



**Orsett Heath
Academy**



Year 9 Options Information Handbook

February 2024



CONTENTS

Art and Design

Business Studies

Dance

Design and Technology

Drama

English Literature and Language

French

Geography

Health and Social Care

History

Hospitality and Catering

Mathematics

Media Studies

Music

Physical Education and Sport

Religion and Ethics

Science

Sociology

Introduction to Subject	The Art and Design GCSE is made up of two elements: portfolio work and the final exam. The portfolio work will be created in Year 10 and the first term of Year 11. Students complete 2 main projects in this time. The portfolio mark will account for 60% of the final grade.
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	AQA Art and Design: Fine Art
Course content	<p>The portfolio of work (coursework) will include work carried out both in class and at home. The first part of the course is teacher led with a starting point called 'Natural Forms'. Directed by the teacher, the course encourages new thinking in exploring ideas and materials, conveying an experience, and creating personal responses to themes and artists. The second part of the course will allow students to work independently from a choice of starting points given by the exam board in Year 11. In both components of the course, students are required to work in one or more area(s) of fine art such as drawing, painting, sculpture, installation, photography, printmaking, mixed media, and land art.</p> <p>All coursework must be presented with any relevant preliminary studies carried out before and during the production of a finished piece. Observational drawing and annotation of sketchbook is a requirement.</p> <p>All your work will be marked according to how well you have met the 4 Assessment Objectives: developing ideas through investigation of sources and artists, the exploration and experimentation of ideas, recording ideas and insights, and presenting a personal and meaningful response.</p> <p>The above work must be presented with supporting studies in sketchbooks, canvases, and the use of own photography.</p> <p>Equipment: Students require the following: A3 high quality ring-bound sketchbook; HB, B, 2B Drawing pencils; Coloured pencils; Watercolours/acrylics for producing work at home; Oil pastels.</p> <p>The above equipment can all be purchased through the Art Department. During the course, your child will be requested to bring in canvases for their final pieces. Students are required to ensure their sketchbook is up to date with all work completed and presented in order. We do expect that students to continue their artwork at home.</p>
Exam information	Portfolio of work - 60% of the total marks Externally set controlled test (10 hours) - 40% of the total marks
Careers useful for	Fashion design, Graphic design, Theatre designer, Animator, Video game designer, Illustrator, Museum curator, Photographer, Architecture, Product design, Textiles design, Ceramics, Advertising, Publishing, Interior design, Fashion and media journalism, Hair and make-up design, Retail design, Exhibition design, Jewellery design, Artist, Visual media, Teaching.

BUSINESS

Introduction to Subject	OCR Business will give you the opportunity to explore real business issues and gain an insight into how businesses work. The content is relevant, up to date and applicable to whatever future career you may choose. The relevant and diverse specification considers the practical application of business concepts and explores these theories using real life business events that affect the business and economic world. This course of study will be of practical use and personal value in building a foundation of knowledge, understanding and skills that will form a basis for further study and assist in future employment. The Enterprise and Marketing vocational qualification is simply a different style of study for students who would benefit from a mixture of coursework and examination rather than 100% exam-based assessment at the end of year 11. It is considered of equal standing by sixth form providers and will therefore provide the same opportunity for further study as GCSE.
Qualification	OCR Cambridge National (GCSE Equivalent)
Exam Specification and board	OCR Cambridge J837
Course content	<p>Students will cover a variety of topics, including how to create a business proposal for a new business. They will explore the use of branding and methods of promotion used in businesses and develop and promote a brand for a new business startup.</p> <p>Students will also assess gaps that exist in the market; considering consumer trends and externalities that can affect the startup of a business. As well as preparing portfolios of work containing two units, students will sit an examination which will investigate costs involved in a business startup and financial plans businesses prepare to ensure success; this unit is externally assessed. Students will also develop a full range of transferable skills including verbal communication/presentation, research, problem solving, analytical skills, digital presentation planning and creative thinking.</p>
Coursework and exam information	<p>R067: Enterprise and marketing concepts (40%) 1 hour 15 minute external written exam Part A – 10 multiple choice questions Part B – short/medium answer questions and one extended response</p> <p>R068: Design a business proposal (30%) Internal assessment Six practical tasks completed over 10-14 hours.</p> <p>R069: Market and pitch a business proposal (30%) Internal assessment Five practical tasks completed over 10-14 hours.</p>
Careers useful for	These qualifications create pathways that provide you with the underpinning skills and knowledge that will enable you to choose the most appropriate progression routes for your needs (further study, Further Education (FE)). You can progress from OCR Cambridge National in Enterprise and Marketing to other vocational qualifications such as Level 3 Cambridge Technical in Business, or an A Level in Business, or a T Level in Digital Business Services, as well as Apprenticeships such as Business Administration. Future careers could include – Recruitment consultant, HR assistant/manager, Business manager, Accountant, Project manager, investment banker, Business Analyst.

