

Bradford Forster Academy



“Everything is possible for one who believes” (Mark 9:23)



Year 9 Options Booklet 2026

Contents

Title	Page No.
<u>Introduction and letter from the Principal</u>	2
<u>Completing your options form</u>	4
<u>GCSE English Literature and English Language</u>	5
<u>GCSE Maths</u>	6
<u>GCSE Combined Science</u>	7
<u>GCSE Triple Science</u>	8
<u>GCSE Religious Studies</u>	9
<u>GCSE Spanish</u>	10
<u>GCSE Geography (9-1)</u>	11
<u>GCSE History (9-1)</u>	12
<u>GCSE Art- Art and Design</u>	13
<u>GCSE Art and design – Photography</u>	14
<u>GCSE Design Technology</u>	15
<u>GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition</u>	16
<u>GCSE Business Studies</u>	17
<u>GCSE Citizenship</u>	18
<u>GCSE Computer Science</u>	19
<u>BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Digital Information Technology</u>	20
<u>BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 Health and Social Care</u>	21
<u>BTEC Level 1 / 2 Tech Award Performing Arts</u>	22
<u>Cambridge National Sport Studies</u>	23

Introduction

This booklet is designed to help you make your choice of subjects to follow in Key Stage 4. These courses will help prepare you for external examinations & for whatever career or further education courses you wish to follow.

It is important that you read the information carefully as well as consulting with others to help you make the most appropriate & sensible choices.

Make sure that you talk to:

- **Your parents or Carers**
- **Your current teachers & your form tutor**
- **Teachers of the subjects you are thinking of choosing**
- **Older students who have experience of these subjects**

Key Dates:

Options Evening- Wednesday 4th March

Deadline for options form- Wednesday 11th March

Options Taster day Mon 16th March

There will be an opportunity to change options by 19th March after taster sessions.

Compulsory Subjects

GCSE English Language and Literature

GCSE Maths

GCSE Combined (or triple) science

GCSE Religious Studies (full or short course)



Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Year 9 students,

Choosing your Key Stage 4 options is an important milestone in your journey at Bradford Forster Academy. The subjects you select will shape your experience over the next two years and open up pathways for further study, apprenticeships and future careers. It is a decision that deserves careful thought.

This is an exciting stage in your education. It is a chance to focus on the subjects you enjoy, areas where you feel confident and successful, and the ambitions you have for your future. For some of you, you may already have a clear idea about the career or courses you would like to pursue after Year 11. For others, this may be the beginning of exploring new possibilities, and that is absolutely fine. Our role is to guide and support you so that you make informed, ambitious and sensible choices.

As you consider your options, I encourage you to:

- Reflect on the subjects you currently enjoy and are motivated to work hard in.
- Think carefully about the subjects that may be required for your future career or further education plans.
- Consider where you are achieving well and where you can continue to grow and succeed.
- Speak to your teachers, your form tutor and your family so that you have a full understanding of what each course involves.

It is important to remember that your choices should be right for you. Friends may choose differently and that is okay. Your focus should be on selecting subjects that will allow you to thrive, challenge yourself and achieve your best.

At Bradford Forster Academy, we have high expectations for every student. We want you to leave us with strong qualifications, confidence in your abilities and a wide range of opportunities. The effort and commitment you show over the next two years will make a significant difference to your future success.

Please take time to read this booklet carefully and speak to staff if you need advice or clarification. We are here to support you every step of the way.

I look forward to seeing the progress and success that your chosen pathways will bring.

Mr D Styles

Completing your options form



Completing the Options Form

Please indicate one subject from the first box and two further subjects from the second box.

If there is an issue with your choices & they don't meet the criteria someone will speak to you to discuss.

We will try & give you as many of your option choices as possible but there may be circumstances (too many or too few students choosing a particular subject) which mean that we cannot give you exactly the subject combination that you want.

Students will be able to choose from the following subjects from the following:

Choose one from:	Choose two from:	
Geography (G)	Geography (G)	Business (G)
History (G)	History (G)	Citizenship (G)
	Art (G)**	Spanish (G)
	Photography (G)	Food & Nutrition (G)*
	Design and Technology (G)*	Computing (G)
	Digital Information Technology (V)	Drama (V)
	Sport Studies (V)	Health & Social Care (V)

Students will be expected to **choose two reserve options** in case a subject is either over subscribed or unable to run due to low interest.

Students will only be able to choose one vocational subject only (V) unless this has been agreed by Miss Whitehead in advance.

Students who choose Art or Photography need to be aware they are heavily coursework based and will require attendance in excess of 95% to access the course.

Please note that some students will follow an alternative pathway, these students will be contacted and provided with information separately.

Course Title:	GCSE English Language (Eduqas) and English Literature (AQA)
QAN Code:	C700QS/8702
Overview:	English opens many doors for your future. You will develop the skills needed to read, understand and analyse a range of different writing and discuss them confidently. You will be helped to develop your writing so that you can write accurately and effectively for a range of different purposes and audiences. By studying English Language and Literature you develop your communication skills and improve your ability to empathise and understand others' beliefs and situations.
What will I learn?	<p>KS4 GCSE English Language Spoken Language: Pupils must show their competence and confidence in speaking and listening through a range of situations. Reading: Pupils will need to read fiction and non-fiction texts, demonstrating an informed engagement with them. The range will include contemporary and pre-20th-century literature. Writing: Pupils will need to show an ability to write in a wide variety of styles and forms, including critical and imaginative responses to literary and factual material. Presentation: Pupils should be able to write fluently and legibly and present finished work clearly and attractively.</p> <p>KS4 GCSE English Literature Students engage with and develop the ability to read, understand and respond to a wide range of literary texts from around the world and develop an appreciation of the ways in which authors construct their texts. There is a focus on developing the skills needed for literary study. Students explore through literature, their own and other cultures. Pupils will be encouraged to develop critical and analytical responses by studying prose, poetry and drama from diverse literary periods. Texts include: An Inspector Calls, Macbeth and A Christmas Carol.</p>
How will I be assessed?	<p>KS4 GCSE Exam board: Eduqas and AQA. The GCSE is 100% exam based.</p> <p>English Language Component 1: 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing (40% of GCSE) English Language Component 2: 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading and Transactional/ Persuasive Writing (60% of GCSE)</p> <p>Component 3: Spoken Language: You will write, revise and perform a spoken language exam on a topic of your choice and be asked questions by your audience.</p> <p>Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel (40% of GCSE) Literature Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry (60% of GCSE)</p>
Future Opportunities:	<p>Possible routes into further education include: AS/A2 English Language and Literature.</p> <p>Future career opportunities may include: Journalist, author, blogger, teacher or lecturer, marketing executive, politician, lawyer, translator, librarian and linguist. However, having a good grade in GCSE English Language or Literature does open doors for further studies for the vast majority of careers.</p>
Further Information	<p>Some useful websites and sources of information are: LitCharts: http://www.litcharts.com/ BBC Bitesize revision: http://www.bbc.co.uk/education Shakespeare 'Unlocked': http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/shakespeare/ 'No Fear' Shakespeare: http://nfs.sparknotes.com/ 'Sparknotes': http://www.sparknotes.com/</p> <p>New GCSE English Literature text guides (by CGP Books or Hodder Education) https://79590737.flowpaper.com/English2020/</p>



