



**Challney High School for Girls**

# Key Stage 4 Options Booklet

# LUMINARY Cohort

September 2023 - August 2025



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# Contents

Page

2	Introduction
3	The English Baccalaureate
4	Curriculum Overview
5	Timeline for Choosing your Options Preferences
6	Frequently Asked Questions
7	Subject and Qualification Information
7	Core Subjects
18	English Baccalaureate (EBacc) Qualifying Options
23	Options



# Introduction

Dear Student

You have now arrived at the point in your school career when you must make some choices about the courses you wish to study at GCSE.

At Challney High School for Girls the compulsory core curriculum in years 10 and 11 comprises:

English	Mathematics	Science
Physical Education	Religious Education	Personal Development

You will also study **three** subjects from the options on offer.

We believe it is vital that you follow a broad and balanced curriculum that builds on what you have already learned and provides maximum opportunity for your future studies and career. The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) selection of subjects supports this and we will encourage you to opt for this where we believe it will provide you with a well-matched and ambitious curriculum for you.

This booklet has been designed to outline the courses that you will study and help you to make your options choices. It details not only the subjects for study but also the qualifications undertaken (GCSE, GCSE equivalent or other) and the assessment structures. You will also receive guidance during PDC lessons, the options information evening and from the year 9 options site.

Some subjects require additional equipment or study materials; do not let this prevent you from choosing a subject because the school may be able to provide some financial support.

It is important that you consider your future career or study aspirations and do sufficient research to ensure that the courses that you select support this. Please do seek advice from parents, carers and teachers before making your final selections.

Finally, you will be asked to choose **3** first-choice option preferences **plus 2** reserve choices which you will need to be willing to study in the event that it is not possible for you to study all of your first-choice options.

Best wishes

Mr S. Fisher  
Assistant Headteacher

# The English Baccalaureate (EBacc)



The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps students' options open with regard to further study and future careers. It is comprised of subjects which are considered essential to many degrees, can open doors in the future and are highly regarded by Russell Group Universities.

Research shows that a student's socio-economic background impacts the subjects they choose at GCSE, and that this determines their opportunities beyond school.

Studies show that undertaking the EBacc selection of subjects increases the likelihood that a student will stay in full-time education, provides students with greater opportunities in further education, and can help improve performance in English and Mathematics.

At Challney High School for Girls, students in year 9 are given the opportunity to study **3** option subjects. In order to qualify for the English Baccalaureate students will need to choose:

## Option One

**History**  
or  
**Geography**

## Option Two

**French**  
or  
**Spanish**  
or  
**Urdu**

## Option Three

**Any option** on offer including:  
  
Whichever of **History** or **Geography** has not been selected for option one  
  
**Urdu** if French or Spanish has been selected for option two

We will encourage students to opt for the EBacc where we believe it will provide them with a well-matched and ambitious curriculum for them. Where students use their preferences to opt for an EBacc options curriculum we will ensure that they receive an EBacc curriculum.

# Curriculum Overview



## Compulsory Subjects

<b>English</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>Science<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>Religious Education</b>	<b>Personal Development</b>

Science<sup>1</sup> is studied as a double award in the form of Combined Science for the majority of students. Students who have shown good aptitude and ability in the subject may be chosen to study Biology, Chemistry and Physics as separate GCSEs.

## Options

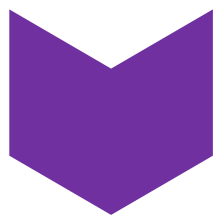
EBacc Options	Further Options	
<b>History</b>	<b>Economics</b>	<b>Engineering</b>
<b>Geography</b>	<b>Business Studies</b>	<b>Computer Science</b>
<b>French</b>	<b>Child Development</b>	<b>Photography</b>
<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Music</b>	<b>Hospitality and Catering</b>
<b>Urdu</b>	<b>Art</b>	<b>Food Preparation and Nutrition</b>
<b>Additional home language<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Textile Design</b>	<b>Creative iMedia</b>
<b>Personal Social Development<sup>3</sup></b>		

If a student can speak, read and write an additional home language<sup>2</sup> to a good standard they may have the option of undertaking an additional GCSE qualification in that language. This would be in addition to their 3 options choices and would not be a taught subject.

Personal Social Development<sup>3</sup> is an entry level qualification and is only suitable for students who have received an invitation to study it.

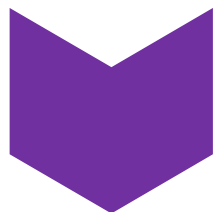


## Timeline for Choosing your Options Preferences



Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January

Options introduction assembly for students.



Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

All students select their preliminary options preferences in their PDC lesson.



PDC lessons throughout the half-term

Students will learn about all of the options available including guidance on links to future study and careers.



Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March

Options information evening for all year 9 parents, guardians and students.



Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

**Students input their final options preferences (3 first-choices and 2 reserve choices) during their PDC lesson.**



Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March

All students will receive a letter which parents or carers must sign and return to approve their daughter's final options preferences.



Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

**Deadline for letters to be returned to form tutors.**

# Frequently Asked Questions



*How will I input my final options?*

During PDC on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March you will have access to a computer or Ipad. You will open an email link to a web page where you will select your options. You will see a video demonstration of this in the lead up to choosing your final options.

*Will I definitely get my top 3 choices?*

We will do everything that we can to allocate you your top 3 preferences however sometimes it is just not possible to timetable all 3. If this happens we will use your reserve choices to complete your curriculum.

*What if I don't get my top 3 choices?*

We will use your reserve choices. If we cannot fit your curriculum using your top 3 choices and your reserve choices we will discuss it with you to find a solution.

*What if I change my mind?*

Once you have inputted your final options on the 16<sup>th</sup> March and the parent/guardian approval letter has been returned you cannot change your option preferences. It is therefore important that you are confident in your choices before this time.

*What if I don't hand my letter back in time?*

If you return your parent/guardian approval letter late then the chances of you receiving your top 3 choices decreases.

*Why do I need reserve choices?*

In case it is not possible to timetable your 3 top choice preferences.

*Are there any subjects that cannot be chosen together?*

Yes. We will encourage students to choose an ambitious and balanced curriculum.

*If I choose the same options as my friends will we be in the same classes?*

Choosing the same options does not mean that you will be in the same classes. There are often multiple classes for each subject and your timetable might put you in a different class to your friends. You should NOT be choosing your options based on those of your friends.

*What is the difference between a GCSE and a vocational qualification?*

Where a vocational qualification is at "Level 2" it is equivalent to a GCSE. The main difference is often the assessment structure. Vocational qualifications often involve coursework or controlled assessments. The majority of GCSEs (but not all) are assessed by examinations.

