- ✓ 1hr 45m – Reading and Writing Creatively
- ✓ 1hr 45m – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

English Literature:

- ✓ 1hr 45m – Shakespeare and the Nineteenth Century Novel
- ✓ 2hr 15m – Modern Texts and Poetry

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

Reading and responding to texts

Writing with a high degree of accuracy and creativity

Ability to memorise quotations and references from texts

Staff Contact for Further Information

Ms Cook, Head of English

CORE: GCSE MATHEMATICS



COURSE CONTENT:

- Mathematics is a core subject which is compulsory at GCSE.
- Maths will provide you with a varied and useful 'toolbox' of skills with which you can understand a wide variety of mathematical problems.
- It will train you to be logical and systematic and see the relevance and beauty of maths in all areas of life.
- Having a firm grasp of Mathematics is not only key for a career but is also seen as a life skill where employers and colleges will expect a GCSE pass of grade 4 or above to access courses / apprenticeships.

Specification

1MA1/1F or 1MA1/1H

Exam Board

EDEXCEL

Assessment Details

- Pupils will either sit Foundation tier exams or Higher tier exams.
- For each tier there are 3 exams of 1hr 30 mins each.
- First exam is a non-calculator exam and the other two are calculator-based exams.
- Each paper is out of 80 and pupils will get a total mark out of 240 which is converted into a grade.
- *It is important that pupils have their own calculator, Casio fx-83GT CW or fx-85GT CW*

Final Examinations

In Mathematics, there are two tiers of entry for the GCSE, Foundation and Higher. The weighting of mathematical content is slightly different at each tier:

| Mathematical content | Foundation | Higher |
|---------------------------------------|------------|--------|
| Number | 25% | 15% |
| Algebra | 20% | 30% |
| Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change | 25% | 20% |
| Statistics and Probability | 15% | 15% |
| Geometry and Measures | 15% | 20% |

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

The Edexcel Mathematics GCSE will develop and test your knowledge and competency in three ways:

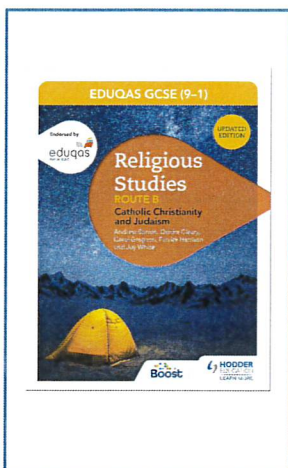
1. Mathematical Fluency – teaching you how to use mathematical skills and procedures on a variety of concepts; from the simple, to the more complex.
2. Problem Solving – teaching you how to approach unfamiliar multi-step questions.
3. Reasoning – teaching you how to communicate effectively and explain using mathematical ideas.

Staff Contact for Further Information

Ms T Khan – Head of Mathematics

Ms D Weldon – KS3 Lead in Mathematics

CORE: GCSE RE



COURSE CONTENT:

Paper 1 – Foundational Catholic Theology (1hr 30mins)

- **Origins and Meanings** (Origins of the universe and life, sanctity of life, abortion, creation story, stewardship, peace and justice, Catholic Social Teaching)
- **Good and Evil** (Origins of evil, purpose of evil, original sin, the trinity, incarnation, pilgrimage, statues and popular piety)

Paper 2 – Applied Catholic Theology (1hr 30 mins)

- **Life and Death** (Heaven, Hell, Purgatory, Eschatology, Euthanasia, Prayer, Funerals, Artefacts and Music)
- **Sin and Forgiveness** (Morality, death penalty, forgiveness, redemption and salvation, the sacraments, church buildings)

Paper 3 – Judaism (1hr)

- **Beliefs and Teachings** of Judaism
- **Practices** of Jewish people in modern Britain

Specification

C120PB – Eduqas RELIGIOUS STUDIES (FULL COURSE) (ROUTE B)

