

Year 9 and Year 10
Options Booklet
2012 – 2013



Dear Student,

Every student at Acton High School will have the opportunity to take several KS4 option courses in addition to the core subjects English, Maths, Science, RE, PE and PSHCE. These option courses offer all our students the chance to create their own personal KS4 curriculum that fits in with their ambitions, interests and abilities. This choice of curriculum is a very important one and will have a major impact on the choices open to you at age 16 when you decide on applying for Sixth Form or college courses, and in some cases could affect your choices after Sixth Form as you consider university courses and career options.

To ensure you make the best choices read the information in the booklet carefully, discuss your ideas with your teachers and tutor, ask your family and friends for their advice, and talk to students currently in Year 10 and 11 about what the courses really involve. You can also make an appointment to see one of the Connexions Personal Advisers.

The school will be running several events to support you in making your choices. These will include:

- talks in assemblies
- an information evening where you and your parents can find out what courses involve
- drop in sessions to deal with individual concerns or questions

Our aim is for all students to leave Acton High School with qualifications they can be proud of and for as many of you as possible to achieve 5+ Level 2 qualifications including Maths and English.

Level 2 qualifications can be GCSEs, BTECs, or Asdan Awards. All of these different types of qualification give you the opportunity of gaining passes that are equivalent to GCSE, but remember that different types of qualifications have very different methods of assessment.

We organise our Level 2 teaching in your option subjects so that you take two Level 2 options at the end of year 10 and two at the end of year 11. This will enable you to build up your total of Level 2 passes as you progress through years 10 and 11 instead of you doing all your exams at the end. We do this because we think it will help you achieve better as well as taking some of the pressure off year 11.

When you are planning what to study in Years 10 and 11, as well as thinking about your future career plans, you should think about how you enjoy learning and which assessment method will suit you best. The next year is an incredibly important one in your lifelong educational journey and you will get so much more out of it if you have made a mature, well-informed decision about what suits you best. Good luck.

Dr Sievewright

The KS4 Curriculum and how to fill in your Options Choice Form.

As you will know from your assemblies, most of the courses available for you to choose will be allocated **12** periods per cycle and will last for **one** year – you will therefore be able to do **2** option courses at a time. Some courses do last longer. For example, the **BTEC First Diploma** course takes 2 years so will need to take up 2 option choices.

Year 9 students should choose 4 options now, with 2 reserve choices, and we will then inform you which 2 should be done in Year 10 and which 2 should be done in Year 11.

Year 10 students should choose 2 options and 2 reserve choices. In some cases, Year 10 students may choose options from the Level 3 courses.

Please note that we cannot guarantee that all courses offered will run. This will be determined by the number of students choosing to take the course.

Your **Options Choice Form** is going to be given to you separately from the main Options Booklet. You should take this home and fill it in carefully with the help of your parents or guardians. You will need to bring this form in **completed** when you come into school on Review Day which is Thursday 26th January. Your form tutors will speak to you about your choices and will be able to answer any questions you might have about the options process. Finally, when you are filling out your **Options Choice Form** you must remember that you will need to put them in a '**rank order**' and 2 reserve choices as well. There are some different examples in the back of your booklet showing you how you could fill this form in.

D Kamboj
Assistant Headteacher.

Level 2 Courses
(Equivalent to GCSE Grades
A* to G)

FILM STUDIES

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Grades A*-C: Intermediate Level 2 Grades D-G: Foundation Level 1
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	50% Internal Controlled Assessment 50% External Examination
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Film is widely acknowledged as the major art form of the 20th century and today film continues to be an important part of most people's cultural experience. This course is designed to build upon students' own experience of film as both consumers and creators and provides an introduction to filmmaking, the film industry and the impact films' representations have on audiences' cultural identities.

Students will study a range of films from within the Disaster film genre, as well as films made outside of the Hollywood system, providing knowledge and understanding of the international aspects of film. They will also create a range of film related products, such as scripts, storyboards, film magazine covers and features, film posters, film website design, film marketing as well as having the option to produce their own short film.

The course approaches this through a framework of 3 inter-related areas:

- the 'language' of film
- the organisations which produce, distribute and exhibit films
- the audiences for film.

Students will be encouraged to:

- develop their interest and enjoyment of film in its national and global contexts and begin to develop an appreciation of cultural diversity through the close study of a wide range of films
- develop a critical and investigative approach to films, the film industry and film audiences
- study patterns of similarity and difference across a range of films
- recognise the ways in which films represent people, places, ideas, issues and events to different audiences
- recognise the ways in which film technologies shape film productions
- recognise and explore the creative possibilities of film and film products
- engage with aesthetic, technical, economic, ethical and moral issues as they arise.

What skills you will need to succeed:

Firstly, you need to love film! You will also need to have excellent practical skills along with very good group work, research and independent learning skills. You will need good oral and written communication skills and be comfortable using a range of technology. You will be able to develop the ability to analyse film texts closely, be creative and able to use your initiative in using available resources.

What you can do at the end of the course:

A good GCSE pass (Grade C+) will be the basic requirement for almost all Post-16 courses such as A Level Film or Media and Advanced Diplomas.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Complementary subjects are English, Sociology, History, Graphics, Art, Drama and Music.

MEDIA STUDIES

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Grades A*-C: Intermediate Level 2 Grades D-G: Foundation Level 1
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	60% Internal Controlled Assessment: – 30% Individual Media Portfolio – 30% Production Portfolio 40% External Examination: The exam topics for 2011 are Action/Adventure Film and TV & Radio Comedy.
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

During the course you will complete the following units:

The Individual Media Portfolio focuses on analysing a range of media texts and offers the opportunity to demonstrate skills in planning, construction and evaluation through a production exercise. The current topic is **News** and involves studying the representation of young people in newspapers and online.

The Production Portfolio offers the opportunity to demonstrate skills in research, planning, construction and evaluation. Briefs are offered in the following areas: • Print • Video • Audio • Website • Cross Media.

The Examination is divided into 2 sections. The first examines students' ability to analyse and respond to a short, unseen film extract from an Action/Adventure film. The second section focuses on a media topic and tests students' understanding of TV & Radio Comedy institutions and audiences.

During the course you will learn to:

- Develop enquiry, critical thinking and decision-making skills through the study of media texts, audiences and institutions;
- Develop your appreciation and critical understanding of the media and its role in our daily lives;
- Develop your practical skills through opportunities for personal engagement and creativity;
- Understand how to use media key concepts of media language, representation, genre, institutions and audiences to analyse media texts and their contexts.

What skills you will need to succeed:

You will need to have excellent practical skills and also very good group work, research and independent learning skills. You will need good oral and written communication skills and be comfortable using a range of technology. You will be able to develop the ability to analyse media text closely including your own. You will be creative and able to use your initiative in using available resources.

What you can do at the end of the course:

A good GCSE pass (Grade C+) will be the basic requirement for almost all Post-16 courses such as A Level Media and Advanced Diplomas.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Complementary subjects are English, Sociology, History, Graphics, Art, Drama and Music.

GEOGRAPHY

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	2 TIER ENTRY Higher grades A* -D Foundation grades C - G
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	25% Unit 1 Dynamic Planet – 1 hour exam 25% Unit 2 People and the Planet – 1 hour exam 25% Unit 3 Making Geographical Decisions – 1 hour exam based on pre-released materials 25% Unit 4 Researching Geography – controlled assessment
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

- Unit 1 Dynamic Planet – Restless Earth, Climate and Change, Battle for the Biosphere and Water World. Optional topics are Coastal Change or River Processes and Pressures and Oceans on the Edge or Extreme Climates
- Unit 2 People and the Planet – Population Dynamics, Consuming Resources, Living Spaces and Making a Living. Optional topics are Changing Cities or Changing Countryside and Development Dilemmas or World at Work
- Unit 3 – Exam will be based on pre-released material which will be studied prior to the exam. Students are assessed on their ability to make decisions about geographical issues and justify them
- Unit 4 – Students will need to complete a fieldwork investigation and report. Report must be completed under controlled conditions

What skills you will need to succeed:

You will need to be interested in world issues and keep up with current affairs. You need good literacy and maths skills to achieve the highest grades. You have to analyse and interpret a variety of data and also to look at things from different viewpoints. Fieldwork is an essential part of the GCSE course.

