



Cams Hill School

Key Stage 4

Options Booklet

2026-2028

Introduction for parents/carers

Dear Parent/Carer

Key Stage 4 represents a defining and transformative stage in your child's education. It is a period in which pupils are expected to think more critically, to show greater independence in their learning, and to make informed choices that will influence their future pathways. The curriculum and qualifications studied during these years provide an essential foundation for success in further education, training, and employment.

At Cams Hill School, our Key Stage 4 provision is firmly underpinned by our core values of **courtesy, commitment, and courage**. Pupils are expected to approach their studies with respect for themselves and others, to demonstrate sustained commitment to their learning, and to show the courage required to embrace challenge, persevere through difficulty, and take responsibility for their decisions. Through this values-led approach, we maintain high expectations for all pupils and support them to develop confidence, resilience, and a strong sense of purpose.

Pupils are guided to make thoughtful and aspirational choices, enabling them to build their strengths, extend their capabilities, and leave school well prepared for the demands of the next stage of their education. This reflects both our school ethos and the Department for Education's emphasis on a broad, balanced, and academically rigorous curriculum that keeps future opportunities open.

All pupils will follow a strong and ambitious core curriculum, comprising GCSE courses in:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science

Alongside these academic subjects, all pupils continue to participate in Physical Education (PE) and Social and Personal Development. These aspects of the curriculum play a vital role in promoting physical wellbeing, personal development, and responsible citizenship, ensuring that pupils are educated in the widest possible sense and learn to contribute positively to their community.

In addition to the core curriculum, pupils will make four option choices. All pupils are required to select:

- One subject from the Extended Core
- One subject from Social Studies and Sciences
- Pupils will then study two further subjects from the full range of available options.

This carefully structured model ensures breadth and balance, supports the development of transferable skills, and positions pupils strongly for a wide range of post-16 pathways, in line with national guidance and best practice.

We encourage parents and carers to engage fully with this booklet alongside their child, considering both current strengths and longer-term aspirations. Our experience shows that the majority of pupils are able to study their preferred subjects. Where this is not possible, discussions will take place with pupils, and parents and carers will be kept fully informed.

We strongly encourage you to attend the Key Stage 4 Options Evening on **Tuesday 17 March 2026 (15:00–19:00)**. This event offers a valuable opportunity to meet subject specialists, discuss courses in detail, and gain a clear understanding of the expectations and opportunities associated with each subject.

Please ensure that the Key Stage 4 Options Form is completed online and submitted by **Friday 24 April 2026**. Late or incomplete submissions may limit our ability to allocate preferred choices. We recommend retaining a copy of the completed form for your records.

We look forward to continuing to work in close partnership with you to support your child as they embark on this important and rewarding stage of their education.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Potts

Assistant Headteacher: Key Stage 3 Learning Lead



Information for pupils

Dear Year 9 Community,

Choosing your GCSE options is an important milestone, and I know it can come with a mixture of excitement and uncertainty. Please be reassured that you are not expected to navigate this process alone. Our aim, alongside the wider Year 9 team, is to ensure that pupils and families feel supported, informed, and confident in the decisions being made.

Pupils will be supported through a number of routes, including the **Year 9 Options Evening on Tuesday 17 March 2026**, the personalised options form issued after this event, ongoing tutor conversations, meetings, targeted interventions, and guidance. This booklet also provides detailed information about each course, including how subjects are delivered and how they are assessed. In addition, the **Social and Personal Development Curriculum** plays an important role in helping pupils reflect on their strengths, interests, and possible future pathways.

For those seeking more specific guidance on how option choices link to college courses, apprenticeship pathways, or future careers, further information and support can be found in the **Advice and Support** section. Pupils who feel they may need additional reassurance or support are strongly encouraged to talk things through with their **tutor** or with either of us: **Mr Anderson-Poore (Head of Year 9)**, **Mrs Kaye (Pastoral Support for Year 9)**. We are always happy to help pupils feel confident and secure in their choices.

It is important to remember that the options chosen at this stage do not automatically or irreversibly determine future study or career paths. However, pupils will be studying these subjects for two years, so choices should be made for the right reasons: selecting subjects that are enjoyable, motivating, and ones pupils are prepared to work hard in — not simply because friends are choosing them. I encourage every pupil to approach this process with **courage**, choosing a pathway that reflects who they are, their strengths, and their ambitions.

Mr J Anderson-Poore

Head of Year 9



Mrs R Kaye

Pastoral Support for Year 9



Advice and Support

We offer you advice and support in the following ways:

- Year 9 Options Evening on Tuesday 17 March 2026 (1500-1900)
- The options form which you will receive after this event
- Tutor conversations, meetings, intervention and guidance
- This options booklet which gives detailed information about each course, how it is delivered and how it is assessed
- The Social and Personal Development Curriculum lessons that support this process
- The school website has a dedicated careers page with further information <https://www.camshill.com/school-life/careers-2/>
- For more specific advice with reference to relating your options to a certain college apprenticeship pathway or future career, you can talk to our **Careers Co-ordinator Miss Vadis** by emailing **careers@camshill.com**.
- Miss Vadis will also be available in the library to support pupils on Tuesday lunchtimes.

There are a variety of online resources to support with decision making, please see the following links:

BBC Bitesize

[The Ultimate Options Guide: 2026 - BBC Bitesize](#)

Career Pilot

[Careerpilot : Get information : GCSEs : Choosing your GCSEs](#)

[Careerpilot : Get information : GCSEs : How your GCSE grades could affect your choices at 16](#)

This page is helpful if you are interested in a certain subject but are unsure what it could lead on to

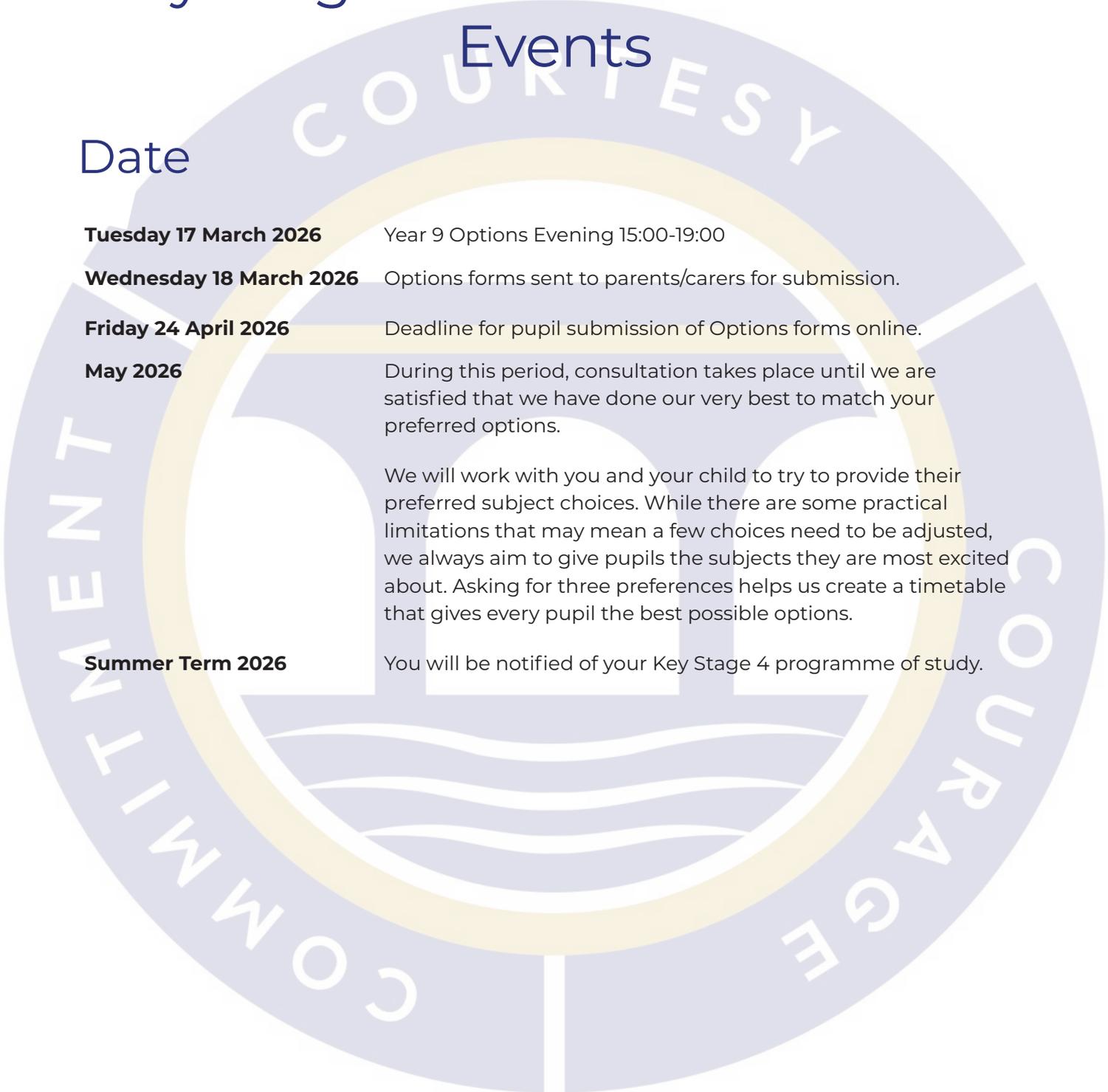
[Careerpilot : Jobs by subject](#)

Miss E Vadis
Careers Co-ordinator



Key Stage 4 Course Calendar of Events

Date



Tuesday 17 March 2026	Year 9 Options Evening 15:00-19:00
Wednesday 18 March 2026	Options forms sent to parents/carers for submission.
Friday 24 April 2026	Deadline for pupil submission of Options forms online.
May 2026	<p>During this period, consultation takes place until we are satisfied that we have done our very best to match your preferred options.</p> <p>We will work with you and your child to try to provide their preferred subject choices. While there are some practical limitations that may mean a few choices need to be adjusted, we always aim to give pupils the subjects they are most excited about. Asking for three preferences helps us create a timetable that gives every pupil the best possible options.</p>
Summer Term 2026	You will be notified of your Key Stage 4 programme of study.



