

Curriculum options booklet





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Dear Students

Years 10 and 11 represent an incredibly important stage in your school life, as you prepare for and take your GCSEs. It is also an exciting time, as you are studying subjects you have chosen to specialise in.

This information booklet gives you a balanced overview of the option choices available and will help you make choices based around your interests and aspirations.

The National Curriculum requires all students to study a broad and balanced curriculum. In years 10 and 11 you will follow a core examined curriculum of English Language, English Literature, mathematics and science. You will also have the opportunity to undertake non-examined study of careers, religious education and PSHE. The rest of your curriculum time will be taken by your option subjects.

As well as the formal curriculum, you will have the opportunity to engage in an exceptional enrichment and visits programme. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is incredibly popular and I am sure you will thoroughly enjoy the expeditions with your friends.

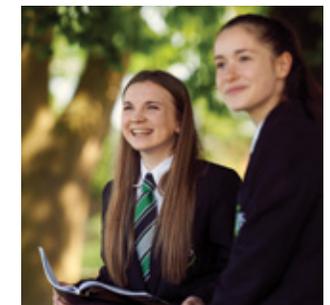
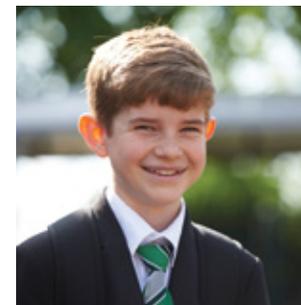
Visits are used to further develop your knowledge and to ignite your passion for the subject. We also use our excellent links with Oxbridge and Russell Group Universities to arrange numerous visits and workshops.

Underpinning these learning opportunities, is a rigorous assessment and monitoring process and personalised pastoral support to ensure you achieve the very best results.

I am confident that if you display the right attitude and have high aspirations, you will flourish at GCSE and leave Lutterworth High School with a set of results of which you can be proud and which provide the foundations for your future career.

Kind regards

Julian Kirby
Headteacher



The Curriculum

The curriculum at Key Stage 4 is made up of two elements: the core curriculum and the guided choice curriculum.

The core curriculum is made up of those subjects in the National Curriculum which have been classed as compulsory, including English, mathematics, science, religious education, physical education, computing, citizenship and careers.

The remaining subjects are referred to as guided choices and are chosen following extensive consultation between students, teachers and parents/carers. The intention is to make sure that the subjects most accurately reflect students' talents, interests and aspirations.

Personalisation of the Key Stage 4 curriculum

At Lutterworth High School we pride ourselves on our personalised approach to learning. The curriculum we offer will be relevant for the very large majority of our students. We will, however, work with students and outside agencies to put together a flexible programme of learning that may include skills-based courses with recognised GCSE equivalence, other accredited

courses, work related learning, functional skills in English, maths and ICT, small group work, mentoring and one-to-one support.

The sciences

Those students who have excelled in their Key Stage 3 science have the opportunity to gain GCSEs in the three separate sciences. Teachers will assess students' suitability to follow this course and advise accordingly.

The English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a performance measure rather than a qualification. It is not currently compulsory, although the Government hopes that all students will take the EBacc range of subjects in the future.

Studying the EBacc range of subjects allows students to enter the widest range of careers and universities. In order to achieve the EBacc, students must achieve a good pass (grade 5 or above) in the following subject areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- History or geography
- The sciences
- A language

To pass the English element of the EBacc, students need to achieve a good pass in English Language GCSE and achieve a grade in English Literature GCSE. To pass the science element, students either need to get good passes in combined science or take 3 single sciences from biology, chemistry, computer science and physics and get a good pass in 2 of them.

The Core Curriculum

English Language (1 GCSE)
English Literature (1 GCSE)
Mathematics (1 GCSE)
Science (2 or 3 GCSEs)
Core PE
Core RE and Citizenship
Core Computing
Careers and PSHE

English Language

The AQA English Language GCSE is designed to develop your skills in English, providing appropriate stretch and challenge whilst ensuring that the assessment and texts are accessible to all. You will develop the skills you need to write with flair and imagination, adapting your tone and register for different audiences. These skills are invaluable in every other GCSE subject and in every possible career and are highly valued by employers.

GCSE English Language provides you with an opportunity to:

- Further develop your skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing.
- Communicate with others confidently, effectively, precisely and appropriately.
- Express yourself creatively and imaginatively.
- Understand the patterns, structures and conventions of written and spoken English.
- Select and adapt speech and writing to different situations and audiences and connect ideas, themes and issues, drawing on a range of texts.

A good pass (grade 5 or above) in GCSE English Language counts towards the English Baccalaureate.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Course Title | GCSE English Language |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8700 |

Assessment

Assessment consists of two 1 hour 45 minute examinations, each worth 50% of the GCSE.

Both units assess both reading and writing:

- Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing.
- Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives.

Speaking and listening are assessed separately.



English Literature

The AQA English Literature specification is designed to interest, challenge and motivate, no matter what your level of ability. A wide range of texts are included, some familiar and some new, all designed to inspire young readers.

You will study works from the following four areas: Shakespeare plays, 19th Century novels, modern drama, and poetry.

English Literature is taught alongside GCSE English Language, so you will benefit from the transferable skills that you develop in both courses.

GCSE English Literature provides you with an opportunity to:

- Explore aspects of plot, characterisation, events and settings.
- Read critically, analysing and evaluating texts.
- Further develop understanding of writers' social, historical and cultural contexts to inform and impact on the creation of texts.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Course Title | GCSE English Language |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8702 |