What you can do at the end of the course:

A good GCSE pass (C+) is useful for all post-16 studies, particularly Geography AS/A2 and any course that includes Environmental Issues. Employers value the decision making and research skills that are developed through the study of GCSE Geography.

Subjects which complement this subject:

This subject complements any of the other Humanities subjects, such as History and Sociology. It also has links with Science, Business Studies and BTEC Travel and Tourism.

HISTORY

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Single Tier of Entry
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 25% Outline Study ~ modular exam• 25% Depth Study ~ modular exam• 25% Source Enquiry ~ modular exam• 25% controlled assessment.
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Controlled assessment ~ representations of history, based on Northern Ireland: c 1968 – 99.

Examination Topics:

The outline study includes three overview studies based on “How did the Cold War develop? 1943 - 56”, “Three Cold War crises, 1957-69”, and “Why did the Cold War end?”

The depth study is Russia, 1917 - 39.

The source enquiry is “A Divided Union? The USA, 1945 – 70.

What skills you will need to succeed:

The skills that you require for success at GCSE include evidence handling and analysis, and the ability to write a variety of written responses including extended writing.

What you can do at the end of the course:

The subject leads naturally on to History AS level in combination with other subjects such as English, Geography, Politics and Law. Employers value the thinking, problem solving and writing skills that the subject engenders.

Subjects which complement this subject:

The subject combines well with Sociology, Geography, Media Studies and English.

SOCIOLOGY

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Single tier of entry
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unit 1 - written exam 50%• Unit 2 - written exam 50%
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Unit 1

- Studying society
- Families & Households
- Education

Unit 2

- Crime & Deviance
- Power
- Social Inequality
- The Mass Media

What skills you will need to succeed:

- Good functional skills in English. (Level 5)
- The ability to analyse & interpret data.
- The ability to express your opinion.
- The ability to look at things from different viewpoints (perspectives).
- The ability to evaluate (weigh up the strengths & weaknesses) of an argument.

What you can do at the end of the course:

- A good GCSE pass (grade C+) will be useful for several post 16 courses.
- A good GCSE pass (grade C+) will be the basic requirement for most employers.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Complementary subjects include English, Media Studies, History & Geography.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE.
LEVEL OF ENTRY	One tier.
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	100% examination.
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Unit 4: Religion and Life

Believing in God

- Philosophical arguments for and against the existence of God
- Religious experiences
- the problems of suffering and unanswered prayers

Matters of Life and Death

- Belief and non-belief in life after death
- Abortion
- Euthanasia

Marriage and the family

- Attitudes towards marriage, divorce, family life, homosexuality and contraception.

Religion and community

- Religious attitudes to gender roles
- Religious attitudes to equal rights
- The UK as a mixed society

Unit 11 ~ Islam

The life and beliefs of Muslims

- What are the real beliefs and values of Islam?
- Community and tradition
- Worship and celebration
- Living the Muslim life

What skills you will need to succeed:

The ability to:

- Understand the teachings and perspectives of Christianity and Islam.
- Answer a variety of moral and ethical questions.
- Think philosophically and argue your point clearly.
- Go beyond preconceptions about Christianity and Islam in order to form your own opinions and support them in argument.
- Understand the nature of Islam and its effects on the lives of the Muslim believers in the UK.
- develop the skills of extended written answers, including the ability to present your own beliefs and opinions clearly and persuasively.

What you can do at the end of the course:

The course can lead on to a variety of higher-level courses that require 'big picture' and higher level thinking and arguing skills such as Sociology, Law, Philosophy, Psychology among others.

Subjects which complement this subject:

The course combines well with Sociology, History and English.

HUMANITIES

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	SINGLE TIER
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	50% 2 hour paper ~ cross curricular themes; 25% 1 hour 15 minutes ~ application of knowledge; 25% controlled assessment.
Length of course and number of lessons per cycle	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Cross curricular themes:

Issues of Citizenship;
Issues of Economic Well being and Financial Capability
Environmental Issues
Religious and Moral Issues
Issues of Health and Welfare

Application of knowledge:

- * Apply knowledge and understanding gained from one of the above topics;
- * Understand the range of research evidence found in Humanities
- * Critically evaluate methodology and findings

Humanities Independent Enquiry

- * Undertake one independent enquiry drawn from the above topic areas
 - * Select and evaluate evidence;
- Draw reasoned conclusions based on evidence;
Present research findings coherently, understanding their limitations.

What skills you will need to succeed:

The skills that you require for success at GCSE include evaluation, analysis and reasoning.

What you can do at the end of the course:

The subject could lead onto further specialism and the study of History, or Geography, or Sociology, or RE. It is a popular choice for employers and further education due to the emphasis on problem solving skills.

Subjects which complement this subject:

The subject combines well with Science, and Media Studies and is a useful course for those who like humanities subjects in general.

CITIZENSHIP

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Single Tier of entry
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Unit 1 (20%) Students will be assessed through a single examination. Unit 2 and 4 (30% each) Students are assessed, under controlled conditions, through a single internally-assessed, externally-moderated assessment consisting of one structured task. Unit 3 (20%) Students will be assessed through a single examination. Questions will relate to up to six sources of information.
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What will you study?

<p>Unit 1 Citizenship today Students study all three themes: 1) Rights and responsibilities, 2) Power, politics and the media, 3) The global community.</p>	<p>Unit 2 .Participating in Society Students choose a key issue to focus on from nine range and content areas, and an activity. Example- Political, legal and human rights and freedoms in a range of contexts from local to global.</p>
<p>Unit 3 Citizenship in context Students select one option from: Option A: Environmental change and sustainable development Option B: Changing communities: social and cultural identities Option C: Influencing and changing decisions in society and government</p>	<p>What you will study: Unit 4 Citizenship Campaign Pupils plan, implement and evaluate a self-generated campaign. The campaign should be a series of actions advancing a citizenship issue and leading or aiming towards a specific end. Students select a key issue to focus on from nine range and content areas. (same list as unit 2)</p>

What skills you will need to succeed:

A willingness to

- engage with topical citizenship issues and contribute to debates on challenges facing society involving a wide range of political, social and ethical ideas, issues and problems in different contexts (local to global)
- develop and apply understanding of key citizenship concepts (justice, democracy, rights and responsibilities, identities and diversity) to deepen their understanding of society and how communities change over time
- use an enquiring, critical approach to distinguish facts, opinion and bias, build arguments and make informed judgements
- develop the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to take action with others, in order to address citizenship issues in their communities

What you can do at the end of the course:

AS Level -Government and Politics, Law, Economics and Business, World Development, Sociology, History, Psychology

Religious studies, Business Studies, General Studies

Subjects which complement this subject:

History, Geography, Religious Education, Sociology

GCSE ICT

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	1 Tier: Grades available A* - G
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Unit 1: Tools and Applications Controlled Assessment 30% Unit 2: Using Multimedia and Games Technology Controlled Assessment 30% Unit 3: Theory External Exam 40%
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 Lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The course will cover topics within the following areas:

Unit 1 Tools and Applications (Controlled Assessment):

- Communications Software;
- Presentation Package;
- Information Handling Package;
- Spreadsheet Package.

Unit 2 Using Multimedia and Games Technology (Controlled Assessment):

- Using Graphics;
- Using Digital Video and Sound;
- Using Games Technology;
- Using Multimedia Assets.

Unit 3 Theory Understanding ICT Systems in Everyday Life and Its Implications for Individuals, Organisations, Society and the Wider World:

- Knowledge of ICT Components;
- Data and Information;
- Digital Communication Methods;
- Applications of ICT.

