

GCSE GUIDED PATHWAY

YEAR 8→9
2018/19

Contents

3	KS4 Guided Pathway Information
4	Making the Choice
5	Core Subjects - Maths
6	Core Subjects - English
7	Core Subjects - Science
8	Core Subjects - Life
9	Core Subjects - PE
10	Guided Pathway Courses
11	Change to GCSE Grades/Terminology
12-13	Frequently Asked Questions
14	Careers Education & Guidance Programme
15-19	Connecting GCSEs to Careers
20	How to make your choice of options
21-22	14-19 Pathways through Outwood Grange Academy
23	EBacc Subjects
24	GCSE Geography
25	GCSE History
26	GCSE Computer Science
27	GCSE Modern Foreign Languages French
28	GCSE Modern Foreign Languages Spanish
29	Other Subjects
30	GCSE Art & Design
31	BTEC Tech Award Enterprise
32	Cambridge Nationals Certificate in ICT
33	GCSE Religious Studies
34	Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Sport Science
35	GCSE Design and Technology (Textiles)
36	GCSE Design and Technology (Graphics)
37	GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition
38	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery
39	BTEC Tech Award in Engineering
40	Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Child Development
41	BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts
42	GCSE Dance
43	GCSE Music
44	Option Maths

KS4 Guided Pathway Information

We are pleased to issue the Guided Pathway information booklet for Key Stage 4 at Outwood Grange Academy.

At Outwood Grange Academies Trust we firmly believe that all children, irrespective of their starting point, are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum which will enable them to succeed both whilst at the academy and in later life. To that end we are delighted to offer an innovative and knowledge rich curriculum, which enables any student within our academies to fulfil their potential and develop the all-important skills and qualities which will serve them well in later life.

As you will be aware, our Key Stage 4 curriculum is run over Years 9, 10 and 11, rather than the two years (10 and 11) which were traditionally advocated. This additional year is one of the hallmarks of our Trust. This, along with the permanent, supernumerary subject specialist directors of English, maths, science, humanities, modern foreign languages, computer science and the arts, who work across all of our academies, are key to helping the teachers within each academy to add the maximum value that we can to your child's education.

In addition to these important subject specialists, we also deploy specialists in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and Attendance: regular attendance, especially throughout Key Stage 4 is critical to your child's success.

A further feature of our curriculum at Key Stage 4 is the flexible Guided Pathways which, alongside a core entitlement, make up the broad and balanced range of subjects on offer. In the attached booklet you will see that the core subjects: GCSE English Language and Literature, GCSE mathematics and GCSE sciences (combined science or biology, chemistry and physics) are taken by all students alongside non-examined courses in physical education and personal, social, health and religious education (Life lessons). Students then have three subjects to choose as part of their Guided Pathways allocation, to start in Year 9. To allow students to spread the examination load and help them achieve a balance in their studies, up to two of these can be studied and taken at the end of Year 10; these are the non-EBacc subjects. This early entry option also helps students prepare for the further examinations that they will take at the end of Year 11 and can often be a real turning point in students' education. In addition to this, we will advise and support some students who may require extra time in GCSE mathematics, by offering this core subject within the Guided Pathways. In Year 11, there will be a further opportunity to have additional time for GCSE English and/or mathematics, for those who need it.

We do this in the full knowledge that further and higher education, as well as many employment opportunities, require students to have attained a high level in literacy and numeracy (GCSE grade 5, known as a 'strong' pass, or higher). Furthermore, we fully support the entitlement that students have to study the group of qualifications which the government calls the English Baccalaureate (EBacc): a GCSE grade 5 or higher in one English, mathematics, two sciences, one humanities subject (geography or history) and a modern foreign language. To support attainment in this important group of subjects we require all students to study at least one of these subjects (geography or history or a modern foreign language or indeed computer science), which will be taken over the entire period of Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11). Computer Science, whilst not contributing directly to the full EBacc, is an EBacc subject. For many students it will be appropriate that they also study a second EBacc subject so that they attain the full EBacc, which increasingly higher education establishments are looking for. We will advise you if we believe that your child should be following this route and as always, provide specialist independent careers advice to ensure that you have access to impartial support during this process.

We understand that this is a crucial time and the choosing of KS4 subjects is very important. You will find further information about support available to you later in this booklet, including details of the Guided Pathway Information Evening.

Whatever your son or daughter is hoping to study, and then do in later life, I am sure that you will find the Guided Pathway process helpful, in the full knowledge that our sole aim is to put Students First: raising standards and transforming lives.

Making the Choice

In general terms, what does the curriculum look like?

The timetable week contains 25 x 1 hour periods; plus, Vertical Mentor Group time.

This 25 period week is split into compulsory Core subjects and Guided Pathway subjects.

	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Core	English 5 hrs Maths 4 hrs Science 4 hrs PE 2 hrs RE/LIFE 1 hr	English 5 hrs Maths 4 hrs Science 4 hrs PE 1 hr RE/LIFE 1 hr	English 5 hrs Maths 4 hrs Science 6 hrs PE 1 hr
Guided Pathways	<p>Students can choose three subjects from a list of courses.</p> <p>>> EBacc subjects will be completed at the end of year 11 and given 3 hrs per week in year 9, 2 hrs per week in year 10 and 3 hrs per week in year 11.</p> <p>>> Non-EBacc subjects will be completed at the end of year 10 and given 3 hrs per week in year 9 and 4 hrs per week in year 10.</p> <p>The expectation is that all students will study at least one EBacc subject in year 9/10/11; and that many will study for the full EBacc (1x MFL and 1x Humanity).</p>		<p>In Year 11 students will choose subjects to fill up to 6 hrs of Guided Pathway time.</p> <p>Depending on how many EBacc subjects a student is studying in year 9, they will have either 3 or 6 hrs of Guided Pathway time available in Year 11 (see below).</p> <p>This time could be used to pick up a new subject or consolidate performance in the key subjects of English and maths.</p>

		Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Possible Pathways	3xEBacc (Incl Full EBacc)	3hrs EBacc choice 1 3hrs EBacc choice 2 3hrs EBacc choice 3	2hrs EBacc choice 1 2hrs EBacc choice 2 2hrs EBacc choice 3 +4hrs accelerated subject # or consolidation	3hrs EBacc choice 1 3hrs EBacc choice 2 3hrs EBacc choice 3
	2xEBacc (Incl Full EBacc)	3hrs EBacc choice 1 3hrs EBacc choice 2 3hrs Non-EBacc choice 1 (The non-EBacc choice could be Option Maths in Y9 & 10)	2hrs EBacc choice 1 2hrs EBacc choice 2 4hrs Non-EBacc choice 1 # +2hrs accelerated subject # or consolidation	3hrs EBacc choice 1 3hrs EBacc choice 2 +3hrs guided pathway
	1xEBacc	3hrs EBacc choice 1 3hrs Non-EBacc choice 2 3hrs Non-EBacc choice 3 (One of the non-EBacc choices could be Option Maths in Y9 & 10)	2hrs EBacc choice 1 4hrs Non-EBacc choice 2 # 4hrs Non-EBacc choice 3 #	3hrs EBacc choice 1 +6hrs guided pathway

Courses completed at the end of year 10

Core Subjects - Maths

Maths is a gateway into all sorts of exciting future careers - Computer Games Designer, Teaching, Formula 1 Engineer, Aerodynamicist, Engineer, Music Producer, Air-Traffic Controller, Banker, Defence Analyst, Designer, Statistician, Investment Analyst, Economist, Tax Advisor, Accountant, Actuary, Auditor, Modelling Analyst, Stockbroker, Architect and Systems Analyst.

Maths is a 3-year linear GCSE (9-1) course, students will complete this course at the end of Year 11.

There are 6 main areas of study - Number, Ratio, Algebra, Geometry & Measures, Probability and Statistics. These areas of study are assessed through exams at the end of the course.

The qualification consists of three equally weighted written examination papers.

- paper 1 is non-calculator
- papers 2 and 3 are calculator papers
- each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes
- the content will be assessed across all three papers.

This qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total mark across all three papers where 9 is the highest grade.

We know that to give students the best chances of gaining employment or entry to higher education they must achieve the highest grade possible in Maths.



Core Subjects - English

GCSE English is vital for a whole range of employment options, college and university courses. For most jobs, employers will look for good communication skills, both written and spoken, and the ability to read with insight and understanding. Jobs using English specifically can include work in media, journalism, advertising, public relations, management and teaching.

Students study both English Language and English Literature and are expected to complete the course at the end of Year 11.

In **English Language**, students will study fiction texts (such as extracts from novels) and non-fiction texts (such as leaflets and articles), developing their reading skills and their ability to locate information, infer, summarise, use evidence and comment on the writer's techniques. They will also develop their writing skills, writing short stories and a range of transactional texts for magazines and other media.

In **English Literature**, there will be opportunities to study a range of texts including plays, novels and poems. Some texts are modern and others are from our literary heritage.

Assessment will take the form of examinations at the end of the course.

GCSE English is a very important qualification and a good GCSE grade. Together with a similar grade in Maths, it is the gateway to many careers and courses of higher education. For some University courses, places are based on GCSE grades as well as A Levels.



Core Subjects - Science

All students will follow GCSE Science over three years. Most students will achieve three GCSEs (Triple Science) and some students will achieve two GCSEs in Combined Science.

Students go on to study A Levels in Physics, Biology and Chemistry. These advanced subjects can then lead to University Science study. Professions then include Medicine, Teaching, Veterinary Science, Pharmacology, Forensic Science, Cosmology, Space Science, Oceanography and Engineering.

Science GCSEs are very important qualifications and a good GCSE grade in one or more, demonstrates many transferable skills that are desirable by both Further Education providers and employers.



Core Subjects - Life

Course Description

This is a core subject and covers students entitlement to Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE), Citizenship, Religious Studies, Relationships & Sex Education.

