

# Key Stage Four Options Information for September 2023

### Introduction

It is agreed by those working in education, by employers, and by government that our young people are best prepared for later life by following a broad and balanced curriculum. Our Key Stage 4 courses seek to provide Trumpington Community College students with wide-ranging qualifications that will prepare them well for further education, training and employment.

The next two years will be of great importance to your child. This booklet contains important information about the exam courses, and about the 'Options' process your child will go through to make their final exam course choices.

Students will study the following subjects, which we refer to as our Core: English Language and Literature, mathematics, sciences, a language, physical education, PSHE and Religious Studies. Topics covering development in personal, social and health education, citizenship and economic understanding will also be studied. Students will also receive regular careers guidance throughout the two years.

Excellent attendance and punctuality are both critically important at this stage; a minimum of 97% attendance is crucial if your child is to achieve their target grades. A student's attainment drops dramatically if their attendance falls below 97%.

This options booklet has been compiled to provide information on the nature of the courses, the type of work involved and the general requirements of examinations. Whilst supporting your child to make their option choices please discuss what courses they enjoy, what reflects their interests, and if they have any particular skills they would like to develop or learn.

It is not possible to guarantee your child's choice of subjects. Naturally we will do our best, but factors such as staff availability and group sizes all need to be considered. Where we are not able to run courses, we will have conversations with those students who have requested it.

GCSEs have been reformed by the Government. One of the main changes is that instead of receiving your child's grades in letters ( $A^* - G$ ), they will receive their grades in numbers (1 - 9). This is explained in the table below. Their teachers will help them and you to understand this change whilst they are studying their GCSEs.

New grading		Old grading
9		A*
8	-	
7		Α
6		В
5	=	r r
4		Ľ
3		D
2	=	E F
1		G
U	_	U
graphic. Source: Ofqual	-	U

### New grading for GCSEs

I must emphasise that your child's happiness and academic success over the next two years will depend largely on their attitude, their effort, and your input. It is clear that your interest and support will be of great benefit. We in turn are committed to doing everything we can to support your child. Senior Vice Principal, Trumpington Community College

## **Trumpington Community College Options Key Guidance Points**

- 1. Consider what subjects you enjoy; do you have particular talents and skills in an area?
- 2. Do you already have ideas about what your career path might look like?
- 3. Are family members/teachers making recommendations to you?
- 4. Do **not** make an option choice just because your friends have.
- 5. Do not make an option choice just because you like a member of staff.
- 6. Make choices to help **you**, which **you** are interested in and really want to try to do your best in.
- 7. It is **your** future **you** are helping to shape so find out which subjects you need to get into the college of your choice, on the course of your choice. to help guide you on career choices.
- 8. Deadline: midday on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March. You need to have submitted your Options form online by this point. We will not look at the responses on a 'first come first served' basis and all responses that meet the deadline will be considered equally. Where the deadline is missed, those responses will be considered after the others.
  - a. <u>Click here to take you to the online Options Form.</u>
  - b. Type the following address into your browser: forms.office.com/e/n1T7rXhhBg

### **Options Process, Spring 2023**

Please find outlined below the key dates for the options process that begins in January 2023.

18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January: Students receive presentations on all Core and Options courses.

25<sup>th</sup> January: Year 9 Options Information Event: virtual event for students and families

30<sup>th</sup> January – 10<sup>th</sup> February: all students receive an Options guidance meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team

22<sup>nd</sup> February: Year 9 Progress Consultation Evening

6<sup>th</sup> March, 12 noon: Options Form Deadline

By 30<sup>th</sup> June: Options choices are confirmed to students and families in writing.

### Aims of the Key Stage 4 Curriculum

### **Curriculum Intent**

At Trumpington Community College, our aim is to provide an excellent education for all our students; an education which brings out the best in all of them and prepares them for success in life. Our curriculum is designed to provide children with the core knowledge they need for success in education and later life, to maximise their cognitive development, to develop the whole person and the talents of the individual and to allow all children to become active and economically self-sufficient citizens.

By teaching our curriculum well we develop pupils' cultural capital: "the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement." (DFE National Curriculum, 2014).

At Trumpington Community College, students will

- experience a broad, deep and knowledge rich curriculum
- be literate and numerate
- have high expectations for their achievement and build their character
- develop their cultural, social, moral, mental and physical development
- secure foundations for progression

Our Key Stage 4 curriculum aims to develop successful, enquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people with an internationally minded approach to life. We believe that the subjects offered and the time we allocate to these reflect a well-balanced curriculum. At Key Stage 4 we are proud of our results and our success in securing students onto the post-16 route of their choice. We have designed our offer with the principles of academic achievement, breadth, and balance in mind. We know that this approach is valued by employers and higher education, as well as by our families and students.

We aim to provide every student with a clear sense of purpose as they embark on their KS4 programme of study. We know that when students see their study as a step to achieving future goals this encourages motivation and determination. Throughout Year 9, and into Year 10 and 11 there is a defined, continuous process that encourages every individual to explore their pathways into future study and careers.

### How we prepare students for the future

### **The Curriculum**

Students study a programme of core GCSEs to prepare them for life beyond school. This provides the important foundations needed to ensure that skills for work and further study are secure. Good grades rather than large quantities of subjects are the key. We have designed a programme of subjects with the lesson time required to maximise learning in each of these. The majority are subjects that all students need to study, called the core. They include GCSE English (Literature and Language) and GCSE Maths, GCSE Science (Combined or Triple), GCSE French, and GCSE Geography or History. PE, RS and PSHE are also studied along with two additional subjects chosen from a list of potential CNAT or GCSE subjects.

### **Future Pathways**

For those students who wish to progress onto post-16 study, the skills and knowledge acquired through the study of English, Maths, Science, a Foreign Language and a Humanities subject are fundamental. Equally, for learners who wish to follow more practical or technical careers, the core subjects are just as important. These subjects provide a firm foundation to progress to training with employment, or onto a full vocational programme at a Further Education College.

