

KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS BOOKLET



For September 2024



**Southfields
Academy**

Options Guide

Preparing for starting Key Stage 4 in September 2024

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Part 1 **The KS4 Options process for September 2024 KS4 start**

Dear Student and Parent/Carer,

Following three years in Key Stage 3 where you have followed a broad curriculum, you will need to make choices in preparation for your studies across Key Stage 4 (KS4). From Year 7 to Year 9 you have had an opportunity to learn many different subjects; English, mathematics, sciences, humanities, languages, creative and expressive arts, practical disciplines and physical education. This curriculum has provided you with opportunities to discover what you enjoy, where your interests lie and which skills you prefer to develop.

In order to commence your journey through your first set of education qualifications you will now need to make some decisions about which areas of the curriculum you will study throughout KS4. At the end of Year 11 you will sit formal examinations that will determine the level you can achieve across a number of different subjects. Some of these subjects are compulsory as they form a strong basis for any further study. You will need to choose three further subjects to complete your curriculum throughout KS4.

KS4 Core Curriculum

The core curriculum is the group of subjects that are compulsory for all students to study:

- English Language and/or Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education
- Religious Education

Each of these areas of study take different forms depending on your combination of optional choices. Most lead to a formal GCSE qualification, but some are non-examined courses. Please read the **KS4 Curriculum Guide – Part two** document carefully so that you are aware of expectations across each of these core subjects.

KS4 Option Choices

In addition to the compulsory core curriculum, you will be required to select up to three more subjects to study throughout KS4. These subjects cover a full range of qualifications across the sciences, humanities, languages, expressive and creative arts, business, ICT and practical disciplines. Some areas of study have pre-requisite requirements meaning that a certain level of attainment in Year 9 must be achieved in order to gain entry to a particular course. This is why it is important to make every effort in Year 9 assessments and show just how well you can achieve in your studies. All the available option subjects are explained in **part two** of this **KS4 Curriculum Guide**. This document outlines the topics of study, the nature of the skills, the assessment style and the name of the qualification that can be achieved.

The Ebacc Curriculum

All GCSE qualifications have placed a greater emphasis on the high standards expected in reading, writing and spoken English. The reformed qualifications have more rigour and higher academic standards. Additionally the Government believes that the 'Ebacc' group of subjects make the best platform for further study at Post-16.

We too, endorse this package of subjects and at the same time appreciate that it is not appropriate for all individuals. Some students will prefer a greater weighting in a particular group of subjects such as the humanities, or, the arts. We will support your child regardless of their choices, but hope that those choices will be guided by research, career choices and current information.

Students need to gain level 5 or higher in the following subjects in order to qualify for the English Baccalaureate:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Geography or history
- One Modern Foreign Language

New Subjects

There are a small number of subjects that you will not have studied in KS3. You should make sure that you can identify these from **part two** of the **KS4 Curriculum Guide** and then invest some time in researching more about these subjects. Talk to students in KS4 who are currently studying these subjects, or, talk with those who have progressed to the 6th Form having studied these courses. We will provide you with some opportunities to investigate new subjects, but you should not wait for these opportunities, instead research with the internet tools that are available to you.

Vocational Courses

These courses differ from GCSE courses because assessment occurs throughout the course through set assignments and an examination. Marks are combined to make up the final grade. Learning and skills are developed through a particular vocational context. These courses hold the same value as GCSE qualifications but are graded on a different scale.

Qualifications	Grades	Assessment
GCSE	9 – 1 9 is the highest 5 is a good pass 4 is a standard pass 1 is the lowest	Mostly assessed through examinations taken at the end of Year 11. Usually 2 or 3 examination papers. Occasionally there are other small elements in the assessment: orals, practicals, coursework or fieldwork.
Vocational courses: BTEC First award, OCR Cambridge Nationals.	Level 2 Distinction* is the highest Level 2 Distinction Level 2 Merit Level 2 Pass Level 1 Distinction Level 1 Merit Level 1 Pass is the lowest	These courses can be achieved either at level 1 or level 2. Level 1 is equivalent to GCSE grades 1-3. Level 2 is equivalent to GCSE grades 4-9. Some of the assessment is assignment based. Some external examinations form part of the assessment.

Making Your Choices

Some of you already have a clear idea of your chosen career and therefore, of the subjects you must choose for GCSE. For most of you, the subjects you are good at will also be the ones you like and they will, therefore, probably combine well with each other. However, many of you have not yet decided on a career path and for you the choice can be bewildering.

Your choice of GCSE subjects will be determined by four important factors:

- Your ability and/or aptitude for all three subjects
- Your interest and enthusiasm for all your chosen subjects
- The relation of your chosen subjects to each other
- Your plans for higher education and a career

What Subjects Do You Like?

It is very important to study the subjects that you enjoy. You will find it easier to sustain interest and effort if you actually enjoy the learning! Think about what attracts you to a subject – the approach,

content, practical work, experiments and projects – but do not choose a subject just because you like the teacher!

What Are You Good At?

This must influence your choice because it will help you to achieve the high grades necessary for the future.

What Do You Need?

How far ahead have you looked? Is your choice flexible? Discuss these points with staff mentioned above and the Careers Advisor. It is also important to seek a balance of subjects to give you the opportunity to use and develop as wide a range of skills and subjects as possible. This will also enable you to keep your options open beyond GCSE. There are many online sources of information about where subjects could take you, for example: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers>

Options Subject Information

- Part 2 of this booklet gives you detailed information about each subject area, the course and qualifications.
- Each subject area will share a video outlining details and opportunities arising from the subject. These videos will be available on the website: Parents > Year 9 Options - Options Fayre from Wednesday 24th January 2024.

Why You Should NOT Choose a Subject

You should not generally allow yourself to be influenced by:

- a. whether you like, or dislike, your present teacher in a particular subject
- b. what your friends are deciding, since their interests and plans for the future may be quite different.

There is lots of good advice on this website:

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/gcse/choosing-your-gcse>

Compulsory Subjects

English	All students will study English. You will be prepared for two GCSEs in this subject: English Language GCSE and English Literature GCSE.
Mathematics	All students will study Mathematics GCSE. Those achieving the highest levels may be given the opportunity to study the Further Mathematics Certificate as well.
Science	All students will study Science. Students will study the Combined Science Trilogy GCSE (this counts as two GCSEs). Some students will be able to study the Triple Science option, if they meet the threshold.
Physical Education PE	All students follow a practical course in PE that is non-examined.
Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education PSHE	All students will study elements of Personal, Health and Social Education and Careers Education through a non-examined course.
Religious Education RE	All students will study Religious Education as part of a non-examined course.

Options Subjects

In addition to the compulsory curriculum, students will have up to three choices of additional subjects. These subjects are blocked. This means you will study one subject from each block. When making your choices you will be asked to indicate your first and second choice subject in each block in case we cannot offer you your first choice. If classes are too small we will not be able to run the subject, similarly if classes are oversized we may not be able to offer everyone that particular choice. Please be prepared to accept your second choice subject. Otherwise, we will consider those who get their choices in earlier.

