

Options Booklet

Courses starting
September 2024



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Introduction

This booklet is designed to help pupils and parents carefully consider their options preferences for the next two years at Key Stage 4. Pupils will be working towards examinations from which important decisions will be made about their future, therefore the pathways and combinations of subjects that they choose are really important. The subject information in this booklet has been written so that pupils can easily understand what each course involves and can choose their preferred examination courses carefully and objectively. Throughout the booklet we talk about Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications:-

Level 2 Qualifications at Key Stage 4

Pupils can achieve Level 2 when you have 5 or more grade 9-5 levels (equivalent to the previous A*- C grades) at GCSE or BTECs at Level 2. These qualifications include:

- GCSEs achieved at Grade 9-5 in English and Maths.
- GCSEs achieved at Grades 9-5 in other subjects.
- BTEC Technical Awards

Most employers use this level as their minimum entry requirement and insist on Maths and English.

Level 3 Qualifications at Sixth Form College

Pupils can achieve Level 3 when you have 2 Advanced Level passes. These qualifications include:

- 'AS' and 'A' Levels,
- The Advanced and Progression Diplomas,
- The International Baccalaureate,
- BTEC National Award and City & Guilds Advanced Awards.
- National Vocational Qualifications

We have recently seen the introduction of the new T Level courses. T Levels are new courses which follow on from GCSEs and are equivalent to 3 A levels. These 2 year courses, which launched September 2020, have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares pupils for work, further training or study. T Levels offer pupils a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-employment' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days). In time, pupils will be able to take a T Level in subjects including accounting, agriculture, land management and production, animal care and management, construction, finance, legal etc.

In excess of 10 T Level courses are now available at selected colleges, schools and other providers across England with more courses being added year on year.

Pupil Entitlement to CEIAG at Co-op Academy North Manchester.

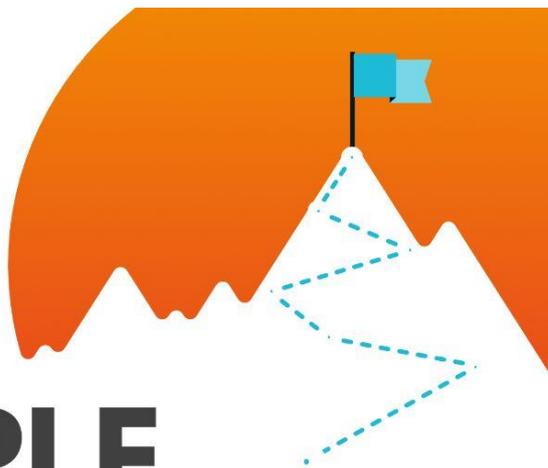
From year 7, all pupils have a planned programme of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) to include information on option preferences in Year 9 and work experience in Year 10, with a view to considering pathways into post-16 education, training opportunities and types of employments.

In Year 11, pupils will receive guidance on choosing post-16 courses and completing applications for apprenticeships or college courses.



Pathway to my Further Education Post 16

POST 16 OPTIONS MADE SIMPLE



I'm thinking about ...

A LEVELS

T LEVELS

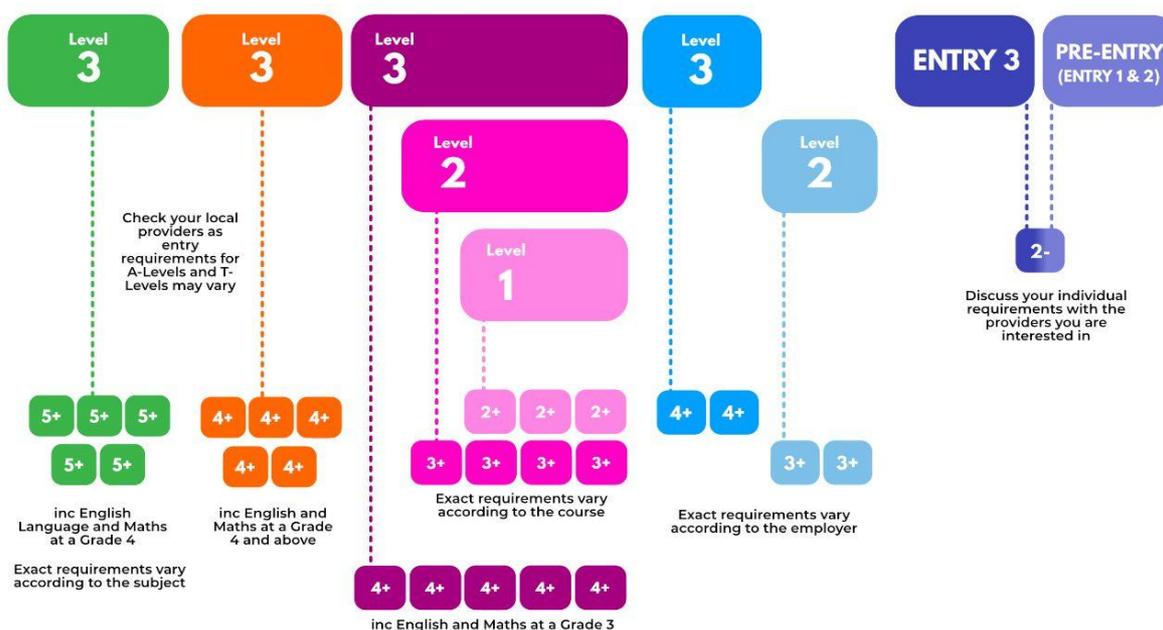
VOCATIONAL
COURSES

APPRENTICESHIPS

VOCATIONAL
COURSES

FUNCTIONAL
SKILLS
COURSES

How many GCSEs will I need for each level?



How many subjects / courses / Apprenticeships do I work towards?

3 or 4
SUBJECT

1
SUBJECT

1
SUBJECT COURSE

1
APPRENTICESHIP

1
SUBJECT COURSE

Speak to your Careers Adviser to help you explore the options in more detail.

The 9-1 Grading System for GCSEs

Grade 9

The Grade 9 allows colleges and universities to identify those pupils with exceptional ability in particular subject areas. A Grade 9 is not the equivalent of a previous A*. It is a grade that has been included to recognise the highest performing pupils nationally. There will be fewer Grade 9s awarded than there were A*s previously.

Grades 8, 7 and 6

Roughly, Grade 8 sits between a previous A* and A grade. Grade 7 is roughly equivalent to a previous grade A and Grade 6 sits just a bit higher than the previous B Grade.

Grades 4 and 5

These grades represent a 'pass' mark, roughly equivalent to the previous C Grade. Grade 4 is considered a 'standard pass' and Grade 5 a 'strong pass'. Schools will be measured by the number of pupils achieving a Grade 4 and above – but they will also be measured on the proportion of pupils who achieve a Grade 5 and above. It is hoped that the Grade 5 will be considered the benchmark entry when comparing educational establishments both in this country and abroad.

Grades 3, 2 and 1

These grades correspond to the previous GCSE grades D, E, F and G. Grade 3 ranks somewhere in-between a D and an E, whilst Grade 2 is somewhere between an E and an F. A Grade 1 is similar to a previous grade G, and a U grade still refers to an exam that has been 'ungraded' – put simply this means that a candidate did not achieve sufficient marks to get onto the grading scale.

BTEC Gradings

Level 2 Distinction

This grade recognises the highest performing pupils

Level 2 Merit and Pass

These grades represent the 'pass' mark for the Level 2 qualification with the Merit grade recognising stronger performance.

Level 1 Pass, Merit, Distinction

These grades roughly correspond to the grades 1, 2 and 3 within the 1-9 GCSE grading structure.



The Core Curriculum

There are some subjects which every pupil must study here at Co-op Academy North Manchester. These form our core curriculum

- English and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science (this includes Biology, Chemistry and Physics) / Separate Sciences (Triple)
- Core PE
- SRE & PSE
- Either History or Geography GCSE from within the options preferences

They will need to choose three further option subjects from our extensive offer, to ensure they are sitting the equivalent of at least 9 GCSEs/BTECs in years 10 and 11. Guidance on selecting these options as preferences follows in the booklet and on the website.

English Language and Literature

Being able to read and write with confidence and a high level of accuracy is essential for future success. The skills they learn in English will not only help them if they choose an academic future, but will also help in everyday adult life.

Mathematics

Mathematics helps to develop their thinking, problem solving and numeracy skills and preparation for the world of work.

Science

Studying science will help them to broaden their understanding of the world around.

Core PE

The Academy offers a range of activities within the core PE lessons that support in developing an active and healthy lifestyle and provide a break from academic studies.

SRE & PSE

Topics include relationships, consent, STI's, bereavement, families, bullying and online bullying and citizenship.

History or Geography

Studying a Humanities subjects of either History or Geography will ensure that they follow a traditional broad and balanced curriculum. The skills learnt within History and Geography are important transferable skills that are relevant to a number of other subjects both at GCSE and BTEC, and also post 16 and beyond.

Pupil must study

Mathematics	English Language	English Literature	History or Geography	Core PE and RSE/PSE	3 options
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The Curriculum

Moving into Year 10 is a very important part of a pupil's time in school and is an opportunity for them to take more control of their education and shape the way they want their future to be. The options which are chosen for Years 10 and 11 will determine not only the next two years of school experience but will also have an impact on the choice of a career pathway after Year 11. There have been a lot of changes and discussions about the education system of late including significant changes to the Personal Development and Religious Studies curriculums.

Pupils have fantastic opportunities available that will help them achieve in the future. Years 10 and 11 aren't just about GCSEs. There are other qualifications such as BTECs and Technical qualifications. These qualifications are taught and assessed in different ways, and it may be that one type suits more than others. It is important to choose subjects that will interest and motivate. Spend some time thinking about what makes them work hard and how they enjoy learning. Remember that they are not alone in making these decisions; everyone in Year 9 is going through the same process. Teachers, friends, parents, carers and family will be able to guide, advise and support in this important decision making process.

In addition to the compulsory core subjects, and either History or Geography, the rest of academy time will be spent studying courses from 3 option subjects. Each option has 5 lessons every fortnight in year 10 and 6 lessons every fortnight in year 11. An increasing importance has to be placed on Mental Health and Well Being, ICT and core PE, developing resilience and independent working. rs and specialist trainers in to run workshops and sessions.

