



THE
KING ALFRED
SCHOOL
An Academy



THE PRIORY
LEARNING TRUST



OPTIONS 2022

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INTRODUCTION

Dear Year 9 Students

Over the coming weeks you will be making some decisions about the courses that you will follow in Year 10 and 11. These decisions will affect your school life and, possibly, future career. This is an exciting time and you will have some important decisions to make but before you make those decisions, you must:

- Read (and make certain that you understand) the information in this booklet.
- In particular, make certain that you understand the subject information and the different routes that you can take.
- Look at your school report which will highlight your strengths and areas for development.
- Talk to your parents/carers about the course and your suitability for them.
- Talk to your teachers about what the course involves.
- Talk to older students about their experience of the course (but remember that your course may be quite different).
- **Ask questions** that will help you to make the right decisions.
- Consider all of the course carefully and ensure that you have made the right decision for you.
- Consider how your choices may affect your opportunities after Year 11, in terms of further education your career pathway.
- Talk to our career advisor if you are unsure about career pathways
- Come along to the Course Choices Evening on 17th February which provides a hugely important opportunity for parents/carers and students to discuss with staff the subjects studied next year and to obtain additional information. All departments in the school will be represented and your Miss Bullock will be available to offer advice throughout this time.

The curriculum offered here at TKASA, is designed to be broad, balanced and flexible. It allows you to achieve the highest levels possible and also to develop your individual talents. At the same time, it will prepare you for your role in society, both now and in the future.

In addition to the formal timetabled curriculum, there will be opportunities for you to continue personal development outside of the classroom. These will include local visits, subject related activities; work experience; sporting and performance opportunities; Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme; careers interviews and further education information and opportunities.

Remember if you have any concerns or questions please ask!

Mr Witts

MAKING YOUR CHOICE:

3 Learning Pathways

Core pathway:

All students follow the core curriculum, this is compulsory, i.e. you have to do the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education
- PSHCE
- 2 GCSEs
- 1 GCSE
- 2 GCSEs
- Non-examinable
- Non-examinable

EBACC pathway:

All students will then have the choice to study **ONE** of the subject combinations below:

- History and Geography
- Geography and French
- History and French

Personalised pathway:

Students will also study **TWO** subjects from the options listed below:

- Science
- Engineering
- Hospitality and Catering
- German
- French
- Religious studies
- Photography
- Art and Design
- Business studies
- Computer science
- Health & Social Care
- Sports Science
- Creative i media
- Dance
- Design technology
- Drama
- Music
- Sports Studies

In making your choice you should think carefully about your:

INTERESTS

ABILITIES

HOW YOU LIKE TO WORK

POSSIBLE CAREERS

POSSIBLE HIGHER

EDUCATION



Interests

You will tend to do better in a subject that interests you.

Abilities

Look honestly at yourself and assess where your strengths really lie.

How you like to work

Study the routes and the descriptions of the individual subjects carefully to see what best suits your needs.

Possible careers

Keep doors open – make certain that you use all of the careers information available. Make sure you choose a good balance of subjects.

Possible Higher Education

Again, keep doors open for as long as you can.

The Schedule

21st Jan 2022	Option booklet issued to students via tutors
17th February 2022	Option choices evening Tutor Groups K, I, N, G and A – 4.30pm Tutor Groups L, F, R, and E – 5.30pm
18th March 2022	Deadline for return of Course Choices reply slips

THE FUTURE BELONGS TO YOUNG
PEOPLE WITH AN EDUCATION AND
THE IMAGINATION TO CREATE

Barack Obama

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Dos and Don'ts

- ✗ Don't choose a subject just because your friends do.
- ✗ Don't choose a subject because you dislike your current teacher or choose a subject because you do like him or her.
- ✓ Before choosing a subject that you've never done before, do research it thoroughly and find out all about it.
- ✓ Do seek independent advice when you are unsure.
- ✓ Do consider what you want to do after Year 11 and consider the implications of the decisions that you make at this stage.
- ✓ Do choose the subjects you like the best as you are more likely to be successful at these and 2 years is a long time!
- ✓ Do be aware of the amount of coursework (you will have to provide along the way) and the proportion that the exam will count towards your final grade.

We wish you well in your thoughts and decision making. Please do not hesitate to talk to us at school and ask for advice.

Do I have a completely free choice?

The short answer is no. You will find that certain subjects are compulsory, the Core Curriculum, because they are considered to be vital to everyone and form part of our core curriculum which every student in the country has to follow. We also believe that it is important that you select courses that match your needs, aspirations and ability and as such your course choices will be reviewed by your tutor.

Within these limits will I be able to do all of the subjects that I have chosen?

We sincerely hope so - every effort will be made in trying to give you all of your 'first choices'. However, if you make a choice for which the number in the course has to be limited, then we may have to ask you to accept a reserve choice. Occasionally, not enough students may choose a subject which may make it uneconomical to run.

What sort of work does each course involve?

Some of the subjects offered are new to you; others will be different from your previous experiences of them. In this booklet is a 'Guide to Courses' to give you some idea of the work involved in each course. You can find out more by talking to the staff who teach you or by consulting the members of staff responsible for a subject. You should contact the staff responsible for a particular subject through your tutor. Of course you should all come along, with your parents/carers, to the Course Choices Evening.

Will I be able to manage the course?

Usually, you can judge this for yourself but when you discuss your choices with your tutor you will find that he or she will be aware of which of your present subjects your teachers think you should or should not continue.

What examinations do I take and what qualifications will they lead to?

The courses are mainly 2 year courses leading to a GCSE award. However, for some students a full range of GCSE exams may not be appropriate and the another option may be suitable.



MOVING ON FROM GCSEs



GCSEs for advanced level at 16

If you are thinking about doing an advanced level course at 16, like A-Levels or BTECs, it's sensible to find out what GCSE grades you will need to get on to the course in sixth form or college. Often students need to get a grade 5 to be able to do that subject as an A Level. If you do double science at GCSE you can still progress to any of the science subjects at A levels as long as you have the required grades.