Core Subjects

All pupils will study:

English Language

English Literature

Maths

Science

GCSE English Language

Curriculum Leader for English: Alli Bateman



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

There are two 1 hour and 45 minute exams. There is also a Spoken Language Endorsement to be completed in school and assessed by the class teacher.

Subject Information

GCSE English Language is a two year course that allows pupils to study a range of texts from the 19th to the 21st Century, both fiction and non-fiction. Analysis and critical evaluation are key to understanding this interesting breadth of texts.

Alongside analysis, pupils continue to enhance their writing skills for both creative and rhetorical demands. Spoken Language also features within GCSE English Language with a presentation on a topic of their choice.

Additional Information

Extra-curricular activities vary from year to year but we strive to bring the texts we study alive with trips to the theatre and theatre companies visiting the school. In the past, we have visited The Globe Theatre in London as well as regular trips to the Mayflower in Southampton.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-8700/specification>

Key Content

Language Paper 1	Language Paper 2	Non-examination assessment: Spoken language
<p>What's assessed? Pupils will need to analyse one extract from a range of fiction. Q1 - Pupils answer four multiple choice questions based on the opening of the extract (4 marks) Q2 - Language analysis (8 marks) Q3 - Structural analysis (8 marks) Q4 - Critical evaluation - How far do you agree? (20 marks) Q5 - Write a description of the opening of a story (40 marks)</p>	<p>What's assessed? Pupils will need to analyse two non-fiction sources - one 20/21st Century and one 19th Century. Q1 - Choose 4 statements that are true (4 marks) Q2 - Comparison of topics from the two texts (8 marks) Q3 - Language analysis (12 marks) Q4 - Comparison of writers' perspectives (16 marks) Q5 - Writing to argue/persuade/inform (40 marks)</p>	<p>What's assessed? Presenting and responding to questions and feedback. Use of standard English.</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 80 marks 50% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 80 marks 50% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Teacher set throughout course Marked by teacher Separate endorsement</p>

Next Steps

A Level English Language and
A Level English Language and
Literature.

Career Links

As well as English Language and Linguistics at university, pupils often go on to take undergraduate courses in Journalism, Publishing, Law, Business, Sociology, Psychology, or the Humanities and Arts in general. It is also a very valuable qualification for a range of professions, including teaching.

Homework

Homework throughout KS4 is an opportunity for pupils to embed and revise their learning. In Year 10, pupils will undertake a fortnightly Writing Skills lesson and a mandatory homework will be set on this. On the alternative week, a poetry booklet based on the Power and Conflict poems will be set to allow pupils to independently introduce themselves to the 15 poems from the anthology. In Year 11, pupils have a mandatory Literature homework based on the Literature texts to help them revise and embed knowledge for the mocks and then the GCSE exams.

GCSE English Literature

Curriculum Leader for English: Alli Bateman



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment:

There are two exams - Literature Paper 1 is 1 hour and 45 minutes; Literature Paper 2 is 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Subject Information

GCSE English Literature is an opportunity for pupils to continue their love of reading and analysing literature with a wide range of engaging texts. Our texts include Charles Dickens' didactic "A Christmas Carol", J. B. Priestley's social commentary "An Inspector Calls", William Shakespeare's tragedy "Macbeth" and the 15 poems from the Power and Conflict anthology.

Additional Information

Extra-curricular activities vary from year to year, but we do take the opportunity when it arises to watch our Literature texts performed in local theatres like The Mayflower in Southampton.

We also arrange for a theatre company to come in to school to perform A Christmas Carol for our Year 10 pupils.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-8702/specification>

Key Content

Literature Paper 1	Literature Paper 2
<p>What's assessed? Macbeth - You will be given an extract from somewhere in the play and asked how Shakespeare presents a character/theme in this extract and the play as a whole. (30 marks + 4 for SPaG) A Christmas Carol - You will be given an extract from somewhere in the text and asked how Dickens presents a character/theme in this extract and the novella as a whole. (30 marks)</p>	<p>What's assessed? An Inspector Calls - No extract but a choice of questions. You need to answer one of the two: How does Priestley present [character] in the play? OR How does Priestley present [theme] in the play? (30 marks + 4 for SPaG) Power and Conflict Poetry - You will be given a copy of one of the 15 poems we have studied and asked to compare how a type of power/conflict is presented in this poem and one of your choice from the remaining 14. (30 marks) Unseen Poetry - Part 1. You will be given a poem we have not previously studied in class and asked how the poet presents [focus] in this poem. (24 marks) Unseen Poetry - Part 2. Compare how methods are used in the first unseen poem with a second unseen poem. (8 marks)</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 64 marks 40% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes 96 marks 60% of GCSE</p>

Next Steps

A Level English Literature, A Level English Language and Literature.

Career Links

An ability to appreciate the written word, the cogent thought processes and the emotional literacy fostered by English Literature are in high demand across higher education courses and all employment. As such, pupils follow their academic desires into numerous fields and professions: the arts, the humanities, law, marketing, publishing, journalism and the sciences.

Homework

Homework throughout KS4 is an opportunity for pupils to embed and revise their learning. In Year 10, pupils will undertake a fortnightly Writing Skills lesson and a mandatory homework will be set on this. On the alternative week, a poetry booklet based on the Power and Conflict poems will be set to allow pupils to independently introduce themselves to the 15 poems from the anthology. In Year 11, pupils have a mandatory Literature homework based on the Literature texts to help them revise and embed knowledge for the mocks and then the GCSE exams.

GCSE Mathematics

Curriculum Leader for Mathematics: Charlie Fairhead



Exam Board: **OCR - Foundation Tier**
Pearsons (Edexcel) - Higher Tier

Assessment

There are three exam papers, each 1 hour and 30 minutes. One non-calculator, two calculator papers

Subject Information

GCSE Mathematics enables pupils to:

- Have fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts;
- Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems;
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences, and draw conclusions;
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

Additional Information

Pupils at Cams Hill start GCSE topics from the beginning of Year 9. This provides a good grounding for the GCSE course, securing key skills and continuing to develop an ability to solve problems. From Year 10 pupils have two half termly Maths assessments (non-calculator and calculator papers) to support their progress and identify any areas of weakness. Revision guides and workbooks are available to buy to support this course.

Pupils are expected to bring a pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, protractor, compasses, and scientific calculator and to attend a weekly revision session in Year 11.

Our most able mathematicians are likely to be offered additional qualifications to broaden their skills and support transition to Key Stage 5 courses. GCSE Statistics (Pearsons/Edexcel) may be taken in Year 10 and Level 2 Further Maths (AQA) in Year 11.

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/mathematics/2015/specification-and-sample-assesment/gcse-maths-2015-specification.pdf>

Key Content

The aspects of the course fall under these headings:

What's assessed?

- a) Number
- b) Algebra
- c) Ratio and Proportion
- d) Statistics
- e) Geometry

Next Steps

All college courses will require at least a grade 4 in GCSE Maths and if this grade is not reached, a resit will be required at college. Achieving a GCSE grade from 6-9 may lead pupils to progress to A Level Mathematics and/or A Level Further Mathematics. Some colleges offer A Level Statistics and there are a wealth of other subjects that often require a good grounding of GCSE Maths (Grade 5+) in order to take them in KS5.

Career Links

Most employers require a GCSE grade 4+ in Mathematics and so many career pathways include some numeracy skills. Progression from KS5 Maths related courses could take you to a degree at university or into the world of work with an apprenticeship. Common pathways for mathematicians include: accountancy, banking, engineering, data analysis, teaching, actuary, statistician, operational research and economist.

Homework

45-60 minutes of homework is set each week. This may be tasks on Sparx Maths or written sheets to complete. As in KS3, preparation for the half-termly in-class assessments is essential, to maximise performance under test conditions. Revision lists will continue to be provided in Year 10 but this level of support will start to be removed in Year 11, training the pupils to revise independently in preparation for the GCSE exams.

GCSE Combined Science

Curriculum Leader for Science: Jane Greenham



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

There are six papers: two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topics listed overleaf.

Subject Information

There is a single national curriculum for Science up to Key Stage 4. However, the GCSE subject content divides the subject into two distinct routes. Combined Science refers to taking the equivalent of two GCSEs in Science, covering equal shares of Biology, Chemistry and Physics (resulting in two GCSE grades which are not assigned to individual disciplines). Pupils can opt to study GCSE Triple Science; further information on this option route is available in the Social Studies and Sciences subjects section.

Additional Information

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/science-8464/specification>

Key Content

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cell biology	Atomic structure and the periodic table	Energy
Organisation	Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter	Electricity
Infection and response	Quantitative chemistry	Particle model of matter
Bioenergetics	Chemical changes	Atomic structure
Homeostasis and response	Energy changes	Forces
Inheritance, variation and evolution	The rate and extent of chemical change	Waves
Ecology	Organic chemistry	Magnetism and electromagnetism
	Chemical analysis	
	Chemistry of the atmosphere	
	Using resources	

Next Steps

A Levels in: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology, Environmental Science, Anatomy, Physiology and Computer Science.
Vocational Level 3 in Criminology, Engineering, Medical Science, Applied General Science.