Overview:

The aims and objectives in Mathematics are to enable students to:

- develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences, and draw conclusions
- comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

What will I learn?

The assessments will cover the following content headings:

- 1 Number
- 2 Algebra
- 3 Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- 4 Geometry and measures
- 5 Probability
- 6 Statistics

AO1 Use and apply standard techniques

AO2 Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically

AO3 Solve problems within mathematics and in other contexts

Entry Requirements and Advice:

The qualification builds on the content, knowledge and skills developed in the Key Stage 3 Programme of Study for Mathematics. All students will study Maths throughout the whole of Key Stage 4.

How will I be assessed?

Two tiers are available: Foundation (grades 1 to 5) and Higher (grades 4 to 9)

The qualification consists of three equally-weighted written examination papers. All three papers must be at the same tier of entry and must be completed in the same assessment series.

There are a total of three papers, each of 1 hr 30mins. One paper is non-calculator and two allow the use of a calculator.

The content outlined for each tier will be assessed across all three papers. Each paper will cover all Assessment Objectives. Each paper has a range of question types; some questions will be set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts.

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total mark across all three papers where 9 is the highest grade. Individual papers are not graded.

Future Opportunities:

Students can progress from this qualification to Level 3 qualifications in numerate disciplines, such as:

- Core Mathematics
- GCE Mathematics and GCE Further Mathematics
- GCEs in the sciences
- GCE Geography
- GCE Psychology
- GCE Economics
- other qualifications that require mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding.

GCSE Mathematics is a requirement for progression to a wide range of courses at Level 3. Students are expected to continue with their study of GCSE Mathematics after the age of 16 if they have not achieved the qualification at Key Stage 4.

Further Information:

Please see Mrs Box for further information.

<https://79590737.flowpaper.com/Maths2020/>



Course Title:

AQA GCSE Combined Science

QAN Code:

601/8758/X

Overview:

In this course you will study biology, chemistry and physics. As part of studying all three sciences you will also have to complete 24 compulsory practical activities. At the end of the course, you will complete six examinations and will be awarded **two GCSE grades**.

What will I learn?

Throughout the course:

- You will be encouraged to develop a range of scientific skills and work to the best of your ability.
- You will learn how to analyse data from tables, graphs and text.
- You will learn to plan valid investigations using scientific variables.
- You will develop your practical skills.
- You will develop your biology, chemistry and physics knowledge and practise using this to explain your observations.

Entry Requirements and Advice:

The qualification builds on the content, knowledge and skills developed in the Key Stage 3 Programme of Study for science. All students will study science throughout the whole of Key Stage 4.

How will I be assessed?

Exams are 100% of the marks

At the end of Y11 you will complete **six exam papers**. Each exam will be 1 hour and 15 minutes long. It will include a mixture of multiple choice questions and longer written response questions. You will be asked questions about the 24 required practical you have completed as part of your studies. Attendance to all lessons is therefore vitally important!

Future Opportunities:

We will work to develop:

- your practical skills.
- your literacy and numeracy skills.
- your knowledge of the world around us and 'how stuff works'!

A good science qualification is essential for careers in: architecture, nursing, veterinary science, medicine, teaching, engineering, sports coach, pharmacist, research scientist.

Even if a career you are interested in does not state a science GCSE as essential, all employers will value the problem solving skills and knowledge you will gain from this qualification.

Further Information :

Please speak to Mr Peck / Mrs Greenwood / Mrs Parsons for further information.

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464>



Course Title:

AQA GCSE Separate Sciences

QAN Code:

601/8758/X

Overview:

In this course you will study biology, chemistry and physics. As part of studying all three sciences you will also have to complete 28 compulsory practical activities. At the end of the course, you will complete six examinations and will be awarded **three GCSE grades**.

What will I learn?

Throughout the course:

- You will be encouraged to develop a range of scientific skills and work to the best of your ability.
- You will learn how to analyse data from tables, graphs and text.
- You will learn to plan valid investigations using scientific variables.
- You will develop your practical skills.
- You will develop your biology, chemistry and physics knowledge and practise using this to explain your observations.

Entry Requirements and Advice:

The qualification builds on the content, knowledge and skills developed in the Key Stage 3 Programme of Study for science. All students will study science throughout the whole of Key Stage 4 and some may be given the opportunity to study this qualification through their regular science lessons.

How will I be assessed?

Exams are 100% of the marks

At the end of Y11 you will complete **six exam papers**. Each exam will be 1 hour and 45 minutes long. It will include a mixture of multiple-choice questions and longer written response questions. You will be asked questions about the 28 required practical you have completed as part of your studies. Attendance to all lessons is therefore vitally important!

Future Opportunities:

We will work to develop:

- your practical skills.
- your literacy and numeracy skills.
- your knowledge of the world around us and 'how stuff works'!

A good science qualification is essential for careers in: architecture, nursing, veterinary science, medicine, teaching, engineering, sports coach, pharmacist, research scientist.

Even if a career you are interested in does not state a science GCSE as essential, all employers will value the problem-solving skills and knowledge you will gain from this qualification.