EBacc Subjects	Other Subjects
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Computer Science• Geography• History• French• Spanish• Home Language (where GCSE is available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ADT: Art• ADT: Graphics• ADT: Hospitality & Catering• ADT: 3-D Design• Business Studies• Citizenship• Dance• Drama• Film studies• Music• Physical Education (PE)• Sociology• Travel and Tourism

Types of Courses at 14-19

Nationally, there are a number of pathways for 14 to 19 year olds.

Academic: GCSE and A Levels. These develop knowledge, understanding and skills associated with a particular academic subject. All of these are assessed through external examinations.

Vocational: BTEC at levels 1, 2 and 3, NCFE and OCR Nationals. These develop knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to a broad area of employment. These courses are assessed through a mix of assignments that are assessed internally and then moderated externally, and some externally assessed examinations.

Work-related: City & Guilds Certificates & NVQ. These develop and recognise mastery of a trade or profession at the relevant level. They are usually taught in Further Education colleges. They are assessed through practical tests and may also be taught as part of an apprenticeship. Although apprenticeships are available to over 16 year olds, most interested young people will look for opportunities after sixth form. For more information about apprenticeships visit: <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/apprenticeships/>

Technical: T Levels are Key stage 5 qualifications taken after GCSEs. They are equivalent in size to 3 A Levels. Students gain knowledge and practical skills in the classroom and spend 45 days in industry on work experience. More information about T Levels can be found here: <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/parents>

Progression pathways from KS4 qualifications:

Key Stage 4	Key Stage 5 6 th Form	Post-18
GCSE Grades 5-9 Cambridge Nationals Level 2 BTEC Level 2	A levels BTEC Nationals Level 3 OCR Cambridge Technicals Level 3 T Levels City & Guilds/NCFE Level 2/3 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	Higher Education - HNC, HND, University Degree. Degree Apprenticeship Apprenticeship at Level 3 Employment
GCSE Grades 4-5 Cambridge Nationals Level 2 BTEC Level 2	BTEC Level 3 OCR Cambridge Technicals Level 3 T Levels City & Guilds/NCFE Level 2/3 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	Higher Education - HNC, HND, University Degree. Degree Apprenticeship Apprenticeship Level 3 Employment
GCSE Grades 1-3 Cambridge Nationals Level 1 BTEC Level 1 Entry Level	BTEC Level 2 OCR Cambridge Technicals Level 2 City & Guilds/ NCFE level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2	Further Education Courses Apprenticeship at Level 2/3 Employment

Most often, students follow a mix of vocational and academic subjects in order to experience the full breadth of courses before narrowing their pathways in the 6th Form.

Entry Level

Where students experience particular difficulties in core subjects, they may be entered for entry-level qualifications rather than GCSEs. The qualifications are used to certificate the achievement of students below the level of a GCSE grade 1.

Key

A Level: Advanced level GCE

BTEC: Business & Technical Education Council

C & G: City and Guilds

GCSE: General Certificate of Secondary Education

OCR: Oxford, Cambridge & RSA Examinations

Important Dates 2024	
w/c 15 th January 2024	Year 9 Foundation Subject Assessments
w/c 22 nd January 2024	Year 9 Core Subject Assessments
w/c 22 nd January 2024	<u>Options Week:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday – Options Assembly • Wednesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Student Options Fayre Live P5 ○ Launch recorded video on website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - introduction and subject contributions • Tutor time activities focussed on options • Students collect their mock grades from teachers
Thursday 25 th January 2024	<u>Y9 Work Shadow Day</u>
Wednesday 28 th February 2024	Options forms sent home
Wednesday 6 th March 2024	Year 9 Options Parents' Evening
Thursday 7 th March 2024	Deadline for handing Options Forms to tutor

I hope you find the information in this booklet useful but if you have any queries, please contact your tutor/child's tutor in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



Wanda Golinska
Headteacher

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

English Language and English Literature

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information, speak to	Mr Peck (Head of English) & Miss O'Neill (Teacher i/c of Y10 English)

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

The English Language GCSE is the compulsory qualification that students must pass in order to progress on to Level 3 courses in the future. The course asks students to explore how writers create meaning in both fiction and non-fiction texts ranging from the 19th to the 21st centuries. They will also be asked to become writers themselves, producing creative fiction pieces and writing to present a viewpoint. The curriculum is structured so that students will explore writers' methods through analysis of both fiction and non-fiction texts and there will also be opportunities to develop creative and functional writing skills.

The English Literature GCSE provides an opportunity to explore a breadth of prose, poetry and drama across the ages. As part of the GCSE, students will study the following:

- A 19th Century Novel: *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens
- A Shakespeare Play: *Romeo and Juliet*
- A Modern Text: *An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley or *Telling Tales: AQA anthology of short stories*
- An AQA anthology of *Power and Conflict* poetry

The skills required of the English Literature GCSE overlap with the English Language GCSE as students will explore how writers convey meaning through literary devices and develop their essay writing skills.

Students follow the AQA exam board for both English Language and English Literature.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Students should expect regular extended writing tasks, completed under examination conditions. The English Language GCSE is made up of two papers, both 1 hour and 45 minutes long. The English Literature examination is also made up of two papers. Paper 1 is 1 hour and 45 minutes long and Paper 2 is 2 hours and 15 minutes long. All students must also complete a Spoken Language Endorsement in order to receive their English Language GCSE qualification. In Year 10, students will plan, write and perform a speech or presentation to their class. Some of the speeches will be recorded and submitted to the exam board for moderation. Although the Spoken Language Endorsement does not contribute towards students' final English Language grade, students must receive a 'Pass', 'Merit' or 'Distinction' in order to be awarded their English Language GCSE.

Teacher feedback will enable students to improve their performance in English Language and English Literature; parents and carers will be informed of progress regularly throughout the school year.

Students are grouped by attainment in English lessons. Assessments take place throughout the year and culminate in end of year examinations that mirror the terminal style of examination that will occur at the end of Year 11.

WHAT NEXT?

Evidence suggests that a positive performance in Year 9 is a strong indicator of GCSE success. All students will study both an English Language and an English Literature GCSE in Years 10 and 11. The Year 10 curriculum is designed to explore both Language papers and the majority of the Literature

content in detail so that a solid foundation for Year 11 can be made, where students will be continually assessed and developed so that they are ready for the terminal examinations.

Please support your child by encouraging them to read as much as possible. This is the best way to prepare them for the study of all of their GCSE subjects. We use the Accelerated Reader programme in Year 9 to monitor how much students read and understand. Please ask them what they are reading and encourage this to become a habit. The sooner reading becomes a habit, the more likely it is to have a positive impact on both their reading and writing skills which are key requirements for the study of English Language and English Literature at GCSE.

