



Davison
Year 9 Options Booklet
2025/26



**To live life in all its fullness and
flourish as God intended
Giving every girl a better future**

Contents

Introduction from Mr Keating	1
Options at Davison	2
Options Process	3
Core Subjects	
Citizenship Studies GCSE	5
English GCSE	7
Mathematics GCSE	9
Religious Studies GCSE	12
Science GCSE	14
Personal, Social, Health & Economic education	15
Options Subjects	
Art & Design GCSE	17
Art Textiles GCSE	20
Child Development OCR National	23
Computing GCSE	25
Dance GCSE	27
Design & Technology Engineering	30
Design & Technology Product Design	32
Drama GCSE	34
Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE	36
Geography GCSE	39
Health & Social Care BTEC	41
History GCSE	43
KS4 Study Plus, Key Skills	45
Media Studies GCSE	46
Modern Languages GCSE	49
Music GCSE	51
Photography GCSE	53
Physical Education GCSE and BTEC	56
Travel & Tourism BTEC	58

Dear Student,

This booklet represents an important milestone in your future. Within its pages you will find a large variety of subjects and courses on offer to you for your final two years at Davison. Much effort has gone into making it both informative and interesting; it is important that you understand where you have choice, and what those choices are, as well as gaining something of the 'flavour' of the subject matter and style of working required for you to succeed.

Please read this booklet carefully. There are details about subject content, styles, frequency of exams and suggestions about homework expectations. These details will help you to gain an idea of the work you will be covering and how you will be expected to work. Be careful not to simply choose new subjects for their originality but look carefully at their suitability for you. Try to consider your whole programme rather than look at subjects in isolation. Some subjects complement one another, whereas others may be too close in content and might reduce your flexibility later in your educational/professional journey.

Decide positively. Expect to succeed. Take responsibility for your future!

Key Stage 4 is *NOT* about collecting as many qualifications as you can – the *quality* of your qualifications is far more important. Universities (if you were considering applying later) are more impressed with grades than with the number of subjects taken – you will be offered more than enough within your timetable. Employers are more impressed with how relevant and useful your subjects are, rather than how many you have.

Your pathways are chosen to give you the best chance of success in the long term and to ensure your mix of subjects is broad and balanced.

Everyone knows that qualifications are not the only things needed for success in life – common sense, reliability, a willingness to learn, team spirit, communication skills, leadership qualities, time management, commitment, initiative, personal organisation... the list is endless – but don't worry, your KS4 programme is designed to give you opportunities to build on these.

Good grades get you onto the next level of education. Maths and English are of particular importance, as you will have to continue them at college if you have not achieved a standard pass (grade 4).

All of our research on previous years' GCSE results show that the main keys to success are: **Attendance** and **Attitude to learning** (your ATLs).

We know that students with above average attendance 96% plus and ATL grades of 4 and 5 do fantastically well at Davison and often exceed expectation.

Remember....we all want you to finish KS4 on an extremely positive note; thrilled with what you have achieved and excited about moving on.

Very best wishes in choosing the right options for you.

Mr C Keating
Headteacher

Options at Davison

As well as the compulsory element of GCSEs at Davison, all students have 2 free options. There are some extra curricular GCSEs on offer to some students such as statistics, further maths and astronomy.

We offer 3 pathways and between the end of January and February students fill out an online options form with their preferences. We then try and fit these as best we can to the resources and staff we have available.

The 3 pathways all cover the compulsory GCSEs of Mathematics, English Language, English Literature, Combined Science (2 GCSEs) and Religious Studies or Citizenship.

The "Options" are designed to comply with the Progress 8 GCSEs that government uses to measure school's performance. For more information on GCSEs and Progress 8 you can search on youtube for a helpful DFE 3-minute video explanation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IAEgFMSGDY> .

See further information on the pathways below.

Please note there may be exceptions made to these pathways for students with SEND.

<u>EBacc Pathway-</u> <u>2 options + modern</u> <u>foreign language</u> <u>(9 GCSEs)</u>	<u>Progress pathway –</u> <u>3 options but one is</u> <u>compulsory & 2 are</u> <u>free</u> <u>(9 GCSEs)</u>	<u>Key Skills Pathway –</u> <u>3 options</u> <u>(8/9 GCSEs)</u>
<p>Students are in Set A/B Maths</p> <p>They have to continue their chosen language to GCSE.</p> <p>They are able to choose Triple Science.</p> <p>The other 2 choices are free- see the options booklet for the most recent offer.</p>	<p>Students come from mostly set C/D Maths</p> <p>Compulsory: from Modern Foreign Language, History, Geography, Computer Science.</p> <p>2 Free choices- see the options booklet for the most recent offer.</p>	<p>Students have studied Key Skills instead of a language in years 8 & 9.</p> <p>Key Skills is our numeracy and literacy improvement programme.</p> <p>We recommend that students take Study Plus as 1 option and have 2 free choices</p>

Year 9 Options Process



Please note that there is a lot of detailed information on our website under the 'Learning banner'. The 'curriculum description and option pathways' gives an overview. The 'Keystage 4 options' and 'Key stage 4 options subject information' gives a detailed view.

You could also email/ telephone if you need further clarification. Staff responsibilities and email addresses are available on our website under 'Contacts'.

Any subject-specific questions should be emailed to the classroom teacher or Subject Leader.

Ms Binney oversees the option process – s.binney@davisonhigh.school

The timetable for the options process is:

During December and January there will be opportunities for students to watch videos from our website explaining how different options subjects work. This booklet explains how the process works and the course content for individual subjects.

Students will also have some time in PS lessons and form time to discuss options.

Week beginning 5th January 2026 -The options process launches via presentation during form time/ assembly to year 9.

Week beginning 12th January 2026 - Options form sent to students to make their choices.

15th January: Options Evening – Presentations at school explaining the options process and how years 10 & 11 works. There is also an opportunity to speak to subject leaders, colleges and career advisors.

11th February: deadline for options- at this point the numbers gathered will inform the classes we put on for year 10 next year.

Up until Easter Ms Binney will speak to students whose choices may not be running or for whom there are clashes. *After Easter it may be possible to change but this will be dependent on class numbers.*

Students find out which Options they have been allocated by Easter.

CORE SUBJECTS

Citizenship Studies GCSE

In **GCSE Citizenship Studies** you will gain and develop the knowledge and skills needed to flourish as an informed, responsible and active member of your local, national and global communities.

Quotes from Year 11 students:

'It helped me to form my own opinion on things with more knowledge'

'I have learned lots more about the importance of voting and caring about these things and I am really grateful for that.'

'Citizenship Studies engages you with law, politics and it gives you an insight into how the country you live in is run'

'In Citizenship Studies you learn about how society works and why it is like that. We get to share opinions and learn about other people's opinions all the time'

The four themes that you will study are;

1) **Life in Modern Britain** – you will learn about the identity of the UK and the citizens of the UK, the reasons for migration, the UK's cultural diversity as well as the role, rights and responsibilities of the media. You will also consider the UK's role within international organisations such as NATO, the UN and the Commonwealth discuss the benefits and problems associated with the UK's foreign aid programme.

2) **Rights and Responsibilities** – you will learn about criminal justice system starting with who commits crimes in the UK, the powers of the police and CPS, the systems of the courts and the punishments available. You will also learn about human rights and international law.

3) **Politics and Participation** – you will learn about different types of government e.g. dictatorship and democracy, how the Houses of Parliament work to make new laws and consider how Parliament holds the Government to account. You will look at different ways of running elections, who can stand for election and how citizens can make political change.

4) **Active Citizenship** – you will work within a group to investigate, research and collect information about a specific issue where you will go on to create change in some way. Your active citizenship work will be examined in one of the final exams and will contribute 15% of the final marks.

To be successful in GCSE Citizenship Studies, you should be able to:

- Be determined to work well and overcome challenges that you are faced with.
- Work cooperatively as a member of a group of students by sharing ideas.
- Contribute confidently to discussions during lessons.
- Have a passion for investigating and getting involved in current local, national and global issues



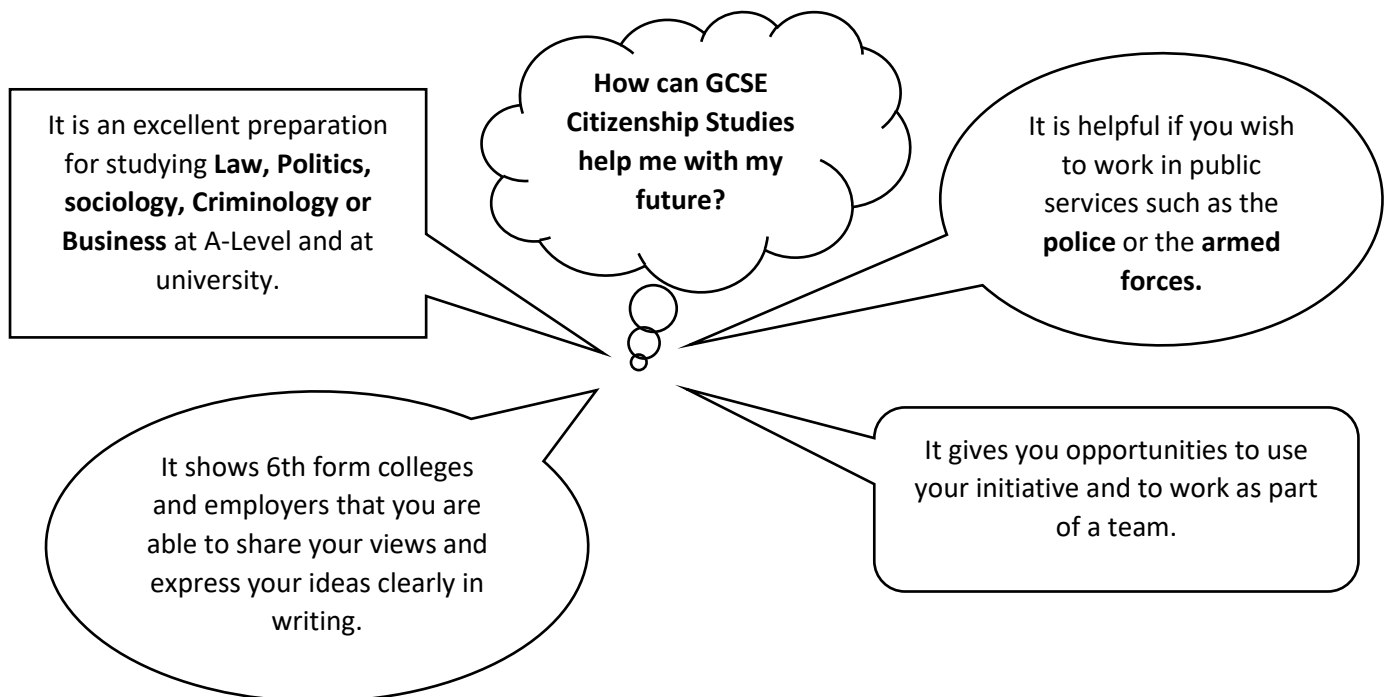
Examination Specification:

We will be studying the **AQA GCSE Citizenship Studies**.