What skills you will need to succeed:

You will need to demonstrate your knowledge, understanding and skills in the following:

- Software packages like MS PowerPoint; MS Access; MS Excel; Adobe Macromedia Photoshop; Adobe Premier Elements; MS Movie Maker; Game Maker; Macromedia Dreamweaver.
- Organisational skills;
- Independent learning;
- Literacy skills especially written communication;
- Problem solving skills.

What you can do at the end of the course:

At the end of your course you may go on to study A-level ICT / Computing. GCSE ICT is an excellent subject that provides knowledge and skills that can be successfully used in many professions e.g.: Computer technicians; Computer engineers; Data managers; Graphic designers; Education; Programmers; and the Financial and Banking Industry.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Complementary subjects are Mathematics, English, Business Studies, Media and Graphic Design.

COMPUTING GCSE

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Single tier of entry, grades A*-G
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Systems & Programming: Exam (40%) Research Task: Controlled assessment (30%) Programming: Controlled assessment (30%)
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of what goes on 'behind the scenes' with computers. This subject is concerned with many technical details covered in little detail in ICT or not at all.

Students will learn about the concepts behind programming, and will complete a controlled assessment based on a programming problem.

What skills you will need to succeed:

Good analytical and problem solving skills are essential. If you have the ability to think logically, and like a challenge, this course is probably suited to you. You do not need to have any previous experience of programming as we will start on the understanding that you are a complete beginner. However, you do need to have already achieved or be predicted to achieve a C or above in GCSE Mathematics.

What you can do at the end of the course:

You will have the ability to be able to design, create and test simple programs. You will understand the fundamental hardware concepts of computers and networks. You will be well placed to take an A Level in Computing and to progress on to take an undergraduate level course in Computing at University. Computer Scientists go on to work in many industries, including Consumer Electronics, Engineering and the Games Industry.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics all fit well with this subject.

GCSE BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	1 Tier: Grades available A* - G
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	3 Components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35% Practical/ computer based exam • 40% Theory/ written exam • 25% Controlled Assessment
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 Lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The **practical component** of the course will cover topics within the following areas:

- Designing logos and advertising material for a business;
- Designing websites for a business using Macromedia Dreamweaver;
- Writing business letters and memos;
- Creating databases and spreadsheets for a business to calculate budgets and employee salaries.

The **theory component** of the course will cover topics within the following areas:

- The business environment;
- Business administration;
- The workplace;
- Security of data;
- Recruitment and selection of staff;
- Training and rewarding staff;
- Communication;
- ICT and business communications;
- The internet and e-commerce.

What skills you will need to succeed:

You will need to demonstrate your knowledge, understanding and skills in the following:

- Software packages like MS Publisher, Adobe Photoshop, MS Excel, MS Word, MS Access; and Macromedia Dreamweaver;
- Organisational skills;
- Independent learning;
- Literacy skills, especially written communication;
- Problem solving and reasoning skills.

What you can do at the end of the course:

At the end of your course you may go on and study A-level Business Studies/ Computing. Business Studies is an excellent subject that provides knowledge and skills that can be successfully used in many professions e.g. Business Management and the Financial, Retail and Banking industries.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Complementary subjects are Mathematics, English, ICT, Statistics, Media and Graphic Design.

FRENCH

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	FOUNDATION OR HIGHER
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Internal controlled assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing assessments x 2 tasks – 30%• Speaking assessments x 2 tasks – 30% External assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading exam – 20%• Listening exam – 20%
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Writing controlled assessments –

- My town - where you live, description of your town and what is there to do/see
- My family - who you live with, description of members of your family, who you get on with and why

Speaking controlled assessment –

- Holiday - talking about a holiday experience – where you went, what you did, opinions about it and where you would like to go in the future
- School and work experience - to be able to talk about subjects, school, teachers, rules, uniform, work experience

Exam topics

- Personal information
- Out and about
- Customer service and transactions
- Future plans, education and work
- Media and culture

What skills you will need to succeed:

- Develop the ability to listen to and understand spoken French in a range of contexts and a variety of styles.
- Communicate in speech for a variety of purposes
- Read and respond to different types of written language
- Communicate in writing for a variety of purposes
- Understand and apply a range of vocabulary and structures
- Develop language learning and communication skills which can be applied broadly.

What you can do at the end of the course:

Having a GCSE in French will enable you to progress to French AS and A level. French as a second language, will open your job prospects and will enable you to be able to choose from a number of jobs where the language is used. In fact, French is the only language other than English spoken on five continents. French is also ranked the 2nd **most** influential language in the world.

Subjects which complement this subject:

This subjects that compliment French are: Humanities.

SPANISH

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	FOUNDATION OR HIGHER
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Internal controlled assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assessments x 2 tasks – 30% • Speaking assessments x 2 tasks – 30% External assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading exam – 20% • Listening exam – 20%
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Writing controlled assessments –

- My town - where you live, description of your town and what is there to do/see
- My family - who you live with, description of members of your family, who you get on with and why

Speaking controlled assessment –

- Holiday - talking about a holiday experience – where you went, what you did, opinions about it and where you would like to go in the future
- School and work experience - to be able to talk about subjects, school, teachers, rules, uniform, work experience

Exam topics

- Personal information
- Out and about
- Customer service and transactions
- Future plans, education and work
- Media and culture

What skills you will need to succeed:

- Develop the ability to listen to and understand spoken Spanish in a range of contexts and a variety of styles.
- Communicate in speech for a variety of purposes
- Read and respond to different types of written language
- Communicate in writing for a variety of purposes
- Understand and apply a range of vocabulary and structures
- Develop language learning and communication skills which can be applied broadly.

What you can do at the end of the course:

Having a GCSE in Spanish will enable you to progress to Spanish AS and A level. Internationally, people who speak Spanish often have opportunities to work in trade or business fields. Other options include diplomacy, interpretation, and security applications, which all require a sensitivity and proficiency of another language. In fact, bilingual employees may often receive a larger salary than their non-Spanish speaking counterparts.

Subjects which complement this subject:

This subjects that compliment Spanish are: Humanities.

ART AND DESIGN

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	One Tier
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	60% Coursework 40% Controlled Test
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 Lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The GCSE course consists of 2 units of work. Each unit is based on a different theme and is designed to teach different skills, using different materials to produce a variety of different outcomes to form a finished piece (2Dimensional or 3 Dimensional). The pupils will go on to develop their understanding by using many different processes. We expect pupils to develop and be influenced through the study of individual designers/artists work taken from a wide range of cultures. Pupils will be expected to produce written work in their sketchbooks throughout the one year of this course.

Coursework Topics

1. Cultures
2. Structures

Deadlines

Project 1 to be handed in on Friday 19th November 2011

Project 2 to be handed in on Friday 11th February 2012

What skills you will need to succeed:

- You need to have **good design flair** and **enjoy drawing**.
- You are required to do contextual studies researching Art History movements. You **MUST** provide **WRITTEN** evidence in your artist journal. From your own investigation it will transpire into practical projects.
- You **MUST** demonstrate a **commitment** to the subject by being **self motivated** and not be constantly dependent on help by the teacher. It is recommended that you attend the weekly GCSE workshop after school each week.
- **Be organised** - You **MUST** meet all the necessary deadlines for the 60% course work.
- You are expected to assess and evaluate your own work and that of others.
- You will produce an artist journal for each course work unit. These sketchbooks should show an exploration of numerous art mediums, which should relate to the theme of your project.
- Your research **MUST** show evidence of specialist vocabulary.
- At your own time it is compulsory for you to visit museums, galleries and exhibitions which are related to your project theme.