The study of both English Language and English Literature helps to develop students' written and verbal communication skills in preparation for the next steps of their educational journey and future careers. Skills developed through the study of English can prepare students for a wide range of careers - from journalism, law and writing professionally to social media management, public relations and teaching.

Mathematics

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Mr Spencer

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

The content of the GCSE course covers number and algebra, geometry and measures and statistics and probability. The fundamental skills and knowledge which feature in the examinations include working with arithmetic, understanding fractions, decimals, percentage and ratio and an appreciation of algebraic notation.

This course will help you develop many skills, as well as numeracy, such as problem-solving, communication, functional skills and collaboration.

Higher achieving students will sit the Higher tier paper. All other students will sit the Foundation paper.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED? - Higher tier (grades 3-9) – OCR exam board.

- Paper 1 – 100 marks – calculator paper
- Paper 2 – 100 marks – non-calculator paper
- Paper 3 – 100 marks – calculator paper

This course will be assessed at the end of Year 11 by these three examinations. Students will be assessed at regular intervals throughout years 9, 10 and 11. Higher tier students follow the OCR GCSE Mathematics course.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED? – Foundation tier (grades 1-5) – Pearson Edexcel exam board.

- Paper 1 – 80 marks – non-calculator paper
- Paper 2 – 80 marks – calculator paper
- Paper 3 – 80 marks – calculator paper

This course will be assessed at the end of Year 11 by these three examinations. Students will be assessed at regular intervals throughout years 9, 10 and 11. Foundation tier students follow the Edexcel GCSE Mathematics course.

WHAT NEXT?

Mathematics is a language. It is the language without which science, commerce, industry, the internet, and the entire global economy is struck dumb. It is the only truly universal language, and it is an essential part of our personal and working life.

As such, the GCSE qualification is recognised by both Universities and employers, as a way of checking that students have the numeracy skills needed to equip themselves for everyday life and further study.

Those students who achieve a grade 6 or above on the higher paper in their GCSE have the opportunity to continue the study of mathematics through A-level courses in Mathematics and Further Mathematics. Students can also study a Level 3 qualification in 'Core Mathematics' in the 6th form.

SPARX MATHS

Students in year 9, 10 and 11 will continue to use the SPARX maths platform for some of their maths homework.

Science - Combined Science Trilogy

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Ms Klopper/Ms Croissant/Mr Norris

WHY IS SCIENCE IMPORTANT?

Science is all about finding and explaining patterns. This develops both language and mathematics skills as well as a host of other transferable skills that are useful in all walks of life; skills such as analysing data, modelling ideas, explaining ideas clearly and concisely, applying mathematics and evaluating your ideas and actions in an effective way.

Through mastery of the above skills and developing science knowledge, innovators have been able to change the world we lived in 100 years ago into something unrecognisable. Science has led to the creation of mobile phones, putting a man on the moon and changes to health care that mean people are living longer now on average than ever before.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

These courses provide pupils with a basic understanding of the big ideas of the three sciences (biology, chemistry and physics) and how they relate to their everyday lives. The courses are also designed to improve practical techniques and an appreciation for the scientific method that has led to the innovations of the 21st Century.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Mainly through examination with a small percentage of the course assessed through practical coursework.

WHAT NEXT?

Good results in the three sciences as well as English and maths will enable you to complete any, or all, of the science A-levels:

- **Biology:** discover more about the processes of the human body, how the body is affected by disease and how we aim to combat these illnesses. Delve deeper into understanding the biodiversity of our environment and the fascinating species that live within it.
- **Chemistry:** you will learn about the molecular structures that underpin modern medicine and cell function. This course is based on using refined practical skills to understand the useful compounds we use throughout our lives.
- **Physics:** discover the non-intuitive world of quantum mechanics and particle physics as well as gain an understanding of the innovations in physics that have led to the atomic bomb, renewable energy, and the electric grid that powers our quantum mechanical devices (such as phones and laptops).

With slightly lower grades you can do the BTEC Level 3 National in Applied Science where aspects of the three sciences are taught through a vocational setting. All these routes are useful for university applications and courses.

Science - Triple Science

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Ms Klopper/Ms Croissant/Mr Norris

WHY DO TRIPLE SCIENCE?

A career in science can take you all over the world and to discover and create new ideas or technology that can have lasting impact. This includes saving lives or contributing to solving today's big global issues such as creating efficient renewable energy options; growing enough food for a growing population and reversing, or at least slowing, global warming.

For those keen on pursuing a career in the sciences such as engineering, medicine, professional science and pharmacology as well as many more, then triple science is the choice for you. You will achieve an extra GCSE in science as well as being much better prepared for science A-levels in the future.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

You will go into more depth on many of the topics covered in the combined science course as well as touch upon aspects of the A-level course. You will also further develop the science skills that are transferable no matter what your future career is including modelling, explaining ideas clearly and concisely, evaluating the way you go about things and making changes to improve and applying mathematics to real world situations.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Mainly through examination with a small percentage of the course assessed through practical coursework.

WHAT NEXT?

Good results in the three sciences as well as English and maths will enable you to complete any, or all, of the science A-levels:

- **Biology:** discover more about the processes of the human body, how the body is affected by disease and how we aim to combat these illnesses. Delve deeper into understanding the biodiversity of our environment and the fascinating species that live within it.
- **Chemistry:** you will learn about the molecular structures that underpin modern medicine and cell function. This course is based on using refined practical skills to understand the useful compounds we use throughout our lives.
- **Physics:** discover the non-intuitive world of quantum mechanics and particle physics as well as gain an understanding of the innovations in physics that have led to the atomic bomb, renewable energy, and the electric grid that powers our quantum mechanical devices (such as phones and laptops).

With slightly lower grades you can do the BTEC Level 3 National in Applied Science where aspects of the three sciences are taught through a vocational setting. All these routes are useful for university applications and courses.

Physical Education

Level	KS4
Qualification type	Non-examined
For more information speak to	Mr Sia & Mr Philpott

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

In Year 10 and 11 you will continue with a broad and balanced curriculum in core PE which widens with the number of activities involved. The sports on offer may include: basketball, rugby, football, netball, handball, gymnastics, trampolining, badminton, volleyball, table tennis, cricket, rounders, softball, athletics, fitness and swimming.

You will have the opportunity to build on the physical skills that you have learnt at Key Stage 3 and are now encouraged to apply these to a variety of other sports. In addition to this, you will have the opportunity to develop your coaching and leadership skills through our Sports Leaders provision, if you wish.

There will be an opportunity to focus on the analysis and evaluation of your own performance and others looking at areas of strength and improvement. These are excellent skills to develop for a wide range of careers. Core PE complements the ever-growing enrichment programme on offer at Southfields where students can have access to specialist coaching in a variety of sports.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

In Core PE you will not have to hand in coursework or sit an exam. However, you will be assessed on your practical performance, engagement and effort. The Physical Education department aims to develop dynamic and independent learners. This will be done by using advanced teaching strategies, accurate Assessment for Learning and giving students the opportunity to complete work in a variety of formats.