# English Language



**Qualification:** GCSE English Language

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

You will read a range of literary texts and learn to write in a range of styles for different purposes and audiences. In addition, you are given frequent opportunities to develop greater confidence in your spoken communication skills. Emphasis is placed upon the importance of accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the development of vocabulary and the ability to organise and communicate ideas clearly.

## How will I be assessed?

### Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (Written Examination worth 50%) in Year 11

**Section A** – Reading: You will look at how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage the interest of readers.

**Section B** – Writing: You will write a creative piece either using describing or narrating techniques.

### Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (Written Examination worth 50%) in Year 11

**Section A** – Reading: You will look at how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage the interest of readers. The sources will be from the nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first century texts. There is a strong emphasis on nineteenth century texts.

**Section B** – Writing: You will write a non-fiction piece expressing a viewpoint, or presenting an argument or using persuasion.

**Speaking and Listening Skills:** The preparation and assessment of Spoken Language is a compulsory requirement of the course of study. It will appear on your certificates as a separately reported grade alongside the overall grade issued (Pass, Merit and Distinction).

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

You should aim to read for pleasure regularly. You should also watch news and current affairs programmes and be given opportunities to discuss issues with adults. You must develop your knowledge and use of grammar, spelling, punctuation, as well as your use of varied sentence structures and linguistic devices.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

Good grades in both English Language and English Literature at GCSE are a pathway into studying one or both subjects at A-level. English is an essential qualification for access to all Higher Education, training and employment pathways. Grades 9 - 4 is **necessary** for entry to A-Level and A-Level equivalent courses.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

English is an essential requirement for **all** careers. Specific careers requiring English include: management positions in a range of industries, journalism, advertising and media, teaching, architecture, engineering, research and law.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mr Smith or your English teacher.



# English Literature



**Qualification:** GCSE English Literature

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

The courses provide opportunities for you to develop your personal response to a range of literary and non-fiction texts. You will also learn to write in a range of styles for different purposes and audiences. In addition to reinforcing the importance of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and communicating ideas clearly, emphasis is placed on reading for pleasure and developing an appreciation of diverse classic and contemporary literature.

## How will I be assessed?

### Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel (Written Examination) in Year 11

You will answer one question on the Shakespeare play you have studied.

You will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

You will also write one question on the C19th novel you have studied.

You will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

### Modern texts and poetry (Written Examination) in Year 11

Modern texts: You will answer one essay question from a choice of two on the modern prose or drama text you have studied.

Poetry: You will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the anthology cluster you have studied.

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

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

You should aim to read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts for pleasure regularly. You should also watch news and current affairs programmes and be given opportunities to discuss issues with adults. You should also watch thought-provoking films, televised dramas based on classic literature texts and theatre productions of relevance and interest.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

Good grades in both English Language and English Literature at GCSE are a pathway into studying one or both subjects at A-level.

A growing number of courses at college accept English Literature as part of their entry requirement and students should liaise with their chosen place of study to check course requirements.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

English is an essential requirement for **all** careers. Specific careers requiring English include: management positions in a range of industries, journalism, advertising and media, teaching, architecture, engineering, research and law.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mr Smith or your English teacher.

# Mathematics



**Qualification:** GCSE Mathematics

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## What will I study?

The primary mathematical content objectives lie within the areas of: Number; Algebra; Ratio, proportion and rates of changes; Geometry; Probability; Statistics.

In addition to learning specific mathematical content, the development of mathematical fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills are embedded throughout the course.

## How will I be assessed?

There are three 90 minute exams at the end of the course in **Year 11**.

Paper 1 is non-calculator. Papers 2 and 3 require a calculator. There are a total of 80 marks on each paper.

There are two tiers of entry and the vital grades of 4 and 5 are attainable on both tiers.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

- 1) Work hard from day 1 – There is no shortcut to achieving a good grade. Pupils who wait until year 11 before they start to work hard are more likely to miss their target grade.
- 2) Be resilient – Maths can be difficult and you will get things wrong. Don't give up!
- 3) Practice is essential – Being able to answer questions in a classroom is not the same as being able to answer questions on your own or in an assessment. Practice is the only thing that will make you as good on your own as you are in a classroom.
- 4) Respond to and complete all feedback tasks – When you act on feedback you learn how to do things that you couldn't do before. This helps you to increase your grade.
- 5) Take ownership of your learning – We will give you the tools to track and monitor your learning and revision. If you do this, planning revision is easy!
- 6) Communicate with your teacher – Ask for help when you are stuck. Leaving questions blank without asking for help leaves you with gaps in your learning.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

A **grade 4** in mathematics is required to be accepted onto many college courses.

Some BTEC Level courses, A-level and degree courses require a **grade 5**: Accounting, Archaeology, Business, Computer Aided Design, Computer Science, Critical Thinking, Information Technology, Physical Education, Statistics and Use of Maths.

Some A-Level and degree courses require a **grade 6**: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computing, Economics and Business Studies. Mathematics and Further Mathematics A-Levels require at least a **grade 7** at GCSE.

If you achieve a grade 3 or below you will continue to study mathematics at college.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Mathematics is used in numerous careers. Some examples are: Accountant, Architect, Civil Engineer, Computer Programmer, Doctor, Financial Analyst, Mathematician, Mechanical Engineer, Meteorologist, Physicist, Software Engineer, Sports Scientist, Statistician and Teacher.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Thompson or your Mathematics teacher.

# Combined Science



**Qualification:** GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy Double award). You will get two GCSEs in Science.

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

Across the two years, you will study seven topics in Biology, ten topics in Chemistry and seven topics in Physics. Details are on the AQA website ([www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)).

## How will I be assessed?

You will take six examination papers in **Year 11**:

**Two Biology papers** - 70 marks each (Duration - 1 hour 15 minutes)

**Two Chemistry papers** - 70 marks each (Duration - 1 hour 15 minutes)

**Two Physics papers** - 70 marks each (Duration - 1 hour 15 minutes)

This will be graded from 9-1: Foundation tier will cover grades 1–5 and Higher tier will cover grades 4-9.

There are no controlled assessments, but you will be assessed on your understanding and application of practical skills in the exam papers. This will make up 15% of the exam paper.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

You will have access to a Science textbook and a revision guide. It is extremely important that you read the relevant pages before you come to the lesson. Watching Science discussions and documentaries on TV will extend your knowledge beyond the textbook. This would greatly help you answer some of the exam questions, which use life around us as a context. Last but not least, ask questions in class.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You will need at least a **grade 6** in Science and a **grade 6** in Maths to study any of the Sciences (Biology, Human Biology, Chemistry and Physics) at various sixth forms.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

You have a wide range of careers available to you – from the fields of medicine and engineering to sectors that deal with manufacturing. Please look up the website [www.careerinscience.co.uk](http://www.careerinscience.co.uk) for further guidance.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Saleem and your Science teacher.