DANCE

<p>Introduction to Subject</p>	<p>Dance is a powerful and inspiring qualification that encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional, and intellectual capacity. We have bridged the gap between AS and A-level and higher education providers, giving the students the skills and experience to better prepare them for the demands of higher education or the workplace. Dance encourages students to be creative alongside leading an active life taking part in practical work.</p> <p>Transferable skills gained from dance GCSE: presentation and communication skills; ability to work independently; teamwork and collaboration; creative collaboration; focus; original thinking; time management and organisational skills; self-awareness; self-discipline; creativity and flexibility; awareness of others; analytical, critical and research skills; the ability to receive feedback and learn from it; pursuit of excellence; resilience.</p>
<p>Qualification</p>	<p>GCSE</p>
<p>Exam Specification and board</p>	<p>AQA</p>
<p>Course content</p>	<p>Throughout the course you will explore choreographic processes alongside refining you own physical, technical, and expressive skills in a range of dance styles. You will also study an anthology of dance works including Hip, Hop, contemporary and various other dance styles. You will choreograph, direct and perform in your own choreography as well as work collaboratively with people in your class.</p>
<p>Exam information</p>	<p>Choreography (30%)</p> <p>You will have the opportunity to choreograph a dance for up to 5 people. These dancers will be picked from across the school to perform for you in your final piece. You choose the style, music and costume based on a stimulus you have been given.</p> <p>Performance (30%)</p> <p>Group: You will perform alongside other members of your GCSE class in a dance that your group will choreograph alongside your teacher, based on two of the set phrases we are studying. This can be adapted into any dance style.</p> <p>Solo: You will learn four set phrases and select two to perform solo in front of a camera.</p> <p>Written Exam (40%)</p> <p>During this exam you will write about the anthology you have studied throughout Year 10 and 11, analysing the features of production and critically evaluating the works. You will also comment on your own work and the application of skill alongside the process of choreography and dance.</p>
<p>Careers useful for</p>	<p>Arts administrator; Choreographer; Community arts worker; Dance movement psychotherapist; Dancer; Personal trainer; Theatre director; Chiropractor; Event manager; Further education teacher; Higher education teacher; Teacher (Secondary, private or vocational); Osteopath; Physiotherapist; Sports therapist; Talent agent</p>