GCSEs for going on to university

If you are thinking about higher education, be aware that because some courses and universities are so competitive, they will look at your GCSE results as well as later qualifications like A-Levels or BTECs. Some university courses - like Sciences, Medicine and Nursing - will be looking for specific GCSEs in the science subjects. Courses in Psychology, Business or English might require particular GCSE subjects and grades. If you are thinking about a university course you would like to do later, it is a good idea to check out the qualifications you need. Check directly with the institution (their websites often have this information).



GCSEs for employment

Employers want people with good maths and English GCSEs. The government has now made it a requirement that a young person who hasn't yet achieved a grade 4 (old grade C) or above in maths and English will need to continue to do them, as part of whatever course or training they do, until they are 18. This would be as well as work experience, which can be used to gain vocational qualifications by demonstrating work-based skills.



Careers

As you make your option choices it is helpful to consider what your eventual career area might be. At this stage very few of you will be completely certain what you want to do when you leave school, though by now you will have some idea of your personal strengths. Most career areas will still be open to you at 16 even if you change your mind at a later date.

There is lots of help and advice available within school. Information is available in the Careers Library. Students, Parents and Carers have access to on-line resources, which are full of useful information.



Useful Careers Websites

www.eclips-online.co.uk - Login KING3EE offering help about lots of careers

www.futuremorph.org - Interactive site giving information about stem careers

www.lcould.com - Interactive resource

www.cswgroup.co.uk - Useful information regarding careers related queries and help with further education options. Also offers life webchat using Advisor Online Service, each weekday from 12.00 to 6.00pm.

www.nextstepssw.ac.uk - Useful information about your choices when you complete your GCSEs

www.direct.gov.uk/NationalCareersService - Information on specific careers

www.careersbox.co.uk - Video clips regarding a wide range of careers



GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

AQA Specification 8700

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Mrs Wormald - Kelly**

The course

Over three years you will read a range of texts from literature to non-fiction, spanning the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. You will develop your standard English writing skills, with an emphasis on the correct use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will do well if you enjoy studying a range of different texts, including fiction and non-fiction, as well as media. You need to be able to write clearly and accurately and explain your ideas. You must also be prepared to discuss your thoughts with others. If you are well informed about the world around you, you will find the course rewarding.

The work you would do

- Speaking and Listening Assessments, which are separately endorsed.
- A range of reading and writing activities
- 100% terminal exam at the end of the course



Assessment

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing
Section A: Reading one literature fiction text
Section B: Writing descriptive or narrative writing

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives
Section A: Reading one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text
Section B: Writing to present a viewpoint

This involves

- Creative input
- Written Theory
- Group work

Career Paths

- Writer
- Publishing
- Acting/Theatre
- Journalist
- Web content design
- Public Relations
- Teacher
- Librarian
- Advertising Designer

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

AQA Specification 8702

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Mrs Wormald - Kelly**

The course

Over three years you will read a range of classic literature including:-

- A 19th century novel
- A Shakespeare play
- A selection of poetry from 1789 onwards
- British fiction or drama from 1914 onwards

The quality of your writing will also be assessed.



What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will do well if you enjoy reading and responding to a range of different literary texts, including poems, plays and novels. You need to be able to write well-structured essays and use quotations to support your views. You must be prepared to discuss your ideas in class.

The work you would do

Preparation for 100% terminal exam at the end of the course.

Assessment

Paper 1: Shakespeare and 19th Century Novel

Section A: Extract to whole response to Shakespeare ('Macbeth')

Section B: Extract to whole response to novel ('A Christmas Carol')

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry

Section A: Essay response to modern drama ('An Inspector Calls')

Section B: Comparison of two poems from 'Power and Conflict' collection

Section C: Unseen poetry response

This involves

- Creative input
- Written Theory
- Group work

Career Paths

- Writer
- Publishing
- Acting/Theatre
- Journalist
- Web content design
- Public Relations
- Teacher
- Librarian
- Advertising Designer

GCSE MATHS

EDEXCEL Mathematics MA1

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Mrs L Owens**

The course

This course is examined at the end.

There are three exams which can have questions on any of the topics covered.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will do well if:

- You know your 'everyday' mathematics (times tables, time, lengths, weights, capacity, money) and are able to apply this to a variety of different problems.
- You realise that you do algebra already (you use 'p' (pence), 'm' (metres) and '£' without thinking) so don't be put off by 'x'.
- You are aware of the shapes all around you and their properties.
- You know something of the world around you, as there are times when you are asked to explain the meaning of an aspect of mathematics in relation to the real world.

The work you would do

The course covers 4 areas:

- Number
- Algebra
- Statistics
- Geometry & Measures

Assessment

Paper 1: Non Calculator

Paper 2: Calculator

Paper 3: Calculator



This involves

- Individual work
- Group Work

Career Paths

- Teaching
- Accountancy
- Mechanics
- Hairdresser
- Painter/decorator
- Architect
- Engineer
- Scientist
- Pilot



GCSE SCIENCE

AQA Specification

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy (2 GCSEs)

OR GCSE Biology/Chemistry/Physics (3 GCSEs)

Output: **2 or 3 GCSEs**

Contact: **Dr R Butler**



GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy (2 GCSEs)

This course uses different contexts to relate science concepts to their applications. Focusing on scientific explanations and models, it gives learners an insight into how scientists help develop our understanding of ourselves and the world we live in.

There are six exams papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Each exam will be 1hr 15mins.

GCSE Biology / Chemistry / Physics (3 GCSEs)

You will be provided with the opportunity to develop a further understanding of scientific explanations, how science works and aspects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics relevant to careers in Science.

There are six exam papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Each exam will be 1hr 45 mins.