# Separate Sciences



**Qualification:** GCSE Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics). You will get 3 GCSEs in Science.

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

Across the two years, you will study seven topics in Biology, ten topics in Chemistry and eight topics in Physics. Details are on the AQA website ([www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)).

## How will I be assessed?

You will take six examination papers in year 11:

**Two Biology papers** - 100 marks each (Duration - 1 hour 45 minutes)

**Two Chemistry papers** - 100 marks each (Duration - 1 hour 45 minutes)

**Two Physics papers** - 100 marks each (Duration - 1 hour 45 minutes)

This will be graded from 9-1: Foundation tier will cover grades 1–5 and Higher tier will cover grades 4-9.

There are no controlled assessments, but you will be assessed on your understanding and application of practical skills in the exam papers. This will make up 15% of the exam paper.

## Is there anything else I need to know?

The Separate Science course results in three GCSEs. This makes the course very intense but rewarding. Students who study this course need to have the academic ability and resilience to deal with the rigours of this, and it is not suited to all students. Separate Science is for students who find science particularly interesting and may consider pursuing a career in a science-related discipline.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 or above in this subject?

You will have access to a Science textbook and a revision guide. It is extremely important that you read the relevant pages before you come to the lesson. Watching Science discussions and documentaries on TV will extend your knowledge beyond the textbook. This would greatly help you answer some of the exam questions, which use life around us as a context. Last but not least, ask questions in class.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You will need at least a **grade 6** in GCSE Science and a **grade 6** in GCSE Mathematics to study any of the Sciences (Biology, Human Biology, Chemistry and Physics) at various sixth forms.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

You have a wide range of careers available to you – from the fields of medicine and engineering to sectors that deal with manufacturing. Please look up the website [www.careerinscience.co.uk](http://www.careerinscience.co.uk) for further guidance.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Saleem and your Science teacher

# Physical Education



The PE Department offers different pathways in the subject. The details are as follows:

YEAR	PATHWAYS FOR THE UTOPIANS COHORT			
	1	2	3	4
9	HEALTH AND FITNESS (VCERT)	HEALTH AND FITNESS (VCERT)	CORE PE	CORE PE
10	HEALTH AND FITNESS (VCERT)	HEALTH AND FITNESS (VCERT)	SPORTS LEADERSHIP	CORE PE
11	CORE PE	CORE PE	CORE PE	CORE PE

Your P.E teacher will confirm with you which pathway is appropriate for you to follow from Year 9 onwards.

They will consider your likes and dislikes in the area of Sport as well as your English and Science grades.

# Core Physical Education



**Qualification:** Not applicable

**Examination Board:** Not applicable

## What will I study?

The Physical Education curriculum gives you an opportunity to explore a wide range of sports and activities, which enable you to develop techniques, tactics, strategies and performance skills.

By providing an extensive selection of healthy and enjoyable activities, we hope that you will continue to take part in some form of physical activity after you leave school and be inspired to adopt a healthy, active lifestyle.

Your classes will not be set by ability and you will work within a mixed ability set, you will remain with the same teacher throughout the academic year. The list below gives you some idea of the sports you may study during KS4:

- Table Tennis
- Self Defence
- Tag Rugby
- Aerobics
- Step Aerobics
- Indoor Hockey
- Basketball
- Handball
- Cricket
- Rounders
- Dance
- Pop Lacrosse
- Football
- Softball
- Badminton
- Zumba
- Handball
- Games Making
- Disability Sport
- First Aid
- Invasion Games
- Hockey

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

Not applicable as this is not a GCSE or a vocational qualification.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

If you thrive on this kind of activity, you may wish to consider the BTEC First Award in Sport.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Being healthy and active is a benefit in every workplace.

## Who is the best person to see for more information?

Miss Woo-Sam or your PE teacher.

# PE Health and Fitness



**Qualification:** VCERT Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness (GCSE equivalent)

**Examination Board:** NCFE

## What will I study?

This qualification is designed to match the rigour and challenge of GCSE study. The qualification is graded at Level 1 Pass/ Merit/ Distinction/ Distinction\* and Level 2 Pass/ Merit/ Distinction/ Distinction\* (equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5–1).

The study of VCERT Health and Fitness involves understanding the functions of the body systems, understanding the principles of training, knowing how the body reacts in the short- and long-term to fitness activities, understanding how to create and apply lifestyle analysis tools and how to create a fitness programme for a person with specific goals.

There will be a range of key theoretical topics that will be covered including the following:

Applied Anatomy and Physiology; Movement Analysis; Physical training; Use of data; Health, Fitness and Well-being; Sport Psychology and Socio-Cultural Influences.

## How will I be assessed?

This course consists of 8 Content Areas. The qualification has 2 assessments externally-set by NCFE: one non-exam assessment and one written examined assessment.

### Content Areas:

- 1: Skeletal System
- 2: Effects of Health & Fitness activities on the body
- 3: Health & Fitness and the components of Fitness
- 4: Principles of Training
- 5: Testing & Developing Components of Fitness
- 6: Impact of Lifestyle on Health & Fitness
- 7: Applying Health & Fitness Analysis & Setting Goals
- 8: Structure of a Health & Fitness Programme & How to Prepare Safely

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

To ensure you achieve the best possible grades in this course you should complete the following:

Complete all homework and personal study

Attend all intervention sessions

Work independently

Attend extra-curricular sports clubs

Listen to feedback from staff

Show impeccable behaviour at all times

Put 100% into all lessons

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

A-level Physical Education; Level 3 Applied Generals (Sports Performance, Sport and Exercise Science, Sport and Physical Activity); Level 3 Technical Awards (Personal Training and Behaviour, Fitness Services, Exercise Science)

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Teacher/Lecturer, Exercise Science Scientist, Sports Therapist, Sports Physiologist, Gym Instructor, Public Services, Event Organiser, Personal Trainer, Business Manager (Sports Industry), Public Health Sector, Athlete and Health/Sports Centre Manager, Fitness services, Personal Training and Behaviour Change.

**Who are the best people to see for more information?** Miss Woo-Sam or Miss Dolan.

# Sports Leadership



**What qualification will the course lead to?** Sports Leaders Level 1 Award

**Which Examination Board?** Sports Leaders UK

## What will I study?

You will study a variety of modules that will enable you to develop your confidence to lead others. The course is a practical based course whereby you shall do sessions that will develop your leadership skills. There are theory-based sessions that shall develop your understanding of the qualities, skills and responsibilities of a good leader. You will develop a variety of communication skills and help improve your self-esteem.