Assessment

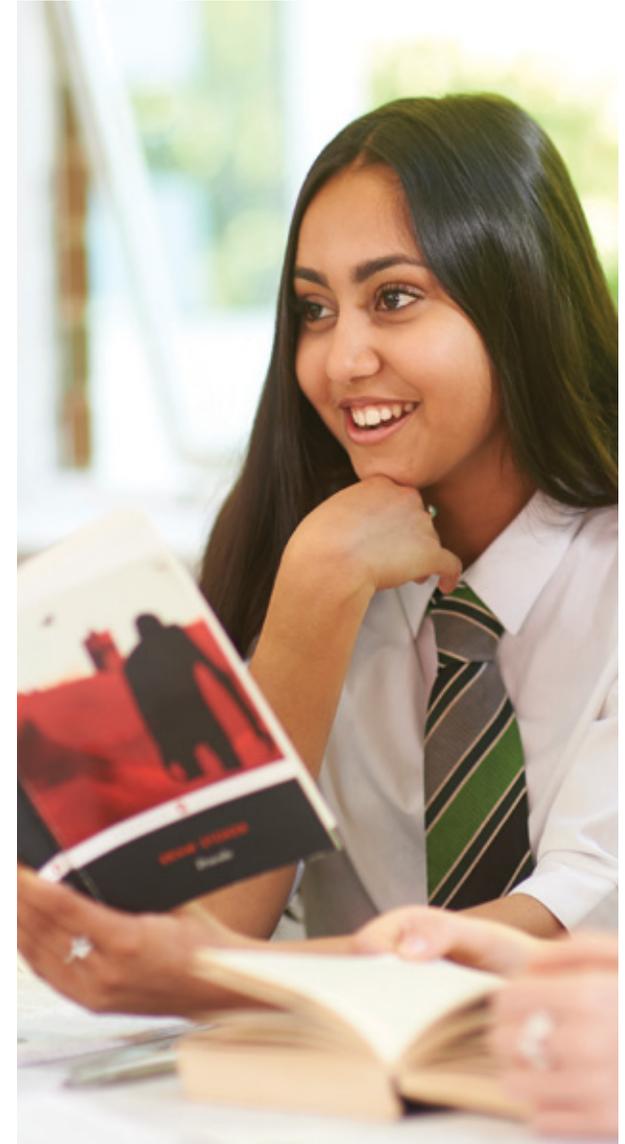
Assessment consists of two examinations which both assess understanding of key texts.

- **Paper 1:** Shakespeare and the 19th Century novel.

- **Paper 2:** Modern drama and poetry.

Paper 1 is worth 40% of the GCSE and the examination is 1 hour 45 minutes.

Paper 2 is worth 60% of the GCSE and is 2 hours 15 minutes.



Mathematics

A solid foundation in mathematics is essential to succeed in all areas of life. GCSE Mathematics is considered vital by employers and by further education providers and universities. A good grasp of mathematics will help you with several of your other subjects including science, geography and design technology.

You have started your mathematics GCSE course and in Year 10, familiar topics will be extended and new topics introduced. The GCSE course is designed to ensure that you finish Key Stage 4 with a confident grasp of useful real life skills such as number work, fractions, decimals, percentages and ratio. It will also help you develop your problem solving skills and your logical reasoning.

GCSE mathematics provides you with an opportunity to:

- Develop your problem solving and reasoning skills.
- Use number, algebra, geometry, measures, statistics and probability at GCSE level.
- Develop your ability to apply mathematics in context so that you can function mathematically in the real world.

- Acquire the knowledge and skills that you need if you choose to study the subject at a higher level.

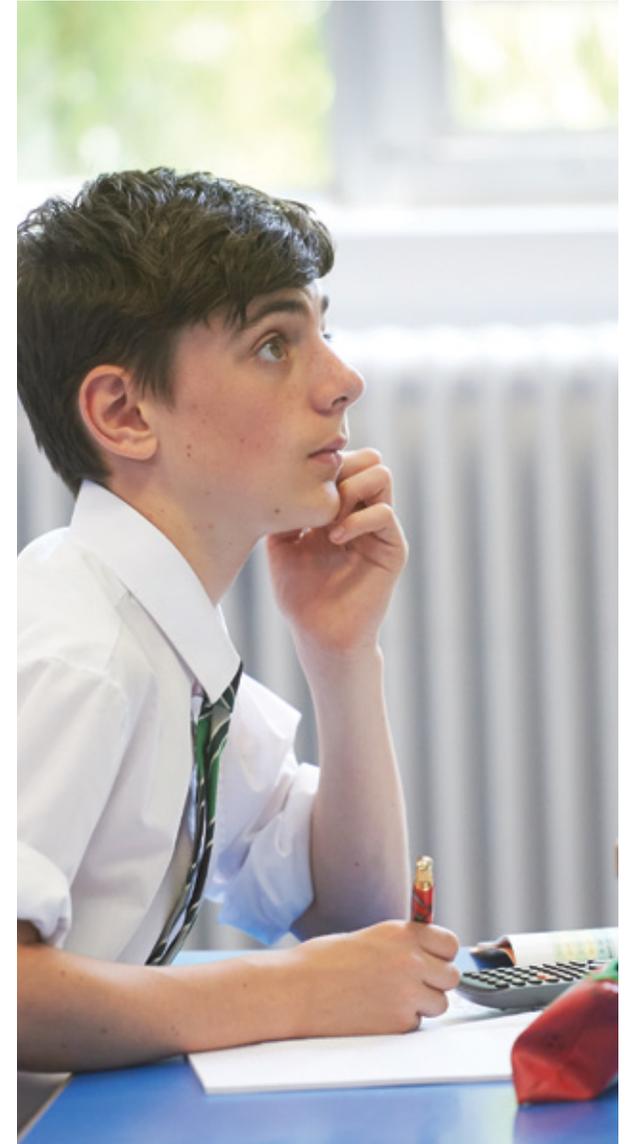
GCSE mathematics has a Foundation Tier (grades 5-1) and a Higher Tier (grades 9-4).

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Course Title | GCSE Mathematics |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8300 |

Assessment

You will sit three 1 hour and 30 minute papers at the end of the course, one non-calculator paper and two calculator papers.

Each paper contributes 33.3% to your overall grade.



Science

Science GCSEs are designed to equip you with an understanding of the key ideas that underpin science so that you can function as a scientifically literate adult. Through studying science you will be able to understand the many scientific issues that appear in the media and will develop the confidence to engage in debate about these issues. AQA sciences also provide a very firm grounding for those of you who may choose to study A level sciences in the future.

Combined science or separate sciences?

The sciences will be taught through two different routes according to your needs and ability.

Combined science is suitable for students of all abilities. It covers a wide range of topics from biology, chemistry and physics. It is a double award qualification leading to two GCSEs and will have a 17 point grading scale, from 9-9, 9-8 through to 2-1, 1-1. You will be expected to carry out 21 set practical experiments and will be tested on your understanding of these in the written examinations.

The separate science route leads to three separate GCSEs in biology, chemistry and physics, allowing you to study each of these strands of science in more detail.

You will be expected to carry out up to 10 practical experiments in each science and you will be tested on your understanding of these in the written examinations.

To pass the science element of the EBacc you need to either:

- Achieve a good pass in combined science.
- Achieve a good pass in two of biology, chemistry, physics or computer science.