Exam Board

Eduqas

Assessment Details

Each unit of all three papers is assessed using these 4 questions:

- 2 marks – **Definition**. Define a key term and give an example of that key term.
- 5 marks – **Describe**. Make a point about a teaching/example/belief/attitude and then describe this (x3). Include a source of wisdom and authority where relevant.
- 8 marks – **Explain**. Make a point, give evidence, explain it and state how this influences Catholics / Jewish people (x2). Sources of wisdom and authority are needed here.
- 15 marks – **Discuss**. Develop arguments for/against, then critique the arguments made and then conclude backing up arguments with sources of wisdom and authority (in paper 1 and 2 you will receive 12 additional marks altogether for SPaG in this question).

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

You will need a high degree of religious and philosophical knowledge and literacy to do well. However, just as important is the ability to reason, create sophisticated convincing arguments, look at issues from different perspectives and reach a justified conclusion. These **highly valuable transferable skills** will take **time** and **effort** to achieve, but they are worth it!

Careers

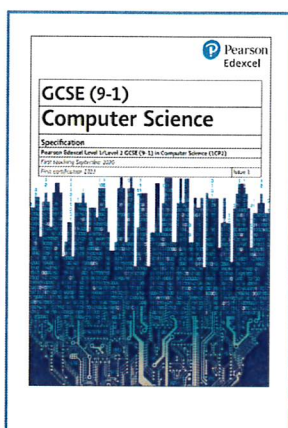
Studying GCSE Religious Studies can lead to careers such as law, where skills in ethical reasoning and evaluating arguments are highly valued. It also supports pathways into social work, counselling, or charity work, as students develop empathy and an understanding of different beliefs and communities. Other options include journalism, teaching, or the police, where clear communication, critical thinking, and moral decision-making are important.

Staff Contact for Further Information

Mr Williams, Head of RE

Ms Scott, 2nd in Department

Computer Science



COURSE CONTENT:

| Unit 1 – Principles of Computer Science | Unit 2 – Application of computational thinking |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Topic 1: Computational thinking● Topic 2: Data● Topic 3: Computers● Topic 4: Networks● Topic 5: Issues and impact | This paper will assess Topic 6: Problem solving with programming |

Specification

GCSE Computer Science (9-1)

Exam Board

Edexcel

Assessment Details

In class formative assessments take place at the end of each topic, with summative assessments at the end of each term. Pupils are expected to practice their programming skills on a fortnightly basis by completing programming activities for homework to develop their algorithmic thinking skills.

Computer Science has a broad range of vocabulary that pupils must learn to spell, define and apply accurately in their verbal and written responses.

Final Examinations

2 exams to be taken in May/June 2027

Each exam is out of 75 marks and accounts for 50% of the grade

Unit 1 assesses the pupils principle knowledge of Computer Science.

Unit 2 assesses the pupils programming skill. Pupils complete a set of practical programming assignments in exam conditions.

The final grade is awarded based on the result of both marks combined

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

Problem solving/Resilience

Team work

Independent thinking

Good communication

Pupils who enjoy maths and science will succeed in this subject

Staff Contact for Further Information

Mrs McGloin – Assistant Headteacher – Teaching and Learning

Geography



COURSE CONTENT:

Paper One – Living with the physical environment

Section A – The challenge of natural hazards

Section B – The living world

Section C – The UK's physical landscapes

Paper Two – Challenges in the Human environment

Section A – Urban issues and challenges

Section B - The economic world

Section C – Resource management

Paper Three – Issue evaluation and fieldwork

Specification

8035

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment Details

Question types – multiple choice, short answer, resource-based questions e.g. using a graph or photograph and extended 9-mark answers.

This qualification is linear, meaning that all the assessments are at the end of the course.

Final Examinations

Paper One and paper two –

Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes. 88 marks (including 3 marks for SPAG and specialist terminology). Together they are worth 70% of the GCSE.