What is the English Baccalaureate

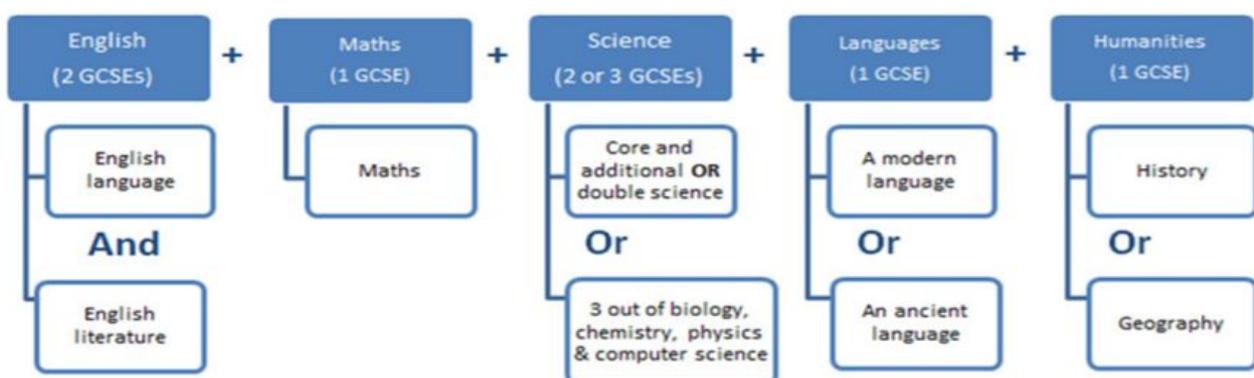
The EBacc is not a new qualification in itself. It recognises pupils achievements across a core of selected academic subjects in getting good passes in rigorous GCSEs.

To achieve the EBacc pupils must study at least seven GCSEs in the five areas: English language, English literature, mathematics, combined science or separate biology, chemistry and physics, history or geography and a language.

The measures of Attainment 8 and Progress 8, which are used to judge school performance, include the EBacc within them.

Attainment 8 – Pupils grades in their 8 highest GCSEs/BTEC subjects are combined to produce a number score. These 8 best GCSEs must include their grades in Maths and English Language or English Literature GCSE. Maths and whichever of English Language or English Literature is higher is then double weighted. A further three of the 8 best GCSEs need to be drawn from English Baccalaureate subjects. The final three slots can be any subject.

Progress 8 – Pupils progress from a baseline when entering secondary school and the results in their 8 best GCSEs. Five of the GCSEs have to be in EBacc subjects. The remaining three can be from EBacc or non-EBacc subjects.



As a pupil, how do I choose?

- Think about the subjects you have enjoyed studying in Year 9
- Research all your option subjects on offer before you make a decision
- Don't fall into the trap of thinking that some courses are only for boys and some only for girls - this isn't true
- If you have a firm career idea, choose the option subjects you need to meet the entry requirements for the post-16 opportunities that interest you - whether that's for studying A Levels at sixth form, embarking on the new T Level courses, university, an apprenticeship or employment with training. If you don't have a firm career idea, choose option subjects that will give you plenty of choice post -16.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help and advice from your family, friends, teachers, careers co-ordinators and others around you.
- Look at your latest report and think about if you are working on, below or above target.

Good reasons for choosing an option

- You are good at the subject
- You can satisfy the entry criteria (where applicable)
- You think you will enjoy the course It fits your career ideas and plans
- It goes well with your other choices
- It is required for a future pathway you are considering
- You think you might want to continue studying it a post-16
- Your research shows that it will interest you and motivate you to learn



Bad reasons for choosing an option

- Your friends have chosen it
- You think it will be easy
- Someone else thinks that it is a good idea
- You like your teacher you have now
- You didn't have time to research your options properly

Use career websites to help you decide and research courses

There are lots of good websites to help with making choices. Use UCAS www.ucas.com



Timeline for making your choices

Thur 1st Feb - Year 9 Options Assembly for Pupils to explain the option process

W/c 5th Feb - Parents receive invitation to the Option Event and the Options booklet. The school website also includes all the Options information.

Thursday 8th Feb - Year 9 Options Event

Friday 9th Feb - Option form made available online

W/c 12th Feb - Taster assemblies delivered to year 9 for new courses not previously studied in years 7-9 eg: Business, Health & Social Care, Sociology

W/c 12th Feb & w/c 26th Feb - Online Interview drop-ins with SLT to discuss queries with choices.

Thursday 29th Feb - Option form due in online

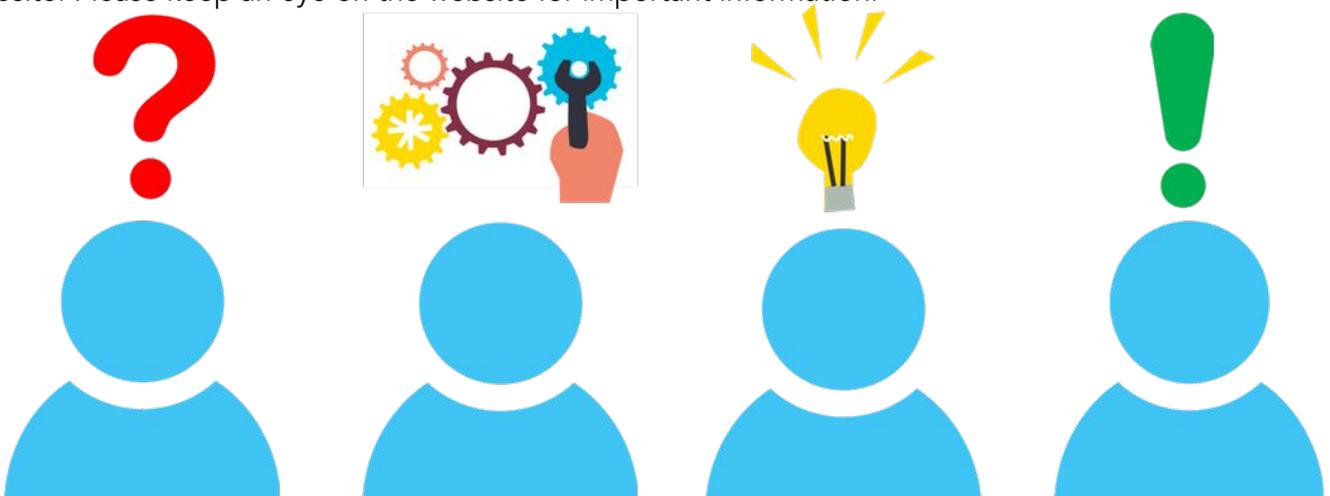
June - Option choices confirmed

Making choices

Following the Options Event, pupils will be asked to make their subject preferences on the online option form. The link is available on the school website from Friday 9th February. When completing the form they will need to decide whether to study History or Geography and also list their top 7 option subject preferences. Pupils will be asked to number these 7 preferences 1 to 7, with 1 being the most important one to them and 7, the least.

Pupils can receive guidance on what option subjects they should seriously consider choosing, based on their performance and engagement in Year 9 and feedback from subject staff. Some subjects have very specific criteria so please ensure your child has read this carefully in this booklet and cross checked the subject entry criteria against the report they received at the Progress Evening a fortnight ago.

Once the forms have been submitted online and collated, a small number of pupils will be invited for a one to one with a member of the senior staff to discuss the suitability of their option subject preferences. They will also look at the specific entry criteria for courses (where applicable). Please note that some courses will have a strict restriction on pupil numbers and some courses will only run if there is sufficient demand to make the class viable. The options booklet will also be published on the academy website. Please keep an eye on the website for important information.



Using your report to help with your choices



Co-op Academy
North Manchester

Year 9 Autumn Report

Subject	Age Related Expectation	Progress against Target
Maths	At	Exceeding
English	At	Exceeding
Science	At	Exceeding
Geography	At	On Track
History	Above	Exceeding
ICT	Above	Exceeding
Drama	At	On Track
Dance	At	On Track
Art	Above	Exceeding
Music	Above	Exceeding
French	Above	Exceeding
Design Technology	At	On Track

From September 2023 assessment at Key Stage Three (Years 7-9) has moved away from a numerical based system (Grades 1-9) to assessing Age Related Expectation and Progress Against Target. This creates accountability and equity through having a system that allows us to check that pupils are making the necessary attainment throughout KS3 and that progress is checked against individual targets for each pupil.

Age related expectations are based against three thresholds. Teachers record how well pupils have demonstrated their understanding against precise knowledge set out in each subject's curriculum through key assessments, class work and home learning. Using this the pupils are then placed into three distinct thresholds.

Below age related expectation

Grasped some of the main ideas and knowledge in the units covered but others require development.

At age related expectation

Has a secure understanding of the main concepts and knowledge covered and can start to use this in a variety of ways. A pupil at age related progress by the end of year 9 will have a secure understanding of the fundamental knowledge of that subject to be able to access and progress through the KS4 curriculum.

Above age related expectation.

Demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of all concepts and knowledge covered and can apply this confidently to a wide range of different types of questions.

Progress against target

Alongside age related expectation, teachers will also report on a pupils progress against their individual subject target. The individual targets are created using a pupil's KS2 SATs results. Where this is not possible a pupil will sit a series of online ability tests which will inform individual targets.

A pupil's individual progress will be based against 3 thresholds.

Not on track

Academic progress is currently below target grade.

On track

Academic progress is currently on track to meet target grade.

Exceeding

Academic progress is currently above target grade.

Some subjects may have entry requirements such as Triple Science. These entry requirements will be based on a pupil's age related data for that subject. Heads of Department in these subjects will cross reference this against individual pupils' progress against target to ensure suitability for the subject at KS4.

Home Learning

Whatever choice of subjects our pupils finally make, they will be expected to supplement their school work with home learning. For each subject they will be given home learning every week, via google classroom, and planners will continue to be used throughout Key Stage 4 to record work set and essential deadlines.

Home learning is necessary because it gives time to reflect and extend what they have learnt in lessons; or to prepare for lessons; or to write something to be assessed so that the teacher knows how well they are doing and how independent they are as a learner.