### **The Wider Curriculum**

### PE, PSHE and RS

Every student should participate in health-promoting physical activity. For all students this is achieved through attendance on the compulsory Core PE programme. Similarly, to ensure that students develop an understanding of the world beyond academic study, every individual will study PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) education. This programme includes Relationships and Sex Education. All students study RS which promotes self-knowledge and an understanding of others are students explore key religious teachings and issues in the modern world.

### **Co-Curricular**

The range of our co-curricular opportunities is wide. This learning offers the opportunity for pursuing personal interests and goals. Participation in these activities is a highly important aspect of school life which is recognised and valued by future employers and post-16 institutions. Time to engage in the programme of activities should be planned for when students embark on their Key Stage 4 courses.

# Key Stage Four Core Subjects



### **English Language**

Name of Subject: English Language

### Qualification Type: GCSE Exam Board: AQA

### Exam sections % breakdown:

There are <u>two</u> exam papers for GCSE English Language, each of **1 hour 45 minutes**. Each paper is worth 50% of the GCSE.

### Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

Reading (40 marks) (25%)- one single text

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

### Writing (40 marks) (25%)

• 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

### Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

Reading (40 marks) (25%) - two linked texts

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

• 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy) Students

sit the two papers, both at the end of year 11.

### Controlled assessment details and dates:

There are no controlled assessments for English Language as the qualification is 100% examined.

### Entry Requirement to study this option:

English Language is a core subject which all students study.

### Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

This paper requires students to read a piece of modern fiction independently. The reading questions require students to be able to read for information, to analyse the words and phrases used by a writer to affect a reader, to examine the structure of a piece of writing and to be able to respond to a critical view of the passage. The best way to prepare for this paper is to read widely enjoying a range of fiction written by a range of different voices.

The writing element of the paper requires students to respond creatively choosing to write a piece of narrative or descriptive writing. Students are given clear structural frameworks to help them write quickly and effectively in the limited time frame of an exam.

### Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

This paper requires students to read two pieces of nonfiction that share a topic. The first text can be taken from the twentieth or twenty first century whereas the second piece is taken from the nineteenth century. The reading questions for this paper require students to compare both texts together and to summarise them and then to compare the different viewpoints of perspectives of both writers. We prepare for the reading section of the paper by reading a wide range of nonfiction: speeches, blogs, essays and letters in which writers argue a perspective on a topic. This year we have examined many issues including body image, feminism, racism and diversity in the media

The writing element of this paper requires students to write their own piece on nonfiction writing in which they argue their point of view in relation to a given topic. Students will be taught explicitly how to vary their vocabulary, the register of their language and their sentences to engage the reader and how to plan their arguments so that they can write clearly and effectively. This writing is really aided by wide reading; if students can be exposed to quality nonfiction at home: memoirs, essays, broadsheet newspapers and magazines.

### Non examination component: Spoken language

This assessment does not contribute to the weighting of the English Language GCSE but is a compulsory part of the course. In this assessment, students need to deliver a speech on the topic of their choice to their teacher in a small group and are asked to respond to questions put to them afterwards. We teach this element of the course in conjunction with our preparation for the writing section of Paper 2 so that students learn how to form arguments and support them convincingly with the evidence and choice of methods they choose. Most importantly students learn crucial literacy and oracy skills that allow them to be effective, powerful communicators in the world outside the classroom.

### **Guidance / Special Arrangements / Entrance requirements:**

This is a core subject which all students must study.

### **Qualification Progression Routes:**

It is important to aim for a grade 4 or above in this subject in order not to have to retake this GCSE at college. A grade 4 or above in this course can be used to gain access to many different qualifications post 16, for example: English Language, philosophy and ethics, law and psychology A Levels.

### Possible Career paths using this subject:

Good employers, sixth form colleges and universities understand and appreciate the skills students acquire when studying English Language. They seek students who can speak confidently and can listen perceptively, read, analyse and understand information, students who can think independently, make balanced judgements and students who can write accurately and clearly: these are transferable skills to most subjects. Some possible careers include: teaching; journalism; law; social work; the media (e.g. TV / Radio); the military; security services; police and politics and medicine.

### **English Literature**

### Name of Subject: English Literature

### Qualification Type: GCSE Exam Board: AQA

### Exam sections % breakdown:

There are two exam papers for GCSE English Literature

**Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th century novel** (1 hour 45 minutes long) This paper is worth 64 marks and worth 40% of the exam.

Paper 2 Modern texts and poetry (2 hours 15 minutes long). This paper is worth 96 marks and worth 60% of the exam.

Students sit the two papers, both at the end of year 11.

Controlled assessment details and dates:

There are no controlled assessments for English Literature as the qualification is 100% examined.

### Entry Requirement to study this option:

English Literature is a core subject which all students study.

### Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th century novel

Section A Students at Trumpington will study Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B Students will study Dickens' A Christmas Carol. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

### Paper 2 Modern texts and poetry

Section A Students will study Priestley's play *An Inspector Calls* and answer one essay question from a choice of two. Students are NOT given an extract to focus on in this exam.

Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster of Power and Conflict.

Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

To prepare for all of the exams above, students will explore the context of the literature texts they study, focusing on the author's intentions for their readers (their big ideas) and how each author delivers those messages through their choice of plot, their characters, the structure of their texts and the methods an author chooses to use to support their messages (metaphor, simile, pathetic fallacy, foreshadowing, to name a few). Class discussions will feature around the problems and solutions these texts offer to their readers and how pertinent these messages still are today. Students will be taught explicitly how to plan essays to answer exam questions with a strong focus on clarity of expression and the formation of logical thoughtful arguments that are supported with extensive reference of the texts.

The best way to prepare for these papers is for students to read widely in their own time so that they are able

to recognise the complexities of characterisation and plot and to engage with a wide range of different authors' ideas. Students need to have a thorough and in depth knowledge of the texts studied in class and will need to revisit them many times so that they can write confidently about each text without having the text to refer to it in the exam themselves.

Students will be expected to work in groups or pairs as well as individually, present information to the class, use drama and role-play, and to contribute to discussions.