## How will I be assessed?

Assessment is primarily made by your teacher. Written assignments are marked and graded according to given assessment criteria and practical assignments are also assessed and marked by a teacher. There are six modules that you will study across the year. These include:

**Plan, lead and review a sport or activity session**

**Fair play in sport**

**Developing leadership skills**

**The role of the official**

**Lead activities that promote a healthy lifestyle**

**Opportunities in sport and recreation**

## What do I need to do to make sure I get 9-5 grades in this subject?

This course is a 'pass or defer' course. Your teacher will guide you on how to achieve a pass at this level.

## What can I go on to do in college with this qualification?

Sports Leadership is a great choice as the course provides access to a wide range of sporting content to learn in a variety of fun and interesting ways. Knowledge gained from Sports Leader will suitably prepare you for Sports Leaders Level 2.

The Sports Leaders UK Level 1 award is a nationally recognised qualification; however, at the moment there is no opportunity to select this on a UCAS application form. The course leads you nicely on to future learning whereby you can select to do Sports Leaders Level 2 or a possibility to complete a BTEC Sports Science course in college.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

You could train to become a teacher/ lecturer, Sports coach, Sports therapist, Gym instructor, Public Services, event organiser, Personal Trainer, Business Manager (Sports Industry), Athlete and Health/ Sports Centre Manager.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Miss Woo-Sam



# Religious Education



**Qualification:** GCSE Religious Studies

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

You will have the opportunity to study two of the major religions – Christianity and Islam and their differing approach to various aspects of life in the UK.

You will study two units in total.

**Component 1:** The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam.

**Component 2:** Thematic studies: Four religious, philosophical and ethical studies.

Themes covered are:

Theme B - Religion and life

Theme D - Religion, peace and conflict

Theme E - Religion, crime and punishment

Theme F – Human Rights and Social Justice

## How will I be assessed?

There will be 100% written examinations.

There are two exams in Year 11 – one exam for Component 1; one exam for Component 2.

You will be assessed according to specific skills such as literacy, expressing your own opinion and supporting it with reasons, demonstrating knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs and teachings, as well as evaluating alternative views.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

Make sure you are up to date with your classwork. Learn the meanings of key terms. Explain your opinions on moral and religious issues giving reference to religious teachings and consider alternative views. Make use of supportive revision resources available on Kerboodle and Google Classroom.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You can continue studying Religious Studies as a distinct subject at college and university.

Religious Studies is widely accepted as an entry qualification for Further and Higher Education courses. It develops a wide range of skills, including those essential for enquiry, interpretation, reasoning, evaluation and communication.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Any job linked to working with people, possibly law, education, journalism and politics.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Aslam or your RE teacher.

# Personal Development Curriculum (PDC)



**Qualification:** None

**Examination Board:** None

## What will I study?

PDC at KS4 builds on the subject areas you have studied at KS3. The three main strands are:

- Personal development
- Economic wellbeing
- Citizenship

PDC applies to all areas of the curriculum. It develops SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development) in the following ways:

### Spiritual

Students will explore benefits and experience; respect faiths, feeling and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

### Moral

Students will explore difference in right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

### Social

Students will learn to use a range of social skills; participate in the local community; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.

### Cultural

Students will learn to appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in cultural opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

PDC will allow you to explore different facets of yourself and also allow you to access up to date careers education. All of this will enable you to make better choices throughout your life.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

The citizenship aspect of PDC will directly contribute to any career in the desired sector you might be considering. The personal development aspect would contribute to any careers that you might be considering in social welfare. The economic wellbeing aspect would contribute to any careers in the finance industry.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Miss Ponsonby.

# History



**Qualification:** GCSE History

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## What will I study?

- Crime and punishment through time, c1000 to present - This unit offers students a great opportunity to engage in the study of changes and continuities in crime and punishment through time.
- Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941 - 1991- This unit gives students an insight to the open yet restricted rivalry after WW2 between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies.
- Early Elizabethan England, 1558 - 88- Students investigate religious issues, especially the Catholic threat to Elizabeth's security, relation with Spain, policies towards the poor people, Tudor education and culture. Furthermore, students will engage with the role played by Mary Queen of Scots, plots and revolts against Elizabeth as well as explorations and voyages of discovery.
- Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918 - 39 - This unit offers a fascinating analysis of how, between two world wars, a democratic Germany became a one-party dictatorship. Students examine political, social, economic and cultural aspects that led to this change.

## How will I be assessed?

Students will sit three exam papers at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1 – Crime and Punishment and Whitechapel: equals 30% of the qualification lasting 1 hour 15 minutes

Paper 2 – Superpower relations and the Cold War and Early Elizabethan England: equal to 40% of the qualification lasting 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper 3 – Weimar and Nazi Germany: equal to 30% of the qualification lasting 1 hour 20 minutes

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

You will need to ensure that your written English is of very high standard. We will support you with writing frames to help you structure your work and how to expand your use of historical terminology. You have to revise and memorise historical facts, names and dates. You need to have the ability to construct an argument and to be able to make a clear judgement throughout. You will also need to be able to assess how far sources are useful by discussing different features a source offers.

## What can I go on to do in college with this qualification?

A GCSE in History is a stepping stone to college and university. In addition to A-Level history, you will have developed skills which will allow you to study law, sociology and politics.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

A GCSE History opens doors to several careers because of the analytical and language skills you will develop. People who have studied history went on to become lawyers, journalists, barristers, politicians, teachers and criminologists. Others found employment in the diplomatic service, civil service, human resources, tourism, marketing, banking, media and in publishing.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Miss Begum or your History teacher.

# Geography



**Qualification:** GCSE Geography

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

**Unit 1:** Living with the Physical Environment – You will discover how rivers, seas and plate tectonics shape the land and how they affect our lives. You will find out the characteristics of ecosystems at different scales and the threats to biodiversity.

**Unit 2:** Challenges in the Human Environment – You will investigate global trends and patterns in relation to population, the impacts of rapid urbanisation and the resulting opportunities in two contrasting cities. You will also look at the complexities of measuring development and the ways in reducing the development gap between countries.

**Unit 3:** Geographical Applications – This is in two sections. In section A, you will learn about an issue, study the possible options and then decide. You will need to consider the effects on all the people involved. In Section B you will need to undertake two geographical enquiries, each one must include the use of primary data, collected as part of a fieldwork exercise.

## How will I be assessed?

Three written papers sat at the end of year 11.