Paper Three –

Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes. 76 marks (including 3 marks for SPAG and specialist terminology). Worth 30% of the GCSE.

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

Analytical skills, critical thinking, presentation, communication, decision making, questioning information, interpreting data.

Most importantly, an interest in the world around you!

Staff Contact for Further Information

Miss L Riley, Head of Humanities.

GCSE HISTORY



COURSE CONTENT: this is an exciting GCSE History course which enables pupils to learn about the past so that it can shape their future today. Students will study: 1.) *in depth* the rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party; 2.) the increased international tension after WW1 and how this caused WW2; 3.) the changes in how medicine and public health have developed over time (as a thematic study) whilst also looking closely at 4.) the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1st in Early-Modern England. These areas of study cover a wide range of international and British Historical events which will lead students to ask WHY and HOW events occurred. The course will be packed with discussion and debate supporting pupils with the development of their critical thinking skills.

Specification

Paper 1: Understanding the Modern World

Paper 2: Shaping the nation

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment Details

Students will be assessed by 2 examination papers at the end of the course. Each Paper will be 2 hours in length and worth 50% of the total marks.

Paper 1: Understanding the Modern World will include:

1. the period study on Germany 1890-1945: Democracy to Dictatorship; and
2. the wider world depth study of Conflict and Tension 1918-1939

Paper 2: Shaping the nation will include:

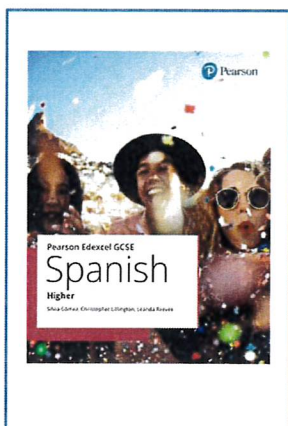
1. the thematic study on Health and the People 1000-present day; and
2. the British depth study of Elizabethan England 1568-1603

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success: History is a highly academic and well-respected subject. It forms part of the English Baccalaureate qualification and supports pupils in their development towards A-Level courses. Students will need to be able to write fluently and be able to give different sides of an argument whilst forming a judgement. Students will need to analyse sources and interpretations to consider how reliable they might be. These are all skills that are learnt throughout the key stage 3 curriculum. Most importantly, students who choose this as a GCSE subject should enjoy studying History and finding out how and why the world we live in today was formed. History is very highly thought of by employers who consider it as one of the most desirable subjects to have studied outside of core subjects. Legal and political career paths are common for those with History qualifications.

Staff Contact for Further Information:

Miss Waghorn, Teacher of History

Languages - SPANISH



COURSE CONTENT:

The course aims to develop cultural appreciation, knowledge of grammar, vocabulary and the ability to manipulate and understand verbal and written Spanish. At KS4 our students begin the study of the GCSE topics via the exploration of the following topics: Identity and Culture, Local area, holiday and travel, School, Future aspirations, study and work, International and global dimension. Additionally, students will continue to build on their learning from KS3 with further complexity provide information and opinions about these themes relating to their own experiences and those of other people, including people in countries and communities where the language being studied is spoken.

Specification

25% Reading 25% Listening
25% Writing 25% Speaking

Exam Board

Edexcel

Assessment Details

The examinations are divided into two tiers of Foundation and Higher and students will be entered for the one most suited to their ability. Students are assessed summatively and formatively on production and understanding each half term. This will always be in the form of written or speaking with listening or reading.

Final Examinations

| | Listening | Reading | Writing | Speaking |
|------------|-----------|---------|----------------|------------|
| Foundation | 35 mins | 45 mins | 1 hour | 7 minutes |
| Higher | 45 mins | 1 hour | 1 hour 15 mins | 10 minutes |

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

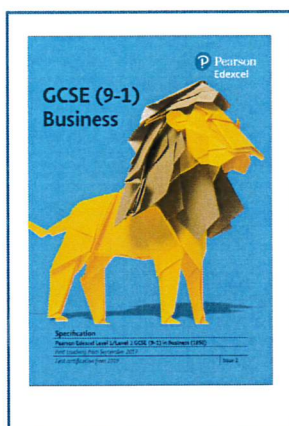
Spanish will help students to develop their linguistic skills as well as their cultural knowledge of the world around them. A successful linguist must have an interest in Spanish and enjoy communicating with others and sharing ideas. Furthermore, successful Spanish students practice regularly and engage fully in learning.