Combined science

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Course Title | Combined Science: Trilogy |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8464 |

Assessment

You will sit six 1 hour and 15 minute papers at the end of the course, two biology, two chemistry and two physics.

Separate Sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Course Title | GCSE Biology |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8461 |

Assessment

You will sit two examinations. Each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes in length.

| | |
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| Course Title | GCSE Chemistry |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8462 |

Assessment

You will sit two examinations. Each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes in length.

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Course Title | GCSE Physics |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8463 |

Assessment

You will sit two examinations. Each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes in length.

Core PE

Every student will be timetabled for one period of PE a week. The aim of Core PE lessons in Years 10 and 11 is to encourage lifelong participation in physical activity. For some Year 10 and 11 students, Core PE also provides the opportunity to receive continual assessments across a wide range of sports to support their GCSE PE course. We will offer you a variety of activities, as part of a pathway option.

PE

- Enjoy being active.
- Participate in a range of physical activities.
- Become more aware of the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle.
- Develop your fitness.
- Test your skills against your peers in a competitive environment.

We hope that your enjoyment of Core PE will encourage you to follow up your sporting interests, perhaps by participating in our lunchtime and after-school club programme and/or pursuing at least one physical activity outside of school as a hobby. This will help you develop your skills further and help prepare you to continue to be physically active once you leave Lutterworth High School.

Core Careers and Computing

Careers

We aim to inspire all our students to aim high and to consider a wide range of ambitious career options that extend beyond their immediate experiences and preconceptions. Our extensive careers' programme is designed to widen your horizons so that you feel both excited by the opportunities available to you and well-informed about how you can realise your potential and achieve your ambitions.

PSHE, Citizenship and RE

Every student will be timetabled for one period of PSHE a week.

Our PSHE (personal, social and health education), citizenship and RE programme has been developed to ensure that you continue to develop spiritually, are aware of your rights and responsibilities as a British citizen and know how to take responsibility for choices about how you live your lives.

The programme of study is based on three core themes:

- Health and wellbeing.
- Relationships.
- Living in the Wider World.

Mental health and emotional wellbeing run through all of the core themes. You will study PSHE, citizenship and RE themes in tutor time, through our programme of assemblies and through events that address specific topics.

Core Computing

You will be taught the key elements of computing across the curriculum so that you can build on the knowledge you have acquired through studying computing at Key Stage 3.



Guided Choices

Students should choose six subjects from the main list. You should also choose two reserve subjects.

Students wishing to study sciences (3 GCSEs) should choose biology, chemistry and physics. Students opting for combined science (2 GCSEs) should choose that.

Students must choose either history or geography; if you would like to study both you should choose both.

You need to think carefully about all of your guided choices as well as the reserve choices and you should not hesitate to discuss your ideas with your teachers or a member of the leadership team.

Detailed information about each option can be found in the following pages.

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Art and Design | 1 GCSE |
| Business | 1 GCSE |
| Computer Science | 1 GCSE |
| Combined Science | 2 GCSEs |
| Creative iMedia | 1 CNC |
| Dance | 1 GCSE |
| Design Technology | 1 GCSE |
| Drama | 1 GCSE |
| Enterprise and Marketing | 1 CNC |
| Food Preparation and Nutrition | 1 GCSE |
| French | 1 GCSE |
| Geography | 1 GCSE |
| History | 1 GCSE |
| Information Technology | 1 CNC |
| Music | 1 GCSE |
| Personal Development for Employability with Functional Skills | Level 1 and 2 |
| Physical Education | 1 GCSE |
| Religious Studies | 1 GCSE |
| Separate Sciences | 3 GCSEs |
| Spanish | 1 GCSE |
| Sports Studies | 1 CNC |
| Statistics | 1 GCSE |



Computer Science

Computer science is an area which is expanding rapidly, offering a wide range of career opportunities in the public and private sectors. The job opportunities are diverse and not limited to the more technical range. This course will give you an excellent grounding in using the standard application packages, thus allowing you to develop skills that any employer will value.

GCSE computer science provides you with an opportunity to:

- Develop your understanding of current and emerging technologies.
- Look at the use of algorithms in computer programs.
- Develop computer programs to solve problems.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of computer programs/solutions and the impact of computer technology in society.

You will study the following key areas:

- Fundamentals of algorithms.
- Programming.
- Fundamentals of data representation.

- Computer systems.
- Fundamentals of computer networks.
- Fundamentals of cyber security.
- Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society, including issues of privacy.
- Aspects of software development.

Computer science counts towards the EBacc.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Course Title | GCSE Computer Science |
| Examination Board | OCR |
| Specification/Code | J277 |

Assessment

Students will take two 1 hour 30 minute written examination papers each worth 50% of the GCSE.



Geography

GCSE Geography provides engaging and topical content which consists of a stimulating blend of traditional and contemporary geography. You will enjoy this course if you are passionate about gaining understanding and in-depth knowledge of the physical and human aspects of geography.

During the course there will be a variety of opportunities to take part in field trips. There are two compulsory field experiences to meet the requirements of paper 3, as well as potential opportunities for further field expeditions.

GCSE Geography provides you with an opportunity to:

- Develop effective communication skills.
- Build on graphical and cartographical skills.
- Improve and develop technological skills.
- Learn and develop knowledge through physical and human geography.
- Develop interpersonal skills through debate and discussion about contemporary issues.

GCSE Geography counts towards the EBacc.

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Course Title | GCSE Geography |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8035 |

Assessment

- **Paper 1:** Living with the Physical Environment (1 hour 30 minutes) - 88 marks, 35% of GCSE
- **Paper 2:** Challenges in the Human Environment (1 hour 30 minutes) - 88 marks, 35% of GCSE
- **Paper 3:** Geographical Applications (1 hour 15 minutes) - 76 marks, 30% of GCSE



History

Students who choose this fascinating course are those who enjoy engaging with key historical issues such as conflict and what drives change as well as how key events in the past have helped to define the world we live in today.

You will be able to develop your knowledge and understanding of selected periods and themes in history at both a global and national scale. The course includes 50% British history.

GCSE History provides you with the opportunity to develop a wide range of valuable skills which are directly transferable to several other GCSE and A Level subjects, as well as numerous careers.

These skills include:

- Understanding and analysing events and issues.
- Researching, selecting and gathering information and evidence.
- Organising facts, ideas and arguments into a logical and concise form.
- Thinking critically about information and evidence and assessing its usefulness and reliability.
- Putting forward ideas and presenting arguments persuasively, both verbally and in written form.