Career Links

Biologist, Chemist, Geologist, Dentistry, Medicine, Laboratory Technician, Psychologist, Medical Laboratory scientist, Environmental Scientist, Epidemiologist, Forensic Science Technician, Microbiologist, Veterinary Science, Archaeologist, Biochemist, Chemical Engineer, Forensic Scientist, Research Scientist, Biotechnologist, Ecologist, Science writer, Astronomer, Biomedical Scientist, Clinical Research Associate.

Homework

Homework is set weekly on Educake.



Extended Core Subjects

Pupils must choose to study one
of the following:

Geography

History

Modern Foreign Language
(French or Spanish)

GCSE Geography

Curriculum Leader for Geography: Gavin Blackman



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

GCSE Geography has three exam papers, each 1 hour and 30 minutes.

1. **Physical Geography** (worth 35% of the grade)
2. **Human Geography** (worth 35% of the grade)
3. **Decision making and fieldwork** (worth 30% of the grade)

Subject Information

There are four units in the AQA GCSE Geography course:

1. Living with the physical environment, which covers earthquakes and volcanoes, hurricanes and floods, rivers and coasts, rainforests and deserts: The causes, effects, mitigation, and adapting to climate change are also examined.
2. Challenges of the human environment, which covers cities in HIC and LIC countries, the economies of Newly Emerging Economies and the UK, and the management of resources with a particular reference to food.
3. Geographical applications, which covers fieldwork and a decision-making exercise.
4. Geographical skills, which covers map skills, graph skills, and simple statistical skills (but these are taught as part of the above three units).

Additional Information

GCSE Geography helps you understand the world you live in and the challenges shaping your future. In the GCSE course, you will study important topics such as climate change, natural hazards, cities, rivers, and global development, all the while building valuable skills including data analysis, problem solving, decision making, and fieldwork, which are highly valued by employers and colleges. Geography empowers you to make sense of real world issues and play an informed role in creating a more sustainable and fair future for everyone.

Fieldwork - two pieces that are compulsory - physical fieldwork (Hill head) and human fieldwork (Gunwharf Quays and Portsmouth Harbour). **Residential** - there will be an overseas trip in Year 10. Previous cohorts have travelled to Iceland and the West Coast USA.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035/specification>

Key Content

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
<p>What's assessed? Living with the Physical Environment Section A - The Challenges of Natural Hazards (tectonics; weather hazards; climate change) Section B - The Living World (Ecosystems; Tropical Rainforests; Hot Deserts) Section C - Physical Landscapes in the UK (Coasts and Rivers)</p>	<p>What's assessed? Challenges in the Human Environment Section A - Urban Issues and Challenges (Lagos and Portsmouth) Section B - The Changing Economic World (Development; Nigeria and The UK Economy) Section C - The Challenge of Resource Management (Resource and Food Management)</p>	<p>What's assessed? Geographical Applications and Skills Section A - Issue Evaluation (released by AQA in March Year 11 - a decision making exercise based on a real life issue) Section B - Fieldwork (unseen fieldwork and data questions produced by the exam board) and seen fieldwork is fieldwork undertaken by the school in two locations assessing data methods, presentation, data analysis and evaluation)</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 35% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 35% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 30% of GCSE</p>

Next Steps

GCSE Geography can complement A Level studies that involve the study of human and/or physical Geography or vocational courses such as Travel and Tourism.

Career Links

You will find geographers working in a wide range of jobs, from the City to planning, working in the environment to travel and tourism, or in international charities and retail. Geologist, Cartographer, Data analyst, Environmental consultant, Geographical information systems officer, Nature conservation officer. Researcher, Teacher.

Homework

Year 10 - Educake - fortnightly with a revision and recall focus. Year 11 - Fortnightly, Educake with an exam question to apply recall and knowledge and to practice exam skills. From September, weekly after school sessions are scheduled for Year 11 revision.

GCSE History

Curriculum Leader for History: Chris Dale



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

GCSE History has two exam papers, each 2 hours.

Subject Information

GCSE History is an exciting and engaging course, which allows pupils to study a range of events across different time periods. All lessons are taught by subject specialists and we have over 200 pupils currently taking the course at KS4. The content will consist of: a thematic study; a British depth study; a study of a historic environment; a period study; a modern depth study.

Pupils will develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the past which will help them to explain the world in which we live today. The course involves a lot of reading and writing and those pupils who have opted for it in the past have found that they have experienced a very interesting, informative, thought-provoking and enjoyable two-year course.

Additional Information

We run weekly revision sessions to aid pupils in their preparation for exams, as well as taking a trip for Year 10/11 to either Munich or Berlin, to further enrich pupils' experience of the Period Study.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/gcse/history-8145/specification/specification-at-a-glance>

Key Content

Year 10	Year 11
<p>What's assessed? The Period Study: Germany, 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship</p> <p>Thematic Study: Britain, Health and the People, c1000 to Present Day</p>	<p>What's assessed? British Depth Study: Elizabethan England, c1568-1603</p> <p>Historic Environment: location to be confirmed by AQA but will be linked to the British depth study</p> <p>Modern Depth Study: Conflict and Tension in Asia, 1950v-1975</p>

Next Steps

GCSE History can complement A Level studies that involve critical analysis, understanding of human society, and the impact of past events on the present. Some examples would include A level History, Law, Economics, Classics, Politics, Sociology, Philosophy and Ethics.

Career Links

Researcher, Teacher, Politician, Solicitor, PR, Tour Guide, Writer, Journalist, Educational Outreach, Diplomat.

Homework

Homework will be set fortnightly and consist of revision activities, such as producing revision cards and mind maps, using knowledge organisers which will be provided. These will then be checked in fortnightly knowledge quizzes.

GCSE MFL

Curriculum Leader for MFL: Suzannah Clarke



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

GCSE Spanish and French consist of the following exams:

- Reading 1 hour higher, 45 minutes foundation.
- Listening 45 minutes higher, 35 minutes foundation.
- Writing 1 hour 15 minutes higher, 1 hour 10 minutes foundation.
- Speaking 15 minutes supervised preparation time, 10-12 minutes higher, 7-9 minutes foundation
Non-exam assessment (NEA).

Subject Information

“Where will your languages take you?”

Learning a foreign language gives you a key to open the door to opportunities which someone without that experience will never have. Whether aiming for a career at home or abroad, speaking another language provides a competitive edge in our global community. Second language acquisition gives one the unique opportunity to communicate with a wider range of people in a personal and professional capacity.

Additional Information

We offer opportunities for language pupils to visit the country of the language they are studying and to virtually meet and communicate with pupils from a linked school. We work with the local universities who offer support in further education opportunities and enrichment days.

Spanish <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/spanish/gcse/spanish-8692/specification>

French <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/french/gcse/french-8652/specification>

Key Content

In MFL you will learn to communicate using four skills, **reading, writing, speaking** and **listening**.

These skills will be used to cover the 3 GCSE themes in languages.

Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3
People and Lifestyle	Popular Culture	Communication and the World Around Us

Next Steps

A GCSE in languages can complement A Level studies in the relevant MFL.

Career Links

You could become a: Translator, working in an international business, Pilot, Flight Attendant, Journalist, Diplomatic Corps, Government, International Relationships.

Homework

Homework is set once a week using the revision workbook with regular vocabulary tests.



Social Studies and Science Subjects

Pupils must choose to study one
of the following:

Economics

Psychology

Religious Studies

Sociology

Triple Science

GCSE Economics

Subject Lead for Economics: Emily Hill



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

Pupils will be asked to complete two exams at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: 1 hour and 45 minutes (50% of the final grade) How markets work

Paper 2: 1 hour and 45 minutes (50% of the final grade) How the economy works

Subject Information

Studying GCSE Economics helps pupils understand how individuals, businesses, and governments make decisions about scarce resources and how these decisions impact society. It develops critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills, enabling pupils to assess real-world issues like inflation, unemployment, and global trade. This knowledge is essential for making informed financial decisions in their personal lives and equips them for careers in business, finance, or policymaking. Understanding economics also fosters awareness of global challenges, preparing pupils to navigate and contribute to the modern world effectively.

Additional Information

In order to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of economic concepts, pupils need to demonstrate a good ability to construct, understand and manipulate a variety of graphs and data sets presented in a number of different ways.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/economics/gcse/economics-8136/specification/specification-at-a-glance>

Key Content

Paper 1	Paper 2
<p>What's assessed? How markets work:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Economic foundations 2. Resource allocation 3. How prices are determined 4. Production, costs, revenue and profit 5. Competitive and concentrated markets 6. Market failure 	<p>What's assessed? How the economy works:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Introduction to the national economy 8. Government objectives 9. How the government manages the economy 10. International trade and the global economy 11. The role of money and financial markets
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 80 marks 50% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 80 marks 50% of GCSE</p>

Next Steps

A Level, BTEC in Economics, Business, Politics, Law.

Career Links

Economics could open opportunities in the following careers: bank managers, business analysts, business development, data analyst statistician, economic development officer, economists, investment analyst, money adviser, MP or government roles, newspaper or magazine editor, sales, stockbrokers, tax advisers, transport planning.

Homework

Set fortnightly on Seneca / MS Forms which practices multiple choice questions and two mark definition questions.