What you can do at the end of the course:

A large number of students who successfully complete their GCSE course in Art will go on to study AS and A2 Art in the Sixth Form or college. Many students subsequently go on to study Art at degree level, eventually working in a wide range of Artistic careers. For those students not wishing to pursue Art beyond GCSE the course offers excellent opportunities to develop cultural and artistic understanding alongside creative skills that would benefit a series of careers including art curator, commissioned artists, fashion design, architecture, hairdresser, animator or work in the media.

Subjects which complement this subject:

- Photography, Graphics, Textiles, Resistant Materials, History, Media Studies

GRAPHICS

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	One Tier
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 60% Controlled Assessment• 40% Written Exam
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

During the course, students should develop an understanding of the broad perspectives of the design world. This will include technical hand drawing as well as an introduction to CAD (Computer Aided Design). By the end of the course students will have a good understanding of issues such as aesthetics and ergonomics. This understanding is evidenced in a 20 page design folder, showing research, designing, planning and making stages throughout the year. This makes up a third of the entire GCSE qualification.

Students will design and make products in two and three dimensions using various ICT software packages and modelling using materials. Students need to have good drawing ability to succeed in this course, as well as good knowledge of ICT. They must also realise that the course is demanding and requires them to meet all deadlines, at all times, particularly in terms of the Controlled Assessment.

What skills you will need to succeed:

- **Enthusiasm** and be keen to learn about the design process
- **Design flair** with **strong ICT** and CAD skills such as the use of Photoshop
- You **MUST** demonstrate a commitment to the subject by being **self motivated** and not be constantly dependent on help by the teacher. It is recommended that you attend the weekly GCSE workshop after school each week.
- Some experience of using the workshops and doing practical work
- You will need to be **organised** in order to meet all the necessary deadlines for the 60% course work.
- You are expected to assess and **evaluate your own work**.
- You will need to produce a 20 page A3 design folder and Graphics students are required to complete a final 3D model of the product they have designed
- In your own time it is compulsory for you to complete the design folder as homework (Minimum 2hours per week)

What you can do at the end of the course:

A large number of students who successfully complete their GCSE will go on to study courses such as A Level Design & Technology, Product Design, or BTEC courses in Product Design and Graphic Design. There are many degree level courses which can be pursued after studying this course such as Graphic design, Product Design, Industrial design, Animation, Architecture and others. For those students not wishing to take Graphic Products beyond GCSE, the course offers excellent opportunities to develop their design and making skills, understanding of the design process, and building general creative skills that would benefit a series of careers.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Art and Design, Resistant Materials, Media Studies, Maths, History, History of Art, Photography

GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	One Tier
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 60% Portfolio of Work• 40% Externally Set Task
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The GCSE course consists of 2 units of work at GCSE and 2 units at AS level. Each unit is based on a different theme and is designed for students to learn different skills, using different materials to produce a variety of different outcomes to form a finished piece (traditional black and white prints or digitally manipulated prints). The students will go on to develop their understanding by using many different technical processes in the darkroom as well as on computer. We expect students to develop and be influenced through the study of individual photographers/artists work, taken from a wide range of cultures. They will be expected to produce written work in their sketchbooks throughout the two years of this course.

What skills you will need to succeed:

- **Enthusiasm, imagination, to work independently and already grasp basic Photoshop skills**
- You **MUST** demonstrate a **commitment** to the subject by being **self motivated** and not be constantly dependent on help by the teacher. It is recommended that you attend the weekly GCSE workshop after school each week.
- **Be organised** - You **MUST** meet all the necessary deadlines for the 60% course work.
- You are expected to assess and **evaluate** your own work and that of others.
- You will produce an artist journal for each course work unit. These sketchbooks should show an exploration of numerous photographic processes, which should relate to the theme of your project.
- Your research **MUST** show evidence of specialist vocabulary.
- In your own time it is compulsory for you to visit museums, galleries and exhibitions which are related to your project theme.

What you can do at the end of the course:

A large number of students who successfully complete their GCSE and AS course in Photography will go on to study the BTEC/ National Diploma in Film, Photography and Media. Many students subsequently go on to study Multimedia at degree level, eventually working in a wide range of Artistic careers. For those students not wishing to pursue Photography beyond GCSE the course offers excellent opportunities to develop cultural and artistic understanding alongside creative skills that would benefit a series of careers including photojournalist and graphic designer.

Subjects which complement this subject:

English, Modern Foreign Languages, Art and Design, Textiles, Graphics, Geography, History, BTEC Travel and Tourism, Media Studies and many other subjects would complement Photography very well.

RESISTANT MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY (RMT)

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	One Tier
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60% Coursework • 40% Written Exam
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

During the course, students will develop an understanding of the broad perspectives of the design world. Students will design and make in two and three dimensions using materials such as metal, plastic and wood. Students will also be expected to sketch and draw ideas as well as making 3D models and to have a good knowledge of ICT. This course is also heavily dominated by a 20-page design folder which will ask for students to research, design, plan and evaluate their work. There will also be lessons specific to the theory of RMT will include the study of industrial practices, systems and control, materials and product research.

Practical work is the focus of term 1, building skills in the workshops. However alongside this, it is expected and necessary for students to complete homework and other theory based exercises so they are fully equipped to pass this challenging course.

What skills you will need to succeed:

- **Enthusiastic** and keen to learn about design and its processes
- **Good design flair** with **strong ICT and CAD** skills such as the use of Photoshop
- You must demonstrate a commitment to the subject by being **self motivated** and not be constantly dependent on help by the teacher. It is recommended that you attend the weekly GCSE workshop after school each week.
- You will need to be **organised** in order to meet all the necessary deadlines for the 60% course work.
- You will need to produce a maximum of 20 page A3 design folder which will include analysis, design, development, test and evaluation. Resistant Materials students are required to complete a final model.
- In your own time it is compulsory for you to complete the design folder as homework (Minimum 1 hour or 2x 30 mins per week)

What you can do at the end of the course:

A large number of students who successfully complete their GCSE will go on to study courses such as A Level Product Design which we will be rolling out in 2011/12 as a brand new and exciting course. Alternatively, colleges offer BTEC courses in Manufacture, Engineering or Building and Construction. For those students not wishing to take Resistant Materials beyond GCSE the course offers excellent opportunities to develop their making skills, understanding of the design process, and building general creative skills that would benefit a series of careers.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Art and Design, Graphics, Maths, Science, BTEC Science, college courses like Construction.

TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	One Tier
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 60% Controlled Assessment (Project)• 40% Written Exam
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

During the course, students should develop an understanding of the broad perspectives of the design world. This will include graphic and CAD skills, and an awareness of aesthetics and ergonomics all related to textile products. Students will make products using textiles. The textiles theory will include the study of modern and smart fibres and fabrics, components and their use, construction of 3D fabric products, use of machines and industrial processes such as computer aided manufacture to mass produce products. Practical work in Year 10 and 11 will enhance existing skills and develop new ones, to include the use of the new industrial computerised embroidery machines, laser cutter and CAD programmes.

What skills you will need to succeed:

- **Good design flair with strong ICT and CAD skills** such as the use of Photoshop
- You **MUST** demonstrate a commitment to the subject by being **self motivated** and not be constantly dependent on help by the teacher. It is recommended that you attend the weekly GCSE workshop after school each week.
- You will be **organised** in order to meet all the necessary deadlines for the 60% course work.
- You are expected to assess and evaluate your own work and that of others.
- You will produce a maximum of 20 page A3 design folder which will include analysis, design, development, test and evaluation. For Textiles Technology students, they are required to complete a final garment made by them. Additionally, they are recommended to use digital camera to record all outcome as evidence.
- Your research **MUST** show evidence of specialist vocabulary.
- In your own time it is compulsory for you to complete the design folder as homework (Minimum 2hours per week)

What you can do at the end of the course:

A large number of students who successfully complete their GCSE will go on to study AS Textiles or BTEC Fashion Retail and Marketing in a Sixth Form or at college. From there, students may wish to study Fashion and Textiles at degree level or pursue a career in industry. For those students not wishing to take Textiles beyond GCSE the course offers excellent opportunities to develop cultural understandings alongside creative skills that would benefit a series of careers. Fundamentally, the course would enable students to be more aware of the fabrics they will use every day.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Art and Design, Photography, Graphics, History, Drama and Music all complement this option.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Level 2 Qualification (<i>no tiered entry</i>)
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written Paper (1hr30min) 40% Practical Assessment 60%
LENGTH OF COURSE AND NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

If you are anticipating studying an 'A' Level sports course in the 6th Form. We would recommend you take this course over the BTEC Sport course, as it will provide you with more appropriate subject specific knowledge and the study skills required to complete an 'A' level course.