**Unit 1** Living with the Physical Environment worth 35% (1 hour and 30 minutes)

**Unit 2** Challenges in the Human Environment worth 35% (1 hour and 30 minutes)

**Unit 3** Geographical Applications worth 30% (1 hour)

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

You will need to have good numeracy and literacy skills by the end of Year 9. Students aspiring to a higher grade in this subject will need to analyse data and maps, providing explanations for the results. As Geography is a multi-skilled subject, you must have an ability to learn new skills, whilst being able to draw on your existing skills, knowledge and understanding.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You can study A-Level Geography. Travel and tourism, leisure, recreational and environmental science all have close links with the course.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Studying Geography provides many transferable skills preparing you to move on to a wide range of courses at college or university or to find employment opportunities. This subject is accepted and valued by all universities and employers. Career opportunities include Science, Engineering, Environmental Science, ICT, Business, Law, Media, Travel and Tourism, Accounting and Journalism amongst others. Additionally, it is one of the Ebacc subjects that are looked for in job applications.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mr Simcox, Mrs Price or Mrs Piatkowska.

# French



**Qualification:** GCSE French

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

This GCSE will help you develop your French language skills in a variety of contexts and a broad understanding of the culture of countries and communities where French is spoken. You will be able to write and speak French and understand French when it is written down or spoken. The course will be taught with using a variety of resources including interactive whiteboard, computer programmes, online books and listening materials and a great deal of authentic printed material.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in the skills of Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking at the end of the course. Each skill is worth 25% of the total marks.

**Listening** – understanding and responding to different types of spoken language.

A written exam consists of two sections, with questions to be answered in either English or French.

**Reading** - understanding and responding to different types of written language.

A written exam consists of two sections with questions to be answered in English or French. The third section is a translation from French into English.

**Writing** – communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes.

A written exam consisting of structured writing tasks, open-ended writing tasks and a translation from English into French.

**Speaking** – communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes.

A speaking exam, which is recorded, includes a role-play, a description of a photograph and a general conversation.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

To achieve these grades in French, you must have studied French up until Year 9.

You will need to work build up your vocabulary, develop your knowledge of grammar and translation skills and work on your pronunciation and intonation when speaking the language.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You can go on to do A-Level in French or BTEC Level 3 in Travel and Tourism.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Having a GCSE in French can help you on many different career paths. Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career. You could go on to work in many diverse areas such as business, travel and tourism or education.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Grace or Miss Jean-Louis.

# Spanish



**Qualification:** GCSE Spanish

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

This GCSE will help you develop your Spanish language skills in a variety of contexts and a broad understanding of the culture of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken. You will be able to write and speak Spanish and understand Spanish when it is written down or spoken. The course will be taught with using a variety of resources including interactive whiteboard, computer programmes, online books and listening materials and a great deal of authentic printed material.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in the skills of Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking at the end of the course. Each skill is worth 25% of the total marks.

**Listening** – understanding and responding to different types of spoken language.

A written exam consists of two sections, with questions to be answered in either English or Spanish.

**Reading** - understanding and responding to different types of written language.

A written exam consists of two sections with questions to be answered in English or Spanish. The third section is a translation from Spanish into English.

**Writing** – communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes.

A written exam consisting of structured writing tasks, open-ended writing tasks and a translation from English into Spanish.

**Speaking** – communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes.

A speaking exam, which is recorded, includes a role-play, a description of a photograph and a general conversation.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

To achieve these grades in Spanish, you must have studied Spanish up until Year 9.

You will need to work build up your vocabulary, develop your knowledge of grammar and translation skills and work on your pronunciation and intonation when speaking the language.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You can go on to do A-Level in Spanish or BTEC Level 3 in Travel and Tourism.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Having a GCSE in Spanish can help you on many different career paths. Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career. You could go on to work in many diverse areas such as business, travel and tourism or education.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Oliva

# Urdu



**Qualification:** GCSE Urdu

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

This GCSE will help you develop your Urdu language skills in a variety of contexts and a broad understanding of the culture of countries and communities where Urdu is spoken. You will be able to write and speak Urdu and understand Urdu when it is written down or spoken. You will use CD/DVD, interactive whiteboard, computer programmes and a great deal of authentic printed material.

It is important that pupils already have a secure basis in this language before studying it at GCSE level. As such, there will be an entry assessment for pupils wishing to study Urdu to help ensure that they will be successful.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in the skills of Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking at the end of the course. Each skill is worth 25% of the total marks.

**Listening** – understanding and responding to different types of spoken language.

A written exam consists of two sections, with questions to be answered in either English or Urdu.

**Reading** - understanding and responding to different types of written language.

A written exam consists of two sections with questions to be answered in English or Urdu. The third section is a translation from Urdu into English.

**Writing** – communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes.

A written exam consisting of structured writing tasks, open-ended writing tasks and a translation from English into Urdu.

**Speaking** – communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes.

A speaking exam, which is recorded, includes a role-play, a description of a photograph and a general conversation.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

To achieve these grades, you must be able to speak and write in Urdu as a home language, as well as understand texts that are written and audios that are spoken in Urdu. You will also need to independently use the resources provided in class and websites below and build up your vocabulary. You will also need to develop your knowledge of grammar and translation skills. You will need to work on your pronunciation and intonation when speaking the language.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You can go on to do A-Level in Urdu or BTEC Level 3 in Travel and Tourism.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Having a GCSE in Urdu can help you on many different career paths. Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career. You could go on to work in many diverse areas such as business, travel and tourism or education.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Grace

# Art



**Qualification:** GCSE Art and Design

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

You will complete **three** individual projects, the best one of these will make up the coursework element of the course. These are many and varied. They include the Man-Made Environment; Culture, Structures in Nature, Fragments, Beginning and End, Adorn, Decorate and Embellish, Still Life and Freedom.

## How will I be assessed?

The qualification is 60% coursework and 40% exam.

### Unit 1 – Personal Portfolio in Art and Design in Year 10 and Year 11

Tasks set and marked by school

### Unit 2 – Externally Set Assignment in Year 11

Tasks set by the Examining Board; marked by school and externally moderated by the Examining Board.

You are assessed on four areas: researching cultures and artists/designers, developing ideas through a range of media, recording from resources and planning, presenting a personal response.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

A willingness to experiment with a range of media, to keep to all deadlines, particularly homework (which will be tailored to individual's needs) as well as making sure all work in sketchbooks is completed as this aspect takes 75% of the marks available. You should be able to follow instructions as and when needed but also be able to work independently.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You can study A-Levels in Art, Art and Design, Photography, Fashion, Design, ICT, Graphic Design; BTEC – Art and Design; Degree courses and Foundation Art.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Careers in Art are many and varied. An imaginative and creative approach is an advantage in a vast range of career paths, particularly in the design field.

