

Year 8
Options Booklet
2012



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INTRODUCTION

Dear Student,

The purpose of this booklet is to give you and your parents more information about the courses you will study in Key Stage 4.

Please take time to read the booklet carefully to ensure you understand the selection process, the deadlines set and the possible subjects you may choose to study in Key Stage 4. You should also have received a personalised letter which includes valuable teacher recommendations that will help guide you in your decision making.

Mr D Rosser
Deputy Head Teacher

STAGE 4 COURSES

In Key Stage 4 you will study a core curriculum consisting of:-

English Literature, English Language, Mathematics, a Modern Foreign Language (French or German) Humanities (Geography or History), Dual Science or Separate Sciences, Physical Education and Personal, Social and Health Education/RE.

In addition to the core subjects you will be able to personalise your curriculum by selecting additional subjects according to your interests and talents. In order to maximise your employability and/or access to higher education it is important to keep your curriculum broad and balanced so we advise you to select two subjects from the list below:

Art	Graphics Product	Psychology
Catering & Hospitality	Health & Social Care	Religious Education
Computing	ICT	Resistant Materials
Dance	Media Studies	Textiles
Drama	Music	
Food Technology	Physical Education	

MAKING YOUR SELECTION

To assist us in estimating the likely demand for courses, students are asked to complete a Key Stage 4 course survey form. There is guidance on the form on how to complete it. Please read this carefully. An example of a completed form is included overleaf.



All survey forms will be analysed. You will then have an interview to discuss your preferences. At this interview each student will agree her/his Key Stage 4 curriculum. If you have particular strengths or career aspirations we will do our best to tailor a curriculum to suit these.

Vocational GCSE's

Business Studies } You can only elect to take one of these due to the
Health and Social Care } heavy coursework demands in these subjects.

You may be able to take ICT and one of the vocational subjects listed above if it is felt you can cope with the extra demands of the coursework requirement expected and you have a valid reason.

Whilst we will try to accommodate all students' preferences, it may not be possible to timetable all combinations of subjects. Following analysis of Key Stage 4 Course Survey Forms students will be informed if their combination is not possible.



KEY QUESTIONS

1. Who can I ask for advice?

Form Tutor
Subject Teacher
Ms Cox/Mr Rosser/Mr Cahill/Mrs Gent
Parents
Connexions – The County Careers Guidance Service

Do attend the Key Stage 4 Courses Evening on **Tuesday 7th February 2012**

2. What about exams and qualifications?

All the courses in this booklet, except for Physical Education (the compulsory element) and Personal, Social and Health Education, lead to GCSEs.

Every GCSE will include a written examination at the end. Controlled Assessments will form a part of your final mark in most areas and details of this are included in each subject description on the following pages.

3. Will I be in different groups?

Until now you may have had most of your lessons with the same group of students. In Years 9, 10 and 11 the group you are with will probably change for each subject.

4. How will my curriculum be decided?

You will have an interview to discuss your individual preferences. These interviews will take place during March, April and May.

Further Advice

Choose your subjects carefully - **DO NOT**:

1. Elect to take a subject because you like the teacher – you may not have this teacher next year.
2. Elect to take a subject because your friend has – you may not be in the same group next year.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 27 th January	Issue of Year 8 Options Booklet and Survey Form
Tuesday 7 th February	Key Stage 4 Courses Evening – an opportunity for you and your Parents to find out more about courses in Key Stage 4
Friday 10 th February	All Key Stage 4 Survey Forms due in <i>Please hand your form to your tutor on this date only</i>

N.B. If you return your form late (with no valid reason) then this may affect the courses we can offer you.

A Sample Key Stage 4 Course Survey 2012

Name:J. Smith..... Form: ...8Z

Please indicate your preferences for Key Stage 4.

Please tick recommended if stated in your letter and one tick for your preferences

Humanities

Please pick one Humanities subject:

	Recommended	Your preference	If different please explain
Geography	√	√	
History	√		

Modern Foreign Languages

Please pick one Modern Foreign Language:

	Recommended	Your preference	If different please explain
French	√		CWAG above a Level 5b
German			

Sciences

Please pick one Science option:

	Recommended	Your preference	If different please explain
Triple Sciences	√	√	
Dual Sciences			

You will only study two of these subjects. Please write four subjects from the list below that you would like to study. These subjects need to be listed in your order of preference with 1 being the subject you most want to do.

- Art
- Business Studies
- Catering & Hospitality
- Computing
- Dance
- Drama
- Food Technology
- Graphic Products
- Health & Social Care
- ICT
- Media Studies
- Music
- Physical Education
- Psychology
- Resistant material
- Textiles

1.	Graphics
2.	ICT
3.	Psychology
4.	Textiles

We will do our best to timetable your first two choices but cannot guarantee you will be able to study them. This will be discussed at your interview.

Is there at least on Humanity? Yes/No
Is there at least one MFL? Yes/No

Any other comments you would like to make?

Student Signature

Parent/Carer Signature

*Please return this survey to your Form Tutor on **Friday 10th February 2012***

CORE SUBJECTS

TRIPLE SCIENCE: BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS

Awarding Body: OCR
Course Level: 3 GCSE's



Triple Science is a combination of three GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It will be a course of study for students in Years 9, 10 and 11. It provides the fullest coverage of these three subjects at Key Stage 4 including the compulsory programme of study (PoS) for Science.