WHAT NEXT?

Full engagement in core PE lessons enables students to build strong bonds with physical activity and sport once they leave full time education. Students will be able to make informed decisions about their lifestyle to ensure they can stay healthy and active.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

Level	KS4
Qualification type	Non-examined
For more information speak to	Ms Molloy

What and how will you learn?

The PSHE curriculum is designed to develop your skills and competencies through exploring a wide range of topics in accordance with the latest RSE, Health education, careers and Citizenship guidance. This competency-based approach to learning allows you to develop the appropriate skills, traits, attributes and behaviours to help develop into healthy, successful adults.

Topics covered include personal finance, careers exploration, preparation for work experience, relationships and sex education, citizenship, personal health and wellbeing, critical thinking and philosophical questioning. You will explore ideas from a range of different perspectives and learn the importance of assessing the evidence before coming to conclusions.

Skills and experiences

PSHE is a key component of the personal development and pastoral programme at Southfields Academy and contributes to your physical and mental wellbeing as well as your spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It aims to equip you with the knowledge and skills you need to make positive choices for your future. Your learning will be useful in a wide range of real life situations as you explore some of the most relevant issues facing society.

The PSHE curriculum also provides character education through developing skills of self-awareness, resilience, values and interpersonal skills you can use in the local and wider community. You will also develop the transferrable skills necessary for success in the next stage of your education, training or employment and for your adult life, for example, teamwork, communication, numeracy, research skills and problem solving.

How will you be assessed?

There is no formal assessment however, there will be regular in class assessments to measure and enhance your progress. These can be:

- Baseline assessments to gauge prior knowledge and understanding
- Assessment for learning over the course of a lesson or series of lessons
- Measuring progress through endpoint assessments.

These assessments do not take a typical form and are usually posters, drawn and written activities, self-assessment grids, questionnaires and much more.

Religious Education

Level	KS4
Qualification type	Non-examined
For more information speak to	Miss Clark

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

In Key Stage 4 Religious Education is combined with PSHE. Each unit of work has a separate lesson on religious perspectives, which is delivered by a specialist teacher whilst the main PSHE lessons include religious views on controversial issues.

Topics covered in Year 10 focus on issues such as marriage, divorce, roles of men and women and sex education.

In Year 11, students look at how religion affects choices in daily lives, for example, career decisions, organ donation and fertility treatment.

All issues are taught from a range of religious viewpoints in an unbiased and objective way, seeking merely to inform and educate and ensure that students at Southfields finish Key stage 4 with a good understanding of different religious perspectives about real world issues.

EBACC SUBJECTS - OPTIONAL

Computer Science

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Mr Berner

“Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited, whereas imagination embraces the entire world, stimulating progress, giving birth to evolution.” — *Albert Einstein*

The world depends on computers. Imagine living without a computer system, and by that I mean no PC, laptop, games console or SMARTPHONE! You are living in a world with no Internet, meaning no TikTok, no WhatsApp, no Netflix, or no online shopping of any kind. Without computers we could not research, design, create, test, distribute and monitor vaccines around the world.

In this GCSE you will learn about how computers work, the networks they use, cyber security and how programming can create solutions to everyday problems and future challenges. Computer Science, combined with other subjects, can open up a whole world of opportunities, which you probably did not imagine.

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

Over the two years you will look at a range of topics to develop your knowledge

Paper 1 – Computer Systems	Paper 2 - Computational Thinking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components and how they work together in computers, mobile phones and games consoles • Networking and connectivity that underpins modern life • Cyber Security and how it is used to keep individuals and business safe • Ethical issues such as surveillance, driverless cars, privacy • Cultural issues – Explore how computers have impacted our daily lives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build on your knowledge of abstraction, decomposition and algorithmic thinking that you developed from programming in Codecademy, Scratch and the Amazon Music Programming Challenge • Programme using a textual language to solve real life problems

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

In Computer Science you will sit two examinations marked out of 80, each worth 50% of your final grade.

WHAT NEXT?

The Computer Science/IT industry is growing exponentially. The number of jobs in this field have been on the rise worldwide, and this trend will continue.

GCSE Computer Science is an introductory stepping stone to jobs in the following areas:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Artificial Intelligence | • Computer Forensics Investigator | • Mobile Application Developer |
| • Business Analyst | • Engineering | • Product Managers |
| • Bioinformatics Software Engineer | • Games Designer | • Robotics |
| • Cyber Security Strategist | • Games Developer | • Systems Analysts |
| • Data Analyst | • IT Consultant | • User Experience Developer |
| • Data Scientist | • Network Manager | • User Interface Designer |
| • Digital marketing | • Medical researchers in genetics | • Web Designer |
| • Ethical Hacker | | • Web Developer |

Geography

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Mr Bradbury

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

Geography is everything - you see it, you feel it, you experience it. GCSE geography gives you an insight into how the world works both physically and at a human level. It studies contemporary issues such as the refugee crisis in Syria, the Japanese tsunami, human rights, and the loss of natural habitats. It's a GCSE that is interesting and relevant. Your teachers will be passionate, will make it fun and it will rub off on you!

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

You will have mock exams throughout the two years but ultimately your GCSE will come from the three exams that you will take at the end of Year 11. You'll be ready for them by then!

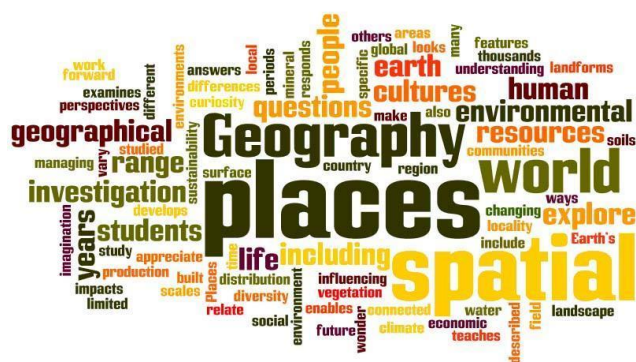
WHAT NEXT?

The top universities love to see that you have studied geography at GCSE. Geography makes you employable and gets you places.

Work-wise, do you fancy doing one of these specific geography jobs; aid worker, natural hazard planner, city planner, property developer, lecturer, charity worker, GIS programmer, photography, crime reduction, environmental economist, transportation manager, Zoologist or Wildlife Biologist? There is more information if you type this link into your browser;

<https://www.rgs.org/geography/choose-geography/careers/>

But if you want to stop after your GCSEs then you'll have a well-rounded knowledge and idea of how the world that you live in works. What more can you ask for from a GCSE?!



History

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Ms Atley

The course is arranged into four units of study:

Medicine through Time

How could a soiled nappy wipe out half of Soho? How did a flea wipe out half the known world?

How did Britain come to lead the world in modern medicine?

These questions and many more will be answered in a study of the history and development of medicine through the following periods of history: Medieval, Renaissance, 19th and 20th Centuries, with an in-depth focus on surgery in the First World War.