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduction to Subject	Design and Technology enables students to apply creativity and problem-solving skills to research, design, manufacture, test and modify a wide range of unique, yet functional products.
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	Design & Technology (A552) - AQA
Course content	<p>The core content of the Design and Technology course introduces students to a very wide range of content aimed at developing both practical skills and theoretic knowledge. Students are expected to apply their understanding of information linked to Mathematics, Science, Art & Design, ICT and Geography.</p> <p>Pupils will be expected to use a wide range of materials, designing techniques and the application of practical skills to develop, manufacture, test and evaluate products for a variety of potential users. Pupils will be expected to investigate the development of existing products, the use of resources and their impact on the environment.</p> <p>Students will be required to demonstrate the ability to use a range of tools and equipment independently and safely.</p> <p>With access to modern, real-world equipment, students will be able to develop a range of products that match their interests, abilities, and the needs of other users. Design ideas can be fully developed through the combined use of plastic, wood, card, textiles, and electronic systems. With access to Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing (CAD & CAM) equipment, students create high quality prototypes with unique features.</p>
Exam information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50% Design and Making Unit (Non-Examination Assessment) <p>Students research, design, make, test and evaluate a product that suits their specific interest and ability. All work is supervised and completed in school as part of weekly practical and theory lessons. In addition to the practical tasks, students create a portfolio of evidence linked to the product. (Maximum - 35 PowerPoint slides)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50% Examination Unit <p>Students sit one 2-hour written examination at the end of the course (Summer 2024).</p> <p>NEA and Examination marks are combined to determine the final GCSE grade.</p>
Careers useful for	<p>Related learning and Apprenticeship linked careers: Architect; Heating & Ventilation Engineer; Aerospace Engineer; Product Designer including CAD modelling; Electrician; Electronics Engineer - (Design, Installation & Maintenance); Mechanical Engineer; Graphic Designer; CNC Machinist; Health and Safety; Resource sustainability and the Environment; Ergonomist; Furniture Designer; Rail Engineer Technician; Structural Engineer; Motor Vehicle Technology – repair and maintenance.</p>

DRAMA

Introduction to Subject	If you opt to take GCSE Drama, you will be joining a class of enthusiastic and committed people who are all looking to develop their acting skills, group working skills, creative skills, improvisation skills, communication skills and evaluative skills.
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	Eduqas GCSE (9 – 1) Drama
Course content	Theatre practitioners, theatre design, staging and production styles, directing, rehearsal techniques, performance techniques, acting skills, text-based study, devising, improvisation, group work, performance evaluation, communication skills.
Exam information	<p>Component 1: 40% of the qualification – 60 marks Learners participate in the creation, development, and performance of a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or a genre, in response to a stimulus set. Learners must produce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a realisation of their piece of devised theatre • a portfolio of supporting evidence • an evaluation of the final performance or design <p>Component 2: 20% of the qualification – 48 marks Learners study two extracts from the same performance text chosen by the centre. Learners participate in one performance using sections of text from both extracts.</p> <p>Component 3: 40% of the qualification – 60 marks, written examination Section A: A series of questions on one set text chosen by the teacher Section B: Live Theatre Review: One question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.</p>
Careers useful for	<p>After you have completed GCSE Drama you can go on to higher levels of study. These include A level Drama and Theatre Studies; BTEC National Performing Arts.</p> <p>In addition to this, the transferable skills learnt will be invaluable for the future in all professions: teachers, doctors, solicitors, politicians, entrepreneurs, customer service, hospitality, entertainment, and most other jobs!</p>

Introduction to Subject	All students follow the Eduqas examination syllabuses for English Language and English Literature. Over two years, the course covers a range of texts and develops skills in reading and writing for a variety of purposes and audiences. Students are assessed in terminal examinations, resulting in two separate GCSE qualifications.
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	Eduqas (part of WJEC) GCSE English Language GCSE English Literature
Course content	<p>English Language:</p> <p><u>Component 1</u> 20th Century Literature reading comprehension and a story writing task.</p> <p><u>Component 2</u> 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction reading comprehension and two 'real-life' writing tasks.</p> <p>English Literature:</p> <p><u>Component 1</u> Romeo and Juliet (Extract + Essay) Poetry Anthology (Extract + Comparison)</p> <p><u>Component 2:</u> An Inspector Calls (Extract + Essay) A Christmas Carol (Extract + Essay) Unseen poetry (Analysis + Comparison)</p>
Exam information	<p>English Language:</p> <p><u>Component 1</u> (One hour 45 minutes) 40% of grade Reading a fiction text. Creative writing</p> <p><u>Component 2</u> (Two hours) 60% of grade Reading non-fiction texts Writing to give information and ideas.</p> <p>English Literature:</p> <p><u>Component 1</u> (Two hours) 40% of grade Study of a Shakespeare text Poetry from the Eduqas anthology</p> <p><u>Component 2</u> (Two hours 30 minutes) 60% Modern Drama 19th Century Prose Unseen Poetry</p>
Careers useful for	A wide range of jobs, such as those in education or the media (for example, journalism or editorial roles).