What you will study:

Unit 1 – The Theory of Physical Education (5PE03)

1.1 **Healthy Active Lifestyles:** Students study the relationship between exercise, diet, work and rest, and how, together, they contribute to a balanced healthy lifestyle

1.2 **Your Healthy, Active Body:** Students will gain knowledge of the impact on an active lifestyle on their cardiovascular, respiratory, muscular and skeletal systems.

1hr 30min Exam (80marks - 40%)

Unit 2 – Performance in Physical Education (5PE04)

2.1 **Practical Performance:** Students need to undertake practical performances in four different activities in the role of either a player/participant, official or leader. At least two of the performances must be as a player/participant.

2.2 **Analysis of Performance:** This analysis of performance must be based on one of the four activities undertaken as a player/participant. Students must show knowledge of the rules and regulations of the activity; observe and analyse a performance; evaluate the performance; plan how to improve it and finally plan a Personal Exercise Programme to improve their fitness

Controlled Assessment (50marks – 60%)

What skills you will need to succeed:

- You need a good competence in written English, and an understanding of the biological aspects of Science (ideally a Level 5a or above in both)
- You should be confident in your ability in at least two sporting activities (ideally level 6b or above)
- You need to have an interest in the science behind sport, how your body works, and how you can improve your performance.

What you can do at the end of the course:

The content of this GCSE Physical Education specification is designed to enable students to enjoy and understand the benefits of living a healthy and active lifestyle; to provide a route to further study in Further Education awards, such as A levels and/or the new Diplomas, and to Higher Education courses in Sport as well as to related career opportunities.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Food Technology (diet/nutrition); Science (particularly Human Biology and Physics) complement this subject well.

DRAMA

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	N/A
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Practical assessment and written Coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Drama Exploration Unit 1 (30% internally assessed unit including documentary evidence of work created).

You will be given a range of drama *stimuli* as starting points for your practical work including artefacts, music, poetry, play texts and live theatre performances.

Exploring Play Texts Unit 2 (30% internally assessed unit including documentary evidence of work created and documentary response to a live performance).

You will be introduced to a play text, which will form the basis of your explorative drama work. You will also attend a live theatre production of a play.

Scripted/Devised Performance Unit 3 (40% externally assessed unit)

You will work collaboratively on a piece of Drama that you will perform in front of live audience.

What skills you will need to succeed:

You will need to demonstrate your knowledge, understanding and skills in the following:

- Group interaction, Team Building, Creative Thinking
- Vocal Expression
- Physical Expression
- Written and Oral communication skills
- Evaluative Skills

What you can do at the end of the course:

A Grade C or above at GCSE will be the basic requirement for almost all Post-16 courses such as A Levels and Diplomas. The Edexcel GCSE course is the perfect foundation for an A level in Theatre Studies.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Complementary subjects are any that encourage you to think creatively, communicate skilfully and work with others co-operatively.

MUSIC

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	GCSE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	N/A
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Coursework submissions
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Unit 1: Performing Music 30%: Solo Performing and Ensemble Performing

Solo: You will perform a piece of music on an instrument of your choice that is rehearsed and recorded in a controlled assessment.

Ensemble: You will work in a group to perform a piece of music on an instrument of your choice that is rehearsed and recorded in a controlled assessment.

- Controlled assessment (marked internally and moderated by Edexcel).
- Recorded at any point during the course.

Unit 2: Composing Music 30%

You will learn how to write music in different styles and forms, using technology such as Sibelius to write for a variety of instruments.

- Two compositions.
- Combined length should be between **two** and **four** minutes.
- Controlled assessment (marked internally and moderated by Edexcel).

Unit 3: Listening and Appraising 40% Section A and Section B

You will learn to identify different styles of music and different features of the music with particular focus on 12 set works.

- 1 hour 30 minute listening paper externally set and marked by Edexcel.
- Questions based on set works (see below).
- Section A: based on recorded extracts from set works.
- Section B: more in-depth questions on a chosen set work(s).

What skills you will need to succeed:

Confidence
Creativity
Commitment

What you can do at the end of the course:

Progression to A-Level Music and A-Level Music Technology.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Complementary subjects would include any that require creative, imaginative thinking and a degree of self-discipline.

CERTIFICATE OF PERSONAL EFFECTIVENESS

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	COPE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Level 2
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Externally moderated portfolio
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What/Where you will study:

You will complete challenges taken from a range of units including; Environment, Expressive Arts, and Health and Fitness – you will work at school and at a local nursery.

What you will produce:

You will complete an externally moderated portfolio which meets the required standards

What skills you will need to succeed:

Your skills will include the ability to conduct research and present your findings to others and to lead discussions. The standards include skills for enterprise: Problem solving, Working as a team and the ability to improve your own Learning.

What you can do at the end of the course:

You can achieve the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness at Level 2.
This is nationally accredited and COPE level 2 is the equivalent of a GCSE grade B.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Child care complements COPE as do any other GCSE subjects that you are interested in and enjoy.

BTEC LEVEL 2 DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Business
LEVEL OF ENTRY	BTEC Level 2 Diploma: equivalent to 4 GCSEs grades A*-C Graded: Distinction, Merit, Pass and Fail
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Internally and externally assessed assignments.
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	Two year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The following four core units:

- Business Purposes;
- Business Organisations;
- Financial Forecasting for Business;
- People in Organisations;
- Customer Relations in a Business;
- Business Online;
- Promoting and Branding in Retail Business;
- Training and Employment in Business;
- Bookkeeping for Business.

What skills you will need to succeed:

A BTEC First Diploma is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. You will also go on several trips to businesses to learn about various aspects of the business, like customer service, manufacturing and communication in a business. Some of the businesses you will visit will be McDonalds and British Airways.

The Diploma introduces you to the employment area you have chosen and provides a good basis to go on to a more advanced work-related qualification.

You will need to have good ICT and presenting skills as well as being able to work well as a group or in pairs. Students who want to take up this course should ideally work at level 5 in English, Mathematics and ICT in year 9.

What you can do at the end of the course:

Students can go on to a range of jobs in the business sector or choose from either A-level Business and Accounting courses or follow the BTEC National route where there are a number of Business courses available including: Business; Business (Administration); Business (e-Business Software); Business (e-Business Strategy); Business (Finance); Business (Human Resources); Business (Law); Business (Management); and Business (Marketing). You may also decide you want to take an Advanced Diploma in Business.

Subjects which complement this subject:

ICT and other similar subjects may combine well with this subject.

BTEC LEVEL 2 IN SPORT

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	BTEC Level 2
LEVEL OF ENTRY	The equivalency of this qualification is currently under review by Edexcel. We expect it to be equivalent to 1 GCSE.
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	The method of assessment for this course is currently under review by Edexcel. We expect it to be 100% coursework (no exam)
LENGTH OF COURSE AND NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Unit One: Fitness Testing & Training (5 credits)

Explore the theory behind elite sports performers. How they train, how they test themselves and what factors affect their performance. Then experience some of the practical fitness tests for yourself.

Unit Two: Practical Sport (10 credits)

You will take part in a six week programme of both a team sport and an individual sport. You will keep a log book, be expected to understand tactics and coaching and be able to analyse your performance, suggesting ways you could improve.

Unit Four: Anatomy & Physiology for Sport (5 credits)

Develop your understanding of the human body systems. How do our skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular and respiratory systems help us function effectively during sports performance?