Examinations:

There are **two exams**, each one lasting an hour and three quarters in May or June of Year 11. Each exam is worth 50% of the GCSE course.

Some of the questions will require short answer responses and some will require longer and more fully developed responses. Revision is expected throughout the two years as we practice 1 and 2 mark questions every fortnight as part of our homework requirements. We also have monthly homework through reading the news and creating case studies in our news diaries to support the examples that we can give in the exams.



Opportunities for GCSE Citizenship Studies students

- Mock trial workshop with local Magistrates
- UK Parliament guided tour and workshop
- Careers talks from public sector workers
- Visit to the UK Supreme Court or Europe House
- Engaging with local and national elected representatives

English Language and English Literature (Dual Certificate) GCSE

English is for everyone at Key Stage 4 and everyone in Year 11 will follow the dual certificate English and English Literature GCSE course – it is not an option!

The course is assessed through exams only and these take place at the end of Year 11.

The two courses are taught alongside each other and will give you the experience of reading and responding to a wide range of texts from our literary heritage. You will also have opportunities to write creatively and explore different styles.

The English department are looking forward to planning and delivering lots of exciting and engaging activities to ensure you leave Davison with a love of reading and writing.

English Language Exams:

Paper One:

Explorations in creative reading and writing

In this paper you will read and respond to a literary text and then write your own creative piece inspired by what you have read.

Paper Two:

Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

In this paper you will read non-fiction literary texts from different time periods and consider how viewpoints are presented. You will also write a piece giving your own perspective on the topic you have read about.

Speaking and Listening Assessment:

The assessment will be separately endorsed and does not go towards the final GCSE grade although your speaking and listening result will be on your certificate.

You will give a presentation in a formal context on a topic of your choice.

English Literature Exams:

Paper One: Shakespeare and The 19th-century novel

In this paper you will answer a question on Macbeth by Shakespeare. You will also answer a question on the 19th Century novel A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens.



Paper Two: Modern texts and poetry

Modern texts
Poetry
Unseen poetry



Section A

You will answer a question on the play *An Inspector Calls* by JB Priestley.

Section B

You will answer a question comparing two poems from a selection of 15 poems which you will study in class. These poems will be linked by theme and will be both modern and pre-1914.

Section C:

You will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

Mathematics GCSE ...

...Is For Everyone!!

Seriously, you can't choose not to do maths at Key Stage 4 – it is a statutory requirement. So let's look to see **'what's** in it for you'.

Maths is all around you and you can't stop it happening! You handle cash most days, walk on intricate paving, look at a clock, walk up a set of stairs, catch a bus, work out the value of money, look in a mirror, sit on a chair. However and whenever you travel, the design and operation of your journey will have involved maths. Astronomers reach for the stars with maths. Mathematicians sorted out the double helix of DNA and war-time code-breakers, using maths and saved thousands of lives! When you are older, you might be filling the tank with petrol, buying carpet, getting the best deals, wallpapering, changing nappies, putting on a party, having a holiday....maths will always be with us at home and at leisure, never mind in our professional lives!

You can really get fascinated with numbers, shapes and patterns, you start seeing them in all sorts of places – starting with snowflakes, then moving up the scale to buildings and bridges. Maths provides opportunities to communicate anywhere in the world in a universal language – no translations needed! It genuinely helps with thinking skills, problem solving techniques and quantifying skills – three things you definitely need in life.

This is why numeracy is considered to be so vital for everyone and why maths is a compulsory subject all over the world, which incidentally, is spinning at a constant speed of

Mathematics.....looking ahead

The entry requirements for the majority of courses post-16 include Maths at GCSE. If you really enjoy your Maths, you can carry on with the subject post-16 at any college. Some of the courses, which may interest you include:

- A/S and A2 Mathematics/ Further Mathematics
- A/S and A2 Statistics
- Some colleges also offer Applied Maths and Pure Maths

There is also a considerable amount of Maths in:

Engineering and Construction, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Applied Science, Business, Business & Finance, Economics, Accounting, Retail Management and Business Administration, Market Research, Operations Management and Money Management

Quirky Quotes:

"My dad still doesn't believe that 1.9 recurring is equal to 2!" (Year 10 pupil).

"That's cool!" (Year 11 pupil on seeing proof of angle theorem).

"I'm glad I was encouraged with my Maths – I never thought I was much good but now I've got much more confidence" (Year 10 pupil).

"I'm really excited by my maths and I'm enjoying the A/S work – we get quite carried away and the time flies" (Year 11 pupil).

"That's brilliant! I've never seen it done that way before!" (Maths teacher).

Mathematics info sheet

During Year 9 all students were learning elements towards their GCSE mathematics course as well as their Key Stage 3 topics. We are following a linear specification course and it will incorporate mathematics that is relevant and necessary for the world of work. It will incorporate elements of Functional Skills as well as the elements expected in any GCSE mathematics course. Tier of entry decisions are made in the January of year 11.

Examination Board: Currently AQA

Entry tiers: Higher (grades 9 to 4) and Foundation (grades 5 to 1).

GCSE grade:

- A linear specification assessed through 3 final 1 ½ hours exams which are taken in May/June of Year 11. Two of the papers require a scientific calculator to complete them.

Course content:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, Proportion & Rates of Change
- Probability
- Statistics

Homework

Homework is set through the website www.sparx.com. It is a bespoke programme and will work on an individual basis. It will learn about each student; setting appropriate levelled work to promote 100% success of set and suitably challenged extension work.

Teaching and Learning

For Maths GCSE, you will be taught in ability groups. The teaching will be mainly class lessons with opportunities for collaborative work, discussion and small group work. You will continue to develop the good practices used at KS3. The use of computers, particularly spreadsheets, is important. **All students need a scientific calculator**, which are inexpensive if bought from the Mathematics Department and can be purchased online through the school website.

Monitoring

Your teacher will be able to look at what you are doing during lessons and give guidance and advice. Your work will be routinely marked and will be annotated with helpful comments on how the work could be improved. You will have green comments to tell you what you have done well and amber comments to give you further advice and guidance. **You** will also routinely monitor your work by assessing your understanding at the end of lessons with your own GAR comments. You will colour code a personal learning checklist

(PLC) for your course to help you when it comes to that all-important revision time. At the end of each half term you will be assessed on the topics you have learnt.

Further opportunities to explore Mathematics

There may be the opportunity for students in top set for maths to study the extra-curricular mathematics courses we offer.

These are:

GCSE Statistics which is available to students in set A in year 10 or 11. This is the study of data, data handling and analysis, and probability.

The Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics which is available to students in set A in year 11. This course introduces students to more challenging and abstract parts of mathematics, introducing concepts that will help with the progression to A-level Mathematics.

Websites

The Maths Department subscribes to www.sparx.com for student homework and independent learning and all students can access tutorials and quizzes to aid in their learning.

We also are signed up to www.drfrostmaths.com (DFM) and all students can access tutorial videos and online questions to aid their learning. Class work and homework may be set on this site. They are also able to access all the key skills related to the course they are covering during the year. There is also a facility for parents to engage with.

We also recommend the use of www.corbettmaths.com, www.mathsgenie.co.uk, and www.bcbitesize.co.uk for further support.

Equipment needed

You will be provided with an exercise book, tracing paper and graph paper etc, but you do need a good HB or H pencil (and sharpener!), scientific calculator, ruler and colours. You must have your own geometry equipment and calculator for all lessons **and more** importantly for all exams/ internal assessments.

Calculators – presently about £8.10. **Geometry sets** – presently about £1.50

Which can be purchased through WisePay.

Religious Studies GCSE

“Whether you are religious or not, it is important that we understand the communities that we live in. The more people know about faiths currently thriving in Britain the more likely we will be to embrace our multicultural society.”

Mr Mason (Subject Leader RS)

RS has given me a chance to explore really interesting ethical arguments. We have watched some really interesting documentaries.

I love that we get to discuss topical subjects. My favourite has been looking at animal rights and capital punishment. It's great we can look at non-religious and religious ideas.

By exploring philosophy, ethics, Christianity, and Buddhism, you'll discover how different beliefs shape the world we live in—and learn to think more deeply about your own views. In a world overflowing with opinions, RS trains you to communicate respectfully, reason clearly, and understand other perspectives.

Opting for GCSE Religious Studies can be beneficial for several reasons:

1. **Think Deeply:** RS helps you explore life's big questions and make sense of the world around you.
2. **Understand Others:** RS shows how religion and ethics influence laws, justice, and society today. You'll learn about different beliefs and cultures, helping you become more open-minded and respectful.
3. **Make Better Choices:** RS explores real moral issues, giving you strong ethical thinking skills.
4. **Communicate with others:** You'll get better at expressing your opinions and debating with confidence.
5. **Stay Connected:** RS helps you understand how religion shapes the world we live in today.
6. **Know Yourself:** The subject encourages reflection, helping you understand your own values and identity.

