



Ellesmere Park High School

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



VIBRANT | INCLUSIVE | PROUD

Be the best you can be

Guided Options 2024



Proud to be part of
Consilium Academies

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to Ellesmere Park High School's Options Booklet which outlines all the courses available to students in next year's Year 10. I hope you will find it interesting and informative.

The purpose of the booklet is to:

- Inform parents and Year 9 students of the courses that are available to them from September 2024
- Explain the course content and structure and how each course will be assessed
- Help in decision-making for the next stage of school life and beyond

At Ellesmere Park High School, we aim to provide all students with a curriculum that is tailored to the needs of each individual and which leads to a range of possibilities post 16. Some subjects will continue to be compulsory (core) as identified by the Government in the National Curriculum. The Curriculum guides, in line with aspirational destination choices encourages students to follow the English Baccalaureate pathway. For some students this may not be suitable, students will be advised as to which pathway is most suitable for them.

Making the right choice of subjects within the pathway is vital and I would encourage you to take time to ask questions during options evening and ensure you have all the help and guidance you require.

To accompany this booklet you will receive a Guided Option Choices Form which must be completed in the 3-week window following Options Week.

It is strongly advised that you discuss with your child's teachers whether particular options are appropriate, for them. Further meetings will then take place to ensure your child is fully guided in the process and has the best possible chance of getting their first choices. Your son or daughter will be informed of their final choices early in the summer term.

Please submit your options form by, 15h April, to Mrs Kavanagh, Mrs Stapley or Mrs St John.

I would like to wish your son or daughter every success as they embark on this new and exciting phase in their education.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

A St John

Mrs A St John

Deputy Headteacher

The school's overarching vision is 'Be The Best We Can Be'

We implement this through our curriculum which is
ambitious, inclusive and engaging for all learners

KS4 Curriculum Pathways at EPHS

Your KS4 curriculum offer

- This options process is designed to provide you with information about the **core curriculum** (the subjects all students take) and to help you make **option choices** that are right for **you** and **your career** in the future.
- It is important that you take time to **think everything through very carefully**. You will be supported through this process by a sequence of events that are designed to help you make the best possible decisions for you as an individual.

How are my GCSE's graded?

- **All GCSE subjects** are now graded on a **9 to 1** scale (9 is the highest possible grade).
- **Vocational courses** are graded on a **Distinction*, Distinction, Merit and Pass scale**.

What's right for me? Think about

- Hobbies and interests
- Future career plans
- Academic strengths

All students will study a **core curriculum of the subjects outlined below**

- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Science Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Sports/Core PE
- Personal Social and Health Education plus Careers Guidance

Depending on the decisions you make, you will have additional option choices. **The option subjects we offer are**

GCSE's

- Separate Science
- Spanish
- History
- Geography
- Religious Education
- Computer Science
- Art
- Photography
- GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

Vocational or BTEC courses

- Information Technology (ICT)
- Business Studies
- Music
- Sports Studies
- Design Technology
- Health And Social Care
- BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts

You will choose either an **Ebaac or non Ebaac pathway** when choosing your additional subjects. This is fully explained in this options booklet. There are a series of events designed to help you make the right choices for you.

What is the English Baccalaureate?

What is the full English Baccalaureate?

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a school performance measure. Students are awarded the EBacc if they study English, Maths, Science, History or Geography and a language.

This pathway is highly recommended as it provides a broad range of skills and knowledge, is recognised across the country as well as nationally. It also prepares you well for A level and for University. This is NOT a separate qualification in it's own right, but is becoming more recognised, in the competitive world of work and in Further Education and can provide a distinct advantage for students in their future beyond Ellesmere.

Why are all students required to study an English Baccalaureate subject even if they don't study the full suite?

From 2016, student performance in schools is measured by 'progress 8' and 'attainment 8'. In order to **be eligible for these measures, a child needs to study an EBacc option. The benefit of this for the child is allowing them to gain the highest possible 'progress score' which can put them in a strong position against competitors for jobs and further education.**

What should I do?-What is right for me?

Every student should have the opportunity to take the full suite of EBacc subjects and will receive full guidance, especially if they want as a gateway to prestigious Universities such as the Russell Group. We also want to offer the right curriculum for every child. This means that you will be guided on to the most suitable pathway for you and your future aspirations.

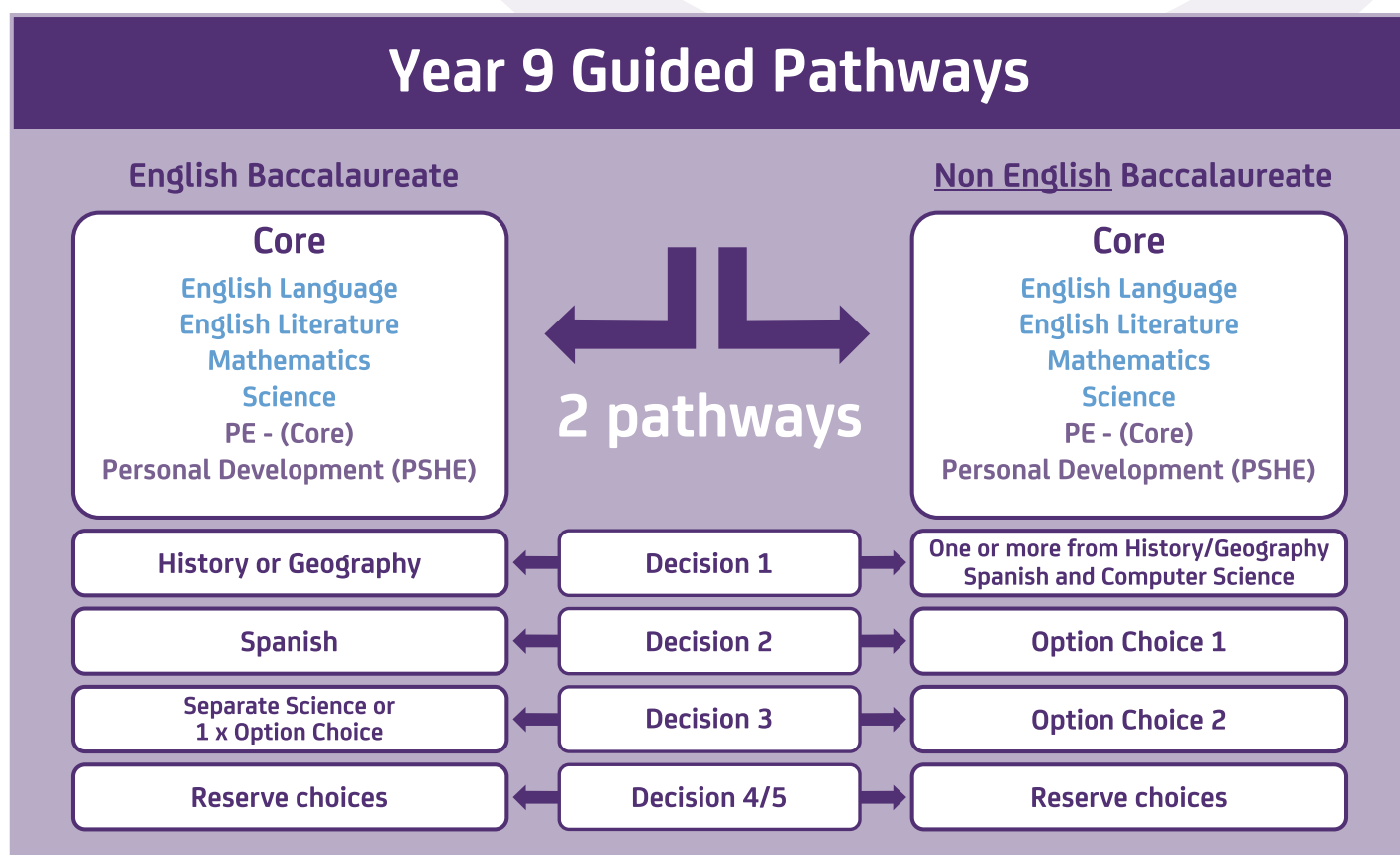


A student will be awarded the English Baccalaureate if they achieve a 5 (or more) in the following subjects

- English
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- History or Geography
- A modern foreign language (Spanish)
- Science - this can be either
 - Combined Science (2xGCSEs that cover the 3 main sciences, biology, chemistry and physics)
 - or Separate Science (3xGCSE's in biology, physics, chemistry)

This pathway is recommended as it provides a broad range of skills and knowledge, is recognised across the country. It also prepares you well for A level and for University

This is NOT a separate qualification in it's **own right, but is becoming more recognised, in the competitive world of work and in Further Education.**



“Education is not the learning of facts
but the training of the mind to think.”
Albert Einstein

Top tips for students

This is your first opportunity to choose which subjects you continue to study at school therefore, it is important you find out as much information as possible before making your decision.

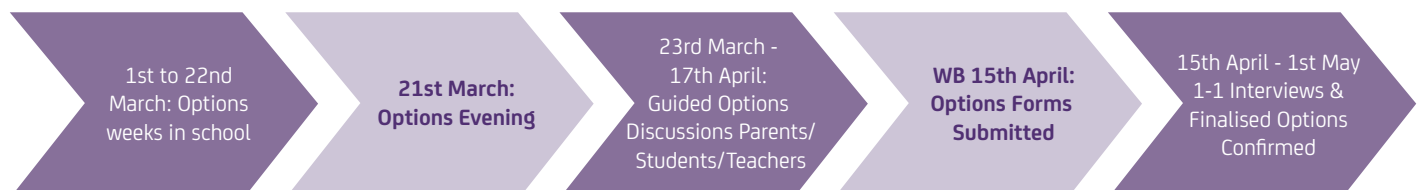
Carefully read through this booklet and visit the curriculum section on our school website. If you have any questions speak to your parents/carers, teachers, Mrs St John or Mrs Stapley. You can also arrange a 1-2-1 meeting with our dedicated careers advisor, Simon farmer, within the 3 week options window.

There will be subjects you haven't experienced before and it is vital you find as much as possible about these subjects too!

It is not easy to change your options so do lots of research and ask as many questions as you like!

Remember:

Your options form must be completed and returned to Mrs Stapley by 17th April 2023.



Next steps - Aim high

Further Education

Throughout KS4 there will be a number of opportunities to discover what your next steps will look like. We work with local colleges and training providers to ensure our pupils are provided with as much information and advice as possible.

Students can decide on a number of pathways which include:

- Staying in full time education
- A levels
- T levels
- Vocational/ Technical Qualifications
- BTEC Qualifications

Combine work and study

- Traineeships
- Supported Traineeships
- Apprenticeships



University and Higher Education

Currently there are around 300 Higher Education institutions in the UK and approximately 120 of those are classed as a university. Students can apply to attend university from 18 years old but typically choose to do so after completion of college or further education and achieving A levels, BTEC or other college qualifications.

24 of the best universities in the UK have formed the Russell Group. They maintain the very best research and outstanding teaching and learning experience for students. Last year around 100,000 students attended a Russell Group University.