Further Information :

Please speak to Mr Peck / Mrs Greenwood / Mrs Parsons for further information.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/biology/gcse/biology-8461/specification>

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/chemistry/gcse/chemistry-8462/specification>

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physics/gcse/physics-8463/specification>



Course Title:	AQA GCSE Religious Studies
QAN Code:	601/8400/0
Overview:	<p>The GCSE Religious Studies A specification offers a range of faith-specific options and a variety of relevant and contemporary themes. The GCSE covers the major world religions, however at Bradford Forster Academy we will explore Christianity and Islam.</p> <p>We will explore four contemporary ethical themes, ensuring that you will have a diverse choice of intriguing subjects to explore and discuss. You will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. Pupils will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All these skills will help prepare you for further study.</p>
What will I learn?	<p>Throughout the course you'll also learn valuable skills which will help you access a wide range of L3/4/5 courses and will help you progress in the workplace.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •excellent communication and writing skills •how to construct an argument •research and problem skills •investigation and problem-solving skills •analytical and interpretation skills.
Entry Requirements and Advice:	<p>Do you wonder about how the world we live came to be?</p> <p>Do you want to continue studying a subject that will lead to lots of different career opportunities and further education courses?</p> <p>Can you work independently, critically evaluate events and come to clear judgements?</p> <p>If you have answered YES to the above, then this course is for you.</p>
How will I be assessed?	<p>The course will be assessed by 2 final exam papers at the end of year 11. Each paper is 1hr and 45 minutes in length.</p> <p>The GCSE exams in Religious Studies A include questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •apply knowledge and understanding of two religions •apply knowledge and understanding of key sources of wisdom and authority including scripture and/or sacred texts, where appropriate, which support contemporary religious faith •understand the influence of religion on individuals, communities and societies •understand significant common and divergent views between and/or within religions and beliefs •apply knowledge and understanding in order to analyse questions related to religious beliefs and values •construct well-informed and balanced arguments on matters concerned with religious beliefs and values set out in the subject content.
Future Opportunities:	<p>Religious Education is an academic subject and is highly valued by FE colleges, universities and employers. Many employers (especially the police, army and the caring professions) regard GCSE Religious Studies as a good qualification as it shows that you are aware of other people's beliefs and the nature of the society we live in.</p> <p>Future career opportunities may include a career in law, education, politics, the media, business and many more.</p>
Further Information:	Please see Mr Hales for further information



Overview:

You will develop your ability to communicate with Spanish native speakers in both speech and writing. You will study across a variety of contexts relevant to your age and interests and will also develop a greater awareness of culture of Spanish-speaking communities and countries.

What will I learn?

Throughout the course you will:

- develop your ability to communicate confidently with native speakers in speech and writing
- express and develop thoughts and ideas spontaneously and fluently
- deepen your knowledge about how language works and enrich your vocabulary
- acquire new knowledge, skills and ways of thinking
- develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where the language is spoken

Entry Requirements and Advice:

Are you able to:

- give opinions and reasons in Spanish
- use cognates and known words in a sentence to make guesses about unfamiliar words
- recognise different tenses – present, past and future
- revise new words on a weekly basis to increase your vocabulary count

If you have answered YES to the above, then this course is for you!!!

If you have answered NO to any of the above but are willing to work to improve this, then this is the course for you!!!

How will I be assessed?

The GCSE consists of four externally examined papers based on the following skills:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing



Each exam is worth 25% of the overall grade

Future Opportunities:

Not just Teacher, Translator, Interpreter There are so many different opportunities!

Civil Service, Airline Services, Sports' Coaching, Advertising, Journalism, Editing and Publishing, Subtitles and Voice-overs, Event Management, Nursing, Hotel Management, Import/Export Expert, Detective, International Aid/Development Worker and so much more.

Further Information :

Please speak to Mrs Remon for further information.

<https://79590737.flowpaper.com/Languages2020/>



Course Title:	AQA GCSE Geography
Overview:	In a world being shaped by climate change, natural hazards, Brexit, and growing social inequalities, there has perhaps never been a more crucial time than to engage with and pursue Geography. Geography helps students understand an environment that is constantly evolving and aims to provide them with the knowledge and skills to begin to interpret and make sense of the world in which we live becoming more well-rounded, critically thinking citizens, able to make positive contributions to the community and beyond.
What will I learn?	<p>Alongside the more traditional content such as landscapes and ecosystems, topics of study include climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use. You will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and extend your knowledge of locations, places, environments and processes, and of different scales including global; and of social, political and cultural contexts. • gain understanding of the interactions between people and environments, change in places and processes over space and time, and the inter-relationship between geographical phenomena at different scales and in different contexts. • develop and extend your competence in a range of skills including those used in fieldwork, in using maps and GIS and in researching secondary evidence, including digital sources; and develop their competence in applying sound enquiry and investigative approaches to questions and hypotheses • apply geographical knowledge, understanding, skills and approaches appropriately and creatively to real world contexts, including fieldwork, and to contemporary situations and issues; • develop well-evidenced arguments drawing on their geographical knowledge and understanding.
Entry Requirements and Advice:	<p>Do you wonder about how the world in which we live came to be? Do you want to continue studying a subject that will lead to lots of different career opportunities and further education courses? Can you work independently, critically evaluate events and come to clear judgements? If you have answered YES to the above, then this course is for you!!!</p>
How will I be assessed?	<p>Paper 1: Living with the physical environment – Written examination: 1hr and 30mins ; 88 marks; 35% of GCSE</p> <p>This paper includes units entitled: 'The challenge of natural hazards'; 'The living world' and 'Physical landscapes in the UK'.</p> <p>Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment – Written examination: 1hr and 30 mins; 88 marks; 35% of GCSE</p> <p>This paper includes units entitled: 'Urban issues and challenges'; 'The changing economic world' and 'The challenge of resource management'.</p> <p>Paper 3: Geographical applications –Written examination: 1hr and 30mins; 76 marks; 30% of GCSE</p> <p>Includes geographical knowledge from paper 1 and paper 2 based around an evaluation of a geographical issue that is provided in a pre-release document. Also included are questions on fieldwork.</p>
Future Opportunities:	<p>Geography is an EBacc subject and is highly valued by FE colleges, universities and employers.</p> <p>Geography is great for any kind of career that involves the environment, planning, or collecting and interpreting data. Popular careers for people with geography qualifications include: town or transport planning, surveying, conservation, sustainability, waste and water management, environmental planning, tourism, and weather forecasting. The army, police, government, research organisations, law and business world also love the practical research skills that geographers develop. Furthermore, because geographers learn about human and population development, geography can be useful for jobs in charity and international relations too.</p>
Further Information:	Please speak to Mr Hall, Miss Mitchell or Mr Cordingley for further information.