Most importantly students learn to read widely and perceptively, they develop the ability to form arguments and to support those arguments with evidence from their text. Students learn the power of literature to comment on social ills and to consider what it is to be human.

### Guidance / Special Arrangements / Entrance requirements:

This is a core subject which all students must study.

### **Qualification Progression Routes:**

This course can be used to gain access to many different qualifications post 16, for example: English Literature, philosophy and ethics, law and psychology A Levels.

### Possible Career paths using this subject:

Good employers, sixth form colleges and universities understand and appreciate the skills students acquire when studying English Literature. They seek students who can analyse and understand information and can read perceptively, students who can think independently, make balanced judgements about people and the society in which they lived and produce well written arguments based on textual evidence: these are transferable skills learnt in English Literature.

Some possible careers include: teaching; journalism; law; social work; the media (e.g. TV / Radio); the military; security services; police and politics and medicine.

# **Mathematics**

Exam sections % breakdown - Equally Weighted Paper 1 - Non-Calculator - 33.3% Paper 2 - Calculator - 33.3% Paper3 - Calculator - 33.3% Entry requirement to study this course: Maths is Compulsory				
Year 10 Foundation • Rearrange formulae • Linear Graphs • y = mx + c • Compound Measures • Quadratic graphs, TP and roots • Linear Simultaneous Equations • Further graphs • Probability • Standard Form • Simple interest • Ratio (further) • Growth & Decay • Statistics • Plans & elevations • Constructions & Loci	Year 10: Higher Rearrange formulae Linear Graphs Y=mx + c Compound Measures Quadratic graphs, TP and roots Further expanding and factorising Linear simultaneous equations Further graphs Probability Capture and recapture Standard form Proportion (further) Surds Recurring decimals Bounds Growth and decay Statistics – not higher Simple interest Ratio (further)right angled trigonometry Plans and elevations Constructions & loci Similar shapes	Year 11 Foundation Pythagoras Right angled trigonometry Bearings & scale drawings Number review Transformation Congruence Vectors Similar shapes	Year 11 Higher Algebraic Proof Solving quadratics and further simultaneous equations functions Iteration quadratic inequalities Bearings Circle theorem Further Trigonometry and trigonometric graphs Statistics (further) Transformation Congruence Vectors Gradients (further) and areas under a graph Kinematics	

Assessment: 3 Assessments; 1 hour 30 mins and 80 marks each.

### Possible qualification progression routes:

### **AS/A level Mathematics**

A level Mathematics is the most popular A level subject. It involves studying

- pure maths use of algebra, graphical techniques and new material such as calculus
- statistics including analysis of data, interpretation of graphs such as scatter diagrams, and new topic including the Normal distribution and hypothesis testing
- mechanics- studying the motion of objects by considering forces, using 'suvat' equations and interpreting graphs representing motion

A level Mathematics is a requirement for certain degree courses and apprenticeships, and is recommended for many more.

### AS/A level Mathematics with AS/A level Further Mathematics

A level Further Mathematics is a second A level in maths, designed to broaden and deepen the maths covered in A level Mathematics. It's usually taken alongside A level Mathematics.

### Possible career paths using this subject

Here are a few websites that will give you some ideas about where studying maths can take you in the future: Actuary, Astronomer, Accountant, Data Analyst, Data scientist, Investment Analyst, teacher, statistician, engineer, surveyor, financial manager, software tester, programmer, and many more.

- <u>www.mathscareers.org.uk</u>: provides a range of resources, information and signposting to help those working in mathematics
- Stem.org.uk has a focus on career related resources for science and maths.

### Key guidance:

The tier that you write will be determined by your performance both in lessons and on your mock exams. Please see to your Maths teachers if you have any further questions

# **Additional Mathematics**

### Name of course: FSMQ Additional Mathematics (L3) Qualification Type: Level 3 FSMQ Exam board: OCR

### Exam sections % breakdown:

One 2-hour exam at the end of the course

### Entry requirement to study this course:

A strong performance in end-of-year exams in Y9 mathematics and a record of independent study and consistent homework completion. Students must be willing to commit to an **extra lesson during period 6 each week**.

### Content

Additional Mathematics is designed to push the most able mathematicians beyond the level of the standard GCSE. It is taught and assessed at Level 3 (equivalent to A-Level) and offers excellent preparation for students intending to study maths at post-16. This FSMQ (free standing maths qualification) builds on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired during the GCSE (9–1) course. It consists of four main 'pure' mathematics topics, each of which contains an 'applied' dimension, and two numerical topics, all underpinned by an Algebra section:

- Algebra
- Enumeration
- Coordinate Geometry
- Pythagoras and Trigonometry
- Calculus
- Numerical Methods
- Exponentials and Logarithms

### Assessment

The qualification is assessed with one two-hour exam at the end of the course in Year 11.

### Possible qualification progression routes

This qualification is ideal for any student aiming to study maths at post-16, especially at A-level Maths and Further Maths.

### Possible career paths using this subject:

This qualification will help take students closer to further study in mathematics, which could lead to a mathematical university course and then careers in engineering, science and finance.

## **Combined Science**

### Name of course: Combined Science Trilogy Qualification Type: GCSE Double Award. Exam board: AQA

### Exam sections % breakdown:

Biology/Chemistry/Physics 33% each

### Entry requirement to study this course:

All Sciences are compulsory. Students will achieve two GCSE qualifications following the AQA Specification. This pathway provides an excellent opportunity for students to further develop knowledge and understanding of science explanations in each of the three science areas and it provides an opportunity to 'bridge the gap' between GCSE and A-level.

### Content

A variety of topics are studied for science, the topic names are given below for each science:

For Biology: Cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology.

For Chemistry: Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure and the properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, energy changes, the rate and extent of chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere, using resources.

For Physics: Energy, electricity, particle model of matter, atomic structure, forces, waves, magnetism and electromagnetism

### Assessment

Combined science is assessed via terminal exams as there is no coursework component involved, although required practical experiments must be taught as part of the course.