Assessment

Combined Science: Trilogy (2 GCSEs)

- Paper 1 and 2 for Biology, Chemistry and Physics (6 exams in total)
- Each written exam 1 hour 15 minutes

GCSE Biology/Chemistry/Physics (3 GCSEs)

- Paper 1 and 2 for Biology, Chemistry and Physics (6 exams in total)
- Each written exam 1 hour 45 minutes

This involves

- Individual work
- Practical work
- Group work

Career Paths

- Doctor
- Astronomy
- Forensic science
- Chemical engineering
- Geneticist
- Nuclear engineering
- Astrophysics
- Chemist
- Dentistry
- Marine scientist
- Microbiologist
- Engineering





GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

AQA Specification 8206

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Mrs V O'Brien**

The course

GCSE Photography is the right course for you if you are passionate about image making. Throughout the course you will use both traditional and digital photographic equipment to develop your understanding and ability to create static or moving images. Areas of study could include portraiture, installation, photo-journalism, moving image: film, video and animation and fashion photography.



Chantelle Laycock 2018

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will need to be both passionate and creative to complete this course. You should have an interest in the process of taking photographs or videos, and want to learn more about how other artists, photographers and image makers have explored a range of subject matters through their own work. You will need to be able to analyse the works you take inspiration from and research for your own projects. You must be dedicated and excited to take regular photoshoots independently out of lesson time so that your project work develops creatively.

Assessment

There are two components to GCSE photography:

Component 1 Portfolio: Throughout year 10 you will produce a sustained project that follows a theme you are exploring. You will also include a selection of work that evidences the skills you have explored. This is worth 60% of your overall grade.

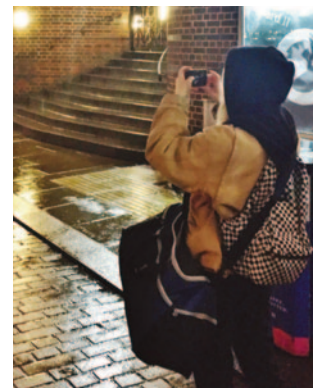
Component 2 External Assignment: In year 11 you will receive an externally set task paper. It features several tasks of which you select one to complete. You get preparation time, plus ten hours of supervised time. This is worth 40% of your overall grade.

This involves

- Individual work
- Written theory
- Creative input
- Group Work
- Practical Work
- Fieldwork and visits

Career Paths

- Photo and Film
- Digital Arts
- Academic
- Industry
- Cinematographer
- Special effects artist
- Arts education
- Advertising
- Lighting specialist
- Media photographer
- Art historian
- Commercial photography
- TV Director





GCSE ART & DESIGN

AQA Specification 8202

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Miss M Wallis**

The course

This course provides students with a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities to explore their interests in Art and Design. You will have the opportunity to explore traditional and new media, while being encouraged to develop and refine your skills in response to the work of other Artists, Designers and Craftspeople.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

Students who are:

- Interested in Art from different times and cultures.
- Enjoy developing own ideas from a theme or starting point.
- Have the ability to experiment, review and refine techniques.
- Enthusiastic, dedicated, creative and enjoy practical work.



Assessment

Your final mark will be based on your portfolio submission (60%) which you create and present throughout Year 10, and on the externally set exam (40%) that is set in year 11.

Component 1 Portfolio: Throughout year 10 you will produce a sustained project that follows a theme you are exploring. You will also include a selection of work that evidences the skills you have explored. This is worth 60% of your overall grade.

Component 2 External Assignment: In year 11 you will receive an externally set task paper. It features several tasks of which you select one to complete. You get preparation time, plus ten hours of supervised time. This is worth 40% of your overall grade.

This involves

- Individual work ● Written theory
- Creative input ● Group Work
- Practical Work ● Fieldwork and visits

Career Paths

- 2D Arts ● 3D Arts ● Academic
- Court artist ● Architect ● Art therapist
- Comic book artist Sculptor ● Art critic
- Illustrator ● Set designer
- Art historian ● Applied Arts ● Digital Arts ● Art education ● Make-up artist
- Animator ● Photo and Film ● Toy designer ● Graphic designer
- Cinematographer ● Tattoo artist ● Video game designer ● Lighting specialist
- TV Director





GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES

AQA (8132)

Output: 1 GCSE

Contact: Mr G King

The course

Following business studies gives you the opportunity to explore real business issues and how businesses work. You will learn about different business theories and apply your learning to the context of real businesses. We look at a wide range of local, national and international businesses.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will find Business Studies interesting if you enjoy watching programmes like Dragons' Den and The Apprentice and have an enquiring mind about what is happening in the business world around us. You will do well if you enjoy finding out information from a variety of sources including the internet. This is a great course for anyone planning to run their own business or having a career working for a business in the future. You will need to be comfortable with basic numeracy and literacy.

The work you would do

This is a linear GCSE with two exams which you take at the end of Year 11. You will study six units:

- Business in the real world, including the purpose of business, aims, objectives and different types of business
- Influences on business, including technology, the economy, globalisation, laws, business ethics and competition
- Marketing, including advertising and promotion, pricing, market research and e-commerce.
- Human resources, including the recruitment, training and motivation of workers
- Business Operations, including production, stock control, quality and customer service
- Business finance, including how to raise finance, cash flow, revenue, costs and profit



Assessment

Paper 1: Influences of operations and HRM on business activity
(units 1, 2, 3 & 4) 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper 2: Influences of marketing and finance on business activity
(units 1, 2, 5 & 6) 1 hour 45 minutes

This involves

- Individual work
- Work related work
- written theory

Career Paths

- Accountant
- Insurance underwriter
- Shop worker
- Business advisor
- HR manager
- Social media manager
- Bank manager
- Management consultant
- Stockbroker
- Corporate Investment Banker
- Retail Manager
- Secondary teacher
- Self-employment (running own business)



GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE

OCR (J277)

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Mr M McPake**

The course

Over two years you will study the basics of computer programming using Python. You will use your programming skills to solve problems using creative programming solutions. You will also learn how computers work and how they communicate with each other across networks. You will learn how to apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will do well if you enjoy using a computer, being creative, enjoy mathematics and want to learn how to program using a text-based programming language.