RUSSELL GROUP



- University of Birmingham
- University of Bristol
- University of Cambridge
- Cardiff University
- Durham University
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Exeter
- University of Glasgow
- Imperial College London
- King's College London
- University of Leeds
- University of Liverpool
- London School of Economics
- University of Manchester
- Newcastle University
- University of Nottingham
- University of Oxford
- Queen Mary, University of London
- Queen's University Belfast
- University of Sheffield
- University of Southampton
- University College London
- University of Warwick
- University of York

The following subjects are part of our core curriculum:

English Language

Qualification: English Language GCSE. Exam board: Eduqas

Assessment: 100% Examination

Subject overview

GCSE English Language is a core subject and helps to develop a wide range of transferable skills for employment or further study such as creative and transactional writing skills, comparison skills, summary and synthesis skills. You will develop the skills needed to communicate, describe and convince others effectively. English Language will give you the experience and knowledge, along with the analytical tools, to evaluate, engage and critique texts confidently for whatever context you find yourselves in, now and in the future.

How will English Language help me? What Skills will I develop?

English Language will help you to:

- Develop your writing skills and expand your vocabulary
- Develop critical analysis skills, which are transferable to many other subjects and to further and higher education
- Discover the modern-day relevance of historical literature and poetry. It will also increase your knowledge of the wider world and will allow you to see the world with an evaluative eye
- Hone your writing analytical skills, which you will need for the rest of your life in education, everyday communication, and the world of work

What does the course involve? What will I study?

You will study a range of texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries which are linked in theme to the literary texts studied. As each text probes deeply into the social fabric of their time, it will be your job as students of English to reflect on how, as writers, they have achieved this. Interestingly, the preoccupations of writers of both fiction and non-fiction throughout the last three centuries has never strayed too far from the concerns we have today: poverty, injustice, gender, and class to name but a few. With such a rich stock of quality writing you will be encouraged to learn from the best in the production of your own writing practices.

How will I learn?

You will learn in a variety of styles. Often this will involve whole class modelling, where your teacher will guide you through your analysis of a text. At other times you will be asked to work independently so you can form your own opinion on a topic or a thematic concept. Additionally, sometimes you will be involved in group work where small groups or pairs will be given a task to complete, guided by discussion and debate. Wider, independent reading and research around the subject is also essential.

*“If I read a book and it makes my whole body so cold
no fire can ever warm me, I know that it is poetry.”*

– Emily Dickinson

How will I be assessed?

This is a linear course, assessed with two exams in Year 11. There is no coursework.

Students will be examined in both reading and writing testing ability to read and understand nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first century texts.

- **Component 1:** 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing
Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes - 40% of qualification
- **Component 2:** 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading and Transactional/Persuasive Writing
Written examination: 2 hours - 60% of qualification
- **Component 3:** Speaking and Listening
An individual speech, performed to an audience (unweighted)
This is assessed internally and moderated externally by WJEC moderators

Careers - What could a qualification in English Language lead to?

Primarily, gaining a qualification in English Language will open the doors needed for you to access further education: Sixth form or college and employment for the rest of your life.

Additionally, English Language is great preparation for further study in history, media, sociology, theatre studies, psychology, and law at A-level and beyond. Students who take English Language go on to do all sorts of interesting things such as journalism, science, or law. Some go on to write professionally, work in broadcasting film and television or even teach!

Careers Summary (links to explore):

National Council for Training
Journalists:

<http://www.nctj.com/>

Publishing:

<https://www.bookcareers.com/>

Journalism:

<https://www.journalism.co.uk/>

Why study English:

<http://www.whystudyenglish.ac.uk>



English Literature

Qualification: English Literature, GCSE. Exam board: Eduqas

Assessment: 100% Examination

Subject Overview

English Literature involves the study of both old and modern texts with an emphasis on close and analytical reading of each text and the contexts in which they were written. You will study a range of texts, from the 16th Century to modern day, with a variety of forms, from a play to a 19th Century novel to modern poetry, each involving academic critique. Students who study English Literature gain the skills to engage with the wider world confidently and accurately.

English Literature will open your eyes to not only the development of the English language, but also wider society and the changing world that our writers, and ourselves, live in. English Literature will give you the opportunities, experiences, knowledge, and analytical tools to evaluate, engage and critique confidently for whatever context you find yourselves in, now and in the future. Literature is the gateway to achievement, intellectual curiosity, personal well-being, and empathy.

How will English Literature help me? What skills will I develop?

You will study a wide range of texts, formulating personal and evaluative ideas about a range of characters and themes. You will learn how to analyse and critique texts while considering the contexts in which they were written, allowing you consider any contextual factors which may affect both writer and reader as values change over time. You will be encouraged to make your own critical judgements about texts and to evaluate the judgements of others. You will importantly study how the writer has shaped your response as you explore romance, religion and family power, an Inspector solving a crime, an old miser learning how to be good, the impacts of war and much more!

What does the course involve? What will I study?

Reading and analysis of character, theme, language, and context in the following

- A Shakespeare text (*Romeo and Juliet*).
- Post-1914 Prose/Drama (*An Inspector Calls*).
- Poetry from 1789 to the present day. Your teacher will give you a poetry anthology of 15 poems from Eduqas.
- 19th Century Prose (*A Christmas Carol*).
- Unseen Poetry from the 20th/21st Century.

For the poetry it is:

Poetry from 1789 to the present day. Two questions based on poems from the WJEC Eduqas Poetry Anthology, one of which involves comparison.

How will I learn?

As for English Language you will learn in a variety of styles. Often this will involve whole class teaching, where your teacher will guide you through your analysis of a text, which in the case of literature texts involves sharing the read of it. At other times you will be asked to work independently so you can form your own opinion on a topic or a thematic concept. Wider, independent reading and research around the subject is also essential. More generally, study of the subject provides many opportunities to consider and discuss a wide variety of human experience. Most of all though, we hope that it will help you to develop an enjoyment of reading which will enhance your life for many years to come.

How will I be assessed?

This is a linear course, assessed with two exams in Year 11. There is no coursework.

- **Component 1:** Shakespeare and the 19th-Century Novel -Romeo and Juliet and An Inspector Calls
Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes – 40% of GCSE
- **Component 2:** Modern Texts- A Christmas Carol and Poetry from the anthology plus unseen poetry. You will answer two questions based on poems from the WJEC Eduqas Poetry Anthology, one of which involves comparison.
Written examination: 2 hour 15 minutes-60% of GCSE

Careers - What could a qualification in English Literature lead to?

Primarily, gaining a qualification in English Literature will open the doors needed for you to access further education: Sixth Form or College. Additionally, English Literature is great preparation for history, media, sociology, theatre studies, psychology, and law at A-level and beyond. GCSE English Literature is a widely valued qualification for further study and employment. Students who take English Literature go on to do all sorts of interesting things such as Journalism, Science, Mathematics or Law. Some go on to write professionally, direct theatre, television and film, work in broadcasting or even teach!

Careers Summary (links to explore):

National Council for Training Journalists:

<http://www.nctj.com/>

Publishing:

<https://www.bookcareers.com/>

Journalism:

<https://www.journalism.co.uk/>

Why study English:

<http://www.whystudyenglish.ac.uk>



*“It is not in the
stars to hold
our destiny but
in ourselves.”
– William
Shakespeare*

Mathematics

Qualification: GCSE Mathematics. Exam board: Edexcel

Assessment: 100% Examination

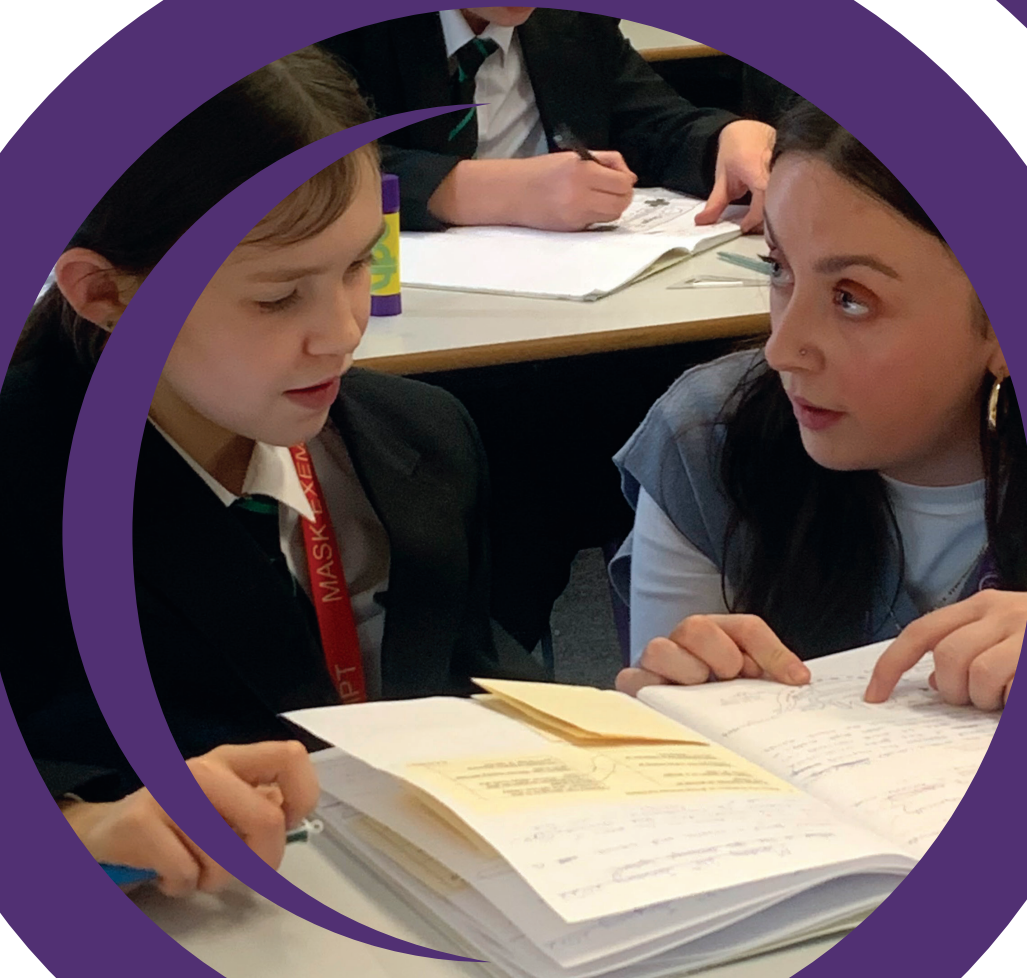
Subject Overview

Mathematics is a creative and highly inter-connected discipline that has been developed over centuries, providing the solution to some of history's most intriguing problems. It is essential to everyday life, critical to science, technology, engineering, and is necessary for financial literacy and most forms of employment. It is therefore vital that all students learn exactly how Mathematics relates to and underpins other curriculum subjects and that they develop the skills that are necessary to help achieve success in further education, employment, and adult life.

At EPHS we place an early emphasis on developing strong numeracy skills which underpin the entire Mathematics curriculum and support students' learning in other areas such as science, design technology, computing, and geography. The mathematics curriculum also encourages students to make connections across mathematical ideas; to develop fluency, mathematical reasoning, and competence in solving increasingly sophisticated problems.

Why choose Mathematics?

Our vision is to create a climate in which we support and challenge our students to be their best. We aim for our students to be fluent mathematicians that can apply the skills they have learnt to a variety of problems and situations. This requires students to have a positive mind set and to be willing to think, discuss and explain their solutions, offer alternative methods and be confident in their abilities.