The specifications for the individual courses have three teaching and learning units and a Controlled Assessment unit as opposed to two units for Double Award. This course provides a firm foundation for progression to AS and A-level programmes of study.

Studying Separate Science also means the students will achieve 3 GCSE's in Science compared to only two in the Dual Award.

Lesson allocation for Separate Science means students will have a minimum of six lessons per week, so this forms one of the option choices for Year 9 onwards. (Students who select Triple Science will only have to select one further subject from the Personalised Curriculum Options).

Studying Science as Separate GCSE's enables students to acquire an in-depth knowledge of the subject areas and enables students to go beyond the requirements of Dual award which will overlap the Core and Additional course.

It is not compulsory to have studied Separate Science to study Advanced Level at Post -16 but it can be an advantage.

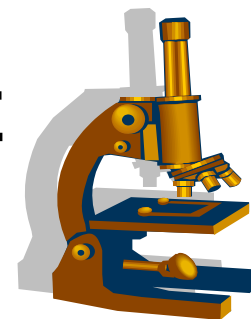
Separate Science will be taught by specialist Science teachers for each discipline.

If further information is required please contact the relevant Head of Subject:

Biology	Mrs Hartny-Mills	hartnymillsa@ashlawn.org.uk
Chemistry	Mrs Boden	bodenc@ashlawn.org.uk
Physics	Mr Southern	southernr@ashlawn.org.uk

CORE & ADDITIONAL SCIENCE

Awarding Body: Edexcel
Course Level: 2 GCSE's



Core and Additional Science is a combination of 2 GCSE's covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The specification we teach is the Edexcel course. The course consists of teaching and learning units each for Biology, Physics and Chemistry, and a Controlled Assessment unit for core. There is then another learning unit each for Biology, Physics and Chemistry, and a Controlled Assessment unit. This course provides an appropriate foundation for progression to AS and A-level programmes of study.

The course is designed to give students the opportunity to study a range of topics from each of the three disciplines. The students will be assessed at two stages during the year and unlike the old GCSE these exams are short answer questions.

Lesson allocation for Science means that students will have a minimum of 4 lessons per week so this will still enable students to select subjects from the Personalised Curriculum Options.

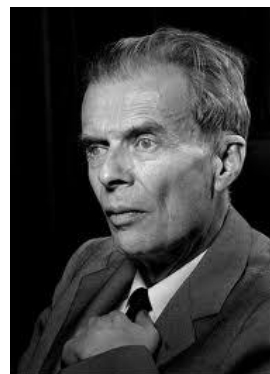
If further information is required please contact Mr Southern:
Southernr@ashlawn.org.uk

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Level: GCSE Single Award

“Thanks to words, we have been able to rise above the brutes; and thanks to words, we have often sunk to the level of the demons.” **Aldous Huxley**



What will I learn?

You will study language in its many forms from plays and novels to adverts and uses of slang.

You will explore texts as diverse as Stevenson’s ‘Jekyll and Hyde’, Wallace and Gromit in ‘A Close Shave’ and Shakespeare’s ‘Romeo and Juliet’.



You will also complete speaking and listening tasks worth 20% of your final GCSE, improving your skills in persuasion, debating topics important to you and taking on the role of a character.

What does it involve?

Under controlled assessment, you will analyse the gothic conventions of ‘Jekyll and Hyde’ and the dramatic staging of ‘Romeo and Juliet’. There is the opportunity for an imaginative piece of either persuasive or creative writing and an in depth study of how we judge people by their accent and dialect.



In the final exam, you will explore the techniques used in non-fiction texts and put your powers of persuasion to the test in a final written piece.

How will I be assessed?

Controlled assessment (work completed under timed, exam conditions in class) makes up 60% of your GCSE grade and a final exam is worth 40% of your GCSE grade.

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



“Literature is where I go to explore the highest and lowest places in human society and in the human spirit, where I hope to find not absolute truth but the truth of the tale, of the imagination and of the heart.” **Salman Rushdie**

Controlled assessment (work completed under timed, exam conditions in class) makes up 25% of your GCSE grade and a final exam is worth 75% of your GCSE grade.



What will I learn?

You will read literature that spans the centuries and globe, allowing you to experience forbidden love in Italy and journeys through the dust roads of Khartoum.

Texts include: George Orwell’s novel ‘Animal Farm’, Shakespeare’s ‘Romeo and Juliet’, a range of modern short stories and a selection of important poems.



How will I learn?

You will use independent research and study skills to discover what life was like for the authors of these texts: social pressures, traditions and personal experiences. All of these will help inform your interpretation of the texts.

You will participate in drama and performance within lessons to engage with play texts and you will have the chance to explore texts in detail. You will use a range of learning techniques that allow you to pick apart authors’ use of language.

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Awarding Body: AQA
Course Level: GCSE Single Award



Why Geography?