Course Title:	Edexcel GCSE History
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QAN Code:	601/8092/4
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Overview:	You will be introduced to a variety of new topics that tell a story about the periods and events that shaped the world we live in today. Learning about past events and the people who've influenced history will allow you to understand how the world got to the point it's at now and how it will continue to develop in the future.
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What will I learn?	<p>Topics studied include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39 How did Hitler rise to power and shift German society in preparation for war? •Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91 How did the might of the USSR and USA come to a head after WW2 – why did their conflict nearly destroy the world? •Crime and Punishment in Britain, 1000–Present How has the way we enforce law and enact punishment changed since the medieval times and why? •Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88 How did the first regent queen of England rule during a tumultuous time into a 'Golden Age'? <p>Throughout the course you'll also learn valuable skills which will help you access a wide range of L3/4/5 courses and will help you progress in the workplace.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Excellent communication and writing skills •How to construct an argument •Research skills •Investigation and problem-solving skills •Analytical and interpretation skills.
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Entry Requirements and Advice:	<p>This course consists of 3 exams that all involve extended writing and required use of specific information about the past. To succeed in this course, you must be willing to work hard and be prepared to write at length for extended periods of time.</p> <p>Our biggest piece of advice would be that if you enjoy History, and you are willing to put in the work, you are very likely to succeed in it! Please consider carefully whether you are willing to write lots, independently, for long periods of time.</p>
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How will I be assessed?	<p>The course will be assessed by 3 final exam papers at the end of year 11.</p> <p>Paper 1: Crime and Punishment in Britain from 1000–Present with a specific Case Study on Whitechapel and Jack the Ripper 52 marks – 1 hr 20 mins – 30%</p> <p>Paper 2: Period study (Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–9) and British depth study (Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88) Both the British Depth study and the Period study are worth 20% each of the total qualification. 64 marks – 1 hr 50 mins - 40%</p> <p>Paper 3: Modern depth study (Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39) The Modern depth study is worth 30% of the total qualification 52 marks – 1 hr 30 mins – 30%</p>
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Future Opportunities:	<p>Because of its use of wide-ranging skills and breadth/depth of knowledge you gain, History is a very sought after subject for a range of different courses and career paths – particularly if you are wishing to attend university.</p> <p>History has particularly strong links into careers related to: law, politics, education, Archaeology, Public Administration, Research, charities, higher education...</p>
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Further Information:	We would suggest that you speak to your History teachers who will be able to advise you on whether the History GCSE would be good for you – you can also speak to current students studying the GCSE - additionally there are some really good online resources about the History GCSE.
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AQA GCSE Art and Design: Art and Design

Course Title:

QAN Code:

8202/C 8202/X JA2

Overview:

GCSE Art develops your ability to explore ideas, convey experiences and respond to themes of personal significance. You will explore the work of other artists and work with a range of different media and techniques.

What will I learn?

- You will learn how sources inspire the development of ideas, including those that relate to individuals, society, history, the environment, culture and ethics.
- You will learn the ways in which meanings, ideas and intentions relevant to fine art can be communicated, including the use of figurative representation, abstraction, stylisation, simplification, exaggeration, expression and imaginative interpretation.
- You will develop your ability to use colour, line, form, tone, texture, shape, composition, rhythm, scale, structure and surface to express your intentions.
- You will develop your skills in a variety of artistic techniques and processes and a wide variety of different media.

Entry Requirements and Advice:

- Do you enjoy being creative?
- Do you enjoy making personal responses to source materials?
- Do you enjoy investigating and learning from the work of other artists?
- Would you like to develop your ability to express your ideas using a wide variety of different media such as charcoal, pastels, pen, ink, paint, print and digital techniques?
- Are you self-motivated, hard-working and organised?

If you have answered YES to the above, then this course is for you!

How will I be assessed?

Non Examined Component 1 (60% of the GCSE Grade)

During the course you will gather a body of artwork which you have produced in a portfolio. It will include a lengthy project that evidences your journey from initial engagement with a topic to the realisation of your intentions, as well as a selection of work undertaken during years 10 and 11.

Exam (40% of the GCSE Grade)

In year 11, the exam board will set an assignment, to which you must make a personal response. You will be given lesson time to explore, develop and prepare your response to the assignment and then you will sit a 10 hour exam, split over 2 days, during which you will produce a final piece of art work.

Future Opportunities:

Possible routes into further education include: AS/A2 Art, Foundation Art and Design courses, apprenticeships in the creative industries, degrees in fine art, printmaking, sculpture, digital media and many others.

Future career opportunities may include: professional artist, art critic, landscape gardener, graphic designer, museum curator, lecturer, body artist, architect, model maker, tattooist, make-up artist, teacher, decorator, cartoonist, illustrator, interior designer, web designer, fashion consultant, artist, art director, art therapist, jewellery designer and many more. The list is endless!

Further Information :

Please speak to Mr Guile for further information.
<https://79590737.flowpaper.com/ArtandDesign2020/>



AQA GCSE Art and Design: Photography

Course Title:

QAN Code:

601/8088/2

Overview:

GCSE Art and Design - Photography develops your ability to explore ideas and convey experiences. You will learn practical and technical skills that enable you to respond to themes of personal significance. You will explore the work of other photographers and work with a range of different photographic media and techniques.

What will I learn?

- You will learn how sources inspire the development of ideas, including those that relate to individuals, society, history, the environment, culture and ethics.
- You will learn the ways in which meanings, ideas and intentions relevant to photography can be communicated, including the use of figurative representation, abstraction, stylisation, simplification, exaggeration, expression and imaginative interpretation.
- You will develop your ability to use a camera to explore the formal elements of art and to express your intentions through editing software and printing techniques.
- You will develop your skills in a variety of artistic techniques and processes and a wide variety of different media and styles of photography.
- You will learn how to use a range of different pieces of photographic equipment, different types of camera and how to edit photographs using professional software

Entry Requirements and Advice:

- Do you enjoy being creative?
- Do you enjoy making personal responses to source materials?
- Do you enjoy investigating and learning from the work of other artists?
- Would you like to develop your ability to express your ideas using a wide variety of different photographic media, editing software and technical equipment?
- Are you self-motivated, hard-working and organised?