In Year 9 students study the following areas:

- Moral & Philosophical Questions
- Anti-Bullying
- Healthy Living (Fitness & Diet)
- Personal Safety
- Environment
- RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)

In Year 10 students study the following areas:

- Mental Health
- Careers
- Healthy Living (Alcohol & Drugs)
- Finance
- British Values
- RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)

Assessment

This is done via teacher assessment and self assessment and is closely linked to the Learning Model supporting personal learning and thinking skills and also SEAL (social and emotional aspects of learning). Revision Skills are also embedded to support students with their examination preparations.

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

All students are required and entitled to follow the LIFE course.

General Comments

All modules include a variety of resources and teaching methods. Many involve outside experts visiting to address students.

Future Prospects/Career Options

This course will support students through all aspects of real life beyond the classroom. It also offers an element of careers education and work related education.

Student Comments

"I like LIFE, you discuss real issues and have the chance of un-pressured learning."

"The teachers create a place where you are happy to ask about anything - I mean anything!"

"The work health and safety course helped me to get a part time job."

Core Subjects - Physical Education

Course Description

Students will have two core PE lessons in Year 9.

Core Physical Education has a high practical content that ensures that activity levels remain the premier focus of the course.

Students will be set based on practical ability however this is a continual process and we expect to see students moving between groups throughout the year.

Students will work on a variety of activities including:

- Outwitting opponents (activities such as netball, football, rounders & tennis)
- Accurate replication (activities such as gymnastics)
- Performing at maximum levels (activities such as athletics and fitness)
- Identifying and solving problems (activities such as orienteering).

It is hoped that the introduction to these concepts will supplement and inspire both development of lifelong participation and elite success.

In addition Core PE will form a basis for those students who are studying GCSE PE or intend to study PE in the future.

Assessment

Although there is no formal assessment as part of core Physical Education assessment still takes place and students will be given feedback on each activity that they will take part in for students and parents/carers to track progress and identify areas to improve on.

Assessment takes a variety of forms, including:

- Peer assessment
- Self-assessment
- Teacher observations

Students who have selected to do Sports Science as an option will be grouped with other Sports Sciences students in core time (where possible) to give these students an additional opportunity to improve their practical or theory grade.

General Comments

It gives you the opportunity to experience a range of different activities.

It can positively improve your health and fitness.

Core PE has the potential to develop both lifelong participation and elite performances.

Future Prospects/Career Options

This course is an appropriate gateway to both GCSE PE or Sports Science within the option blocks in Year 11.

Guided Pathway Courses

The option courses which students can choose from, to start in Year 9 are:

Geography	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Geography
History	Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in History
MFL	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in French
MFL	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Spanish (Continuation)
MFL	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Spanish (Beginners)
ICT & Computer Science	OCR Level 1/2 GCSE (9-1) in Computer Science
ICT & Computer Science	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Information Technologies
DT	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Child Development
DT	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Design and Technology (Textiles)
DT	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Design and Technology (Graphics)
DT	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Food Preparation and Nutrition
DT	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery
DT	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Engineering
Culture & Society	WJEC Eduqas Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Religious Studies
Social Sciences	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Enterprise
Art	Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Art and Design
Physical Education	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Sport Science
Performing Arts	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Performing Arts
Performing Arts	WJEC Eduqas Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) (Music)
Performing Arts	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) (Dance)

Change to GCSE Grades

Grades in all GCSE subjects, for current Year 8 students and beyond, will be graded 9-1; with 9 being the highest grade. Approximate grade comparator:

New GCSE Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Current GCSE Grade	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*	

Terminology that may help you and your child

CORE	These are compulsory subjects: English, maths, science, PE, RE/Life.
Guided Pathway Choices	There is an element of choice about studying these subjects.
Key Stage 4	Programmes of study for students in Years 9, 10 and 11.
Level 1	GCSE grades 3-1 or equivalent (grades 3-1 are replacing grades D-G at GCSE).
Level 2	GCSE grades 9-4 or equivalent (grades 9-4 are replacing grades A*-C at GCSE) with grades 5+ being classed as good grades.
Level 3	A Level grade A*-E or equivalent.
GCSE	A course graded 9-1. These are assessed by a mix of examination and coursework (see individual subject guides for further information).
BTEC / Cambridge National / Technical Award	Vocational qualifications graded pass/merit/distinction/distinction* and equivalent to a GCSE. Mostly portfolio/coursework based, with a small exam element (see individual subject guides for further information). Designed to equip students with applied knowledge and associated practical skills; and closely aligned with the world of work.
EBacc subjects (EBacc = English Baccalaureate)	The EBacc subjects are: maths, English, sciences (including computer science), geography, history and modern foreign languages. Please see link below regarding the value placed on these subjects.
Full EBacc	For students to achieve the full EBacc they must attain GCSE grade 5+ in maths, English, at least two sciences, one of history or geography and a modern foreign language.

<http://russellgroup.ac.uk/for-students/school-and-college-in-the-uk/subject-choices-at-school-and-college/>

What sort of future planning should students be doing?

Where possible, if students have a goal to aim for, this can help focus their choice of courses. Having said that, we fully understand that many students will either not have a career path planned out or may change their plans. Our curriculum has the flexibility to accommodate this and we would also encourage students to choose a broad range of courses over Key Stage 4 to keep their future options open.

Attainment 8

The government has set a new Level 2 Threshold measure called Attainment 8. Whilst Attainment 8 is a measure of a school's performance, it may become the admissions criteria for further or higher education establishments and employment; as previous measures have, for example 5+ A*-C. A student's Attainment 8 score not only indicates their average grade, it also demonstrates performance across a range of subjects. It expects students to have achieved best possible grades in:

- GCSE Maths and GCSE English
- Any three GCSE qualifications from the Sciences, Geography, History or Languages
- A further three qualifications which can be either BTEC/Cambridge National/Technical Award, GCSE or other approved qualifications

We will therefore support students in the core curriculum and through their Guided Pathway choices to achieve this threshold.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if students cannot do their chosen course?

We hope that the courses offered will be available to all the students who want them but we will ask you to give us two alternative/reserve choices.

Despite every effort to give all students their preferred choice, this may not always be possible. Alternatives may have to be considered if:

- Too many students opt for a particular course
- Too few students select a particular course
- We wish to advise a better range of courses to meet a student's needs
- Combinations of courses are chosen which are impossible to timetable.

We will write to you in the Summer term to confirm your choices.

Can students change their mind?

We always do our best to ensure that all students' choices can be matched but please bear in mind that students who submit choices after the deadline may not find it possible to be placed on their first choice courses. As soon as the options deadline has passed, work begins on timetabling. Alterations to choices may not be possible from this point onwards.

Once a decision has been made and a course begun, it is extremely difficult to make any changes. It is therefore essential that time and thought be given to the combination of courses to be taken.

What support is there to decide which options to take?

1. Subject staff will be available at the KS4 Guided Pathway Evening on **Tuesday 23 January 2018 (5:00 - 7:00)** to discuss option courses
2. A careers advisor will also be available on this evening
3. Students are welcome to discuss course choices in relation to their future career plans and current level of performance with subject and VMG staff during the academy day, over the next few of weeks

Option English and Maths

One of the core values of the Trust is to focus on raising standards, particularly in the basic skills of Literacy and Numeracy. As mentioned already in the introduction, we may identify some students who would benefit from using Year 9 and 10 Guided Pathway time to improve their GCSE Maths grade by studying extra maths. These students will study two Guided Pathway subjects in Year 9 and 10 alongside Option Maths. The academy reserves the right to make this decision where we feel it will be in the best interests of the student. Where this applies, students and parents will be kept fully informed and we would ask that you work with us to help your child see that this is a positive opportunity to improve their life chances. Many thanks.

Further opportunities for improving GCSE English and GCSE Maths grades will be available in Year 11; performance reviews and discussions will take place during Year 10, ready for new cohorts starting in Year 11.

Filling in and submitting the form

When you fill in the form online it is important to put your choice in order with your most preferred choice first and it is equally important to think about the order for your next choice of subjects. Your option choices are checked against what staff might recommend for you. If you do not fill in the form fully there may be a delay in your options being submitted.

Deadline for handing in the form

The deadline for completing the form is **Wednesday 31 January 2018**. You can complete your option form earlier and submit it before the deadline closes but this does not mean that your options choices will be considered ahead of anybody else. All options will be dealt with after the closing date.

What happens next?

We will collate your option choices and then confirm the choices you selected via your VMG mentor to ensure we have entered them correctly. We will then work on the possible combinations for your option choices. If there are any problems with your choices we will speak to you as soon as possible.

Important dates

Tuesday 23 January 2018 - KS4 Guided Pathway Evening (letter to follow).

Deadline for option forms to be returned:

Wednesday 31 January 2018

Forms to be returned to SID.

Careers Education & Guidance Programme

The careers education and guidance programme at Outwood Grange Academy seeks to positively support you to acquire the educational, social and employability skills necessary for lifelong success in a diverse and changing world of work.

As an academy we are currently working with CareersInc.

CareersInc is an external, independent and impartial careers guidance service who will support you to aim high in your career goals and aspirations.

Together with staff from CareersInc we will support your career development in a number of ways including:

- information and discussion in lessons and assemblies to help you make decisions about your future
- activities and events such as careers fairs
- access to career advisors in a variety of ways
- being available for discussions on Student Review and Options Days, open evenings and results days
- careers information and IT based careers programmes
- information and updates on notice boards, plasma screens and website.

Should you wish to book an appointment with a Careers Advisor you can do this by booking an appointment through your Learning Manager or attending a drop-in session. Drop in sessions are available on a Monday, Thursday and Friday in the Post 16 Library between 2.30 and 3.30pm.

In addition to the support and guidance available to students there is also a website specifically for Outwood Grange Academy students and parents/carers.