GCSE Combined Science has a Foundation tier (grades 1 - 5) and a Higher tier (grades 4 - 9). Students will sit a total of 6 papers (two per scientific field), each lasting 75 minutes and making up a sixth of the final GCSE. All papers will include a mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to 6-mark questions which will assess students' use of good English, organising information clearly and use of specialist terms where appropriate.

### Possible qualification progression routes

This route is ideal for talented and competent scientists who may be considering a career which is science based. Post 16 providers of A-Level science courses accept these courses to attend A-Level Science courses.

**Possible career paths using this subject**: You need Science to do lots of things; anything from hairdressing and trades like plumbing to Technicians working in labs to degrees in Psychology, Sport, and the Sciences or medicine.

# **Triple Science**

### Name of course: Triple Science Biology, Chemistry and Physics Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board: AQA

### Exam sections % breakdown:

Three papers per subject.

Students will achieve three separate GCSE qualifications, one in each field of Science.

### Entry requirement to study this course:

Students would need to be scoring 7+ within assessments to be able to study Triple Science.

### Content

A variety of topics are studied for science, the topic names are given below for each science:

For Biology: Cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology.

For Chemistry: Atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure and the properties of matter, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, energy changes, the rate and extent of chemical change, organic chemistry, chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere, using resources.

For Physics: Energy, electricity, particle model of matter, atomic structure, forces, waves, magnetism and electromagnetism, space physics (triple only).

### Assessment:

Separate sciences are assessed via terminal exams as there is no coursework component involved, although required practical experiments must be taught as part of the course. Students will sit two papers per science GCSE (6 in total) each lasting 1 hour 45 minutes and making up half of each GCSE. All papers will include a mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to 6-mark questions which will assess students' use of good English, organising information clearly and use of specialist terms where appropriate.

### Possible qualification progression routes:

This route is ideal for talented and competent scientists who may be considering a career which is science based. Post 16 providers of A-Level science courses look favourably at students who have completed the Triple Science qualification.

### Possible career paths using this subject

A science career or a desire to impress prestigious Universities post A level for any course. Ideal for anyone working in STEM Industries, degrees in any science, medical profession, or engineering subject. Also Doctor, Vet, Dentist, Chemist, Astrophysicist, Biomedical Scientist, Pharmacist, Health Worker, Medical Study, Food Scientist, Biologist, Psychologist, Physiotherapist, Pharmacologist, Teacher.

**Key Guidance**: Please speak to a member of the science department if you have any queries about the course or your suitability for Triple Science.

### Name of course: French Qualification Type: GCSE Exam Board AQA

### Exam sections % breakdown

There are four papers all taken at the end of Year 11. There are two tiers - Foundation and Higher. Listening = 25% Speaking = 25% Reading = 25%

Writing = 25%

### Entry requirement to study this course -

Some knowledge of Key Stage 3 French

### Content

#### Year 10

Term 1 – Me, My Family & Friends and Technology / Hobbies & Free Time Term 2 – Festivals & Celebrations / Town & Local Area Term 3 – Social Issues / Global Issues

### Year 11

Term 1 – Holidays & School / School & Jobs Term 2 - Revision Term 3 - Revision

#### Assessment:

There are four exams at the end of Year 11 - Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

### Possible qualification progression routes:

A-Level French

GCSE French will also help with learning other languages

#### Possible career paths using this subject:

- Law
- Finance
- Sales & Marketing
- HR
- Interpreting & Translation
- Tourism
- Education
- International Business
- International Governmental Agencies
- Charities

These are just a few examples, languages are really helpful in all industries.

Many universities look really positively on GCSE French especially for Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Science applications.

### History

### Name of course: History Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board Edexcel

### Exam sections % breakdown

PAPER ONE: Thematic Study and Historic Environment (30%) PAPER TWO: Period Study and British Study (40%) PAPER THREE: Modern Depth Study (30%)

**Entry requirement to study this course** - KS3 History, open to all. The grounding provided in KS3 will give students the skills to manage this diverse and rigorous subject.

### Content

### Year 10

Autumn Term 1 and 2: Medicine in Britain (1000 year change and continuity study) Spring Term 1: The British Sector the Western Front, medicine depth study Spring Term 2 – Summer Term 2: Modern Depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39

Year 11

Autumn Term 1 and 2: Superpower and Cold War Relations Spring Term 1 and 2: Early Elizabethan England Summer Term: Revision and examination

### Assessment:

Assessed through linear examination, i.e. at the end of Year 11

### Possible qualification progression routes:

A level History, Degree Level History, Law.

### Possible career paths using this subject:

History teaching and lecturing, Law, Journalism, Civil Service and Government service.

### Geography

### Name of course: Geography Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board: AQA

#### Exam sections % breakdown

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment 35%,

Paper 2 Challenges in the Human environment 35%

Paper 3 Geographical applications 30%.

### Entry requirement to study this course

KS3 Geography and curiosity about the processes that make up our world.

The grounding provided in KS3 will give students the skills to manage this diverse and rigorous subject.

### Content

### Year 10

Term 1Natural Hazards Term 2 Living world Term 3 Physical landscapes and Resource Management

### Year 11

Term 1 Urban Issues and Challenges and Fieldwork Term 2 Changing economic world Term 3 Revision and examination

Assessment: Assessed through linear examination, i.e. at the end of Year 11

Paper 1 – Challenges of the Physical Environment. Paper 2 – Challenges of the Human Environment. Paper 3 – Geographical Skills.

**Possible qualification progression routes**: A Level Geography, Degree Level Geography then into a Geography based profession/alternative profession due to Geography providing so many transferable skills.

**Possible career paths using this subject**: Geography teacher or lecturer, Town planner, Climatologist, Geographic information systems technician, Cartographer. Geography graduates are statistically amongst the most employable.

### PSHE

Name of course: PSHE Qualification type: none. This is a non-examined, core course.