The work you would do

This is a linear course with two exams which you take at the end of Year 11. You will learn to:

- understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation
- analyse problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs
- think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- understand the impacts of digital technology to people
- apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science

Assessment

Paper 1: Computer Systems 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming 1 hour 30 minutes

This involves

- Individual work
- Work related work
- Substantial computer work
- Creative input

Career Paths

- Business analyst
- Information systems manager
- Systems analyst
- Data analyst
- IT consultant
- Web designer
- Database administrator
- Multimedia programmer
- Web developer
- Games developer
- Software engineer
- Secondary teacher

```

1170 function(scope, element, attr, ngSwitchController) {
1171     var switchExpr = attr.ngSwitch || attr.on,
1172         selectedTranscludes = [],
1173         selectedElements = [],
1174         previousElements = [],
1175         selectedScopes = [];
1176
1177     scope.$watch(switchExpr, function ngSwitchWatchAction(value) {
1178         var i, ii;
1179         for (i = 0, ii = previousElements.length; i < ii; ++i) {
1180             previousElements[i].remove();
1181         }
1182         previousElements.length = 0;
1183
1184         for (i = 0, ii = selectedScopes.length; i < ii; ++i) {
1185             var selected = selectedElements[i];
1186             selectedScopes[i].$destroy();
1187             previousElements[i] = selected;
1188             $animate.leave(selected, function() {
1189                 previousElements.splice(i, 1);
1190             });
1191         }
1192
1193         selectedElements.length = 0;
1194         selectedScopes.length = 0;
1195
1196         if ((selectedTranscludes = ngSwitchController.cases['!' + value])
1197             scope.$eval(attr.change);
1198             forEach(selectedTranscludes, function(selectedTransclude) {
1199                 var selectedScope = scope.$new();

```

COMPUTING: CREATIVE iMEDIA

OCR J817

Output: Level 1/2 National Certificate (1 GCSE Equivalent)

Contact: Mr C Whiteoak

The course

During this course you will complete four units of coursework, two mandatory and two optional units. You will understand how to effectively plan and implement your own designs and digital products using a range of tools and resources available to you. Using various outlets of digital creation from sound to video and even game design, this computer course is designed to give you an insight into the many different aspects of creative media.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will do well studying iMedia if you enjoy, planning, designing and creating graphics using a variety of computer programs available. As the course is 75% coursework, you will be required to use your time effectively during time allocated for controlled assessment.

The work you would do



Mandatory Units:

Creating digital graphics - In this unit you will understand how and why digital graphics are essential in many aspects of industry and learn how to create them effectively to a specific brief provided by OCR.

Pre-production skills - Students are introduced to a range of essential pre-production techniques used in the creative and digital media, including client brief, time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques.

Optional Units:

Creating 2D and 3D digital characters, Creating a multi-page website, Storytelling with a comic strip, Creating a digital animation, Creating interactive multimedia products, Creating a digital sound sequence, Digital photography.

Coursework 75%

This involves

- Individual work
- Work related work
- Substantial computer work
- Creative input

Career Paths

- Games developer
- Software designer
- Web designer
- Animator
- Multimedia programmer
- Web developer
- Audio-Visual Technician
- Graphic Designer
- Secondary teacher
- Film Maker
- Media Researcher
- Advertising Executive



RSL PERFORMING ARTS (DRAMA/DANCE)

RSL Level 2 First Award

Output: **1 GCSE equivalent**

Contact: **Miss Keeble or Miss Biggs**

The course

This course will explore the different pathways of creative and performing arts looking at acting and dance. Over the first year of study you will learn skills in both areas, working together to create and perform your own performance work. You will complete mock assessments in all areas and at the end of year 10 you will need to choose a specific pathway to follow for your year 11 qualification. This will either be the acting route or the dance route. Your qualification you will receive will be in creative and performing arts with a specialism in whatever pathway you choose.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

This course will suit those who enjoy all aspects of performance and wish to experience performing in both dance and acting. To be successful on this course you must be dedicated, hardworking and be able to work well in a group. Students who take this option must be able to complete work independently and stick to deadlines.

The work you would do

All units are practical and coursework based. Each unit will require you to perform to a live audience.

Acting

- Internal assessment- Performing Text
- Internal assessment- Vocal Techniques
- External assessment- Live Performance

Dance:

- Internal assessment- Choreography
- Internal assessment- Ensemble Dance Performance
- External assessment- Live Performance



Controlled Assessment 100%

This involves

- Written theory
- Individual work
- group work
- Substantial computer work
- Creative input
- Physical activity

Career Paths

Jobs that require the following set of skills - Confidence, Self-discipline, Research, Analysis, Writing, Reasoning, Team building, Communication, Interpersonal skills, Presentation skills, Problem solving, Emotional intelligence and Creativity.

Possible career choices - Acting ● Administrators ● Armed forces ● Broadcast presenters, ● Choreographer ● Community workers ● Customer relations ● Dancer ● Dance therapist ● Directors ● Drama Therapists ● Education ● Film work, ● Hospitality ● Journalism ● Law ● Management roles ● Marketing ● Media, Musical theatre ● Producing ● Publishing ● Retail ● Singer ● Social work ● Stage crew ● Teaching ● Technician ● Television ● Vocal coach ● Youth Work.