GCSE Psychology

Curriculum Leader for Social Studies: Emma Deathers

Exam Board: **AQA**



Assessment

Pupils will be expected to complete two exams at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1 (1 hour 45 minutes): Cognition and behaviour

Paper 2 (1 hour 45 minutes): Social context and behaviour

Subject Information

This engaging and effective qualification introduces pupils to the fundamentals of psychology, developing critical analysis, independent thinking and research skills. The course will show pupils how psychological theories, knowledge and ideas have changed over time and how these inform our understanding of behaviour and society.

Pupils will learn how to apply theories and ideas to everyday life to explain our own behaviour and social norms. This GCSE will also develop understanding about research methods, and pupils will have the opportunity to apply methods in a practical setting.

Additional Information

In order to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in Psychology, pupils need to demonstrate competence in the following areas of Mathematics. They need to be able to: use ratios, use fractions and percentages; find arithmetic means; construct frequency tables, diagrams and bar charts; use scatter diagrams to identify correlations; translate information between graphical and numerical forms.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/gcse/psychology-8182/specification>

Key Content

Paper 1:	Paper 2:
<p>What's assessed? Cognition and behaviour:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Memory 2. Perception 3. Development 4. Research Methods 	<p>What's assessed? Social context and behaviour:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social Influence 2. Language, Thought and Communication 3. Brain and Neuropsychology 4. Psychological Problems (Depression and Addiction)
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

A Levels: Subjects that require an understanding of human thought and behaviour, such as Psychology, Sociology, History, Politics, English, Sport, etc.

Career Links

Any career that requires and understanding of human thought and behaviour, such as medicine, sport, teaching, the police and working within the criminal justice system, social work, etc.

Homework

Year 10 homework focuses on consolidating and deepening the core knowledge delivered in lesson, using creative tasks. Year 11 homework encourages revision of the key knowledge using exam style practice questions to build pupils' confidence in writing about psychological concepts.

GCSE Religious Studies

Curriculum Leader for Religious Studies: Laura Hughes



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

The assessment of this course is 100% through examination. Pupils will sit two 1 hour 45 minutes papers at the end of Year 11.

Subject Information

Our GCSE covers a range of religions, philosophical and ethical themes, ensuring our pupils have a variety of intriguing subjects to explore such as crime, punishment, euthanasia, and peace and conflict. Pupils will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose, and truth, enabling them to develop their own values and attitudes towards religious issues and big questions such as how did life begin? What is the purpose of humanity? What happens after we die?

Pupils will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. They will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership, and research skills. All of these skills will prepare them for further study and living their lives in a multicultural society.

Additional Information

Revision guides and workbooks will be made available during Year 10 and 11.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies>

Key Content

Paper 1	Paper 2
<p>What's assessed? The study of religions: Beliefs, teachings and practices. Beliefs, teachings and practices from two world religions; Christianity and Buddhism.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Thematic studies: Four religious, philosophical and ethical studies themes with a focus on Christianity, Buddhism, Humanism and Atheism. Themes that are studied are; Theme B: Religion and life e.g. abortion, euthanasia, stewardship, animal rights. Theme C: The existence of God and revelation e.g. theories of creation, miracles, revelation. Theme D: Peace and conflict, issues of just war, nuclear weapons, pacifism and conflict. Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment e.g. aims of punishment, death penalty, forgiveness.</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes</p>

Next Steps

RS GCSE helps progression onto the following courses. A levels in the following subjects; Religion, Philosophy, Ethics, Law, Sciences, Teaching, Business, Journalism, Politics, Banking, Uniform Services and Government roles.

Career Links

Law, Public Services, Teaching, Tourism, Healthcare, Medical Sciences, Journalism, Government roles, Charity workers, Diplomacy, Youth Work, Curator, Counselling.

Homework

Quizzes set on a weekly basis to test knowledge. Individual intervention workbooks set after the first Year 11 mock for all pupils to complete weekly.

GCSE Sociology

Curriculum Leader for Social Studies: Emma Deathers



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

Pupils will be expected to complete two exams at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1 (1 hour 45 minutes): The Sociology of Families and Education.

Paper 2 (1 hour 45 minutes): The Sociology of Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification.

Subject Information

GCSE Sociology helps pupils to gain knowledge and understanding of the key social structures, processes and issues that shape the society in which they live, examining not only small scale, personal interactions, but also systematic processes with far-reaching implications. Pupils will develop their analytical skills by comparing and contrasting perspectives and constructing reasoned arguments on a variety of social issues. Alongside key sociological studies, pupils can also draw on the sociological issues we see reflected in everyday life and world events.

Additional Information

In order to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of society, pupils need to demonstrate a good ability to read large amounts of text and write at length in an essay style. They also need to demonstrate a keen interest in current affairs and issues, such as how different groups are advantaged or disadvantaged, and a willingness to have their pre-existing assumptions challenged.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/sociology-8192/specification/specification-at-a-glance>

Key Content

Paper 1	Paper 2
<p>What's assessed?</p> <p>The Sociology of Families and Education:</p> <p>Families – the functions and forms of families, conjugal role relationships, changing relationships within families, criticisms of families, and divorce.</p> <p>Education – roles and functions of education, the relationship between education and capitalism, educational achievement, and processes within schools.</p>	<p>What's assessed?</p> <p>The Sociology of Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification:</p> <p>Crime and Deviance – the social construction of crime and deviance, social control, criminal and deviant behaviour, and data on crime.</p> <p>Social Stratification – Functionalist theory of stratification, socio-economic class, life chances, poverty as a social issue, power and authority, and power relationships.</p>
<p>Assessed</p> <p>Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 100 marks 50% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed</p> <p>Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 100 marks 50% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

A Levels: Sociology helps us to understand the world around us. Therefore, it is a valuable foundation for any A Level course that explores and examines the nature of human existence, such as History, Politics, Psychology, Sport, English, etc.; The study of Sociology also helps pupils to learn how to see ideas and issues from a variety of perspectives, and how to present them in balanced arguments, so it is a valuable GCSE for any further study where there are different views and perspectives on different topics.

Career Links

Public services, such as medicine and nursing, teaching, the police. It is also valuable for careers in the law, sport, politics and business because people who have studied Sociology are able to understand group dynamics and communities.

Homework

Year 10 homework is fortnightly, and tasks set encourage pupils to extend and deepen their understanding of the concepts and knowledge they meet in lesson. In Year 11, homework is focused on revising the key theories and studies met in Year 10, with exam practices to embed core knowledge and develop confidence when writing about concepts and ideas.

GCSE Triple Science

Curriculum Leader for Science: Jane Greenham



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

There are six papers: two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topics listed overleaf.

Subject Information

This route involves taking three individual GCSEs, one each in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, with a grade awarded for each one. Pupils who take Triple Science, rather than Combined Science, are significantly more likely to study a Science subject at A Level and this holds true for degree level as well.

Additional Information

There are many opportunities on offer at Cams Hill School such as Science Live! - the chance to see and hear Britain's top scientists, all working at the cutting edge of their specialisms.

Williams Racing STEM Enrichment Day- designed to enhance, encourage and inform a pupil's existing desire to work in STEM or spark one in those who may have never considered a career in this field before.

UK Biology Challenge - a high quality competition in which over 60,000 pupils compete.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/biology/gcse/biology-8461/specification/specification-at-a-glance>

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/chemistry/gcse/chemistry-8462/specification/specification-at-a-glance>

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physics/gcse/physics-8463/specification/specification-at-a-glance>

Key Content

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cell biology	Atomic structure and the periodic table	Energy
Organisation	Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter	Electricity
Infection and response	Quantitative chemistry	Particle model of matter
Bioenergetics	Chemical changes	Atomic structure
Homeostasis and response	Energy changes	Forces
Inheritance, variation and evolution	The rate and extent of chemical change	Waves
Ecology	Organic chemistry	Magnetism and electromagnetism
	Chemical analysis	Spachysics
	Chemistry of the atmosphere	
	Using resources	

Next Steps

A Levels in: Biology, Chemistry
Physics, Psychology,
Environmental Science,
Anatomy, Physiology and
Computer Science.
Vocational Level 3 in Criminology,
Engineering, Medical Science,
Applied General Science.

Career Links

Biologist, Chemist, Geologist,
Dentistry, Medicine, Laboratory
Technician, Psychologist,
Medical Laboratory scientist,
Environmental Scientist,
Epidemiologist, Forensic Science
Technician, Microbiologist,
Veterinary Science, Archaeologist,
Biochemist, Chemical Engineer,
Forensic Scientist, Research
Scientist, Biotechnologist,
Ecologist, Science writer,
Astronomer, Biomedical Scientist,
Clinical Research Associate.

Homework

Homework is set weekly on Educake.



Open Option Subjects

Pupils may choose two of the
following to study:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Art, Craft & Design | French |
| Art Graphic Communication | Geography |
| Art Textiles | Geology |
| Art Three-Dimensional Design | History |
| Child Development | Hospitality & Catering |
| Classical Civilisation | Music |
| Computer Science | Photography |
| Creative Media Production | Physical Education |
| Dance | Psychology |
| Design and Technology (Timbers) | Religious Studies |
| Digital Information Technology | Sociology |
| Drama | Spanish |
| Economics | Triple Science |
| Film Studies | |

GCSE Art: Art, Craft and Design

Curriculum Leader for Art and Photography: Laura Oswald-Cutler



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

This course is 100% Non-exam assessment (NEA). Component 1: Portfolio of Work (60%), Component 2: Externally set assignment (40%). Work produced for Components 1 and 2 will be assessed internally prior to an external moderator visiting the centre. Work produced for Component 2 takes place under strict exam conditions and concludes with a 10-hour controlled exam.