What does the course involve? What will I study?

GCSE Mathematics is divided into five main domains: Number; Algebra; Ratio, Proportion and rates of change; Geometry and measures; Probability and statistics.

Alongside developing their knowledge of the curriculum content, students also continue to develop their confidence, understanding and a broad range of mathematical skills. Students are encouraged to think and communicate mathematically, in clearly written, spoken and graphical forms. Problem solving skills are developed to enable students to apply their mathematical knowledge and ability in a wide variety of situations across all subjects. Students will develop an appreciation of the interdependence of the different branches of mathematics, and of its place and use in society. At GCSE we aim to build a firm foundation from which to study mathematics further. We also offer a prestigious additional qualification, Further Mathematics to students who show dedication and an aptitude for the subject. This begins in September of year 11.

How will I learn?

All students are taught in ability groups throughout Years 10 and 11. This allows students of similar ability to be taught together allowing for maximum progression. From the outset, students are given aspirational targets and regular assessment allows us to monitor the progress made towards targets. In addition, we have a programme of intervention and support for students. We aim to ensure students aren't capped by tier of entry and aim for the highest possible outcomes right up until the final examinations in May and June.

How will I be assessed?

- There are 3 exams in maths. All five curriculum areas are assessed via three external examinations at the end of year 11.
- There is no coursework element to the course
- One of the papers is non-calculator and in the other two papers candidates are allowed to use a calculator.
- All papers are 90 minutes in duration and contribute equally to the overall grade.
- There are two tiers available: Foundation Tier, with grades 1-5 available; and Higher Tier, with grades 4-9 available. Students sit all three exams at the same tier.

Careers – What could a career in mathematics lead to?

GCSE mathematics is a prerequisite for further education and can lead to careers in many different areas such as engineering, accountancy, medicine, architecture, statistics, animation to name but a few. From GCSE maths you can progress on to A Levels in maths and further maths. You will also use your Maths skills in other qualifications, for example sciences, business, and psychology. Often access to an apprenticeship relies on either a grade 4 or 5.

“We will always have STEM with us. Some things will drop out of the public eye and will go away, but there will always be Science, Engineering and Technology and there will always, always be Mathematics.”

Katherine Johnson (NASA Mathematician)

Science

Qualification: GCSE Science Combined (Worth 2 GCSEs) or GCSE Biology, Chemistry or Physics (Worth 3 GCSEs)
Exam board: AQA

Assessment: 100% examination. There is no coursework

Why study science?

Science is both a body of knowledge and a process. Science allows us to link facts into coherent and comprehensive understanding of the natural world. Science is a way of discovering what is in the universe and how those things work today, how they worked in the past and how they are likely to work in the future.

Scientists are motivated by the thrill of seeing or figuring out something that no one has before. People all over the world participate in the process of science. The knowledge generated by science is powerful and reliable. It can be used to develop innovative technologies, treat diseases, and deal with many other sorts of problems.

Science is continually refining and expanding our knowledge of the universe, and as it does, it leads to new questions for future investigation.

Science at Ellesmere Park High School

There are two routes in GCSE Science:

AQA Trilogy- Combined Science (equivalent to 2 GCSEs)

AQA Separate Science- Biology, Chemistry and Physics (3 GCSEs).

All students will study science as a core subject at GCSE. If students take separate science, then this counts as an option. Both routes are academic. Combined trilogy is equally as academic as separate science. Students who choose to study the separate science option simply study more content across each of the disciplines of biology, chemistry, and physics.

What do the courses involve? What will I study?

You will study the AQA specification and study Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

You will be studying all the parts of what good science is at GCSE: Whether it be investigating, observing, experimenting, or testing out ideas and thinking about them. The way scientific ideas flow through the course will support you in building a deep understanding of science. This will involve talking about, reading, and writing about science plus the actual doing, as well as representing science in its many forms both mathematically and visually through models. You will be encouraged and supported in the development of scientific thinking; experimental skills and strategies; and analysis and evaluation of scientific data.

How will I learn?

Lessons will be engaging, challenging, and thought provoking. You will be taught by science specialists, each with subject knowledge in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Your teachers will help you understand the subject better by teaching you how to consolidate the key scientific concepts and apply these to unfamiliar situations, by developing your skills as a scientist and to master the manipulative skills required for further study or jobs in STEM subjects.

- Practical (17 in combined, more in triple)
- Data analysis and mathematical skills
- Written work and theory
- Debates

‘Science is the creative and passionate pursuit of answers to nature’s most precious secrets. So long as there are unexplored and unexplained parts of the natural world, science will continue to investigate them’

How will I be assessed?

AQA Trilogy - Combined Science

- You will be assessed on your knowledge and understanding of the key ideas in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, and the use of apparatus and techniques.
- This is a linear course, assessed with six exams in Year 11. There will be two exams for each specialism.
- The total marks across all 6 papers will equate to two GCSE grades.
- Each written exam will last 1 hour 15 minutes and have 70 marks available.
- The questions will range from multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.
- There is the option of either foundation or higher tier and a grade range of 9-9 to 1-1.

How will I be assessed?

AQA Separate Science Biology, Chemistry and Physics (This is an option subject)

- You will be assessed on your knowledge and understanding of the key ideas in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, and the use of apparatus and techniques.
- This is a linear course, assessed with six exams in Year 11. There will be two exams for each specialism.
- The total marks across each specialism will equate to a GCSE in that specialism.
- Each written exam will last 1 hour 45 minutes and have 100 marks available.
- The questions will range from multiple choice, structured, closed, and short



In Biology (Core and option) I will explore

How the development of stem cell technology allows doctors to repair damaged organs by growing new tissue from stem cells. How the population can reduce their risk of coronary heart disease through improved diet and lifestyle; and the surgical techniques used if preventative measures are unsuccessful. How vaccine development has enhanced our bodies to protect against unusual or dangerous diseases. How plants harness the Sun's energy and why this is vital for all life on Earth.

How our knowledge of hormones has developed treatments for infertility and diabetes. How species evolve and how we have utilised this knowledge to enhance selective breeding techniques. Why cloning and genetic modification remain highly controversial even though they have enormous potential benefits in medical science. How humans are threatening biodiversity and the actions needed to ensure our future health, prosperity, and well-being.

In Chemistry (Core and option) I will explore

How scientists use knowledge of structure and bonding to engineer new materials with desirable properties and how these materials may offer new applications in a range of different technologies. How chemists use quantitative analysis to determine the purity of chemical samples and to monitor the yield from chemical reactions. How in industry, chemists and chemical engineers can determine the optimal conditions needed to make a chemical product. How chemists can take organic molecules and make new and useful materials such as polymers, pharmaceuticals, perfumes and flavourings, dyes, and detergents.

How the development of instrumental methods has provided an accurate means of analysing chemicals and how forensic scientists and drug control scientists rely on these methods in their work. How scientists and drug control scientists rely on these methods in their work. How scientists and engineers have developed solutions that help to reduce air pollutants and the impact of human activity on the Earth. How chemists operate sustainably to minimise the use of limited resources, use of energy, waste, and environmental impact in the manufacture of these products.

In Physics (Core and option) I will explore

Why the use of fossil fuels and global warming are critical problems for this century. How physicists and engineers are working hard to identify ways to reduce our energy usage. How our continued demand for all things electrical means building power stations that promise a sustainable future.

How engineers use physics when designing vessels to withstand high pressures and temperatures, such as submarines and spacecraft. Why radioactive materials are hazardous and how today they are used widely in medicine, industry, agriculture, and electrical power generation.

How engineers analyse forces when designing a wide variety of machines and instruments, from road bridges and fairground rides to atomic force microscopes. How modern technologies such as imaging and communication systems can make the most of electromagnetic waves. How electromagnetism works and how and engineers have taken advantage of this to develop a wide range of applications. Separate physicists will also study the structure of the universe and what is causing the universe to expand.



Careers - How can I progress in science?

There are a wide range of science courses in college, universities, and the apprenticeships at all levels: You can go on to study A-level biology, A-level chemistry, A-level physics, health and social care BTEC, applied Science BTEC, A level engineering, BTEC engineering.

You could work in publishing, consultancy, or patent law and in industries as diverse as communications, business and manufacturing. medicine and dentistry, engineering, electrician, nutritionist, game design, chef, running your own business. You could be a pioneer of a breakthrough in research such as the COVID vaccine, in finding a cure for cancer or creating medicines to treat future, yet unknown, illnesses, as who knows what the future holds!

[HTTPS://NATIONALCAREERS.SERVICE.GOV.UK/JOB-CATEGORIES/SCIENCE-AND-RESEARCH](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-categories/science-and-research)



The following subjects are part of our optional curriculum:

Art and Design

Qualification: Art and Design GCSE. Exam board: AQA

Assessment: 60% portfolio, 40% externally set assessment

Subject Overview

THINKING THEN PRODUCING

This Art department is committed to making the arts accessible, inclusive, and meaningful to all. We create a world where art is used to help young people learn, achieve and thrive. By training the hand, eye and mind, we nurture creative expression and importantly, build fearless, resilient, problem solvers who think critically and interpret the world.

Why should I choose Art and Design?

YOU are the next generation of artists, designers, engineers, creators, and cultural leaders! Your imagination is vital to our country's future.

Art is essential in helping us understand the cultural and visual history of our global family. Learning Art encourages awareness, empathy and appreciation for the difference and diversity of the views of others. It can also help with understanding, interpreting and negotiating the complexities and diversity of society. Art encourages self-expression, creativity and can build confidence through defining a sense of individual identity and value – knowing precisely who we are. This in turn develops personal responsibility within school and the wider community. Creative expression becomes part of people's daily lives and a source of happiness, pride and wellbeing. Art is about connecting dots, and seeing the blueprint of our world. This information is just too important not to be shared, or not to be a part of.

Warning: studying art is an adventure that never ends; the brave need only apply!

How will Art and Design help me? What skills will I develop?

The world is changing rapidly. Within the past year, every one of us, every business, every community has had to improvise and reinvent. As we strive to keep pace with substantial change, one thing is certain; we are now living in a creative economy. Creatives excel.

The leading people in any field, are those who have vision, can think creatively and innovatively. Creative thinkers will always have the ultimate edge. Whether art is a passion, and you plan to follow a pathway through Sixth Form, College, University and into the creative industries, or you want to invest in your 21st century employability skills, Art offers many opportunities that will help you to stand out from the crowd.



“Creativity takes courage”

Henri Matisse

Studying Art provides the opportunity to acquire new skills. Making and participating in Art, aids the development of these skills, making them stick for life. As well as knowledge of different art forms, periods, media and techniques you can also gain specialist skills such as drawing, painting, three-dimensional sculpting, and photography. Learning through and about art enriches the experience of studying while at school, because your art lessons are shaped by listening to your voice. Developing art skills helps develop your ability to analyse and appreciate the world around us, find connection, engage others, and emote.

Art reinforces determination and resilience. Creativity teaches us that it is okay to fail, to not get things totally right the first time, to have the courage to start again and know success. This positive mindset can help with wellbeing and improving health and happiness, which are essential for a high-quality life.



What does the course involve? What will I study?

The art course has been designed to inspire and motivate. The flexibility of art means you can tailor your portfolio to your interests and your strengths.