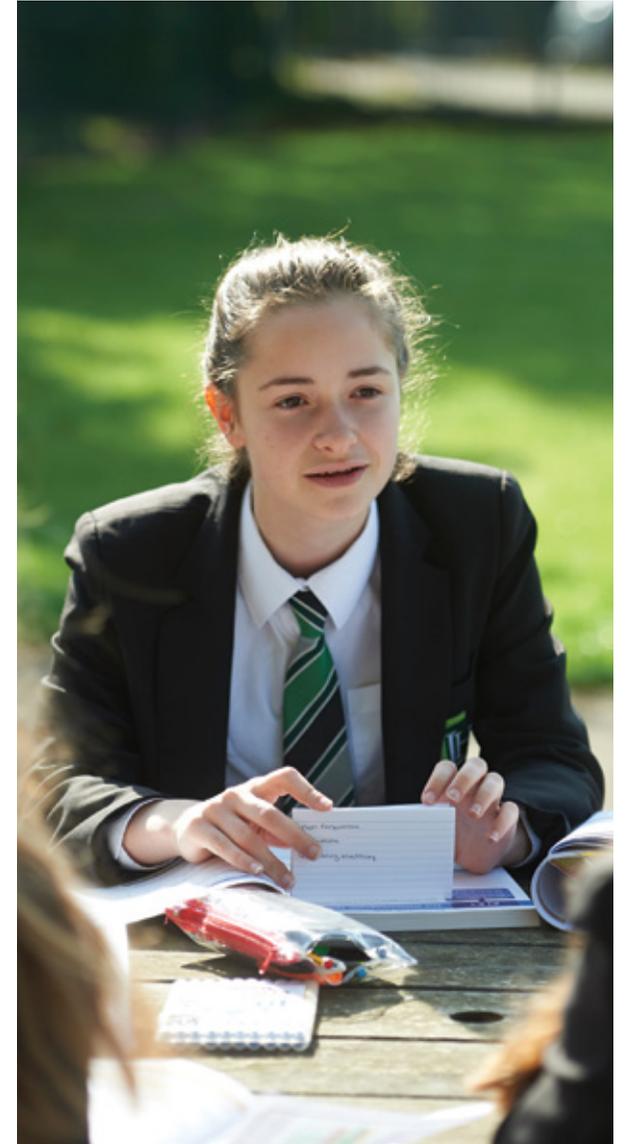
GCSE History counts towards the EBacc.

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Course Title | GCSE History |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8145 |

Assessment

You will sit two 2 hour examination papers at the end of the course. Each is worth 50% of your GCSE.

- **Paper 1:** Understanding the modern world.
- **Paper 2:** Shaping the nation.



Modern Foreign Languages

Whatever your chosen career path or interests, learning a language will provide you with valuable cultural and linguistic understanding and knowledge, and can open up opportunities for work abroad. Studying a language can also improve your ability to communicate in your own language and to understand how your own language works. It is also great fun!

A foreign language is a sought-after skill amongst many employers and is a requirement of a number of university courses. You do not have to be fluent in a language in order for it to help you in your career.

You can choose to study either French or Spanish. A few gifted linguists may have the opportunity to study both subjects.

GCSE French and GCSE Spanish count toward the EBacc.

French

GCSE French lessons bring the French language to life as you apply your learning to real-life scenarios and study the culture and history of France and French speaking communities. This makes French a perfect choice if you enjoy learning and speaking French and learning about the French culture.

GCSE French provides you with an opportunity to:

- Use a range of different learning tools and technologies to develop your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.
- Study topics such as identity, culture, global areas of interest and employment.
- Develop the ability to recognise and use different registers of languages to cope with formal and informal situations.

Students will be entered for either Foundation Tier (grades 5-1) or Higher Tier (grades 9-4).

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Course Title | GCSE French |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8658 |

Assessment

The course is assessed through examinations in listening, speaking, reading and writing (25% each) at the end of the course.

Students must take all four question papers at the same tier.

Foundation Listening – 35 minutes

Higher Listening – 45 minutes

Foundation Reading – 45 minutes

Higher Reading – 1 hour

Foundation Writing – 1 hour

Higher Writing – 1 hour 15 minutes

Foundation Speaking – 7-9 minutes

Higher Speaking - 10-12 minutes

Spanish

GCSE Spanish will enable you to develop a broad understanding of the culture of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken. You will develop your ability to write and speak in Spanish and to understand Spanish when it is written down or spoken.

GCSE Spanish provides you with an opportunity to:

- Use a range of different learning tools and technologies to develop your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.
- Study topics such as identity, culture, global areas of interest and employment.
- Develop the ability to recognise and use different registers of languages to cope with formal and informal situations.

Spanish has a Foundation Tier (grades 5-1) and a Higher Tier (grades 9-4).

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|--------------------|--------------|
| Course Title | GCSE Spanish |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8698 |

Assessment

The course is assessed through examinations in listening, speaking, reading and writing (25% each) at the end of the course. Students must take all four question papers at the same tier.

Foundation Listening – 35 minutes

Higher Listening – 45 minutes

Foundation Reading – 45 minutes

Higher Reading – 1 hour

Foundation Writing – 1 hour

Higher Writing – 1 hour 15 minutes

Foundation Speaking – 7-9 minutes

Higher Speaking - 10-12 minutes



Art and Design

You will enjoy GCSE Art and Design if you are creative and enjoy painting, printing, mixed media/collage and sculpture. You will also learn about art throughout history and the influence of society and culture. This GCSE is a strong foundation for further progression to higher level courses such as A-level Art and Design and related vocational and career pathways.

You must be enthusiastic and prepared to do a significant amount of work outside of lesson times.

You are able to choose from a range of areas of interest on which to focus your studies, including art, craft and design, fine art and textile design. You will build up a portfolio of work that might include mounted studies, sketchbooks, visual diaries, journals, design sheets, design proposals, models, maquettes, prototypes, storyboards, video, photographic or digital presentations and you will also complete an externally set assignment in which you demonstrate your skills by responding to a title set by the examination board.

GCSE Art and Design provides you with an opportunity to:

- Build creative skills through learning and doing.
- Actively engage in the processes of art and design.
- Develop imaginative and intuitive ways of working.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of media, materials and technologies in historical and contemporary contexts, societies and cultures.

| | |
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| Course Title | Art and Design |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8201-8206 |

Assessment

You will be assessed through a combination of portfolio work (60%) and an externally set assignment (40%).