**Graphics** – Design, Web Designer, Computer Designer.

**Fashion/Textiles** – Clothes design, fashion accessories, printed textile, textile design, Fashion Editor, Tailoring Stylist, Make-up Artist, Magazine Editor and Fashion Photographer.

**Design** – interior, landscape, architecture, furniture, product, ceramics, media, glass, jewellery, sign maker, director, illustrator.

**Museum/Galleries** – Exhibition Designer, antiquities, Auctioneer, Historian, restoration, Conservationist, research, Head of collections.

**Art** – Photographer, Wedding Photographer, Artist, Art Therapist, Art Agent/Manager, Sculptor, Printer, handy crafts business, Art Teacher, Art Lecturer, Art Reviewer and Art Writer and advertising.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Ms Riach or Mrs Oakley



# Business Studies



**Qualification:** GCSE Business Studies

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## What will I study?

### Theme 1: Investigating Small Business

This unit contains five topics. Enterprise and entrepreneurship, spotting a business opportunity, putting a business idea into practice, making the business effective and understanding external influences on business.

### Theme 2: Building a Business

This unit contains five topics. Growing the business, making marketing decisions, making operational decisions, making financial decisions and making human resource decisions.

## How will I be assessed?

**Theme 1: Investigating Small Business (50% Exam in Year 11)**

**Theme 2: Building a Business (50% Exam in Year 11)**

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

A minimum flightpath level of blue in English and blue in Mathematics by the end of KS3 is desirable as this course involves the ability to analyse and evaluate; work using own initiative, keep to deadlines, attend revision and catch-up classes when necessary. High level of organisation and determination is required for this course.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

Success in this course could lead to further study in Business A-level, Business BTEC Level 3, Business Retail Management, economics, law, accounting and marketing.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

As well as careers in law, business, teaching, customer service, recruitment, marketing, retail and book keeping, this course enables you to access careers where personal organisation and the ability to work independently are essential attributes.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mr Kendall.

# Child Development



**Qualification:** Cambridge National Certificate Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE)

**Examination Board:** OCR

## What will I study?

**Unit RO57:** The first unit underpins all of the other learning in this qualification. In this unit, students will learn about the importance of both pre-conception health and creating conditions in which a child can thrive, including the prevention and management of childhood illnesses and creating a safe environment. Knowledge gained would be of use for further studies in PHSE, Biology and other Child Development qualifications.

**Unit RO58:** In this unit, students will learn how to create a safe environment for children from birth to five years in childcare settings. They will investigate and choose equipment that is both suitable and safe for use and will learn about their nutrition and dietary needs.

**Unit RO59:** In this unit, students will learn the expected developmental norms for children from one to five years. They will use observation, research techniques and skills to investigate these development norms and explore their findings. Students will also learn the importance of creating plans and providing different play activities to support children in their development.

## How will I be assessed?

With two centre assessed units with practical task-based assessment opportunities, as well as an examined unit covering topics such as: responsibilities of parenthood, contraception and reproduction, antenatal, health, delivery, postnatal checks, illnesses and child safety.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 – 5 in this subject?

You will need to meet all the deadlines, work hard, respond to feedback in a timely manner, and be motivated and capable of independent work.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

Cambridge Nationals provide a strong base for progression to Further Education, whether it is on to Level 3 Cambridge Technical or A-Level, apprenticeship or work.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Early Years teacher, Family support worker, Learning mentor, Primary school teacher, Secondary school teacher, Special educational needs teacher, Social worker, Teaching assistant, Youth worker, Child psychotherapist, Children's nurse, Community development worker, Counsellor, Educational psychologist, Speech and language therapist to name a few.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Busawon, Mrs Shepherd or Mrs Squires

# Economics



**Qualification:** GCSE Economics

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

GCSE Economics is a dynamic, real world subject; around the world, something happens almost every hour which affects markets and the global economy. Why is a Starbucks cappuccino more expensive at Luton airport? Is it fair that Apple and Google dominate the smartphone market in the UK? How did China turn into an economic powerhouse in just fifty years? What are the real-life implications of Brexit and the pandemic on households and their spending power? All this is Economics! You will study about the basic economic problem, how markets work, why some fail and how governments intervene in order to manage the economy. When you understand how markets and economies work, you will develop an economic awareness that will benefit you personally and professionally for years to come.

## How will I be assessed?

There are two papers which students will sit at the end of the course:

**Paper 1: How markets work (Units 1-6)**

**Paper 2: How the economy works (Unit 7-11)**

**The structure of each paper is the same, as outlined below:**

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes for each paper

80 marks

Each paper is worth 50% of GCSE

**Section A:** Ten multiple choice questions followed by a range of calculation, short and extended response questions

**Section B:** Five questions involving a mix of calculations, short and extended responses.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

You should have a keen interest in real life issues that take place nationally and globally. You will be expected to read/watch news and current affairs programmes in order to discuss their implications on our day to day life during discussions in lessons. In order to support your ability to use your knowledge effectively, you will need to be open minded, think critically and accept that there is not always just one right answer... it always depends!

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

With GCSE Economics, there are number of courses you can go on to study at college such as, Accounting, Business, Maths, Economics. However, critical thinking and analytical skills are relevant and applicable to so many more courses.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Economics can lay excellent foundations for students looking to enter careers in Accounting & Finance, Law, International Business, Law, Government Policy, Banking, as well as many others.

## Who is the best person to see for more information?

For further information, speak to Mrs George

# Engineering Design



**Qualification:** Cambridge National Certificate Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE)

**Examination Board:** OCR

## What will I study?

The Cambridge National in Engineering Design will inspire and equip your daughter with the confidence to use skills that are relevant to the engineering sector and more widely. The course covers the design process, types of drawings, influences on design, and the use of computer-aided design (CAD) in Engineering.

Your daughter will use practical skills such as drawing, computer modelling and model making to communicate design ideas. The qualification will also encourage her to consult with a client and, with its practical focus, will engage her in producing, testing and evaluating a prototype/product.

## How will I be assessed?

R038 Principles of Engineering Design (40%) (Written Paper, OCR set and Marked)

R039 Communicating Designs (30%) (Centre Assessed Tasks, OCR Moderated)

R040 Design, Evaluation and Modelling (30%) (Centre Assessed Tasks, OCR Moderated)

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 5 to 9 in this subject?

You will need to have a **good** understanding of the design cycle and the relationship between design briefs and design specifications; new and improved materials and processes, product life cycle and analysis of existing products. You will need to develop **good** practical skills and analytical skills to appreciate the manufacturing processes, design features and materials used.