The course allows you to develop knowledge and understanding through a variety of learning experiences, approaches and sources. This will allow you to develop the skills to explore, create and communicate your own ideas. You will demonstrate these skills through the development, refinement, recording, realisation and presentation of your research and ideas.

How will I learn?

We want you to be successful doing what you love.

The department will:

Engage, inspire and challenge you, equip you with the knowledge, skills and materials to experiment, and critique your art work.

Your job will be:

To engage, experiment, inspire and challenge others, imagine and create your own art work, refine ideas and act on feedback.

The art room is a studio space where students have the freedom to express their ideas, thoughts and work creatively. The way GCSE art is taught means that interaction with other students and with your teacher is different than in other subjects. Students comment on the bonds they form with classmates because of their shared interests and ideas. Your art teacher is someone to bounce ideas off rather than telling you what to do.

We know that teacher support is vital for you to achieve sustainable success in art. You will receive high quality support and subject knowledge, the very best of resources and modelled examples to break down each step of the creative process. You will learn through analysis, discussion and hands on activities. You will explore a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional techniques. Often this will involve whole class teaching, where your teacher will model and guide you. At other times you will be asked to work independently so you can form your own conceptual ideas. Independent research and sourcing authentic sources around thematic starting points are essential.

How will I be assessed?

There are two coursework components.

Component 1: Portfolio 60% of your GCSE grade.

- All work throughout year 10 and until Christmas of year 11 contributes to your portfolio of work - known as **component one**
- You will prepare a portfolio that shows coverage of the four assessment objectives:
A01 Developing ideas
Experimenting
A03 Recording
A04 Presenting
- Your portfolio is made up of three exciting projects across a range of themes. You will be marked on your personal and creative responses to the projects, this will include exploring other artists to inspire your ideas, experimenting in a range of techniques showing ideas and understanding throughout
- Your portfolio must include a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work. You will be asked to record your thoughts through written annotation.



Component 2: Externally set assignment- 40% of your GCSE grade.

You will need to select and respond to a starting point from an externally set assignment paper, evidencing all four assessment objectives.

- After Christmas in year 11 you will complete one more creative project with another final piece at the end – this is known as **component two**. The briefs for this are set externally. There is no written exam. It is practical based work throughout, with writing used instead to explain or support your visual and creative ideas
- This has a preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time. It is worth a total of 96 marks which makes up 40% of your GCSE grade.

Careers - what could a qualification in the Arts lead to?

Did you know? The UK creative industries are currently worth £116billion a year. There are currently 2.1 million creative jobs in the UK. There were 61K brand new creative jobs in 2019. This is a 7.1% increase on new creative jobs in 2018. This is 2.7 times above the average job growth in the UK. The North West has the highest proportion of creative jobs in the UK, outside of London. £261 million is to be invested into the UK's Art and Cultural sector. This marked the biggest single investment in our living history. Another £300 million was added to the Culture Recovery Fund for long term development. That's the importance of Art and Culture, it is a national asset, one offering you many career options if it is your passion.

An Art qualification presents many opportunities because the skillsets are flexible and transferable. It is a great preparation for exciting careers in Fine Art, Animation, Illustration, Graphic Design, Web Design, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Print Design, Web Design, Architecture, Set Design, Furniture Design, Product Design, Toy Design, Psychology, and Medicine. A trained creative eye understands facial construction, aesthetics, proportion, and scale, whilst also demonstrating highly refined hand to eye coordination. Some art students go on to independently exhibit, publish and sell their art work as prints or merchandise. Other exiting options include museum curator, taxidermist, graffiti artist, tattoo artist and teaching. The flexibility of Art means that the skills can be applied to culinary pathways, digital, film, visual effects, and beauty.

Careers Summary (links to explore):

If you only watch one thing, let it be this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKjKx6PzajE>

Explore hundreds of career profiles and learn what it takes to build long term creative careers here:

<https://www.theartcareerproject.com/careers>

Track the growth of the UK creative sectors here:

<https://www.thecreativeindustries.co.uk/>

Business Studies

Qualification: Business Studies. Cambridge National in Enterprise and Marketing. Exam board OCR

Assessment: 50% coursework across two units and 50% examination.

Why should I choose Business Studies?

Business Studies prepares students for the fast-changing business world after their study. Enterprise is a key Government focus and is set to be an important part of the UK's global economic status. Students will be provided with the opportunity to learn new skills that will be transferable into all businesses or further study. Students will also get to see businesses as they operate and meet entrepreneurs and experts that can speak from experience in leading and operating a business.

You should choose Business Studies if you are interested in running your own business in the future or interested in studying business during Further or Higher Education. Business Studies is a subject that will prepare you for the world of work.

What skills will I develop?

During your time on the course, you will be taken out of your comfort zone to help you push your boundaries and deal with challenge. The skills you will learn are presentation skills; communication skills; how to deal with people and customers; research skills; how to effectively plan and manage a business and much more.

What will I study?

You will study several different business related topics throughout your course including how to advertise, gather feedback, research methods and design solutions. The course is interesting but also easy to follow.

There is 50% Coursework across 2 units and 50% Exam. The theory for the exam is used for the coursework.

“I think it’s possible for ordinary people to choose to be extraordinary”

Elon Musk



The course covers aspects such as:

- How to advertise
- Gathering feedback
- Primary and Secondary research
- How to breakdown your target customers into categories
- How to plan for different costings to make as much profit as possible
- How to design solutions for products
- How to carry out and collate your own research into products and custome

How will I learn?

Lessons will vary and students will actively participate in activities to help steer their learning towards higher grades. Some lessons will include activities and discussions whilst others will include you independently completing your course work using computer software programmes.

What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

Aside from being the owner of your own business, a qualification in Business Studies can lead to employment in many different sectors.

These are just some of the industries where Business Studies will give you an advantage:

- Accountancy
- Banking and Finance
- Business Management
- Economics
- Financial Services
- Resource Management
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Marketing
- Retail Management

How will you be assessed?

50% coursework across two units and 50% examination.



Design Technology

Qualification: GCSE Design Technology. Exam board: AQA

Assessment: 50% examination and 50% coursework assessment

Subject overview

Design and Technology GCSE aims to prepare students to participate in an increasingly technological world. By taking the GCSE, you will gain an in-depth understanding of design and technology, including the historical, social, cultural, environmental, and economic factors behind it.

Why choose Design Technology?

If you are creative and enjoy problem solving this is the subject for you. Design technology allows you to take paper based ideas and develop them into three dimensional products using latest technology. Studying design technology will develop your creative thinking skills and communication of ideas which are transferrable to other subjects and further education.



How will Design Technology help me? What Skills will I develop?

You will develop skills in:

- Drawing and modelling skills (including ICT and CAD)
- Analytical skills
- Hand, machine and CAM production methods
- Your technical knowledge will be developed through theory-based lessons to prepare you for the written exam.

What does the course involve? What will I study?

Design technology will allow you to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. You will also study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

How will I learn?

You will use the design process (research, design, make and evaluate) to solve a series of design briefs looking for needs, wants and opportunities and respond to them by developing a range of ideas and making products and systems. You will have dedicated theory lessons and where applicable, practice and demonstrate your knowledge by completing practical in class.

“Design is intelligence made visible”

Alina Wheeler, Author

How will I be assessed?

You will be given a design brief. This will be the focus of your non examined assessment (NEA) which is marked internally, this makes up 50% of your overall final grade.

Examination in Year 11 – 50%

The exam is split into the following sections:

- Core technical principles (20 marks)
- Multiple choice and short answer questions
- Specialist technical principles (30 marks) Several short answer questions (2–5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in-depth knowledge of technical principles.
- Designing and making principles (50 marks) A mixture of short & extended response questions

Careers - What could a qualification in Design Technology lead to?

Experience in this qualification will benefit you in any employment as you learn and develop many transferable skills.

Specialist roles can include:

Product Designer; Furniture Design and Manufacturing; Architecture; Interior Design; Engineering; CAD Designing and Engineering; Marketing; Packaging Design; Mechanical Engineering; Car Design and Manufacturing; Carpentry/Joinery; Apprenticeships in trade or manufacturing industry; Music Technology; Fashion Designer; Fashion Management; ICT Careers (e.g. Gaming Industry); STEM related careers; Plus, many, many more...



Computer Science

Qualification: GCSE Computer Science. Exam board: OCR

Assessment: 100% Examination

Why should I choose Computer Science?

Almost every aspect of our lives is affected by computers, from how we travel to school and manage our social lives to vast networks that control global communication, trade, finance, and transportation. Computers have become so integral to our daily lives, it would be difficult to imagine life without them. The medicine industry is now looking for computer scientists as so much research and development is conducted using virtual models. E-commerce is taking over the high street, and robots are becoming more ubiquitous by the day. Obviously, games and special effects in movies are created using computers.

This course has a large practical element therefore if you are looking for an engaging course that will provide you with hands on experience this is the course for you. Only 50% of schools do computer science; be part of the special ones!

What skills will I develop?

Computer Science will allow you to develop many different skills that can be used in every part of your everyday life. You will develop skills such as:

- Analytical skills
- Problem Solving skills
- Creative skills.
- Resilience

What will I study?

This is a vocational course which has three components:

1. An assignment on 'User Interface design and project planning'
2. An assignment on 'collecting, presenting and interpreting data'
3. An exam on 'effective digital working practices'

These components will include activities and coursework such as: Designing interfaces like the iPhone and games consoles

- How websites are designed
- How to create systems to store and manage data for various purposes
- The issues affecting our world and how IT can help



“The rise of Google, the rise of Facebook, the rise of Apple, I think are proof that there is a place for computer science as something that solves problems that people face every day.”

Eric Schmidt

How will I learn?

GCSE Computer Science lessons will be a mixture of theory- based lessons and practical, programming lessons. The practical programming lessons will encourage students to enhance and develop the Python programming knowledge and skills that they started building in Key Stage 3 including sequencing, selection and iteration. Lessons will include group work, especially when students are given a problem to think about to creatively solve. Students will build on knowledge that they have learnt in Key Stage 3 exploring high level knowledge-based components which build towards complex composites in depth. They will learn the theory of computers and be able to link them to real life scenarios, so they are able to establish context of the topics learnt.

How will you be assessed?

- **Component 01** - Computer Systems - 90-minute exam - 50% of overall grade
- **Component 02** - 90-minute exam - 50% of overall grade
- The exam content will cover things you will have lots of practical experience from in lessons.

Careers - What could a qualification in Computer Science lead to?

The best thing about computer science is you are preparing yourself for the future. There are more jobs than there are people to fill them! Jobs are growing at twice the average of other sectors and Computer Science is the second highest paying degree. You are effectively guaranteeing yourself a future career!

Experience in this qualification will benefit you in any employment as you learn and develop many transferable skills. Specialist roles can include:

- Computer Programmer
- Engineer
- Financial Management
- Games Designer
- Network Manager
- Product Designer
- Researcher
- Resource Management
- System Analyst
- Cybersecurity Technologist



Digital Information Technology

Qualification: BTEC Digital Information Technology. Exam board: Pearson

Assessment: 60% Coursework and 40% Examination

Subject overview

The BTEC Digital Information Technology qualification gives students the opportunity to develop IT knowledge and skills that are transferable into any career. This course has a large practical element where you will be hands on, learning new skills and developing your knowledge about all things IT!

Why should I choose Digital Information Technology?