The portfolio (unit 1) is set and marked internally and moderated by AQA. The externally set assignment is also marked internally and moderated by AQA. There is unlimited preparation time for the task, which is then assessed over 10 hours in examination conditions.



Business

Students wishing to study business studies should pick either the GCSE Business or Cambridge National Certificate in Enterprise and Marketing.

Business studies is an exciting and fast moving subject which looks at the way businesses start and operate to satisfy customers and make profits for investors and owners. You will be shown how business decisions are made and have the opportunity to practise your own decision-making in a variety of simulated business situations. Lessons will often make use of business events reported in the news to illustrate the topic being taught, such as company takeovers or the launch of new products.

GCSE business studies provides you with the opportunity to:

- Study and discuss major business decisions that are taking place in real companies.
- Gain an understanding of the responsibilities involved in running small, medium sized or large businesses.
- Use a critical approach to distinguish between fact and opinion, build arguments and make informed judgements.
- Develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills to solve business problems.

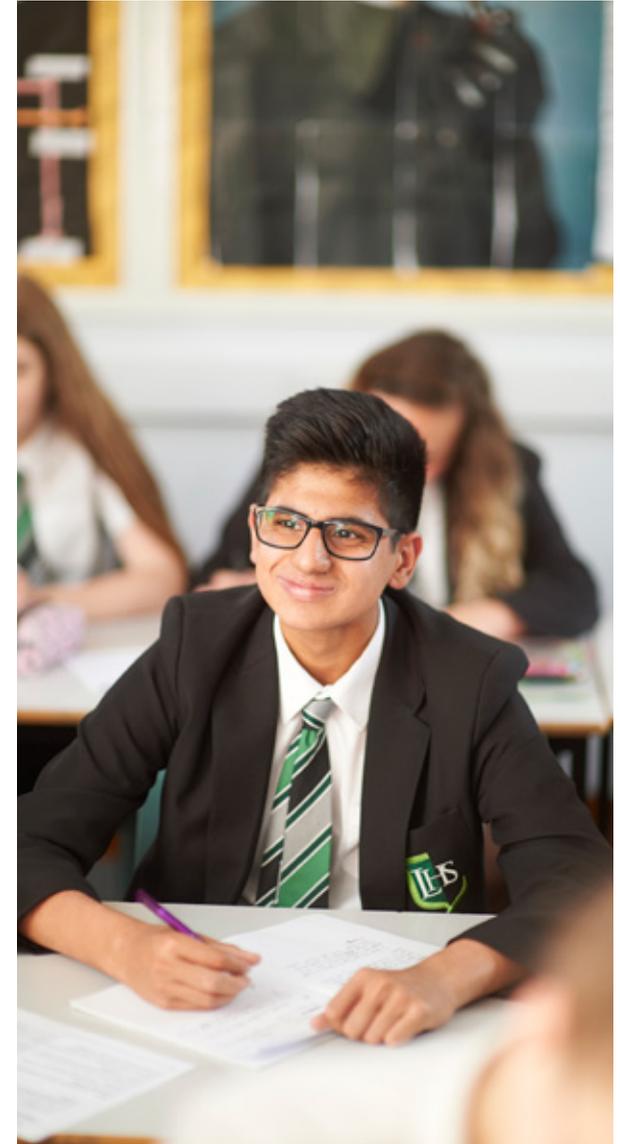
- Write reports about various aspects of business management; including marketing, finance and human resources.

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Course Title | GCSE Business (full) |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8132 |

Assessment

There are two papers, each lasting 1 hour 45 minutes, each worth a total of 90 marks and each carrying 50% weighting for overall grade.

- **Paper 1:** Influences of operations and human resource management on business activity.
- **Paper 2:** Influences of marketing and finance on business activity.



Creative iMedia

For this course, students will be given the opportunity to develop their creative skills in the digital media sector. They will learn to plan and formulate ideas, and learn the key skills and terms required in the industry. Alongside this, students will learn the digital skills required to create a creative media project, for example, how to create websites, audio, moving images, games, or publishing documents. The course will inspire the students creative skills which may hopefully lead into a career in the industry or further study at Key Stage 5.

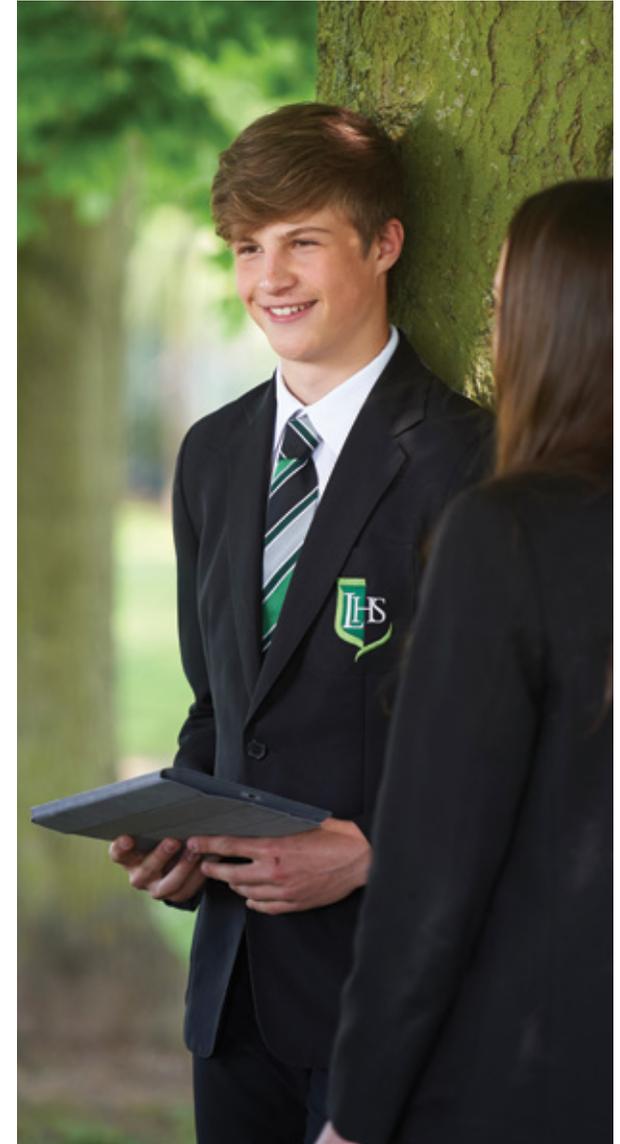
During the Cambridge Nationals Creative iMedia Course you will be provided with the opportunity to:

- Be inspired and enthused about a career in the creative digital media industries.
- Develop skills, across the creative digital media sectors, e.g. moving image, audio production, games design, website design and publishing.
- Support progression to a more specialised level 3 vocational or academic media qualification or an apprenticeship.
- Explore the digital media industry.
- Formulate and develop ideas of a product you plan to produce.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Course Title | Creative iMedia |
| Examination Board | OCR |
| Specification/Code | J817 |

Assessment

- One 1 hour examination worth 25% of the qualification.
- Three coursework documents worth 25% each, for example website production, moving images, audio production or games production.