Unit Eleven: Development of Personal Fitness (5 credits)

Take the knowledge you have gained from Unit One and apply it to produce your own personal fitness training programme. You will then train to this programme to try and help achieve some of your sporting goals.

Unit Eighteen: Effects of Exercise on the Body Systems (5 credits)

Using the knowledge you have gained from Unit Four, you will be encouraged to explore the effects of exercise on the human body by participating in a range of practical experiments and activities.

What skills you will need to succeed:

- You need good ICT skills as most of the work is presented this way
- You need competence in written English and creativity for your presentations
- You need to have a real interest in how your body works
- You need to understand that this course contains a large amount of theory work.

What you can do at the end of the course:

You may want to continue to study sport and can go on to further education to study a Diploma or an A level in Sports Studies. This could lead on to a university degree in Sports Science, Bio-Mechanics, Sports Engineering or one of many sports related qualifications.

This course could help you if you are interested in careers such as sports management, coaching, teaching, sports promotions, physiotherapy or becoming a dietician.

Subjects which complement this subject:

ICT and Science (particularly Human Biology) complement this BTEC well.

BTEC LEVEL 2 IN DRAMA

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	BTEC
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Level 2 (15 credits)
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Internal assessment. Externally verified.
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The course will cover experience and skills within the following areas:

- Working in the Performing Arts industry
- Vocal Expression
- Physical Expression
- Creative Thinking

During the course you will learn to:

- Demonstrate your skills as performers using appropriate material as a stimulus
- Use Drama to explore ideas and issues.
- Understand different job roles in the Performing Arts industry.
- Understand the ways in which playwrights and performers use the medium of Drama to communicate their ideas to an audience

What skills you will need to succeed:

You will need to demonstrate your knowledge, understanding and skills in the following:

- Group interaction, Team Building, Creative Thinking
- Vocal Expression
- Physical Expression
- Written and Oral communication skills
- Evaluative Skills

What you can do at the end of the course:

A pass and above is broadly equivalent to a Grade C+ at GCSE and will be the basic requirement for almost all Post-16 courses such as A Levels and Diplomas.

A pass and above (Grade C+) will be the basic requirement for almost all employers.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Complementary subjects are any that encourage you to think creatively, communicate skillfully and work with others co-operatively.

BTEC LEVEL 2 IN MUSIC

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	BTEC Level 2 Music
LEVEL OF ENTRY	N/A
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Coursework submissions
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Extended Certificate (year 1)

1. Working in the Music Industry
 - Provide an explanation of a job role from a different area of employment within the music industry providing a detailed account of how it relates to other roles from the same and different areas of the industry using well chosen examples.
2. Professional Development
 - Design a professional development plan that provides an explanation of current skill levels and sets well-defined and measurable targets.
3. Producing a Musical Recording
 - Produce a completed mix of a multi-track recording using appropriate processing and mixing technology with confident and competent handling of balance and quality.
4. Solo Musical Performance
 - Present a recorded portfolio of at least four contrasting pieces of music that are performed accurately, showing expression, a clear sense of style and demonstrating musical communication with the audience.

What skills you will need to succeed:

Confidence
Creativity
Commitment

What you can do at the end of the course:

BTEC	GCSE
Pass	C
Merit	B
Distinction	A

Progression to BTEC Level 3 Music.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Complementary subjects would include any that require creative, imaginative thinking and a degree of self-discipline.

BTEC FIRST DIPLOMA IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	BTEC First Diploma
LEVEL OF ENTRY	BTEC First Diploma Level 2 BTEC First Diploma equivalent to 4 GCSEs grades A*-C Graded – Distinction, Merit, Pass and Fail
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	8 Internally and externally assessed assignments
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	Two year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study: (core units)

Communication in health and social care
Individual rights in health and social care
Individual needs in health and social care
Ensuring safe environments in health and social care

Four from the following:

Vocational experience in health or social care setting (work experience)
Cultural diversity in health and social care
Anatomy and physiology for health and social care
Human lifespan development
Creative and therapeutic activities in health and social care
Health and social care services
The impact of diet on health

What skills you will need to succeed:

A BTEC First Diploma is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands.

This BTEC introduces you to the employment area you have chosen and provides a good basis to go on to a more advanced work-related qualification.

You will need to have good ICT and presenting skills as well as be able to work well as a group or in pairs.

What you can do at the end of the course:

With further training or study, students go careers such as nursing, social work and residential care management.

If you want to get a job straight away you could work and train in:

- Registered care homes
- Hospitals and primary care trusts
- Nursing homes
- Health centres

A BTEC First Diploma prepares you for employment and provides a good grounding to go on to a more advanced course such as:

- BTEC National Diploma or Certificate in Care
- BTEC National Diploma or Certificate in Health Studies

Subjects which complement this subject:

Sociology and other similar subjects may combine well with this subject, you may also want to think about an option such as Study Plus to ensure you get your 5 GCSE grades A*-C, including English and Maths.

BTEC FIRST DIPLOMA IN TRAVEL AND TOURISM

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	BTEC First – advanced certificate = 2 x GCSE pass
LEVEL OF ENTRY	2
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	100% coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

BTEC Firsts are QCF Level 2 qualifications designed to provide specialist work-related qualifications in a range of sectors. They give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment. (Edexcel 2010 syllabus)

Units to be studied – core units

1. The UK travel and tourism sector
2. Understanding Customer Service in travel and Tourism
3. Understanding the Nature and effects of world travel

Then three out of the following:

Exploring marketing in travel and Tourism
Holiday planning
Organising a travel and tourism study visit
Introduction to cruise operations
Preparing for employment in travel and tourism
UK tourism destinations
European holiday destinations
Worldwide holiday destinations

What skills you will need to succeed:

Patience

A hard working attitude

The ability to work to deadlines and complete homework tasks on time

What you can do at the end of the course:

- Hospitality
- Business management (in relation to tourist sites)
- Cabin crew training and employment
- Hotel management

Subjects which complement this subject:

Geography and other similar subjects may combine well with this subject, you may also want to think about an option such as Study Plus to ensure you get your 5 GCSE grades A*-C, including English and Maths.

For further information about this option please see Mr. Stevenson or Ms Wills

BTEC FIRST DIPLOMA IN INFORMATION AND CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	BTEC First Award
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Level 2 with the opportunity to work to a Level 1. The Level 2 qualification is equivalent to one GCSE.
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	75% coursework – internally assessed 25% project – externally set and assessed Assessment: Pass, Merit and Distinction
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course. 12 Lessons per cycle.

This is a practical qualification in which students learn through completing ICT projects. Students complete a number of units totalling 120 hours of teaching and learning time. The units to be taught are to be confirmed but will be chosen from the following:

Core Units

Unit 1: The Online World; Unit 2: Technology Systems; Unit 3: A Digital Portfolio

Optional Specialist Units

Unit 4: Creating Digital Animation

Unit 5: Creating Digital Audio

Unit 6: Creating Digital Graphics

Unit 7: Creating Digital Video

Unit 8: Mobile Apps Development

Unit 9: Spreadsheet Development

Unit 10: Database Development

Unit 11: Network Development

Unit 12: Software Development

Unit 13: Website Development

Optional Generic Units

G1: Volunteering in the Community; G2: Work Experience; G4: Skills for Work

What skills you will need to succeed:

- Organisational skills and the ability to keep to deadlines;
- Independent learning;
- Literacy skills especially written communication;
- Problem solving skills.

Entry Requirements:

There are no entry requirements for this course.

What you can do at the end of the course:

The BTEC Level 2 First Award in ICT could lead you onto other level 2 vocational qualifications; level 3 qualifications, such as the Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Nationals in IT or an IT / Creative Media apprenticeship; academic qualifications, such as GCSE or A Level in ICT or Computing; or employment within the information technology and/or creative technology sectors.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Business Studies, Economics, Maths, Media and Sciences.