Overall, RS GCSE gives you skills for life—understanding, empathy, confidence, and clear thinking.

I chose RS because it encourages me to think philosophically and think about my own views and values.

I enjoy the discussions and debates that we have in RS.

What will I study?

Religious Studies course content:

You will study two of the six main world religions- **Christianity and Buddhism**. As part of this study you will explore:

- Christian and Buddhist beliefs and teachings
- Christian and Buddhist Practices

You will have one written exam based on this content. 1 hour and 45 minutes. (50% of GCSE)

2. You will study four **philosophical and ethical practices**. As part of this study you will explore:

- **Relationship and families**
- **Religion and Life**
- **Does God exist**
- **Religion, crime and punishment**

You will have one written exam based on this. 1 hour and 45 minutes. (50% of GCSE)

It has given me the chance to learn about current, relevant ethical issues. The lessons interest me. when we studied divorce and abortion we looked at religious and non-religious ideas but also what U.K laws says.

Religious Studies and Careers:

The following are just some of the occupational areas where you might use these skills:

Advertising • advisory work • architecture • the Armed Forces • **broadcasting** • careers guidance • Civil Service work • community work • counselling • environmental health • healthcare • hospitality • human resources/personnel work • **journalism** • **law** • librarianship • local government • marketing • medicine • nursing • police work • prison service work • probation service work • **public relations** • retailing • social work • teaching • youth work.

Science



Science is important because it helps us understand how the world works, create new technologies, solve real-life problems, protect the environment, improve health, and make informed choices for a better future.

Combined Science is a Core Subject worth two GCSEs and students will receive a double-grade between 9-9 and 1-1. It includes equal amounts of Physics, Chemistry and Biology and is an acceptable route to the study of any Science post-16. All students will take at least Combined Science at GCSE.

Triple Science GCSE includes all the content in Combined, plus extra content in each of the three Sciences. It takes one Option, in addition to the standard Combined Science curriculum time.

Students will receive three GCSEs with separate grades for Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Triple Science provides a deeper understanding of the three Sciences, which is beneficial for students interested in pursuing Science-related A-levels or careers in fields such as medicine, engineering or research. The extra content and practical work in Triple Science help develop stronger analytical and problem-solving skills. It also demonstrates academic ambition and can make university or college applications more competitive. Additionally, students often find it easier to transition to advanced Science studies because they will have already explored more challenging concepts and gained greater confidence in scientific methods and critical thinking.

Students opting for Triple Science must love Science lessons as they will have fifteen per fortnight - this means that on many days, they will have Science twice and if there's a day when they don't have Science, they might have it three times on another. Triple Science will be on the Options Form for students in Year 9 sets A and B only, but can be added to any student's Options Form with the agreement of their Science teachers.

Students, parents and carers are encouraged to ask further questions by contacting Science teachers at school, and are warmly welcomed to Options Evening on 15th January 2026.

Mr C. Hallworth (Subject Leader of Science)

c.hallworth@davisonhigh.school

PSHE

At Key Stage 4, you continue with your fortnightly lessons in Personal, Social, Health and Economic education.

School is not just about preparing for exams. It's about preparing you for life: you as a whole person – physically, mentally, socially, emotionally and spiritually. The PHSE programme is designed to help you take your part in the world.

You will be given the opportunity to develop your communication skills, working with and understanding others, learning how to challenge other people's ideas and views and formulating your own opinions and values.

In PHSE lessons you will cover a wide range of topics including mental and emotional wellbeing, relationship issues, how to budget and manage your future income and our rights and responsibilities as citizens within a democratic society.

Year 10 pupils have the chance to go on 'Work Experience' for a week – and some of your lessons will be devoted to preparing you for your placement. In Year 11 you will be preparing for life 'after Davison' and will be looking at progression routes to college, apprenticeships or employment. You will be able to research different options and attend a range of information sessions.

During the course of the two years you will also have the opportunity to receive helpful advice from ACORN, HSBC and the Terrence Higgins Trust.

The good news is that there are no exams for PHSE!

But as always – the more you put in – the more you get back!

Although PHSE is not examined, it is possibly the most important lesson you will go to each fortnight!

OPTION SUBJECTS

ART, CRAFT & DESIGN GCSE

Are you excited by a blank piece of paper?
Do you love spending time drawing?
Do you doodle?
Do you love experimenting with different art materials?
Are you tactile? (look it up!)
Do you get excited about colours?
Do you take pleasure in the shapes, colours and textures in nature and everyday things?
Do you drift off to sleep imagining how you could 'decorate' your bedroom?
Can you be subtle with colour, as well as bold?
Have you ever appreciated patterns of light and shade, reflections in water or on other surfaces?



If you have answered a resounding 'YES!', then Art and Design is for you, because the willingness to USE your creativity comes only from you



KEY INFORMATION

Homework

Every piece of class and homework counts towards your coursework, you will be expected to spend a minimum of 90 minutes a week on homework.

Assessment

All marking is based on the GCSE assessment criteria. Informal assessment takes place every lesson, your teacher will give advice and guidance on your work. At the end of the unit, the whole project will be formally assessed, graded and discussed with you.

Extension & catch up opportunities

Everyone is welcome to come to Art Club after school and at lunchtimes, times/days displayed in the art rooms

Equipment & materials needed

There will be an opportunity to purchase an Art Pack through the school. We are able to buy in bulk at discounted prices so we can offer a GCSE art pack with all the materials and equipment you need at a reasonable price



Key Points

Year 10 visit to an Art Gallery
Beginning of July in Year 11 – exhibition of GCSE work, the Private View.

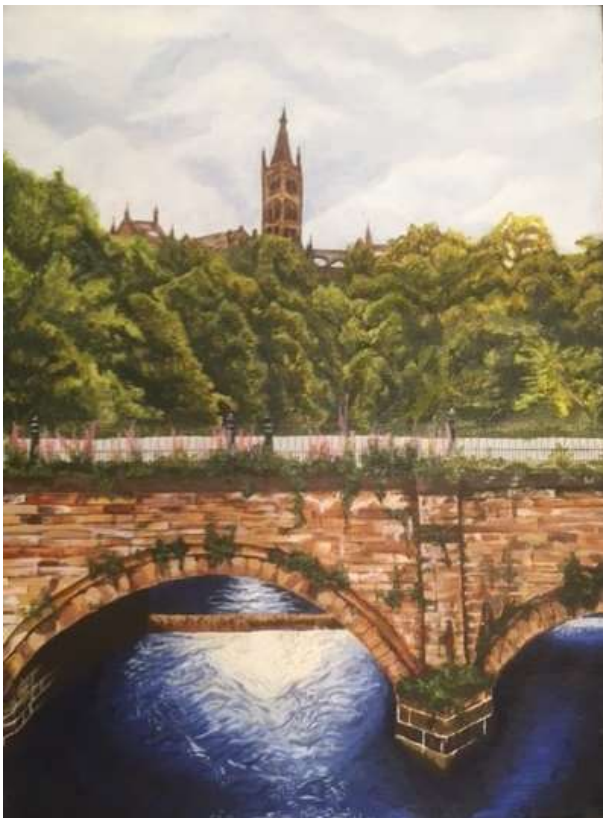


Exam Board

AQA (No different entry tiers)
60% NEA (Coursework 2 units)
40% Controlled Test (practical exam)
The final exam paper is issued 4 weeks prior to the exam date so that you can prepare. The exam is 10 hours – 5 hours spread over 2 days. It is assessed in the same way as the coursework but must be done entirely on your own. There will be a choice of themes, or starting points – you choose what to do and the materials to do it with.

Course content

Portfolio NEA (coursework) – You will complete 2/3 units of coursework in Year 10 and Autumn term Year 11. AQA says – produce sustained project work and a selection of further work that represents the course of study. This is worth 60% of your overall marks, you will have the opportunity to experiment with media and techniques, learn about artists & improve your skills in lessons and workshops



Year 10 - The first project will be teacher led lasting until Easter, in the Summer term the project will be based on a past GCSE paper in the form of a mock exam.

Controlled Test (exam) - The spring term of Year 11 will be used for the exam, followed by time in the summer term to top up coursework units.

Learning about the arts enriches the experience of studying while at school as well as preparing you for life after school.

- Arts subjects encourage self-expression and creativity and can build confidence as well as a sense of individual identity.
- Creativity can also help with wellbeing and improving health and happiness – many students comment that art lessons acted as an outlet for releasing the pressures of studying as well as those of everyday life.

Art Textiles GCSE



If you are creative and imaginative, love making things from fabrics and threads, enjoy experimenting with plastic and paper and enjoy being challenged to do something just a little bit different, then this is the GCSE course for you!

The Art Textiles GCSE course develops further the skills you have been taught in Years 7, 8 & 9 and is very much an Art based course.

Art Textiles has no written exam in year 11 and all the course work is practical with a minimal amount of written work throughout.



The full title of the course is AQA Art and Design Endorsd Textiles and it is an excellent choice if you want to be creative and enjoy Art and Design but do not feel confident at drawing and painting. Whilst we do Art activities in Art Textiles it is very experimental, concentrating on colour, texture, and pattern.

This course gives you a unique opportunity to develop your Art skills, produce quality Creative Textiles and, providing you complete your coursework and homework, achieve a good GCSE grade. We have had a 100% pass rate for many years

As with other GCSE subjects you will have 5 hours per fortnight and there is an after school catch up club every week.

You will be expected to complete 2-3 pieces of coursework during year 10 and 11 and will also have your controlled assessment in year 11. In total you will have 3-4 projects which highlight all the Art Textiles techniques and skills you have been taught. Alongside your practical work you will also look at and be inspired by a variety of contemporary textile designers and artists.



The themes for each project or unit of work are:

Unit 1- Plants & Natural forms.

Transfer printing with plants and found materials, digital sublimation printing, lino printing, machine embroidery, entrapment with plastics, creative fabric & paper collage. Fashion designer inspiration. Outcome – skirt or corset



Unit 2 – Texture & Decay.