Every career you can think of will be supported and enhanced by IT. Digital Information Technology helps students learn about the latest devices and technology that is used in enterprises, social lives, and business practices. IT skills can help you climb the ladder of your chosen career path as it will help you to bring businesses and organisations into the future! If you are looking for an engaging course to support your other studies and give you important lifelong skills then this is for you!

What skills will I develop?

You will develop key skills which are transferable into everyday life such as:

- Project Planning
- Data Analysis
- Time Management
- Critical Thinking
- Decision Making

What does the course involve? What will I study?

The focus of the qualification is split into four areas:

Area 1: Developing the student's key skills in project planning, designing and creating interfaces and creating dashboard to present data.

Area 2: Developing the effective ways of working with digital technologies such as project planning, the iterative design process, cyber security, virtual teams, legal and ethical codes of conduct.

Area 3: Developing student's attitudes that are considered important in digital technologies such as personal management and communication.

Area 4: Developing student's knowledge that underpins the effective use of skills such as how different interfaces meet users need, how organisations collect and use data to make decisions, virtual workplaces cyber security as well as legal and ethical issues.





“Once a new technology comes along, if you’re not part of the steamroller, you’re part of the road.” Bill Gates

How will I learn?

Lessons will be a mixture of practical and theory lessons that enable students to cover the course in a timely manner. You will gain experience in designing interfaces like the iPhone and Games Consoles plus the issues affecting our world and how IT can help. You will practically learn how websites are designed and how to create systems to store and manage data for various purposes.

How will you be assessed?

There are 3 components to this course with 2 pieces of coursework and 1 exam.

The three components are:

- An assignment on ‘User Interface design and project planning’ which is worth 30% of the course
- An assignment on ‘collecting, presenting and interpreting data’ which is worth 30% of the course
- An exam on ‘effective digital working practices’ which is worth 40% of the course

Careers - What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

Experience in this qualification will benefit you in any employment as you learn and develop many transferable skills.

Specialist roles can include:

- Project Manager
- User Experience Designer
- Software Developer/Engineer
- Data Analyst
- App Developer
- Network Engineer
- Web Content Editor

Drama

Qualification: BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts. Exam Board: Pearson

Assessment: 60% internally assessed, 40% externally assessed

Subject Overview

Our performing arts curriculum is broad and balanced, giving students the tools to perform, create and analyse theatre in a variety of styles. You will be encouraged to become a confident performer and designer and will learn to collaborate with others, think analytically and evaluate effectively.

Why Choose Drama?

Telling stories is a necessary, instinctive way to make sense of our world. Studying drama will help you to understand other people's stories, and will teach you how to tell your own, in lots of diverse ways. Drama helps to develop interpersonal skills such as empathy and understanding by allowing us to look at the world through someone else's eyes. Drama also helps us to adapt to situations more readily that we find ourselves in and helps us to negotiate our way through life.

How will Drama help me? What skills will I develop?

Drama is hugely beneficial for many different careers and helps us to develop life skills which we use every day. Some of these skills include communication, teamwork, empathy, confidence, listening skills, public speaking and creative thinking.

“A talent for drama is not a talent for writing but an ability to articulate human relationships.”

- Gore Vidal



What does the course involve?

What will I study?

The three components of the course are:

- Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts
- Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts
- Component 3: Responding to a Brief

Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts (30%)

In this component, you will develop a practical understanding of performance work and influences. This component will help you to understand the requirements of being a performer and/ or designer (in lighting, props, costume, set, makeup or sound) across at least three performance and performance styles. In this component, you will develop a practical understanding of how performing arts work is created and will look at elements such as roles, responsibilities and the application of relevant skills and techniques.

Component 2:

In this component, you will develop performing or design skills and techniques. You will take part in workshops and classes where you will develop technical, practical and interpretative skills through the rehearsal and performance process. Throughout your development, you will review your own progress and consider how to make improvements.

Component 3:

In this component, you will have the opportunity to respond to a brief. You will be given a brief that outlines the performance and design requirements and asks you to consider your target audience and to start the creative process by using the stimulus included in the brief. Working as part of a group, you will develop your ideas for a workshop performance and apply your skills and techniques to communicate your creative intentions to your audience.

How will I learn?

In drama and performing arts, you will learn mostly through engaging in practical workshops. You will fine tune your performance and design skills and will receive regular feedback and advice from your teacher about how to develop to the highest level. You will also work as part of a group, learning from each other.

How will I be assessed?

The course consists of three compulsory units:

- **Component 1** - Exploring the Performing Arts – Internally assessed assignments – externally moderated.
- **Component 2** – Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts – Internally assessed assignments – externally moderated.
- **Component 3** - Responding to a Brief – Externally assessed task.

Careers - What could a qualification in performing arts lead to?

Aside from the most obvious routes in theatre, tv and film, a drama qualification is also highly recognised and valued by many of the top universities in the country. Students who take Drama often go on to pursue careers in teaching, public relations, marketing, law, psychology, among others. The skills that studying drama brings are transferable to many other career paths and are skills that will help you in your day-to-day life.



Geography

Qualification: GCSE Geography

Assessment: 100% Examination. Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview

Geography gives you the opportunity to travel the world through the classroom.

It tackles the **BIG** issues in our world, including: environmental responsibility, cultural understanding and tolerance and global interdependence and combines the knowledge of science with the understanding of the arts.

Why choose Geography?

Geography is a broad based academic subject which will open options for you in your future. Employers and universities see geography as a robust academic subject rich in skills, knowledge and understanding. As a subject linking the arts and the sciences it is highly flexible in terms of what you can combine it with, both at GCSE and A Level.

How will Geography help me? What skills will I develop?

You will develop academic and life skills from writing, teamwork and communication to analytical skills. There are so many ways of learning in geography. It is very practical, with opportunities to learn new skills such as modern computer-based mapping (called GIS), map skills, interpreting photographs, fieldwork skills, presenting, role play and debating techniques.

What does the course involve? What will I study?

This exciting and relevant course studies geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the link between them.

Students will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use.

The subject content is split into three main units:

- Living with the physical environment (tropical rainforests, natural hazards, tropical storms)
- Challenges in the human environment (urbanisation, migration, favelas in Rio)
- Geographical applications and Geographical skills (fieldwork).

How will I learn?

In geography, we study and tackle challenging issues in a variety of ways. Some of these you will have done in KS3, and some will be new.

We use a mixture of teaching and learning strategies, including teamwork, creating images and diagrams, analysing visual sources, debating and extended writing. Geography is extremely academic and involves extended writing and statistical and numerical skills.

“Geography explains the past, illuminates the present and prepares us for the future. What could be more important than that?”



What opportunities can this course and qualification lead to?

- Continue in full time education e.g. Catering / Hospitality Diploma.
- Train as a chef/ apprenticeship course.
- Work in the catering or hospitality industry.
- Excellent practical skills.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through three different exams in Geography at GCSE.

(Unit 1) 'Living with the physical environment' 90-minute written paper 35%

(Unit 2) 'Challenges in the human environment' 90-minute written paper 35%

(Unit 3) 'Geographical applications and Geographical skills' 75-minute written paper 30%

Careers – What could a qualification in Geography lead to?

There has never been a more important time to use geographical knowledge and skills to pursue a career. Careers in geography are essential to leading our societies into a successful future, with exciting jobs such as climate analyst, meteorologist, pollution analyst and town planner to name but a few.

None of the changes and challenges facing the UK and the world in the 21st century - including climate change, energy security and migration - can be properly understood, or tackled, without geography.

Health and Social Care

Qualification: BTEC Health and Social Care. Exam board: Pearson

Assessment: Coursework and Examination

Subject overview

This is a Vocational Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care

For students interested in learning about the health sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of FE courses in care. Students will study the essential values of care, communicating and working with individuals in the health sector, understanding body systems and understanding basic first aid.

Why should I choose Health and Social Care?

This qualification introduces students to the biggest employment sector in the UK, which includes elements of the NHS, local authority adult and child care services as well as a range of independent providers which provide care in a variety of settings. It introduces students to this vocational sector and the role it plays in the health, well-being, and care of individuals across all age ranges. Students will also develop transferable skills, in particular communication, aspects of team working and other essential life skills. As you might expect, both the bulk of learning and assessment is through practical means. There are many different careers a qualification in this sector could lead to: nurse, social worker, midwife, care worker, nursery nurse, health care assistant, child minder.

How will Health and Social help me? What skills will I develop?

Offering an effective introduction to the health and social care sector, this qualification looks at the role the sector plays in the health, well-being, and care of individuals across all age ranges. It also introduces students to the specialist knowledge and skills needed to work in various care settings. Underpinning the qualification is a focus on core values and communicating with individuals to maintain their dignity and sense of being valued. The qualification design, including the range of units available, allows students the freedom to explore the things that interest them as well as providing a good opportunity to enhance their learning in a range of curriculum areas. Students also develop transferable skills.

You will develop transferable skills, such as written communication skills to support your progression to Level 2 or 3 vocational or academic qualifications.

What does the course involve? What will I study?

What does being healthy mean?

It can mean different things to different people: you might think 'healthy' is not having to visit the doctor but an older person might consider it being mobile and able to get active, being happy and having friends.

You will explore the factors that can have a positive or negative influence on a person's health and wellbeing. You will learn to interpret physiological and lifestyle indicators and what they mean for a person's state of health. You will learn how this information is used to recommend appropriate actions for improving a person's health and wellbeing. Additionally, you will explore the difficulties an individual may face when trying to make these changes.

“The best way to not feel hopeless is to get up and do something. Don't wait for good things to happen to you. If you go out and make some good things happen, you will fill the world with hope, you will fill yourself with hope.” Barack Obama,



How do people grow and develop through their lives?

How can factors such as lifestyle choices and relationships affect this? Understanding these processes is essential knowledge and understanding for health and social care practitioners.

You will study how people grow and develop over the course of their life, from infancy to adulthood, and the varied factors that may affect this. An individual's development can be affected by major life events, such as marriage, parenthood or moving to a new house and you will learn about how people adapt to these changes, as well as the types and sources of support that can help them.

You will gain an understanding of health and social care services and understand the skills, attributes and values that are common across the sector. You will explore health and social care services and how they meet the needs of service users. They will also study the skills, attributes and values required when giving care.

How will I learn?

It is a vocational qualification, which involves some practical role play in a variety of units. However, the theoretical elements of the qualification will be supported by class tasks, logbooks and assignments to demonstrate your understanding of the topics.

How will I be assessed

AS this is a vocational qualification you will complete 2 pieces of coursework and sit one externally set exam

- **Component 1:** Human Lifespan Development-This is internally assessed
- **Component 2:** Health and Social Care Services and Values- This is internally assessed
- **Component 3:** Health and Wellbeing this is externally assessed

Careers - What could a qualification in Health and Social Care lead to?

Health and social care is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK with demand for both health and social care employees continuously rising. In 2019/20, the adult social care sector contributed approximately £41.2 billion a year to the UK economy. Social care employees, such as care assistants and social workers work with individuals to support them to be as independent as possible in their own homes, in care homes or nursing homes. Healthcare employees, such as doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, healthcare assistants and physiotherapists, work with individuals to enhance their quality of life by improving their health. Approximately 3 million people are currently employed in the sector.