Staff Contact for Further Information

Head of Department - Miss Todd

OTHER GCSEs

GCSE Business



COURSE CONTENT:

The course consists of two themes of study; Theme 1 – Investigating small business and Theme 2 – Building a business. In theme 1 students will explore the skills required to be an entrepreneur, how business opportunities come about and how to make the business effective. In theme 2 students examine the ways to make a business grow and the impact of business decisions.

Specification

GCSE 9-1 Business (from 2017)

Exam Board

Pearson Edexcel

Assessment Details

The course is assessed in 2 external exams to be taken in May/June 2026.

Paper 1 – Investigating Small Business – 50% - 1hr 45mins

Paper 2 – Building a Business – 50% - 1hr 45mins

Each paper is broken into 3 sections. Section A will assess core knowledge. Section B and C will assess applied knowledge of Business by providing a case study that must be analysed to inform the extended writing answers that follow.

Final Examinations

Both units are externally assessed in May 2025.

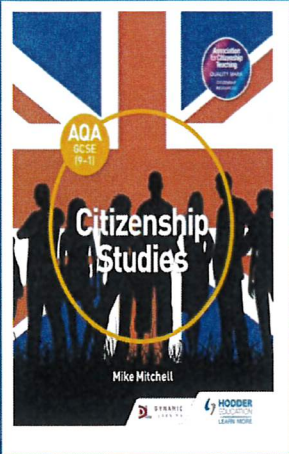
Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

Independent study skills
Good communication
Good at English and Math
Organisational skills

Staff Contact for Further Information

Mrs K McGloin, Assistant Headteacher, Teacher of Business Studies

GCSE CITIZENSHIP STUDIES



COURSE CONTENT: GCSE Citizenship Studies helps you understand how the UK works and how you can have a voice in society. You will study British society, democracy and government, the law, and your rights and responsibilities as a citizen. The course explores real-life issues that affect young people and communities at a local, national and global level. You will also complete an active citizenship project, where you investigate a real issue and plan how citizens can bring about change. Throughout the course, you will develop valuable skills such as debating, critical thinking, research and teamwork. These skills will help you become an informed, confident citizen and prepare you for further study, work and adult life.

Specification

GCSE Citizenship Studies (8100)

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment Details

| <u>Paper 1</u> | <u>Paper 2</u> |
|--|---|
| <p>What's Assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active Citizenship Politics and Participation | <p>What's Assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life in Modern Britain Rights and responsibilities |
| <p>How its assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written exam: 1hr 45mins 80 marks 50% of GCSE | <p>How its assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written exam: 1hr 45mins 80 marks 50% of GCSE |
| <p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section A: Active citizenship questions: questions on the citizenship action of others and questions on the students taking citizenship action investigation (40 marks) Section B: Politics and participation question (40 marks) Question types: multiple-choice, short answer, source-based questions, extended answer | <p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section A: Life in modern Britain questions (40 marks) Section B: Rights and responsibilities questions (40 marks) Question types: multiple-choice, short answer, source-based questions, extended answer |

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success: Citizenship Studies requires students to write clearly, discuss different viewpoints and form balanced judgements about current issues. Students will analyse sources such as news articles and case studies, and develop skills in research, communication and teamwork. It is ideal for students who are interested in society, politics and making a positive difference, and supports future pathways into careers such as law, politics and public services.