You will need to be able to produce **good** designs by using detailed hand rendering and computer-based presentation techniques and using Computer-aided Design (CAD) software and techniques to produce and communicate design proposals.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

Your daughter will develop skills, knowledge and understanding through this qualification which is relevant to both work and further study. It will support progression into employment through work-placed or college-based Apprenticeships in areas such as Engineering and Manufacturing. It will also support students progressing to A Levels such as Electronics or Design & Technology or to Cambridge Technical Award in Engineering or other Further Education courses. Progression with this qualification will be greatly enhanced when complimented by GCSE Mathematics, Physics or other Science options.

This qualification leads naturally on to:

A Level Engineering or Engineering, Product Design (Level 3); Apprenticeship Standards Engineering (Levels 2 & 3); Vocational Qualifications Engineering (Levels 1 & 2)

## What possible careers could it lead to?

This qualification will support entry into careers in Engineering, Science, Technology and Mathematics.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Squires.

# Food Preparation and Nutrition



**Qualification:** GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

**Examination Board:** WJEC/Eduqas

## What will I study?

By studying Food Preparation and Nutrition you will be able to:

- Demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a variety of food commodities whilst using different cooking techniques and equipment
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks
- Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health
- Understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food
- Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional Welsh, British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

## How will I be assessed?

There will be two assessment units:

**UNIT 1: PRINCIPLES OF FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION** - Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes and is 50% of the qualification. This unit will consist of two sections both containing compulsory questions - questions based on stimulus material and a range of question types to assess all content related to food and nutrition. This exam will be taken in Year 11.

**UNIT 2: FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION IN ACTION** - Non-examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated Assessment 1: 8 hours (A Food Investigation) 15% of the qualification and Assessment 2: 12 hours (The Food Preparation Assessment). 35% of the qualification.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Travel and Tourism, Hospitality and Catering Level 1/2, Patisserie Confectionery Level 1. WJEC Level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition (certificate and diploma); Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Advanced Professional Cookery; Level 3 Advanced Diploma in Food Preparation and Cookery Supervision.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Dietitian, Nutritionist, Dietetic Technician, Food Service Manager, Health Educator, Registered Nurse, Nutritional Writer, Public Relations Manager and Management Dietitian.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Busawon and Mrs Shepherd

# Hospitality and Catering



**Qualification:** LEVEL 1/2 AWARDS Hospitality and Catering

**Examination Board:** WJEC

(Vocational qualification – equivalent to a GCSE)

## What will I study?

The WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Hospitality and Catering has been designed to support students in schools and colleges who want to learn about this vocational sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers or further study. It is most suitable as a foundation for further study. This further study would provide students with the opportunity to develop a range of specialist and general skills that would support their progression to employment. This structure has been designed to develop their knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering providers; how they operate and what they have to consider to be successful. There is the opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations. In this qualification, students will also have the opportunity to develop some food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

**How will I be assessed?**

**Unit 1** will be externally assessed and is based on the Hospitality and Catering Industry.

**Unit 2** is internally assessed and is based on Hospitality in Action

## What do I need to do to make sure I get Level 2P – L2D in this subject?

You will need to meet all the deadlines, work hard, respond to feedback in a timely manner, and be motivated and capable of independent work. This course requires a high commitment to practical lessons. You will be expected to cook at least once per week in order for you to develop the skills necessary to achieve the higher flightpath.

## What can I go on to in college with this qualification?

BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Travel and Tourism, Hospitality and Catering Level 1/2, Patisserie Confectionery Level 1. WJEC Level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition (certificate and diploma); Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Advanced Professional Cookery; Level 3 Advanced Diploma in Food Preparation and Cookery Supervision

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Employment in hospitality and catering can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers and food technologists in food manufacturing. You can become a Teacher, a Food Critic, Chef, Baker, Hotel Manager, Restaurant Proprietor, Waiter, Barista or a Food Writer. All of these roles require further education and training either through apprenticeships or through further and higher education.

## Who is the best person to see for more information?

Mrs Busawon or Mrs Shepherd

# Creative iMedia



**Qualification:** Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Creative iMedia

**Examination Board:** OCR

(Vocational qualification - equivalent to GCSE)

## What will I study?

This qualification will help students develop specific and transferable skills such as research, planning, and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts. The qualification's hands-on approach has strong relevance to the way young people use the technology required in creative media.

**R093 Creative iMedia in the media industry:** This first unit underpins the other learning in this qualification. Students will learn about how to plan pre-production effectively including understanding of client requirements and reviewing pre-production briefs. In this unit you will learn about the media industry, digital media products, how they are planned, and the media codes which are used to convey meaning, create impact and engage audiences.

**R094 Visual identity and digital graphics:** Students will learn the basics of digital graphics editing for the creative and digital media sector, in this unit you will learn how to develop visual identities for clients and use the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics to engage target audiences.

**R097 Creating interactive multimedia products:** Now used in a wide range of products, students will learn where and why interactive products are used and their different features. Students will plan and create interactive multimedia products, reviewing their solution against the client's brief.

**How will I be assessed? - 3 Units in total**

**Exam - R093(40%)**

**Coursework- R094(25%)**

**Coursework-R097(35%)**

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades L2D\*-L2P in this subject?

Complete the practical assessment tasks to a high standard and ensure you learn the theoretical aspects of ICT for your final written examination.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You can go on to take Media or Information Technology BTEC Level 3.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Graphics, computer design, apps designer, multimedia design and production, website development, computer gaming, programming, 3D modelling, computer analyst, ICT consultant, help desk operator, technician, network manager, teaching plus many more!

## Who is the best person to see for more information? Mr Ali

# Music



**Qualification:** GCSE Music

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

## What will I study?

**Performing - 30%** of the course. You will need to learn, perform and record two pieces of music –one solo and one ensemble piece. It could be your choice of music and instruments as long as it is difficult enough for GCSE level. The recording will take place at the end of the course in recording studio.

**Composing - 30%** of the course. You will need to produce two pieces of music using music technology and music software such as Garage band and Logic pro. There are different styles of music you can compose. One of them will be your choice, one is given to you by EDEXCEL

**Listening - 40%** exam -1 hour and 45 minutes listening exam. You will study 8 pieces of music of different styles and answer questions about them. For example, is the music quiet or loud? What instrument is playing? What is the structure of the piece?

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed externally and internally. As it is practical subject, your two compositions and two performances will be assessed by your music teacher. The listening paper is an examination and is 1 hour and 45 minutes.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 – 5 in this subject?