History

Qualification: GCSE History. Exam board: Edexcel

Assessment: 100% Examination

Subject Overview

The GCSE History course builds on student's prior learning from years 7-9. A high-quality history education will help students gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. Students will be inspired to ask questions about the world, to critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement, all of which are valuable life skills.

History helps pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between diverse groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time. If students work hard at home and in school, they will achieve success at GCSE and make excellent progress.

Why choose History?

To quote Marcus Garvey, *"a people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."*

Learning about past events and the people who have influenced history will allow you to understand how the world got to the point it is at now and how it will continue to develop in the future. History is an exciting and relevant subject; the stories of the past help us to make sense of the present. Many of the stories in the news today are rooted in the past.

Many students go on to study government and politics at A-Level as they have been interested in studying political history as part of their GCSE. There are certain subjects that are considered either essential or desirable for many courses at Cambridge. Therefore, choosing one or more of these will help keep your higher education options open.

These subjects include:

- A language
- Chemistry
- English Literature
- History
- Mathematics
- Physics



How will History help me? What skills will I develop?

Apart from studying a wide range of exciting historic periods, you'll learn a range of useful skills that will help you with A-levels and future work. These include: excellent communication and writing skills; how to construct an argument; research and problem skills; investigation and problem-solving skills; analytical and interpretation skills

What does the course involve? What will I study?

The subject content at GCSE enables students to investigate a broad and rich range of options drawn from different periods and diverse societies.

These include:

- Medicine through time
- Elizabethan England
- American West
- Weimar and Nazi Germany

How will I learn?

In History, we believe that a strong knowledge base is key to exam success at GCSE. For this reason, students are taught study skills and revision tips throughout their time at the school as well as exam technique.

You will use a variety of learning techniques such as extended writing, practice exam questions, video clips, revision strategies. A lot of time is devoted to recapping and knowledge retrieval so that by the time students come to sit their exam, there is no need for last-minute cramming as knowledge has been embedded and revisited throughout the years.

How will I be assessed?

The course 100% examination and is made up of 3 exams

Paper 1 **Medicine through time** – 1 Hour 15 Minutes.

Paper 2 **Elizabethan England and American West** – 1 Hour 45 Minutes.

Paper 3 **Weimar and Nazi Germany** – 1 Hour 20 Minutes.

Careers - What could a qualification in History lead to?

Qualifications in history can lead to all kinds of careers. Some of the more popular options include government positions, teaching, journalism and the media, tourism, heritage consultancy and planning, museums, libraries, archives, public history, and project management. Some of the world's most influential business leaders share a common experience of studying history at university.

Some famous celebrities and politicians with history degrees include documentary filmmaker Louis Theroux, Diane Abbott, George Bush, actor and "Borat" creator Sacha Baron Cohen, former British prime minister Gordon Brown, singer Shakira and comedian Steve Carell.

History is a highly respected qualification, recommended by many of the Russell Group universities. Many degree courses in medicine or science welcome students who have studied History at GCSE and A-Level alongside their scientific qualifications; as it shows a breadth of knowledge and skills.

<https://www.history.org.uk/student/module/8671/careers-with-history>

"We are not makers of History. We are made by History"

Martin Luther King

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

Qualification: WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9-1) in FOOD PREPARATION and NUTRITION

Assessment: Coursework with a controlled assessment 50%. Written exam 50%

Subject overview

Food Preparation and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

Why choose Food Preparation & Nutrition?

Whether or not you have your sights set on a career in the food industry, knowing how to cook is an essential skill for life. Of course, knowing how to look after yourself and your family is important, but cooking is also a source of great fun and enjoyment. If you choose this course, you will have the chance to take part in lots of practical lessons and learn more about the ingredients that you are using; where they come from, how they work and their nutritional value. The course also offers:

- Essential skills for life
- Opportunities to be part of one of the biggest industries in the world with many different career paths
- Practical lessons every fortnight – making a wide variety of dishes
- Something different to look forward to in school
- Opportunities to take part in competitions, trips and visits from guest chefs

How will Food Preparation and Nutrition help me? What skills will I develop?

You will learn the skills you will need to live independently and look after yourself and others. It will also prepare you for a wide variety of careers in food, hospitality, or social care. You will develop a variety of cookery skills including fruit, vegetable, meat and fish preparation, pasta, pastry, cake, and bread making. You will learn how to present food professionally.

By studying food preparation and nutrition learners will:

- Be able to demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a variety of food commodities whilst using different cooking techniques and equipment
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks
- Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health
- Understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities, and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food
- Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.



What does the course involve? What will I study?

What will I learn?	What will I make?
1. Food commodities	• Minestrone soup and bread
2. Principles of nutrition	• Decorated Cheesecake
3. Diet and good health	• Savoury food presentation
4. The science of food	• Cauliflower au gratin/ macaroni cheese
5. Where food comes from	• Apple pie (sweet pastry)
6. Cooking and food preparation	• Chocolate fudge cake
	• Christmas cake & mince pies
	• Quiche
	• Roast chicken & chicken nuggets (boning a full chicken)
	• Fish goujons (filleting a whole fish)
	• Cheese and onion pasty (puff pastry)
	• Profiteroles (choux pastry)
	• Lasagne (H/M pasta)
	• Bakewell tart
	• Chelsea buns
	• Chicken tikka masala with chapati
	• Onion bhajis & samosas,
	• Decorated swiss roll
	• Lemon meringue pi

Should I pick Food Preparation & Nutrition?

You will need to be organised and prepared to cook every practical lesson, bringing your own ingredients when required. You will need to enjoy cooking and tasting a wide variety of foods to enable you to develop dishes, through the skills and knowledge you acquire through Year 10. You will need to be dedicated to practice and improve upon your cooking skills at home too.

How will I be assessed?

Lessons will be practical, where you will practise the skills and techniques needed to make dishes or carry out investigative work to explore the functions and characteristics of ingredients. Theory lessons will also take place. These are essential in helping you consolidate your knowledge of the ingredients, cookery methods and techniques that you build in practical lessons. You will have hands on experience of the industry. Homework and practice assessments will allow you to become an independent learner and really succeed in this vocational qualification.

You will learn from visiting chefs and from visiting local restaurants and colleges.

You will be assessed in Year 11 through coursework (NEA)- this is 50% of your overall grade. Part of the coursework involves a 3 hour practical cooking exam, where you will make a present 3 dishes.

The other 50% will be assessed through an examination in the Summer, assessing your theory knowledge of the six areas of content listed above.

Careers - What could a qualification in Food and Nutrition lead to?

This course prepares students for a career in one of the world's biggest industries, where roles include chefs, food product development, food retail, food scientists, environmental health officers and nutritionists. However, the course also provides a grounding for those who aspire to roles within social care, such as nursing, or in childcare. Students can go on to study Hospitality and Catering, Food Science and Nutrition at 6th Form and continue these studies at university. There is a multitude of apprenticeship opportunities across the industry, including butchery, bakery, food technology and manufacturing management..

Music

Qualification: BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice. Exam Board: Pearson

Assessment: 60% internally assessed, 40% externally assessed

Music is a universal language. It is everywhere. A love of music makes you part of one of the most diverse communities, that spans the entire planet. Most of all, it lets you be yourself.

Why choose Music?

In the future, creativity is going to be one of the most important and in-demand skills at work (Work Economic Forum). When business leaders across the world were surveyed, they voted creativity as the most important workplace skill to help their businesses survive and grow. This means that the study of creative subjects, like music, is becoming even more important and relevant to young people to give you the chance to succeed whatever your ambition. At the same time, you will find many opportunities to develop and improve your personal wellbeing both independently and as part of a wider community.

You will also have the option of attending school trips both single day trips and overnight stays, encouraged to perform live regularly at live lounges, school shows and festivals and become part of the musical family at Ellesmere Park.

For students who really enjoy music in KS3, Music in KS4 is even better. It really is a fantastic course designed to help you develop as a performer, a composer, a producer and as a person. ^.

How will Music help me? What Skills will I develop?

Music is a desirable subject to colleges, universities, and future employers because of the large range of skills that you develop as a musician. In addition to developing skills as a musician, such as performance, composition, production and analysis skills, you will also develop skills in the following areas: teamwork, problem-solving, creativity, discipline, time management, self-management, independence, resilience and communication skills.

What does the course involve?

What will I study?

The three components of the course are:

- Exploring Music Products and Styles
- Music Skills Development
- Responding to a Music Brief



*Music is not what I do,
it is who I am! FACT!*

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

In this component, you will develop your understanding of different types of music products and the techniques used to create them. You will explore how musical elements, technology and other resources are used in the creation, production and performance of music. You will also practically explore the key features of different styles and apply your knowledge and understanding to developing your own creative work.

Component 2: Music Skills Development (30%)

In this component, you will participate in workshops and classes where you will develop technical, practical, personal and professional skills and specialise in at least two of the following areas: performance, creation or production. Throughout your development, you will review your progress and consider how to make improvements. You will learn how musicians share their work and collaborate with others.

Component 3: Responding to a Commercial Brief (40%)

This component will allow you to work to your strengths and interests and apply the skills that you have learned throughout your course in a practical way. You will focus on a particular area of the music sector that excites and appeals to you and respond to a music brief as a composer, producer or performer. You will create a final product that is a stylistically accurate cover version of a song that also incorporates your original ideas.

How will I learn?

You will always have access to the classroom, becoming a trusted member of the music team. The classroom is set up like a professional studio with microphones, mixing desks, lights, instruments, amplifiers and much more which you can use to rehearse, compose, and perform with. We also have 4 extra rooms for you to use during lessons which are each kitted out with specialist equipment ready for you to use. Our equipment includes top quality musical instruments, a drum kit, amplifiers, and a PA system.

You will take part in:

- Practical workshops
- Professional Performance Opportunities (Internal + Externally)
- Independent learning
- Instrumental lessons
- Amazing Opportunities beyond the classroom

How will I be assessed?

The course consists of three compulsory units:

- **Component 1** - Exploring Music Products and Styles – Internally assessed assignments – externally moderated.
- **Component 2** - Music Skills Development – Internally assessed assignments – externally moderated.
- **Component 3** - Responding to a Music Brief – Externally assessed task.

Careers – What could a qualification in Music lead to?

Becoming a star performer is just the beginning when it comes to a career in music. Managers, producers, radio presenters, songwriters and composers are some of the highest earning individuals in the music industry. Alternative performance roles include working as a session musician or backing musician to support other performers, which may be ideal for those who excel in their instrument but want to stay out of the limelight.

Performance roles span all genres, from orchestral players, musical theatre performers, to rock and pop. Travelling the world as a performer is an extremely rewarding career and there are multiple opportunities for this through links between music and the tourism industry. There are also thousands of roles behind the scenes, from working in music production in recording studios, to sound and lighting engineers for concerts, stage managers, events planning careers and much more.

It is also common to find music graduates in the fields of medicine, consultancy, finance, banking, and law.

Photography

Qualification: Photography GCSE: Exam Board: AQA

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% exam

Subject overview

As soon as you enter photography you are immersed in a phenomenally successful environment. The results are outstanding, and this is because we strive to ensure you reach the limits of what you can achieve; creatively and technically. We encourage young people to experiment, stay curious, discover, source solutions, seek connections, refine skill, imagine, and innovate. We respect the past and lean towards the future, building global awareness and viewpoints outside of our own. Working collaboratively, we develop problem solving skills, self-expression, and the ability to find connection;

connection with ourselves, connection with others and connection with our wider world.