<http://www.careersincportal.co.uk/outwoodgrangeacademy/>

Connecting GCSEs to Careers

To help you to start thinking long-term you will find information below that connects each GCSE option to some of the careers they relate to including the skills you will develop.

Remember - if you choose a GCSE it doesn't necessarily mean you'll end up with a career relating to it. It's never too early to start thinking where your skills and interests could lead you.

Subject	EBACC	Basket	Future Prospects	Careers / Job Titles	Skills
English	Y	I	GCSE English is vital for a whole range of employment options, college and university courses. For most jobs, employers will look for good communication skills, both written and spoken, and the ability to read with insight and understanding.	Barrister Teacher Politician Solicitor Journalist Writer Actor / Actress Counsellor Social Worker Public Relations Officer Librarian Psychologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written and verbal communication • Information handling • Planning essays, reports and projects • Persuasion • Negotiation • Presenting points of view • Research
Maths	Y	I	Just about everything! People with Maths qualifications can go into, accounting, medicine, engineering, forensic pathology, finance, business, consultancy, teaching, IT, games development, scientific research, programming, civil service, design, construction and astrophysics	Software Engineer Economist Aerospace Engineer Financial Advisor Accountant Quantity Surveyor Civil Engineer Architect Graphic Designer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculation • Problem-solving • Budgeting • Planning • Research • Interpreting statistics • Analysing data
Science	Y	2	<p>All of these Science subjects - Biology, Physics and Chemistry - can be taken up to a higher level of education. Next steps include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS/A2-Level in Biology, Physics and/or Chemistry • BTEC Level 3 • NVQ Levels 2 to 5 • Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeships. <p>You can pursue your preferred subject to a higher level or take a number of Science subjects alongside each other. Science subjects provide a good basis for further education and they develop a range of skills including analytical abilities, evaluation, planning and observational skills.</p>	Astronomer Physicist Chemical Engineer Midwife Doctor Biologist Forensic Scientist Veterinary Surgeon Zoologist Research Scientist Science Teacher Mechanical Engineering Geologist Meteorologist Surgeon Nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Health and safety • Data analysis • Data interpretation • Statistics • Critical thinking • Observation • Attention to detail • Problem-solving • Communication • IT
Geography	Y	2	There are a wide range of career options available to students who study Geography. Geography is a dynamic subject, which lends itself to most occupations. It is a relevant subject as it covers issues such as concern for the environment and the issue of sustainability. As an academic subject, employers are keen to employ students who have been successful in Geography.	Town Planner Geographer Travel Agent Logistics Manager Surveyor Humanitarian Environment Planner Conservation Officer Geospatial Analyst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Evaluation of evidence • Writing • Construction of reasoned arguments • Communication • Problem solving • Planning • Prediction • Record-keeping • Cataloguing • IT

Subject	EBACC	Basket	Future Prospects	Careers / Job Titles	Skills
History	Y	2	<p>History can open the door for many different careers such as Law, teaching and management roles. Often the ability to look at the past can help you to understand the present and employers will always favour this.</p> <p>History develops a wide variety of skills and abilities that are useful and relevant to many careers. It develops skills in reasoning and arguing your point, which are useful to people working in law and accountancy, so it is a subject that is highly valued by employers, colleges and universities</p>	Barrister Historian Museum Conservator Archaeologist Archivist Anthropologist Media Researcher Broadcast Journalist Politician Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Evaluation of evidence • Writing • Construction of reasoned arguments • Communication • Problem solving • Planning • Prediction • Record-keeping • Cataloguing • IT
Languages (French or Spanish)	Y	2	<p>Many professional and international companies seek employees who are able to speak a foreign language, and will often pay a higher salary for this skill.</p> <p>Almost all University courses include an option to add study of a foreign language and / or study abroad.</p>	Translator PR Officer Reporter Speech Therapist Tour Guide Humanitarian Copywriter Diplomat Market Researcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication in at least two languages • Translation and interpretation • Knowledge of grammar • Writing • Presentation • IT • Cultural awareness • Adapting to new surroundings • Team-working and working alone.
Computer Science	Y	2	<p>Students studying this course will be well prepared to take an A Level or equivalent Computer Science qualification in further education and training. It is recognised as a high-quality academic subject and held in high regard by Colleges and Universities.</p>	Video Game Tester IT Analyst Project Manager Web Developer Social Media Executive Video Game Designer Software Developer Web Designer Network Engineer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word processing, spreadsheets, email, database, internet • Programming • Network design • Multimedia design • Software development • Retrieving information • Teamwork • Numeracy • Report writing
Child Development	N	3	<p>A GCSE in child development provides you with essential life skills and applied knowledge, designed to provide you with a choice of routes into employment, as well as further education. It is suitable for anyone with a career interest in care.</p>	Early Years Teacher Nursery nurse Child minder Midwife Health Visitor Family Support Worker Social Worker Paediatric Nurse Speech Therapist	
Art & Design	N	3	<p>The creative industries in the UK contribute £80 billion to the economy and employ 1.4 million people. People with creative skills are highly valued in a rapidly changing world of work. There are hundreds of specialisms but it is competitive and you do need to work hard.</p> <p>A GCSE in Art & Design will allow you to explore and develop your creativity. There are related post-16 education opportunities available if you want to take your creative talents further, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS and A2-Level in Art & Design • BTEC Level 3 in Art & Design, Graphics, Fashion & Clothing and Photography • NVQ Levels 2 to 5 • Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeships in Arts, Media & Publishing 	Artist Graphic Designer Crafts Designer Furniture Designer Illustrators Art Auctioneers Gallery and Museum Curators Film and Video Editor Landscaper Textile Designer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical abilities • Practical skills • Creativity • Communication skills • Design and craft skills • Decision Making • Collaborative working

Subject	EBACC	Basket	Future Prospects	Careers / Job Titles	Skills
Music	N	3	<p>The performing arts are a major part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. Overall, the industry contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy. There are 5,480 businesses and 101,593 people working in the performing arts sector. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will providing an opportunity for practical exploration and application alongside conceptual study, leading to strong opportunities to progress at post-16.</p> <p>GCSE Music develops teamwork, time management and reflection skills, all of which are crucial in many aspects of life and work</p> <p>Music is a very useful addition to any well-balanced set of qualifications. It gives students the many skills and qualities that universities, colleges and employers are looking for. If you enjoy the GCSE Music course then you can consider these post-16 further education opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS/A2-Level in Music, Music Technology and/ or Performing Arts • BTEC Level 3 • NVQ Levels 2 to 5 • Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeships in Arts, Media & Publishing. 	<p>Musician Event Manager Music Therapist Recording Engineer Composer Music Teacher A&R Talent Scout Music Promotor Audio Engineer DJ Singer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creativity • Written • Reading Musical Notation • Composition and Arrangement • IT • Music Theory • Performance technique and management • Team work • Meeting deadlines
Dance	N	3	<p>The performing arts are a major part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. Overall, the industry contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy. There are 5,480 businesses and 101,593 people working in the performing arts sector. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will providing an opportunity for practical exploration and application alongside conceptual study, leading to strong opportunities to progress at post-16.</p> <p>GCSE Dance will set students up to continue with A Levels or BTEC courses at Key Stage 5. Many students will go on to study dance further at University or Dance Conservatoires to Degree level and beyond. Courses are at Masters and PhD level.</p>	<p>Choreographer Dancer Cruise Ship Entertainer Pilates Teacher Circus Performer Physiotherapist Actor Dance Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved fitness, balance and coordination • Interpretation • Technical abilities • Practical skills • Collaboration and communication skills • Enquiring and reflective minds • Independent thinking and working
Performing Arts	N	3	<p>The performing arts are a major part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. Overall, the industry contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy. There are 5,480 businesses and 101,593 people working in the performing arts sector. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will providing an opportunity for practical exploration and application alongside conceptual study, leading to strong opportunities to progress at post-16.</p> <p>A BTEC in Acting shows an employer that a student has confidence and good communication skills and an ability to work independently. It is an excellent subject to take in order to show diversity of interest and creativity. With a BTEC in Acting you could continue your studies on any of the level 3 courses that Outwood offers. Acting graduates are statistically proven to be those who found employment the easiest after leaving university.</p>	<p>Actor Broadcast Journalist PR Manager Set Designer Film Producer School Teacher Screenwriter Film Director Drama Therapist Youth Worker Theatre Director Technical Theatre Design Drama Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of style, genre and social context • Performance techniques - interpretation, improvisation, voice, physicality, stage relationships with others • Design skills • Technical abilities • Practical skills • Collaboration and communication skills • Enquiring and reflective minds • Independent thinking and working

Subject	EBACC	Basket	Future Prospects	Careers / Job Titles	Skills
Food Preparation & Nutrition	N	3	<p>A GCSE in home economics provides you with essential life skills and applied knowledge, designed to provide you with a choice of routes into employment, as well as further education. It is suitable for anyone with a career interest in food and nutrition</p> <p>This GCSE course has been designed to provide you with a choice of routes into further education. If you want to take this subject further, there are a range of post-16 education opportunities available, such as A Levels, NVQs or BTEC Level 3</p>	Chef Dietician Cake Decorator Health Promotions Officer Kitchen Manager Microbiologist Food Scientist Nutritionist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cookery skills • Creativity • Team work • Time management • Analysing • Practical skills • Independent thinking and working
Religious Studies	N	3	<p>A GCSE in Religious Studies is a stepping stone to a wide range of future opportunities. The skills you develop will support you in further studies and employment.</p> <p>Religious Studies provides a good background for any career where understanding people is an asset. Employers like to know that applicants have thought a bit about themselves and their place in the world. They expect them to be able to work with a wide range of people – often from different cultures – and to treat them all with courtesy and respect. In helping you to develop such understanding and insights about yourself, Religious Studies has a real part to play. These skills are vitally important in all careers especially professions such as the police, retail, teaching, the law, the caring professions and the armed forces, in fact any profession that brings you into contact with other people.</p>	Journalist Editor Radio/Television Politician Government/Civil Service Policy Manager Legal Services (Barrister/Solicitor) Police Service Charity sector/not-for-profit organisations Social services/counselling NHS/Medicine (Doctor/Nurse/Mental Health) PR/Advertising/Marketing	<p>Studying Religious Studies helps you develop skills that are valued by employers in a range of sectors. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • research, analysis and presentation skills • critical thinking skills and the ability to interpret information, formulate questions and solve problems • organisational and time management skills • team-working and communication skills • writing skills, including accurate referencing and the ability to construct a reasoned argument • IT skills • empathy and the ability to understand people and take on board others' views • the ability to work methodically and accurately • independence of mind and the ability to think for yourself.