Exam sections % breakdown: NA

Entry requirement to study this course: This course forms part of the core curriculum in KS4

### Content

### Year 10

Term 1 Freedom and personal safety; threats to online safety; managing risk; positive and negative relationships, including coercive control; equity, equality and inequality.

Term 2 Physical, mental, and sexual health; volunteering.

Term 3 Sustaining long-term relationships and relationship choices, including relationship breakdown; sexual and gender identity; pornography.

### Year 11

Term 1 Age limits and the law; relationships and the law, including consent; domestic abuse; internet and the law; first aid; anxiety and resilience; career aspirations; parenting.

Term 2 Managing anxiety and exam pressures; physical and sexual health; staying safe and expectations in relationships; stages of intimate relationships; LGBT+ rights and protection; honour-based violence. Term 3 Revision and study skills

Assessment: various interim, formative, assessments throughout the year.

### Possible qualification progression routes:

Part of being a well-rounded individual. This is a legal requirement as well as an excellent opportunity for pupils to enter into interesting discussion and broaden their horizons.

### Name of course: Core PE

### Qualification Type: NA Exam Board: There is no exam for core PE

### Content Year 10 and 11

The three main themes: performance (Fit to Perform), leadership (Fit to Lead) and health & well-being (Fit for Life) continue throughout KS4. Students in year 10 and 11 will have the opportunity to improve on skills acquired in KS3 and also to develop new skills across a wide range of team and individual sports. Students will have access to the fitness suite where they will learn how to train independently to achieve personal fitness goals. There is a big focus on leadership in core PE and students will take on roles such as referee, umpire, tournament official, warm up coach and equipment manager. There are opportunities throughout the year for students in years 10 and 11 to use their leadership skills to run sports events for students in KS3.

### **Team Activities**

Basketball, netball, unihoc, handball, volleyball, rugby, hockey, frisbee, lacrosse,

### **Individual Activities**

Table tennis, tennis, badminton, circuit training, weight training, body pump, glow fitness, yoga, fitness suite

# Key Stage Four Options Subjects



### **GCSE Art**

### Name of course: GCSE Art & Design Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board: Edexcel

### **Exam sections % breakdown**

60% coursework 40% exam project (all coursework based)

### Entry requirement to study this course

A passion for or keen interest in Art and Design and the ability to complete coursework within deadlines set.

### Content

### Year 10

Term 1 - Identity; I, Me, Mine (Portraiture) Term 2 - Identity; I, Me, Mine (Portraiture & Possessions) Term 3 - Identity; I, Me, Mine (Possessions, Objects & Still Life)

Year 11

Term 1 - Identity; Events and Environments Term 2 - Exam project Term 3 - Exam project 10hr Exam (final piece)

### Assessment:

60% all coursework from any projects prior to the exam project. 40% all work within the Year 11 exam project. Work is graded within the different assessment objectives from A01 - A04.

Possible qualification progression routes:

A-Level, BTEC.

### Possible career paths using this subject:

Architecture, Graphic designer, working within Education, Artist, Stylist, Curator. The possibilities are vast!

### Key guidance:

Minimum of 2-3hrs homework outside of lessons per week. Self-motivation and passion for the subject are crucial.

### Name of course: Business Studies Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board: OCR

### Exam sections % breakdown:

Paper 1: business activity, marketing and people - 50% Paper 2: operations, finance and influences on business - 50%

**Entry requirement to study this course:** A keen interest in the role of Business Enterprise, Marketing, Finance and managing people.

### Content

### Business 01: Business activity, marketing and people

Students are introduced to business concepts and issues concerning the activities of a business. They explore the purpose and role of a business from spotting an opportunity through to the growth of an established business. They also look at the role of marketing and human resources.

### Business 02: Operations, finance and influences on business

Students take a closer look at the role of operations and finance in business activity. Operations include production processes, quality of goods and services, customer service, and working with suppliers. Finance covers its role, its sources, costs, profit and loss, cash and cash flow.

They also explore how business responds to external influences, such as ethical and environmental considerations, the economic climate and globalisation, and the interdependent nature of business.

### Year 10

Term 1 - Business activity Term 2 - Marketing Term 3 - People

### Year 11

Term 1 – Finance Term 2 - Operations Term 3 –Influences on business and the interdependent nature of business

### Assessment

Paper 1: business activity, marketing and people, 80 Marks, 1 Hour 30 Minutes paper Paper 2: operations, finance and influences on business, 80 Marks, 1 Hour 30 Minutes paper

### Possible qualification progression routes:

AS and A Level

### Possible career paths using this subject:

A knowledge of business and business processes can be useful in many different jobs including roles within the administrative and clerical job family, accountancy, banking and finance, and retail sales and customer services. It will also be useful if you are thinking about setting up your own business or being selfemployed in the future. Here are a few examples: Accountant, Estate agent, Franchise owner, Human resources manager, Retail manager, Sales assistant, Tax inspector, Television/film producer, Theatrical producer, Wedding planner.

### Key guidance:

Please speak to Ms Camfield for further advice.

### **GCSE Computer Science**

Name of course: Computer Science Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board: AQA

### Exam sections % breakdown:

PAPER ONE: Computational thinking and programming skills (50% of mark) PAPER TWO: Computing concepts (50%)

### Entry requirement to study this course:

None, although it is advisable to have an interest in programming and/or computer systems. An enjoyment of problem solving and logical thinking also helps.

### Content:

### Year 10

Term 1 Programming (Python) and Data representation Term 2 Fundamentals of algorithms and Computer systems Term 3 Computer networks and Cyber security

### Year 11

Term 1 Ethical issues related to modern technologies Term 2 Relational databases and structured query language Term 3 Revision and assessment

### Assessment:

The grade is based entirely on written exams sat together at the end of the course.

### Possible qualification progression routes:

Computer Science GCSE is helpful, although not necessary, for Computer Science A-Level.

### Possible career paths using this subject:

A very wide range of disciplines that require familiarity with structured instructions and/or computer systems.