Dance

GCSE Dance focuses on the aesthetic and artistic qualities of dance and the symbolic use of movement to express and communicate ideas and concepts through the interrelated processes of performance, choreography and appreciation. Dance is a powerful and empowering form of non-verbal communication and it is both physical and expressive, which makes it similar to and different from other art forms and physical activities. Dance develops creative, imaginative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacities. The holistic study of professional dance works provides the context for learning through performance, choreography and critical appreciation and enables students to experience different cultural influences and styles of dance. The study of professional works also enables students to develop a broad vocabulary and enrich their own artistic achievement. The practical component of the course enables students to study dance by 'doing' and the anthology of professional works will provide a springboard for the development of creative and engaging practical tasks. The study of the anthology will facilitate the development of students' skills in performance and choreography as well as broadening their knowledge and understanding of dance and ability to critically appraise dances of different styles and cultural influences.

The course is in three parts:

Component 1: Performance: 30% - Practical.

- Set phrases – solo performance.
- Duet/Trio performance.

Component 2: Choreography: 30% - Practical

Component 3: Dance appreciation:

Written examination (1 hour 30 minutes) (40%)

- Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills.
- Critical appreciation of own work.
- Critical appreciation of professional works.

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Course Title | Dance |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8236 |



Design Technology

GCSE Design Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on design and technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing, making and applying technical and practical expertise within a range of specialist areas; Resistant Materials, Graphics and Textiles Fashion.

The GCSE allows students to study core technical designing/making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. This content is delivered through focused theoretical practical tasks, projects and a range of trips. GCSE Design Technology opens the door to a wide range of careers and further study in the creative, engineering and manufacturing industries. Whatever career you choose, the knowledge and skills you learn, particularly those concerned with rapidly developing technologies, will be extremely valuable.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Course Title | Design Technology |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8552 |

Assessment

50% written examination (2 hours) which will cover:

- Core technical principles.
- Specialist technical principles.
- Designing and making principles.

50% NEA (non-examination assessment)

- Substantial design and make task.
- Assessment criteria:
 - Investigating
 - Designing
 - Making
 - Analysing and Evaluating



Drama

GCSE Drama allows students to gain a practical understanding of drama, alongside applying this knowledge to their performances while developing their practical skills.

The course fosters students' creativity, personal growth, self-confidence, communication and analytical skills through the acquisition of knowledge, skills and understanding, and the exercise of the imagination. It provides opportunities for students to attend professional performances and to develop their skills as informed and thoughtful audience members.

Through the study of GCSE Drama, students will be given opportunities to participate in and interpret their own and others' drama. They will investigate the forms, styles, and contexts of drama and will learn to work collaboratively to develop ideas, to express feelings, to experiment with technical elements and to reflect on their own and others' performances. By studying GCSE Drama, students will learn more about the subject and its contribution to social and cultural commentary, and will come to appreciate that drama, whether intended for audiences or not, provides significant opportunities for expressing cultural and personal identity.

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Course Title | GCSE Drama |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8261 |

Assessment

Component 1: Understanding drama (written examination, 1 hour 45 minutes 40%)

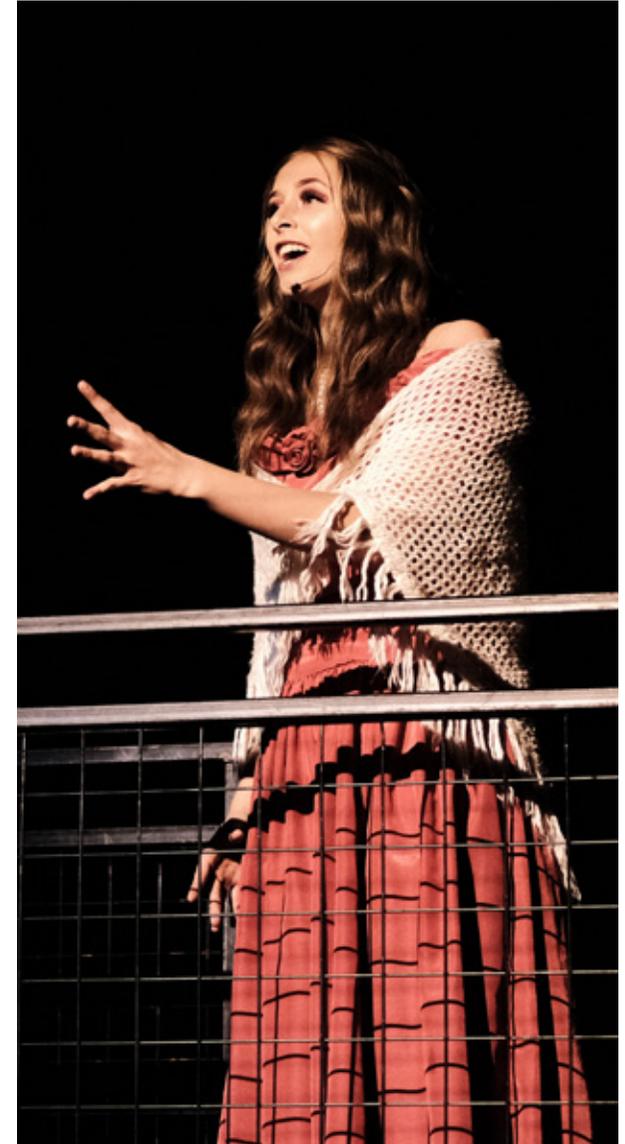
- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre.
- Study of one set play.
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers.