THE WORLD ENDS TOMORROW! Sounds a bit extreme but there is some truth in this statement. Think of the changes that have taken place in the world in the last 50 years, and what changes are likely to happen in the next 50 years. Is the world going to be the same for your children and grandchildren as it is for you? Studying geography at GCSE will help you to answer these questions.

Geography is the study of people, places and the environment

The Course: AQA Geography A

This involves studying 3 units:

Unit 1: Physical Geography 37.5% of the GCSE

- Assessment: 1 ½ hours written exam- either higher or foundation
- The Restless Earth
- Living World
- Water on the Land



Unit 2: Human Geography 37.5% of the GCSE

- Assessment: 1½ hours written exam- either higher or foundation
- Population Change.
- Changing Urban Environments
- Tourism



Unit 3: Local Fieldwork Investigation 25% of the GCSE

A controlled assessment requires students to use fieldwork to investigate a question/hypothesis provided by the exam board. Students collect primary and secondary data (on a compulsory local fieldtrip), and then produce an extended piece of work under controlled exam conditions.



If you would like more information please ask your Geography teacher



You will also learn a variety of **skills** during the course:

Literacy
Numeracy
ICT
Thinking Skills
Analysis and Synthesis
Fieldwork

Team work
Independent Research
Interpreting maps, photos, diagrams, images
Creative Thinking
Problem solving and decision making

HISTORY

Awarding Body: Edexcel

Course Level: GCSE Single Award

Look towards a brighter future by studying the past

You will be carrying out investigations, using a variety of sources. You will need to be inquisitive and be able to ask questions about the past.



You will use your skills to investigate four key areas:

Medicine through time 25%

1350-present day

In this development study you will evaluate the role of individuals, war, beliefs, government and other factors on health.

American West 25%

1845-1890

This enquiry examines the clash of cultures in the American West. You will assess the differences and similarities between different conflicting groups.

The impact of war on Britain 25%

Through a wide variety of sources, you will investigate the effects of war on the British people.

USA 1919-1941 25%

In this controlled assessment module, you carry out an historical investigation and examine different interpretations.

This course is designed to develop skills which are needed to be successful in a wide range of occupations.

Independent learning Critical thinking Analysis and evaluation of evidence Reaching substantiated judgements Organising and communicating ideas in creative and different ways Selection of evidence to support judgements

MATHEMATICS

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single Award

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Students will be studying the Linked Pair for Mathematics. This allows students the opportunity to gain two Mathematic GCSEs. One is called Applications of Mathematics and the second is Methods in Mathematics. Students have to study and take the exams in both of the GCSEs.

Applications of Mathematics

The vast majority of the Maths in this GCSE is set in real life contexts enabling students to see the relevance of what they are learning and then be able to apply it.

Unit 1—Finance and Statistics. This includes number, financial and business applications, algebra, statistics and probability. There is one written examination of 1 hour 30mins and is worth 50% of the marks.

Unit 2—Geometry and Measures. This includes number, measures, algebra and geometry. There is one written examination of 1 hour 30mins and is worth 50% of the marks.

Methods in Mathematics

This acknowledges the subject as challenging and fulfilling in its own right and allows students to develop their thinking skills by dealing with the more abstract concepts within Maths.

Unit 1—Algebra and Probability. This includes number, algebra and probability. There is one written examination of 1 hour 30mins and is worth 50% of the marks.

Unit 2—Geometry and Algebra. This includes number, algebra and geometry. There is one written examination of 1 hour 30mins and is worth 50% of the marks.

Tiers of Entry

There are two tiers of entry for each GCSE, Higher (grades A* - D) and Foundation (Grades C—G). Students do not necessarily have to be entered for the same tier for each of the GCSEs.

Examinations

Students will take the examinations during or at the end of Year 11.



MFL OPTIONS: FRENCH & GERMAN

Awarding Body: Edexcel

Course Level: GCSE Single Award

In KS4 the vast majority of students will continue to study French and/or German up to GCSE level. The main topics that you will be learning about include:

- Media and Culture;
- Sport & Leisure;
- Travel & Tourism;
- Business, Work and Employment.



These topics will be assessed throughout Years 10 & 11

Unit 1 Listening and Understanding	20%
Unit 2 Speaking	30%
Unit 3 Reading and Understanding	20%
Unit 4 Writing (Coursework)	30%

For Unit 1 - Listening and Understanding and Unit 3 – Reading and Understanding, the following topics will be covered:

- Personal Information;
- Out & About;
- Future Plans, Education and Work;
- Customer Service and Transactions.

The questions for these 2 Units will form part of an examination and will include a range of familiar question types but the questions will be asked in English.

You will be examined at the level which best reflects your ability in each of these two skill areas, either Foundation (C-G) or Higher (A* - D).

Unit 1 -	Listening and Understanding	(40 marks) (20%)
	Foundation	30 minutes
	Higher	40 minutes
Unit 3 -	Reading and Understanding	(40 marks) (20%)
	Foundation	35 minutes
	Higher	50 minutes



For Unit 2 Speaking, (30%) and Unit 4 Writing (30%) the following topics will be covered:

- Media and Culture; Sport and Leisure; Travel and Tourism & Business, Work & Employment. For Unit 2 (Speaking) you will be expected to prepare for a short speaking assessment (4-6 minutes) on each of the topics listed above.