If you have answered YES to the above, then this course is for you!

How will I be assessed?

Non Examined Component 1 (60% of the GCSE Grade)

During the course you will gather a body of photographic work which you have produced in a portfolio. It will include a lengthy project that evidences your journey from initial engagement with a topic to the realisation of your intentions, as well as a selection of work undertaken during years 10 and 11.

Exam (40% of the GCSE Grade)

In year 11, the exam board will set an assignment, to which you must make a personal response. You will be given lesson time to explore, develop and prepare your response to the assignment and then you will sit a 10 hour exam, split over 2 days, during which you will produce a final piece of photography / print work.

Future Opportunities:

Possible routes into further education include: AS/A2 Art, Foundation Art and Design courses, Media & Photography, apprenticeships in the creative industries, degrees in photography, fine art, printmaking, sculpture, digital media and many others.

Future career opportunities include being a professional artist, art critic, graphic designer, event photographer (bands, sports, festivals), magazine editor, camera man /woman, lecturer, architect, model maker, tattooist, make-up artist, teacher, decorator, cartoonist, illustrator, interior designer, web designer, fashion consultant, artist, art director, art therapist, journalist, producer, director, set creator, games design and more! The list is endless!!

14

Further Information:

Please speak with Mr Guile for further information



Course Title:	AQA GCSE Design Technology
QAN Code:	603/0984/2.
Overview:	Design and Technology develops your understanding of how products are designed and made. It develops your creativity; your manufacturing skills and knowledge; your ability to solve problems; and your technical knowledge and understanding. You will develop your knowledge and skills through design tasks; drawing, modelling and manufacturing tasks; research and investigation tasks and theory lessons.
What will I learn?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •You will learn about the properties and uses of a wide range of materials including metals, polymers, composite materials and woods. There will be a particular focus upon wood. •You will learn about the different types of force and stress which materials are subjected to, the environmental impact of materials, where materials come from, how to use and work with materials and the tools, equipment and processes used with different materials. •You will learn how to design, develop and manufacture products of your own using strategies and methods used by professional designers.
Entry Requirements and Advice:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Do you enjoy designing, developing and making products to solve everyday problems? •Do you enjoy being creative? •Are curious to know more about how products are designed and manufactured in industry? •Would you like to know more about the properties of different materials? •Do you have a special interest in designing and making products from wood? •Are you curious to know more about where the materials that you use every day come from, what the environmental impact of the materials that we use every day is and how materials resist the stresses and forces? •Are you self-motivated, hard-working and organised? <p>If you have answered YES to the above then this course is for you!</p>
How will I be assessed?	<p><u>Non-Examined Assessment (50% of the GCSE Grade)</u> In year 11 you will investigate a design problem given to you by the exam board. You will carry out research of your own and write a design brief and design specification based upon your research. You will then design, develop and manufacture a product which fulfils the criteria set-out in your design brief and specification. Throughout the design, development and manufacturing process you will evaluate your work. You will have approximately 35 hours for this task. You will produce a 20 page A3 portfolio of design work for this assessment.</p> <p><u>Exam (50% of the GCSE Grade)</u> You will sit a 2 hour exam which will assess your knowledge of all of the technical principles connected with different materials, mechanisms, tools and equipment; the environmental impact of materials; mechanisms; forces; your ability to analyse and evaluate designs and products; and your understanding of wider issues connected with design and technology.</p>
Future Opportunities:	<p>Possible routes into further education include: AS/A2 Product Design, Foundation Art and Design courses, apprenticeships in the manufacturing industries.</p> <p>Future career opportunities may include being a product designer, civil engineer, mechanical engineer, car designer, architect, model maker, carpenter, decorator, builder, technician, interior designer, web designer, creative director, jewellery designer and many more. The list is endless!</p>
Further Information :	<p>Please speak to Mr Jones for further information. https://79590737.flowpaper.com/DesignandTech2020/</p>



Course Title:

AQA GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

QAN Code:

601/8421/8

Overview:

Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which develops your practical cooking skills and your understanding of how different food ingredients work. You will develop your understanding of theoretical topics such as nutrition, where food comes from, food choice, food safety and food science.

What will I learn?

- You will learn how to carry-out a variety of cookery techniques such as making different types of dough and sauce, filleting fish, portioning chicken and tenderising food ingredients.
- You will learn about the nutrients contained in different types of food and the role that those different nutrients play in maintaining health.
- You will learn about the scientific reactions which occur when a range of ingredients are used in different ways.
- You will learn about the different safety principles which have to be followed to ensure that people do not get ill when buying, preparing or storing food.
- You will learn why different people choose to eat different foods.
- You will learn about food provenance (where foods comes from) and how food is produced.

Entry Requirements and Advice:

- Do you enjoy cooking? Would you like to be able to cook confidently using a range of different techniques and methods?
- Are you interested in the role which food plays in maintaining people's health?
- Are you interested in how different ingredients function in a dish? Are you interested in the chemical reactions which occur when different ingredients are used?
- Are you interested in wider topics connected with food such as where food comes from?
- Do you enjoy cooking at home? Are you self-motivated, hard-working and organised?

If you have answered YES to the above, then this course is for you!

How will I be assessed?

Non-Examined Assessments (NEA) 50% of the GCSE Grade

In year 11 you will complete two NEA tasks. In the first task you will research, investigate and evaluate the working characteristics of a particular ingredient. You will produce a report which shows the research and testing which you carried out. In the second task you will prepare, cook and present a menu of three dishes to meet the needs of a context chosen by the exam board. This might involve producing a dishes for a special occasion or for someone with specific dietary or health needs. You will, again, have to produce a report which shows your research, planning and evaluation as well as showcasing your practical skills and the finished menu and dishes.

Exam (50% of the GCSE Grade)

At the end of year 11 you will sit a 1 hour 45 minute exam which will assess your knowledge of all of the theoretical topics connected with food: nutrition, health, food science, food safety, food choice and food provenance.

Future Opportunities:

Possible routes into further education and work include: there are a wide variety of level 3 courses and apprenticeships which develop professional cooking and catering skills.

Future career opportunities in which GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition will be useful include: include being a chef, restaurant owner, baker, dietician, nutritional therapist, food scientist, restaurant manager, food technologist, caterer, food and drink engineer and many more.