Fabric manipulation techniques, melted plastic manipulation, rust dyeing, batik, stitch, print effects, applique, and hand and machine embroidery. Outcome – a zipped purse.

Unit 3 – Fabulous florals & fruits.

Screen printing, mono printing, embellishment, applique, stitch & hand embroidery. Outcome – Large scale applique & stitch panel.

All work is presented in A3 sketchbooks, recycled books or A2 sheets, most of the materials, fabrics, threads and specialist resources are provided by the Art Textiles department.

GCSE Art Textiles is fantastic choice for those of you who are considering any Art or Fashion based course at college and indeed many students continue their studies onto university.



Students who have studied this course in the past have gone into careers in:

fashion & textile design
structural textile design
millinery
footwear design
knitwear design
fashion forecasting
interior design
fashion and textile marketing

. . . and, of course, teaching.



Child Development

Child development is a course you can choose to study in Year 10 and Year 11. It is a course run by the OCR exam board and is classed as a 'vocational qualification' which will give you knowledge and experience that you can take for further study and use in the work place. This is a Level 1 and 2 qualification which means that it is worth the same number of points as a full GCSE.



Do You....?

- ✓ Enjoy being well-organised and working with children
- ✓ Like doing personal research and working on individual projects
- ✓ Are interested in the sociology behind family life
- ✓ Are keen on biology
- ✓ Would like the opportunity to volunteer at a nursery

If you have answered yes to these questions then you are the sort of person who will enjoy studying Child Development!

All sorts of practical and creative things come into the course – like menu planning, cooking for a child and learning how to change a nappy. The course, though, is not considered to be a practical subject and contains a great deal of theory. There is a certain amount of Science when studying conception, pregnancy and birth for example, or methodically logging observations of a child's reaction or behaviour.

Assessment of the course

The Child Development course is a Cambridge National Level 1/2 qualification with the qualification awarded at pass, merit, distinction or distinction* level. The course will be assessed with a 1 hour and 15-minute written paper (40%) and two pieces of coursework (60%)

The course will cover the following topics

Written paper: Health and well-being for child development

Coursework: Creating a safe environment for children from birth to five years and understanding the development of a child from birth to five years.

Is it for you?

This course is for students who enjoy working with and studying young children. It is for those who are considering a career where knowledge of the development of a young child could be useful for example teacher, nurse, midwife, doctor, nursery nurse, child care assistant, nanny, child psychologist, play therapist, police officer, family liaison officer and many more. As well as helping to prepare you for your career, this course aims to equip you with information and advice for “when and if” you decide to become a parent.



Many of our Child Development students have gone on to study related courses at local colleges, including:

A Level Biology

A level Psychology

A Level Sociology

Applied A levels –Health and Social care

BTEC Health and Social Care Level 1, 2 and 3

Cache Certificate– Child care and Education 2 and 3

Cache Certificate –Caring for Children level 1 and 2

Apprenticeship in Childcare

GCSE Computer Science (OCR J277)

 **Unlock Your Future in Tech**



Ever wondered how your favourite apps, games, or social media platforms are made?

With GCSE Computer Science, you'll learn to think like a creator, not just a user.

From coding your own programs to understanding how technology shapes the world that we live in — this course lets you explore, experiment, and create.

What You'll Learn & Be Assessed On

Component 1 – Computer Systems – Written exam worth 50%

- How data is stored and transmitted
- How networks connect people across the world
- How to keep information secure
- The big ethical questions around tech

Component 2 – Computational Thinking, Algorithms & Programming – Written exam worth 50%

- Learn how to think logically and break problems down
- Write Python code to make computers do amazing things
- Get creative — design, test, and refine your own programs

Programming Projects – Bring Ideas to Life

Create your own programs from scratch. Start with the basics and then move on to larger programs. Whether it's a quiz, a game, or a handy app idea, you'll build up a portfolio of your programming work to show off your skills.

💡 Why Choose Computer Science?

🌐 Shape the Future

Technology is part of everything — from music and fashion to medicine and space travel. This course gives you the tools to make the future, not just watch it happen.

🧠 Be Creative

Coding isn't just technical — it's imaginative. You'll design solutions, create interactive experiences, and bring your ideas to life.

🧩 Think Smart

Problem-solving and logical thinking are skills that will help you in any career — whether you go into design, business, or science.

👛 Open the Door to Amazing Careers

Computer Science can lead to exciting futures in:

- 🎮 Game Design
- 🔒 Cybersecurity
- 🤖 Artificial Intelligence
- 📱 Web & App Development
- ⚙️ Engineering
- 📊 Data Science

...and so much more!

🚀 Who's This Course For?

Anyone who loves creating, solving puzzles, or understanding how things work. No need to be a “tech genius” — just bring your curiosity and imagination. Being reasonably good at Maths helps too!

👤 Want to Know More?

Talk to Ms R. Hilliard for more details or examples of what you'll create. Join a subject that's all about thinking differently — and shaping tomorrow.



Dance GCSE

Why GCSE Dance?

Your GCSE options are studied for 2 years and need to be something you enjoy and look forward to in your timetable. You may or may not want to pursue dance as a career choice in the future but dance is subject of many skills. It can show your future college and employers that you have an extended skill set that not only is creative but also academic. This important balance allows you to develop not only your knowledge and understanding of dance but also your skill set as an active member of any community.

You do not need to have dance lessons outside of school to do GCSE Dance but you do need to be confident in your own performance ability and be willing to develop your own dance technique or how you create movement. Likewise, if you are a dancer, you will need to be able to show your knowledge and understanding theoretically as well as in performance.

Dance is an opportunity to develop your creative and interpretive skills as well as nurture your skills and technique as a performer. Our course is practical but does have an exciting theoretical component. You will learn analytical skills through observation and analysis of anthology works, gain confidence in your own ability as a performer and develop leadership skills and organisation through choreography.

You will have to be prepared to fully commit to this course as many hours of rehearsals are needed for your practical work!

Dance info sheet

Exam Board:

AQA (no tiers of entry)

How the GCSE grade is currently compiled:

Internally marked and externally moderated



Component 1 - Performance and Choreography

Performance (2 solo's and 1 trio piece both assessed in Year 11)

- 30% of GCSE
- 40 marks

Choreography (Solo or group dance that you create based on set stimulus from the exam board - assessed in Year 11)

- 30% of GCSE
- 40 marks

Total component 60%

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

How it's assessed

- 40% of GCSE
- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 80 marks



Course Content:



- Ways into choreography
- Contemporary technique classes
- Observation and analysis of the 6 anthology works
- Explore the 6 anthology works practically
- Dance form and structure
- Sophisticated approaches to choreography through various art forms
- Performance work
- Analytical studies

You will be expected to commit yourself to extra-curricular performance pieces which will involve extra rehearsals.

Assessment expectations:

Assessment for your GCSE will be ongoing throughout the two years. You will have theory work to do and homework is set throughout the course. The coursework deadlines are all before Easter of Year 11.

Style of teaching:

Sometimes you will be involved in group work, sometimes individual improvisation. You will have the opportunity for plenty of research and be taught how to observe and analyse work – your own as well as professional. Your teacher will cover the theory work related to your practical pieces and provide you with the information you need.

There will be opportunities for class discussion too. All lessons will be based in the Dance Studio.

The exam paper:

The written exam is 1 hour 30 minutes long and work 40% of your final grade. It involves short answer questions on the dancer in action and more essay-style questions when answering about your own and professional dance works.

Homework:

Sometimes your homework will be to rehearse a group or solo piece. You will also be set exam practice questions to refine techniques for the written paper.

Monitoring progress:

GCSE criteria is used for marking practical work from the start – but in Year 10 the marks will be fairly generous to encourage you! Your teacher will discuss your work and advise you, setting you specific targets.

Progression:

If you seriously want a career as a professional dancer, you need to be involved already in private dance lessons with a local dance school – they will be able to advise you on auditions and applications for specialist dance schools which would suit you, post-16. Most girls who take GCSE dance, however, choose it just because they enjoy dance. Some want to take it further and choose A-level dance alongside their other A-level choices at college. Some choose to do a full-time 'Performing Arts' course at Northbrook, Lewes or Chichester. This GCSE is valuable if you are considering any career in dance, music or theatre, or wish to continue dancing as a leisure activity or in amateur productions. GCSE dance is an excellent course to support the career development of Art Photography, Technical and Stage management and Costume design.

Key question; 'I do dance outside of school' why would it benefit me to do GCSE Dance?

GCSE Dance will be something you can excel in if you are doing lessons outside of school. Something you will look forward to attending each week and somewhere where you can shine creatively and in performance/ choreography. If you are putting lots of effort into these lessons outside of school, it makes sense to be able to use these skills to gain a recognised academic qualification. A GCSE in dance, regardless of whether you go on to study it past GCSE level will carry weight for your future studies or apprenticeship. Lots of Higher education providers like to look for students who have a broad and balanced experience, and dance, for the reasons stated above, is just the right balance of practical and theoretical exploration.

Equipment needed:

Complete dance kit – every lesson. An A4 file, a pen and a smile!



Design & Technology

Cambridge National Engineering Design

**1hr15 min Written Exam 40% (70 marks) 2 x short NEAs
(Non-Examined Assessment) 60% (120 marks)**

Engineering is an increasingly innovative and exciting subject to study. Our qualification focus' on developing the practical and engineering skills of our students allowing them to manufacture high quality outcomes using real world technologies and working with relevant, contemporary design briefs which provide real engineering problems to solve, preparing our students to become confident participants of our technological future. Students will use their creativity and critical thinking skills to design and manufacture prototypes that solve real world problems, considering the needs, wants and values of others.

How will my daughter be assessed?

- Engineering Materials
- Engineering Manufacturing Processes
- Systems
- Testing and Investigation
- The Impact of Modern Technologies
- Practical Engineering skills

How is the course broken down?