Pupils records for completing home learning will be taken into consideration when deciding which courses would suit best for their options.

Some courses are assessed partly by PSAs or coursework. GCSE Controlled Assessments have to be completed at school or under the supervision of the subject teacher. These sessions are planned across the whole period of the course and 100% attendance is essential as they cannot usually be rearranged. BTEC coursework is completed across the period of the course under the direction of the subject teacher.

These are the staff in school that can help with any questions when making the option choices:

- Mrs. F. Welsh - Assistant Principal
- Mr. B. Sinnott - Vice Principal
- Mrs. L. Parkinson - Assistant Principal, CEIAG coordinator (Careers, Advice and Guidance)
- Form Tutors
- Pastoral Managers - Mr Greenfield, Ms Rundle and Ms Morrison
- SEND team – Mrs Garsden and Mrs Davenport
- For pupils with an Additional Language (EAL) - Mrs Heddi

Translated versions of this booklet are available on request, please contact Mrs S Andrews on this email address
stella.andrews@coopacademies.co.uk



English Language & English Literature GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE . You will study both English Language and English Literature

How is the course assessed?

GCSE English Language: Two exam papers at the end of Y11

GCSE English Literature: Two exam papers at the end of Y11

English Language

Paper 1- Reading and analysing fiction and writing creatively—50%

Paper 2 - Reading and analysing non-fiction and writing non-fiction—50%

English Literature

Paper 1 - Romeo and Juliet and Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde - 40%

Paper 2 - Blood Brothers and Love & Relationships Poetry / unseen poetry - 60%

What topics / units will you study?

You will study:

- A range of creative reading texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st Century
- A range of literary non-fiction and non-fiction texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st Century
- Different types of writing styles and how to emulate these
- Shakespeare
- A 19th Century novel
- A modern drama
- A variety of 19th Century and modern poetry

How to be successful

Read widely - read books and articles by authors you read in class

- Read the classics
- Read articles and news items that take your interest
- Write 'in the style of.'
- Watch and play vocabulary games
- Visit the theatre

What extra-curricular are there?

- Trips to the theatre to see the plays being studied. We will also bring in theatre companies to present live performances of the texts being studied.
- DebateMate
- Writing Club
- Poetry Slam
- Library Leaders

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Careers associated with English include journalism, work within the media industry, publishing, teaching, to name but a few. Being able to communicate is an essential for any job and the study of English will help you develop this skill. College courses connected to this subject include English Language, English Literature and Media Studies.

All employers and colleges will ask you for your predicted / actual grade in English. Being able to communicate is an essential for any job and the study of English will help you develop this skill. You will develop a critical ability to write to suit your purpose and express yourself clearly and confidently.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr M Dermody in 2R5 or Mrs C McLean in 2R1

nostalgic

growing up

reminiscent

admiration

idolise

separation

independence

stifling

maternal

paternal



Maths GCSE

Exam Board: Edexcel

Type of course: GCSE.

How is the course assessed?

Each pupil will sit 3 examinations at the end of Y11. See the breakdown as shown in the image.

Tier	Paper	Calculator	Weighting	Marks	Duration
Foundation (grades 1-5)	Paper 1	Non-calculator	33.3%	50	1 hour and 30 minutes
	Paper 2	Calculator	33.3%	50	1 hour and 30 minutes
	Paper 3	Calculator	33.3%	50	1 hour and 30 minutes
Higher (grades 4-9)	Paper 1	Non-calculator	33.3%	50	1 hour and 30 minutes
	Paper 2	Calculator	33.3%	50	1 hour and 30 minutes
	Paper 3	Calculator	33.3%	50	1 hour and 30 minutes

What topics / units will you study?

The Year 10 and 11 schemes of learning follow two distinct paths, Foundation and Higher. The foundation tier ranges from Grades 1 to 5 and the Higher tier, Grades 4 to 9. Pupils will follow the tier that will allow them to fulfil their Mathematical potential and reach the very best grade possible.

The GCSE Curriculum is designed so that the teaching of new content is completed by the end of the first term in Year 11. Following this, Pupils complete a series of mock exams that replicate the GCSE process they undertake in the summer.

Key areas of learning include:

- Context-rich work on four operations and calculation skills, including weighting fractions, decimals and negative
- numbers, order of operations.
- Proportional reasoning; using fraction, decimal, percentage and ratio skills flexibly and applying to a range of contexts.
- Procedural work on factors, multiples, primes, HCF and LCM, standard form, power and root calculations.

How to be successful

Explore interesting Mathematical problems both in lessons and at our extra-curricular clubs.

Attend revision sessions or visit our Academic Mentor team for help and support with any topics you might struggle with.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- Some of our clubs and events include:
- Problem Solving Breakfast Club
- UKMT Maths Challenges
- KS3 and KS4 Revision Sessions
- Homework Help Club

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

There are many careers opened up to you through the studying of Maths, such as; engineering, accounting & finance, data analysis or even the world of research.

All employers like applicants who can demonstrate sound numeracy skills. They are also increasingly looking for employees who can display creative and logical problem solving skills in the face of challenges. A good grade in GCSE mathematics is regarded highly by all colleges, universities and potential future employers. Pupils hoping to participate in further study of Science, ICT and Business will require strong mathematical skills.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr. R. Jones in 1B10 or Mr Wilson in 1W15 in the Maths Department

Combined Sciences GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

Each pupil will sit six exams at the end of Y11. 2 Biology, 2 Chemistry, 2 Physics

For the combined course each exam is 1hr 15 mins long and has 70 marks.

Each exam counts towards 16.7% of the overall award.

There is no coursework element and exams are linear so they are all sat at the end of the course.

What topics / units will you study?

Paper 1

- Biology topics 1 – 4: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.
- Chemistry topics 1-5: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, Structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.
- Physics topics 1-4: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

Paper 2

- Biology topics 5-7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.
- Chemistry topics 6-10: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and using resources.
- Physics topics 5-7: Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism.

How to be successful

- Read scientific news articles and reference books.
- Use revision guide to review learning at regular intervals.
- Use educake to test your knowledge of the different topics.
- Practice exam questions.
- Watch online videos of required practicals.
- Complete topic sheets for each unit.
- Use flashcards to learn key facts and equations.

What extracurricular activities are there?

There are currently 3 STEM Clubs which carry out a variety of different investigations every week. The department also works closely with local universities to provide enhanced teaching in class and enrichment through external partners coming in to share their knowledge of scientific industries. The department will work with selected groups of Pupils to enter competitions run by external agencies such as Institute of Physics, Royal Societies of Chemistry and Biology, BP and CREST. All GCSE groups have the opportunity to attend extra revision classes on a weekly basis.

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

If you like to learn how things work, in order to learn how to fix things when they break, or how to understand everyday phenomena, then science will teach you the skills to do this. It also teaches you to find things out for yourself rather than always relying on other people's reasons for things.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr. D. McIntyre (Head of Science) or Dr. C. Matis (Assistant Head of Science)

Most of our pupils study this combined science course.



Separate Science - Biology GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

Pupils are required to sit 2 exams and will gain one GCSE in Biology

For the Biology course each exam is 1hr 45mins long and has 100 marks. Each exam counts towards 50% of the overall award. There is no coursework element and exams are linear so they are both sat at the end of the course.

What topics / units will you study?

Paper 1

Biology topics 1 – 4: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

Paper 2s

Biology topics 5 – 7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.

How to be successful

- Read scientific news articles and reference books.
- Use flashcards to learn key facts and equations.
- Use revision guide to review learning at regular intervals.
- Use educake to test your knowledge of the different topics.
- Practice exam questions.
- Watch online videos of required practicals.
- Complete topic sheets for each unit.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

There are currently 3 STEM Clubs which carry out a variety of different investigations every week. The department also works closely with local universities to provide enhanced teaching in class and enrichment through external partners coming in to share their knowledge of scientific industries. The department will work with selected groups of Pupils to enter competitions run by external agencies such as Royal Society of Biology, BP and CREST. All GCSE groups have the opportunity to attend extra revision classes on a weekly basis.

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

All science subjects enable you to develop your problem solving skills and learn to analyse data to make conclusions. These transferable skills can be useful in most careers.

People who go on to study Biology beyond GCSE often follow career paths in scientific research, laboratory work, medicine, pharmaceuticals, animal care, veterinary science, optometry, nutrition, physiotherapy and more.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr. D. McIntyre (Head of Science) or Dr. C. Matis (Assistant Head of Science)

*Only a small number of our pupils will study the separate Triple science courses. Pupils must be working above age related expectations and be on track/ exceeding their target in all subjects to be considered for this course.

Separate Science - Chemistry

GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

Each pupil will sit two exams at the end of Y11.

For the Chemistry course each exam is 1hr 45mins long and has 100 marks. Each exam counts towards 50% of the overall award. There is no coursework element and exams are linear so they are both sat at the end of the course.

What topics/ units will you study?

Paper 1

Chemistry topics 1-5: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.

Paper 2s

Chemistry topics 6-10: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and using resources.

How to be successful

- Read scientific news articles and reference books.
- Use revision guide to review learning at regular intervals.
- Use educake to test your knowledge of the different topics.
- Practice exam questions.
- Watch online videos of required practicals.
- Complete topic sheets for each unit.
- Use flashcards to learn key facts and equations.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

There are currently 3 STEM Clubs which carry out a variety of different investigations every week. The department also works closely with local universities to provide enhanced teaching in class and enrichment through external partners coming in to share their knowledge of scientific industries. The department will work with selected groups of Pupils to enter competitions run by external agencies such as Royal Society of Chemistry, BP and CREST. All GCSE groups have the opportunity to attend extra revision classes on a weekly basis.

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

All science subjects enable you to develop your problem solving skills and learn to analyse data to make conclusions. These transferable skills can be useful in most careers.

People who go on to study Chemistry beyond GCSE often follow career paths in scientific research, laboratory work, pharmaceutical industry, chemical industry, chemical analysis companies, agriculture, material sciences, atmospheric chemistry and many more.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr. D. McIntyre (Head of Science) or Dr. C. Matis (Assistant Head of Science)

*Only a small number of our pupils will study the separate Triple science courses. Pupils must be working above age related expectations and be on track/ exceeding their target in all subjects to be considered for this course.