Early Elizabethan England 1558 - 88

Was Elizabethan England a “golden age”? What problems did Elizabeth face? How did she deal with plots and rebellions against her rule? How was the Spanish Armada defeated? What did Elizabethan people do for fun? How did exploration of the world change England?



You will undertake an in-depth study of perhaps the most famous period of British history.



The American West, c1835-c1895

How did Native American Indians live on the plains and how was this way of life destroyed by white migration? What was it like for the early settlers in the West?

Who were Wyatt Earp and Sitting Bull? Do the cowboy and Indian films reflect the real history?

A period of study of a fascinating time in American history which still resonates.

Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918 - 1939

How did a failed art student become the world’s most notorious dictator? What led this man to attempt to wipe out the Jewish population of Europe? Why would Hitler award a gold medal to women who have eight babies?



The topic will cover an in-depth study of how Hitler came to power and took control of Germany, and what it was like to live in Nazi Germany.

How will you be assessed?

- Paper 1 – Source and knowledge exam on Medicine and Surgery in the First World War (30%)
- Paper 2 – Knowledge based exam on American West c1835-c1895 and Early Elizabethan England (40%)
- Paper 3 – Source and knowledge exam on Weimar and Nazi Germany (30%)

Careers

Choosing history at GCSE will provide you with plenty of opportunities for further progression. Colleges and universities consider history to be a crucial subject, and a good GCSE in history will help you to obtain the Sixth Form and University places you hope for.

Many professions such as medicine and law feel that history opens the minds of students, and will look to employ people with a background in historical research. Therefore, history can gain you entry into a wide range of careers, including television, radio, journalism, the police force, social

work and the civil service. History improves your written and analytical skills and whether you stay with history into A Level or move onto different subjects, history will give you the grounding to be successful in your further education and chosen career.

French

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Ms Terrington

Did you know that French is one of the fastest growing languages in the world and that about half of all French speakers live in Africa? Many university courses ask for a language qualification as part of their entry requirements and even if they don't, it looks good on your CV.

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

The course is designed to enable you to communicate with French speakers and understand and express your opinions about modern issues that affect you today. It will also help you to improve your literacy skills.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Skill	Objective
Listening	Understand and respond to spoken French.
Speaking	Communicate and have a conversation in French.
Reading	Understand and respond to written French.
Writing	Writing letters, emails and translating from English into French.

WHAT NEXT?

French is an official language in countries across five different continents and is also the second most studied language in the world (after English) - 120 million students are currently learning French. You can study French A level and go onto university to study French, which will include a year abroad in a French-speaking country.

Speaking only one language is not enough in a multilingual world. Add French to your CV to improve your employability and enhance your skill set. If you like to travel, you will be able to visit a variety of places where you can communicate and be understood by the locals.

Finally, if you want to study law or medicine, universities look for a language qualification as many of the technical terms are in Latin, which is what Spanish, French, Italian and many more European languages are derived from.

Spanish

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Ms Frith

Spanish is spoken by millions of people, not only in Spain but in Central and South America. This makes it the fourth most spoken language in the world. Many university courses ask for a language qualification as part of their entry requirements and even if they don't, it looks good on your CV.

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

The course is designed to enable you to communicate with Spanish speakers and understand and express your opinions about modern issues that affect you today. It will also help you to improve your literacy skills.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Skill	Objective
Listening	Understand and respond to spoken Spanish.
Speaking	Communicate and have a conversation in Spanish.
Reading	Understand and respond to written Spanish.
Writing	Writing letters, emails and translating from English into Spanish.

WHAT NEXT?

A GCSE in a foreign language can improve your chances of gaining employment and, in some cases, increase your starting salary.

You can study Spanish A level and go onto university to study Spanish or Hispanic studies which will include a year abroad in a Spanish speaking country: Spain, Central and South America.

Due to its popularity, Spanish is one of the most popular languages that businesses look for on a CV. Also if you like to travel, you have many more options to choose from if you want to go somewhere where you can communicate and be understood by local people.

Finally, if you want to study law or medicine, universities look for a language qualification as many of the technical terms are in Latin, which is what Spanish, French, Italian and many more European languages are derived from.

Home Language

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE (where available)
For more information speak to	Ms Terrington

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

Are you fortunate enough to be fluent in another language?
Can you read and write it as well as speak it?
If your answer is 'yes' to these questions, then this is the page for you.

The Languages department offers students the wonderful opportunity to gain an *extra qualification* in their home languages. The most popular languages that we offer are:

Urdu, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, Russian, Greek, Turkish, Polish and German.



This will not affect your other GCSE choices, as there will be *no timetabled lessons involved*. You will be given guidance as to where to find resources such as past exam papers and will be asked to attend sessions to support you with exam techniques.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Skill	Objective
Listening	Understand and respond to different types of spoken language.
Speaking	Communicate and interact effectively in spoken language.
Reading	Understand and respond to different types of written language.
Writing	Communicate and interact effectively in written language.

WHY SHOULD I DO THIS?

Having a second language can help you get ahead in your career. Many international employers seek people with language skills, which can help you to adapt to different business environments and operate with greater cultural awareness and insight. These opportunities exist in all companies and departments which range from marketing to tourism. It is hardly surprising that a lot of corporations require employees who are bilingual or multilingual! Your language skills can increase your job opportunities so you should ensure that you have a qualification to show potential employers that you speak more than one language.

For more information about this, or to find out if it is possible to take an exam in your own home language, contact Ms Terrington in C276 or Mr Zayas in C272.

NON-EBACC SUBJECTS - OPTIONAL

Art, Design & Technology – Art

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Ms Jaffer

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

In years 10 and 11, students may opt to continue their art education and follow the OCR GCSE Art and Design full course endorsement. The GCSE courses provide a broad base of study, appropriate for those pupils continuing on design courses in further and higher education. The courses are appropriate to all students regardless of ability and gender.

The GCSE in Art and Design contains two components – one is coursework (60% of GCSE), consisting of a portfolio of work, and the second is the externally set brief (40% of GCSE).

The emphasis in this GCSE is on the process of developing both ideas and work. Central to this is the work journal or sketchbook.

This course will cover the study of art, craft and design and enables the pupil to acquire the ability to investigate, analyse and experiment. They will also develop practical skills to express ideas and visual language. These specific skills will include drawing, painting, collage, printmaking, illustration and sculpture. Further skills developed during this course will be in communication, information technology, improving independent learning and performance, working with others and problem solving.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The GCSE award will be graded 9-1. You will complete an internally set project (60% of final grade), before then completing an OCR externally set project (40% of final grade). Exam time is 10 hours, set to allow an extended period of practical work on both projects.

Both projects are marked internally, before being moderated externally by OCR. Feedback is given throughout the course to allow you to improve and better your final grade as you complete the coursework.

WHAT NEXT?