For Unit 4 (Writing) you will be expected to prepare for a written assessment (over two lessons) on each of the topics above.

PERSONALISED CURRICULUM OPTIONS

ART AND DESIGN

Awarding Body AQA

Course Level GCSE Single Award



Course Description

The GCSE Art and Design course is aimed at all those who have an interest in learning the language of Art. At its core is the aim to develop the understanding of skills and techniques associated with Art. It also explores artists and students' imagination. It is aimed mainly at Fine Art examination with the opportunity to produce 3D work if appropriate as well as other more modern approaches to media.

Topics Covered

Media and Techniques Journal project- aimed at learning a variety of techniques

Portrait project- aimed at exploring people

Mini Artist project- artist study of student choice

'All about Me' project- personal investigation

Still life project- based on expanding technical understanding of media

Surrealism project- based on exploring students imagination

Assessment

Candidates will be required to demonstrate achievement in Art through four assessment objectives applied equally to the student's responses in the areas of: visual recording; understanding connects in Art; practical development and realising intentions.

The course requires 2 Coursework units and 1 Examination Project ending in a terminal exam, giving you 10 hours to produce your final piece. All projects must be complete to pass the course and coursework is worth 60% and examination is worth 40%.

G.C.S.E weighting

The course is worth 1 G.C.S.E and early entry is possible with further qualifications, including additional G.C.S.E's within Art and Design available for completion within the Key Stage.

Progression

The course provides students with an all round artistic experience with a strong technical foundation. Students can progress to a wide variety of Art and Design courses including diplomas and A Level courses.

Please feel free to contact Mrs Grover if you have any further questions or wish to discuss your suitability for this course.

BUSINESS STUDIES



Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single Award

Course Description

The GCSE Business course will introduce students to the real world of Business. You will have the opportunity to participate in a range of business activities and be actively involved in a number of enterprise initiatives.

Assessment

This new vocational qualification consists of one controlled assignment (worth 25%) and two examination-based units (one worth 25% and the other worth 50%).

Unit 1: Marketing and Enterprise (controlled assignment 25%)

Unit 2: People and Business (examination unit 25%)

Unit 3: Production, Finance and External Business Environment (examination Unit 50%)

Topics Covered

Students will cover a wide range of business activities including what is a business and their function, how businesses are organised and the role of the stakeholder. They will also look at the important role that people play in business organisations and the external factors that can influence the success of a business.

In the exam based units students investigate cash flow, budgeting and break even. They also consider the importance of financial statements and methods of payment.

GCSE weighting

The course is worth 1 GCSE.

Progression

The course provides students with a sound understanding of the business world. Students can progress to AS Level Business Studies or A Level Applied Business.

Please feel free to contact Mr Offord if you have any further questions or wish to discuss your suitability for this course.

CATERING and HOSPITALITY

Awarding Body: WJEC

Course level: GCSE Double Award



Course Description

A course in Catering offers a unique opportunity in the curriculum for Students to develop their knowledge and extend their skills within catering in a vocational context. It will provide opportunities to develop students' interdisciplinary skills, a range of Key Skills and their capacity for imaginative, innovative thinking, creativity and independence.

The specification encourages the investigation and study of catering in a variety of contexts. In these contexts the students are given opportunities to acquire competence, capability and critical skills through the creation, implementation, use and evaluation of a range of resources.

Course Content

- The industry (Food and Drink)
- Job roles, employment and relevant training
- Health, Safety and Hygiene
- Food preparation, cooking and presentation
- Nutrition and menu planning
- Costing and portion control
- Specialist Equipment
- Environmental Issue relating to Food

Students will be expected to purchase a uniform at an approximate cost of £25.

Assessment

UNIT 1: Catering skills related to food preparation and service
Controlled Assessment (45 hours 30%)

UNIT 2: Catering, food and the customer (Written Paper (1¼ hours 20%))

UNIT 3: Hospitality Industry (Written Paper 1¼ hours 20%)

UNIT 4: Hospitality Controlled Assessment (20 hours 30%)

Career opportunities

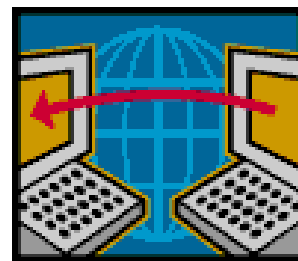
This course provides a firm foundation for those wishing to go into further education (e.g. Advanced Level GCE, Diplomas), training (e.g. Modern Apprenticeships) or employment. It is also an excellent qualification for any student who wishes to enter hospitality or catering.

For more information please speak to Mrs Pountney (Head of Design Technology)

COMPUTING

Awarding Body: OCR

Course level: GCSE Single Award



A modern course for a modern world.

This is a course that has real relevance in our modern world. While learners will need to already have some knowledge of computers and related areas, the course will give them an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on “behind the scenes”. As part of this, they will investigate computer programming, which many learners find interesting.

The Fundamentals of Computing

Through this study of computer programming, the course will help learners develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills. For many, it will be an interesting way to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life.

In this way, the course will stimulate interest and engagement with technology and technology-related careers.