Why choose Photography?

Vibrant, dynamic, highly creative, experimental, and bespoke, the course will give you the freedom to express yourself in ways that will make you feel inspired, empowered, and bring out the best of you. Short term, it will equip you with the skills to continue the subject with confidence at AS, A-level and beyond. Long term, it will give you both creative and technical skills, views and opinions, self-confidence, and self-expression. It will help inform your personal values and beliefs for your adult life.

How will Photography help me? What skills will I develop?

All the most in demand jobs today, did not exist 10 years ago. We as teachers are preparing you for jobs that do not even exist yet, using technologies that haven't been invented yet, to solve problems that we don't even know exist yet. Think about that. Preparing you for your future requires transferable skills like determination, problem solving, critical thinking, analysis, collaboration, resilience, flexibility, independence, and fearlessness. That is what we [artists] embody. We refine those skills daily, and they are they are highly valued by every employer.

Photography will help you to...

- Develop your creative skills and your creative thinking
- Develop new ways of seeing and looking at the world
- Understand the images around us – a crucial visual literacy
- Develop technical skills in using SLR cameras and Photoshop
- Take a further step towards an exciting career in the creative sector; it is one of the UK's largest industries worth £112 billion a year!

What does the course involve? What will I study?

You will learn how photography started through making and experimenting with traditional darkroom photography such as Photograms, Cyanotypes and Chemigrams and use photography chemicals and photographic paper. By making your own pinhole cameras and camera obscura you will gain an understanding as to how photography works.

You will learn how to use an SLR camera creating unique effects and innovative photographs then experiment by managing different photoshoots using lighting, props, and lenses to show different unique ideas. Using Photoshop and other applications you will explore manipulating photographs to show a mood, meaning or theme and to develop your own personal ideas. Research will be a key element in assisting expansion of your ideas which you will present in a personal digital sketchbook/portfolio.

'A good photograph is one that communicates a fact, touches the heart, and leaves the viewer a changed person for having seen it.' *Irving Penn*

How will I learn?

You will explore and experiment with manipulating photographs to show a mood, meaning or theme. Using both Photoshop and other apps and by hand.

You will develop your own personal ideas and themes in your work and learn how to research other photographers to assist in expanding your ideas. You will create a personal digital sketchbook/portfolio to show your work and record how your ideas develop.

The department will:

Engage, inspire and challenge you, equip you with the knowledge, skills and materials to experiment, and critique your work.

Your job will be:

To engage, experiment, inspire and challenge others, imagine and create your own art work, refine ideas and act on feedback. You will engage in photoshoots outside of school in day trips and a London Trip.

The photography studio room is a studio space where students have the freedom to express their ideas, thoughts and work creatively. The way GCSE Photography is taught means that interaction with other students and with your teacher is different than in other subjects. You can move between the dark room the Apple Mac suite and the photography studio.

We know that teacher support is vital for you to achieve sustainable success in photography. You will receive high quality support and subject knowledge, the absolute best of resources and modelled examples to break down each step of the creative process. You will learn through analysis, discussion, hands on, and digital experimentation. You will explore a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional techniques. Often this will involve whole class teaching, where your teacher will model and guide you. At other times you will be asked to work independently so you can form your own conceptual ideas. Independent research and sourcing authentic sources around thematic starting points are essential.



Component 1: Portfolio 60% of your GCSE grade.

- All work throughout year 10 and until Christmas of year 11 contributes to your portfolio of work - known as **component one**
- Your portfolio is made up of three exciting projects across a range of photographic techniques and themes. You will be marked on your personal and creative responses to the projects, this will include exploring other photographers to inspire your ideas, experimenting in a range of techniques both digital and by hand and developing skills in setting up and taking your own photoshoots – showing ideas and understanding throughout.
- Your portfolio must include a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work. You will be asked to record your thoughts through written annotation.

Component 2: Externally set assignment- 40% of your GCSE grade.

- After Christmas in year 11 you will complete one more creative project with another final piece at the end – this is known as **component two**.
- You will need to select and respond to a starting point from an externally set assignment paper
- The briefs for this are set externally. There is no written exam in Photography – it is practical based work throughout, with writing used instead to explain or support your visual and creative ideas.
- This has a preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time. It is worth a total of 96 marks which makes up 40% of your GCSE grade.

Careers – What could a qualification in Photography lead to?

Did you know? The UK creative industries are currently worth £116billion a year. There are currently 2.1 million creative jobs in the UK. There were 61K brand new creative jobs in 2019. This is a 7.1% increase on new creative jobs in 2018. This is 2.7 times above the average job growth in the UK. The North West has the highest proportion of creative jobs in the UK, outside of London. £261 million is to be invested into the UK's Art and Cultural sector. This marked the biggest single investment in our living history. Another £300 million was added to the Culture Recovery Fund for long term development. That is the importance of Art and Culture, it is a national asset, one offering you many career options if it is your passion.

Careers Summary (links to explore):

If you only watch one thing, let it be this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKjKx6PzajE>

Explore hundreds of career profiles and learn what it takes to build long term creative careers here:

<https://www.theartcareerproject.com/careers>

Track the growth of the UK creative sectors here: <https://www.thecreativeindustries.co.uk/>



Religious Education

Qualification: GCSE Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics. Exam board: AQA

Assessment: 100% Examination

Subject overview

Students will be challenged with philosophical questions about religious and non-religious beliefs, morals, ethics, and values. They will work towards exploring different meaning, purpose and truth claims about issues, enabling them to develop their own thoughts and ideas. They will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis in all our lives and in the world around us. They will develop analytical and critical thinking skills through evaluation – perfecting written debate skills, understanding different sides to arguments about a range of issues. All these skills will help prepare them for further study from sociology and psychology to philosophy, ethics, and law.

Why choose Religious Studies?

Living in a multifaith world, this subject provides you with the knowledge and understanding to empathise, critically analyse and evaluate both religious and non-religious views on various issues. These issues range from crime and war, to the environment and medical ethics.

You will gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture.

How will Religious Studies help me? What Skills will I develop?

You will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, working on your ability to work with abstract ideas, evaluative and research skills as well as your debating skills, written communication, and data analysis skills. All these skills will help prepare you for further study at A Religious Studies or A Level Philosophy, university.

What does the course involve? What will I study?

You will study various topics and themes including:

Religion, Marriage and the Family

- Contraception.
- Sexual relationships before marriage.
- Homosexual relationships.

Religion and Life

- Abortion
- Euthanasia
- Animal Experimentation

Religion Peace and Conflict

- Violence
- Weapons of mass destruction
- Pacifism

Religion, Human Rights and Social Justice

- Status of women in religion
- The uses of wealth
- Freedom of religious expression



How will I learn?

In RE you will learn in many ways. Apart from face to face teaching, you will engage lots of group work activities including debates, discussion, group and paired work and peer presentations. You will be immersed in a classroom environment that focuses on both verbal and written opinions on a range of issues.

How will I be assessed?

There are two written exams. Each is 1 hour 45 minutes in duration. 96 marks (plus 3 marks for Spelling, punctuation, and grammar (SPaG) are available for each exam. Each exam is worth 50% of your final GCSE grade.

Career – what could a qualification in Religious Studies lead to?

What do Ricky Gervais, Bill Clinton, and Martin Luther King have in common? They all have a degree in a religious or philosophy background. Three quite different careers but a plethora of opportunities awarded to them. Some of the most popular career paths a GCSE in Religious Studies can you lead you towards are teaching and academia, the civil service, government, marketing, public sector, consultancy, social work, law, human rights and charity work, journalism and many more.

*“What you think, you become. What you feel, you attract.
What you imagine, you create.” The Buddha.*



GCSE Spanish Exam Board: Edexcel

Overview

It may seem that everyone speaks English, but in fact, 75% of the world's population do not speak English as their first language. The **second most spoken language** in the world is **Spanish**. English comes in at third! The intention of the Spanish curriculum into GCSE is, to ensure all students are not limited by the language they speak, but are empowered with the tools that will turn them into tomorrow's citizens of the world!

We want to broaden students' horizons in a way that they have not yet imagined! Through a broad and in-depth curriculum, students will be taught the structure of a new language whilst comparing it and learning more about their own language. They will become confident and articulate young adults with the courage to face the world and all it has to offer in terms of opportunities and cultural wealth.

Why should I choose Spanish?

20 countries have Spanish as a main language with 580 million people speaking it around the globe. Many countries have Spanish as their second language as does most of The United States. Being able to speak to locals when you go on holiday is just one of the many reasons why you should learn a language at GCSE. Languages are hugely important in the world we live in today and give you great skills for the rest of your life. Students who have a language on their CV are given preference by universities to study medicine and engineering due to the skills acquired whilst learning a language. These are an asset very well regarded by higher institutions and by employers.

How will Spanish Language help me? What skills will I develop?

Learning a foreign language is a **liberation from insularity** and provides an opening to other cultures and deeper understanding of the world. In Spanish, students learn to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond both in speech and in writing. They develop their self-confidence and are provided with opportunities to communicate for practical purposes.

Transferrable skills developed whilst learning a foreign language are:

- *Communication*
- *Developing relationships*
- *Memorizing information*
- *Problem solving*
- *Translation*
- *Confidence*
- *Analyzing*
- *Cultural understanding*
- *Team work*
- *Resilience*
- *Attention to detail*



Studying a Foreign Language creates more positive attitudes and less prejudice towards people from different cultures.

- Analytical skills improve when **students** study a **foreign language**.
- **Studying languages** shows an elevated level of communication skills, the ability to work independently and that you are mature, confident and can easily adapt to different situations and cultures.

What does the course involve? What will I study?

You will be taught the following six broad thematic contexts –

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

How will I be assessed?

- Through a variety of topic areas including holidays, film, TV, music, sports and hobbies, town, shopping, food and drink, celebrations, social issues, education, work, and relationships.
- You are graded equally on four skills – listening, speaking, reading, and writing. No matter what career path you eventually choose, these skills will be key when you apply for college, university, and employment.

1. **Speaking Exam.** 25% of the qualification

Foundation tier: 7-9 minutes plus 15 minutes' preparation time; 50 marks

Higher tier: 10-12 minutes plus 15 minutes' preparation time; 50 marks

2. **Listening Exam.** 25% of the qualification

Foundation tier: 45 minutes, including 5 minutes' reading time, 50 marks.

Higher tier: 60 minutes, including 5 minutes' reading time, 50 marks .

3. **Writing exam.** 25% of the qualification

Foundation tier: 1 hour 15 minutes; 50 marks.

Higher tier: 1 hour 20 minutes; 50 marks.

You are either entered for Foundation Tier (Grades 1 - 5) or Higher Tier (Grades 4 - 9).



How will I learn?

MFL lessons will take place in an exciting environment where you will be challenged to improve your speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills.

Speaking skills will be developed through continuous engagement in class, using Target Language, such as day to day class activities and reading aloud, answering questions; role plays; picture card discussion and conversations on topics covered by the syllabus.

In **listening** and through different aural stimuli, students learn how to effectively and efficiently process the sounds and match what they hear to the mental representation they have stored in their long-term memory.

Students will be given the opportunity to read diverse types of texts to develop their **reading** skills. Students will continue to read from authentic sources which will support understanding the language in unique styles whilst deepening their cultural knowledge and awareness.