You could go onto study the OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Art and Design: Fine Art course at sixth form here at Southfields. Many of our previous students have taken this route and have gone on to study at some of the most prestigious art and design universities in the country, such as the University of the Arts London.

An art qualification could lead to such careers as museum curator, children's book illustrator, interior designer and many more.

Art, Design & Technology – Graphics

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Ms Dodd

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

Design is about making the world a better place. You will look to do this using research and your own opinion to make the best graphic response to a set design brief. Ideas are tested and refined through drawing by hand and then on the computer using the latest Adobe suite packages including Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign and many others.

OCR GCSE Art and Design: Graphics in year 10 is about learning the techniques and processes needed, typically on the computer. This will give you the opportunity to learn the techniques to then be able to show your ideas and developments later in the course. Graphic design is about visual communication and surrounds the worlds around us, everything we buy has a logo, comes in some form of packaging and we typically know about it because of advertising. All of these are created by a graphic designer and you will have the chance to develop your own ideas throughout the course.

At the start of year 11 you will begin the internally set project, which accounts for 60% of your grade, managing your own time and purpose. The second half of the year is an externally set project where you will choose the product you wish to make in response to the externally set brief.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The GCSE award will be graded 9-1. You will complete an internally set project (60% of final grade), before then completing an OCR externally set project (40% of final grade). Exam time is set to allow an extended period of practical work on both projects.

Both projects are marked internally, before being moderated externally by OCR. Feedback is given throughout the course to allow you to improve and better your final grade as you complete the coursework.

WHAT NEXT?

The OCR GCSE Art and Design: Graphic design will provide you with good experience to go on to a more advanced course within any design specialism. Some examples include;

- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Art and Design: Graphic design
- A/AS Level Graphic Design

Art, Design & Technology - Hospitality & Catering

Level	1/2
Qualification type	Vocational Award
For more information speak to	Ms Jaffer

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

The Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering has been designed to support learners who want to learn about this vocational sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers or further study.

You will gain an insight into the professional operation of a kitchen and how to safely prepare and serve food. You will also learn about legislation within the hospitality and catering industries and the successful operations of these types of businesses. You will also learn about nutrition, food storage and preparation. You will have opportunities to learn different cooking methods and put them into practice when making your own dishes. With this vocational course, learners will have hands on practical experience as well as detailed knowledge of the hospitality and catering industry.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The course is split into 40% exam and 60% coursework. The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes long.

There are two units within this course:

Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry (Exam unit)

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action (Non Exam unit)

In Unit 2, students will be completing written coursework as well as planning, preparing and cooking a menu of their choice, taking into consideration both nutrition and practical skills.

WHAT NEXT?

This further study would provide learners with the opportunity to develop a range of specialist and general skills that would support their progression to employment. Employment in hospitality and catering can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers and food technologists in food manufacturing. All of these roles require further education and training, either through apprenticeships or further education.

Learners completing this course could progress onto WJEC Level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition and other food-related courses at either AS or A level. Food Technology can lead to exciting and well-paid opportunities in the food industry. Possible careers include: dietician, food consultant, hotel management, food marketing and advertising, to name but a few.

Art, Design & Technology - 3D Design

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Mr Smith

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

Design is about making the world a better place. You will look to do this using research and your own opinion to make the best 3D response to a set design brief. Ideas are tested and refined through drawing, modelling in three-dimensions and material investigations until it is the best it can possibly be.

OCR GCSE Art and Design: 3D Design in year 10 is about learning the techniques and processes needed. This will give you the opportunity to learn a series of research and development techniques used in the work place that will help you refine your ideas to the best possible solution, sometimes in unexpected ways. Techniques used include laser cutter, vacuum forming and hot wire cutter with materials as varied as clay, plastic, wood, modelling foam, metal and plaster.

At the start of year 11 you will begin the internally set project, which accounts for 60% of your grade. This has in past years included designing and making an artistic lamp, taking inspiration from architects, sculptors and other designer artists. The second half of the year is an externally set project where you will choose the product you wish to make in response to the set brief.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The GCSE award will be graded 9-1. You will complete an internally set project (60% of final grade), before then completing an OCR externally set project (40% of final grade). Exam time is set to allow an extended period of practical work on both projects.

Both projects are marked internally, before being moderated externally by OCR, with feedback given throughout the course to allow you to improve and better your final grade as you complete the coursework.

WHAT NEXT?

The OCR GCSE Art and Design: 3D design will provide you with good experience to go on to a more advanced course within any design specialism. Some examples include;

- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Art and Design: 3D design
- A/AS Level Product Design
- Practical apprenticeship in carpentry, engineering and many more.

Business Studies

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Mr Wood

Course overview

GCSE Business is an engaging and inspiring course that looks at the modern and evolving business environment. This course is for enterprising individuals to help you to succeed in your chosen pathway, and is a course that is about developing enterprising minds.

We will focus on two main themes, investigating a small business and building a business. These two themes will cover all you need to know about setting up your own business or understanding how businesses work. This course offers a fantastic opportunity for you to gain a competitive advantage when you enter the world of work. You will research local and well know national companies as case studies and gain an overview of strategies that lead to business success. This course will also help you develop many useful skills, such as problem solving, communication, interpersonal skills, ICT and numeracy, which are all regarded as important in the workplace.

For more information about the course, please visit the exam board website <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/business-2017.html>

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

You will be assessed every lesson via activities and questioning. You will be formally assessed at regular intervals with GCSE style papers to ensure you are prepared for the final exams. At the end of the course you will be assessed via two GCSE papers.

WHAT NEXT?

If you successfully complete this course you can go on to study A Level Economics or Business CTEC, which are two year Level 3 programmes in the sixth form. You will have already covered some of the key topics and will be better prepared for success in Year 13. This course will prepare you for any part time employment you may undertake during your sixth form studies. It may also help you make an informed choice when deciding on university courses as there are many pathways that stem from business studies.

Citizenship

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Ms Swann

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

In GCSE Citizenship Studies you will explore the following:

- How citizenship impacts upon life in a local and global sense
- Reflect on current issues and debates affecting modern society (including law, power, politics and the media)
- Discover ways to become an informed and active citizen and engage with a topic close to your heart
- How does local democracy work? Who runs the country? How does parliament work?
- What is the law and how does it affect us? How does the justice system work?
- Is crime increasing in society?
- What role and influence should the media have?



HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

You will have mock exams throughout the three-year course but, ultimately, the GCSE Citizenship Studies course is 100% exam based. The exams are split into the following components:

Paper 1 Theme A: Living together in the UK Theme B: Democracy at work in the UK Theme C: Law and Justice	Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of qualification
Paper 2 Theme D: Power and influence Theme E: Taking citizenship action	Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of qualification

WHAT NEXT?

This course naturally leads onto a variety of pathways including Level 3 courses such as A Level Sociology, Politics and A Level Psychology.

What careers might I pursue with a GCSE in Citizenship Studies?