FRENCH

Introduction to Subject	GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (grades 1 - 5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4 - 9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. Tiers of entry are determined by student attainment.
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	AQA GCSE French 8658
Course content	<p>During the course, students will develop expertise in many aspects of language learning including development of communication skills; improve grammar knowledge and application; understanding of linguistic structure; broaden vocabulary base in the target language; gain a greater cultural insight and understanding.</p> <p>As students progress through the course, they will develop confidence in dealing with a wide range of contexts and be able to understand and use more accurately a widening range of vocabulary and structures. They will develop the ability to understand issues and opinions, relating to the following themes on which assessments are based:</p> <p>Theme 1: Identity and culture Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest Theme 3: Current and future study and employment</p>
Exam information	<p>Paper 1: Listening - 25% of GCSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam based on listening comprehension • 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier) • 40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier) <p>Paper 2: Speaking - 25% of GCSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoken exam (one role play, one picture and 2 themes) • 7-9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time • 10-12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time • 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier) <p>Paper 3: Reading – 25% of GCSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 45 minute (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier) • 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier) <p>Paper 4: Writing – 25% of GCSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier) • 50 marks at Foundation Tier and 60 marks at Higher Tier
Careers useful for	MFL is an asset in many fields but is directly used in the following careers: Journalist, Translator/interpreter, Logistics/distribution manager, public relations officer, HR manager, Marketing manager, Editor, Charities administrator, Armed forces, Solicitor, Teacher, Tourist information officer, Football player liaison manager and bilingual positions at companies such as L'Oréal, Renault and EDF.

GEOGRAPHY

Introduction to Subject	This exciting course is a balance of physical and human geography. It allows you to investigate the link between the two themes, and approach and examine the issues between the man-made and natural world.
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	AQA GCSE (9-1) Geography
Course content	<p><u>Paper One – Living with the physical environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Challenge of natural hazards: Tectonic Hazards; Weather Hazards; Climate Change • Living World: Ecosystems; Tropical Rainforest; Hot Deserts • Physical Landscapes: Coastal Landscapes; River Landscapes <p><u>Paper Two – Challenges in the human environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Challenges: Urban growth in Nigeria; Urban Challenges in the UK; Sustainable development of urban areas. • The changing economic world: Economic development and quality of life; Reducing the global development gap; Economic Development in Nigeria; Economic Change in the UK. • The challenge of Resource Management: Global resource management; Resources in the UK; Energy. <p><u>Paper Three - Geographical Applications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue evaluation. • Fieldwork and geographical enquiry
Exam information	<p>There will be 3 exam papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper One – Living with the physical environment (Physical geography) • Paper Two – Challenges in the human environment (Human geography) • Paper Three - Geographical Applications (Fieldwork and pre released booklet) <p>Papers involve a selection of questions: One/Two mark and multiple-choice questions, e.g. give, describe, label, identify, calculate. Four-mark questions (longer answer), e.g. explain, compare, suggest, outline. Six, nine-mark questions (longer answer). e.g. assess, evaluate, to what extent, justify.</p>
Careers useful for	Cartographer, Commercial/residential surveyor, Environmental consultant, Geographical information systems officer, Planning and development surveyor, Secondary school teacher, Town planner, Pilot. Architect, Social Worker, Housing Developer, Travel Agent, Accountant, Market Researcher, Lawyer, Civil servant, Armed forces, Emergency services, Travel writer/Blogger, Landscape Gardener, Photographer, Journalist.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Introduction to Subject	The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care is ideal for you would like to find out more about health and social care. This course offers a practical introduction to life and work in the health and social care sector. The qualification is the same size and level as a GCSE.
Qualification	BTEC Technical Award
Exam Specification and board	Pearson Edexcel
Course content	<p>This course will give you the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. You will also develop key skills relevant to the health and social care sector such as research techniques and how to measure someone's physical health. You will also develop your written communication skills as you create health and wellbeing plans for an individual with specific needs.</p> <p>Human Lifespan and Development gives you the opportunity to study how people grow and develop over the course of their lives, from infancy to old age. You will also look at the factors that may affect growth and development throughout the lifespan, such as life changing events like marriage or death of a partner. You will explore how individuals cope with these changes, as well as investigate the types of support available to help them.</p> <p>Health and Social Care Services you will investigate common services as well as those for specific needs and consider how they may work together to meet individual's needs. You will examine the barriers to individuals accessing services and how they may be overcome. You will explore the skills, attributes and values that are required in health and social care, and their importance in making sure that the people who use these services get the care they need.</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing explores the factors that can have a positive or negative influence on an individual's health and wellbeing. You will learn to interpret physiological and lifestyle indicators, and what they mean for someone's state of health. You will learn how to use this information to design an appropriate plan for improving someone's health and wellbeing, including short- and long-term targets. Additionally, you will explore the difficulties an individual may face when trying to make these changes.</p>
Exam information	The course is made up of three components. Two are internally assessed, one is externally assessed.
Careers useful for	Health and social care is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK with demand for both health and social care employees continuously rising. Social care employees such as care assistants and social workers work with individuals to support them to be as independent as possible in their own homes, in care homes or nursing homes. Healthcare employees, such as doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, healthcare assistants and physiotherapists, work with individuals to enhance their quality of life by improving their health. Approximately 3 million people are currently employed in the sector.