Subject	EBACC	Basket	Future Prospects	Careers / Job Titles	Skills
Textiles	N	3	<p>A pass at grade C or higher is a very important qualification - together with a similar qualification in English, Maths and Science is a gateway to many exciting careers and study at higher levels. Employers will value the GCSE in Textiles as it develops creative, technical and transferable skills.</p> <p>If you want to take this course further after GCSE then you could consider these routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AS/A2-Level in Product Design and/or Art & Design BTEC Level 3 in Art & Design NVQ Levels 2 to 5 Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeships 	Fashion Designer Textile Production Manager Upholsterer Costume Designer Product Designer Leather Craftworker Textile Designer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking for detail Hand-eye coordination Creativity Visual communication Design Digital manipulation Understanding and using tools.
Certificate in Sport Science	N	3	<p>This course is an appropriate gateway to a range of exciting careers and opportunities in the sporting industry. Successful completion of the course offers an appropriate foundation for level 3 Sports courses such as A Level Physical Education and BTEC National Diploma in Sport and Exercise Sciences. Candidates who successfully follow this pathway can look towards a career in a range of different professions.</p>	Sport Professional Sports Coach Sports Development Officer Physiotherapy Biomechanist Sports Scientist Physiologist PE teacher Personal trainer Sports Coach Professional Athlete Sports Development Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teamwork Presentation and oral communication Time management and planning Keeping to rules Health and safety Determination Motivation - self and team Resilience
Enterprise	N	3	<p>This course is a fantastic foundation for developing skills that you can take with you into a wide range of careers. It aims to give you an understanding of the workings of business enterprise.</p> <p>The GCSE in Enterprise can prepare you for further and higher education courses in this subject, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AS/A2-Levels BTEC Level 3 NVQ Levels 2 to 5 Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeships in Business, Administration & Law 	Office Manager Accountant Brand Manager Financial Adviser Bank Manager Business Analyst Quality Manager Solicitor Teacher Administration roles Human Resources Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numeracy Literacy ICT Finance Communication Presentation Influencing Persuasion Leadership Teamwork Problem solving Decision making
Information & Creative Technology	N	3	<p>ICT is vital to most jobs in society as a whole, so having a qualification in IT will be of great advantage for you in various situations and careers.</p>	End User Support Technician Trainee ICT Support Officer IT Technician Software Engineer Website Content Managers Computer Animators Graphic Designer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programming Network design Multimedia design Software development Retrieving information Teamwork Numeracy Report writing

How to make your choice of options

1

- Read the booklet
- Consider all options on offer
- Think about the EBacc subjects
- Think about your strengths and how the subjects on offer will match these

2

- Discuss your ideas with parents/carers and staff
- Be prepared to change your mind based on advice from parents/carers and staff
- Make good use of the option booklet and discuss with staff before the options evening

3

- Attend the options information evening to discuss your options
- Staff will look at your option choices and make sure these are right for you
- Your choices will be passed to subject staff to confirm you are right for that specific course

4

- Complete the options form
- Make sure you list your choices in order of preference
- Make sure you have done this with your parent/carer
- Complete the form by 31 January 2018

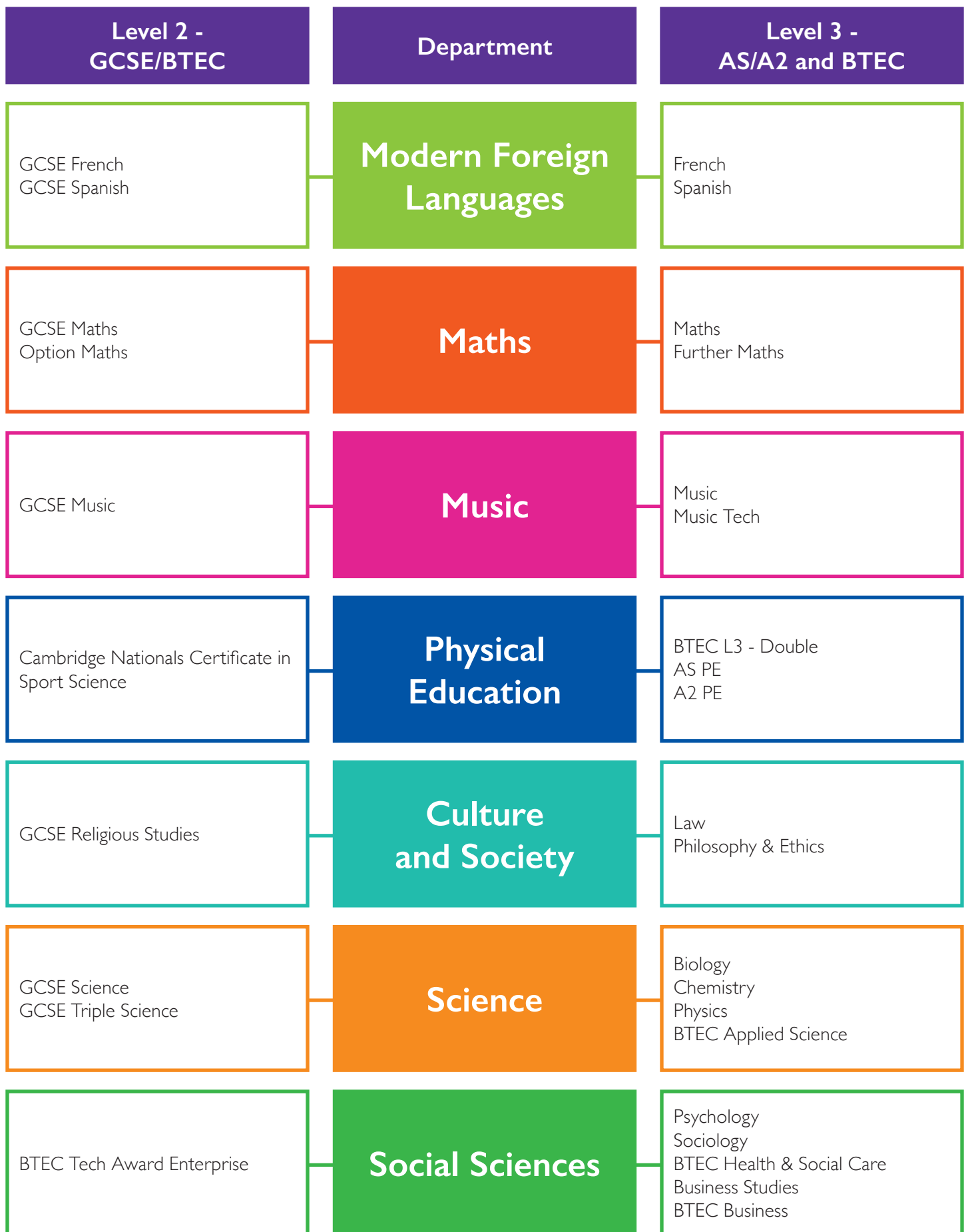
5

- The Academy will confirm your successful option choices
- This will be sent to you in the Summer term 2018

14-19 Pathways through Outwood Grange Academy

The information below shows subjects grouped at GCSE and Post 16 courses. Not all GCSE and BTEC courses in each group lead directly onto the Post 16 course - more guidance on this should be sought from subject leaders.

Level 2 - GCSE/BTEC	Department	Level 3 - AS/A2 and BTEC
GCSE Art and Design GCSE Photography (Year 11)	Art	Fine Art Photography
GCSE Design and Technology (Textiles) GCSE Design and Technology (Graphics) BTEC Tech Award in Engineering GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Child Development	Design and Technology	Product Design Textiles
GCSE Dance BTEC Tech Award Acting	Dance/Drama	Dance Drama BTEC Acting
GCSE English	English	English Language/Literature English Language English Literature Media Studies
GCSE Geography	Geography	Geography
GCSE History	History	History Government & Politics
GCSE Computer Science Cambridge Nationals Certificate in ICT	Computer Science and ICT	ICT Applied ICT Computer Science



EBACC SUBJECTS

GCSE Geography

Course Description

The GCSE is made up of 3 units, which are all exams. All units include aspects of sustainability and the UK.

1. Living with the Physical Environment (exam)

Section A: The challenges of natural hazards.

Natural Hazards; Tectonic Hazards; Tropical Storms; Extreme Weather and Climate Change.

Section B: Physical landscapes in the UK.

Coastal Landscapes with management and Landscapes with flood management.

Section C: The living world.

Ecosystems; Tropical Rainforests and Hot deserts.

2. Challenges in the Human Environment (exam)

Section A: Urban issues and challenges.

Urban growth; Urban Change; Urban Sustainability and Population.

Section B: The changing economic world.

Economic development; Global development; Economic change in UK

Section C: The challenges of resource management.

Resource management and Energy.

3. Geographical applications (exam)

Issue evaluation; Pre-release material and Fieldwork; 2 geographical enquiries in contrasting environments.