Component 2: Devising drama (practical performance and devising log 40%)

- Process of creating devised drama.
- Performance of devised drama.
- Analysis and evaluation of own work.

Component 3: Texts in practice (practical performance 20%)

- Performance of two extracts from one play.



Enterprise and Marketing

Students wishing to study Business Studies should pick either the Business GCSE, or the Cambridge National Certificate in Enterprise and Marketing.

Enterprise and Marketing gives students the practical skills and applied knowledge they will need in business. Practical elements build on the knowledge students learn for their exam, so that students can put their learning into practice while also developing valuable transferable skills. Students will explore the techniques businesses use to understand their market and develop products, investigate what makes a product viable and understand how businesses attract and retain customers. This will be followed by creating their own business proposals, including market research, costing, idea generation and presenting the data, before pitching it to a client.

Enterprise and Marketing provides students with the opportunity to:

- Be inspired about understanding and creating different business ideas.
- Learn how to cost products.
- Develop the understanding of how products can become viable.
- Undertake market research.
- Formally pitch a product to a client.

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| Course Title | Enterprise and Marketing Level 1/2 Certificate |
| Examination Board | OCR |
| Specification/Code | J819 |

Assessment

- One 1 hour 30 minute exam worth 50% of the qualification.
- Two coursework units worth 25% each - Designing a business proposal. Market and pitch a business proposal.



Food Preparation and Nutrition

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition equips you with cooking skills together with knowledge and understanding of the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating.

You will be taught to cook and the course will enable you to make informed decisions about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways. You will develop vital life skills that will enable you to feed yourself and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

In studying food preparation and nutrition, you will:

- Explore food science and investigate how and why food changes when we cook, store or process it.
- Demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking using a variety of food commodities, cooking techniques and equipment.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the nutritional content of food and drinks.
- Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international), to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.
- Consider how our choices affect the food we eat and appreciate the impact food production has on the environment.

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| Course Title | Food Preparation and Nutrition |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8585 |

Assessment

50 per cent of the marks for GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition will be allocated to non-examination assessments, which will separately test your knowledge, skills and understanding of the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food and of the scientific principles underlying the preparation and cooking of food.

The remaining 50 per cent of the marks will be allocated to a written examination which is 1 hour 45 minutes.



Information Technology

Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies helps you to develop your knowledge of current and emerging technologies, a range of IT tools and techniques and society's use of IT. This specification requires you to develop your ability to work collaboratively as well as work independently.

Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Information Technologies provides you with an opportunity to:

- Become independent and a discerning user of IT, able to make informed decisions about its use and be aware of its implications for individuals, organisations and society.
- Acquire and apply creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of IT in a range of contexts.
- Develop IT-based solutions to solve problems.
- Develop your understanding of current and emerging technologies and their social and commercial impact.
- Develop your understanding of the legal, social, economic, ethical and environmental issues raised by IT.
- Recognise potential risks when using IT, and develop safe, secure and responsible practice.

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| Course Title | Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies |
| Examination Board | OCR |
| Specification/Code | J808 |

Assessment

The course is made up of one externally assessed 1hr 45 examination (R012) worth 50% of the qualification, and one internally assessed coursework (R013) worth 50% of the qualification.

- **R012:** Understanding tools, techniques, methods and processes for technological solution – 1 hour 45 minutes examination (50%).
- **R013:** Developing technological solution (50%).



Music

GCSE Music will equip you with all the skills required to develop as a musician. The three key components of the course are appraising, composing and performing, with a focus on developing deeper musical understanding in a wide variety of contexts throughout the course. You will be given the opportunity to perform with others and also use technology to compose music in a variety of genres and styles.

There are five areas of study with eight set works:

- Area of study 1: My music
- Area of study 2: The concerto through time
- Area of study 3: Rhythms of the world
- Area of study 4: Film music
- Area of study 5: Conventions of pop

You can expect to:

- Appraise and understand music from a variety of genres. These include music for screen, classical music and vocal music.
- Perform as a soloist and in groups/ ensembles.
- Compose music based on your own ideas and set composing briefs.

Other Useful information

Students must be taking regular instrumental lessons. You will be expected to take part in

extra curricular music in school and also follow a dedicated practice regime on your chosen instrument. You will be expected to take every opportunity to perform in school concerts, shows and events.

The ability to read music is an advantage but not essential and to have a basic understanding of music theory is an advantage but not essential.

Expected entry requirements.

Learning a musical instrument or voice for roughly 3 years or more and taking instrumental lessons in or outside of school.

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| Course Title | Music |
| Examination Board | OCR |
| Specification/Code | J536 |

Assessment

- 40% Examination 1 hour 30 minutes (based on study areas AOS 2-4).
- 30% Composing (One own choice composition and one to a set brief, totalling 3 minutes minimum).
- 30% Performing (two performances – 1 solo performance and one ensemble performance, totalling 4 minutes minimum).



Personal Development for Employability with Functional Skills in English and Maths

This course offers you a range of qualifications designed to support you across the core curriculum as well as the qualifications needed to prepare you for employment.

The areas of study on this course include completing a job application form, job searching, effective teamwork, preparing for an interview, health and safety in the workplace, working as a volunteer, building working relationships with customers, preparing for work placement, the rules to deliver customer service, fire safety awareness and the range of service provision and roles within health and social care (adults and children and young people), early years and childcare.

Functional Skills in both English and maths underpin the basic skills needed for GCSE.

Functional Skills English is designed to equip students with the life skills they need to succeed. It aims to ensure learners can communicate with confidence and independence and offers excellent preparation for employment and further education.

Functional Skills in Mathematics allows students to explore real life contexts and everyday mathematics forms the basis of this practical and engaging course.

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| Course Title | Level 1 Award in Personal Development for Employability |
| Examination Board | Highfield |
| Specification/Code | 600/8456/X |

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| Course Title | Functional Skills in English |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8720 (Level 1) 8725 (Level 2) |

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| Course Title | Functional Skills in Mathematics |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8361 (Level 1) 8362 (Level 2) |

Assessment

- Level 1 Award in Personal Development for Employability – This qualification is assessed by multiple choice examination, a portfolio of evidence or a practical demonstration
- Functional Skills in English – There are two written exam papers, one in reading and one in writing. Each paper is 60 minutes long.
- Functional Skills in Maths – There are two written papers each divided into two sections – underpinning skills and problem solving. Paper 1 is 30 minutes and paper 2 is 90 minutes long.