The course is broken down into 3 parts with a 1hr15 min written exam and 2 small NEA's (Non-Examined Assessment) historically known as coursework.

Suggested style questions written by the exam board:

The style of questions written by the exam board are a good mix of multiple choice, diagrammatical response, short written response, some basic maths, and some slightly larger mark essay style questions that are marked out of a maximum of 8.

Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) 30 hours approx. in lesson time, mostly in Yr11.

- 120 marks
- 60% of GCSE
- The students respond to a brief set by the exam board, where they will be asked to produce engineering drawings or schematics to communicate a solution to the brief and ultimately create a product that solves a problem.

Assessment criteria for the NEA:

- Analysis of the problem and how they can meet the need of the user
- Relevant research to formulate a range of methods of problem solving (including modelling)
- Systems diagrams and sector-specific drawings

- A final prototype that is fit for purpose
- A test plan
- Final Evaluation



What material skills do you cover?

Carrying on from KS3 -Y10 students will develop their understanding of the subject on a carousel of trending real world contexts, and hands on skills in our well stocked

workshop developing products using a variety of materials, tools and techniques exploring workable outcomes. The emphasis will continue to be on designing and making products that fit a need and a purpose, so the practical material handling skills are wide and varied and include the understanding of specialist technical principles such as:

- **Metal/ Polymer/ Composites (some timbers and ceramics)** -based materials- focussing on the impact that these material-based products can have on the environment and how they can be used in a sustainable and successful way in a workshop environment.
- **Electronic systems-** understanding how the development and use of electronic systems can enhance the design of a product.
- **Mechanical systems-** understanding how the development and use of mechanisms can enhance the design of a product.

What support will be offered to my daughter?

We provide access to our workshops every lunchtime, where dedicated staff are available to support them each step of the way, whether this is support with their NEA or with revision. As we know the girls club schedules can be hectic, so with this in mind staff are also available after school until 4:30pm most weekdays.

What subjects can my daughter study in further education with this course?

Students selecting our course would be provided with a solid grounding for any Design course that they are wishing to pursue in further education. Suggested routes into further education can be seen listed below:

- Architecture/General Engineering
- Civil Engineering/Industrial Design
- Engineering/Construction
- CAD Design
- Maritime Technology
- Aerospace/ Set Designer
- Furniture Design/ 3DD.

Taking GCSE Engineering can lead onto college courses at:



Design & Technology

GCSE (AQA) Product Design

AQA Design Technology- 2 hour Written Exam 50% (100 marks)

NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) 50% (100 marks)



Product Design is constantly evolving in our everyday lives. Our qualification focus' on developing the practical and designing skills of our students to allow them to manufacture high quality outcomes using real world technologies, working with contemporary design briefs preparing our students to become confident participants of our technological future. Students will use their creativity and critical thinking skills to design and manufacture prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering the needs, wants and values of others.

How will my child be assessed?

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

How is the course broken down?

The course is broken down into 2 parts with a 2-hour written exam and an NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) historically known as coursework.

Suggested style questions written by the exam board:

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)

There will be 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.

Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) 30-35 hours approx. in lesson time, mostly in Yr11.

- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Substantial design and make task where the exam board supply new contexts each year.

Assessment criteria for the NEA:

- Identifying and investigating design possibilities
- Producing a design brief and specification
- Generating design ideas, developing design ideas, realising design ideas
- Analysing and evaluating
- Students will produce a prototype and portfolio of evidence
- Work is assessed by teachers and moderated by AQA

What material skills do you cover?

Carrying on from KS3 -Y10 students will develop their understanding of the subject on a carousel of real world contexts, and hands on skills in our well stocked workshop using a variety of materials, tools and techniques exploring workable outcomes. The emphasis will continue to be on designing and making products that fit a need and a purpose, so the practical material handling skills are wide and varied and include the understanding of specialist technical principles such as:



- **Papers and boards**- focusing on the development of modelling skills in preparation for their NEA. (Non-Examined Assessment)
- **Timber/ Metal/ Polymer/ Textiles** -based materials- focussing on the impact that these material-based products can have on the environment and how they can be used in a sustainable and successful way in a workshop environment.
- **Electronic systems**- understanding how the development and use of electronic systems can enhance the design of a product.

What support will be offered to my child?

We provide access to our workshops every lunchtime, where dedicated staff are available to support them each step of the way, whether this is support with their NEA or with revision. As we know the students club schedules can be hectic, so with this in mind staff are also available after school until 4:30pm most weekdays.

What subjects can my child study at college with this GCSE?

Students selecting our course would be provided with a solid grounding for any Design course that they are wishing to pursue in further education. Suggested routes into further education can be seen listed below:

- Architecture/interior Design
- Graphic Design/Illustration
- Engineering/Construction
- Jewellery Design
- Fashion/ Fabric Design
- Theatre Design/ Costume Design/ Set Designer
- Furniture Design/ 3DD.

Taking this Design & Technology Product Design GCSE leads onto BTEC and A-Level courses at:

BHASVIC



Drama GCSE

We live in a country that consistently produces world-class actors, playwrights, director and more. Drama and Theatre is an essential part of our DNA. The creative industries contribute around £92billion to the UK economy, included in that is theatre, film and acting. Within 60 miles of Worthing we have world-leading theatre being produced and new and emerging talent is constantly needed in an industry that continually develops.



Studying Drama at GCSE is a thorough and intense experience; you will study plays in depth (from a choice of 6 set texts) and many other plays will be explored both practically and theoretically. You will also look at other roles within the theatre and will constantly be developing your soft skills, such as team work and cooperation, in order to be impactful in this subject.

Plenty of creative and well-rewarded people work in the arts and have benefitted from studying Drama as an academic subject: script writers, directors, editors and of course, actors. You will also look at other roles in the theatre, such as stage manager, set and costume designer and technical roles such as sound and lights. Davison has past students working in many roles in the theatre, not only performers but also several very successful stage managers.

You will develop many transferable skills in GCSE Drama. Your main challenge during the course is to create, deliver and reflect on dramatic pieces that are thought-provoking and entertain. This is a highly practical GCSE and suits learners who like to take risks, push themselves and communicate superbly with others.

You will experiment, share ideas, try things out and sometimes fail. But you will become more confident, more ambitious and more empathetic if you commit.

You MUST be an excellent attender; frequent small-scale studio performances need to be prepared in groups. You will need to source props and costumes and take responsibility for your own performances.

Drama is a subject for performers and do-ers. Challenge yourself and have some fun and think about breaking up your school day with a practical subject!

Of course GCSE Drama is NOT a Drama school, but it is your opportunity to get an academic GCSE in a vital subject that is both part of our heritage and part of our future.

Visits to the theatre will be made available to you to enhance your understanding and appreciation of Drama as it exists in the real world.



Exam Board: AQA

Component 1	Component 2	Component 3
Understanding Drama	Devising Drama (practical)	Texts in Practice (practical)
<p>A one hour 45 minute written exam (40%)</p> <p>Set text choices: Blood Brothers, The Crucible, Romeo & Juliet and others</p> <p>Reflecting on Live Theatre Performances, eg: "Things I Know to be True" "Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime" "The Woman in Black"</p>	<p>Performance (20 marks) Devising Log (60 marks) (overall 40% of final mark)</p> <p>In groups of between 2 and 6, performances are created and a working log book of the process is assessed.</p>	<p>Two performances (20%)</p> <p>Two extracts from published plays, either monologues, duologues or group work.</p> <p>e.g: Shakers, Girls Like That, Be My Baby, The Donahue Sisters</p>

GCSE: Food Preparation and Nutrition

If you have a passion for cooking and want to develop your knowledge and skills in the kitchen, this is the course for you.

This GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition equips you with the knowledge, understanding and skills to be able to feed yourself and others better. You will develop practical cookery skills and techniques while exploring the underlying principles of food science, nutrition, food traditions and food safety. Heston Blumenthal's support will inspire you to be inquisitive, creative and confident cooks.



The four main areas of study covered in this GCSE are:

- A – Nutrition
- B – Food provenance and food choice
- C – Cooking and food preparation
- D – Skill requirements - Preparation and cooking techniques

Assessment

Component 1: Food Preparation and Nutrition (01)

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

50% of qualification

Learners will be expected to answer questions based on the four areas of content (A, B, C, D)

There will be: ten compulsory questions and free response questions; some questions that include stimulus material; synoptic questions are included.

Component 2: Food Investigation Task & Food Preparation Task. Non-examination assessment: internally assessed and externally moderated

50% of qualification

Assessment 1: The Food Investigation Task (15%)

A scientific food investigation which will assess the learner's knowledge, skills and cooking of food. A report of 1500 – 2000 words will be produced.

Assessment 2: The Food Preparation Task (35%)

Prepare, cook and present three dishes within 3 hours and plan in advance how this will be achieved. Photographs and written evidence of work showing planning, preparation, cooking and presentation are submitted.



Written exam (Yr 11 Summer term)

Investigation task (Yr 11 Autumn term)

Food preparation task (Yr 11 Spring term)

These assessments will be based on a choice of tasks released by OCR annually.

We cook every other lesson and you will have the opportunity to learn the above content in a hands on practical way. We learn how to make Bread, Pasta and a range of different types of pastry, such a Choux and Puff pastry. We also explore food through tasting, carrying out investigations and sensory analysis.

You will be given some recipes to cover specific areas of the learning content, however you will also have many opportunities to choose the dishes you would like to make and adapt recipes to meet certain briefs.

Some of the dishes we have made include: lemon meringue pie, curry with naan bread and rice, homemade pasta and sauce and homemade Jaffa cakes.



OCR Food preparation and nutrition GCSE could lead to careers in:

Catering and hospitality
Restaurant design
Food safety and hygiene
Nutrition
Sports science
Childcare
Food styling
Bakery management
Molecular gastronomy
Urban farming
Food critiquing

A big part of the course is learning about the food industry so we organise Food trips during year 10 to support this content. We recently spent a morning in 'Giuseppe's Lite', the gelato makers in Worthing, where we learnt the art of making artisan Gelato and enjoyed many tasters! We even got to bring home a tub of our own homemade Gelato! We also visit Northbrook college to explore the food courses on offer and sample food cooked by the students completing a Level 2 catering and hospitality course. This also gives you the opportunity to talk to students studying higher level food courses and ask them any questions you may have.