Staff Contact for Further Information:

Mr Williams (Head of RE)

GCSE Art and Design



COURSE CONTENT:

Art, Craft and Design can involve use of an almost limitless range of techniques, processes and materials, including those that are recyclable. A wide range of processes, tools, techniques, materials and resources may be employed to create artefacts and to generate diverse evidence of working methods and outcomes. The emphasis is on an increased breadth of approach commensurate in demand with the depth of learning required in the more specialised titles. Art, Craft and Design can be distinguished from other titles in as much as students are able to explore personal interests and demonstrate their abilities across a particularly broad course of study. Students must also explore practical and relevant critical and contextual sources such as the work of historical and contemporary artists, craftspeople and designers as well as the different purposes, intentions and functions of art, craft and design as appropriate to their own work. Art, Craft and Design offers flexibility in content and approach and students undertaking this option must explore and create work associated with at least two of the titles listed below:

- Fine Art
- Graphic Communication
- Textile Design
- Three-dimensional Design
- Photography
- Critical and Contextual Studies.

Specification

Component 1 - Portfolio

60% of GCSE 120 Marks

Component 2 - Externally Set Assignment

40% of GCSE 80 Marks

TOTAL MARKS (200)

Exam Board

Eduqas GCSE in Art and Design

Assessment Details

- **Assessment Objective 1-** (Research)
Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- **Assessment Objective 2 -** (Development of Designs)
Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- **Assessment Objective 3 -** (Observations, collecting imagery and documenting ideas)
Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- **Assessment Objective 4 -** (Final outcome for the project)
Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

Final Examinations

10hour Exam – Where candidates create a final outcome to realise and finalise their response towards the *Externally Set Assignment*. Exam conditions apply, candidates will be unaided and under supervised conditions from examiners.

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

Empathy - Determination - Organisation - Time Management - Creativity - Independence - Confidence - Passion - Desire - Adventurous - Self Critical - Tolerance - Initiative – Communication

Staff Contact for Further Information

Miss Bennett, Teacher of Art

Mr Donnelly, Head of Creative Arts

GCSE Design and Technology



COURSE CONTENT:

Design and Technology involves understanding the design process and learning how to use research to create innovative designs. Students will use a variety of CAD/CAM techniques and work with a range of materials to understand their working properties. The course involves students working as a product designer to complete a design and make project. The classroom is not only a design studio but also a place to make high quality innovative products.

Specification

GCSE 9-1 Design and Technology

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment Details

The course is run by AQA and examined in two ways

Written Exam: 2 hours 100 marks (50%)

Non-exam Assessment (NEA): 35 hours 100 marks. Consists of a single design and make task in Y11 selected from a range of board set tasks (50%)

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

Independent study skills

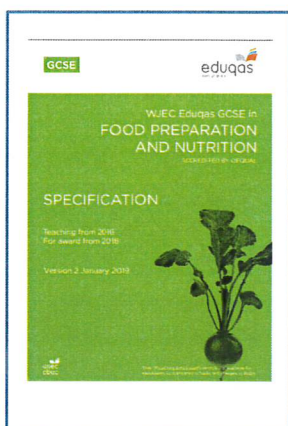
Good progress in Design Technology in Y9

Well organised

Staff Contact for Further Information

Miss C Rose, Head of Technology

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition



COURSE CONTENT:

This GCSE equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life. Areas of Content that are looked at are:

1. Food commodities
2. Principles of nutrition
3. Diet and good health
4. The science of food
5. Where food comes from
6. Cooking and food preparation

Specification

Eduqas Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Food Preparation and Nutrition - 601/8093/6

Exam Board

Eduqas

Assessment Details

Component 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes. This forms 50% of qualification.

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action non-examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated. This forms 50% of the GCSE qualification. As part of component 2 there are 2 assessments.

Final Examinations

Assessment 1: The Food Investigation Assessment which is a scientific food investigation that will assess the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to scientific principles in the preparation and cooking of food. Assessment 1 is for 8 hours where students will produce a written report, which is 2,000 words.