You must be above a blue flightpath in Performing, composing and listening. **You must also be able to play on the instrument fluently.**

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

BTEC Music Technology, BTEC Performance and Music A-level.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

The music industry contributes to the UK economy:

- £16 billion
- £864 million from the Live music Industry alone
- 19,700 jobs
- 2 million employees (radio presenters, music technology engineers, solo artists, music and song writers, producers, A and R person, marketing and promoting albums, product manager, tour manager, film scorer, musical production, music publishing).

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Ellis.



# Personal and Social Development



**Qualification:** Entry Level Qualification (Level 1 – Level 3)

**Examination Board:** ASDAN (Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network)

## What will I study?

Topics covered by the course can include:

- Preparing for work
- Healthy living
- Working as a group
- Personal safety in the home and community
- Leisure time
- Technology in the home and community
- Environment awareness

This course is designed for students who would benefit from independent study based on a series of life skills and key skills. Therefore, it is suitable for you if you are currently working at National Curriculum Levels 1 – 3 in your subjects.

## How will I be assessed?

There is no exam. A portfolio of evidence is completed throughout the course that shows the level of progress made by individual students.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

Not applicable as this is not a GCSE or a BTEC course.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

Successful completion of this course will provide you with increased opportunities for GCSE studies in sixth forms or colleges. This subject is valued by employers and colleges as an indicator of a young person who is self-motivated and able to work independently.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

This course will help you to prepare for working life in a variety of careers.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Kaushal, Mrs Sharma and Mrs West

# Photography



**Qualification:** GCSE Photography

**Examination board:** AQA

## What will I study?

**Lens and light-based media:** You will learn how to work with a DSLR camera as well as compact cameras. You will use a number of facilities including a full studio, lighting, filters and a number of different lenses. You will become confident at describing and explaining using all the technical language as well as Photoshop.

You will work within a number of genres and learn about professional photographers that will help you to gain a better understanding of the work of others and how it can influence your work. You will create a number of photographic final pieces as your knowledge and skills develop.

## How will I be assessed?

### Unit 1- Personal Portfolio (worth 60%) in Year 10 and Year 11

This is a collection of final pieces that are inspired by a number of topics, which are supported with a sketchbook.

### Unit 2- Externally Set Assignment in Art and Design (worth 40%) in Year 11

This is a final piece produced in an exam with preparatory work that is produced in the weeks leading up to the exam, which supports the development and production of the final piece.

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 – 5 in this subject?

In order to study Photography students should have a creative eye for visual imagery, should be motivated and able to discuss your thoughts well. You should be able to follow instructions as and when needed but also be able to work independently. You will be required to do written work, formulate your own opinions as well as being able to use ICT to help develop and manipulate your final pieces on Photoshop. You will need to work closely with your teacher as well as with each other. It is very important that you take an active role in making the most of opportunities that are provided for you. You will need to take your own photos, so visits to places such as a museum, zoo and market place (both with the school and your family) are essential.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

Photography, Art, Design, Media Studies, Business Studies, Film and TV Studies, Travel and Tourism, Fashion, Graphic Design, Advertisement studies, Architecture, Textiles, Engineering, Beauty and Illustration.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Journalism/ Photo-journalism, Fashion Photographer, Magazine Editorial, Film and TV, Architecture, Wedding Photographer, Portrait photographer, Designer, Travel and Tourism, Advertisement, Computer Game Design, Web page designer, Teaching, Artist, Media, Museum and Gallery work, Interior Design, Studio Manager.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mrs Oakley.

# Textile Design



**Qualification:** GCSE Art and Design: Textile Design

**Examination Board:** AQA

## What will I study?

Students are required to work in one or more area(s) of Textile Design, such as those listed below. They may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas:

- Fashion and/or costume
- Printed and/or dyed materials
- Domestic textiles
- Constructed and/or applied textiles
- Constructed and/or stitched and/or embellished textiles

## How will I be assessed?

**Non-Examined Assessment** - This is set and marked by the school and moderated by AQA. Students portfolio work is selected from all the work undertaken during the two years of study and this must include **more** than one project (60% of GCSE)

**External Assessment** - The brief for the examination is issued in January during year 11. Initially the students have unlimited preparation (which starts in January). Students then have a 10-hour examination which would complete the external assessment. This is marked and moderated within school and then moderated by AQA (80 marks - worth 40% of GCSE).

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 - 5 in this subject?

You will need excellent attendance, meet all set deadlines, work hard, respond to feedback in a timely manner, be motivated, capable of independent work and complete 3 sustained projects.

## What can I go on to in college with this qualification?

You will be able to study Textiles A-Level, Fashion and Clothing City and Guilds, Fashion Illustration City and Guilds, BTEC 90 Credit Diploma in Fashion and Clothing, BTEC 90 Credit Diploma in Fashion and Costume and Fashion Retail ABC Level 3 Diploma.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

Garment Technologist, Textile Technologist, Shoe Designer/Maker, Accessories Designer/Maker, Milliner, Stylist, Dressmaker, Costume Designer/Maker, Fashion Buyer, Model, Fashion or Style Magazine Researcher or Columnist, In-house Designer, Design Consultant, Freelance Designer, Couturier, Bespoke Tailor, Textile/ Fabric Designer and various roles within the Fashion and Retail Industry. Maybe even have your own independent design label or brand!

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Ms Donaldson DT3

# Computer Science



**Qualification:** GCSE Computer Science- J277

**Examination Board:** OCR

## What will I study?

The course gives students a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Students will learn how to create their own software with the use of computer programming, as well as learn about in internal workings of computers and networks. The course will develop creative, critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills that will be useful not only as a computer scientist but helpful in all areas of life.

**Computer Systems:** This unit examines the following topics: systems architecture memory, storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, protocols and layers, system security, systems software and moral, legal, cultural and environmental concerns.

**Computational Thinking, algorithms and programming:** This unit examines the following topics: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic, translators and facilities of languages and data representation.

**Programming Project:** This is a controlled assessment activity allocated by the Examining Board.

## How will I be assessed?

Three units of work over two years, consisting of:

Examination - Computer Systems (50%)

Examination - Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (50%)

## What do I need to do to make sure I get grades 9 – 5 in this subject?

Complete the practical assessment tasks to a high standard and ensure you learn the theoretical aspects of Computer Science for your final written examinations.

## What can I go on to do in College with this qualification?

You can go on to take A-Level Computer Science or Information Technology BTEC Level 3.

## What possible careers could it lead to?

The qualification can lead to careers in ICT management, computer programming, database management, website design, website management or graphic design.

**Who is the best person to see for more information?** Mr Ali.