If you want to:

- Develop your cooking skills and learn how to make high skill dishes
- Explore where the food we eat comes from
- Learn how to present food in interesting and imaginative ways
- Discover how to feed yourself and your family, understanding good health and nutrition

And lastly...

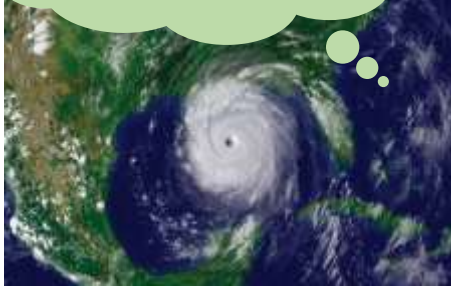
- Have the opportunity to take time out of your school day to cook and prepare food in a fun and engaging environment

Then GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is the course for you!

Geography GCSE

If any of these questions catch your interest – GCSE geography is for you

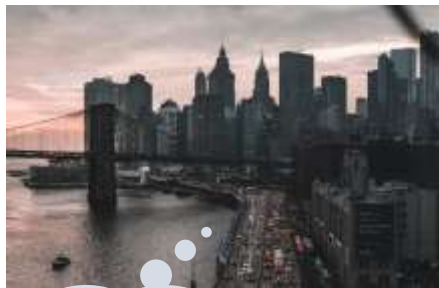
How can we reduce the impacts of natural hazards?



Is it too late to stop climate change?



Can cities keep growing in a sustainable way?



Frequently asked questions:

What is GCSE Geography like?

It's fast-paced and interesting. We cover a wide variety of topics and we also get to delve into some interesting city and country studies, like learning about the country of Nigeria. We use lots of different resources to support our learning – GIS (like Google Maps), books, news articles and videos and we do a wide range of activities too.

Am I good enough to study GCSE Geography

If you enjoy studying geography at the moment, and you are achieving most of your KPIs, then definitely yes! We have high expectations of you at KS3, so if you are enjoying geography now and are prepared to keep working hard, we would be confident you'll be successful at KS4.

Are there any trips?

Yes, one of the best things about Geography! You'll do two field trips as part of the course; usually one to a city (like Brighton) and one to a coastal area (like Seaford). In addition, there are opportunities to attend lectures at Brighton University and BHASVIC. We are planning to run a residential trip to Iceland

What are the exams like?

Geography exams have a wide range of questions. The longest is worth 9 marks (about a page of writing). There are two of those in each exam. The other marks come from shorter questions including multiple choice, completing sentences, completing graphs, defining key terms or explaining key ideas. The questions are challenging, but we offer lots of support to help you maximise your marks.

What will you learn about?

At Davison we are studying the AQA GCSE syllabus.

Living with the physical environment 35% of GCSE <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Natural Hazards➤ The Living World (<i>ecosystems</i>)➤ Physical Landscapes in the UK (<i>rivers and coasts</i>)	Challenges in the human environment 35% of GCSE <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Urban issues and challenges➤ The changing economic world (<i>development</i>)➤ The challenge of resource management	Geographical Applications 30% of GCSE <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Issue evaluation (a decision-making exercise)➤ Fieldwork➤ Geographical Skills
--	---	---

Why study GCSE Geography?

Did you know, geographers are the least likely graduates to be unemployed? And, around 10% of the UK's economy relies on data from maps?

Geographers develop a wide range of skills, and they understand their place in the wider world. Geographers are ready to go when it comes to lots of jobs & careers.

- Geographers are good communicators – great if you want to work in education, in business or politics.
- Geographers have good global awareness – important if you want to travel, work in the charity sector or in development.
- Geographers understand how to investigate problems and present their findings – useful if you want to study anything scientific in the future.
- Geographers develop key skills like ICT, Numeracy and Literacy – so they are well prepared for their future studies.

What our students say:

Geography is my favourite subject because you get to learn about a human's connection to the Earth. You discover more about society and the environment around you and are able to ask questions you may not have contemplated before.

I enjoy Geography because it is an interesting subject that studies the world around us - I like being able to explain how the features I see every day are formed.

During GCSE Geography you always receive the right support and help, but it also pushes you to work independently

I think Geography is a brilliant subject to take for GCSE because it gives you a real insight into so many different aspects of our society and world

I find GCSE geography really intuitive and a subject that teaches you about interesting cultures and events

I like GCSE Geography because there are a lot of fieldwork opportunities and the teachers are very supportive.

What can this qualification lead to?

- study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as an OCR National at level 3 or BTEC National in Health and Social Care, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in aspects of health or social care.

Learners who generally achieve at Level 1 across their Key Stage 4 learning might consider progression to:

- study at Level 2 post-16 in a range of technical routes designed to lead to work, to progression to employment, apprenticeships or to further study at Level 3. For these learners, the attitudes and the reflective and communication skills covered in the qualification will help them achieve

- study of health and social care post-16 through a technical certificate. Learners who perform strongly in this qualification compared to their overall performance should strongly consider this progression route as it can lead to employment in health or social care.

History GCSE

How can we understand our society and world today without delving into the past?

History GCSE is challenging but fun. The **KPI skills you have developed over key stage 3 underpin the key exam techniques** necessary to succeed in Key stage 4, alongside learning about new topics relating to Britain and the wider world. **History lessons are varied and use different learning styles, but reading and writing are a key part of the GCSE course.**

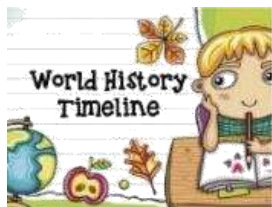
Homework is weekly recapping, revision or reading preparation.

History would be a great choice for you if you **find the past fascinating**, enjoy **reading and writing, discussion**, research and using evidence to form a persuasive judgement.

There is a **lot of content to learn** and you will need to work hard, but there is time and lots of support, intervention and regular recapping in order to help you achieve your very best.

If you have a genuine interest in the past, want to develop the way you think and communicate you will love History GCSE!

Davison History teachers are all passionate about our subject – we want to convey this enthusiasm to you, inspire you and develop great historians! Our results are always above the national average!



CSE History links really well with Citizenship, Media Studies and Triple Science, as well as Politics, Law and Journalism. It also provides you with many **transferable skills** - skills which can be learnt in History and applied to other subjects and careers now and in the future. It is a well-respected GCSE because of its academic rigour.

What our pupils think. . . .

I love history because through learning about the past you gain a broader understanding of the past and how society works. Everything we study is extremely interesting. It is my favourite option

I find history really interesting because during the course you learn about a wide range of topics over many years.

I chose history as a GCSE because it is a valued subject in all areas and connects well with other subjects such as English, Triple Science and Citizenship.

I love history because it opens up so many doors for you, particularly for any future careers you wish to pursue. It's fun and engaging and the teachers are so enthusiastic.

GCSE History – Key information

Exam Board: AQA (no entry tiers)
100% exam – no coursework.

2 x 2 hour written exams at the end of year 11: these test a combination of skills:

- * evaluating and analysing sources and interpretations
- * knowledge answers of 1, 2 or 3-4 paragraphs – describing, explaining impact or reaching an extended judgement.



There are no multiple choice or short/one word answer questions.

Paper One: Understanding the Wider World

- **Russia 1894-1941, Tsardom to Communism:** how royal family was swept away by revolutions and the impact of the Communist dictators Lenin and Stalin.
- **Conflict and tension in Asia, 1950 -75:** The causes and development of the Korean War and the Vietnam War within the context of the Cold War.

Paper Two: Shaping the Nation

- **Health and the People over time:** A thematic study of how 3 aspects of medicine (Public Health, the cause and treatment of disease and anatomy and surgery) have developed from Medieval to Modern times.
- **Elizabethan England:** A depth study of Elizabethan England: how it was governed, social changes such as theatre and exploration and the big issue of religious tension. Students will also study a significant Elizabethan site in depth. In 2028 this will be **Kenilworth Castle** – **we hope to go for a visit here.**

There are 6 History teachers at Davison. You may have a different teacher to the ones you had in KS3. Do not choose history for the teacher or because your friends are opting for it.

CHOOSE HISTORY IF YOU ENJOY LEARNING ABOUT THE PAST AND FIND IT INTERESTING!

KS4: Study Plus

The Study Plus pathway at KS4 is a bespoke provision for a small number of students.

The Study Plus course does not result in a GCSE qualification called Study Plus. It will result in you achieving 8 GCSE/BTEC/OCR qualifications instead of 9. This will in no way inhibit your college applications whereas not gaining the minimum of grade 4 in English and/or Maths may limit your choice of courses.

This pathway is, instead, designed to support students who:

- Have taken Key Skills lessons in KS3
- Will benefit significantly from having additional support in English and Maths
- Respond very positively to working with teachers to improve skills in English and Maths

Why might you choose this as an option?

- You are likely to need additional support to achieve a grade 4 in English and/or Maths
- You will appreciate and benefit from spending an additional 5 hours a fortnight re-visiting and practising English and Maths skills to support you towards gaining a grade 4 at GCSE in these core subjects

Choosing the Study Plus pathway is a significant decision and one which the Key Skills and Study Plus teachers will be happy to guide you in making.

In the first instance, your Key Skills teacher will discuss whether Study Plus is an appropriate pathway for you to take.

WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9-1) in Media Studies

The media play a central role in contemporary society and culture. They shape our perceptions of the world through the representations, viewpoints and messages they offer.

The media have real relevance and importance in our lives today, providing us with ways to communicate, with forms of cultural expression and the ability to participate in key aspects of society.

Theoretical Framework

This GCSE Media Studies specification is based on the theoretical framework for exploring and creating media.