GCSE DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Edexcel Specification

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Mr Barham, Miss Dix or Mr Day**



The course

Over two years, you will further develop an understanding of all material areas, while designing and making quality products. You will learn about the properties of woods, plastics, textiles and metals, as well as modern and smart materials. We will look at ethical and environmental issues and study the work of some famous designers. The GCSE is assessed through 50% coursework and 50% written exam at the end of Year 11.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

Students must work hard to succeed in D&T. There is a large amount of theory to cover on this course. The coursework portfolio will be 20 pages of A3+. 10% of the exam will be Maths based. You will do well if you enjoy being creative and innovative, designing and making products. You will also do well in this subject if you have a technical mind and enjoy working out how things work.

The work you would do

- Design and make quality products using a wide range of materials, tools and processes, including CAD/CAM.
- Design and make a final product as your controlled assessment in Year 11.
- Present a design portfolio alongside your final product.
- Work independently and in groups.
- Develop a range of technical and practical skills.

Coursework 50%

This involves

- Practical work
- Individual work
- Group work
- Written theory
- Substantial computer work



Career Paths

There are many Design and technology based careers you could go into, some at the end of Year 11 e.g. an apprenticeship. Unlike some other subject areas there is a large national shortage of people in the country needed to fill well paid technology related jobs. A-Level product Design is a very popular choice in Years 12 and 13 for students who wish to continue with their studies.

- Product designer
- Graphic designer
- Fashion designer
- Interior designer
- Engineer



GCSE DRAMA

Pearson/Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9 - 1) in Drama (1DR0)

Output: 1 GCSE

Contact: Mrs L Whiteoak

The course

In order to cater for a wide variety of drama students, 2 courses are available and students will be advised on the best course for them by their drama teacher. Each year you will take part in workshop sessions where you will build your skills and knowledge of theatre practitioners. You will be expected to perform each year to an external audience on an evening to not only showcase your skills but also allow for assessment to take place.



You will be expected to rehearse out of lesson times to prepare for your performances. Both courses assess students on a combination of practical performance and written portfolio. The GCSE course has an additional written exam at the end of year 11.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will do well if you are looking to build independence and confidence. People who enjoy problem solving, team work, meeting deadlines and direct communication with others are likely to get a lot out of the course and these are invaluable life skills for any career. You need to be objective, committed, curious, and organised. Expect to be challenged and tested on many levels. Be prepared to stand up and perform in front of others including different year groups and members of the public. You will work closely with people you may not (initially) know well. You will be expected to keep a working notebook which you will write in at the end of each lesson.

The work you would do

Study different genres of theatre from the mid 20th Century to present day, and investigate Theatre Practitioners such as Stanislavski, Brecht, Boal and many more. Students often take part in whole class dramas and create rehearsed presentations to various audiences, including performing to members of the public in theatres. Acting, filming, puppetry, editing, directing, choral speech and physical theatre, as well as going to see professional performances are just a few of the components we explore. There are options to explore aspects of lighting, sound, make up and costume design as well as working with industry professionals.



Assessment

GCSE DRAMA

COMPONENT 1 - DEVISING (40%)

Students create and develop and perform a devised piece from a stimulus. They then analyse and evaluate the devising process and performance.

COMPONENT 2 - PERFORMANCE FROM TEXT (20%)

Students perform in **two key extracts** from a performance text. This is assessed by a visiting examiner.

COMPONENT 3 - THEATRE MAKERS IN PRACTICE (40%)

After practical exploration and study of one complete performance text, students sit a written examination at the end of year answering questions related to the text. They then analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance that they have seen.

RSL CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS

UNIT 201 - LIVE PERFORMANCE (50%)

Students will be assessed on their abilities to:

1. Plan for a live performance
2. Demonstrate the skills for a live performance
3. Reflect on their performance

UNIT 212 - PERFORMING TEXT 10 (50%).

Students will be assessed on their abilities to:

1. Understand how to interpret and analyse text in modern and classic dramatic writing
2. Perform dialogue from modern and classic texts
3. Evaluate their performance

This involves

- Fieldwork and Visits
- Practical Work
- Individual Work
- Group Work
- Creative Input
- Physical Activity
- Substantial Computer Work

Career Paths

Jobs that require the following set of skills: ● Confidence ● Self-discipline, ● Research ● Analysis ● Writing ● Reasoning ● Team building ● Communication ● Interpersonal skills ● Presentation skills ● Problem solving ● Emotional intelligence ● Creativity.

Possible career choices: ● Acting ● Administrators ● Armed forces ● Broadcast presenters ● Community workers ● Customer relations ● Directors ● Drama Therapists ● Education ● Film work ● Hospitality ● Journalism ● Law ● Management roles ● Marketing ● Media ● Musical theatre ● Producing ● Publishing ● Retail ● Social work ● Stage crew ● Teaching ● Technician ● Television ● Youth Work.

LEVEL 1/2 VOCATIONAL AWARD IN ENGINEERING

Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Engineering (Technical Award)

Output: **1 GCSE equivalent**

Contact: **Mr Barham or Mr Day**



The course

The sky's the limit. Engineering is an increasingly innovative and exciting area to work in. It affects every aspect of modern life – from skyscrapers to smart phones, cars to carrier bags. The Engineering award introduces students to a host of new technologies, helping them to gain practical skills and understanding to inspire a lifelong interest in engineering.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

This subject will particularly appeal to those who enjoy being creative, with an affinity for drawing, design, maths and problem-solving. Technical drawings feature in the exam. The made artifact needs to be accurate to achieve a good grade, as does the ability to be creative when designing.

The work you would do

- Develop engineering skills with metals, plastics and composite materials to produce quality engineered products.
- Practice and develop your engineering drawing skills
- Manufacture a final product as your assessment. You will be given the final drawing and your grade will be based on your accuracy and attention to detail
- Present engineering portfolios for the products you create.
- Develop a range of technical and practical skills.
- Develop a knowledge of mechanical, structural, pneumatic and electrical systems.