Assessment

The GCSE is made up of:

Living with the Physical Environment - 35%

Challenges in the Human Environment - 35%

Geographical applications including local fieldwork - 30%

Entry requirements, Advice and Guidance

GCSE Geography forms part of the English Baccalaureate. We require students to have an interest in the environment and people; resilient, creative and confident learners and who are interested in Geography.

General Comments

Geography is a very special subject because it offers a unique combination of transferable and well recognised skills. A Geographer is expected to be able to interpret photographs, maps, graphs and data tables. They can evaluate arguments, problem solve and make decisions as well as write extended pieces of work and gather data in a practical environment. Geography keeps you up to date with current issues and world events and is taking on ever more importance in schools, colleges, universities, government, industry, and communications. Geography GCSE is a written subject. We offer a lot of support to students who need it however, high levels of literacy are needed in order to excel at the highest level. The Geographical applications requires us to take a field trip to two contrasting environments. There may be a small cost with this but we would not let the cost of a trip stop any student from attending on the day.

Future Prospects/Career Options

Employers rarely need specialists. They need bright, committed, inquisitive and determined individuals with the ability to draw on what is happening around them. As a qualification, Geography is greatly respected by University entrance officers and employers alike. It is chosen by over 30,000 undergraduate students each year and has one of the highest rates of graduate employability. Geography has been identified as one of 10 recession-proof degree subjects. Geography is highly valued by employers for its combination of subject knowledge and how well it links with other subjects especially Maths, English, Science, Law and ICT.

Student Comments

"Geography is a great subject as it has lots of interesting and various and various topics which some link to science making it easier."

"Geography is a really interesting subject and there is always something new to learn. The teachers are extremely helpful and are always here if you need help. It is hard work but it is worth it."

"Geography is hard but very interesting and enjoyable. The teachers offer extremely good support in work when you are stuck. It is a very good GCSE to do."

"I think that Geography is really interesting as you can learn different and exciting topics such as volcanoes and earthquakes, and population, but you have to be prepared to work hard!"

Course Description

The GCSE 9-1 History course combines social, political and military history to allow students to develop their knowledge and interest across a range of areas. Students will cover a range of European and World History topics from across the past 500 years including...

- The Tudors: Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88.
- The History of Medicine in England (Medieval Period-Black Death, Renaissance Period-The Plague and Fire of London and Modern Medicine-the creation of the NHS).
- The American West 1835-1895.
- Germany in the 20th century.

Assessment

The new GCSE follows a linear structure, which means students will take three examinations at the end of the course. There is no coursework element. The assessment structure is as follows:

Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment-Examination-1 hour 15 minutes.

Paper 2: Period study and British depth study-Examination-1 hour 45 minutes.

Paper 3: Modern depth study-Examination-1 hour 20 minutes.

Entry requirements, Advice and Guidance

This is a GCSE option which is being offered by the History department to allow students to gain knowledge and understanding of key events which have taken place in both British and World history and which still impact upon students today. Students will be required to write extended answers to questions and source analysis skills will be developed throughout the course.

General Comments

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- develop and extend their knowledge and understanding of specified key events, periods and societies in local, British, and wider world history; and of the wide diversity of human experience
- engage in historical enquiry to develop as independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers
- develop the ability to ask relevant questions about the past, to investigate issues critically and to make valid historical claims by using a range of sources in their historical context
- develop awareness of why people, events and developments have been accorded historical significance and how and why different interpretations have been constructed about them
- organise and communicate their historical knowledge and understanding in different ways to reach substantiated conclusions.

Future Prospects/Career Options

History is an impressive academic subject valued by all branches of higher education and employers. The study of History provides students with a capacity for analysis, an ability to communicate and an understanding of the decision making process. These skills are highly sought after by employers and will benefit students in their working and social life. The skills acquired from the study of History will benefit those seeking a career in law, civil service, commerce, business, media and many others. History GCSE forms part of the EBacc qualification and is a highly sought after qualification for both Post 16 centres and employers.

Student Comments

"History GCSE is a very interesting course. We learnt about a range of topics and countries. I would recommend it as a great GCSE. I especially enjoyed learning about Weimar and Nazi Germany."

"The teachers are very supportive and there are a range of catch-ups and activities to get involved in. It is hard work but I really enjoyed the different topics including medicine through time and the American West."

GCSE Computer Science

Course Description

Unit 1: Computer Systems

In this unit, students explore the fundamentals of computer systems including computer hardware and software. The unit also includes a significant amount of networking as well as ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns related to computer science.

Unit 2: Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

In this unit, students will cover algorithms, programming techniques and writing in pseudo code. The unit also includes computational logic and how computers interpret, translate and represent data.

Unit 3: Programming Project

The set of tasks within unit 3 will provide opportunities for students to solve a problem using a programming language, this includes showing design, development, testing and evaluation.

Assessment

Unit 1

Examination - 40% - 1hr 30 mins

Unit 2

Examination - 40% - 1hr 30 mins

Unit 3

Non-examined assessment - 20%

General Comments

This is a new course in line with government reforms to GCSEs.

This course is different from ICT. ICT focuses on technology from a 'user' point of view whereas computer science focuses on how technology works behind the scenes.

There is a significant amount of mathematics content and logic in this course and it is advised that students are confident in their ability in mathematics before considering this as an option.

Future Prospects/Career Options

This course will serve students well as an excellent introduction into AS/A2 ICT and AS/A2 Computer Science. On successful completion of this course, a solid foundation will have been built for students to continue into computers/engineering at university.

Student Comments

"The course is fun but very challenging, you have to be very independent when programming to find and correct errors all by yourself."

"There are a lot of interesting parts of the theory, however there is a lot of maths and different calculations to remember."

"You have to learn 2 programming languages on this course, it is hard, but fun and rewarding when you manage to create a working program."

GCSE French

Course Description

This is a three year course in French leading to a Level 2 qualification. The course is examined in all four areas of listening, reading, speaking and writing.

Building on from the skills that you developed at KS3, you will study a variety of authentic, topical and cultural material surrounding the topics of:

- Identity and culture (including: free-time, family and social media)
- Local, national, international and Global areas of interest (including: your town, social issues, the environment and travel and tourism)
- Current and future employment (including: school, P16 education, jobs and careers)

The aim of the course is to develop your speaking and listening skills, as well as your understanding of how language works. This course will also allow you to learn more about France and French-speaking communities and countries.

Topics and tasks may include:

- ICT tasks and web pages from the target country
- News and current affairs topics
- Information gathering and sharing on famous people from the target country
- Study of the country and its culture, e.g. transport, regions, fashion, sport
- Study of the grammar of the language to increase understanding and independent expression
- Reading stories / poems, etc
- Creative writing.

Assessment

100% Examination (25% Listening, 25% Reading, 25% Speaking, 25% Writing).

You will be examined at the end of the course in all the four skills of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. Each of these exams will be worth 25% of your final grade. You and your teacher will decide whether you should take the Foundation papers (Grades 1-4) or the Higher papers (Grades 4-9) in these skills.

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

Students are strongly recommended to continue with the language they have studied in Year 7 and 8. Students should be achieving Grade 5 by the end of KS3.

General Comments

Students who study a foreign language often have a deeper understanding and interest in the world around them. This leads to an increased appreciation of their own culture as well as other cultures. Additionally, students find that studying a foreign language allows them to deepen their knowledge of how their own language works and this has a positive impact on other GCSE subjects.

Future Prospects/Career Options

Employers and universities like students with Languages GCSEs because they have shown commitment and the ability to work independently. They have demonstrated that they have excellent communication skills and can learn and retain information. Almost all university courses include an option to add study of a foreign language and/or study abroad. Having a foreign language to GCSE level will complement all other subjects and will show that you have an ability to communicate effectively with others.

In an increasingly globalised world, many professions and international companies actively seek employees who are able to speak a foreign language, and will often pay a higher salary for this skill.

- Logistics
- International Business
- Hospitality Industry
- Travel and Tourism

Student Comments

"The teachers make you feel confident that you will pass your language GCSE."

"Learning languages gives you an overall goal and sense of determination to do the best you can and achieve what you believe you can."

Additional MFL Options

If you have previously studied French in Years 8 and 9 but would like to take up a new language there is now an option for you to change to Spanish GCSE, extra support will be provided through weekly catch ups starting January 2018. This new course will be referred to as Spanish Beginners GCSE.

Course Description

This is a three year course in Spanish leading to a Level 2 qualification. The course is examined in all four areas of listening, reading, speaking and writing.

Building on from the skills that you developed at KS3, you will study a variety of authentic, topical and cultural material surrounding the topics of:

- Identity and culture (including: free-time, family and social media)
- Local, national, international and Global areas of interest (including: your town, social issues, the environment and travel and tourism)
- Current and future employment (including: school, P16 education, jobs and careers)

The aim of the course is to develop your speaking and listening skills, as well as your understanding of how language works. This course will also allow you to learn more about Spain and Spanish-speaking communities and countries.

Topics and tasks may include:

- ICT tasks and web pages from the target country
- News and current affairs topics
- Information gathering and sharing on famous people from the target country
- Study of the country and its culture, e.g. transport, regions, fashion, sport
- Study of the grammar of the language to increase understanding and independent expression
- Reading stories / poems, etc
- Creative writing.

Assessment

**100% Examination
(25% Listening, 25% Reading,
25% Speaking, 25% Writing).**

You will be examined at the end of the course in all the four skills of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. Each of these exams will be worth 25% of your final grade. You and your teacher will decide whether you should take the Foundation papers (Grades 1-4) or the Higher papers (Grades 4-9) in these skills.

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

Students are strongly recommended to continue with the language they have studied in Year 7 and 8. Students should be achieving Grade 5 by the end of KS3.

Students who did not study Spanish in Y7 and Y8 are welcome to study the Spanish GCSE. They will follow exactly the same GCSE course but tailored to their requirements as new Spanish speakers. They will however be required to attend a mandatory Spanish enrichment on a Monday after school to prepare them for next year which will cover some basics.