The framework is based on four inter-related areas:

- **media language:** how the media through their forms, codes and conventions communicate meanings
- **representation:** how the media portray events, issues, individuals and social groups
- **media industries:** how the media industries' processes of production, distribution and circulation affect media forms and platforms
- **audiences:** how media forms target, reach and address audiences, how audiences interpret and respond to them, and how members of audiences become producers themselves.

The framework provides a holistic and focused approach to interpreting and analysing the media, which learners will develop progressively as they study the three components.

Media Forms

Examples of all of the following media forms will be studied:

- advertising and marketing
- film
- magazines
- music video and online, social and participatory media studied through a single music topic
- newspapers
- radio
- television
- video games.

This will enable learners to develop knowledge and understanding of a broad range of media forms and products, providing a comprehensive and balanced study of the media that encompasses audio-visual, print-based and online forms, as well as exploring the interrelationships between them.

<p>Component 1: Exploring the Media Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of qualification</p> <p>Section A: Exploring Media Language and Representation This section assesses media language and representation in relation to two of the following print media forms: magazines, marketing (film posters), newspapers, or print advertisements. There are two questions in this section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one question assessing media language in relation to one set product (reference to relevant contexts may be required) • one two-part question assessing representation in relation to one set product and one unseen resource in the same media form. Part (a) is based on media contexts. Part (b) requires comparison through an extended response. <p>Section B: Exploring Media Industries and Audiences This section assesses two of the following media forms: film, newspapers, radio, video games. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one stepped question on media industries • one stepped question on audiences.
<p>Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 30% of qualification</p> <p>This component assesses all areas of the theoretical framework (and contexts of the media in relation to television and music.</p> <p>Section A: Television</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one question on either media language or representation, which will be based on an extract from one of the set television programme episodes to be viewed in the examination (reference to relevant contexts may be required) • one question on media industries, audiences or media contexts. <p>Section B: Music (music videos and online media)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one question on either media language or representation (reference to relevant contexts may be required) • one question on media industries, audiences or media contexts.
<p>Component 3: Creating Media Products Non-exam assessment 30% of qualification</p> <p>An individual media production for an intended audience in response to a choice of briefs set by WJEC, applying knowledge and understanding of media language and representation.</p>

The WJEC Eduqas GCSE in Media Studies offers a broad, coherent and engaging course of study which enables learners to:

- demonstrate skills of enquiry, critical thinking, decision-making and analysis
- acquire knowledge and understanding of a range of important media issues
- develop appreciation and critical understanding of the media and their role both historically and currently in society, culture and politics
- understand and apply specialist subject-specific terminology to analyse and compare media products and the contexts in which they are produced and consumed in order to make informed arguments, reach substantiated judgements and draw conclusions about media issues
- appreciate how theoretical understanding supports practice and practice supports theoretical understanding
- develop practical skills by providing opportunities for creative media production.

Contexts of Media

In addition to the theoretical framework, learners will develop knowledge and understanding of relevant contexts of media and their influence on media products and processes. The following contexts will be considered to inform the study of the set products.

Historical Context

- how the product reflects the time in which it was made through its use of media language, genre conventions, representations, themes, values, messages and viewpoints
- how the product reflects the time in which it was made through aspects of its production, distribution, marketing, regulation, circulation and audience consumption

Social and Cultural Context

- how the product reflects the society and culture in which it was made through its representations, themes, values, messages and viewpoints
- how the product is shaped or informed by particular cultural influences, such as genres, styles, technologies and the work of other media producers
- how the product reflects the society and culture in which it was made through aspects of its production, distribution, marketing, regulation, circulation and audience consumption
- how audience responses to and interpretations of media products may change over time

Political Context

- how the product reflects the political contexts in which it was made through its representations, themes, values, messages and viewpoints
- how the product reflects the political contexts in which it was made through aspects of its ownership and political viewpoint, production, distribution, marketing, regulation, circulation and audience consumption.

Modern Foreign Languages GCSEs

LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE WILL HELP YOU TO:

- meet new people
- make new friends
- get a better job
- open up a world of different possibilities
 - improve your communication skills
- become better at dealing with other people
 - understand other cultures
 - develop your confidence
 - improve your problem-solving skills
- stand out from the crowd (particularly with college or job applications)
 - demonstrate that you have learnt important skills

You never know where learning a language might take you - currently, with over 4000 different languages in the world and more than 300 spoken in the UK, there has never been a more important time to learn a foreign language.

Even though you might not know now which language you will need in the future, once you have learnt one foreign language, it is possible to transfer those skills to another language and you will find it easier to learn your second foreign language.

Not everyone speaks English! By speaking another language you can jump right into another culture and get to know these people. This exciting and fulfilling experience can only be gained if you can communicate with others in their language.

Don't worry about being fluent though! It's enough to show willing and to make an effort. Just remembering the basics will be enough to open up the door to a world of opportunities.

Broaden your horizons, broaden your mind, broaden your possibilities! Learn a foreign language! The world is waiting for you to discover it!



At Davison, we believe that Modern Foreign Languages are very important for our students as European citizens.

If you intend to study at university, you are likely to need a GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language. It would also be useful if you think that you will opt for A-Level or IB courses at college.

Therefore, for girls in sets A and B the continuation of French or Spanish is compulsory. Girls in sets C, D and E can choose to continue with a language to GCSE or to drop the subject and replace it with a different option.

The possible choices are:

- 1 **French GCSE**
- 2 **Spanish GCSE**

Since September, you have already been working on the new GCSE specification, as we are using a 3-year GCSE course model. Therefore, Year 10 would be a continuation of what you've been doing so far. You will continue to have 5 hours per fortnight.

New specifications were published for all Modern Foreign Languages in **September 2024**, with a number of significant changes. At Davison we are following the AQA specification. Key points are:

- The 4 skills: Listening, Reading, Speaking, Writing, are equally weighted (25% each) and assessed at the end of the course. There is no coursework.
- Grades 9-1 are awarded
- No dictionaries are allowed during the final examinations, so recall of vocabulary and how to use language to express ideas are essential.
- The themes covered are: **People and lifestyle, Popular culture and Communication and the world around us.**
- The speaking examination includes **a role play, a reading aloud task** and unprepared conversation and **2 photo cards descriptions** followed by an unprepared discussion.
Preparation time is given, the assessment is conducted by your class teacher, recorded and sent to the examination board for marking.
- The listening exam comprises **a short dictation** in the target language.
- The writing examination includes **a short translation** from English into your chosen language.
- You should take every opportunity to practise your language, which ever one you choose! Try using it in lessons as much as possible, in order to build up your spontaneity! It may be a challenge at first, but we're all in it together.



*If you would like more information, please contact:
Mélina Le Gourrièrec – Subject Leader
Elise Llewellyn - Head of French
(Cristina Merino– Head of Spanish)*

Music GCSE



Why Music?

- Do you enjoy playing / singing music?
- Do you like learning about different styles of music?
- Are you making good progress with your music in year 9 (in and out of the classroom)?

If you answered YES to these questions then Music GCSE is for you....

Studying music stimulates the brain and improves verbal memory and literacy skills. It also teaches some valuable personal skills which will benefit you in later life, whatever your career choice. Do you think that in your future, you might have to do the following:

- Present an idea confidently to a group of people?
- Organise a group to prepare a piece of work ready for a strict deadline?
- Create something new and different that stands out from others' work?
- Think on your feet when something goes wrong during a presentation?
- Regularly adjust your work and ideas as you go along in order to produce a high-quality finished product?

Music teaches you the skills to do all of these things.

Music GCSE Course Structure – OCR Exam Board

Unit 1:

Integrated Assessment (Coursework - 30%)

You will choose a piece that shows off what your instrument or voice can do and perform it either solo or in a small group. Then you create a composition based on the piece you perform to show you understand how music for your instrument or voice works, including a written commentary.

Unit 2: Practical Portfolio (Coursework – 30%)

You will perform another piece as a group. This is a completely free choice.

You compose another piece set by the exam board.
60% of the course is practical work.

Unit 3: Listening Exam (Exam – 40%)

Written paper with CD where you listen to extracts of music and answer questions about what you hear. It has a mixture of short answers and multiple choice.



Performance

You do not have to perform in front of the class, although performance is a really important part of the GCSE so you must be prepared to perform regularly and record your work. We expect you to spend at least one hour per week on improving your instrumental or vocal skills at home.



We do not ask for any particular level or grade and it's not necessary to have individual instrumental lessons to take the GCSE but it does help to have advice and tuition from a specialist in your instrument. You do not need to be able to read music and you do not need to be having instrumental or singing lessons.



What can it lead to?

Not only does music GCSE lead to college courses in performance or music technology, it is also a useful subject for careers such as teaching, working in media, childcare, events management, marketing and many other things!



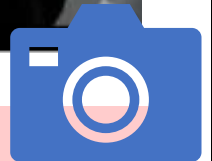
Photography GCSE

Why choose Photography GCSE?

If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, Photography is a great choice.

The skills you gain make it a great compliment to other subjects. Photography is a way of seeing things and making sense of the world around you. It can help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

Throughout the course, you will explore the themes of Nature and Identity. You will be using digital Canon DSLR cameras to create your own series of photoshoots. Areas of study could include portraiture, installation, photo-journalism, documentary/street photography, moving image – film and video. You will learn to manipulate photographs using a computer programme and by hand.



WHAT SKILLS WILL YOU LEARN?

Alongside improving your practical expertise you'll learn how to:-

- Develop, refine and record your ideas in your sketchbook
- Present a personal response that realises your intentions
- Improve your creative skills through techniques, processes and digital software
- Successfully use the formal elements of visual language through photography and drawing, considering tone, perspective, texture and composition.