Subject Information

GCSE Art, Craft and Design promotes learning across a variety of experiences, processes, tools, techniques, materials and resources to generate different kinds of evidence of working and outcomes. It encourages pupils to explore an increased breadth of approach with a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities.

Additional Information

Commitment and organisation is essential when studying this course. We also seek to enrich the curriculum through inviting artists or educators from industry and post-16 establishments, in addition to taking pupils on visits to post-16 providers and art galleries and spaces.

A £15 contribution is requested at the start of each academic year towards the cost of materials.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design>

Key Content

Component 1	Component 2
<p>What's assessed? Component 1: Portfolio of Work Pupils will study two projects during Years 10 and 11 which constitute Component 1. Pupils studying Art, Craft and Design will learn and develop techniques primarily in painting, drawing, print making and mixed media. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Component 2: Externally set assignment AQA will provide a separate externally set assignment for Component 2 where pupils will select and respond to one starting point. This is released in the January of Year 11 and pupils will have a preparatory period of time, followed by a 10-hour exam of unaided, independent, focused study. This takes place under strict exam conditions. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>
<p>Assessed Class work: Unlimited 60% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed Practical exam: 10 hours 40% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

This course is a strong foundation for further progression to Art, Craft and Design related courses such as A Level Art and Design and enhanced vocational and career pathways.

Career Links

There are many careers that require creative and artistic skills including architecture, fashion design, advertising, media make-up and floristry. Art and maths are a good combination for design careers such as architecture, car design or engineering.

Homework

Pupils are required to spend time outside of lesson completing unfinished work and presentation. They may also be given termly tasks to complete independently to enhance their projects. KS4 pupils are offered extra-curricular catch-up sessions and these will become compulsory if a pupil fails to complete homework or complete class work.

GCSE Art: Graphic Communication

Curriculum Leader for Art and Photography: Laura Oswald-Cutler



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

This course is 100% Non-exam assessment (NEA). Component 1: Portfolio of Work (60%), Component 2: Externally set assignment (40%). Work produced for Components 1 and 2 will be assessed internally prior to an external moderator visiting the centre. Work produced for Component 2 takes place under strict exam conditions and concludes with a 10-hour controlled exam.

Subject Information

GCSE Graphic communication is a great course aimed at those who love expressing themselves whilst working towards meeting a client brief. This course combines pupils' creative art skills with a variety of different graphic styles using typography. It inspires pupils to explore their creative potential further than just creating a single image. This can be designing book and magazine front covers, film poster artwork, album cover design, fashion artwork etc. Pupils will continue to develop their drawing skills whilst also learning new skills such as lettering, spray painting, stencil cutting, lino print cutting as well as an introduction to mixed media techniques. There will be an element of taught Photoshop work

Additional Information

Commitment and organisation is essential when studying this course. We also seek to enrich the curriculum through inviting artists or educators from industry and post-16 establishments, in addition to taking pupils on visits to post-16 providers and art galleries and spaces.

A £15 contribution is requested at the start of each academic year towards the cost of materials.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design>

Key Content

Component 1	Component 2
<p>What's assessed? Component 1: Portfolio of Work Pupils will study two projects during Years 10 and 11 which constitute Component 1. Pupils studying Graphics will learn and develop techniques primarily in drawing, print making, Photoshop, stenciling and mixed media. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Component 2: Externally set assignment AQA will provide a separate externally set assignment for Component 2 where pupils will select and respond to one starting point. This is released in the January of Year 11 and pupils will have a preparatory period of time, followed by a 10-hour exam of unaided, independent, focused study. This takes place under strict exam conditions. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>
<p>Assessed Class work: Unlimited 60% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed Practical exam: 10 hours 40% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

This course is a strong foundation for further progression to Art, Craft and Design related courses such as A Level Art and Design and enhanced vocational and career pathways.

Career Links

There are many careers that require creative and artistic skills including architecture, fashion design, advertising, media make-up and floristry. Art and maths are a good combination for design careers such as architecture, car design or engineering.

Homework

Pupils are required to spend time outside of lesson completing unfinished work and presentation. They may also be given termly tasks to complete independently to enhance their projects. KS4 pupils are offered extra-curricular catch-up sessions and these will become compulsory if a pupil fails to complete homework or complete class work.

GCSE Art: Textiles

Lead Key Stage 4 teacher for Textiles: Sarah Wiseman



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

This course is 100% Non-exam assessment (NEA). Component 1: Portfolio of Work (60%), Component 2: Externally set assignment (40%). Work produced for Components 1 and 2 will be assessed internally prior to an external moderator visiting the centre. Work produced for Component 2 takes place under strict exam conditions and concludes with a 10-hour controlled exam.

Subject Information

Textile design is defined here as the creation of designs and products for woven, knitted, stitched, printed or decorative textiles that might have a functional or non-functional purpose. Pupils are required to work in one or more area(s) of textile design, such as those listed:

- Art textiles;
- Fashion design and illustration;
- Costume design;
- Constructed textiles;
- Printed and dyed textiles;
- Surface pattern;
- Stitched and/or embellished textiles;
- Soft furnishings and/or textiles for interiors;
- Digital textiles;
- Installed textiles.

Additional Information

Please be aware that this has the same examination code as other art subjects so cannot be chosen alongside Art, Craft & Design, Three Dimensional Design and/or Graphics without consultation with staff. Pupils will find it useful to have drawing equipment and fineliners for the lessons.

A £15 contribution is also requested at the start of Year 10 towards the cost of materials.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design>

Key Content

Component 1	Component 2
<p>What's assessed? Component 1: Portfolio of Work Pupils will study two projects during Years 10 and 11 which constitute Component 1. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Component 2: Externally set assignment AQA will provide a separate externally set assignment for Component 2 where pupils will select and respond to one starting point. This is released in the January of Year 11 and pupils will have a preparatory period of time, followed by a 10-hour exam of unaided, independent, focused study. This takes place under strict exam conditions. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>
<p>Assessed Class work: Unlimited 60% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed Practical exam: 10 hours 40% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

The Textile Design GCSE course can lead to either an A Level or a level 3 Vocational Diploma (equivalent to 3 A Levels) at college, this can be specialising in textile design and fashion or another art and design based subject.

Career Links

Most pupils will progress to higher education to complete a degree or equivalent which could lead to a career as a: Clothing/Textile Technologist, Colour Technologist, Illustrator, Interior and Spatial Designer, Fashion Designer, Printmaker, Textile Designer, Community Arts Worker, Conservator, Furniture Designer, Further Education Teacher, Graphic Designer, Higher Education Lecturer, Jewellery Designer, Product Designer, Retail Buyer, Secondary School Teacher, Stylist, Visual Merchandiser.

Homework

Homework will be sketchbook based to support the development of portfolio work.

GCSE Art: Three Dimensional Design

Curriculum Leader for Art and Photography: Laura Oswald-Cutler



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

This course is 100% Non-exam assessment (NEA). Component 1: Portfolio of Work (60%), Component 2: Externally set assignment (40%). Work produced for Components 1 and 2 will be assessed internally prior to an external moderator visiting the centre. Work produced for Component 2 takes place under strict exam conditions and concludes with a 10-hour controlled exam.

Subject Information

GCSE Three-Dimensional design is the design, prototyping and modelling or making of primarily functional and aesthetic products, objects, and environments, drawing upon intellectual, creative and practical skills. This is an exciting new course for Cams Hill School pupils, delivered by the Art Department for pupils who are interested in an art-based course with three-dimensional based skills.

Additional Information

Commitment and organisation is essential when studying this course. We also seek to enrich the curriculum through inviting artists or educators from industry and post-16 establishments, in addition to taking pupils on visits to post-16 providers and art galleries and spaces.

A £15 contribution is requested at the start of each academic year towards the cost of materials.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design>

Key Content

Component 1	Component 2
<p>What's assessed? Component 1: Portfolio of Work Pupils will study two projects during Years 10 and 11 which constitute Component 1. Pupils studying Three Dimensional Design will learn and develop techniques primarily in sculpture, construction and modeling techniques, planning and drawing. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Component 2: Externally set assignment AQA will provide a separate externally set assignment for Component 2 where pupils will select and respond to one starting point. This is released in the January of Year 11 and pupils will have a preparatory period of time, followed by a 10-hour exam of unaided, independent, focused study. This takes place under strict exam conditions. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>
<p>Assessed Class work: Unlimited 60% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed Practical exam: 10 hours 40% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

This course is a strong foundation for further progression to Art, Craft and Design related courses such as A Level Art and Design and enhanced vocational and career pathways.

Career Links

There are many careers that require creative and artistic skills including architecture, fashion design, advertising, media make-up and floristry. Art and maths are a good combination for design careers such as architecture, car design or engineering.

Homework

Pupils are required to spend time outside of lesson completing unfinished work and presentation. They may also be given termly tasks to complete independently to enhance their projects. KS4 pupils are offered extra-curricular catch-up sessions and these will become compulsory if a pupil fails to complete homework or complete class work.

Child Development

Cambridge National Level 1/2 Certificate

Lead Key Stage 4 teacher for Child Development: Georgina Allen



Exam Board: **OCR**

Assessment

- **Assessment 1** – R059 Understand the development of a child from one to five years.
- **Assessment 2** – R058 Create a safe environment and understand the nutritional needs of children from birth to five years. **R059 and R058 are the controlled assessment modules.**
- **Assessment 3** – R057 Health and well-being for child development is the topic for the **external examination.**

Subject Information

This course offers a combination of knowledge, understanding and practical skills. There are two units that are assessed by the school and have practical task-based opportunities where pupils can combine their skills and common sense along with the theory content. The course will be taught around a series of practical tasks that build on and apply the theory.