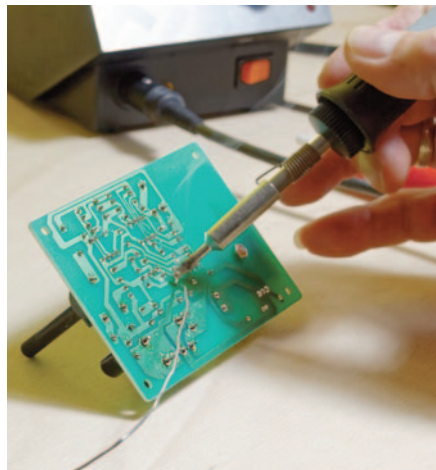
Coursework 60%

This involves

- Practical work
- Individual work
- Group work
- Written theory
- Substantial computer work

Career Paths

- Electrical engineer
- Civil engineer
- Architect
- Mechanical engineer
- Structural engineer
- Aircraft engineer
- Aerospace engineer
- Buildings surveyor
- Pilot
- Product development
- CAD technician
- Project manager





LEVEL 2 FOOD: HOSPITALITY AND CATERING

WJEC specification

Output: **Level 2 Vocational Award (equivalent to 1 GCSE)**

Contact: **Miss Dix or Ms King**

The course

This is a vocational (work related course) where you can learn about the hospitality and catering industry and the potential it can offer you for your career or further study. It is most suitable as a foundation for further study, it will provide you with a core depth of knowledge and a range of specialist and general skills that will support your progression to further learning and employment.

The hospitality and catering sector includes all businesses that provide food, beverages, and/or accommodation services. This includes restaurants, hotels, pubs and bars, airlines, tourist attractions, hospitals and sports venues.

According to the British Hospitality Association, hospitality and catering is Britain's fourth largest industry and accounts for around 10% of the total workforce. Since 2010, over 25% of all new jobs have been within the hospitality and catering sector with the majority of new roles falling within the 18-24 age group, according to a report by People 1st.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will do well if you enjoy cooking and working with food and will benefit from a part time job in the industry. You need to have an enquiring mind to find out about the food industry, nutrition and the properties of food ingredients. You need to be prepared to cook a variety of dishes that include complex food preparation and cookery skills. You need to be organised and preferably able to provide your own ingredients in Y11 (we can provide them if you can't afford them or are unable to shop for any reason).

The work you would do

There are two units, both of which are structured to closely reflect current practice in industry.

- **Unit 1** - Hospitality and catering industry: focuses on learning about different types of providers (employers), legislation, food safety and the roles and responsibilities within the sector. This unit is assessed with a written or on-line formal examination.
- **Unit 2** - Hospitality and catering in action: develops your practical skills for planning, preparing, cooking and presenting nutritional dishes to meet the needs of a specific client. You will cook a variety of dishes in Year 10 to practice and master cookery skills so that you can apply them to this piece of work in Y11.

Assessment

Unit 1: Hospitality and catering industry; external written paper (90 minutes) **40%**

Unit 2: Hospitality and catering in action; internal coursework (9 hours) **60%**



This involves

- Individual Work
- Group Work
- Practical Work
- Creative Input
- Written Theory

Career Paths

- Catering
- Chef/cook
- Food safety officer
- Hospitality
- Baker
- Restaurateur
- Environmental Health
- Food testing/taster



This course can lead to further study in Y12 / 13:

Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition

Level 3 Diploma in Advanced Professional Cookery or Advanced Diploma in Food Preparation and Cookery

Level 3 Hospitality Leadership and Supervisor

Level 2 or 3 Apprenticeships within the Hospitality and Catering Industry



GCSE GEOGRAPHY

AQA Specification

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Mrs C Owen**

The course

GCSE Geographers are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of geography topics (85%) and their fieldwork skills (15%). All assessment is through externally set examinations.

Geography topics studied are:

- Natural Hazards - tectonic hazards, tropical storms, UK extreme weather & climate change
- The Living World - focus on deserts and rainforests
- UK Landscapes - Rivers and coasts
- Urban Issues and Challenges - focus on Bristol and Kampala
- The Changing Economic world - focus on the UK and Uganda
- Challenge of Resource Management - food, water and energy

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will do well if you have an enquiring mind and are fascinated by how the world works. Geographers need to be able to research current issues, analyse numerical data, write clearly and contribute to class discussions and presentations. It is important to have an open mind and to be able to consider issues from different perspectives.

The work you would do

- Aspects such as extreme weather conditions and natural hazards will be explored by analysing videos of extreme events and carrying out research.
- Discussions and role playing will be used to develop students' understanding of issues such as climate change and international aid.
- Fieldwork skills will be developed during two compulsory day visits. Currently these visits are to Bristol to study the regeneration of Temple Quarter and to Lyme Regis to study coastal processes.



Controlled Assessment

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment - The Living World, Challenge of Natural Hazards and UK Landscapes

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment - Urban Issues and Challenges, The Changing Economic World, Challenge of Resource Management

Paper 3: Geographical Applications - Issue Evaluation, Fieldwork

This involves

- Fieldwork and Visits
- Creative Input
- Written Theory
- Individual Work
- Group Work

Career Paths

- Hydrologist
- Aid worker
- Geologist
- Town planner
- GIS manager
- Meteorologist
- Seismologist/Volcanologist
- Conservation officer
- Environmental consultant



GCSE HISTORY

OCR GCSE in History (J410) Explaining the Modern World

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Mr M Ellis**

The course

Over three years you will investigate a series of key historical enquiry questions much in the same way as you have in Years 7, 8 and 9. The course is based on a range of historical topics and issues to allow you to study in breadth and in depth.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

You will succeed in GCSE History if you have enjoyed studying History at Key Stage 3. If you enjoy the process of historical enquiry you will enhance the skills you have already gained: analysing picture, film and written evidence from past times. You need to be able to describe, explain and analyse causes and consequences of events and changes and understand why some events, people and places are more significant than others.