Looking to the Future

In fact, information technologies continue to have a growing importance. This means there will be a bigger demand for professionals who are qualified in this area. If learners want to go on to higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science, they will find that this course provides a useful stepping stone.

Learners who have taken a Computing GCSE and who then progress to study the subject at A Level or university will have a sound underpinning knowledge of this subject area.

This course is for you if:

- You like solving logical problems (sudoku, word problems and logical puzzles)
- You are a very able maths student
- You already have a keen interest in how computers work
- You want to work in computer programming in the future

This is Ashlawn’s first GCSE Computing course in the new Millennium. Join in and be part of the future of computing.

See Mrs Newton or Mr Gregson on Options Evening for more information.

DANCE

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



This is a 2/3-year course comprising of 80% coursework and 20% examination. You will have two dance lessons a week and be expected to attend extra-curricular workshops and professional dance performances.

Year 9

The curriculum at Year 9 follows the AQA guidelines for GCSE Dance and of topics, which focus on technique, choreography and dance appreciation. The set works 'Perfect', by Motionhouse Dance Theatre, 'The Nutcracker' by Matthew Bourne, 'Ghost Dances' and 'Swansong', both by Christopher Bruce and are also studied to enhance choreographic techniques.

Year 10 and 11

The curriculum continues to explore professional works but also focuses on preparing students for the theory exam and coursework extensions.

Performance (20% of GCSE mark)

Choreography (40% of GCSE mark)

Set study (20% GCSE mark)

The written theory paper (20% of GCSE marks) is taken in late May. This is a 1 hour paper focussing on choreographic techniques and the set works

GCSE PERFORMING ARTS

Students who complete GCSE Dance in Year 10 will be offered GCSE Performing Arts in Year 11. Coursework completed for dance will be used to supplement their Performing Arts portfolios. Students will be encouraged to investigate the performing arts industry from many different points of view and be given the opportunity of performing Musical Theatre.

*Is GCSE Dance for me?.....*If you are considering studying this course you need to ask yourself the following questions?

- Do I enjoy dance as a performer, choreographer and observer?
- Can I push the boundaries and work with originality?
- Do I enjoy hard work, both physical and written?
- Am I prepared for homework both practical and written?
- Do I enjoy working independently and as part of a team?



DRAMA

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



Course Description

By following this highly practical and creative course, you will gain knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre related skills that will enable you to interpret texts for performance and devise your own drama.

You will develop skills in group work, communication, problem solving and the ability to analyse and evaluate. You may even find that studying drama will help you feel more self-confident.

An enthusiasm for watching the performance is essential as you will be expected to attend regular theatre trips and performances by Year 11, 12 and 13 students.

Topics Covered

Topics working with a variety of play texts (such as *Lord of the Flies* and *Too Much Punch for Judy*) and a wide range of stimuli (such as images, poetry and music) are designed for three key areas of learning:

To learn to be able to:

- use your knowledge and understanding of drama to generate, explore and develop ideas;
- apply practical skills in performance;
- analyse and evaluate your own work and that of others.

You will also learn to work in the role of performer, director, deviser and designer.

Assessment

Unit 1 - Coursework *From Page to Stage* worth 30%: 10 hours to create an assessed performance and a written working record.

Unit 2 - Coursework *Drama in the Making* worth 30%: 10 hours to create an assessed performance, two other presentation items in the role of a designer, director or designer and a written working record.

Unit 3 - Examination *From Concept to Creation* worth 40%: 10 hours to create an assessed performance and a written working record: The examination board will provide us with a 'brief' containing a text extract and a stimulus. We will have about twenty un-assessed hours of lesson time to explore ideas for a polished improvisation that you will produce within ten assessed hours. At the end of the 10 hours a visiting examiner will assess your performance.

Progression

You can progress on to a wide variety of drama or performing arts courses including A Levels. However, the course provides an excellent opportunity to develop skills such as self-presentation, communication and self-confidence all of which are sought in a wide range of further education course and careers that have no direct link to drama and theatre.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



Course Description

This specification provides an innovative and imaginative qualification rewarding creativity and reflecting the contemporary use of Technology. One key element of this specification is to encourage candidates to recognise the contribution they can make to the environment through careful consideration and selection of sustainability sustainable resources.

Students will have the opportunity to work with design concepts and materials in ways which recognise the need to make informed choices in relation to the environment and the whole social fabric of life. This particular specification aims to promote the careful and thoughtful use of ingredients and components to encourage the development of a wide range of skills and knowledge to produce creative, innovative food products.

Course Content

- Explore Food Technology processes
- Design and make quality products
- Develop knowledge and understanding of sustainability, environmental concerns, cultural, moral and social issues
- Analyse and critically evaluate existing products
- Research healthy eating and wise food choices

Assessment

Unit A471 – Introduction to designing and making (30% of GCSE grade)

Develop research, investigation and cooking skills

Understanding of modelling and the evaluating process

Unit A472 – Sustainable Design and Technical aspects of designing and making (40% of GCSE grade): 1 hour 30 mins exam

Consideration of products, environment, society and the economy

Working with a range of tools and equipment

Unit A473 – Making quality products (30% of GCSE grade)

Designing for a need

Evaluating the product

Career Opportunities

The course provides a firm foundation for those wishing to go into further education (e.g. AS Level Home Economics – Food Technology), training (e.g. Modern Apprenticeships) or employment. It is also an excellent qualification for any student who wishes to enter health services, teaching, catering, or the nutrition industry.