Barrister, solicitor, legal secretary, social worker, doctor, nurse, teacher, politician, campaigner, researcher, community worker, police officer, probation officer, human resources manager, journalist, investigative reporter, business leader, trade union representative and many more!

Dance

Level	Level 2
Qualification type	BTEC Tech award
For more information speak to	Ms Lanning

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

The dance course is highly practical in nature and has a clear vocational focus; this means that it is about the skills that are relevant to the performing arts/dance industry. This pathway includes exploration on how to be a lighting designer, costume designer, musical director, choreographer as well as being a performer. To complement this course, as well as completing the assessment material, you will learn a wide variety of choreography and you will participate in competitions and external performance platforms.

The course is made up of three components: two that are internally assessed and one that is externally assessed.

Our three-block structure, Explore, Develop and Apply, has been developed to allow students to build on and embed their knowledge. This allows them to grow in confidence and then put into practice what they have learned.

Our assessment structure is also designed so that students can build on what they learn, and develop their skills, as they move through the course.

In the second component, you will learn professional repertoire from a visiting professional company who will teach you. You will focus on your versatility as a dancer and learn a variety of different styles of dance including urban, contemporary and/or jazz. As well as learning the various elements of these styles, you will also develop interpretive skills, looking at how the choreography of a dance can communicate with your audience.

The final component will have you working as part of a dance company developing a performance both as a dancer and a member of the production team. You will learn about the different production roles necessary for a performance to be successful.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Exploring the Performing Arts Internally assessed assignments: 30% of the total course,
Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts Internally assessed assignments: 30% of the total course,
Performing to a Brief Externally assessed task: 40% of the total course.

WHAT NEXT?

This course naturally leads on to a variety of pathways, such as the Level 3 BTEC in Performing Arts (Dance) or to application to performing arts schools. The BTEC course, in particular, is an ideal first qualification for those wishing to consider a dance career in the performing arts industry.

The course also provides unique transferable skills such as self-confidence, creativity, working as a team and efficient time management for every learner, which are deemed essential for any future endeavour.

Drama

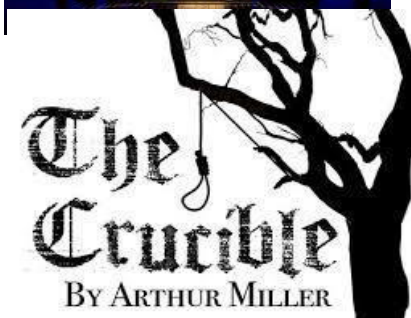
Level	Level 1/ 2
Qualification type	BTEC Tech Award
For more information speak to	Ms Perera

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

The acting course is highly practical in nature and has a clear vocational focus; this means that it is about the skills that are relevant to the performing arts/dance industry.



You will study three core components. In Component 1: Exploring the performing arts, you will look at elements such as roles, responsibilities and the application of relevant skills and techniques. You will broaden your knowledge through observing existing professional performances and by learning about the approaches of practitioners, and how they create and influence performance material. This component will give you an understanding of practitioners' work and the processes and practices that contribute to a range of performance styles.



You will then apply these skills in the study of Component 2: Developing skills and techniques in the performing arts, you will develop performing or design skills and techniques. You will have the opportunity to specialise as a performer or designer in the acting discipline. You will take part in workshops and classes where you will develop technical, practical and interpretative skills through the

rehearsal and performance process. You will work from existing performances, applying relevant skills and techniques to reproduce performance or design elements of the work.

The final core unit you will study is Component 3: Responding to a brief. For this, you will be given a brief that outlines the performance and design requirements and that asks you to consider your target audience and to start the creative process by using the given 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 YOU BE ASSESSED?

Internal assessments will take a variety of forms, including written work, in class performances and public performances. The type of product that you will be assessed on will depend on the grading criteria and learning outcomes for the unit. Internal assessment will make up a total of 60% of your final grade. The External Assessment (completed as part of Component 3) will involve a performance in response to a task set by Edexcel. The assessment will take place under controlled conditions and is 40% of the final grade.

WHAT NEXT?

This course naturally leads on to a variety of pathways, such as the Level 3 BTEC in Performing Arts (Acting) or to application to performing arts schools. The course also provides unique transferable skills, such as self-confidence, creativity, working as a team and efficient time management for every learner, which are deemed essential for any future endeavour.

Film Studies

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information, speak to	Mr Peck (Head of English)

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

Film Studies GCSE is an optional qualification run by the English and Film department at Southfields Academy. Film is an important part of many people's lives and those who choose to study it characteristically bring with them a huge enthusiasm and excitement for film which constantly motivates them in their studies. They experience a powerful medium which inspires a range of responses from the emotional to the reflective as they are drawn into characters, their narratives and the issues films raise.

The WJEC Eduqas specification in GCSE Film designed to draw on learners' enthusiasm for introduce them to a wide variety of cinematic experiences through films which have been in the development of film and film technology. will develop their knowledge of US mainstream studying one film from the 1950s and one film later 70s and 80s, thus looking at two stages in Hollywood's development. In addition, they will studying more recent films – a US independent well as films from Europe, including the UK, Africa and Australia.

Production is an important part of this specification and is integral to learners' study of Studying a diverse range of films from several contexts is designed to give learners the opportunity to apply their knowledge and understanding of how films are constructed to their own filmmaking and screenwriting. This is intended to support learners in producing creative films and screenplays as well as enable their production work to provide an informed filmmaker's perspective on their own study of film.

The academic study of film is now well established and the frameworks for its study are broadly similar whether at GCSE, AS, A level or at higher education institutions. The WJEC Eduqas specification in GCSE Film Studies aims to develop knowledge and understanding of:

- the ways in which meanings and responses are generated through film
- a contrasting, culturally diverse range of films from different national contexts
- film as an aesthetic medium
- how films reflect the social, cultural and political contexts in which they are made
- the relationship between film and film technology over time.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Students follow the WJEC Eduqas GCSE Film Studies exam board. The course is comprised of three components:

- Component 1: Key Developments in US Film (written examination; 35% of qualification)
- Component 2: Global Film: Narrative, Representation and Film Style (written exam; 35% of qualification)
- Non-exam assessment (coursework): students will produce their own film or screenplay with an evaluative analysis of their work (assessed internally; 30% of qualification).



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WHAT NEXT?

Film Studies GCSE is excellent preparation for Film Studies or English Literature Level 3 A-Level courses in the sixth form. It requires and develops students' creativity as well as their ability to be analytical and evaluative, effectively preparing students for a range of possible careers in the fields of advertising, media, and a plethora of jobs in the film industry itself.

Music

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Mr Pinder / Mr Quadraruopolo

The OCR GCSE in Music offers you a brilliant opportunity to develop a wide range of creative, personal and social skills.