The work you would do

- International Relations, 1918-1975 including interpretations of Appeasement and the origins of the Cold War
- Germany, 1925-1955: The People and the State
- Power: Monarchy and Democracy c1000-2014
- The English Reformation c.1520-c.1550
- Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750



Assessment

Paper 1: Period study and non-British Depth Study

Section A: International Relations and interpretations

Section B: Germany 1925-1955

Paper 2: British Thematic study

Power: Monarchy and Democracy c1000-2014

Paper 3: British depth study and the historic environment

Section A: The English Reformation c.1520-c.1550

Section B: Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750

This involves

- Fieldwork and Visits
- Written Theory
- Individual Work
- Group Work

Career Paths

- Curator
- Archaeologist
- Civil service
- Academic librarian
- Archivist
- Politician
- School teacher
- Journalist
- Solicitor
- Working for heritage organisation (eg National Trust)



GCSE MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES (FRENCH & GERMAN)

AQA Specification

Output: 1 GCSE

Contact: Mr D Radnidge



The course

The AQA GCSE in French and German consists of four units based on the following skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Each skill area will be worth 25%. Listening, Reading and Writing will be formally assessed at the end of Year 11 and speaking assessments will be conducted throughout the two year course.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

Language learning is great fun and is extremely rewarding!

You will do well if you enjoy learning about other cultures and their languages, if you are committed to regular vocabulary learning, if you are passionate about being able to communicate with others in their mother tongue, and if you have the desire to work in another country in the future.

The work you would do

Topics studies will include: Media & Culture, Sport & Leisure, Travel & Tourism and Business, Work and Employment, Out and About, Customer Service and Transactions, Personal Information, Future Plans, Education and Work.

Assessment

Paper 1: Listening (25% of final grade)

Paper 2: Speaking (25% of final grade)

Paper 3: Reading (25% of final grade)

Paper 4: Writing (25% of final grade)



This involves

- Individual Work
- Group Work
- Creative Input
- Written Theory

Career Paths

- Interpreter
- Broadcast journalist
- Logistics & distribution manager
- Secondary school teacher
- Detective
- Marketing executive
- Translator
- Diplomatic service officer
- International aid/development worker
- English as a foreign language teacher
- Tour manager
- Patent examiner

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

OCR Cambridge Nationals Level 1/2

Output: **Vocational Award (equivalent to 1 GCSE)**

Contact: **Mrs K Clough**

The course

The course will develop knowledge, understanding and practical skills that would be used in the health and social care sector. This could include carrying out first aid, creating and delivering health promotional campaigns and being able to research topic areas of interest. The course will allow learners to study a wide range of topics including supporting individuals through life events, learning about therapies and their benefits and the factors that influence health to name a few. This is a new exciting course that will benefit students wanting to go in to the health and social care profession, with progression within our own 6th form and community.



What sort of student does well at this subject?

Students who take this course are going to need to be organised and committed to completing work during lesson time as well as homework to progress their knowledge and understanding of a wide range of topics. As a new subject to the students they will need to be organised and prepared to communicate effectively, research topic ideas and show planning of creative activities.

The work you would do

Students are going to get the opportunity to have class discussions, research opportunities, and plan and deliver their own health promotion campaign.

Through the course there is an examination as well as coursework to complete.

In class lessons will include group work, individual tasks and discussions. There will be many transferable skills developed these include communicating, researching, planning, being creative, presenting and delivering information.

This course can lead to further study in Y12 / 13:

Cambridge Technicals Level 3 Health and Social Care.

Apprenticeships Level 2/3 in Health and Social Care, Maternity and Paediatric support, Dental Nursing and many more.

T Level Health, Healthcare Science or A Levels; Biology, Sociology, Psychology (level 3)

Assessment

RO32 Principles of care in health and social care settings - Exam

RO33 Supporting individuals through life events - NEA

TBC RO34/ RO35 - NEA

These are awarded on the scale of:

Level 2- distinction* (*2), Distinction (D2), Merit (M2), Pass (P2)

Level 1 - Distinction (D1), Merit (M1), Pass (P1) and Fail/ Unclassified.

This involves

- Individual Work
- Group Work
- Creative Input
- Written Theory

Career Paths

- Adult care worker
- Healthcare science assistance
- Healthcare assistance
- Maternity and Paediatric support

MUSIC

RSL / Edexcel Specification

Output: **1 LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE / GCSE**

Contact: **Mrs L Whiteoak**

The course

In order to cater for a wide variety of music students, 2 courses are available and students will be advised on the best course for them by their music teacher.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

All students will need to be keen, committed musicians and willing to perform on stage (instrumental or singing), and are expected to contribute to the extra curricular life of the department including ensembles and concerts. GCSE students will need to be comfortable using musical notation and studying a variety of genres of music from all ages. In order to achieve the highest grades at GCSE, students need to be able to perform on their instrument at grade 4 standard or above by September of year 11. Whilst a number of students opt for private tuition alongside these courses, this is not a compulsory requirement - you can succeed in this course through the skills and knowledge you have acquired through key stage 3 music. Whilst fun and enjoyable, you will need to be prepared to do lots of practice, work hard and show a high level of resilience.

The work you would do

Both courses have a significant amount of performance. The GCSE course suits musicians with an interest in basic understanding of theory and notation, history and development classical / orchestral music and composing (writing their own pieces of music). The RSL course is vocational; it focuses on practical music making and popular music history and development. Whilst there is a final examination at the end of the GCSE course, the entirety of the RSL course is portfolio based.

Assessment

GCSE MUSIC

- **Unit 1 - Performing Music.**
1 x solo performance and 1 x ensemble performance. Pieces to be chosen by student and teacher. 30% of final mark. Both to be recorded Learning cycle 1 of year 11.
- **Unit 2 - Composing Music.**
1 x free brief completed throughout year 10, and 1 x set brief completed throughout learning cycles 1 & 2 in year 11.
- **Unit 3 - Appraising music.**
1 hour 45 minute exam paper at the end of year 11.