### Key guidance:

Please speak to Dr Ionides for more information

# **GCSE** Design and Technology

### Name of course: Design and Technology Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board AQA

### Exam sections % breakdown:

Core technical principles Specialist technical principles Designing and making principles In addition:

• at least 15% of the exam will assess maths

• at least 10% of the exam will assess science.

**Entry requirement to study this course:** Committed to developing research, designing, and making skills. Passionate about creativity and design with a keen interest in technology. Demonstrate the ability to complete coursework within set deadlines.

### Content

### Year 10

Introduction to materials and their physical & working properties, Computer aided design and manufacture, forces and stresses, Designing and making principles, Product design project. Energy generation, ecological and social footprint, sustainability and the environment, people, culture and society Industry and enterprise. Inclusive design project, ergonomics and anthropometrics, market research and design specifications, 3D modelling and prototyping, concept presentation and evaluation, packaging analysis, specialist materials.

### Year 11

Focus on preparation for and completion of the NEA (non-exam assessment). Revision for final exam.

### Assessment:

Written exam: 2 hours - 50% of GCSE Non-exam assessment (NEA) - 50% of GCSE

### Possible qualification progression routes:

There is a range of vocational qualifications (such as BTECs, NVQ/SVQs, and diplomas) linked to an interest in design technology, such as: graphic design, fashion styling, art and design, media, engineering, photography, construction and building services, motor vehicle – technology and repair.

There is a range of apprenticeships that link to an interest in design technology, including: junior product, designer, theatre set carpenter, farrier, service technician, civil engineering technician, plumber, design, draughting technician, engineering model maker.

At A level you can study: Design and technology, product design (3D), product design (textiles), systems and control technology, food technology. Related subjects include art, graphic design, media, music technology, computing, maths, physics, photography, sculpture, textiles, engineering.

### Possible career paths using this subject:

Design, Product design, Robotics Industrial, Automotive, Interior design, Packaging, Games industry, advertising, Marketing, Digital media, Publishing, Film and media, Fashion and Textiles, Electronics and System Controls, Engineering and Construction, Architecture

Key guidance: Please speak to Ms Mills for more information

### GCSE Drama

### Name of course: Drama Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board: OCR

### Exam sections % breakdown:

Devising Drama (practical examined unit) - 30% Presenting and Performing Texts (practical examined unit) - 30% Drama: Performance and Response – (written exam) - 40%

### Entry requirement to study this course:

None, but students should be interested in theatre and performance and like to work in small groups. Students may participate in Drama groups outside of school or go to the theatre regularly.

### Content

### Year 10

Term 1 - Devising and exploring style and genre related to practitioners

- Term 2 Skills development and roles within theatre Live theatre analysis (including a trip to the theatre) Set Text exploration
- Term 3 OCR devising component

### Year 11

Term 1 - Set text and exam preparation

- Term 2 Presenting and performing module
- Term 3 Exam revision and live theatre analysis

### Assessment:

You will take part in a number of assessed workshops and performances; both scripted and devised. Written work will be completed by students to support practical performances. The written exam at the end of year 11 will be held in controlled conditions and marked externally.

### Possible qualification progression routes:

- A level Drama
- BTEC Performing Arts Level 3
- Specialist Performing Arts College

### Possible career paths using this subject:

Actor / Actress, Arts Administrator, Box office manager, Camera operator, Community Arts worker, Costume designer, Counsellor, Drama therapist, Drama Workshop instructor, Editor, Entertainer, Events manager, Floor manager (TV), Journalist, Lighting engineer, Literary agent, Marketing manager, News reporter, Radio presenter, Playwright, Set designer, Social worker, Stage crew, Stage manager, Stunt performer, Teacher, TV presenter, Television production assistant, Theatre director, Travel company worker, University Lecturer, Youth & community worker

### Key guidance:

1 hour of homework per week. Extra rehearsals outside of lessons in the build up to practical exams.

## **GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition**

### Name of course: Food Technology Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board: EDUQAS

### Exam sections % breakdown:

1. Food commodities, 2. Principles of nutrition, 3. Diet and good health, 4. The science of food

5. Where food comes from, 6. Cooking and food preparation.

NEA1 and NEA2 (non-exam assessment)

### Entry requirement to study this course:

A keen interest in cooking and the science behind it, nutrition and food provenance.

### Content

### Year 10

Principles of Nutrition, Diet and Good Health, The Science of Cooking Food, Food Spoilage, Food Provenance and Waste, Cultures and Cuisines, Technological Developments in the Food Industry Factors Affecting Food Choice, Commodity 1 - Fruit and Veg, Commodity 2 - Milk, Cheese and Yoghurt. Commodity 3 – Cereals. Commodity 4 - Meat, fish, poultry, and eggs. Commodity 5 - Butter, oils, margarine, and syrup. Commodity 6 - Soya, tofu, beans, nuts, and seeds NEA2 Discussion and Examples

Year 11

NEA 1 and 2. Revision for written exam

### Assessment:

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes hours - 50% of GCSE Non-exam assessment (NEA) x 2 -

1 .Food investigation 8 hours - 15% of GCSE

2. Food preparation assessment 12 hours - 35% of GCSE

### Possible qualification progression routes:

There is a range of vocational qualifications (such as BTECs, NVQ/SVQs and Diplomas) linked to an interest in food technology including: hospitality and catering, food science and technology. There are a range of apprenticeships linked to food technology, such as: food and drink, including bakery, dairy, confectionary, butchery, e.g. artisan baker, food technologist, hospitality catering, e.g. chef, sous chef, pastry chef, hospitality management.

### Possible career paths using this subject:

Nutritionist, Dietician, Dairy, Brewing/wine making, Horticulture, Baking, Confectionary, Hospitality and Catering, Armed Forces, Sports Science.

### Key guidance:

Please speak to Ms Mills for more information.

### **GCSE Geography**

### Name of course: Geography Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board: AQA

### Exam sections % breakdown

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment 35%,

Paper 2 Challenges in the Human environment 35%

Paper 3 Geographical applications 30%.

### Entry requirement to study this course

KS3 Geography and curiosity about the processes that make up our world.