Separate Science - Physics GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

Each pupil will sit two exams at the end of Y11.

For the Physics course each exam is 1hr 45mins long and has 100 marks. Each exam counts towards 50% of the overall award. There is no coursework element and exams are linear so they are both sat at the end of the course.

What topics/ units will you study?

Paper 1

Physics topics 1-4: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

Paper 2s

Physics topics 5-8: Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism, Space (separate sciences only).

How to be successful

- Read scientific news articles and reference books.
- Use revision guide to review learning at regular intervals.
- Use educake to test your knowledge of the different topics.
- Practice exam questions.
- Watch online videos of required practicals.
- Complete topic sheets for each unit.
- Use flashcards to learn key facts and equations.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

There are currently 3 STEM Clubs which carry out a variety of different investigations every week. The department also works closely with local universities to provide enhanced teaching in class and enrichment through external partners coming in to share their knowledge of scientific industries. The department will work with selected groups of Pupils to enter competitions run by external agencies such as Institute of Physics, BP and CREST. All GCSE groups have the opportunity to attend extra revision classes on a weekly basis.

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Various types of engineering, manufacturing design, aeronautical, electronics and electrical mechanics

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr. D. McIntyre (Head of Science) or Dr. C. Matis (Assistant Head of Science)

*Only a small number of our pupils will study the separate Triple science courses. Pupils must be working above age related expectations and be on track/ exceeding their target in all subjects to be considered for this course.

Geography GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE Geography

How is the course assessed?

3 exams in May/June of Year 11

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment	Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment	Paper 3: Geographical Applications and Skills
1hr 30 minutes 35% of GCSE	1hr 30 minutes 35% of GCSE	1 hr 15 minutes 30% of GCSE

What topics / units will you study?

Unit 1: Living with the Physical Environment:

- Natural Hazards (Tectonics, Earthquakes, Tropical Storms, Extreme weather, Weather Hazards)
- Living World (Ecosystems, Tropical Rainforests, Cold Environments)
- Physical Landscapes in the UK (Rivers, Coasts, Landscape Changes, Protecting Landscapes)

Unit 2: Challenges in the Human Environment:

- Urban Issues & Challenges (Population Growth, Urban Growth in NEE's, UK Urban Change)
- Changing Economic World (Development, NEE Country Study, UK's Changing Economy)
- Challenge of Resource Management (Resource Management, Water Management)

Unit 3: Geographical Applications and Skills:

- Issue Evaluation & Fieldwork

Who would this course suit? What skills do you need?

Geography inspires you to become global citizens by exploring your place in the world. It encourages you to challenge your values and responsibilities to people and the environment, promoting global sustainability. This course suits people who work hard, like to debate and discuss issues (in a spoken or written way), a curiosity about current local and global issues is an advantage. Interpreting information is a key skill, as is a willingness to write extended answers.

What trips / activities will you be involved in?

There are at least 2 out of school field trips, as well as investigations on the school site which focus on geographical issues studied. Fieldwork helps to explore geographical issues and allows you to test if theoretical concepts occur in real life.

What college courses / employment opportunities would this help you follow in the future?

Following GCSE Geography, you can go on to study A-Levels at college in a variety of different subjects such as Law, Biology, Chemistry, English, Maths and Geography itself. A-Levels in subjects such as these provide a sound basis for pupils to go into employment or continue with education at University. This GCSE develops analytical and problem-solving skills which are transferable to a range of employments such as IT, finance and urban planning.

How will this course help you to get employment?

The Geography GCSE includes work on statistics and extended answers and so it helps support with both your literacy and numeracy. There are many transferable skills which appeal to employers, including the ability to interpret data, read maps and conduct enquiries are skills valued by employers.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

If you would like any further information, please speak to any member of the Geography department.

History GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

How is the course assessed?

- Paper 1 – Conflict and Tension, The Interwar Years 1918 – 1939, America, 1920 – 1973, Opportunity and Inequality
- Paper 2 – Norman England, c1066 – c1100, Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the present day

What topics / units will you study?

You will study 4 Units:

- **Conflict and Tension:** This unit looks at the aftermath of World War One in 1918 and how the world tried to rebuild itself and establish peace following the First World War. It goes through to 1939 and the outbreak of the 2nd World War charting the Great Depression and the rise of Adolf Hitler to power in Germany.
- **America:** In this unit you will study America from the year 1920 to 1973 and look at which groups had opportunity's and where there was inequality in American society. We study Civil Rights, Women's Rights and the changes that took place in society.
- **Norman England:** In this unit you will study the year 1066 and how William was able to win at Hastings and gain control of England following his victory. We will then consider what life was like in England under Norman rule.
- **Britain, Health and the People:** This Unit tracks health from the Middle Ages right the way through to the present day, looking at pandemics, public health, medicines and the individuals that made breakthroughs.

How to be successful

- Read widely – books, magazines and newspaper articles and news items that interest you
- Use books available in the department
- Be interested in the past – visit museums or galleries – online or in person
- Join History Club

Turn on your television, laptop or phone and you will see how relevant history is to understanding the present. It helps us to appreciate multiple perspectives and interpretations. Analysing history strengthens our critical thinking skills, as well as helping us to understand other peoples and their cultures.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- History Club
- School trips to historical sites
- Revision Clubs

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

History students mainly go onto study A Levels in a variety of different subjects, such as Law, or Biology, Chemistry, English, Physics and History itself. A Levels in academic subjects such as these give you a sound basis if you want to go on to university or into employment.

History gives you lots of transferable skills which can be used in a variety of different jobs. It helps you think about different points of view, and it helps you to form reasoned arguments, handle evidence, question its validity, and use information to build an argument for yourself. Most colleges expect you to have GCSEs in humanities for this reason.

A GCSE in History will help you if you are thinking about journalism, law, teaching, medicine or even politics as a career.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr Charlton 2B8



Art GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

Component 1 = 60% portfolio (Course work)

Component 2 = 40% externally set assignment (examination)

What topics / units will you study?

Years 10 and 11:

- Component 1: You will cover the following themes/topics: Cells & Bacteria, Identity and The Sea. You will develop ideas and cover the 4 assessment objectives through research into contextual studies around a theme and produce supporting explorations which can include drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, mixed media, textile media, digital media and 3-D media.
- Component 2: Will be set by the exam body in Year 11 and this is followed by a 10 hour exam to produce your final outcome.

How to be successful

If have a genuine passion for art and you enjoy being creative and exploring different materials, processes and techniques then this is the course for you! All artistic abilities are welcome on this course. Studying Art & Design develops deep thinking skills as well as enriching personal development in terms of skill, understanding and appreciation of arts and culture. Art & Design complements the more academic subjects as it can help pupils focus and express their ideas creatively in a wide variety of ways.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- After-school Art Club
- On-site artist taster days
- Trip to Art Gallery/museum in Year 10 or 11
- Art Exhibitions to showcase your work

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

This GCSE is important for anyone wishing to study the subject after Year 11, including A Level: Art & Design, and Photography, Vocational courses including: Art, Design & Media or Art & Design.

These courses should be studied by anyone aiming for a career in: Graphic Design, Photography, Fashion and Costume design, Games Design, Merchandising, Interior Design, Video / Digital editing, web design, an illustrator or fine artist.

Art & Design is a highly regarded and useful subject that can lead to many creative careers, but also enhances a learner's aptitude for whatever career path they choose

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

You can speak to Miss. A. Baines in 1Ar1

Business Studies GCSE

Exam Board: Edexcel

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

GCSE Business is assessed via two externally assessed examinations. Paper 1 assesses Investigation into Small Businesses and Paper 2 assesses Building a Business. These examinations are worth 50% each of the course.

What topics / units will you study?

Paper 1 - Investigating Small Business 50%

- 1.1 Entrepreneurship and Enterprise
- 1.2 Spotting a Business Opportunity
- 1.3 Putting a Business Idea into Practice
- 1.4 Making a Business Effective
- 1.5 Influences on Business

Paper 2 - Building a Business 50%

- 2.1 Growing a Business
- 2.2 Making a Marketing Decision
- 2.3 Operational and Financial Decisions
- 2.4 Making Human Resource Decisions

How to be successful

Be able to work meticulously, work well on your own and in groups, likes debating and discussing issues, and enjoys researching and keeping up to date with the news. You must be someone who enjoys mathematical calculations, learning new skills wants to develop as effective and independent pupils, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.

What extracurricular activities are there?

- The Mosaic Enterprise Challenge
- Enterprise activities in school
- The Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award
- Manchester United enterprise events

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Pupils can continue on to Further Education and study courses such as A Level Business Studies, T Level Management and Administration, Vocational Business and Apprenticeships in Business Administration. These courses can open pathways into Hospitality, Management, Retail, Sales, Customer Service, Business Management and many other careers.

Applicants who can demonstrate a wide range of business skills are in demand by the employer. The course will help you to understand a range of career paths, such as apprenticeships and vocational qualifications which focus on more specialised business areas. as well as the role of different departments within a business.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr. I. Grimshaw in 2W14, Miss. S. Maidment in 2Me2, or Mrs. S. Fiddler in 1Me1.

Citizenship Studies GCSE

Exam Board: Edexcel

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

100% exam consisting of two exam papers, both are 1 hr 45 mins each and are worth 50% each. Each paper has a total of 80 marks.

What topics / units will you study?

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) Pupils will study 5 themes. Theme E is a piece of coursework that pupils carry out and are assessed on in Paper 2. Therefore it is not externally assessed.

Paper 1

- Section A - Theme A: Living together in the UK.
- Section B - Theme B: Democracy at work in the UK.
- Section C - Q Theme C: Law and justice.
- Section D - Extended-response questions related to two or more of specification Themes A -C

Paper 2

Section A - Questions relate to the Pupils own citizenship action, as specified in specification

- Theme E: Taking citizenship action.
- Section B - Theme D: Power and influence.
- Section C - Questions are focused on specification Theme D: Power and influence. One question will also link to content in one of Themes A - C.