GRAPHIC PRODUCTS

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



Course Description

This course provides an innovative and imaginative qualification rewarding flair, creativity and reflecting the contemporary use of Graphic Product design and Information Technology. Candidates will gain an appreciation for the environment through careful design consideration and selection of sustainable resources.

Students will have the opportunity to work with design concepts and materials in ways which recognise the need for wise choices being made in terms of the environment and the whole social fabric of life. The specification aims to promote the careful and thoughtful use of materials, tools and design process.

Course Content

- Explore design processes and trends
- Design, develop and make quality products.
- Explore ways in which aesthetic, technical, economic, environmental, ethical and social dimensions interact to shape design.
- Analyse existing products.
- Critically evaluate products.



Assessment

Unit 1 Introduction to designing and development (30% of GCSE grade)

Develop research, investigation and drawing skills

Understanding of modelling and the evaluating process

Unit 2 Sustainable Design and Technical aspects of designing & development

(40% of GCSE grade)

Consideration of products, environment, society and the economy

Working with tools and materials

Selecting processes and designing for success (1 hour 30 mins exam)

Unit 3 Making quality products (30% of GCSE grade)

Designing for a need and to specification

Working with a range of tools, materials and equipment

Evaluating the product

Career opportunities

This course provides a firm foundation for those wishing to go into further education (e.g. AS Level Product Design), training (e.g. Modern Apprenticeships) Design courses taken at external colleges or employment. It is also an excellent qualification for any student who wishes to enter teaching, Advertising and the design industry.

For more information please speak to: Mr Knifton (Graphic Products)

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE



Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single/Double Award

This practical and comprehensive **new** qualification features a broad overall introduction to health, social care and early years and offers flexibility to learners to specialise if they choose. You will also have the opportunity to develop your skills in areas such as research analysis and evaluation.

The Single Award worth 1 GCSE consists of two units in Year 10 and 11. Students who make excellent progress may have the opportunity to be entered for the Double Award (worth two GCSEs).

The students will begin working on their controlled assessment in Year 10 and will submit the completed version at the end of Year 11. This component is worth 60%.

The examination unit (Understanding Personal Development and Relationships) is worth 40% and will be sat at the end of Year 10. Students who do exceptionally well will be considered for the Double Award.

Assessment (Single Award)

Unit 1: Health, Social Care and Early years Provision (controlled assessment 60%)

Unit 2: Understanding Personal Development and Relationships (Examination 40%)

The Double Award consists of the two units above as well as:

Unit 3: Promoting Health and Wellbeing (controlled assessment)

Unit 4: Safeguarding and Protecting Individuals (Examination)

This 'hands on' course will enable you to develop a variety of transferable skills which you will be able to apply to other subject areas and walks of life.

A natural progression from this subject would be the Advanced Level Health and Social Care qualification which is offered as both a single (1 A Level) and double (2 AS Levels) qualification.

ICT

Awarding Body: Edexcel
Course Level: GCSE Single Award



If you choose ICT, you will follow a course which consists of coursework and an exam. The qualification will equip you to become a confident user of ICT, with increased skills in the use of spreadsheets, databases, graphics, website generation tools and publishing.

For 1 GCSE you need to complete unit 1 (as below) and one other unit.

For 2 GCSEs you need to complete unit 1 (as below) and three other units.

1. Students are required to demonstrate practical capability in:
2. Planning and designing creative digital products
3. Gathering and preparing digital content
4. Using digital tools and applications to support creative processes
5. Critically evaluating the products they produce, drawing on feedback from
6. others

Available units

Unit 1 (compulsory)	Description
Using Digital Tools and Applications	90 minute, computer-based exam
Unit 2	Description
Creative Multimedia	The exam board set the question and you have 25 hours to complete the project
Unit 3	Description
Artwork and Imaging	The exam board set the question and you have 25 hours to complete the project
Unit 4	Description
Game Making	The exam board set the question and you have 25 hours to complete the project

MEDIA STUDIES

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



This is a three-year GCSE course which involves the close analysis of the *images*, *sounds* and *text* that we experience via the media. It is the study of individual media texts such as television, film, radio, newspaper, magazines and music.