Writing goes hand in hand with speaking, and practising one develops the other. Students will be encouraged and supported to use the grammatical rules learnt to write paragraphs on many of the topics covered by the syllabus. .

What could a qualification in Spanish Language lead to?

If you are looking into Management; Travel and Hospitality; Media; Advertising; PR; Publishing; Marketing; Translation; Teaching; Business and Finance; Civil Service and Diplomacy & European Law, here are just some examples of what you could do:

- Work in the world of **Fashion or become a fashion buyer**
- Work in sport for example football as a manager or a *Player Support Officer*
- Work as **Documentary maker** or **Producer** on programs made abroad.
- **Be an Anime Translator for Crunchyroll or a games designer**
- Work on an oil rig as a **worker** or as an **engineer**.
- Work for **The United Nations** helping to maintain international peace and security and develop friendly relations between nations.
- Work as an **Events Organiser**. It takes a lot of people to organise events such as the Olympics or the World Cup! Or in the huge travel industry and see the world.
- **Journalist** overseas as you need to talk to people on the ground and communicate.
- Work for **Global Technology Companies** and **Banks!**
- Become a **Pilot** or work as a **Cabin Crew** and travel the world!
- Work for the **Security Service** as an MI5 agent and keep the country safe.
- Work for the **Foreign & Commonwealth Office** where you will be representing the government overseas and promote the UK's interest abroad.
- Work in the law industry, accountancy, consultancy, property and sales.
- Become a *Mechanical Design Engineer, a Customer Service Advisor, a Pharmacist*

Research further education with languages:

<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/combined-degrees/language-combinations/> (Liverpool)

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/undergraduate/degrees/european-social-political-studies-dual-degree-ba> (London)

Careers Opportunities (links to explore)

<https://targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/degree-subjects-your-options/301040-what-can-i-do-with-a-modern-languages-degree>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/modern-languages>

“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language that goes to his heart.” **Nelson Mandela**

Sports Studies

Qualification: BTEC Cambridge National in Sports Studies. Exam Board: OCR

Assessment: 40% Examination and 60% Coursework

Subject Overview

This is a Vocational Cambridge National Level 1/2 course for students interested in learning about the sports sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wider range of courses in sport and physical health studies.

Why choose Sports Studies?

Sport is a high-profile and expanding industry and there is a growing need for qualified professionals and capable volunteers. There is a wide range of job roles to progress into such as Sports Coach, Fitness Instructor, Physiotherapist and Sports Journalist. It is also widely recognised that regular participation in sport and physical activity is highly beneficial both to individuals and to society. With life expectancy on the increase, there will be continuing focus by government in collaboration with other bodies, to promote sport's benefits and encourage wider take up.

How will Sports Studies help me? What Skills will I develop?

Cambridge Nationals in Sport offer students the solid foundation required for further study or progression into industry. Students will develop a wide range of highly desirable, transferable skills such as communication, problem solving, team working and performing under pressure. These skills are complemented with a strong extra-curricular offer to further develop your knowledge and ability. Most colleges and sixth forms offer further study in Sport and Physical Education, and Cambridge National Sports Studies opens the doorway to progress onto such courses.

What does the course involve? What will I study?

You will study 3 units

- Contemporary Issues in Sport
- Performance and Leadership in Sport
- Awareness of Outdoor Adventurous Activities

Across the three units, you will develop knowledge and understanding of sport in the wider contexts of coaching and leadership, as well as the framework of sport in the UK and the organisations involved. Learners will also develop transferable skills such as planning, communication, adaptability, and leadership. The course will take two years to complete, and will be assessed using written coursework, practical performance, and a final written exam.

How will I learn?

If selected for this course, you will study through both years 10 and 11. You will have three lessons per week, and these will be split into two theory lessons and one practical. At times, the percentage of practical and theory lessons may change to suit the unit of study being covered. Exam content will be taught and assessed in exercise books, and coursework units will be completed on laptops/computers.

“Empowering a generation, without exception, to realise their potential”

How will I be assessed?

Assessment: 40% Examination and 60% Coursework

Unit 1: Contemporary issues in Sport (Exam)

The exam unit makes up **40%** of your overall grade, and will be sat in the summer of Year 11. The exam has **70 marks** available, and you will have **1 hour and 15 minutes** to complete it. It is a written exam combining 1-mark answers with longer written responses of up to 8 marks. Teaching of this unit will cover topics such as participant types and their barriers to sport, sporting values, National Governing Bodies (NGB's), major sporting events, performance enhancing drugs and technology in sport. Teaching of the exam content will be spread across the two years, with work completed in exercise books, and several mocks spread across this time.

Unit 2: Performance and Leadership in Sports Activities

This piece of coursework is the largest on the course and makes up a further **40%** of your overall grade. It will take approximately 8 months to complete the various aspects and there are **80 marks** available. Of these 80 marks, **28 are judged on your practical ability in two different sports**, and your teacher will observe you to grade your performance. Teaching in this unit will require students to evaluate their own performance and create a training plan to improve weaknesses. They will have to log their participation in sports and demonstrate measurable progress to improving their weaknesses. Students will also be required to plan and lead a sports session to a group of students, and evaluate the success of this plan.

Unit 3: Sport and the Media

Increasing Awareness of Outdoor Adventurous Activities This piece of coursework is the final 20% of your overall grade, and it is an entirely written piece of work. It will take approximately 4 months to complete the various tasks and there are 40 marks available.

In this unit, students will explore three different types of outdoor adventurous activities (OAA), looking at how these are co-ordinated in the UK. Pupils will develop their ability to research information and present their own account of what they find. Specifically, students will need to understand the equipment and safety features of each activity and select one to prepare for practically. There are further marks in this unit for practical performance in OAA, so pupils will need to show competence in an activity such as Orienteering, Mountain Biking or High Ropes.

Careers – What could a qualification in Sports Studies lead to?

There are many different careers a qualification in this sector could lead to: Personal Trainer/ Fitness Instructor, Nutritionist, Psychologist, Sports Analyst, Sports Media, Healthcare Professional, Sports Coach, Sports Clothing Designer, PE teacher and Sports Journalist. For more information on careers in Sport, speak to your PE teacher or the careers advisor.



The following subjects are part of our core curriculum:

Physical Education - Core

Subject Overview

Physical Education will remain part of your child's mandatory education in Key Stage 4. Physical Education consistently demonstrates a positive effect on young people, promoting good physical, mental, emotional, and social health. You will continue to build on your knowledge and ability developed in key stage 3, and explore ways to continue participation beyond school to maintain a healthy active lifestyle.

You will have three PE lessons across the fortnight, and each term you will focus on different disciplines in the world of Sport and Physical activity, some of which are listed below

- Invasion Games e.g. Basketball
- Net/wall Activities e.g. Table tennis
- Performing at Maximum Levels e.g. athletics
- Creative Disciplines e.g. Dance
- Outdoor Education e.g. Orienteering
- Striking and Fielding e.g. Rounders
- Stress Management e.g. Boxing

What do I need for my Core PE lessons

Your PE lessons in Year 10 and 11 will follow the same expectations as Key Stage 3. You will be required to bring the following items to each PE lesson;

- Plain Black top
- Plain Black shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- Plain Black zip top or hoodie
- Trainers
- Hair bobble for long hair to be tied back

Please note, the following items are NOT permitted;

- Cycling Shorts
- Cropped tops
- Coats
- Clothing that is not black
- Jewellery

NB: For colder months we advise multiple layers to be brought in for PE lessons as we cannot guarantee that lessons will be indoors.

Why Core PE

Physical Education is continued as a mandatory subject in key stage 4 for distinct reasons. The government highlights the potential for physical education to develop and embed skills required across all areas of the curriculum, including resilience, independence, communication, teamwork, and problem solving. Not only are these skills useful in school, but they prove essential in other aspects of life whether it be a home or the workplace. In addition, being physically active on a regular basis improves physical health and can boost immunity, to prevent illness and disease. By engaging in a wider range of activities offered in key stage 4, students will begin to build strategies to manage their emotions, learning how physical activity can contribute to maintain good mental and emotional health.



“Education without morals is like a ship without a compass, merely wandering nowhere.” Martin Luther King Jr.

Subject Overview

Students will continue to study personal development, safety and welfare in year 10 and 11 to support them to become successful global citizens with the skills, knowledge, personal qualities, confidence and character to have a positive impact on our community.

Students will continue to embrace and challenge various aspects of society through understanding, reflection upon previous experiences and contributing to the economic, social and cultural life of their communities. Lessons will promote spiritual, moral, and cultural development and incorporating good quality relationships and sex education, as well as focusing on the physical, mental and social well-being of staff and students.

PSHE continues to reinforce the importance of respect, it recognises the power of democracy and celebrates success. The PSHE curriculum takes a thematic approach, which covers three spiral core themes that progressively run through KS4: Health and Wellbeing

- Living in the wider world
- Relationships

The themes are built upon each year and lessons within these themes cover the valuable aspects of citizenship and core British Values.

What will I learn?

Health and well being

Mental health - Mental health and ill health, stigma, safeguarding health, including during periods of transition or change.

Exploring influence - The influence and impact of drugs, gangs, role models and the media.

Building for the future - Criminal justice system.

Independence - Responsible health choices, and safety in independent contexts.

Relationships

Healthy relationships - Relationships and sex expectations, myths, pleasure and challenges, including the impact of the media and pornography.

Addressing extremism and radicalisation - Communities, belonging and challenging extremism.

Communication in relationships - Personal values, assertive communication (including in relation to contraception and sexual health), relationship challenges and abuse.

Families - Different families and parental responsibilities, pregnancy, marriage and forced marriage and changing relationships.

Living in the wider world

Financial decision making - The impact of financial decisions, debt, gambling and the impact of advertising on financial choices.

Work experience - Preparation for and evaluation of work experience and readiness for work.

Next steps - Application processes, and skills for further education, employment and career progression.



Careers Advice and Guidance at Ellesmere Park High school

Careers Guidance and Advice on Options

Year 9 students will be able to request a careers appointment with our Careers Advisor (Mr. Farmer) before making their final options selections to help inform and guide choices. Mr. Farmer will discuss any initial career plans with students, as well as post-16 routes and any potential links with GCSE subject choices. Students will be also able to book career guidance interviews during Year 10 and Year 11 in school to support their career planning. Should any Year 9 student wish to book a careers appointment with Mr. Farmer, they can do so by asking their form teacher or Head of Year.

Mr Farmer is also available to speak with parents and carers should you require any advice regarding the options choices and future routes of study; he can be contacted in school by phone or via email:

simon.farmer@consilium-at.com

We also encourage students to explore careers further using our online careers platform “Xello” which allows students to explore which careers or job sectors may link well to their own personality, skills and learning needs. All students have access to Xello, Mr. Farmer can provide login details if needed.

Ellesmere Park High School also works with ‘Pathways’ a careers platform that can help students find careers that may interest them in the future, including how these careers are achieved. Pathways resources are available via the school website and Mr. Farmer

Additional websites supporting option choices:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p>

<https://icould.com/stories/choosing-your-gcse-options/>

<https://successatschool.org/advisedetails/508/What-are-my-GCSE-options%3F>

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/gcse-choices-university/how-important-are-my-gcse-grades>





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