How to be successful

The course suits pupils who like to debate and consider controversial and moral issues that are present in the world today. Learn how to become informed and active citizens and learn about developing skills of advocacy about local, national and global problems we face in the world today. If you like arguing, have strong extended writing skills, enjoy doing research and working in teams then this is the course for you. Some topics include: Human Rights, Terrorism, Immigration, Racism and Community Cohesion, Voting, Political parties, Crime and Punishment, the Courts, the European Union, World Trade and the United Nations. You must be able to negotiate, analyse and have strong written and oral communication skills. This course also supports pupils taking GCSE Religious Studies, Sociology, History or Geography.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

There will be guest speakers from organisations such as Amnesty International, the Legal Profession and a chance to interview and work with our local MP.

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

People that have studied GCSE Citizenship have gone to College to study it at A Level. However due to the skills developed in Citizenship and the subject content Pupils have also chosen to study History, Law, Citizenship, Psychology or Politics at A Level. As the level of written work and communication is very high lots of pupils have gone on to study English Language at A Level. Some pupils go onto college and build upon their Citizenship knowledge, often studying Law, Sociology and Public Services. Past pupils have gone on to become teachers, journalists, politicians, lawyers and counsellors.

Employers like applicants who can demonstrate the ability to understand current affairs and the impact this has on society, the social and historical context of government, politics, legislation and democracy. It is also a fantastic way to apply learning and understanding the areas of individual interest and have a real impact on the local and national community through citizenship action; employers recognise this active citizenship as a type of work experience, showing teamwork skills, resilience and an understanding of the society we live in.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Miss Rundle in 0R3 or Mr. T. Cooper in 0R2



Computer Science GCSE

Exam Board: OCR

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

2 examinations (1 hr 30 each) worth 50% each of the course

What topics/ units will you study?

Paper 1 - Computer Systems 50%

- 1.1 Systems Architecture
- 1.2 Memory and Storage
- 1.3 Computer networks, connections and protocols
- 1.4 Systems Software
- 1.5 Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology

Paper 2 - Computational thinking, algorithms and programming 50%

- 2.1 Algorithms
- 2.2 Programming fundamentals
- 2.3 Producing robust programs
- 2.4 Boolean logic
- 2.5 Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments

How to be successful

Someone who enjoys programming/coding can work well as part of a team or on their own, they enjoy solving problems and learning about how computers work. This course is predominantly theory-based which involves mathematical theory. Students will be given the opportunity to learn to program in Python to develop the skills required for Paper 2. Pupils should have a love for theoretical studies.

What extracurricular activities are there?

- Coding club
- Digital Leaders
- Robotics club

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Pupils can continue on to Further Education and study courses such as A Level Business Studies, T Level Management and Administration, Vocational Business and Apprenticeships in Business Administration. These courses can open pathways into Hospitality, Management, Retail, Sales, Customer Service and many other careers. Applicants who can demonstrate a wide range of business skills are in demand by the employer. The course will help you to understand a range of career paths, such as apprenticeships and vocational qualifications which focus on more specialised business areas, as well as the role of different departments within a business.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mrs. I. Grimshaw in 2W14 or Mr. A. Slattery in 2W17.

*Only a small number of our pupils will study the Computer Science course. Pupils must be working above age related expectations and be on track/ exceeding their target in all subjects to be considered for this course.

Dance GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

- A practical which includes a performance worth 30% of GCSE (40 marks -15 marks for set phrases and 25 marks for duet/trio performance)
- Choreography 30% of GCSE (40 marks)
- Total component 60%
- Written examination of 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks)
- Total component 40% of GCSE

What topics/units will you study?

- Performance and Technique
- Choreography
- Dance Application

How to be successful

- Attend theatre, dance or musical performances.
- Listen to and watch a wide range of different performances
- Develop confidence and techniques of acting, dancing, singing and musicality

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- School productions
- Trips to see live music/ dance / theatre performances
- Theatre trips
- Workshops

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

College courses connected to this subject include BTEC Performing Arts Level 3, Music A-Level, Theatre and Performing Arts. This could lead to a degree in Music, Theatre, Dance or other relevant subject. Careers associated with BTEC Music might be: Performer, Composer, Playwright, Choreographer, Venue manager, Producer, Manager, Performing Arts, Journalist, Music, Dance or Drama Teacher, Tour Manager.

How will this course help you to get a job?

As well as learning dance skills the GCSE also offers the opportunity to build your confidence, show your commitment by attending rehearsals and practising becoming a team worker/leader and having a creative approach to situations.

Who can I speak to for more information or if I have any questions?

Any member of staff in the dance department

Design Technology (Hospitality and Catering) GCSE

Exam Board: WJEC

Type of course: Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering Technical Award

How is the course assessed?

1 examination (1hr 30 Minutes) worth 40% of course:

Exam questions will come from a series of 5 different learning objectives and will be delivered with both short and extended answer questions based around applied situations. Pupils will get 1 opportunity to re-sit this exam throughout Year 11. An internally assessed unit worth 60% of course pre-set by the exam board and focuses on Pupils ability to safely plan, prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes.

What topics / units will you study?

The Hospitality and Catering Industry (Exam)

Pupils will gain an understanding of the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate, understand how hospitality and catering provisions operate in the kitchen, understand how hospitality and catering provision meets health and safety requirements, know how food can cause ill health and be able to propose a hospitality and catering provision to meet specific requirements.

Hospitality and Catering in Action (Coursework/NEA)

Pupils knowledge will be demonstrated by their ability to understand the importance of nutrition when planning a menu, understanding menu planning and being able to cook successfully in the kitchen. Most of this element will be practical and pupils will be tested on their ability to know their way around a kitchen and apply some of the theory they have learnt.

Hospitality & Catering is an excellent opportunity to develop pupil skills and knowledge through a mixture of practical and theoretical exploration. Pupils will follow a series of theoretical and practical lessons in which they will develop their understanding of the Hospitality & Catering Industry and apply their learning to create and cook a variety of different dishes.

How to be successful

To be successful the pupil must have a genuine interest in how this industry operates. A passion for cooking, whether this be through attending extra-curricular clubs or helping at home, are essential. An individual who can work independently, is self-motivated and has the ability to carry out research. You must have the ability to manage deadlines and manage your time appropriately.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- During the period of study there may be the opportunity to:
- Visit an industrial kitchen
- Cater for an event within school
- Contribute to the catering of an event outside of school

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

There are a number of courses you can select at college to continue your journey in Hospitality & Catering, such as Vocational courses including: Culinary Skills, Professional Cookery, and Patisserie and Confectionery.

Food and beverage activities make up 60% of employment in the Hospitality, Tourism and Sport sector. The hospitality industry is the 3rd biggest employer in the UK, accounting for 3.2m jobs through direct employment. Typical job roles include: chef, butcher, catering manager, events manager and patissier.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mrs. K. Cook in Bridgewater FLZ Office

Design Technology GCSE

Exam Board: OCR

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

- 1 Non Assessment Exam TASK = 50%
- 1 Written examination (2hr) worth 50% of course

What topics / units will you study?

The external assessment will cover the core content. The core content provides pupils with a breadth of study and the material categories provide pupils with a depth of study. This component brings together the learners core and in-depth knowledge and understanding.

- Core knowledge of Design and Technology principles demonstrates learners' broad understanding of principles that all learners should have across the subject.
- In-depth knowledge allows learners to focus more directly on at least one main material category, or design engineering.

The non-assessment exam allows pupils to explore the needs and requirements of a user, create solutions to meet those needs and evaluate whether the needs have been met. This component offers the opportunity for learners to demonstrate understanding of, and skills in, iterative designing, in particular:

- The interrelated nature of the processes used to identify needs and requirements (explore)
- Creating solutions to meet those needs (create)
- Evaluating whether the needs have been met (evaluate).

As an outcome of their challenges, learners will produce a chronological portfolio and one final prototype. It is through the iterative processes of designing that learners draw on their wider knowledge and understanding of Design and Technology principles.

How to be successful

Pupils must be able to work independently and creatively with their ideas and concepts. They must be able to communicate ideas well and present these in a number of forms. They also need to enjoy practical activities and be good problem solvers, with the resilience and perseverance to continue with difficult tasks.

Design and Technology is an excellent opportunity to develop pupil skills and knowledge through a mixture of practical tasks focusing on finding solutions for different design scenarios and theoretical exploration. Pupils will follow a series of theoretical and practical lessons in which they will develop their understanding of the design and apply their learning to design and make creative product solutions.

Design and Technology is a subject that brings learning to life, requiring learners to apply their learning to real-life situations. This qualification aims to relate authentic real-world awareness of iterative design practices and strategies used by the creative and manufacturing industries. Learners will be required to use critical thinking, leading towards invention and design innovation, to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- Design practical activities
- Visit to a live clothes show
- Art gallery visits

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Design Technology A levels including design courses, fashion design, product design, textiles design, art and design courses. Employers like applicants who can problem solve, work independently and be creative. Independent thinkers are desirable to employers.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mrs. M. Edwards in 1Tx1 or Mrs. K. Cook in Bridgewater FLZ Office



Digital Information Technology

BTEC

Exam Board: Edexcel

Type of course: BTEC Technical Award Level 1/2

How is the course assessed?

The BTEC Level 2 Tech Award is equivalent to a GCSE over a two year qualification. There are three components that you will be covering, two coursework units in Year 10 and one exam in Year 11.

These are:

- Component 1 – Using interface design principles
- Component 2 – Developing a visual user dashboard and interpreting data
- Component 3 – Introduction to modern technologies

What topics / units will I study?

Component 1: (Coursework assignment assessed) Using interface design principles

What techniques do people use to plan projects. How do people develop a variety of user interfaces (coursework assignment assessed) and create bespoke interfaces based on a given scenario?

Component 2: (Assignment assessed) Developing a visual user dashboard and interpreting data

This unit is about presenting and interpreting data. Pupils will be provided with a series of data to manipulate and develop into a visual user dashboard and evaluate how the data could be used.

Component 3 – (Exam assessed; 2hr exam) Introduction to modern technologies

The final unit introduces you to modern technologies including cloud based technology, cyber security, implications of digital systems and planning and communication skills.