The grounding provided in KS3 will give students the skills to manage this diverse and rigorous subject.

### Content

### Year 10

Term 1 Natural Hazards Term 2 Living world Term 3 Physical landscapes and Resource Management

### Year 11

Term 1 Urban Issues and Challenges and Fieldwork Term 2 Changing economic world Term 3 Revision and examination

Assessment: Assessed through linear examination, i.e. at the end of Year 11

Paper 1: Challenges of the Physical Environment

Paper 2 Challenges of the Human environment

Paper 3 Geographical skills

**Possible qualification progression routes**: A Level Geography, Degree Level Geography then into a Geography based profession/alternative profession due to Geography providing so many transferable skills.

**Possible career paths using this subject**: Geography teacher or lecturer, Town planner, Climatologist, Geographic information systems technician, Cartographer. Geography graduates are statistically amongst the most employable.

### **Cambridge National in Health and Social Care**

Name of course: Cambridge National in Health and Social Care (OCR level 1/level 2) Qualification Type: Cambridge National Exam Board: OCR

### Exam sections % breakdown:

40% exam 60% coursework

### Entry requirement to study this course:

An interest in gaining knowledge and understanding of the health and social care sector. This is a vocationally related qualification which takes an engaging, practical and inspiring approach to learning and assessment. Health and Social Care will equip students with a sound, specialist knowledge. It will also help students to develop skills such as valuable communication skills that are extremely attractive in the modern workplace, in addition to transferable skills, such as evaluation, planning, presentation/delivery and research skills.

### Content

### The course is made up of one exam unit and two coursework units:

### R032: Principles of care in health and social care settings- exam unit.

In this unit you will learn about the key topics that are important when caring for and protecting people in health and social care.

<u>Topics include:</u> 'The rights of service users in health and social care settings', 'Person-centred values', 'Effective communication in health and social care settings', 'Protecting service users and service providers in health and social care settings.'

### R033: Supporting individuals through life events- coursework unit.

In this unit you will learn about growth and development through the life stages. You will also learn how to understand the needs of individuals who have been affected by life events and how to recommend support to meet their needs.

Topics include: 'Life stages', 'Impacts of life events', 'Sources of support'

### R035: Health promotion campaigns- coursework unit.

In this unit you will research health promotion campaigns and learn about their benefits to society. You will also plan and deliver your own health promotion campaign.

<u>Topics include:</u> 'Current public health issues and the impact on society', 'Factors influencing health', 'Plan and create a health promotion campaign', 'Deliver and evaluate a health promotion campaign'

### Assessment:

40%- One written examination (1 hour 15 minutes) at the end of Year 11, assessing the RO32 topic. The exam will have six compulsory questions. Question types include short and medium answer and extended response.60%- Two written coursework assignments, set by OCR and assessed in school.

### Possible qualification progression routes:

These skills will help you progress onto further study in the health and social care sector. This may be Level 3 vocational qualifications, such as the Cambridge Technical in Health and Social Care; A levels in psychology, biology or sociology and the following apprenticeships: Adult care worker, Allied Health Profession Support, Health and Social Care, Healthcare science assistant, Maternity and Paediatric Support

### Possible career paths using this subject:

Nurse, healthcare assistant, midwife, social worker, Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Dietician.

### Key guidance:

Please speak to Ms Lee for further advice and any questions.

### **GCSE History**

Name of course: History Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board Edexcel

Exam sections % breakdown

PAPER ONE: Thematic Study and Historic Environment (30% of mark) PAPER TWO: Period Study and British Study (40%) PAPER THREE: Modern Depth Study (30% of mark)

**Entry requirement to study this course** - KS3 History, open to all. The knowledge and historical skills introduced in KS3 will give students the basis to manage this diverse and rigorous subject.

### Content

### Year 10

Term 1 Paper 1: Medicine Through time including Paper 1: The British Sector the Western Front, medicine depth study Term 2 Paper 2: Elizabethan History Term 3 Paper 2: Cold War depth study

### Year 11

Term 1 Paper 2: Cold War depth study Term 2 Paper 3: Modern Depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39 Term 3: Revision and examination

### Assessment:

Assessed through linear examination, i.e. at the end of Year 11 All papers will be attempted during internal examination periods.

Possible qualification progression routes:

A level History, Degree Level History, Law.

Possible career paths using this subject:

History teaching and lecturing, Law, Journalism, Civil Service and Government service.

### Name of course: Music

### Qualification Type: GCSE Exam Board: Eduqas

### **Exam sections % breakdown**

- Component 1: Performance 30%

- Component 2: Composing - 30%

- Component 3: Appraising - 40%

### Entry requirement to study this course:

You need to be committed to developing as a musician; be able to play an instrument or sing to some level and be willing to perform; be willing to work hard in and out of lessons; be willing to join / attend a music club and to have some basic music theory understanding.

**\*Important:** you don't have to be able to read music fluently but you will need to be willing to learn to identify notes on a stave.

### Content

### Year 10

*Term 1*: Step up to GCSE music - The Elements – Forms and Devices - Set Work – Music technology - Composition exercises - Performing

Term 2: Popular Music - Set Work - Free Composition - Performing

Term 3: Music for Ensemble - Film Music – Solo and Ensemble Performing

### Year 11

Term 1: Forms and Devices - Popular Music - Composing to a brief - Performing

*Term 2*: Music for Ensemble - Film Music - Set works – Final composition / Record final performances *Term 3*: Revision

### Assessment

Appraising: There is <u>one</u> 'appraising' exam paper of **1 hour 15 minutes** at the end of year 11. It includes eight questions, 2 on each of the four areas of study. These include two set works.

Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices , Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble , Area of study 3: Film Music , Area of study 4: Popular Music

Performing:

- Students perform an ensemble performance and either another ensemble performance or a solo, with a combined duration of 4 -6 minutes.
- Internally marked and externally moderated.

### Composing

- Students compose two compositions, with a total duration of 3 6 minutes.
- One composition is in response to a brief set by Eduqas
- One free composition set by the student
- Scores/annotations for both compositions must be created and submitted by students
- Internally marked and externally moderated.