HISTORY

Introduction to Subject	History GCSE aims to inspire students to think analytically about the topics and the world around them. It aims to develop key skills that all students can take forward and use in their further education and beyond.
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	Exam board: Edexcel Specification: Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in History (1HI0)
Course content	The exam consists of three exam papers. Each paper focuses on a different topic and skill. In order to be well prepared for the new GCSE, Year 9 are already studying the GCSE topic on Hitler's Rise to Power and the creation of the Nazi State and Third Reich.
Exam information	<p>Paper 1 – Thematic Study and the Historical Environment. 30% This exam paper tests two skills where students use sources and recall knowledge. <i>Medicine through time</i> Paper 1 is divided into two: a thematic study and a linked study of a historic environment. This will allow students to understand change and continuity across the 1000-year time period as well as causes and consequence of key events throughout history.</p> <p>Paper 2 – Period Study and British Depth Study. 40% Students are required to study one British depth study and one period study. <i>Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88 / Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-91</i> The British depth study focus is on a short time span and require students to understand the complexity of a society or historical situation and the interplay of different aspects within it. The period study focus is on a medium time span of at least 50 years and require students to understand the unfolding narrative of significant developments and issues associated with the period.</p> <p>Paper 3 – Modern Depth Study. 30% This is a historical source-based exam paper. <i>Germany 1918-1945</i> This study investigates reasons for, and the impact of, the development of totalitarianism in Germany. It examines conditions in Weimar Germany and the reasons why many German people supported the Nazi party. You will explore the setting up and the nature of Nazi government. The emphasis is on the reactions of differing groups of people in Germany living in the Nazi state.</p>
Careers useful for	Teaching; Research; Journalism; Law; Politics; Archaeology; Forensics; Intelligence; Publishing