RSL MUSIC

- **Unit 201 - Musical Knowledge.**
Students learn about a variety of popular music genres and produce a portfolio of research comparing two of these genres.
- **Unit 202 - Live Music Performance.**
Students prepare for a performance to an audience, in line with a brief set by the exam board
- **Unit 204 - Instrumental study.**
Students evaluate their starting point on the instrument and create an improvement & development plan, logging their journey and demonstrating their progress in a final performance.

This involves

- Individual Work ● Group Work
- Practical Work
- Substantial Computer Work
- Creative Input ● Written Theory

Career Paths

- Performing ● Music education
- Music business & touring
- Composing ● Recording and producing
- Music therapy



GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

AQA Religious Studies

Output: **1 GCSE**

Contact: **Miss Fisher and Mrs Gibson**

The course

Our GCSE (9-1) Religious Studies specification provides you with the exciting opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of two religions, Christianity and Islam and explore philosophy and ethical studies in the modern world. Philosophy and ethics is studied through four themes: ● Relationships and families ● The existence of God, gods and the ultimate reality ● Religion, peace and conflict ● Dialogue between religious and non-religious beliefs and attitudes.

What sort of student does well at this subject?

Students who enjoy discussing and debating topic issues will do well in this Subject. You will need to be able to explain, analyse and evaluate the opinions of others, as well as explaining your own ideas. You will need to have good listening skills.

The work you would do

- Your study of Christianity and Islam will give you a very good understanding of the beliefs, teachings and practices of the two religions. This will enable you to be able to understand, explain and analyse the philosophical and ethical arguments from different perspectives.
- Philosophy and Ethics deals with issues such as Abortion, Euthanasia, IVF, the use of animals in research, homosexual marriage, divorce, capital punishment, 'just war' theory, poverty and cloning as well as big questions such as 'Is there a God?', 'Why is there suffering in the world?', 'What causes evil?', 'What happens when people die?', 'Do miracles happen?'



Assessment

Paper 1: The study of religions

Christianity: Beliefs and Practices

Islam: Beliefs and Practices

Paper 2: Thematic studies

Relationships and families

Religion and Life

Religion, peace and conflict

Religion, crime and punishment

This involves

- Fieldwork and Visits
- Written Theory
- Individual Work
- Group Work

Career Paths

- Clergy
- Therapist
- Archivist
- Research
- Church secretary
- Counsellor
- Writer
- Advice worker
- Journalist
- Youth worker
- School teacher



SPORTS SCIENCE

OCR Cambridge Nationals Level 2

Output: **1 GCSE equivalent**

Contact: **Mrs K Clough**

The course

Students who choose OCR Sport Science will follow a structured route of classroom and practical based lessons that will allow them to achieve 1 GCSE equivalent grade.



The course is broken down into three units across the two years: **Reducing the risks of sports injuries and dealing with common medical conditions, applying the principles of training: fitness and how it affects skill performance, the body's response to physical activity and how technology informs this.** The first of these involves students studying for and completing an exam. The other units are coursework based and involve students completing and submitting a series of assignments. The examination and assignments will be graded on a sliding scale ranging from a level 1 Pass to a level 2 Distinction* (A / A* equivalent).

What sort of student does well at this subject?

Students who watch and listen to sport to increase their knowledge of sporting examples. Commit to attending P0/P6 sessions in the lead up to the exam. Be organised and have good time management to ensure that assignment deadlines are met. The teaching of the qualification is completed through practical work, learning skills and how to do things that may be relevant to the world of work.

The work you would do

Assessment

R180: Reducing the risk of sports injuries and dealing with common medical conditions - 1.15 hour Written Exam

R182: Applying principles of training: fitness and how it affects skill performance - Centre assessed tasks OCR moderated

R183: The body's response to physical activity and how technology informs this - Centre assessed tasks OCR moderated

This involves

- Individual Work
- Group Work
- Physical Activity
- Practical Work
- Substantial Computer Work
- Work-related Work
- Written Theory

Career Paths

Studying this subject can lead to a variety of jobs including sport therapy, fitness instruction, sports coaching, sports psychology, physiotherapy, sports development, PE teaching, personal training, firefighter and exercise science.

SPORTS STUDIES

OCR Cambridge Nationals Level 2

Output: **1 GCSE equivalent**

Contact: **Mrs K Clough**

The course

Students who choose OCR Sport Studies will follow a structured route of classroom and practical based lessons that will allow them to achieve 1 GCSE equivalent grade. The course is broken down into three units across the two years: Contemporary Issues in Sport, Performance and Leadership in Sports Activities and Sport and the Media. The first of these involves students studying for and completing an exam. The other units are coursework based and involve students completing and submitting a series of assignments. The examination and assignments will be graded on a sliding scale ranging from a level 1 Pass to a level 2 Distinction* (A / A* equivalent). The main difference between this and Sport Science is that this course enables you to gain marks for your practical ability in a team and individual sport.



What sort of student does well at this subject?

Students who play team sport and individual sport outside of school. Commit to attending Po/P6 sessions in the lead up to the exam. Gain experience of officiating a team sport and leading a group of people through a sporting session. Watch/listen to sport to increase knowledge of sporting examples. Be organised and have good time management to ensure that assignment deadlines are met. The teaching of the qualification is completed through practical work, learning skills and how to do things that may be relevant to the world of work.

The work you would do

Assessment

R184: Contemporary Issues in Sport - 1.15 Hour Written Exam

R185: Performance and leadership in sports activities

- Centre assessed tasks OCR moderated

R186: Sport and the media - Centre assessed tasks OCR moderated

This involves

- Individual Work
- Group Work
- Physical Activity
- Practical Work
- Substantial Computer Work
- Work-related Work
- Written Theory

Career Paths

Studying this subject can lead to a variety of jobs including sport therapy, fitness instruction, sports coaching, sports psychology, sports development, PE teaching, lifeguarding and personal training.



THE PRIORY
LEARNING TRUST



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