During the course you will:

- Look at the audience that each media tries to attract, and see how different media use different methods to attract their audience
- Investigate the ways the media try to change and influence our point of view or the way we see certain things
- Use media equipment (cameras, editing equipment and computers) to make your own magazines and DVD covers.
- Analyse the media's use of films, adverts, music videos and images
- Write essays and evaluations on the media that you have studied
- Enhance your creative skills through research and planning
- Develop skills that will be useful for careers in journalism, communication, advertising or marketing

<p><u>Year 9</u></p> <p>Development of skills and vocabulary</p>	<p><u>Introductory modules</u> What is 'the media' to 'how does it influence us' to 'how does it make money'. You will explore a range of factors in current media markets, looking at the explosion of online texts, the fall of the magazine market and the competitive nature of film production and marketing.</p> <p><u>Production- film posters</u> You then move on to explore the pressures in producing a film poster; you research and explore favourite genres looking at typical representations and conventions. Then set to work using graphic design software to create your own, professional-looking poster.</p> <p><u>Analysis of Moving Image</u> Finally you will complete a module looking at the 'horror' genre in film.</p>
<p><u>Year 10</u></p> <p>Coursework 60%</p>	<p>Two textual investigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On two different media areas; magazines and film. (20% of marks) <p>One media production:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consisting of research, planning, the production and evaluation. (40% of marks)
<p><u>Year 11</u></p> <p>Exam 40%</p>	<p>Section A: This will be based on a topic that you will have studied over the course; music, magazines, websites or TV drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section B: In this section you will demonstrate your planning and creative skills.

MUSIC

Awarding Body: Edexcel

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



Year 9		
<p>You will study the following topics in Year 9. The skills and knowledge that you acquire will prepare you for your Music GCSE which you will study in Years 10 and 11.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Performing</u></p> <p>You will perform as a soloist and as part of an ensemble.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Composing</u></p> <p>You will learn how to compose your own music in different genres and styles. You will use music computer software to help you record and notate your work.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Listening and Appraising</u></p> <p>You will learn about many different styles of music including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20th Century Music • World Music • Pop Music • Classical Music • Music for Stage and Screen.
Year 10 and 11		
<p>In Years 10 and 11 you will study for your GCSE Music.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Performing</u></p> <p>You will perform one solo and one ensemble piece on your instrument/voice. These performances will be recorded and submitted as coursework.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Composing</u></p> <p>You will complete 2 compositions. Each composition will be 2 – 3 minutes long. Each composition will be based on a different Area of Study.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Listening and Appraising</u></p> <p>You will study 12 Set Pieces of Music which fit with the following Areas of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Classical Music • Music in the 20th Century • Popular Music in Context • World Music

If you wish to study music at KS4, you should have a keen interest in music and be willing to show an appreciation of many different genres.

You should sing or play an instrument to a good standard. Ideally you will be having, or intend to have, lessons on your instrument/voice.

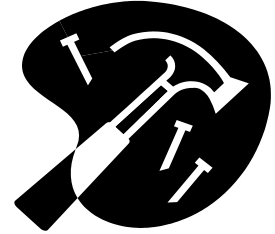
If you have any questions about the GCSE Music, or your suitability for the course please see your music teacher.



RESISTANT MATERIALS

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



Course Description

This is an exciting course which rewards creativity and improves design skills. Students will also learn practical skills and how to create quality products using traditional and modern methods and materials. Candidates will gain an appreciation for the environment through careful consideration and selection of sustainable resources.

Course Content

- Explore resistant materials and processes.
- Design and make quality products.
- Explore ways in which aesthetic, technical, economic, environmental, ethical and social influences affect design.
- Critically evaluate products

Assessment

Unit A561– Introduction to designing and making (30% of GCSE grade)

- Develop research, investigation and drawing skills
- Understanding of modelling and the evaluating process
- Assessed in-school by controlled assessment.

Unit A562– Sustainable Design and Technical aspects of designing and making (40% of GCSE grade)

- Consideration of products, environment, society and the economy
- Assessed by a single exam (1 hour 30 mins)
- Working with tools and materials
- Selecting processes and designing for success
- Assessed by a single exam.

Unit A563– Making quality products (30% of GCSE grade)

- Designing for a need
- Working with a range of tools and equipment
- Evaluating the product
- Assessed in-school by controlled assessment.

Career opportunities

This course provides a foundation for those wishing to go into higher education (e.g. 'A' Level Product Design-3D), training (e.g. Modern Apprenticeships) or employment. It is an excellent qualification for any student who wishes to enter the design industry. The design and manufacturing skills learned add excellent balance to the portfolio of student skills.

For more information please speak to:

Mr C.Wesson or Miss O Hartley

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Awarding Body: Edexcel

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



Physical Education is designed to develop an understanding of how and why people get involved in sport, why it is important to lead an active lifestyle, and how to apply and demonstrate the relationship between the factors affecting participation and performance. Students will undertake a range of practical activities, offering four for assessment, and will be required to show advanced skills within the context of the activity and demonstrate their abilities in increasingly challenging situations.

What will I learn?

You will have three lessons a week, two practicals and one theory.

Practically students will study a wide range of sports in school, such as football, netball, badminton and rounders. There is also the opportunity for students to participate in outdoor adventurous activities such as rock climbing and mountain biking during a 5-day residential. Students are also able to offer sports that they participate in outside of school, such as swimming and golf. By the end of Year 11 students will have a wide range of sporting assessments, from both inside and outside of school, and their 'top 4' sports will be used for their final assessment.

Theoretically students will learn about the many benefits of living a healthy, active and balanced lifestyle. They will focus their studies on the physical benefits which occur in the muscles, bones, cardiovascular and respiratory systems. They will also learn about different methods of training and ways to test and improve fitness levels in sport, as well as completing a 6 week personal training programme to improve in their chosen sport.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be assessed both practically and theoretically. The practical is assessed through four different sports and an analysis of performance speaking exam and is worth 60%. The theoretical part of the GCSE is exam based and is worth 40%.