The exam covers topics such as: responsibilities of parenthood, contraception and reproduction, antenatal health, delivery, postnatal checks, illnesses and child safety.

Additional Information

There may be extra costs for any trips to visit placements to see good practice.

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/610941-specification-cambridge-nationals-child-development-j809.pdf>

Key Content

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
<p>What's assessed? R057: This is the starting point for all the other units of work. The first unit underpins all of the other learning in this qualification. All pupils will learn the essential knowledge and understanding for child development; covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, care, conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety. Knowledge gained would be of use for further studies in PHSE, Biology and other Child Development qualifications.</p>	<p>What's assessed? R058: Pupils will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all of these needs. They will also gain knowledge of nutrition and hygiene practices and will be given the opportunity to evaluate dietary choices and carry out practical task. These evaluation skills are very transferable and will be of use in further studies in most areas.</p>	<p>What's assessed? R059: Pupils will gain knowledge of how children develop and use this to create activities to carry out with children up to the age of five and compare them with development norms. This unit covers researching, planning, skills to carry out the activities with children, observing and reviewing as well as an understanding of the development of children.</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes 40% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed 30% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed 30% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

This course leads onto vocational courses at college in Child Development or similar courses such as Health and Social Care or A Levels in Sociology or Psychology.

Career Links

Education, Nursery Nursing, Medical Field, Nursing, Doctor, Midwifery, Health Visitor, Teaching, Child Care, Social Work and the Caring Professions.

Homework

Exam style questions. Research tasks.

GCSE Classical Civilisation

Curriculum Leader for Social Studies: Emma Deathers



Exam Board: OCR

Assessment

Pupils will be asked to complete two exams at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Myth and Religion, 1 hour 30 minutes (50% of the final grade)

Paper 2: The Homeric World, 1 hour 30 minutes (50% of the final grade)

Subject Information

Myth and religion have always been interesting areas of study, and this GCSE provides the opportunity to study both the Greek and Roman worlds from 3000 BCE to 500 CE. Pupils will study myths regarding the role of the gods and heroes in the founding of Athens and Rome and the importance of Heracles/Hercules to both the Greek and Roman worlds. Myth as a symbol of power will be explored, as will myths about the underworld.

This GCSE will provide opportunity to study one of the epic journeys of the ancient world: the fantastical and enjoyable tales of Odysseus' exploits as he travels home from the battle of Troy.

Pupils will also look at the role of religion in the everyday lives of Greeks and Romans. The study of temples, sacrifice, festivals, death and beliefs of the ancient world will provide opportunities to explore and develop understanding of how these cultural elements have influenced our modern society.

Ancient Greek and Roman culture will also be studied, including valuable archaeological sites, sculpture, jewellery and frescos. Everyday life is explored, allowing pupils to consider what life was like for real people in this period, rather than simply focusing on the exploits of epic heroes.

Additional Information

In order to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of the classical world, pupils need to demonstrate a good ability to read large amounts of text and write at length in an essay style.

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/classical-civilisation-j199-from-2017/>

Key Content

Paper 1	Paper 2
<p>What's assessed? Thematic study: Ancient Greek and Roman myths and religion. Everyday life in the Ancient Greek and Roman world. The role of decorative arts in reflecting ancient Greek and Roman culture.</p>	<p>What's assessed? The Homeric World: The Odyssey and life in the Mycenaean Age.</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

A Levels: Study of the classical world means pupils will be well-prepared for A Levels in any subject that requires a knowledge of society, such as History, Sociology, Politics or English.

Career Links

Any careers that require a knowledge of the development of society, communities, and history, such as journalism, marketing, publishing, teaching, politics, museum curation and academic research.

Homework

Year 10 homework includes activities to support pupils in revisiting key knowledge from lessons, deepening their understanding through creative tasks. In Year 11, homework consists of revising the key knowledge and completion of exam-style practice questions in order to build confidence in explaining and exploring key concepts.

BTEC Creative Media Production

Curriculum Leader for Computing: Ian Stannard



Exam Board: **Pearson (Edexcel)**

Assessment

Two non-examined assessments (NEA) totalling 20 hours and both worth 60 marks. One examined assessment totalling 10 hours worth 60 marks.

Subject Information

The qualification enables learners to develop skills across a range of media practices using a combination of practical exploration, experimentation and realistic vocational contexts.

The course offers knowledge in a number of key areas in the digital-media field such as preproduction skills through to a creative final product. Creative Media Production has a motivating, hands-on approach to teaching and learning, whilst using and learning industry standard software and techniques. The course is made up from a range of units which allow for flexibility and suiting the individual's needs.

Additional Information

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-tec-awards/creative-media-production/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/btec-tech-award-creative-media-production-2022-spec.pdf>

Key Content

Understanding the creative media industry, reviewing media products, pre-production techniques, post-production techniques.

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
<p>What's assessed? Exploring Media Products: Learners will develop their understanding of how media products create meaning for their audiences. Learners will examine existing products and explore media production techniques.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Developing Digital Media Production Skills: Learners will develop skills and techniques in media production processes by reworking media products from one, or all, of the following sectors: audio/moving image, publishing, interactive design.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief: In this unit the pupils will use industry standard web design software to design and create a website. The pupils will learn how to create animated banners, rollover navigation buttons and video content and arrange into a website aimed at a particular audience and purpose.</p>
<p>Assessed NEA 60 marks</p>	<p>Assessed NEA 60 marks</p>	<p>Assessed Exam assessment: 10 hours 60 marks</p>

Next Steps

This course leads onto Level 3 qualification focused on film/television, computer games, web development and publishing.

Career Links

A variety of positions within the creative sector including film, television, games, web and app development, and publishing.

Homework:

Homework is limited due to allocated times for the vocational qualification but pupils will be required to create primary resources for use in assessments.

GCSE Computer Science

Curriculum Leader for Computing: Ian Stannard



Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)

Assessment

One written paper worth 50% of the qualification. One onscreen test worth 50% of the qualification.

Subject Information

The Edexcel GCSE Computer Science assesses pupils' on their understanding of a number of theoretical topics and their ability to apply their knowledge using problem solving and programming skills.

Additional Information

There may be extra costs for any trips to visit placements to see good practice.

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Computer%20Science/2020/specification-and-sample-assessments/GCSE_L1_L2_Computer_Science_2020_Specification.pdf

Key Content

Computer Components, Networking, Data Representation and Programming.

Paper 1:	Paper 2:
<p>What's assessed? Principles of Computer Science: Consists of multiple-choice, short open-response, open-response and extended open-response answer questions.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Application of Computational Thinking: Assesses understanding of problem solving and programming by giving learners a number of scenarios and tasks to complete.</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed Onscreen exam: 2 hours 50% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

This course leads onto Level 3 Computing qualifications.

Career Links

Programming, Network Management, Software design.

Homework

Fortnightly Educake homework.

GCSE Dance

Lead Key Stage 4 teacher for Dance: Faye Weston



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

GCSE dance is 40% theory and 60% practical. This course is constructed of three non-examined assessments (NEA), two performances and one choreography component. There is also a theory paper (1 hour and 30 minutes). The theory is based around hypothetical choreography, how you as a dancer have used performance and choreographic skills in your own work, and around analytical knowledge of six professional works.

The NEA is marked in 2 areas; performance and choreography. Performance involves two set 30 second solos and a duet/trio done in class. The choreography component is completed after school working with younger pupils and is based around a question paper that is released in the September of Year 11 and guided through work in school to support. All NEA is marked in school and submitted for external moderation.

Subject Information

The GCSE Dance Anthology underpins learning across each of the three core areas. The anthology's mix of artistic, cultural, and aesthetically diverse works has been selected to broaden pupils' knowledge and understanding of the wide range of dance choreographed and performed in the United Kingdom today. The anthology consists of six short professional dance works each between 12 and 30 minutes duration. There is a filmed interview with the choreographer or company associate, which explores the choreographic approach of the choreographer and the defining characteristics of each work.

Together the six works include: different dance styles and fusions of style; a selection of established and emerging choreographers; different numbers and combinations of dancers; a variety of choreographic approaches; different choreographic structures; a variety of types of performance environment; a variety of aural settings; inclusive dance; dance influenced by other cultures. Study of the works can inspire pupils to develop their own performance, creative, and choreographic practice, at the same time as the knowledge, understanding and analytical skills required for critical appreciation.

Additional Information

Pupils will be required to run their own rehearsals once a week in Year 11 and in Year 10 pupils will need to be in the choreography of someone in Year 11. Pupils will get the chance to either participate in a workshop around one of the professional works or to go and view it (dependant on performance availability). Pupils will need a strong base knowledge in performance and choreography and ideally attend dance classes outside of school. They will also need strong analytical skills.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/dance/gcse/dance-8236/specification>

Key Content

Component 1	Component 2
<p>What's assessed? Component 1: Performance and Choreography Performance – assessed internally by teacher then submitted to AQA for moderation. Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration). Duet/trio performance (three minutes in a dance which is a maximum of five minutes in duration). Solo or group choreography – a solo (two to two and a half minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (three to three and a half minutes)</p>	<p>What's assessed? Component 2: Dance Appreciation Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills. Critical appreciation of own work. Critical appreciation of professional works.</p>
<p>Assessed 60% practical</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 40% theory</p>

Next Steps

A Level dance, BTEC dance, musical theatre, anything performance based - working in the performance industry.