How to be successful

Pupils who enjoy a practical hands-on approach to studying or someone who can work meticulously and works well on their own and in groups. Pupils must have good organisational skills and be good timekeepers to ensure strict deadlines are met. Pupils who enjoy research tasks and have a creative flair would benefit from this course.

What extracurricular activities are there?

- Coding club competitions
- Digital experience days
- Robotics club

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Pupils can continue on to Further Education and study courses such as A Level Computer Science, T Level Digital Support Services and Vocational Information Technology. These courses can open pathways into Programming, Game Designer, App Designer, ICT Support, Web Designer, First Line IT Support.

Employers like applicants who can demonstrate sound ICT skills, who can demonstrate problem-solving and organisational skills. You will learn programming skills using a range of languages and tools.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr. I. Grimshaw in 2W14 or Mr. A. Slattery in 2W17

Drama GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

- 1 written examination 1 hour 45 minutes 40%
- 1 non-examination assessment — practical exploration of a stimulus and performance with portfolio 40%
- 1 performance of two extracts from a published play 20%

What topics / units will I study?

- Section A: Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre including, theatre roles and responsibilities, area of the stage and stage configurations
- Section B: Study of Blood Brothers as the set play text
- Section C: Live Theatre Review: analysis and evaluation of a live theatre performance

How to be successful

- You should enjoy drama and theatre and have a passion for performance, whether performing or watching.
- Watch as much theatre as possible - whether online or in person
- Take part in extracurricular drama activities
- You should be willing to work hard and consistently in order to develop your practical skills.
- You must be able to work well in a group and contribute ideas, as this is part of the assessed criteria in units.

What extracurricular activities are there?

- Drama Performances
- School productions
- Supporting with lighting and sound for school shows
- Theatre trips
- Working with professionals and workshops

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

The skills you will develop throughout the course will not only equip you for courses within the arts but give you an array of life skills to deal with other opportunities that you may wish to pursue, e.g. confidence, cooperation, leadership, communication, thinking and idea development.

Some post-16 courses and Degrees that Drama is a fantastic gateway into include:

- English Literature/Language A-Level, Drama and Theatre Studies A-Level, Level 2 in Performing and Production Arts - Events Production, BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts, Media Studies
- A-Level
- BA Hons Acting, BA Hons Drama and Theatre Studies, BA Hons English Literature, BA Hons Film and Media Studies

Who can I speak to for more information or if I have any questions?

Mr Asher in 0Mu1, Miss Jewitt in 0Mu2 or Miss Siddiqui in 1Dr2

Enterprise BTEC Technical Award

Exam Board: Edexcel

Type of course: BTEC Technical Award Level 1/2

How is the course assessed?

BTEC Enterprise comprises of two internally assessed portfolios worth 30% each of the course. In Year 11 Pupils will sit an externally assessed examination worth 40% of the course.

Gradings - Level 1 Pass, Level 1 Merit, Level 1 Distinction and Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction and Level 2 Distinction *

What topics/ units will you study?

Component 1: This is an internally assessed piece of coursework that explores current enterprises within the localised area. Pupils research small enterprises and assess how market research, characteristics, SWOT and PEST analysis' can be used to keep ahead of their competitors.

Component 2: This is an internally assessed piece of coursework that allows pupils to research, plan and pitch their own enterprise activity. Pupils develop their ideas and plan a presentation, to be presented in front of staff. Pupils will require skills such as presenting to an audience, mathematical skills, IT skills and good timekeeping to allow them to meet strict deadlines.

Component 3: This is an externally set exam sat in Y11. This exam explores Marketing and Finance for Enterprises and covers financial, mathematical and marketing methods.

How to be successful

Be able to work meticulously, work well on your own and in groups, likes debating and discussing issues, and enjoys researching and keeping up to date with the news. You must be someone who enjoys mathematical calculations, learning new skills wants to develop as effective and independent pupils, and as critical and reflective thinkers. Pupils who enjoy a practical hands-on approach to studying and have an interest in business and may want to start your own business one day. Enquiring minds are a great assets and if you are someone who can work meticulously, work well on their own and in groups then this qualification is for you.

What extracurricular activities are there?

- The Mosaic Enterprise Challenge
- Enterprise activities in school
- The Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award
- Manchester United enterprise events

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Pupils can continue on to Further Education and study courses such as A Level Business Studies, T Level Management and Administration, Vocational Business and Apprenticeships in Business Administration. These courses can open pathways into Hospitality, Management, Retail, Sales, Customer Service and many other careers. Applicants who can demonstrate a wide range of business skills are in demand by the employer. The course will help you to understand a range of career paths, such as apprenticeships and vocational qualifications which focus on more specialised business areas. as well as the role of different departments within a business.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr. I. Grimshaw in 2W14, Miss. S. Maidment in 2Me2 or Mrs. S. Fiddler 1Me1.

French GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

- You will sit 4 examinations, each worth 25%. These are:
- Listening - Understanding and responding to spoken extracts comprising the defined vocabulary and grammar for each tier, Dictation of short, spoken extracts.
- Speaking- Speaking using clear and comprehensible language to undertake a Role-play, carry out a Reading aloud task, talk about visual stimuli.
- Reading - Understanding and responding to written texts which focus predominantly on the vocabulary and grammar at each tier, translating from French into English.
- Writing - Writing text in the language in a lexically and grammatically accurate way in response to simple and familiar stimuli, translating from English into French.

What topics / units will you study?

You will study a variety of topics that come under three big themes. These are:

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- Theme 2: Popular culture
- Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

How to be successful

This course would suit someone who is an excellent communicator, with mental agility and problem solving skills. You will ideally have good literacy skills, remember new words and vocabulary and be willing to speak and practice speaking out loud. You may enjoy conversation; have good listening skills and pay attention to detail. High levels of resilience and a willingness to overcome linguistic challenges is highly desirable to follow this course.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- Trips to the University of Manchester
- Educational visits to France (subject to availability and interest)
- Educational competitions
- Language leader opportunities in school

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Languages can lead to studying A Level languages at college. You may then choose to study languages at university or pair a language degree with another mainstream degree which will prove to be highly useful as many people who have a degree in languages go on to secure high-paying jobs in various fields around the world.

UK businesses need linguists and knowledge of a second language will help you in a variety of careers from Law, Business to Journalism. Language learners demonstrate many competencies that employers value such as creativity, empathy, and perseverance. If you are able to speak a foreign language, it will increase your chances of finding work in the UK and abroad, whatever employment you want to do. Most big companies have offices in more than one place too. For example Google has over 70 offices all over the world – from Bogota to Beijing, so being able to speak a second language could increase your chances of getting hired and moving up within a company. Even if you choose not to use a second language in your job, employers love to see candidates with language qualifications as it demonstrates that you are a confident communicator, are resilient and are an active and conscious global citizen who demonstrates excellent team-working skills and respect for others. You may even encounter an opportunity to speak a foreign language in your hometown or local community as Manchester is so diverse.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Miss. C. Bauer in 1R2 or Mrs. S. Tomkow in her office on the MFL corridor 1st floor

Health and Social Care BTEC

Exam Board: Edexcel

Type of course: BTEC Technical Award in Health and Social Care

How is the course assessed?

The BTEC Level 2 Tech Award is equivalent to a GCSE over a two year qualification. There are three components that you will be covering, two coursework units and one exam, which is externally assessed.

These are:

- Component 1 – Human Lifespan Development (Learning from Sept – January PSA window opens in February Year 10)
- Component 2 – Service and Values in HSC (Learning May—October PSA window opens in October Year 11)
- Component 3 – Health and Well-being (Exam in May Year 11)

What topics / units will I study?

Component 1: Human Lifespan Development (coursework assignment assessed)

- How do people grow and develop throughout their lives?
- How can factors such as lifestyle choices, relationships and lifestyle events affect your growth and development?
- Different life events and how people cope.

Component 2: Health and Social Services and Care Values (assignment assessment) This unit will help you to understand people's differences and those individuals who are vulnerable

- Health and Social Care values underpin good practice at work. This unit is about working in both health and social care settings
- You will learn about the range of services and professions as well as how the care values and care staff behaviours impact on service users in health and social care settings. Understanding that Individuals, patients or residents, should have control of their own care and their own specific needs are met.

Component 3: Health and wellbeing (exam assessed; a 2 hours exam)

- This final unit builds on knowledge learned in Components 1 and 2 and enables you to bring these together and related to a real-life situation.
- You will need to assess an individual's health and wellbeing and use this to analyse how choices and situations affect good health. You will also need knowledge about a variety of health conditions and how to improve these as well as positive lifestyle choices for the best possible health and well-being.

How to be successful?

Someone who can work independently is self-motivated and has the ability to carry out research. You must have the ability to manage deadlines and your time appropriately. Pearson Set Tasks (PSA's) are internally assessed qualifications that are to be sat in exam conditions so being able to do all of these things is imperative to your success. Do you care about others? Are you interested in offering advice, care, support or medical treatment to individuals in the future? Then this might be the course for you!

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- Arts and Crafts Event
- Community involvement events
- Intervention sessions

Health and Social Care BTEC

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

You could choose to enrol onto the T-Level Health which is good for any health career aspirations, or T-Level in Education and Childcare at Level 2,. You could do the Level 2 T-Level transition year and progress to your chosen T-Level.

You could chose to take a Level 1, 2 or 3 BTEC Health and Social Care qualification where you will study in more depth and at Level 3 go on work experience to really be able to put skills into practice You could choose to do an Apprenticeship, this is where you will spend 80% of your time in the workplace and 20% of your time in college/training.

Qualifications above could lead to employment within the following roles:

- Nursing (all types)
- Social Work
- Teaching
- Public Health
- Therapist
- Residential care work
- Allied Health Professionals
- Dietician
- Speech and Language therapist
- Paramedic
- Art therapist
- Occupational therapist

Who can I speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Any further questions or queries please see Miss. L. Parkinson in 2W18



Music GCSE

Type of course: GCSE Music

Exam Board: AQA

How is the course assessed?