16

Further Information :

Please speak to Mrs Eady or Mr Jones for further information



Course Title:

Pearson GCSE Business Studies

QAN code

603/0121/1

Overview:

Why is Business important?

Businesses create jobs, inspire innovation, and boost local communities. Every industry relies on business principles to survive and thrive. In these changing times the primary role of business has remained the same: to provide people with the goods and services they need and want. Whether you are passionate about dancing, making food, playing sports, or working with numbers, there is a business side to it. Whatever your goals, you need business skills to promote your work.

What will I learn?

The course is split into two themes:

Investigating small business: You will be introduced to local and national business environments and will develop an understanding of how these environments impact business behaviour and decisions.

Building a business: You will develop an understanding of the interdependent nature of business activity as well as the relationship between the business and the environment in which it operates.

Entry Requirements and Advice:

Are you interested in learning about the different types of enterprise and their ownership, looking at the characteristics of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs with reasons for levels of success?

You can prepare for the course by making note of all the different types of businesses you and your family use every day. Find out:

– Why you or family member choose to use that particular business

– If the businesses are local or national

How do I find out more? (E.g. exam board, ref number, hyperlinks)

You can visit the Pearson Edexcel GCSE Business webpage which can be found here:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Business/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/gcse-business-spec-2017.pdf>

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is 100% written exam. You must be committed to working hard, thinking creatively and be self-motivated.

The course requires you to sit two exam papers.

Paper 1 relates to the content of the investigating small business.

Paper 2 relates to the content of building a business. Each paper may also draw some knowledge of the other theme.

Future Opportunities:

What can you do with Business in the future?

The skills you will learn can be applied on any scale, from leading a small team to running a company. There are many careers that you could pursue with business including market research, management, public relations, banking or advertising.

This subject supports a pathway to Business and Economics courses at Key Stage 5, both through A Levels and with BTEC Nationals.

Further Information:

Please speak to Mr Ryan for further information.



Overview:

Citizenship Studies introduces students to key citizenship issues and helps them develop a practical understanding of what it means to be a citizen today. They acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to think critically and play a positive role in public life.

What will I learn?

There are four sections.

Section 1: Rights, the law and the legal system in England and Wales

Rights and responsibilities

The law

The legal system (England and Wales)

Section 2: Democracy and government

Democracy, elections and voting in the UK

National, local, regional and devolved government

British constitution

The economy, finance and money

The role of the media and free press

Citizenship participation in the UK

Politics beyond the UK

Section 3: The UK and the wider world

Identities and diversity in UK society

The UK and its relations with the wider world

Section 4: Citizenship action

Students take part in real-life practical activities that address a particular issue or concern, aimed at providing a benefit for a particular community or society. They use both primary and secondary sources.

Entry Requirements and Advice:

How does it benefit young people?

It helps them to develop **self-confidence and a sense of agency**, and successfully deal with life changes and challenges such as bullying and discrimination.

It gives them a **voice**: in the life of their schools, their communities and society at large.

It enables them to **make a positive contribution** by developing the knowledge and experience needed to claim their rights and understand their responsibilities. It prepares them for the challenges and opportunities of adult and working life.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through exams.

You will sit 3 exams at the end of Year 11.

- Citizenship In Action
- Rights, Society and Our World
- Citizenship in Perspective (multiple-choice)

Future Opportunities:

JOBS THAT LINK TO CITIZENSHIP

Politicians use their knowledge of Citizenship to inform policies and opinions.

Lawyers use Citizenship to consider the law around international clients and businesses.

Teachers are sometimes required to cover the basics of Citizenship. 18

Further Information :