Career Links

Performance industry, jobs that require team work, confidence, presenting.

Homework

Mixture of revision based tasks and exam style questions.

GCSE Design and Technology

Timbers

Curriculum Leader for Design and Technology: Chris Smith



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

Written exam: 2 hours, 100 marks, 50% of GCSE. Non-exam assessment (NEA): 30–35 hours approx. 100 marks. 50% of GCSE

Subject Information

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare pupils to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Pupils will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Pupils will work creatively, technically and practically when designing and making, showing expertise within the specialism of timbers and boards.

Additional Information

This course is not 100% practical. The practical aspect only accounts for 10% of the overall GCSE. Analytical, research, design and modelling are key components in this GCSE. After-school catch up sessions are once a week and must be attended to keep up with the challenge of the course.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/gcse/design-and-technology-8552/specification>

Key Content

Paper 1	Non-exam Assessment (NEA)
<p>What's assessed? Practical application of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Core technical principles ·Specialist technical principles ·Designing and making principles 	<p>What's assessed? Substantial design and make task</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Identifying and investigating design possibilities ·Producing a design brief and specification ·Generating design ideas ·Developing design ideas ·Realising design ideas ·Analysing and evaluating ·Pupils will produce a prototype and a portfolio of evidence
<p>Assessed Written exam: 2 hours 100 marks 50% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed NEA: 30–35 hours approx. 100 marks 50% of GCSE</p>

Next Steps

Product Design A Level,
 BTEC Construction, myriad
 other vocational courses in
 construction, engineering,
 architecture, plumbing.

Career Links

Engineering (a range of
 specialisms), Product Designer,
 Systems Designer, Architect,
 Plumber, Electrician, Construction,
 Armed Forces.

Homework

Exam questions, designer investigations, content revision and work set on Seneca.

BTEC Digital Information Technology

Curriculum Leader for Computing: Ian Stannard



Exam Board: **Pearson (Edexcel)**

Assessment

Two non-examined assessments (NEA) totalling 72 hours and both worth 60 marks. One written exam worth 60 marks lasting 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Subject Information

This qualification gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific applied knowledge and skills through realistic vocational contexts.

While developing digital literacy skills, learners will study project planning, data management, data interpretation, data presentation and data protection.

Additional Information

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-tec-awards/information-technology/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/btec-tech-award-digital-information-technology-spec.pdf>

Key Content

Understanding the digital literacy skills required for further education and employment.

Component 1	Component 2	Component 3
What's assessed? Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques	What's assessed? Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data	What's assessed? Effective Digital Working Practices
Assessed NEA	Assessed NEA	Assessed Written exam worth 60 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes

Next Steps

This course is a strong foundation for any Level 3 qualification in IT, Computer Science or the Technology industry, including apprenticeships.

Career Links

Careers in the technology industry would be the primary focus but the qualification supports any career requiring the use of digital systems. This qualification will replace business studies as it focusses on the practical use of technology in a work environment.

Homework

Fortnightly homework set on Educake.

GCSE Drama

Curriculum Leader for Drama: Carla Collins



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

- **Component 1** - 1 hour 45 minute written exam.
- **Component 2** - Devised performance exam, 2,500 word coursework.
- **Component 3** - Scripted performance exam (visiting examiner).

Subject Information

Drama is a well-respected academic and vocational GCSE course which can lead directly to A Level Performing Arts and Theatre Studies but also a desirable course for many other fields. Drama will create independent thinkers with skills in research, working with others, analysis, evaluation, communication, time management, problem solving, planning and organisation.

Additional Information

As part of the GCSE Drama course, we attend one live theatre performance each year. Group work is integral to Component 2 and Component 3 and therefore we require one hour of after school rehearsal per week for these components.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/gcse/drama-8261/specification>

Key Content:

Component 1:	Component 2:	Component 3:
<p>What's assessed? Understanding Drama Pupils study the performance challenges of a set text. They will also go to see a live performance and will be required to write a live theatre evaluation.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Devising Drama Pupils explore a stimulus resulting in a final practical performance. Alongside the practical work they must create a log book that documents the creative process.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Texts in Practice Pupils explore a play text and prepare two performances of extracts from the script. These can be monologues, duologues or group pieces.</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 40% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Final devised performance and log book (2,500 word coursework) 40% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Final performance of two extracts 20% of GCSE (marked by an external examiner)</p>

Next Steps

A Level Drama, BTEC Acting, Musical Theatre, Performing Arts, Dance, Law, Media, Film Studies, English (Literature and Language).

Career Links

Careers in theatre, careers in public speaking, Drama Therapist, Journalist, Film/TV/ Radio.

Homework

Revision, text annotation, reading set text, watching live theatre, exam practice.

GCSE Film Studies

Lead Key Stage 4 teacher for Film Studies: Georgie Underwood



Exam Board: **Eduqas**

Assessment

- **Component 1** - 1 hour 30mins 35% of qualification.
- **Component 2** - 1 hour 30mins 35% of qualification. We will be focusing on the films: *The Babadook* (2014), *The Wave* (2008) and *Attack the Block* (2011).
- **Component 3** - Non-exam assessment (NEA) production 30% of qualification. We will be focusing on the films: *Dracula* and *The Lost Boys* for Comparative Study and the film *The Hurt Locker* for the Independent film.

Subject Information

Film Studies is a dynamic and intellectually stimulating subject that offers a unique blend of creative and academic learning. Studying Film Studies can broaden pupils' analytical and critical thinking skills, whilst also nurturing their creativity and appreciation for the art form. Film Studies equips pupils with transferable skills that are valuable across various academic disciplines.

Additional Information:

We would like to propose film afternoons in school for students to watch the set filmic texts in a cinema-like environment.

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/sjyhrqeu/eduqas-gcse-film-studies-spec-from-2017-e-16-08-23-1.pdf>

Key Content

Component 1	Component 2	Component 3
<p>What's assessed? Key Developments in US Film Section A: US film Comparative Study: Three questions based on the films studied and comparing them. Section B: Key Developments in film and film technology: One multi-part question. Section C: US Independent Film: One question on the US independent film studied.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Global film: Narrative, Representation and Film Style Section A: Global English Language film (Babadook) Section B: Global Non-English Language Film (Tsotsi) Section C: Contemporary UK Film (Attack The Block)</p>	<p>What's assessed? Production Produce a screenplay for a section of a film.</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 35% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 35% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Non-exam assessment (NEA) production 30% of GCSE</p>

Next Steps

Film Studies A Level can accompany many other subjects and can form part of an application to a huge range of university courses and career paths. You can take Film Studies as an A Level and other complementary A Levels include: Photography; English Literature; Politics; Sociology; History.

Career Links

There is a vast list of careers that can stem from taking Film Studies. Magazine Journalist, Marketing Executive, Event Manager, Concept Artist, Advertising Art Director, Public Relations Officer, Special Effects Technician, Broadcast Presenter, Film Director, Television/ Film/ Video Producer, Film/ Video Editor, Location Manager, Television Camera Operator, Runner - Broadcasting/Film/ Video, Talent Agent, Production Designer - Theatre/Television/ Film, Programme Researcher - Broadcasting/Television/ Film, VFX Artist, Television Production Coordinator and many more.

Homework

Weekly Educake quizzes, exam questions, revision questions and practical work linked to the non-exam assessment.

GCSE Geology



Curriculum Leader for Geography: Gavin Blackman

Exam Board: **WJEC**

Assessment

One written paper worth 50% of the qualification. One onscreen paper worth 50% of the qualification

Subject Information

If you especially enjoy physical geography, have a scientific mindset and fancy an outdoorsy, scientific and potentially well-paid career, then GCSE Geology could be for you. GCSE Geology explores how the Earth has formed and changed over time. You will study rocks, minerals, fossils, resources, volcanoes, earthquakes, and past environments to understand the planet beneath your feet.

The subject develops strong observation, analytical, and problem-solving skills through real-world examples and practical investigations. Geology will help you understand natural hazards, resource use, and environmental change, making it highly relevant to modern global challenges. It complements Geography and Science subjects and is ideal if you enjoy logical thinking, practical work, and learning about the natural world.

Additional Information

There will be fieldwork opportunities to visit local environments where rocks, landforms, and geological features can be observed and investigated directly.

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/geology-gcse/>

Key Content

Paper 1	Paper 2
<p>What's assessed? Foundations of Geology: Earth structure, minerals, igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks, fossils, and geological time.</p> <p>Assessed through structured, short-answer and extended typed responses. No drawing; text-based answers only.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Investigative Geology: Geological maps, fieldwork skills, Earth resources, hazards, and environmental geology.</p> <p>Assessed through data analysis, application of fieldwork knowledge, and extended written responses. No coursework.</p>
<p>Assessed Onscreen exam: 1 hour 15 minutes Multiple choice and simple written (or typed) answer questions worth 1 or 2 marks, and extended written (or typed) answer questions worth 6 marks. 50% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes Multiple choice and simple written (or typed) answer questions worth 1 or 2 marks, and extended written (or typed) answer questions worth 6 marks. 50% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

GCSE Geology is a good grounding for subjects such as A-Level Geology, A-Level Geography and A-Level Biology, Chemistry, or Environmental Science.

Career Links

There are lots of careers in which a GCSE in Geology would help. These include careers in town planning, civil engineering, construction, astronomy (studying exoplanets), energy and renewable resources, mining, hydrogeology, conservation, hazard management, natural history, education, and scientific research.

Homework

Fortnightly exam-style and knowledge-retrieval questions set on Seneca.