Physical Education

Students wishing to study Physical Education should pick either GCSE Physical Education, or the OCR Cambridge National Sports Studies Level 2 Certificate.

The GCSE physical education course will give you a good understanding of the principles behind sport and physical activity. You will cover a range of topics which will give you a greater understanding of how your mind and body enable you to participate to a high standard within physical activity.

GCSE physical education provides you with an opportunity to:

- Enjoy practical physical education in a range of sports or activities.
- Have a desire to learn about the human body in sport and exercise.
- Have a desire to learn about the use of psychology in sport.
- Be actively involved in sport in school and outside of school in a range of activities.
- Take part in extra-curricular clubs and activities in and out of school.

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| Course Title | GCSE Physical Education |
| Examination Board | OCR |
| Specification/Code | J587 |

Assessment

Practical Performance – You will be assessed on your practical ability in three different sports. This will include a range of skills and participating in a full sided game or event. Your practical performance will make up 30% (10% for each sport) of your final GCSE grade. You will have to be assessed in both a team sport as well as an individual sport.

Final Written Examination – The work which you study in theory sessions will be examined through two final examinations at the end of Year 11 which will be worth 60% of your GCSE grade.

Analysis and Evaluate Performance – As part of your practical assessment you will also have to produce a piece of coursework which analyses and evaluates your own sporting performance for an identified weakness. You will then devise a training programme to improve and this controlled assessment will be worth 10% of your final GCSE grade.



Religious Studies

Religious studies is a fascinating subject if you are interested in the big questions about life. Your classroom experience will provide opportunities for discussion and debate about religious perspectives on moral and ethical issues, building on Key Stage 3 topics and introducing new ones. You will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of two religions. Our specification is suitable for candidates of any religious persuasion or none.

GCSE religious studies provides you with an opportunity to:

- Develop your interest and enthusiasm for the study of religion and the relationship between religion and the wider world.
- Develop your knowledge, skills and understanding of religion by exploring the impact of beliefs, teachings, practices, ways of life and forms of expressing meaning.
- Express your personal responses and informed insights on fundamental questions about identity, belonging, meaning, purpose, truth, values and commitments.

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| Course Title | GCSE Religious Studies A |
| Examination Board | AQA |
| Specification/Code | 8062 |

Assessment

Assessment will consist of two 1 hour 45 minute examinations, each worth 50% of the GCSE.

- **Paper 1:** The study of religion: beliefs, teachings and practices.
- **Paper 2:** Thematic studies.



Sports Studies

Students wishing to study Physical Education should pick either GCSE Physical Education, or the OCR Cambridge National Sports Studies Level 2 Certificate

Our Cambridge National Certificate in Sport Studies enables students to develop and apply knowledge of sports-related activities, practically we focus on developing sports skills and officiating skills. Students explore contemporary issues in sport as part of their exam and the role of the media as part of their coursework. They explore contemporary issues in sport, different ways of being involved in the sports industry, and the impact of sport on wider society.

OCR Cambridge National in Sports Studies provides you with an opportunity to:

- Develop a range of skills through involvement in sport and physical activity in different contexts and roles.
- Develop their ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations.
- Gain a better understanding of the complexity of different areas of sport and the sports industry.
- Increase their awareness of different ways to stay involved in sport and physical activity and of different careers and roles within sport.

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| Course Title | Sports Studies |
| Examination Board | OCR Cambridge National |
| Specification/Code | J813 |

Assessment

2 x Mandatory Assessments (Total 120 Marks)

- Written Exam on 'Contemporary issues in sport' (60 Marks)
- Assessed Task on 'Developing Sports skills' (60 Marks)

2 x Assessments from the following - chosen by the school (Total 120 Marks)

- Assessed Task on 'Sports leadership' (60 Marks)
- Assessed Task on 'Sport and the media' (60 Marks)
- Assessed Task on 'Working in the sports industry' (60 Marks)
- Assessed Task on 'Developing knowledge and skills in outdoor activities' (60 Marks)



Statistics

GCSE Statistics is a great option for students who are mathematically or logically inclined!

The subject focuses on how statistics are used in the 'real world' and is a valuable skill in many aspects of life. It's also particularly useful if you want to study maths, science, psychology, geography or business studies and economics. There are plenty of jobs that require the handling of statistics – weather forecasting, marketing, biological sciences and many more!

Statistics is about making decisions when there is uncertainty, problem-solving, probability and interpretation of data. Perhaps one of the most versatile areas of mathematics, it gives students the skills to collect, analyse, interpret and present data.

The course is logically structured and emphasizes careful planning and a strategy for collecting, recording and processing data in order to address an identified hypothesis.

The final qualification is 100% exam and there is no course work element to the final grade.

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| Course Title | GCSE Statistics |
| Examination Board | Edexcel |
| Specification/Code | 1STO |

Assessment

Students will be entered for either Foundation Tier (grades 5-1) or Higher Tier (grades 9-4).

There are two exams at both levels with equal weighting. Both papers have multiple choice, short answers and a statistical enquiry cycle question.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award will be running as an extra-curricular programme. The award offers progression through three levels, bronze, silver and gold. You will enjoy a range of new experiences and discover talents you never thought you had! Achieving an award will give you skills and confidence and it is something that universities and future employers value highly.

Bronze (you need to be 14 to begin this course)

A bronze DofE programme has four sections: volunteering, physical, skills and expedition. You must do a minimum of three months activity for each of the volunteering, physical or skills sections, and plan, train for and do a two day (one night) expedition.

You also have to spend an extra three months on one of the volunteering, physical or skills sections. It will usually take you at least six months to complete your bronze programme.

Silver (you need to be 15 to begin this course)

A silver DofE programme has 4 sections: volunteering, physical, skills and expedition. You need to do at least 6 months volunteering and a minimum of 6 months on either physical or skills and 3 months on the other. It's up to you which one you do for longer. The expedition section involves planning, training for and completing a three day (two night) expedition.

It will take you at least 6 months for silver if you've already achieved your bronze award. Gold is only offered to students over 16.

Next Steps

- Read this book carefully with your parent/carer.
- Consider those subjects that might form part of your option choice.
- Consider which subjects you have done well at and enjoyed at Key Stage 3.
- Consider the new subjects on offer.
- Talk to your teachers and ask their advice.
- Consider the career direction you may want to take.

You will complete your options using SIMS – Options: this is online and an accompanying letter will explain how to use this.

If you have any issues or concerns, please feel free to book an appointment.

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