Level 1 Courses

**(Equivalent to GCSE Grades
D to G)**

CERTIFICATE OF PERSONAL EFFECTIVENESS

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	COPE
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Level 1
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Externally moderated portfolio
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

You will complete challenges taken from a wide range of units including; Wider World, Expressive Arts, and Health and survival

What skills you will need to succeed:

Your skills will include the ability to conduct research, to take part in discussion, and to do your own presentations. You will also need evidence of the wider key skills at the appropriate level.

What you can do at the end of the course:

You can achieve the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness at Level 1.
This is nationally accredited and COPE level 1 is the equivalent of a GCSE grade D.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Personal and Social Development complements Youth Awards as do any other GCSE subjects that you are interested in and enjoy.

NCFE AWARD IN WORKING WITH CHILDREN

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Child Care
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Level 1
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Externally moderated portfolio
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What/Where you will study:

You will complete challenges taken from units including; Encouraging children to eat healthy, Working in a team, and creating a safe environment for children. You will work at school and at a local nursery.

What you will produce:

You will complete an externally moderated portfolio which meets the required standards

What skills you will need to succeed:

Your skills will include the ability to conduct research, to do child observation, to take part in discussion, and to do your own presentations. You will aim at developing basic skills needed to support play work, out-of-school and early years settings.

What you can do at the end of the course:

You can achieve the Award in Working with children at Level 1.
The Awards are nationally accredited and level 1 is the equivalent to a GCSE grade D.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Childcare complements COPE as do any other GCSE subjects that you are interested in and enjoy.

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Personal and Social Development
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Level 1
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	Ongoing assessments with each unit
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

You will complete challenges taken from a wide range of units including; Parenting awareness, Managing your own money and Environmental awareness.

What skills you will need to succeed:

Your skills will include the ability to conduct research, to take part in discussion, and to do your own presentations. You will aim at becoming a confident individual who is physically, emotionally and socially healthy.

What you can do at the end of the course:

You can achieve the Award or the Personal and Social Development Qualification at Level 1. The Awards are nationally accredited and level 1 is the equivalent to a GCSE grades D.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Youth Awards complements Personal and Social Development as do any other GCSE subjects that you are interested in and enjoy.

EDEXCEL BTEC LEVEL 1 AWARD IN HOME COOKING SKILLS

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Level 1
LEVEL OF ENTRY	One Tier
ASSESEMNT	100% Practical Coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

Learners will gain understanding of how to economise when planning meals to cook at home. The unit will encourage learners to transfer skills learnt to other recipes to continue cooking for themselves and their families and to inspire others by passing on their knowledge.

The unit is based on the chef Jamie Oliver's proposition that being able to cook is an essential life skill which empowers people to make changes that have benefits to health and wellbeing.

Being able to cook is an essential life skill. Learning to cook is no longer passed down through the generations. Many people do not have the skills to cook meals and rely on pre-prepared or ready-cooked food. Lack of time and money are also considerable issues. This has had an impact on obesity which is likely to affect the health of the nation over the next century.

Learners will be introduced to basic cooking skills by following recipes for simple dishes and learning how to use kitchen equipment safely. Each recipe is backed with knowledge about sourcing food, nutrition, hygiene and food safety where relevant. Learners will demonstrate their skills by following a recipe and acquire skills for cooking at home and explore ways to pass on their knowledge of cooking skills to others.

Provides students with the opportunity to develop:

- the knowledge, understanding and confidence to cook meals at home
- an understanding of how to economise when planning a meal
- an ability to transfer skills learned to different recipes
- an ability to inspire others by transferring that knowledge.

What skills you will need to succeed:

- **Enthusiastic** and keen to learn about food and nutrition and hot to prepare it
- The right attitude to be successful in the kitchen and work hard in and out of school, practising your skills
- You must demonstrate a commitment to the subject by being **self motivated** and not be constantly dependent on help by the teacher

What you can do at the end of the course:

The focus of this course is the development of the skills set which are essential for cooking food successfully at home. It therefore requires learners to have practical experience throughout and also the time and energy to practice what you've learnt at school, at home.

The course is designed to give you a set of life skills that will really benefit you in the short and long term. To be able to prepare food and know which ingredients go together is vital and this course will allow you to learn and understand about these things. It would also be a perfect starting block for you if you are interesting in a catering or food orientated career.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Hospitality & Catering, Science, Health & Social Care, Child Development, Child Care, Travel & Tourism

EDEXCEL ENTRY LEVEL IN DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: RESISTANT MATERIALS

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Level 1
LEVEL OF ENTRY	One Tier
ASSESSMENT	100% Coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

You will study a range of techniques to make, process and create various items made from woods, plastics and metals.

You will be given one project to do, set by the exam board and you will design and make it. You will then be assessed on that. There is no examination but you will be expected to complete every project you begin, particularly for the final project.

This is an exciting course for students who feel they have great practical skills, knowledge and understanding but find the written side of a GCSE difficult or are uninterested in this. This course will be a stepping stone to GCSE and then A Levels, or indeed give you valuable points for college applications.

Provides students with the opportunity to develop:

- practical skills and the confidence to design and make products
- analyse and evaluate products and processes
- allow students to engage in focused practical tasks to develop and demonstrate techniques
- engage in strategies for developing ideas, planning and producing a product
- recognise the moral, cultural and environmental issues inherent in design and technology.

What skills you will need to succeed:

- **Enthusiastic** and keen to learn about design and its processes
- A successful KS3 end level, which demonstrates you have good skills in practical work
- **Good design flair** with the desire to improve on skills such as the use of Pro/Desktop
- You must demonstrate a commitment to the subject by being **self motivated** and not be constantly dependent on help by the teacher

What you can do at the end of the course:

A career based around resistant materials such as wood are becoming increasingly vital as we move towards an age where people want cheap but reliable homes and businesses. We are also in a time where the world is getting very crowded and over-population in certain areas of the country, and the world, will require people with the knowledge and the understanding of design and technology.

This course will provide you with the foundation to go into further depth if you wish. It is a stepping stone towards GCSEs and A Levels or indeed college courses such as Construction. People who opt for this course can end up owning their own building firm or working for one of the many large nationwide organisations.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Product Design, Construction, Engineering, Graphics, Art & Design, Science, Maths

EAL OPTION: IGCSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION:	International GCSE (IGCSE)
LEVEL OF ENTRY:	2 tiers: - Extended (Higher): Grades available A* to E Core (Foundation): Grades available C to G
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT:	Examination comprising the following: Reading and writing exam 70% Listening exam 30% Oral exam Grade 1 to 5
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE:	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What will you study?

Students whose first language is other than English have the opportunity to study for the IGCSE in English as a Second Language (ESL), which is an internationally recognised qualification awarded by the University of Cambridge. During the course you will practise and develop your English language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing), whilst expanding your knowledge of a variety of topics. The course is particularly well suited to those of you who would like more time to improve your language and literacy skills, and as such it will help you to improve your usage of the English language in the different subjects that you take during Years 10 and 11.

What skills will you need to succeed?

- reading for gist and detail;
- listening for gist and detail;
- writing for different purposes (letters, articles, summaries, note-taking);
- ability to communicate effectively and participate in oral discussions;
- problem solving;
- teamwork and;
- time management.

What can you do at the end of the course?

The qualification prepares you well for the next steps in your education, including progression to further education/sixth form courses. The IGCSE in ESL at grade C or above is accepted by universities both in the UK and abroad as suitable proof of competency in the English language for the purposes of undergraduate study. The IGCSE also equips you with skills highly sought after by employers.

Subjects which complement this subject:

The IGCSE in ESL will help you to succeed in all available subjects, particularly those with high language and literacy demands.