Please speak to Miss Evans for more information



Course Title:	OCR GCSE Computer Science
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QAN Code	601/8355/X
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Overview:	<p>Students will be given opportunities to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment.</p> <p>Development of key skills, such as project planning, designing and creating user interfaces, creating dashboards to present and interpret data.</p> <p>Identify effective ways of working in digital information technology, such as project planning, the iterative design process, cyber security, and virtual teams, legal and ethical codes of conduct.</p> <p>Attitudes that are considered most important in digital information technology, including personal management and communication.</p> <p>Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as how different user interfaces meet user needs, how organisations collect and use data to make decisions, virtual workplaces, cyber security and legal and ethical issues.</p>
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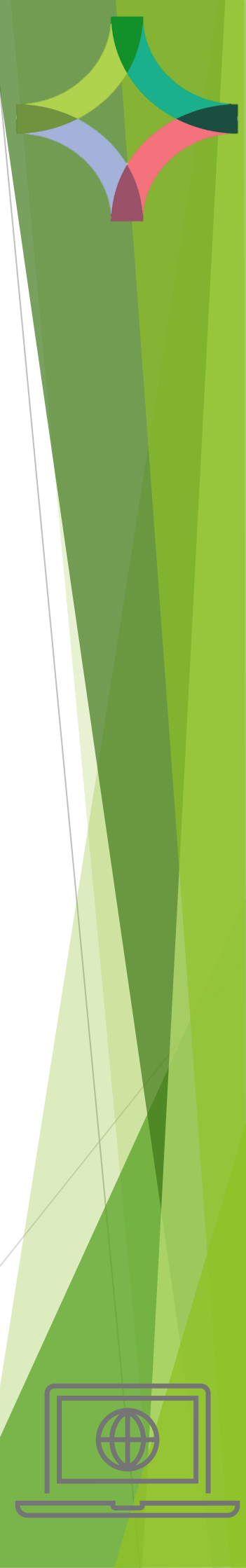
What will I learn?	<p>The course is comprised of 3 assessed components</p> <p>Component 1 Overview (Sat in Year 10) This component will introduce learners to Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques. Learners will: Develop an understanding of what makes an effective user interface and how to effectively manage a project. Utilise understanding to plan, design and create a user interface. This component is worth 30% of the overall assessment.</p> <p>Component 2 Overview (Sat in Year 11) This component will introduce learners to the use of Data in an organisation. This will consist of Developing, Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data. Understand the characteristics of data and information and how they help organisations in decision-making. Use data manipulation methods to create a dashboard (excel) to present and draw conclusions from information. This component is worth 30% of the overall assessment.</p> <p>Component 3 Overview (Exam Year 11) This component will introduce learners to effective Digital Working Practices. Explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications associated with their use. This component is worth 40% of the overall assessment. Students must pass all three components to achieve an overall grade of a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*.</p>
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Entry Requirements and Advice:	<p>Are you interested in computers? Have you ever wondered what it takes to make a website or data dashboard? Do you enjoy exploring the use of graphics on games, webpages and software? If you answered YES to these questions, then this is the course for you!</p>
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How will I be assessed?	<p>The qualification consists of three components that give learners the opportunity to develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the digital sector.</p> <p>Components 1 and 2 are assessed through internal assessment; component 3 is an external exam (worth 40% of the course) which builds directly on components 1 and 2 and enables learning to be brought together and applied to realistic contexts.</p>
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Future Opportunities:	<p>This suite of qualifications provides candidates with high quality, industry-relevant qualifications geared to the specific requirements of key sectors.</p> <p>They are vocationally-related qualifications that provide valuable opportunities for individuals to develop skills and gain underpinning knowledge and understanding which will support entry into work or progression to further studies through Further Education or Higher Education.</p> <p>The fastest growing sectors in industry are IT/Computing related the course will equip you with the skills, knowledge and understanding to allow to make you first steps into this exciting career.</p>
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Further Information:	<p>Please speak to Mr Ryan or Mr Quinn for further information.</p>
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Course Title:	BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Digital Information Technology
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Overview:	<p>Students will be given opportunities to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment.</p> <p>Development of key skills, such as project planning, designing and creating user interfaces, creating dashboards to present and interpret data.</p> <p>Identify effective ways of working in digital information technology, such as project planning, the iterative design process, cyber security, and virtual teams, legal and ethical codes of conduct.</p> <p>Attitudes that are considered most important in digital information technology, including personal management and communication.</p> <p>Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as how different user interfaces meet user needs, how organisations collect and use data to make decisions, virtual workplaces, cyber security and legal and ethical issues.</p>
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What will I learn?	<p>The course is comprised of 3 assessed components</p> <p>Component 1 Overview (Sat in Year 10) This component will introduce learners to Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques. Learners will: Develop an understanding of what makes an effective user interface and how to effectively manage a project. Utilise understanding to plan, design and create a user interface. This component is worth 30% of the overall assessment.</p> <p>Component 2 Overview (Sat in Year 11) This component will introduce learners to the use of Data in an organisation. This will consist of Developing, Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data. Understand the characteristics of data and information and how they help organisations in decision-making. Use data manipulation methods to create a dashboard (excel) to present and draw conclusions from information. This component is worth 30% of the overall assessment.</p> <p>Component 3 Overview (Exam Year 11) This component will introduce learners to effective Digital Working Practices. Explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications associated with their use. This component is worth 40% of the overall assessment. Students must pass all three components to achieve an overall grade of a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*.</p>
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Entry Requirements and Advice:	<p>Are you interested in computers? Have you ever wondered what it takes to make a website or data dashboard? Do you enjoy exploring the use of graphics on games, webpages and software? If you answered YES to these questions, then this is the course for you!</p>
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How will I be assessed?	<p>The qualification consists of three components that give learners the opportunity to develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the digital sector.</p> <p>Components 1 and 2 are assessed through internal assessment; component 3 is an external exam (worth 40% of the course) which builds directly on components 1 and 2 and enables learning to be brought together and applied to realistic contexts.</p>
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Future Opportunities:	<p>This suite of qualifications provides candidates with high quality, industry-relevant qualifications geared to the specific requirements of key sectors.</p> <p>They are vocationally-related qualifications that provide valuable opportunities for individuals to develop skills and gain underpinning knowledge and understanding which will support entry into work or progression to further studies through Further Education or Higher Education.</p> <p>The fastest growing sectors in industry are IT/Computing related the course will equip you with the skills, knowledge and understanding to allow to make you first steps into this exciting career.</p>
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Further Information:	<p>Please speak to Mr Ryan or Mr Quinn for further information.</p>
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Course Title:	BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 Health and Social Care
QAN Code:	603/0395/5
Overview:	You will be given the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. You will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring health and wellbeing alongside health and social care services. You will explore and develop an understanding of how people plan for and deal with major life events. You will study how people grow and develop over the course of their life. You will research physical, intellectual, emotional and social development. You will develop skills that can be used in other areas such as written communication skills and research skills.
What will I learn?	<p>Throughout the course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ You will develop skills and processes, such as interpreting data to assess an individual's health and designing a plan to improve their health and wellbeing ▪ You will explore attitudes, namely the care values that are vitally important in the sector and have the opportunity to practise applying them ▪ You will develop knowledge that underpins the effective use of skills, processes and attitudes in relation to human growth and development, health and social care services and factors affecting people's health and wellbeing
Entry Requirements and Advice:	<p>Do you enjoy expressing ideas and presenting your thoughts to others? Do you like linking your ideas to real-life situations? Do you want to learn how to work well with others, showing that you can listen to and value their opinions? Do you like working on long term projects that are open ended and require you to think for yourself? Can you work independently and develop your own ideas?</p> <p>If you have answered YES to the above then this course is for you!</p>
How will I be assessed?	<p>The qualification consists of three components. Each component can be graded as a Level 1 pass, Level 2 pass or Level 2 distinction.</p> <p>Component 1 & 2 – 60% Components 1 and 2 are assessed through internal assessment. Internal assessment is through assignments that are externally verified by the exam board.</p> <p>Component 3 – 40% Component 3 provides the main synoptic assessment for this course and is externally assessed. The external assessment takes the form of a set task taken under supervised conditions that is then marked by the exam board.</p>
Future Opportunities:	<p>About 3 million people work in health and social care. Health care roles include pharmacists, nurses, midwives and healthcare assistants. Social care roles include care assistants, occupational therapists, counsellors and administrators.</p> <p>Demand for health and social care is likely to rise, so the demand for people to carry out these vital roles will increase.</p>
Further Information :	Please see Ms Hussain for further information.