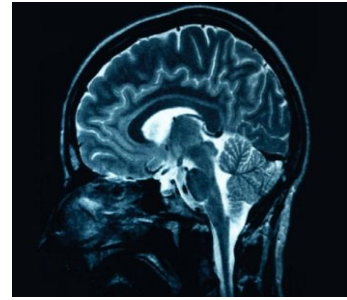
What can I do after I've completed the course?

After completing this course you can go on to study A Level Physical Education or BTEC Sport. This will, in turn, enable students to go on and study Exercise and Sport Science, Physiotherapy, Sports Studies or Sports Coaching. The nature of GCSE PE lends itself to build confidence, teamwork and leadership skills within each student and therefore will open many different doors into further education.

PSYCHOLOGY

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Level: GCSE Single Award



Psychology is a scientific subject that looks at the brain and behaviour. You should study psychology if you are interested in yourself and other people. Studying Psychology will help you understand why people behave as they do. It will also teach you how to think scientifically. Psychology is about helping people and you will study treatments and therapies, as well as what psychologists do. Psychology is an interesting and demanding subject to study. You will need to:

- Have a keen interest in Maths and Science
- Have good literacy, English and Communication skills
- Like extended writing and essay writing
- Like to ask and answer questions

What will I learn?

You will be looking at answers to the following five topics/questions:

- **How do we see our world?** We will look at how illusions work and how we see things, we will look at whether eyewitness testimony is reliable.
- **Is dreaming meaningful?** We will look at the psychodynamic approach and dream analysis looking at whether there is any evidence for dreams having hidden meanings. We will then look at what Psychoanalysts do.
- **Do TV and video games affect young people's behaviour?** We will look at whether aggression and antisocial behaviour comes from our biology (for example genes and hormones) or our upbringing. We will look at whether censorship is appropriate.
- **Why do we have phobias?** We will look at how irrational fears are acquired and treated.
- **Are criminals born or made?** We will look at whether criminality is affected by genes or upbringing. We will then look at what forensic Psychologists do.

How will I be assessed?

There are two exams, which include some multiple-choice questions, some short-answer questions and some extended writing. There will be case studies with questions and you need to give answers about what happened in the study and the possible problems with it.

What can I do after I've completed the course?

You can go on to study A Level Psychology. The skills you learn, such as how to evaluate, how to see problems in data gathering and how to interpret graphs and data, will be very useful in any further study. You can go on to a Health and Social Care course, which includes Psychology.

PSHE/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Awarding Body: AQA
Course Level: GCSE Single Award

Course Description

The PSHE Department offers a full GCSE in life questions and citizenship. The course encourages learners to examine issues looking at moral and religious beliefs from both society and the 6 major world religions. It allows learners to express their own opinions and understanding on major topics of interest exploring morals and ethics. Learners can develop their knowledge skills and understanding of major issues by exploring the significance, impact of beliefs, teachings, practices and ways of life.

Topics include:

Unit One

- Animal Rights
- Planet Earth
- Prejudice & Discrimination
- Early Life & Abortion
- War & Peace

Unit Two

- Relationships
- Sport and Leisure
- Work
- The Multicultural Society
- Identity

There are 2 written exams

There are advantages to studying how different people in society feel about life and Citizenship issues. Anyone considering a career working with people would benefit having studied a course that look at people's beliefs and ideas for dealing with world issues.

TEXTILE PRODUCTS

Awarding Body: OCR
Course Level: GCSE Single Award



Course Description

This course provides an innovative and imaginative qualification rewarding flair, creativity and reflecting the contemporary use of Textiles and Information Technology.

Students will have the opportunity to work with design concepts and materials in ways which recognise the need for wise choices being made in terms of the environment and the whole social fabric of life. The specification aims to promote the careful and thoughtful use of fibres, fabrics and pre-manufactured components.

Course Content

- Explore Textiles Technology processes
- Design and make quality products
- Explore ways in which aesthetic, technical, economic, environmental, ethical and social dimensions interact to shape designing and making
- Analyse existing products
- Critically evaluate products

Assessment

Unit A471 – Introduction to designing and making (30% of GCSE grade)

- Develop research, investigation and drawing skills
- Understanding of modelling and the evaluating process

Unit A472 – Sustainable Design and Technical aspects of designing & making (40% of GCSE grade)

- Consideration of products, environment, society and the economy
- Working with tools and materials
- Selecting processes and designing for success (1 hour 30 mins exam)

Unit A473 – Making quality products (30% of GCSE grade)

- Designing for a need
- Working with a range of tools and equipment
- Evaluating the product

Career Opportunities

This course provides a firm foundation for those wishing to go into further education (e.g. AS Level Product Design – Textiles), training (e.g. Modern Apprenticeships) or employment. It is also an excellent qualification for anyone wishing to enter teaching, fashion, journalism and the design industry.

For more information please speak to: Mrs Asghar (Lead Teacher of Textiles)