Assessment 2: The Food Preparation Assessment where the students will prepare, cook and present three food dishes during a three hour practical, which assesses the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food. Assessment 2 is for 12 hours where students will produce a written report, which is 30 sides of A4.

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

Organisation skills
Problem solving
Creativity

Staff Contact for Further Information

Miss C Rose, Head of Technology, Teacher of Food Preparation and Nutrition

GCSE Drama



COURSE CONTENT:

Drama engages and encourages you to become confident performers with the skills you need for a bright and successful future. You'll learn to collaborate with others, think analytically and evaluate effectively. GCSE Drama students will gain the confidence to pursue their ideas, reflect and refine their efforts. Whatever the future holds, students of GCSE Drama emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills, applicable both in further studies and in our ever-changing global workplace.

The subject content for GCSE Drama is divided into three components:

1. Understanding drama
2. Devising drama
3. Texts in practice

Specification

[GCSE Drama | Eduqas](#)

Exam Board

Eduqas

Assessment Details

Section 1 - Understanding Drama – 40% Exam

Study of An Inspector Calls, Live Theatre Review, Theatrical Theory – *stage types and positions etc*

Section 2 - Devising Drama – 40% Practical

Performance of a devised piece of drama rehearsed in groups. Recorded in the classroom

Section 3 – Theatre Texts in Practise – 20% Practical

Performance of two extracts from a play you choose in a group of your choice. Performed to an examiner

Final Examinations

1 hour 45-minute written exam – focus on performing An Inspector Calls and analysing a piece of live Theatre Review.

There is also a performance exam. This is a live performance done in front of an examiner in March of Y11

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

In selecting GCSE Drama, it is essential that you are committed to Drama, always commit to improving your performing skills, are willing to work as both an individual and group performer and have an interest in Drama. A big part of Drama is performing, students should be prepared to perform in lessons but also on occasion, outside of lessons by getting involved in school performances.

Staff Contact for Further Information

Mrs Simmons, Assistant Headteacher, Teacher of Drama

GCSE Physical Education



COURSE CONTENT:

1. Applied anatomy and physiology
2. Movement analysis
3. Physical training
4. Use of data
5. Sports psychology
6. Socio-cultural influences
7. Health, fitness and wellbeing

Specification

GCSE

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment Details

Students are assessed in three practical sports: one team activity, one individual activity, and a third activity which can be either team or individual, alongside an analysis and evaluation piece of coursework. All practical assessments and coursework together make up 40% of the overall GCSE grade, with the remaining 60% assessed through two written examination papers.

Final Examinations

Paper 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- 78 marks
- 30% of GCSE

Paper 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- 78 marks
- 30% of GCSE

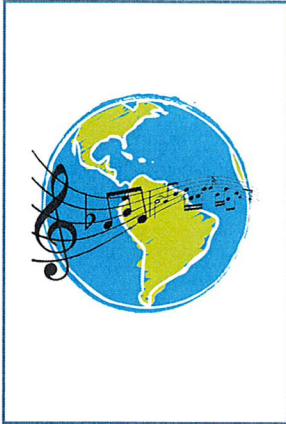
Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

- Consistently participating in sports clubs outside of school
- Resilience, determination, and a positive attitude to challenge
- Understanding of key theoretical concepts such as anatomy and physiology, training principles, and health and fitness

Staff Contact for Further Information

Mr Gallagher, Head of Department

GCSE Music



COURSE CONTENT:

Students cover a wide range of genres within both classical and popular music. Lessons are taught through a practical manner where students will perform, compose and critically listen to music throughout the course.

You will study music through the following areas of specialism: Musical Forms & Devices, Music for Ensemble, Music for Film, Popular Music. There are 2 pieces that we analyse in depth within these Area of Studies.