**Possible career paths using this subject:** Agent; App development; Archivist; Arranger; Artist manager; Arts Administrator; Band member; Fundraiser; Instrumental teacher; Journalist; Military musician; Music therapist; Musical director; Professional musician; Project manager.

### Key guidance:

1 hour of homework per week. Regular independent practice on chosen instrument/voice. Extra rehearsals outside of lessons in the build up to performances.

### **GCSE Religious Studies**

Name of course: Religious Studies Qualification Type: GCSE. Exam Board: AQA

Exam sections % breakdown

50%: Study of Religions: beliefs, teaching and practices. 50%: Thematic Studies

### Entry requirement to study this course:

You need to have an interest in the world around you and a particular interest in culture and examining the reasons and beliefs that motivate people's actions.

To understand the world in which we live requires an insight into what people place value and worth in. Modern Britain is a pluralist society and this GCSE aims to give students an appreciation of what it means to hold a religious belief, why people choose to believe in God and why people choose to reject religion. Furthermore a study of religion will give you an awareness of the key moral issues of our time: extremism, medical ethics, the importance of law and relationships.

### Content

We study ten topics in total. The course is split into two sections which is assessed over two papers: Year 10 (Thematic Studies: Ethics):

- Islam: The 5 Pillars, festivals, Sunni and Shia Islam, Lesser and Greater Jihad, charity
- Christianity: beliefs, teaching and practices
- Religion and Life: Abortion, Animal Rights, creation of the planet, afterlife, euthanasia
- Religion, Peace and Conflict: Why countries go to war, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Just War, terrorism, violent protests, forgiveness.

### Year 11 (Religion)

- Religion, Crime and Punishment: Aims of punishment, forms of punishment, why people commit crime, death penalty, corporal punishment
- Relationships and Families: Abortion, sex and the purpose of sex, marriage, homosexuality, gender roles, cohabitation

### Assessment

There are 2 examinations (no coursework/controlled assessment). Paper 1 = Religion Paper 2 = Thematic studies

### Possible qualification progression routes:

Religious Studies is a very well respected and traditional academic GCSE. As an academic subject it lends itself well to a study of social sciences at A-Level (Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology), as well as the Humanities (Philosophy, Ethics, Law and History). As a subject that is assessed through a written exam, it helps develop writing to persuade and effective essay writing, therefore it also leads naturally to A Level English.

### Possible career paths using this subject:

Lawyers, Doctors, Journalist, Politics, Personnel, Teaching and Lecturing, Museum and Art Galleries, Social Welfare and much more.

### Key guidance:

Please speak to Ms Pearce for further information.

### **GCSE Spanish**

### Name of course: Spanish Qualification: GCSE. Exam Board: AQA

### Exam sections % breakdown

There are four papers all taken at the end of Year 11. There are two tiers - Foundation and Higher.

Listening = 25% Speaking = 25% Reading = 25% Writing = 25%

Entry requirement to study this course: None (the course starts at beginner level)

### Content

### Year 10

Term 1 – Me, My Family & Friends and Technology / Hobbies & Free Time

Term 2 – Festivals & Celebrations / Town & Local Area

Term 3 – Social Issues / Global Issues

### Year 11

Term 1 – Holidays & School / School & Jobs Term 2 - Revision Term 3 - Revision

### Assessment: 4 exams at the end of Year 11

Listening - 25% Speaking - 25% Reading - 25% Writing - 25%

### Possible Qualification: progression routes:

A-Level Spanish GCSEs in other languages

### Possible career paths using this subject:

- Law
- Finance
- Sales & Marketing
- HR
- Interpreting & Translation
- Tourism
- Education
- International Business
- International Governmental Agencies
- Charities

These are just a few examples, languages are really helpful in all industries. Many universities look really positively on GCSE Spanish especially for Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Science applications.

### **Cambridge National in Sport Studies**

Name of course: Sport Studies Level 1 and 2				
Qualification Type: Cambridge National	Exam Board: OCR			

#### Exam sections % breakdown:

60% Practical/Coursework (Year 10) 40% Written Exam (Year 11)

### Entry requirement to study this course:

OCR Cambridge National Sport Studies course offers an alternative to GCSE Physical Education, it has more practical elements and caters for a wider range of individual needs. The course is taught in 3 units. The CNAT Sport Studies course is a 120 guided learning hour (GLH) qualification (equivalent in teaching time to one GCSE). Following this course will teach you how to analyse and make improvements to your own performance. You will learn how to assess, plan and deliver sports coaching sessions for younger students. In year 10, students visit an Outdoor Activity centre to take part in land or water based adventurous activities. The course will develop your leadership skills, something which every employer looks for. This can lead onto the Level 3 BTEC National programme or other vocational qualifications.

### Content

### Year 10

Term 1 - Unit R185 Practical Sports Performance

Term 2 - Unit R185 Planning and Leading a Sports Activity Session

Term 3 - Unit R187 Increasing awareness of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities

### Year 11

Term 1 Unit Contemporary Issues in Sport

- Issues which affect participation in sport
- Olympic values, the role of sport in promoting values
- Implications of hosting a major sporting event for a city or town

Term 2 Unit Contemporary Issues in Sport

- The role national governing bodies play in the development of their sport
- The use of technology in sport
- Exam preparation

### Assessment:

R185 (40%) & R187 (20%) are coursework units and are internally marked and externally moderated. R187 is a written exam. (40%)

### Possible qualification progression routes:

BTEC Level 3 Sports award, A Level PE

### Possible career paths using this subject:

Strength and Conditioning Coach, Sports Therapy, Fitness Instruction, Sports Coaching, Sports Psychology, Physiotherapy, Outdoor Pursuits.

### Key guidance:

Please speak to Ms Logan for any further advice.



Fill out your Options Form, click here

Type this into your browser to complete the form: forms.office.com/e/n1T7rXhhBg

Scan this QR code to take you to the Options Form.