- Performance: (30%) Two performances lasting a total of 4 minutes. One solo performance and one ensemble performance.
- Solo performance - This can be a vocal singing or playing any musical instrument. You will be expected to play an instrument to grade 2 - 5 standard.
- Ensemble Performance - This again can be a vocal performance or playing any musical instrument. This will be played with at least one other live instrument.
- Composition: (30%) Two compositions, one composition to a brief set by the exam board and one free own choice composition. Total duration of both compositions should be 4 minutes.
- Brief composition - This is a composition set by the exam board you will compose a piece of music using the elements of music to create a composition for a specific purpose.
- Free composition - this is your own choice of composition you can compose in any style for any event or audience. You will use the elements of music to create a composition.
- Listening Exam: (40%) One exam lasting 1h 30min. You will listen to music and answer a range of questions about the music that you will have studied throughout the course. This will be based on the Areas of study. Western Classical Tradition, Popular Music, Traditional Music. This exam takes place at the end of Y11.

What topics/units will you study?

- Solo Performance
- Ensemble Performance
- Composition
- The Basics - Elements of Music
- AOS 1 - Western Classical Tradition 1650 - 1910
- AOS 2 - Popular Music
- AOS 3 - Traditional Music
- AOS 4 - Western Classical Music since 1910

What trip/activities will you be involved in?

- Musical performances, school productions and concerts
- Trips to see and perform live music and theatre trips

How to be successful:

- You must be able to play an instrument or sing (or dedicated to learning to play an instrument) contribution to home learning as this is essential
- Listen to and appreciate a wide variety of music in different genres Practice your instrument regularly (this is ongoing homework) and attend lessons in music with specialist instrumental teachers
- Attend lessons in music with specialist instrumental teachers
- Have an interest in music and want to learn the theory behind the notes
- Be creative and enjoy expressing yourself (expect to be asked to perform during lessons)
- Playing in a ensemble / Band attending an extra curricular music club

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- Musical performances
- School Bands
- School Choir
- Guitar / piano / drumming clubs
- Steel pans

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

- Vocational music courses
- A Level music
- BTEC Level 3 music awards
- A Level music technology

Music BTEC

Type of course: Music Btec Level 1 / Level 2 First Award in Music.

Exam Board: Pearson

How is the course assessed?

Components One and Two are Internally Assessed. This means that they are marked by your teacher. Component Three is Externally Assessed by Pearson Examiners.

Your assessments will take place in exam conditions during lessons - there is no 'one-off' exam paper in the traditional sense. The BTEC requires you to complete work consistently throughout Year 10 and Year 11. When required to work in groups you will be assessed based on your contribution and learning journey.

What topics/units will you study?

Component 1 - Exploring Music Products and Styles (30%)

You will take your Component 1 exam in February of Year 10. You will research and learn to play five styles of music. You will practically explore the key features of different styles of music and music theory and apply your knowledge and understanding to developing your own creative work.

Component 2 - Music Skills Development (30%)

You will specialise in at least two of: Music Performance, Creating Music, Music Production. You will learn how musicians share their work and collaborate with others, and develop your skills as a musician in using blogs, Youtube, Soundcloud etc to share your work and skills development with others.

Component 3 - Responding to a Music Brief (40%)

You will develop and present an original creation based on a piece from a given list and a style from a choice of four. For example, you might re-write a song by Oasis as a House Music track, using the key features of House Music. You will then present this as a solo or group performance, an audio recording or a Digital Audio Workstation project. You will also consider how your skills and interests make you suitable for the specific music sector opportunity.

How to be successful:

You should enjoy music and have an interest in this subject.

- Listen to a wide range of music.
- Attend gigs and concerts.
- Take part in extra-curricular music activities
- You should be willing to work hard and consistently, as this is part of the assessed criteria to pass units.
- You must be able to work well in a group and contribute ideas, as this is part of the assessed criteria in units.

You should have an interest in computers, technology, recording and music production as this makes up a large part of the course. You do not need to play an instrument or sing.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- Musical performances
- School productions
- Supporting with lighting and sound for school shows
- Recording studios
- Trips to see live music
- Theatre trips
- Working with professionals
- Recording and editing

Music GCSE / BTEC

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

As well as learning musical skills and about the music industry the BTEC & GCSE course will allow you to build confidence and show your commitment by completing extended pieces of coursework. The BTEC lets you explore your interest in music and provides you with a range of versatile skills that are transferable across many professions. It will help you to develop teamwork and creativity, which are desirable skills in the job market. BTEC & GCSE music will show employers you have a wide range of interests and skills and demonstrate that you have shown dedication and commitment to learning.

College courses connected to this subject include BTEC Music Level 3, Music A-Level, or Music Tech, and Performing Arts. This could lead to a degree in Music, Music Technology, Business and Management, Media or Sound Engineering.

Careers associated with BTEC & GCSE Music might be: Music studio engineer, Sound designer, Composer, Performer and Venue manager, Producer, Manager, Music Journalist, Music Teacher, Tour Manager, Marketing or Agent.

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Both Music GCSE and Music BTEC would help you follow the courses/employment opportunities listed below in the future.

Or visit the BTEC Specification:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/BTEC-firsts/music-2013-ngf.html>

How will this course help you get a employment?

As well as learning musical skills and developing as a musician the GCSE allows young people to build confidence and show your commitment by attending rehearsals and practicing. The GCSE music course develops your appreciation for music and provides you with a range of versatile skills that are transferable across many professions. It helps young people develop teamwork and creativity. GCSE music will show employers you have a wide range of interests and skills and well as demonstration that you have shown dedication and commitment to learning. GCSE music can help confidence and performance skills needed in situations such as employment interview.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Mr. M. Asher in 0Mu1 or Miss. A. Jewitt in 0Mu2 or you can visit the BTEC Specification:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/music-practice-2022.ht>

Producer **Manager** **Concert Promoter** **Blogger** **Performer**
Music Journalist **Music Teacher** **Composer** **Conductor**
Television **Sound Engineer** **Music Therapist**
Influencer **Music Journalist** **DJ**
A&R **Agent**
Tour Manager **Advertising**
Public Relations **Marketing** **Media**
Instrument technician / maker **Film**
Front of House **Design**
Radio **Venue manager**
YouTube **Administration** **Theatre**

FURTHER EDUCATION
A Level in Music or Music Technology
Level 3 BTEC

HIGHER EDUCATION
Degree in Music or Music Technology
Sound Engineering
Business & Management
Media

CAREERS IN MUSIC

Performing Arts BTEC

Exam Board: Edexcel

Type of course: BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 Tech Award in Performing Arts

How is the course assessed?

The course is broken into 3 components

- Exploring and Performing Arts
- Developing skills and techniques in Performing Arts
- Responding to a brief

Components 1 and 2 are assessed through an internal assessment. There is one external assessment. Component 3 provides the main synoptic assessment for the qualification. Component 3 provides the main synoptic assessment for the qualification, it builds directly on Components 1 & 2 and enables learning to be brought together and related to a real life situation.

The BTEC requires you to complete work consistently throughout Y10 and Y11. You will be required to keep a portfolio of work for each assessment as evidence. You will be assessed on your quality of engagement and teamwork and final performance.

What topics/units will you study?

- Exploring Performing Arts
- Developing skills and techniques
- Working as part of a group to contribute to a workshop performance

How to be successful

- Attend theatre, dance or musical performances
- Listen to and watch a wide range of different performances
- Develop confidence and techniques of acting, dancing, singing and musicality

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- School productions
- Trips to see live music/ dance / theatre performances
- Theatre trips
- Workshops

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

College courses connected to this subject include BTEC Performing Arts Level 3, Music A-Level, Theatre and Performing Arts. This could lead to a degree in Music, Theatre, Dance or other relevant subject.

Careers associated with BTEC Music might be: Performer, Composer, Playwright, Choreographer, Venue manager, Producer, Manager, Performing Arts Journalist, Music, Dance or Drama Teacher, Tour Manager, Marketing or Agent.

How will this course help you to get a job?

As well as learning dance skills the GCSE also offers the opportunity to build your confidence, show your commitment by attending rehearsals and practising becoming a team worker/leader and having a creative approach to situations.

Who can I speak to for more information or if I have any questions?

Mr. M. Asher in 0Mu1, Miss. .A. Jewitt in 0Mu2 or Miss. S. Siddiqui/Miss Wells in 1Dr2

Please note: you can not choose a music or dance course if you want to do Performing Arts as the courses overlap in content

Physical Education - BTEC Technical Award

Exam Board: Edexcel

Type of Course: BTEC Technical Award

How is the course assessed?

The course consists of 3 Units, 2 of which are coursework based whilst the third is an exam based unit that is externally assessed through a written exam.

What topics / units will you study?

- The body systems
- Components of fitness
- Fitness testing and Data interpretation
- The effects of exercise
- Psychology
- Injuries in sport
- Fitness training methods
- Technology in sport
- Principles of training
- Leadership skills and qualities
- NGB's and sports provision
- Target groups and barriers

BTEC Sport is an excellent opportunity to develop pupil skills in sport through a mixture of practical and theoretical exploration. Pupils will follow a series of theoretical and practical lessons in which they will develop their understanding of how the body works and the effects exercise has on the body.

Studying BTEC Sport will provide you with the knowledge to understand the industry and the skills to become part of it.

How to be successful

The course is suited to individuals who have an interest in sport and regularly attend extra-curricular clubs and who are prepared to get changed and take part in a wide variety of sporting activities. Pupils who have a target grade of a 4 or above in English and are striving to improve their performance in sport. Pupils who are prepared to work hard and are ready to be challenged with an interest in physical activity and a desire to learn about how and why it is important to keep fit and healthy. Pupils must attend at least 2 extra-curricular sports activities in/outside school. Having a good understanding of the world of sport will support you in developing your written answers. It would be beneficial to take an interest in a wide variety of sports and sporting competitions.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

Throughout the course there will be various opportunities to take part in physical activities both as participants and as a leader/official. It is expected that you attend at least 2 sports clubs and it is important that you continue to take part in a wide variety of activities as this will help you when completing your coursework.

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

There are a number of courses you can select at college to continue your journey in sport such as Applied A Levels, BTECs and Vocational courses in sport and fitness.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

If you would like any questions answering please speak to a member of the PE team.

*Pupils must be participating in 3 sports, either in or outside of school, to be considered for this course.