Hospitality and Catering

Lead Key Stage 4 teacher for Hospitality and Catering: Georgina Allen



Exam Board: **WJEC**

Assessment

The WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Hospitality and Catering is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessment.

Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry will be externally assessed. The online external assessment (1 hour 20 minutes exam) is a mixture of short and extended answer questions. This is 40% of the final GCSE grade.

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action. Pupils use the knowledge gained in Unit 1 to propose new hospitality and catering provision for specific restaurants and locations. They explore different types of establishment and service before deciding on a menu that suits the needs of their potential market and clients. Pupils will then prepare, cook and present a selection of dishes in a practical exam situation over approximately 12 hours. The brief is provided by the exam board and then marked and moderated in school before being submitted for final external marking. This accounts for 60% of final GCSE grade.

Subject Information

Learners will gain knowledge and understanding of the importance of nutrition and how to plan nutritious menus. They will learn the skills needed to prepare, cook and present dishes. They will also learn how to review their work effectively. They will gain a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the hospitality and catering industry including provision, health and safety, and food safety.

Additional Information

This course equips pupils not only to be employees within food production, but also to work with those with a responsibility for food safety in the industry, nutritionists, managers and owners. It introduces pupils to the whole vocational area beyond the kitchen environment.

In Year 10 we will build up practical skills for the assessment in Year 11. This will involve a practical cooking session on average once a week which will have a financial implication as well as requiring organisational skills.

https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/ukvew1a/wjec_11-2-vocaward-hospitality_and_catering_spec-e_11-09-2023-1.pdf

Key Content:

The learning will be a mixture of practical tasks that support the theory and may be in the form of team work, individual tasks or whole class activities. They will also take part in planning, preparing and catering for some whole school events to model good practice. We are hoping to establish links with local colleges so pupils can see the career and further studies opportunities linked to this subject. We will link with external experts who will come into school and share their practical cooking skills.

Unit 1	Unit 2
What's assessed? The Hospitality and Catering Industry	What's assessed? Hospitality and Catering in Action
Assessed Online written exam: 1 hour 20 minutes 40% of final grade.	Assessed Practical exam: Approx. 12 hours 60% of final grade.

Next Steps

Level 1, 2 and 3 Professional Catering, Level 3 Food and Beverage Service, Level 3 T Level Catering.

Career Links

Businesses which make up the hospitality sector include hotels, restaurants, coffee shops, pubs and bars, leisure parks, stadia, nightclubs, contract caterers, food service operators, entertainment and visitor attractions. Employment can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers, and food technologists working for supermarket chains. Some of these roles require further education and training either through apprenticeships or further and higher education.

Homework

Exam questions, recipe research and meal planning. Purchasing and preparing ingredients for practical sessions.

GCSE Music

Curriculum Leader for Music: Tim Cole



Exam Board: **Edexcel**

Assessment

- **Listening** - 1 hour 45 minutes listening exam based on pieces studied in class and wider listening. (40% of the final grade)
- **Composing** - Compose two pieces of music that contrast each other (Non-exam assessment (NEA) 30% of the final grade).
- **Performing** - Record at least one solo and one ensemble performance (Non-exam assessment (NEA) 30% of the final grade).

Subject Information

GCSE Music is designed to inspire the next generation of musicians. Whether they are performers or composers, the course covers an exciting, wide range of musical topics and activities that are designed to allow young musicians to develop into confident performers and composers.

Pupils will study music through performing, composing, and appraising.

As a performer pupils will have the freedom to develop their own chosen repertoire. Music can be played from the Classical tradition or the Rock/Pop tradition (or a combination of both).

Pupils work by themselves and in small groups to develop and hone their composing skills. They will be able to take advantage of the Department's music technology to create multi-tracked pieces of music using either GarageBand, Logic Pro X, or Musescore to compose their own pieces.

Pupils will develop listening and appraising skills by studying eight pieces of music from a wide range of genres (Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Music for Stage and Screen, and Fusions).

Pupils who enjoy being creative, love music and can either play a musical instrument or sing will really enjoy this course. The current specification provides pupils who have a particular interest in performing or composing with a strong foundation for further study.

Additional Information

Pupils are encouraged to take an active role in all aspects of the musical life of the school and will be invited to take part in concerts. The course is designed to give all pupils the opportunity to develop their knowledge, understanding, and skills of music whatever their previous experience.

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/music-2016.html>

Key Content

Component 1	Component 2	Component 3
What's assessed? Listening Examined on pieces of music studied in class and wider listening.	What's assessed? Composing Compose two pieces of music that contrast each other.	What's assessed? Performing One solo and one ensemble performance.
Assessed Listening exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 40% of GCSE	Assessed NEA composition 30% of GCSE	Assessed NEA performing 30% of GCSE

Next Steps

Music A Level, Popular Music Performance, Music Technology A Level, BTEC Diploma in Music Performance and Technology, Performing & Production Arts - Musical Theatre

Career Links

Professional Performing Musician, Music Therapy, Music Teacher, Instrumental Teacher, Composer, Sound Engineer, Music Producer

Homework

Theory worksheets, revision worksheets and tasks, prepare for performance recordings.

GCSE Art: Photography

Curriculum Leader for Art and Photography: Laura Oswald-Cutler



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

This course is 100% Non-exam assessment (NEA). Component 1: Portfolio of Work (60%), Component 2: Externally set assignment (40%). Work produced for Component 1 and 2 will be assessed internally prior to an external moderator visiting the centre. Work produced for Component 2 takes place under strict exam conditions and concludes with a 10 hour controlled exam.

Subject Information

Pupils studying GCSE photography will be required to work in one or more area(s) of photography such as: portraiture, location photography, studio photography, experimental imagery, installation, documentary photography, photo-journalism, fashion photography. This specification will provide pupils who have a particular interest in professional photography with a strong foundation for further study at AS and A Level as well as vocational pathways. The course will be specifically aimed at teaching digital photography but will touch on traditional skills too.

Additional Information

Commitment and organisation is essential when studying this course. We also seek to enrich the curriculum through inviting artists or educators from industry and post-16 establishments, in addition to taking pupils on visits to post-16 providers and art galleries and spaces.

A £15 contribution is requested at the start of each academic year towards the cost of materials and printing.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design>

Key Content

Component 1	Component 2
<p>What's assessed? Component 1: Portfolio of Work Pupils will study two projects during Years 10 and 11 which constitute Component 1. Pupils studying Photography will learn and develop techniques in location, studio and documentary photography. They will learn manual manipulation and digital editing techniques using a range of materials and through the use of Photoshop. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Component 2: Externally set assignment AQA will provide a separate externally set assignment for Component 2 where pupils will select and respond to one starting point. This is released in the January of Year 11 and pupils will have a preparatory period of time, followed by a 10 hour exam of unaided, independent, focused study. This takes place under strict exam conditions. Pupils are awarded marks out of 96 for each component which fall into four assessment objectives.</p>
<p>Assessed Class work: Unlimited 60% of final grade.</p>	<p>Assessed Practical exam: 10 hours 40% of final grade.</p>

Next Steps

This course is a strong foundation for further progression to Art, Craft and Design related courses such as A Level Photography, Art and Design and enhanced vocational and career pathways.

Career Links

There are many careers that require creative and artistic skills including architecture, fashion design, advertising, media make-up and floristry. Photography can lead you onto careers such as photo journalism, production and marketing photography, sports photography, studio technician and photographer, film and television production.

Homework

Pupils are required to spend time outside of lesson completing unfinished work, photoshoots and presentation. They may also be given termly tasks to complete independently to enhance their projects. KS4 pupils are offered extra-curricular catch-up sessions and these will become compulsory if a pupil fails to complete homework or complete class work.

GCSE Physical Education

Curriculum Leader for Physical Education: Dave Worthy



Exam Board: **AQA**

Assessment

Two written papers each 1 hour 15 minutes, and three practical assessments which make up their Non-exam assessment (NEA).

Subject Information

GCSE PE is a practical and theory based subject, which provides a strong foundation for pupils who may wish to follow a future pathway in sport. Due to the course being 60% theory, practical sessions are limited. Pupils are expected to participate in sporting activities outside of school.

Pupils will also have to complete a controlled assessment aspect of the course where they will analyse their own strengths and weaknesses in one of their three chosen sports.

1. Applied anatomy and physiology
2. Movement analysis
3. Physical training
4. Use of data
5. Sports psychology
6. Socio-cultural influences
7. Health, fitness and wellbeing

Additional Information

Pupils ideally will have participated in at least one sport outside of school to a reasonable level. Pupils will need to make themselves available for any clubs before, during and after school which could help increase their practical grade.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physical-education/gcse/physical-education-8582/specification>

Key Content

Paper 1	Paper 2	Non-exam Assessment (NEA)
<p>What's assessed? The human body and movement in physical activity and sport</p> <p>Applied anatomy and physiology Movement analysis Physical training Use of data studied in class and wider listening.</p>	<p>What's assessed? Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport</p> <p>Sports psychology Socio-cultural influences Health, fitness and wellbeing</p>	<p>What's assessed? Practical performance in physical activity and sport</p> <p>Practical performance in three different physical activities in the role of player/performer (one in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third in either a team or in an individual activity). Analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity.</p>
<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes 78 marks 30% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes 78 marks 30% of GCSE</p>	<p>Assessed NEA assessed by teachers and moderated by AQA 100 marks 40% of GCSE</p>

Next Steps

A Level PE, Level 3 BTEC.

Career Links

Sports coach, Teacher, Sports Physio, Dietician, Sports Psychology.

Homework

Educake, revision cards.