Specification

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/by5boopf/eduqas-gcse-music-spec-from-2016-d.pdf>

Exam Board

Eduqas GCSE Music

Assessment Details

Performance – 30% - one solo performance and one ensemble (group) performance recorded in year 11. This is recorded in year 11.

Composition – 30% - one “free” composition of your choice to be completed in year 10 and one set assignment brief for year 11.

Appraising – 40% - Listening exam on the area of specialisms mentioned above.

Final Examinations

Performances are to be completed prior to exam series of year 11. This completed and recorded in class. Compositions are completed in the classroom also. Therefore, 60% of music assessment content is completed prior to the exam series of year 11.

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

Students will need a passion and determination to succeed. There are many skills that students can develop should they desire to opt for music which can then assist them in their future such as creativity, cooperation and independence.

Performance pieces are to be performed to a minimum of grade 3 standard. It is strongly advised that students attend peripatetic instrumental lessons to ensure students get regular coaching on their selected instrument to improve their practice.

Staff Contact for Further Information

Mr Donnelly, Head of Creative Arts

OPTION: Triple (Separate) Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)



COURSE CONTENT:

Biology: Cell biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution and Ecology.

Chemistry: Atomic Structure and the Periodic table, Bonding, Structure and the Properties of Matter, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Changes, Energy Changes, The Rate and Extent of Chemical Change, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the Atmosphere and Using Resources.

Physics: Energy, Electricity, Particle Model of Matter, Atomic Structure, Forces, Waves, Magnetism and Electromagnetism and Space Physics.

Specification

Biology (8461)
Chemistry (8462)
Physics (8463)

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment Details

During the course content taught in each unit is assessed in three ways:

- Multiple choice questions
- Formative assessment (1 per unit)
- Summative assessment (1 per unit)

Final Examinations

- 6 exams in total - Each Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) has 2 papers
- Each exam is 50% of the GCSE for that Science.
- Each exam is 1hr 45min
- Each exam includes multiple choice, structured, closed, short answer and open response questions.

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

- Good Mathematics and Literacy skills are essential
- Good work ethic and the ability to revise from the 1st day of the course

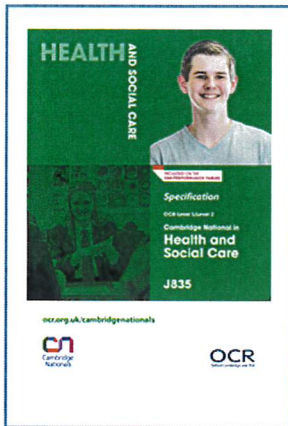
Staff Contact for Further Information

Mrs Rogerson, Head of Department

HUMANITIES AND LANGUAGE

OTHER NON GCSEs

Cambridge National: Health and Social Care



COURSE CONTENT:

The Cambridge National in Health and Social Care will inspire and equip students with transferable skills that are relevant to the Health and Social Care sector and more widely. It covers the rights of individuals, person-centred values of care, how to protect individuals in various care settings and learn about the impact of life events.

To work in a health or social care setting, it is essential to understand the rights of individuals, person-centred values and how they can be applied. This qualification will help you to develop this knowledge and to understand the importance of effective communication skills when working in these settings. You will also develop the skills needed to ensure a safe and hygienic environment for those in care.

Specification

OCR Cambridge Nationals
Health and Social Care Level 1/2 - J835

Exam Board

OCR

Assessment Details

Component 1: Written coursework. R033 Supporting individuals through life events, non-examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated – 60 marks. This forms 30% of the final qualification.

Component 2: Written coursework. R034 Creative and therapeutic activities, non-examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated – 60 marks. This forms 30% of the final qualification.

Final Examinations

Written exam: 40% of the final qualification. R032: Principles of care in health and social care settings, 70 marks, 1 hour 15 minutes.

Skills/Aptitudes Required for Success

Organisation skills
Problem solving
Practical creativity

Staff Contact for Further Information

Miss C Rose, Teacher of Health and Social Care