KEY POINTS

Year 10 – Worthing museum trip

Year 11 – The GCSE exhibition of pupils work in July

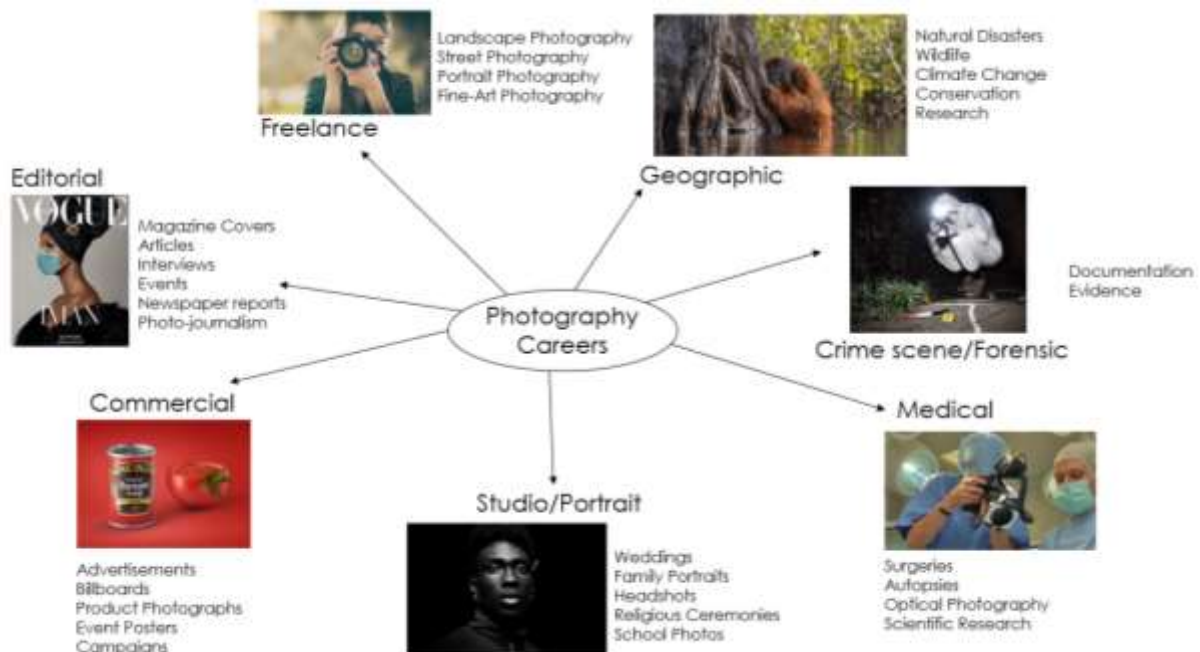
We will also have lessons out and about around the school or within walking distance of the school taking photos

During all projects, there are plenty of opportunities for you to use our brand-new studio space and photographic equipment. You are welcome to book a slot at lunchtimes and afterschool to bring friends along to be models for your photoshoots.



How will photography GCSE fit in with other subjects?

Studying Photography helps to create a broad and balanced curriculum which is an excellent foundation for whatever you want to do afterwards. The transferable skills you'll gain, such as creativity, analysis and problem solving complement a range of other subjects and careers.



HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

There are two components:

Component 1 – Portfolio

AQA says – produce a sustained project and selection of further work that represents the course of study. This is worth 60% of your overall marks. We split this component into two large coursework units – natural forms and identity.

Component 2 – Externally set assignment

In January of Y11, AQA will deliver an 'exam paper' with a list of different themes on. You have to choose one of them to form a project. You get preparation time plus ten hours of supervised time. This is worth **40%** of your total marks for your GCSE. The final piece will be created in the 10 hours of supervised time.

Projects

UNIT 1: Natural Forms (Coursework)

We will be discovering the beauty of the natural world through Photography and taking photoshoots inspired by photographers such as Karl Blossfeldt, Sue Bishop and Barbara Kruger. Will we explore Affinity Photo software to manipulate our photos digitally and use photographic equipment to experiment with light and texture. The project finishes with a beach photoshoot and a series of final images presented in a photo-book.



UNIT 2: IDENTITY (Coursework)

The second unit of work is much more independently-led. You will have plenty of opportunities to be individually creative in your own way. The theme of Identity presents students with a range of photo-shoots, techniques and research on photographers such as David Bailey, Ami Barwell, Billy Kidd and Camilla Catrambone. We also explore studio portrait photography and students become models for each other in stunning photoshoots. We look at hand-manipulation techniques inspired by the likes of David Hockney and Adam Hale, while textiles is also incorporated when stitching on images. The Identity final piece can be anything from a magazine or photo album, to an installation piece or film. The creative ideas are infinite!

UNIT 3: Exam Unit

Themes released in January of Y11 by the exam board AQA (Previous themes include Fragments, Low-light and Our World)

Physical Education GCSE & BTEC

In PE we offer 2 very exciting courses for students to study. If you wish to do PE as an examination subject you can either follow the BTEC TECH Award - Sport or AQA GCSE PE.

The best course for individual students will depend on preferred learning styles, practical experience in competitive performance and preferred assessment methods. Each course covers a wide range of detailed topic areas and includes an in depth look at a number of different practical activities. As a result, it would be beneficial to be participating and competing in sporting activities outside of PE lessons.

If you are wishing to take PE as one of your options but don't know which course would be best for you, please speak to a member of the PE department who can guide you in the right direction and ensure you get the best fit for success.

In Year 10 and 11 each student will have 5 lessons over a two-week timetable. These lessons will include a combination of practical and theory-based work. Student files must be kept up to date and homework is set regularly.

Progression

A PE qualification is a really useful addition to any combination of examination courses. It proves to employers and further education colleges that you are able to work as part of a team; communicate effectively; listen to others; work hard; strive for success; that you are reliable; cooperative; have good leadership skills and are well organised, fit and healthy.

Career and Further Education Opportunities

Both the BTEC and GCSE have equivalent level 3 qualifications that are widely run in local colleges/ sixth forms. However, you can choose to progress from the BTEC to A Level PE and well as GCSE PE to BTEC Level 3.

Both the BTEC and GCSE PE are useful for entry into further education, physiotherapy / occupational therapy, nursing and other areas of the medical or childcare professions. They are useful to have for the leisure industry, sports photography, primary and secondary school teaching, coaching and journalism. Universities accept both of these qualifications.

Is it for me?

Can you commit to:

- Developing your communication skills?
- Developing your physical performance skills?
- Working independently and with others?
- Researching knowledge and seeking help when needed?
- Developing your leadership skills and enthusiasm for sport?
- Attending extra-curricular clubs?

If **YES**, then PE is for you!



GCSE Physical Education

Structure of Qualification

2 x externally assessed exams (60%)

3 x assessed practical activities (30%) – 1x individual, 1x team and 1x either category.

1x internally assessed piece of written coursework (10%)

Topics Covered

1. Anatomy & Physiology
2. Movement Analysis
3. Physical Training
4. Sports Psychology
5. Socio-Cultural Influences
6. Health, Fitness & Well-Being



How are you assessed?

Each external exam will be 1 hour and 15 minutes in length and include a mixture of multiple choice, short answer, data analysis and essay type questions.

Throughout the 2 years it is likely 3-4 different activities will be covered in depth in lesson time, most likely to include: Netball, Handball, Badminton and Athletics. If pupils wish to be assessed in any other sporting activity from the syllabus, they must gather evidence in their own time.

BTEC TECH Award - Sport



Structure of the qualification

3 components (3 units)

2 components – internally assessed (30% x2)

1 component – externally assessed (40%)

Topics Covered

Components of fitness

Developing understanding of the importance of fitness

Investigating barriers to participation in sport

Equipment and technology advances in sport

Leadership/coaching in a chosen sport

Participating in sport practically

How are you assessed?

Component 1 & 2 – a wide range of assessment – practical, written, leadership opportunities. Pupils will be assessed on their practical ability as a performer in one activity. Rounders will be covered in lesson time however, if pupils wish to be assessed in any other sporting activity from the syllabus, they must gather evidence in their own time.

Component 3 – 90 minute externally assessed written exam.

The qualification is graded as a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* and is equivalent to one GCSE at grades 1 – 9.

For both courses pupils will need to be organised with their PE kit, folders and keep up to date with homework.

If you would like any further information about either of these courses please contact:

Mrs Cox – Lead teacher GCSE/ Subject Leader of PE

Miss Gearing – Lead teacher BTEC/ Assistant Subject Leader of PE



Travel and Tourism BTEC

BTEC Tech Award is a Level 1/ Level 2 qualification which is the equivalent of:
 GCSE Grade 1-3 = Level 1 BTEC
 GCSE Grade 4-8 = Level 2 BTEC

The course is split into three units:

Organisations and Destinations	Customer Needs	Influences on Global Tourism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Coursework assessment 30% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Coursework assessment 30% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External examination assessment 40%
		

How is Travel and Tourism assessed?

Travel and tourism is assessed through a series of internal coursework assessments completed during class time. Two of the three units are assessed through coursework. The third unit is assessed through an external examination. This examination will take place in January of Year 11. On a BTEC Tech Award course you will achieve Pass, Merit or Distinction in each of your assessments. You will then be awarded an overall Pass, Merit or Distinction for the whole course.

Are there any trips?

Travel and tourism is a vocational course which offers you the opportunity to learn both inside and outside the classroom. There will be a range of different trips to help you gain experience of travel and tourism industries. Trips help you to develop the necessary skills and confidence to succeed in your Travel and Tourism work. The trips will include a visit to Thorpe Park. Additionally, we are planning to run a residential trip to Iceland 2024 which Travel & Tourism students will be invited to attend.

How might this course help my future career?

The BTEC Tech Award in Travel and Tourism can be used as a stepping stone towards entering initial employment in positions such as passenger check-in officer or tourist information centre assistant. It can also be used to move on to a higher-level qualification such as Level 2 Cabin Crew or Level 3 BTEC in Travel and Tourism at college.

What is the travel and tourism exam like?

Travel and Tourism exams have a wide range of questions. The longest exam question will be worth 8 marks (about a page of writing). The other marks come from shorter questions including multiple choice, defining key terms or selecting information from sources. There is lots of support and revision time in the lesson time to help you prepare for your exam.