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

Structured musical learning through five areas of study. The five areas of study are:

- Area of Study 1: My Music. An opportunity to perform and compose in a style of your choice. This could be your voice, musical instrument or sequencing using Logic X.
- Area of Study 2: The Concerto through Time. You study how the concerto developed over the period 1650 to 1910.
- Area of Study 3: Rhythms of the World. This covers music from India, Punjab, Eastern Mediterranean, Middle East, Africa, and Central and South America.
- Area of Study 4: Film Music. You study music composed for films including classical music and video game music.
- Area of Study 5: Conventions of Pop. This covers pop music from 1950s onwards. You will study rock'n'roll in 1950s-1960s, rock anthems in 1970s -1980s, pop ballads in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s and solo artists from 1990s onward.

Integrated portfolio

Performance 1: A performance or realisation on your own instrument including sequencing using Logic X.

Composition 1: A composition in a style of your choice that is recorded.

Practical Component

Performance 2: A second performance or realisation that is an ensemble performance and you must take the lead.

Composition 2: A second composition that is based on a brief that is set by the exam board (OCR). The brief will be based on a task from one of the five Area of Study.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

- A practical portfolio that contains four pieces of music - 60%
- A listening examination – 40%

Listening Examination

A 1½ hour written paper, with CD, assessing knowledge and understanding of Areas of Study 2, 3, 4 and 5. You will be taught to analyse features of the music that you hear.

The assessment objectives are:

- 1: Performing/realising with technical control and interpretation.
- 2: Creating and developing musical ideas with technical control, imagination and coherence.
- 3: Analysing and evaluating music using musical terminology.

WHAT NEXT?

- BTEC Level 3 Music
- Music Technology
- Music for social media
- Music production



Physical Education (PE)

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Mr Sia

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN

Students will be given the opportunity to further develop their knowledge and understanding of Physical Education and prepare for a career in the sports industry with an examined course which adds a further 3 hours of P.E. to their compulsory weekly lessons.

The Edexcel GCSE in Physical Education requires students to develop their knowledge and understanding in two areas: Fitness and Body Systems, and Health and Performance.

The areas cover an array of topics which include:

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Movement Analysis
- Physical Training
- Socio-cultural Influences
- Sport Psychology
- Health, Fitness and Well-being

As well as the opportunity to analyse the performance of others, students will also be required to go through rigorous assessment in their chosen physical activities where they will focus on both team and individual sports.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

The examination is weighted at:

60% written examination

30% practical performance

10% written non-exam assessment

WHAT NEXT?

Studying GCSE Physical Education will allow you to develop the understanding and experience to pursue any of the following as a next step:

Higher education studying sports related courses

Physical/Fitness instructors

Sports journalism

Sports photography

Sports psychology

Professional athlete

Sports massage and therapy

Physiotherapy and rehabilitation.

Sociology

Level	2
Qualification type	GCSE
For more information speak to	Ms Swann

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

GCSE Sociology is designed to develop learners' understanding and critical awareness of the social world around them. Learners will be encouraged to explore and debate contemporary social issues to enable them to challenge taken-for-granted assumptions and to question their everyday understanding of social phenomena. Examples include, 'why do people commit crime?', 'is there an ideal family?' and 'do teachers label students? By following this course, learners will develop their own sociological awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world via thought provoking, relevant, engaging and dynamic sociology lessons.



HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

You will have mock exams throughout the three-year course but, ultimately, the GCSE sociology course is 100% exam based. The exams are split into the following components:

Paper 1: The sociology of families and education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the sociology of families the sociology of education relevant areas of social theory and methodology 	Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of qualification
Paper 2: The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the sociology of crime and deviance the sociology of social stratification relevant areas of social theory and methodology 	Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of qualification

WHAT NEXT?

This course naturally leads onto a variety of pathways including Level 3 courses such as A Level Sociology and A Level Psychology. This course is an ideal first qualification for any students interested in careers in law, criminology, psychology, sociology and social work to name a few! People who study sociology gain a wide range of skills such as the ability to think critically, how to work independently and in a team, how to communicate effectively and how to conduct research. This is why sociology is regarded as a strong academic discipline at degree level. Beyond this, many people today study sociology as it enables them to see their world in new and interesting ways!

Travel and Tourism

Level	Level 1/2
Qualification type	Pearson BTEC Tech Awards
For more information speak to	Miss Hodgson (room A230)

WHAT AND HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

The Travel and Tourism qualification is suitable for learners who want to acquire sector-specific applied knowledge through vocational contexts. This makes it an excellent option for those who are interested in gaining the relevant knowledge and skills in order to work in the Travel and Tourism industry.

The qualification involves three components:

Component 1: Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations

In this component, you will learn about:

- Different travel and tourism organisations and the products and services they offer.
- The ownership and aims of different organisations.
- Different ways organisations use consumer technology and recent innovations.
- Features of popular visitor destinations and how they support different types of tourism and tourist activities.
- The suitability of a given destination and travel options for a specified type of visitor.

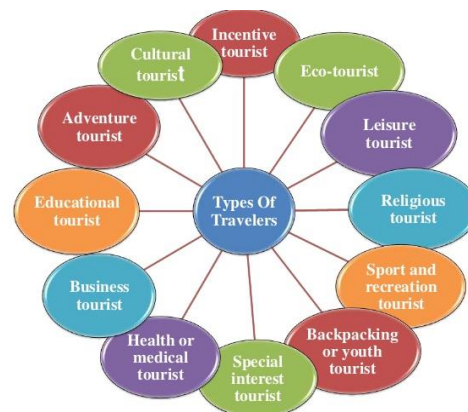


You will develop transferable skills, such as research skills.

Component 2: Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism

In this component, you will learn about:

- The general and specific needs of different types of customers and how travel and tourism organisations meet these needs and preferences.
- How organisations use research to identify and respond to travel and tourism trends and consider how travel and tourism organisations meet customer needs and preferences.



This component also involves you researching information and planning a holiday for a specified customer.

You will develop transferable skills, such as research and analysis.

Component 3: Influences on Global Travel and Tourism

In this component, you will learn about:

- The factors that may influence travel and tourism and the ways that travel and tourism organisations, destinations and governments respond to these influences and their reasons.
- How tourism may bring change to destinations over time and how destinations can encourage, manage and develop tourism.



You will develop skills in analysing information and making connections for a specific purpose.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

Components 1 and 2 are assessed through non-exam internal assessment. They will be delivered through 'Pearson-set Assignments' and will involve a range of realistic tasks and activities. Component 3 is an external component which builds on knowledge, understanding and practices acquired and developed in Components 1 and 2, and includes synoptic assessment. Learners will be required to answer short and long answer questions that assess their understanding of global travel and tourism. The non-exam internal assessment will make up a total of 60% of the final grade and the external assessment will be worth 40%.

WHAT NEXT?

The qualification leads on to a variety of pathways including the Level 3 BTEC in Travel and Tourism. Additionally, it can support learners if they decide to apply for employment within the industry such as hotel management, holiday representatives, cabin/cruise crew, events management and hospitality. The qualification also enables learners to develop their transferable skills, such as researching, planning, and making decisions and judgements.