EAL OPTION – ENGLISH as a SECOND or OTHER LANGUAGE (ESOL)

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	EDEXCEL - ESOL
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Entry Level 1-3 Levels 1 - 2 Successful completion at level 2 = Grade B GCSE.
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	On Demand Exam in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The EAL Option is designed to help you if your first language is not English. It is particularly helpful to those of you who would like to have more time to improve your English language and literacy skills. It will help your personal and social development and strengthen your resolve to take charge of your own learning and improve your understanding of the English language. The exam in this course is “on demand” which means it can be taken any time during the year.

The EAL option (ESOL Skills for Life) will help you to:

- settle into school (if you are new to the UK)
- improve your English language and literacy skills in different subject areas
- improve your GCSE grades
- improve your coursework marks

What skills you will need to succeed:

- the ability to plan
- the ability to organise
- reading and writing
- independent learning skills
- the ability to take responsibility for your own learning

How the course can help you:

The course can help you to speak and write better in English by studying the four main areas of English, reading, writing, listening and speaking. If you work hard, show commitment and put a lot of effort into your studies, you could gain Edexcel Entry 1 Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life; Level 1 or level 2. The qualification level will indicate the unit level at which each unit is achieved. Students can gain a GCSE equivalent.

The EAL option gives you an excellent preparation for the next steps in your education, including going on to college. Employers look for students who can communicate well in English. This course will help you to do so.

For more information about the course, please contact ALAP.

Subjects which complement this subject:

The EAL option will help you in all your other subjects.

Level 3 Courses

(AS Level)

AS LEVEL COMPUTING

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AS Level
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Single Tier Level 3 Course
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	COMP1 (60%) Computer based programming assignment and theory exam (2 hrs) COMP2 (40%) Written exam (1 hr)
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the principles and concepts underpinning computers and communications. Students work practically using problem solving and programming skills, not packages. This subject is concerned with technical details not covered in ICT. In fact, Computing is as different to ICT as Maths is to Physics! Much of our time will be devoted to learning how to program using the Java language, in an open source environment called BlueJ.

What skills you will need to succeed:

Good analytical and problem solving skills are essential. If you have the ability to think logically, and like a challenge, this course is probably suited to you. You do not need to have any previous experience of programming as we will start on the understanding that you are a complete beginner. However, you do need to have already achieved or be predicted to achieve an A in GCSE Mathematics.

What you can do at the end of the course:

You will have the ability to be able to write console based programs in the Java programming language. You will understand the fundamental hardware concepts of computers, and the technical details behind the operation of networks. You will have completed the first half of an A Level, and can go on to complete the A2 Units, COMP3 and COMP4, at Sixth Form or College to achieve the full A Level award.

You will be well placed to go on to take Computing at Degree or Masters level. Computer Scientists go on to work in many industries, including Consumer Electronics, Engineering and the Games Industry.

Subjects which complement this subject:

Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Electronics, Economics, Critical Thinking.

AS LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AS LEVEL
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Grades A-E: Level 3
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	50% Internal Controlled Assessment: Foundation Portfolio in Media Studies 50% External Examination: Key Media Concepts
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

During the course you will complete the following units:

Unit G321: Foundation Portfolio in Media Studies

This is a coursework unit where candidates produce a media artefact from a series of briefs. This process involves progression from a pre-production, preliminary exercise to a more fully realised piece. The briefs offered are: print, video and audio. Candidates present their research and planning in either paper-based or electronic format and do an evaluation in electronic format, based on a series of prompt questions. This unit is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Unit G322: Key Media Concepts (TV Drama)

This paper covers the two areas of Textual Analysis and Representation alongside Institutions and Audiences. In Section A, candidates answer questions on an unseen moving image extract that is then linked to some aspect of the representation within the sequence. In Section B, candidates study a specific media industry from a choice of: film, music, newspapers, radio, magazines or video games. This unit is externally examined.

This AS Level provides the first half of the four-unit OCR A Level in Media Studies.

The course aims to:

- enhance candidates' enjoyment and appreciation of the media and its role in their daily lives;
- develop critical understanding of the media through engagement with media products and concepts and through the creative application of practical skills;
- explore production processes, technologies and contexts;
- allow candidates to become independent in research skills and their application.

Entry requirements:

Minimum grade B in GCSE Media Studies

Minimum grade C in GCSE English

What you can do at the end of the course:

By passing the AS Media Studies course, you can either go on to study A2 Media Studies or take the AS qualification and use the UCAS points to further applications to university.

AS LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AS level
LEVEL OF ENTRY	One Tier
METHOD OF ASSESSEMENT	1. Unit 1 - Portfolio of work (80 marks) Weighting: 50% of total AS marks / 25% of total A Level marks 2. Unit 2 - Externally set assignment from 1 st February (80 marks) Weighting: 50% of total AS marks / 25% of total A Level marks
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	One year course 12 lessons per cycle

What you will study:

The AS course consists of 2 projects for the portfolio and one externally set assignment. Each project is based on a different theme and is designed to teach different skills, using different materials to produce a variety of different outcomes to form a finished piece (Traditional black and white prints or Digital manipulated prints). Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of photographic media, techniques and processes. Students will explore relevant images, artifacts and resources through investigated tasks, which relates to Photography and a wider range of art and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. Their responses to these examples must be shown through practical and critical activities. Students should be aware of the four assessment objectives to be demonstrated in the context of the content and skills presented and of the importance of process as well as product. Students are advised to use journals to underpin their work where appropriate. Students may use traditional methods and/or digital techniques to produce images.

What skills you will need to succeed:

- **Enthusiasm, imagination, to work independently and already grasp basic Photoshop skills**
- You **MUST** demonstrate a **commitment** to the subject by being **self motivated** and not be constantly dependent on help by the teacher. It is recommended that you attend the weekly GCSE workshop after school each week.
- **Be organised** - You **MUST** meet all the necessary deadlines for the 60% course work.
- You are expected to assess and **evaluate** your own work and that of others.
- You will produce an artist journal for each course work unit. These sketchbooks should show an exploration of numerous photographic processes, which should relate to the theme of your project.
- Your research **MUST** show evidence of specialist vocabulary.
- In your own time it is compulsory for you to visit museums, galleries and exhibitions which are related to your project theme.

What you can do at the end of the course:

A large number of students who successfully complete their AS course in Photography will go on to study A2 Photography or the BTEC/ National Diploma in Film, Photography and Media. Many students subsequently go on to study Multimedia at degree level, eventually working in a wide range of Artistic careers. For those students not wishing to pursue Photography beyond GCSE the course offers excellent opportunities to develop cultural and artistic understanding alongside creative skills that would benefit a series of careers including photojournalist and graphic designer.

Subjects which complement this subject:

English, History of Art, Modern Foreign Languages, Art and Design, Textiles, Graphics, Geography, History, BTEC Travel and Tourism, Media Studies and many other subjects would complement Photography very well.

Options Choice Forms Examples

Year 9 Options Choice Form - Example

First name: A

Surname: Coyle

Form: 9A

Please list choices in rank order.

BTEC First Diploma in Business	Option 1
BTEC First Diploma in Business	Option 2
Textiles	Option 3
Graphics	Option 4
History	Reserve Choice 1
Photography	Reserve Choice 2

Please remember that some options such as BTEC Business (2 choices) count as more than 1 choice.

As you can see A Coyle has chosen as his first 2 choices the BTEC First Diploma in Business, which is a two year course, he then has Textiles as his 3rd choice and Graphics as his 4th choice. He will do BTEC Business in both Year 10 and Year 11, and one other in Year 10 and one other in Year 11. He has two 12 period options as his reserve choices.

Year 10 Options Choice Form - Example

First name: D Surname: Stevenson

Form: 10A

Please list choices in rank order.

History	Option 1
Spanish	Option 2
Computing	Reserve Choice 1
Graphics	Reserve Choice 2

Please remember that some options such as BTEC Business (2 choices) count as more than 1 choice.

As you can see D Stevenson has chosen History and Spanish as his first two choices. Computing is his first reserve choice and Graphics is his second reserve choice.