General Comments

Students who study a foreign language often have a deeper understanding and interest in the world around them. This leads to an increased appreciation of their own culture as well as other cultures. Additionally, students find that studying a foreign language allows them to deepen their knowledge of how their own language works and this has a positive impact on other GCSE subjects.

Student Comments

"Learning a language is a fun and interesting way of communicating... it helps you in everyday life and can positively affect your future career."

"I love learning Spanish because the teachers are helpful, you learn a variety of things and it's fun!"

"Learning a language is a very different experience. You learn a lot more and the teachers help you a lot."

Future Prospects/Career Options

Employers and universities like students with Languages GCSEs because they have shown commitment and the ability to work independently. They have demonstrated that they have excellent communication skills and can learn and retain information. Almost all university courses include an option to add study of a foreign language and/or study abroad. Having a foreign language to GCSE level will complement all other subjects and will show that you have an ability to communicate effectively with others.

In an increasingly globalised world, many professions and international companies actively seek employees who are able to speak a foreign language, and will often pay a higher salary for this skill.

- Logistics
- International Business
- Hospitality Industry
- Travel and Tourism

OTHER SUBJECTS

GCSE Art and Design

Course Description

What will I learn?

Art is an experience based, highly personalised course. You will be given lots of opportunity to develop your own ideas and you will face many interesting, creative challenges. We aim for you to learn positively through enjoyment of the subject.

The course includes:

- Painting / Drawing / Printmaking / Mixed media
- Recording in a wide range of materials and techniques
- Exploring visual language
- Researching and developing resources
- Exploring personal responses to your own and set themes
- Creatively using visual media including digital media and computers
- Exploring contextual work from contemporary and historical sources
- Presenting your work to a high standard, applying your visual communication skills
- Drawing is a major component of the course. You must enjoy drawing.

Assessment

This is a TWO unit course.

You will do a personal themed project, creating a coursework portfolio for Unit 1, followed by an externally set assignment, including a 10 hour independent work period, for Unit 2.

The assessment criteria are the same for each unit but the coursework portfolio counts for 60% of the final mark and the exam counts for 40%.

IS GCSE ART FOR ME?

YES - if you love doing creative things, if you enjoy challenges and taking the initiative, if you love drawing, if you have a good level of ability or if you are thinking of a career in visual arts.

NO - if you get bored easily with art, if you struggle with art, if you don't enjoy a creative challenge or if you don't enjoy drawing.

Future Prospects/Career Options

The creative industries contributed over £80 billion to the UK economy last year and is growing. Employment grew by 5% compared with 2.1% in the wider UK economy.

Student Comments

"I did Art in year 9 because I am thinking about doing art at A Level. The thing I like about art is having to make up your own mind about things and not being told what is right and wrong all the time. I do loads of enrichments too which is the best for me because I like to do things really well."

"Art is a lot of work but most of it is really good fun. We have had to learn how to concentrate on our work for ages but it's great when you get into it."

BTEC Tech Award Enterprise

Course Description

Pearson Btec Tech Award

Component 1: Exploring Enterprises

In this unit, students will study:

- Different types of enterprise and their ownership.
- The importance of a clear focus on the customer and the importance of meeting their needs.
- Relevant skills in market research and analysis.
- Be able to interpret findings to support your understanding of customers and competitors.
- Investigate ways in which situational analysis can be used to support decision making.
- How the success can be monitored in an SME.

Component 2: Planning for and Running an Enterprise

In this unit, students will select an enterprise idea to plan and pitch for. They will work as a small group to run a micro-enterprise activity, and will develop their skills in operating and reviewing the success of the enterprise. Students will have the opportunity to plan how best to set up the enterprise and how to fund it. They will then pitch their developed idea and comment on the ideas of others. Students will then work with others to set up and run a micro enterprise activity, using your knowledge of entrepreneurial characteristics and qualities.

Component 3: Promotion and Finance for Enterprise

In this final unit, students will explore the different promotional methods used by enterprises and the factors that influence how enterprises identify and target their market. They will explore financial documents and how to use them to monitor and improve the performance of an enterprise in order to make decisions and recommend strategies for the success of an enterprise.

Assessment

60% Coursework (Unit 1 and 2)
40% Examination (Unit 3)

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

There are no formal entry requirements. Students must be aware that there is a considerable amount of written work required to produce their portfolios and students must have good research skills due to investigating a number of different small and medium size enterprises.

Future Prospects/Career Options

This qualification can lead to a full range of education and training at Post-16 level. Studying Business is especially favoured by employers as students are equipped with the necessary skills in Business and Enterprise.

New course for 2018/19

Cambridge Nationals Certificate in ICT

Course Description

R012 - Understanding tools, techniques, methods and processes for technological solutions

Learners will sit an exam to assess their knowledge and understanding of different technologies (hardware and software applications), and tools and techniques used to select, store, manipulate and present data and information. They will also be assessed on what the phases of the project life cycle are, the interaction between the phases and the inputs and outputs within each phase. Using this understanding of the project life cycle, together with their knowledge of various information technologies, they will be prepared to develop technological solutions. They will need to understand the different risks associated with the collection, storage and use of data and how the legal, moral, ethical and security issues can have an impact on organisations and individuals. They also need to understand how such risks can be mitigated. This knowledge and understanding will help them to make decisions and appropriate choices when developing a technological solution which they will be asked to do in the practical assessment.

R013 - Developing technological solutions

This assessment focuses on how effectively learners use their skills when developing a technological solution. They will be given a project to develop a technological solution that processes data and communicates information. They will follow the project life cycle phases of initiation/planning, execution, communication and evaluation, demonstrating the practical skills they have acquired such as carrying out a SWOT analysis, creating GANTT charts, developing online surveys, and/or presenting data through web based technologies; keeping their project on track through on-going, iterative reviews. They will use different hardware and software technologies to create an integrated technological solution for data processing and communication of information.

Assessment: Worth 1 GCSE

There are two units of assessment. Learners must complete both units of assessment to achieve the qualification.

Assessment Unit R012 is assessed by an exam and marked by the exam board (1 hour 45 minutes).

Assessment Unit R013 is undertaken within the Academy (approximately 20 hours).

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

There are no formal entry requirements. Students must be aware that there will be a large amount of written content to justify the choices you have made when creating the different products as part of your coursework.

General Comments

This is a perfect course for students who have enjoyed ICT at Key Stage 3 and want to take their ICT skills further. Cambridge National in Information Technologies has been well received by students and will give students a real understanding of their digital environment, develop key skills, and prepare them for their future use of IT in their chosen careers across a wide range of job roles. This is for students that wish to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in using information technologies.

Future Prospects/Career Options

This course will serve students well as an excellent introduction into ICT at Key Stage 5 or for practical workplace apprenticeships in this field.

New course for 2018/19

GCSE Religious Studies

Course Description

GCSE Religious Studies provides opportunities for learners to understand more about the world, the religious challenges it faces and their place within it. Following this GCSE course will deepen understanding of religions and their effect on society. It will develop learners' competence in a wide range of skills and approaches and enable young people to become religiously informed and thoughtful, engaged citizens.

You will learn about the BIG questions in life such as:

- What happens when we die?
- Does God exist?
- Why is there evil in the world?
- Should Capital Punishment still exist?

Alongside this you will also learn about the beliefs and practices of Christianity and Islam to help give you a greater understanding of why people follow a particular religion and why they have certain practices linked to their beliefs.

Taking Religious Studies will:

- give you knowledge about what other people believe and the sort of world we live in
- give you an understanding of what people mean when they say certain things
- help you to evaluate different points of view
- give you the opportunity to debate some of the big issues you will have to face during the course of your own life. At the same time, you will be:
 - clarifying some of your own ideas and hopes for the future
 - learning to put across your own point of view
 - developing all kinds of skills and aptitudes including self-awareness, tolerance, the ability to communicate and listen effectively and analytical skills.

If you think that Religious Studies is only for someone who wants to be a vicar, minister, nun, monk, rabbi, imam or even an RS teacher, then think again! Religious Studies has a lot to offer – perhaps more than you might think – in helping you prepare for many different types of career. You don't have to be religious to enjoy Religious Studies either. It will make you think about your life and the way you live it.

Assessment: Worth 1 GCSE

Students will complete 3 exams.

50%: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World - 2 hours

25%: Study of Christianity - 1 hour

25%: Study of a World Faith (Islam) - 1 hour

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

Students must have a good level of English to be able to write answers that show knowledge and understanding of the content studied and also to be able to give a well-reasoned evaluation in their written work.

General Comments

The course consists of 3 Components:

1. Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World
 - a. Issues of relationships
 - b. Issues of life and death
 - c. Issues of good and evil
 - d. Issues of Human Rights
2. Christianity
 - a. Beliefs and Teachings
 - b. Practices
3. Islam
 - a. Beliefs and Teachings
 - b. Practices

Student Comments

"RS gives you the confidence to voice your opinion in society, as well as listening and respecting other."

"RS is creative and interesting- it's not all about God!"

"It makes you think outside the box."

"I can use it in real life and debate issues and interact with my classmates."

"I really enjoyed RS because it gave me the opportunity to express my thoughts and opinions on issues I am interested in."

Future Prospects/Career Options

A GCSE in Religious Studies is a stepping stone to a wide range of future opportunities. The skills you develop will support you in further studies and employment.

Religious Studies provides a good background for any career where understanding people is an asset. Employers like to know that applicants have thought a bit about themselves and their place in the world. They expect them to be able to work with a wide range of people – often from different cultures – and to treat them all with courtesy and respect. In helping you to develop such understanding and insights about yourself, Religious Studies has a real part to play. These skills are vitally important in all careers especially professions such as the police, retail, teaching, the law, the caring professions and the armed forces, in fact any profession that brings you into contact with other people.

Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Sport Science

Course Description

The course comprises of a mixture of theory and practical lessons however there is no formal assessment of your practical ability. The final grade is achieved from one exam and three coursework units.

- Reducing risk of sports injuries - written paper 1 hour.
- Applying principles of training - coursework.
- The body's response to physical activity - coursework.
- Sports nutrition - coursework.

Reducing risk of sports injuries:

Taking part in sport and physical activity puts the body under stress. This unit will develop your understanding of how to reduce the risk of injury when taking part in sport, and how to respond to injuries and medical conditions in a sport setting. These are vital skills in many roles within the sport and leisure industry, whether you are a lifeguard, a steward at a sports stadium or a personal fitness instructor.

Applying principles of training:

In the world of team and individual sport, it is vital that coaches keep their performers in peak condition. They do this by regularly monitoring them through fitness tests and by designing bespoke training programmes to suit the type of sport, performance schedule and the individual themselves. This unit allows you to develop your understanding of training programmes in a practical sense, this will allow you to improve your level of fitness and the fitness of others.

The body's response to physical activity:

It is recognised that physical activity is essential to maintaining good health. Many careers within the sport, leisure and health industries require employees to have an understanding of how the body changes and responds to physical activity. With this knowledge that you will gain from this unit, it is possible to improve your own body systems to optimise sports performance and promote a healthier lifestyles.

Sports nutrition:

In all walks of life, appropriate nutrition and diet are vital to our health and wellbeing. In the world of sport, the right nutrition is as important as the right equipment and the right training methods, because without suitable nutrition a performer's body would not be able to cope with the stresses and strains put on it. This would lead to deterioration not only in performance, but also in health. The amount of legislation and media coverage that surround the use of supplements in elite sport, some of which are approved and some of which are prohibited, highlights the value placed on nutrition in modern-day sport.

Assessment

One unit is an exam (1 hour) and the other three units are coursework based.

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

The course requires a high level of commitment to the learning of new areas in both a practical and theoretical physical education environment.

General Comments

Elite sport has embraced sport science disciplines wholeheartedly in the past few decades, moving from a perspective which assumed the primacy of natural talent in producing outstanding performance, to one which considers every minute detail of an athlete's training programme, rest time, environment and psychology in the pursuit of excellence. The Cambridge Nationals in Sport Science offer students the opportunity to study key areas of sport science including anatomy and physiology linked to fitness, health, injury and performance; the science of training and application of training principles, and psychology in sport and sports performance.

Future Prospects/Career Options

This course is an appropriate gateway to a range of exciting careers and opportunities in the sporting industry. Successful completion of the course offers an appropriate foundation for Level 3 Sport Courses such as A Level Physical Education and BTEC National Diplomas in Sport and Exercise Sciences. Candidates who successfully follow this pathway can look towards a career in a range of different professions such as PE Teacher, Sports Coach, Fitness Instructor, Dietician, Sports Development Officer, Sports Psychologist, Personal Trainer and Sports Development Officer.

GCSE Design and Technology (Textiles)

Course Description

The GCSE allows for an iterative design processes. Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. This is a new qualification that is modern and relevant, so students can learn about contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices.

You will develop a wide range of skills, learning how to add colour, decorate and manipulate fabrics. You will have access to new technologies such as the sublimation printer and laser cutter. Throughout the course you will develop a working knowledge of fibres and fabrics, finishing processes, design and market influences and health and safety. This pathway is for those with a love for working with textiles, illustration and print.

Assessment

What's assessed

The practical application of:

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

How it's assessed

- 30-35 hours approx
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Task(s)

- Substantial design and make task, that is assessed through the following: Investigating, Designing, Making, Analysing and Evaluating
- Students will produce a working prototype and a portfolio of evidence (max 20 pages)

Exam Content

What's assessed

- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles
- The exam does not contain a design element

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Question Content

Section A - Core technical principles (20 marks)

A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding.

Section B - Specialist technical principles (30 marks)

Several short answer questions (2-5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of technical principles.

Section C - Designing and making principles (50 marks)

A mixture of short answer and extended response questions including a 12 mark design question.

Student Comments

"Best lesson of the week."

"The subject has helped me be more creative and confident in my work. I have learnt so much it is untrue."

"It's such a fun subject but it also teaches you how to think."

"It was really challenging, but great fun. I loved learning to use all the software and computers but also the machinery. It is just so different to everything else."

"It is so much more interesting and different to everything else."

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

You need to be creative and be passionate. Organisation is key, in order to meet deadlines during the coursework element of the course.

Future Prospects/Career Options

GCSE is a gateway to many exciting careers and study at higher levels. At A Level we offer; Art and Design Textiles and Product Design with Graphics Communication. Careers in textile design, fashion design, interior design, games design, graphic design, illustration, architecture, product design. These are just a few of the available careers in the ever growing creative industry.

GCSE Design and Technology (Graphics)

Course Description

The GCSE allows for an iterative design processes. Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. This qualification is modern and relevant, so students can learn about contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices. It is a well-regarded GCSE that demonstrates a different skill set than more traditional, academic qualifications. It provides balance and essentially, demonstrates the creative capacity of the student to potential employers.

Assessment

Written exam: 2 hours
100 marks testing your knowledge

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

Worth 50% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment (NEA -
Coursework)

100 marks
Worth 50% of GCSE

Students will produce a working prototype and a portfolio of evidence (no more than 20 pages).

General Comments

Everything you rely on is designed and makes use of some form of technology. Take these aspects away and we're back in the dark ages. We will need even more advanced products and technologies if we are to progress into the next century so who will provide what we need. You will and this is what students currently studying had to say.

Future Prospects/Career Options

Advertising art director, animator, creative director, graphic designer, illustrator, printmaker, production designer, theatre/television/film, art director, drafter (architecture and engineering), film and video editor, games designer, architect, interior design, product designer, marketing manager, multimedia artist.

Student Comments

"I love the freedom to create my own ideas."

"3D printers, Laser cutters, I have learnt to use industry specific equipment."

"I have really enjoyed learning how to use Adobe Illustrator software used in Graphic Design."

"I have learnt loads of transferable skills and become more confident."

"I would recommend this course to anyone who has imagination, it's great."

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

Course Description

The fresh and exciting GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition equips students with an array of culinary techniques, as well as knowledge of nutrition, food traditions and kitchen safety.

Created with help from teachers and subject experts, it will inspire and motivate students, opening their eyes to a world of career opportunities and giving them the confidence to cook with ingredients from across the globe.

This course in food preparation and nutrition enables learners to make connections between theory and practice so that they are able to apply their understanding of food science and nutrition to practical cooking. Food Prep. and Nutrition is a practical subject and therefore students will be required to bring ingredients to each planned practical lesson. This could be as regular as every fortnight. You will also need a food apron to protect uniform and conform with basic food hygiene regulations.

Assessment

What's assessed

Task 1: Food investigation (30 marks)

- Students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

Practical investigations are a compulsory element of coursework.

Task 2: Food preparation assessment (70 marks)

- Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task.
- Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

How it's assessed

Task 1: Written or electronic report (1,500-2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.

Task 2: Written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence. Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included.

Exam Content

Paper 1: Food preparation and nutrition

What's assessed

Theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition from Sections 1 to 5.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Question Content

Multiple choice questions (20 marks)
Five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks)

Student Comments

"I've developed lots of new skills, spinning sugar, making pasta and crème pâtissière from scratch."

"I love food, lots of practical, lots of fun. I am learning skills that I can use in my future career as a development Chef."

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

There are no previous learning requirements for this specification. Any requirements set for entry to a course based on this specification are at the school/college's discretion. You need to be creative and passionate about food and nutrition. Organisation is key in order to meet deadlines during the coursework element of the course.

Future Prospects/Career Options

This course builds on subject content which is typically taught at Key Stage 3 and provides a suitable foundation for the study of Food Preparation and Nutrition, and other food-related courses at either AS or A Level. In addition, this course provides a coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study for learners who do not progress to further study in this subject. This course will enable learners to make informed decisions about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways. The hospitality sector employs millions of people worldwide and offers exciting opportunities for students to travel and learn a range of valuable life skills.

NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery

Course Description

This qualification is designed for those who have an interest in food and cookery. It will provide you with experience of using different cooking techniques and methods to enable you to use these within further education or apprenticeships. It will give you an understanding of the skills required for a career in food.

Students will complete the following units of work:

- Prepare and cook using basic skills
- Understand food and its functions in the body and in recipes
- Understand balanced diets and modification of recipes for health
- Plan and produce dishes for a purpose.

Assessment

To be awarded the NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery, you are required to successfully complete 4 mandatory units;

- Unit 1 - Preparing to cook
- Unit 2 - Understanding food
- Unit 3 - Exploring balanced diets
- Unit 4 - Plan and produce dishes in response to a brief.

Assessment requirements: - internally assessed and externally moderated portfolio of evidence which is worth 75% - Unit 3 is externally set and marked assessment paper worth 25%

General Comments

Learners who achieve this qualification could progress onto Level 3 qualifications and A levels, such as:

- Advanced GCE in Design and Technology: Food Technology
- Advanced GCE in Home Economics (Food, Nutrition and Health)
- Diploma in Advanced Professional Cookery (Preparation and Cooking)
- Certificate in Hospitality and Catering Principles
- Professional Cookery Studies

Future Prospects/Career Options

Head chef, food stylist, food and beverage manager, pastry chef, caterer, product developer, menu designer, nutritionist, dietitian, food and restaurant critic, sous chef, sommelier, wait staff, food photographer,

New course for 2018/19

BTEC Tech Award in Engineering

(Qualification Number: 603/0829/1)

Course Description

What is 'engineering'? Is it using materials and processes to manufacture a single item? Is it applying new technologies to the mass production of well-known products?