Religious Studies GCSE

Exam Board: Edexcel

Type of course: GCSE

Pupils have had the opportunity to explore the core principles and ideas behind Religious Studies and Citizenship in Years 7-9 with a view to selecting Religious Studies GCSE or/and Citizenship GCSE in Years 10 and 11.

How is the Religious Studies course assessed?

2 x examinations each worth 50% of course. Examinations are 1 hr 45 minutes each

What topics / units will you study?

- Pupils will study 2 different religions; Christianity and Islam
- Paper 1: Area of Study 1 – Religion and Ethics
- Pupils must study all four content sections:
- Christian Beliefs
- Marriage and the Family
- Living the Religious Life
- Matters of Life and Death

Paper 2: Area of Study 2 – Religion, Peace and Conflict. Pupils must study all 4 topics:

- Muslim and Beliefs
- Crime and Punishment
- Living the Religious Life
- Peace, War and Conflict

How to be successful

Develop your interest in, and enthusiasm for, a study of religion and its relation to the wider world. Develop your knowledge, skills and understanding of religion by exploring the significance, impact beliefs, teachings, sources, practices, ways of life and forms of expressing meaning. Evaluate ethical issues, and express views using reasoned arguments. Express your personal responses and informed insights on fundamental questions about identity, belonging, meaning, purpose, truth, values and commitments.

A lot of people who have studied GCSE Religious Studies have found it a good foundation for further study of Religious Studies at A Level and related subjects including philosophy, pathways including law and politics are accessible from this qualification. You will develop many skills that are important for any employment and career, for example the ability to think logically and to be able to critically analyse and evaluate. You will also develop skills of negotiation, debate and communication, both written and verbal. Employers appreciate applicants who have a wider awareness of the world and its diversity.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

There will be a trip to Auschwitz, Poland to the Nazi Death Camps from World War II. There will also be guest speaker workshops from key religious leaders and trips to places of worship.

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Pupils will develop many skills that are important for any employment and in any career, for example the ability to think logically and to be able to critically analyse and evaluate. You will develop high negotiation, debate and communications skills, both written and verbal. You will also develop, research and problem solving skills that all employers are looking for.

Who can I speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Miss. Rundle in OR3 or Mr. T. Cooper in OR2

Sociology GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the Sociology course assessed?

2 x examinations each worth 50% of course. Examinations are 1 hr 45 minutes each

Paper 1: Sociology of family life and education

Paper 2: Sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification

What topics / units will you study?

Pupils will study sociological theory and methodology. This includes the perspectives of Feminists, Functionalists and Marxists on the 4 topics: Family, Education, Crime and Stratification.

How to be successful

- Discuss and debate social issues
- Develop written skills
- Explore various pieces of data in order to analyse and evaluate various claims.

The course suits pupils who want to develop their knowledge of society, which helps them to develop as individuals as well as supporting them on their path to a host of careers.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

There will be a trip to the magistrates/ crown court as well as guest speaker workshops.

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

People who have studied GCSE Sociology have found it a good foundation for further study of Sociology at A Level and related subjects including Philosophy and English Literature. Career pathways including Nursing, Teaching, Journalisms, Management, Social Services, Police and Law are accessible from this qualification.

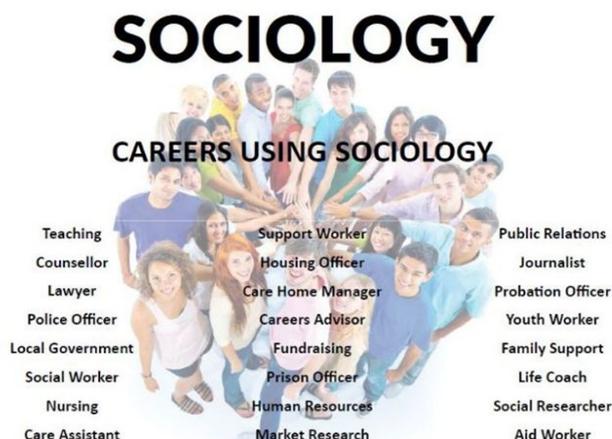
You will develop many skills that are important for any employment and career, for example the ability to think logically and to be able to critically analyse and evaluate. You will also develop skills of negotiation, debate and communication, both written and verbal.

Who can I speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Miss. D. Rundle OR3

* Pupils must be working above age related expectations and be on track/ exceeding their target in maths, English and science to be considered for this course.

Careers in Sociology	Careers in Social Work
Community development worker	Family support worker
University teacher	Primary care mental health worker
International aid	Social worker
Development officer	Adult guidance worker
Social researcher	Youth worker
Charity fundraiser	Play therapist



Spanish GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

Type of course: GCSE

How is the course assessed?

You will sit 4 examinations, each worth 25%. These are:

- Listening - Understanding and responding to spoken extracts comprising the defined vocabulary and grammar for each tier, Dictation of short, spoken extracts.
- Speaking- Speaking using clear and comprehensible language to undertake a Role-play, carry out a Reading aloud task, talk about visual stimuli.
- Reading - Understanding and responding to written texts which focus predominantly on the vocabulary and grammar at each tier, translating from Spanish into English.
- Writing - Writing text in the language in a lexically and grammatically accurate way in response to simple and familiar stimuli, translating from English into Spanish.

What topics / units will you study?

You will study a variety of topics that come under three big themes. These are:

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- Theme 2: Popular culture
- Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

How to be successful

This course would suit someone who is an excellent communicator, with mental agility and problem solvings skills . You will ideally have good literacy skills, remember new words and vocabulary and be willing to speak and practice speaking out loud. You may enjoy conversation; have good listening skills and pay attention to detail. High levels of resilience and a willingness to overcome linguistic challenges is highly desirable to follow this course.

What extra-curricular activities are there?

- Trips to the University of Manchester
- Educational visits to Spain (subject to availability and interest)
- Educational competitions
- Language leader opportunities in school

What opportunities does this qualification help you to have?

Languages can lead to studying A Level languages at college. You may then choose to study languages at university or pair a language degree with another mainstream degree which will prove to be highly useful as many people who have a degree in languages go on to secure high-paying jobs in various fields around the world. UK businesses need linguists and knowledge of a second language will help you in a variety of careers from Law, Business to Journalism. Language learners demonstrate many competencies that employers value such as creativity, empathy, and perseverance. If you are able to speak a foreign language, it will increase your chances of finding work in the UK and abroad, whatever employment you want to do. Most big companies have offices in more than one place too. For example Google has over 70 offices all over the world – from Bogota to Beijing, so being able to speak a second language could increase your chances of getting hired and moving up within a company. Even if you choose not to use a second language in your job, employers love to see candidates with language qualifications as it demonstrates that you are a confident communicator, are resilient and are an active and conscious global citizen who demonstrates excellent team-working skills and respect for others.

You might even encounter an opportunity to speak a foreign language in your hometown or local community as Manchester is so diverse.

Who can you speak to for more information or if you have any questions?

Miss. C. Bauer in 1R2 or Mrs. S. Tomkow in her office on the MFL corridor 1st floor

Use the option preference table below, before you complete the option form online, to ensure that you have a record of child's combination of option subject preferences. Remember that, while we will do our very best to try and get every child their highest preferences courses, places on certain courses fill up fast and some courses may not run if there are insufficient pupil numbers to make it viable.

Please ensure that you fill in the additional information free text box on the form with any additional languages your child speaks/ anything else you wish to tell us. Complete the form on the school website by the deadline date of Thursday 29th February.

Remember to keep your options broad and balanced, don't pick subjects that are all similar. Choose a combination of GCSEs and BTECs.

On your form you can choose two subjects with a similar course name i.e. Music GCSE / Music BTEC, Business GCSE/ Business Enterprise, if you really want to study that subject and are flexible on the type of course GCSE/BTEC but make sure you have read up on the differences in the courses first, and any entry requirements* as this will increase the likelihood of you gaining a place on one of these courses.

**Performing Arts cannot be chosen with Music or Dance (as the subject content overlaps).

Ask for help if you are unsure. Don't submit the option form online until you are sure of your preferences. Exemplar of how to fill in your option preference form below.

Step 1 Tick either History or Geography	
History GCSE	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geography GCSE	<input type="checkbox"/>
Step 2 Number your top 7 preferences . Use 1 for the most important, then 2, 3 etc. Remember to only choose 7	Insert 1–7
Art & Design GCSE	1
Business Studies GCSE	2
Citizenship GCSE	
Computer Science GCSE *	
Geography GCSE	
Dance GCSE	
Digital Information Technology BTEC	3
Design Technology (Hospitality & Catering) GCSE	5
Design Technology (Textiles) GCSE	
Drama GCSE	
Enterprise BTEC	
French GCSE	
Geography GCSE (only choose if you wish to do both Geography & History)	
Health & Social Care BTEC	6
History GCSE (only choose if you wish to do both Geography & History)	
Music GCSE	
Music Practice BTEC	
Performing Arts BTEC	
Religious Studies GCSE	
Sociology GCSE *	7
Spanish GCSE	4
Sport BTEC *	
Travel & Tourism BTEC	
Triple Science (3 separate sciences) *	

Options Preference Form

Mathematics	English Language	English Literature	History or Geography	Core PE and RSE/PSE	3 options
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Check that you understand what you must study in Years 10 and 11 (detailed above), then complete the option form online using the link.

Step 1 Tick either History or Geography	
History GCSE	
Geography GCSE	
Step 2 Number your top 7 preferences . Use 1 for the most important, then 2, 3 etc. Remember to only choose 7	Insert 1—7
Art & Design GCSE	
Business Studies GCSE	
Citizenship GCSE	
Computer Science GCSE *	
Geography GCSE	
Dance GCSE	
Digital Information Technology BTEC	
Design Technology (Hospitality & Catering) GCSE	
Design Technology GCSE	
Drama GCSE	
Business Enterprise BTEC	
French GCSE	
Geography GCSE (only choose if you wish to do both Geography & History)	
Health & Social Care BTEC	
History GCSE (only choose if you wish to do both Geography & History)	
Music GCSE	
Music Practice BTEC	
Performing Arts BTEC	
Religious Studies GCSE	
Sociology GCSE *	
Spanish GCSE	
Sport BTEC *	
Triple Science (3 separate sciences) *	



Co-op Academy
North Manchester

Co-op Academy North Manchester

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