Course Title:	<h1>BTEC Tech Award Performing Arts</h1>
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Overview:	<p>The course is made up of 3 components. You will be taught to a three-block structure: Explore, Develop, and Apply. The course enables you to build on and embed your knowledge of acting which will allow you to grow in confidence and then at the end of each component, put into practice what you have learned.</p> <p>Most lessons are practical teacher-led sessions, much like your KS3 lessons, where you take part and then apply your understanding to your own work. The focus is not to 'perform each lesson'; the work is developmental, and more time is spent on gaining a deeper understanding of acting and the theories of performance. You will regularly be expected to write/ type and record your work by using workbooks/journals/ logbooks etc.</p>
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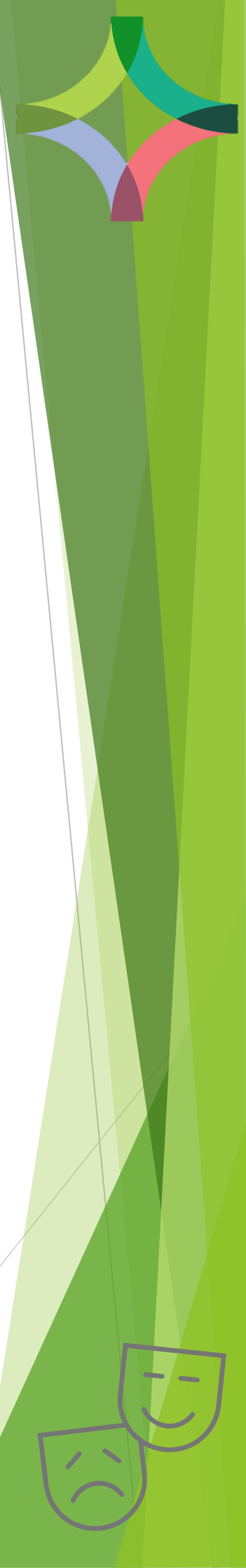
What will I learn?	<p>Throughout the course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •You will be encouraged to develop a range of skills and expected to work to the best of your ability •You will learn how to set acting targets and evaluate your individual progress •You will Explore performance styles, creative intentions and purpose •You will Investigate how practitioners create and influence •You will Discover performance roles.
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Entry Requirements and Advice:	<p>Do you enjoy performing your own work and work of others? Do you want to continue learning more about Acting and the processes involved in creating theatre? Do you want to learn how to inspire an audience and explore issues and themes that matter to you? Do you want to find out how other practitioners and playwrights produced their work? Can you work independently and work to deadlines?</p> <p>If you answer yes to the above, then this could be the course for you! You must be a team player and resilient. Most of your workshops and tasks in lesson will involve group work. You must be willing to perform in front of the class and audiences. You must be happy with being recorded as this is a requirement of the exam board.</p>
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How will I be assessed?	<p>Yr. 10 Component 2: Developing skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts You will explore a variety of play texts and develop the necessary skills to re-create various playwrights work. You will work on target setting and tasks will include recorded rehearsals and evaluations of your ongoing skills, and written rehearsal logs that chart your progress. Assessment: Recorded evidence of rehearsal workshops, a recorded performance of a scene from a play and a written evaluation.</p> <p>Yr. 11 Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts In this unit you will study three different plays which reflect different practitioner's styles. You will learn about the process of page to stage and how productions are created. What creative intentions are and how they impact a performance. This unit is a mixture of theory, written and practical work. Assessment: Power point presentation of the work that has been explored.</p> <p>YR 11 Component 3: Performing to a brief You will be required to respond to a set assessment task brief and create a performance based on a given theme.</p> <p>There will be a preparatory period, followed by supervised time. You will be expected to develop your own performance within a small group, Assessment: Recording of the final performance and three reflective written tasks in which you discuss your ideas and intentions for your piece, the skills used and an overall evaluation.</p>
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Future Opportunities:	<p>Possible routes into further education include: studding BTEC level 3, Performing arts/ acting courses. 22</p> <p>Future career opportunities may include: performer, director, free-lance artist, community artist, teacher, the skills you develop stretch across different sectors and are welcomed in areas such as: Recruitment, early years, retail... The list is endless!!</p>
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Further	<p>Please speak to Mrs Simpson for further information.</p>
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Course Title:	<h1>OCR Cambridge National Sport Studies</h1>
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Overview:	<p>Our GCSE in Computer Science is engaging and practical, encouraging creativity and problem solving. It encourages students to develop their understanding and application of the core concepts in computer science.</p> <p>Students also analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs.</p>
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What will I learn?	<p>Throughout the full course you will experience a range of topics of different sporting concepts that will also be applied to many different practical examples and situations. Topics are such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance and Leadership in Sport. Performance analysis in personal performance Practical Performance in both team and individual areas Sports Leader's attributes Planning of sports sessions and conducting relevant risk assessments Sport and the Media Media coverage of Sport Coverage of different media platforms and the effect these have on specific sports Media and the positive and negatives in Sport Contemporary Issues in Sport Issues which affect participation in Sport The role of sport in promoting values The implications of hosting major sporting events for a city or country The role of national governing bodies in the development of their sport. The use of technology in sport.
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Entry Requirements and Advice:	<p>Computer Science requires students to have a deep understanding of maths and a solid grasp of English. Here are the benchmarks to ensure you'll be successful:</p> <p>Maths Grades: Be on the Mastering pathway in Maths. This is because the course involves binary logic, hexadecimal conversions, and complex problem-solving.</p> <p>Logical Thinking: You may be asked to complete a "taster" assessment or have a strong record in Year 9 Computing to prove you can handle basic algorithms.</p> <p>English Literacy: You'll need a solid grasp of English and must be on a mastering pathway in English to handle the long-form "Impact of Technology" essay questions.</p>
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How will I be assessed?	<p>The GCSE (9-1) Computer Science consists of two components.</p> <p>Candidates must take both papers. The qualification is marked out of a total of 160 marks.</p> <p>The marks, paper duration and weightings are the same for both components.</p> <p>Component 01:</p> <p>Computer Systems This component focuses on the theoretical understanding of Computer Science. 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks)</p> <p>Component 02:</p> <p>Computational thinking, algorithms and programming This component focuses on the practical application of Computer Science: program/problem design, writing testing and refinement. 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks)</p>
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Future Opportunities:	<p>By taking the GCSE, you are essentially planting the seeds for high-paying roles in the future such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cybersecurity Analyst Software Engineer Data Scientist Game Developer
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Further Information :	<p>Please speak to Miss Gargon for further information</p> <p>Specification - J829 - OneDrive (sharepoint.com)</p>
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