Or is it implementing methods to reduce waste and improve the sustainability of energy sources? Engineering is all of these things and many more.

The course gives you the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on four areas of equal importance, which cover the:

- Development of key engineering practical and technical skills, such as research, observation, measurement, making, using computer-aided design (CAD) and disassembly.
- Knowledge of key engineering sectors (mechanical, electrical/electronic and engineering design) and the interrelation of each in industry.
- Knowledge of the stages involved in planning and implementing an engineering project.
- Knowledge and skills involved in the investigation of solutions to engineering problems in response to a given brief.

Assessment

Unit 1: Exploring Engineering Sectors and Design

Applications 30% (coursework)

Unit 2: Investigating an Engineering Product 30% (coursework)

Unit 3: Responding to an Engineering Brief 40% (exam)

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

An engineering-based education allows student's exposure to various technical subjects and skill sets. You will be able to develop skills that are transferable to most industries such as problem solving, decision making, innovation, project management, team working and communication. This course will allow you to access A levels and BTEC Level 3 qualifications in Engineering.

Future Prospects/Career Options

The UK is regarded as a world leader in engineering, which covers a wide range of exciting and rapidly developing areas such as renewable energy, space, low carbon, aerospace, automotive, agri-food and bioscience. People with engineering skills are always in demand. Between 2010 and 2020, engineering companies are projected to have 2.74 million job openings.

Aerospace engineer. Automotive engineer. Contracting civil engineer. Control and instrumentation engineer. Maintenance engineer. Mechanical engineer. Nuclear engineer. Building control surveyor. Product Development scientist. IT consultant. Quality manager.

New course for 2018/19

Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Child Development

Course Description

The course will develop a student's knowledge and understanding of human needs in a diverse society working in a variety of contexts such as parenthood, pregnancy, diet, health and care of the child, development of the child and support for the parent and child. Through a range of tasks the student will learn a wide range of skills and knowledge relevant and transferable to other settings. This course will provide a solid foundation for progression to further Health and Social Care studies.

Please note that you will need to know a close family friend or relative with a young child under the age of five in order to carry out your child study. If you do not have a child to study then you will not be able to study child development as the child study accounts for 40% of the overall grade.

Assessment

Unit 1: Preparation for the end of course exam. All students will learn the essential knowledge and understanding for child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, care, and conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety.

Unit 2: Students will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet these needs. They will also gain knowledge of nutrition and hygiene practices and will be given the opportunity to evaluate dietary choices. Students will produce a portfolio of work which will involve some practical elements.

Unit 3: Students will gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. This unit will include researching, planning, carrying out activities with children and observing and reviewing these activities, as well as an understanding of the development norms and the benefits of play in child development.

Student Comments

"Child development is a great option to take if you're interested in a career involving children. There is a lot of work to do, but it is a great class to be part of."

"I am a year 11 who has enjoyed child development, you have a range of different topics which are interesting and the teachers are really supportive, they try to make the work less stressful for you and push you to get your target grades."

"It's really interesting, never boring!"

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

The course is suitable for students who have an interest in working with children under the age of 5. The course will include both primary and secondary research, observing and studying a young child over a period of 6 months. You will need to be organised in order to meet deadlines and arrange meetings with the parent of the young child. You will also need to be able to work independently and take responsibility while undertaking the child study and be able to communicate clearly during interviews, classroom discussions and written pieces of coursework.

Future Prospects/Career Options

- Early years teacher
- Nursery nurse
- Child minder
- Midwife
- Health Visitor
- Family Support Worker
- Social Worker
- Paediatric Nurse
- Speech and Language Therapist

BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts

Course Description

This is a highly practical course that will give learners the opportunity to develop their own practical performance skills and understanding of how the performing arts industry works.

Assessment

You will be assessed in 3 components:

Component 1 : Exploring the Performing Arts

You will develop their understanding of the performing arts by examining practitioners' work and the processes used to create performance. You will study at least 3 contrasting theatre companies and or practitioners. You will independently research and learn through workshops about approaches and practically apply these methods to their own work.

Worth 30% and Internally assessed.

Component 2: Developing skills in the Performing Arts

In this component, you will develop performance skills and techniques. You will take part in workshops and classes where you will develop technical, practical and interpretative skills through the rehearsal and performance process. You will work from existing performing arts repertoire, applying relevant skills and techniques to reproduce the work. Throughout your development, you will review your own progress and consider how to make improvements.

Worth 30% and Internally assessed.

Component 3 : Performing to a Brief

You will be given the opportunity to work as part of a group to create a workshop performance in response to a given brief and stimulus. This is the final assessment. You will be given a brief that outlines the performance requirements and that asks you to consider your target audience and to start the creative process by using the given stimulus included in the brief. Working as part of a group, you will develop your ideas for a workshop performance and apply your skills and techniques to communicate your creative intentions to your audience.

Worth 40% and Externally assessed.

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

It is strongly recommended that students should be working towards a Level 4 or above in English.

General Comments

Assessment will be through both written and Performance evidence. Expect after school rehearsals in preparation for your examined practical assessments. A willingness to perform in front of supportive audiences is required.

Future Prospects/Career Options

A BTEC Tech Award shows an employer that a student has confidence, good communication skills and an ability to work independently. It is an excellent subject to take in order to show diversity of interest and creativity. With a BTEC Tech Award you could continue your studies on any of the level 3 courses that Outwood offers. Drama graduates are statistically proven to be those who found employment the easiest after leaving university.

This qualification also assists all students pursuing a career working with people, sales, marketing, journalism, media, law, and of course all jobs in performance or theatre/ television/film production.

Student Comments

"I look forward to drama every week. I can't wait to see what issue or topic we will be exploring."

"I love the fact that we all work so well together and have such a good time. Drama makes such a change to all the other subjects I take and I always feel so much better afterwards."

Course Description

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity, whatever their previous experience in the subject. This course recognises the role of dance in young people's lives and the students will study a range of dance styles.

Assessment

Component 1 - Performance and Choreography

What's assessed

Performance

- Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration)
- Duet/trio performance (three and a half minutes in duration)

Choreography

Solo or group choreography - a solo (two to two and a half minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (three to three and a half minutes)

Performance

- 30% of GCSE
- 40 marks (15 marks for set phrases and 25 marks for duet/trio performance)

Choreography

- 30% of GCSE
- 40 marks

Component 2 - Dance Appreciation

What's assessed

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

40% of GCSE

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 80 marks

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

You must have a level 6 for KS3 English. Some experience of Dance is preferred.

General Comments

The study of dance as an art form contributes to students' aesthetic and social development. As a physical activity it promotes fitness and well-being.

Future Prospects/Career Options

GCSE Dance will set students up to continue with A Levels or BTEC courses at Key Stage 5. Many students will go on to study dance further at University or Dance Conservatoires to Degree level and beyond. Courses are available at Masters and PhD level. Career opportunities can include performer, choreographer, teacher, director, dance critic, dance movement therapy.

Student Comments

"Studying dance has really developed my confidence."

"I have done lots of dance outside school and this course has provided me with the opportunity to choreograph my own work."

"GCSE Dance has challenged me to look at dance from a wider perspective."

Course Description

This is a traditional GCSE course. You will study 3 areas, which naturally progress to the areas studied at Advanced level. These areas are:

Performing

This will account for 30% of your marks and is teacher assessed. You will be asked to perform on an instrument/voice of your choice, in any style you wish. Your performances will be both solo and as an ensemble.

Composition

Again this will account for a 30% of your marks and is teacher assessed. You produce two compositions or arrangements using the music software in the music technology suite.

Appraising

Four areas of music have to be studied. These include Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music. There are two set works to study from these areas, Rainbow's 'Since You've Been Gone' and Mozart's 'Eine Kleine Nachtmusik'.

Assessment

The performing and composing areas will be teacher assessed and then moderated by the exam board.

The appraising unit will be tested by a 1 hour and 15 minute examination and will account for 40% of the total marks.

Entry Requirements, Advice and Guidance

All potential GCSE students must play an instrument or sing to approximately grade 2 level by the beginning of the course.

General Comments

If you enjoy performing music in your own time or enjoy creating music on computers or in a recording studio, then this is a good subject to choose! If you would like to create music of your own, then composing will give you the opportunity. If you want to broaden your knowledge of all types of music, then this exciting course will give you an appreciation of the diversity of musical styles that exist today.

Future Prospects/Career Options

Performing musician, teacher, instrumental teacher, working in the performing arts business, recording technician, producer, DJ, arts administration, army musician, agent, community musician, concert promoter, events manager, music retail business, instrumental repairs, marketing for the record industry, music director, music publisher.

Student Comments

"I enjoyed performing with my friends."

"I have learnt a lot about music on this course. It is hard work!"

"I love to write and perform my own songs, and this course improved my ability to do this."

Option Maths

At Outwood Grange Academy we aim to support all of our students to reach their full potential in Maths. We employ a range of different interventions throughout Key Stage 4 and one of these is for students to study Option Maths. This is not an option that students can select, but one that they are selected for if it is necessary for them to succeed in the subject.

We provisionally identify students who would benefit from studying Option Maths as one of their options during the options selection process. This decision is based on what they have achieved in their Praising Stars® tests as well as assessments from their teacher; which may show they are currently underperforming in the subject.

The Option Maths groups are finalised following the end of year maths exam in the summer. If after selection, your child performs well in this exam they will not be in an Option Maths group next year and they will be allocated to one of their other subject choices that they selected in January. However if after selection they continue to progress at the same level as they have done so far this year, there is a high possibility that they will remain in the Option Maths class for next year.

Students who study Option Maths build a better level of confidence in the subject and usually go on to be very successful in the subject by the time they finish Year 11. We believe that although they will lose one of their other choices, Maths is an important subject that is extremely valuable to them once they have completed year 11.

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