Introduction to Subject	<p>This exciting course has been approved by the DfE as a technical award. According to the British Hospitality Association, hospitality and catering is Britain's fourth largest industry and accounts for around 10% of the total workforce.</p> <p>Since 2010, over 25% of all new jobs have been within the hospitality and catering sector with the majority of new roles falling within the 18-24 age groups. The ability to plan, prepare and present food is an essential skill within the hospitality and catering industry.</p> <p>The WJEC Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering equips learners with theoretical knowledge about the industry as well as enabling them to develop practical skills in planning, preparing and cooking a variety of dishes. Whilst students enjoy the cooking aspect of this course, as the title suggests, the course is about the hospitality industry and only 30% of this course is based on practical ability.</p>
Qualification	Hospitality & Catering Level 1/2 Award - Level 1 Pass/ L2 Pass/ L2 Merit /Level 2 Distinction
Exam Specification and board	WJEC Hospitality & Catering Level 1/2 Award
Course content	<p><u>Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the different parts of the Hospitality & Catering Industry • Different types of establishments and job roles • Provisions for particular situations • Front of house and kitchen operations • The needs and requirements of customers • What makes hospitality & catering businesses successful • Nutrition and food safety <p>Practical lessons: integrated throughout Unit 1 to build cooking skills and techniques. Usually in one double lesson per fortnight.</p> <p><u>Unit 2: The Hospitality and Catering in Action – Focus on cooking.</u> You will apply your knowledge to plan, prepare, cook and serve a variety of nutritional dishes in a safe and hygienic manner, that are suitable for different situations and customers' needs and requirements.</p>
Exam information	<p>Assessment:</p> <p>Unit 1 Hospitality and Catering Industry 40% External written assessment 90 minutes in Year 10</p> <p>Unit 2 Hospitality and Catering in Action 60% Internally assessed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30% controlled assessment (written) • 30% practical assessment (2 course meal)
Careers useful for	All catering roles; All roles within the Hospitality and catering industry; Teaching; Nutritionist

Introduction to Subject	<p>Mathematics is for all students and the course offered is designed to give confidence in the handling of mathematics regardless of ability.</p> <p>All students follow a course which gives them the opportunity to achieve a GCSE qualification.</p> <p>Entry to higher or foundation tiers will be determined by student attainment.</p>
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	Pearson Edexcel GCSE Mathematics (Higher or Foundation)
Course content	<p>The course aims to help students develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applying mathematics in practical and problem-solving tasks • the ability to use a flexible range of methods of computation and techniques for manipulating algebraic expressions • understanding shape and space through drawing and practical work, use properties of position, movement and transformation and use measures • the ability to collect, process, represent and interpret data and to estimate and calculate the probabilities of events
Exam information	<p>3 papers (1 hour 30 minutes each) 2 calculator 1 non-calculator</p> <p>All three papers test the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use and apply standard techniques • Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically • Solve problems within mathematics and other contexts
Careers useful for	Government agencies and academic research institutes; Engineering firms; Biomedical and health services companies; Insurance agencies; Real estate firms; Medical device manufacturers; Airlines and other transportation service providers; Financial Institutions; Mathematics Teacher.

Introduction to Subject	Media Studies looks at the information that reaches us via not only newspapers and broadcasting, but through music, film, advertising, magazines, radio, and photographs as well. Much of what we understand in the world depends on information we receive from mass media organisations. Media Studies enables students to look critically at this information and, through practical work, investigate media processes and techniques.
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	WJEC/Eduqas GCSE Media Studies
Course content	<p>Component 1: Exploring the Media</p> <p>Section A: Exploring Media Language and Representation This section assesses media language and representation in relation to two of the following print media forms: magazines, marketing (film posters), newspapers, or print advertisements.</p> <p>Section B: Exploring Media Industries and Audiences This section assesses two of the following media forms: film, newspapers, radio, video games.</p> <p>Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products This component assesses all areas of the theoretical framework and contexts of the media in relation to television and music.</p> <p>Section A: Television Section B: Music (music videos and online media)</p> <p>Component 3: Creating Media Products An individual media production for an intended audience in response to a choice of briefs set by the exam board, applying knowledge and understanding of media language and representation.</p>
Exam information	<p>Component 1: Exploring the Media Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of qualification Section A: Exploring Media Language and Representation. Section B: Exploring Media Industries and Audiences.</p> <p>Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 30% of qualification Section A: Television Section B: Music (music videos and online media)</p> <p>Component 3: Creating Media Products Non-exam assessment 30% of qualification</p>
Careers useful for	GCSE Media Studies can support entry into a variety of careers including: Film editing; Journalism and magazine editing; Television Production; Sports journalism.

MUSIC

Introduction to Subject	<p>If you already play an instrument or sing, you can develop your skills and get a GCSE out of it! If you don't already play an instrument or sing, you can take the opportunity to learn new skills which could stay with you for life. If you already enjoy writing your own music or songs, you can use this ability and experience towards your GCSE.</p> <p>If you are a creative person who wants to learn to make music, this course will give you that chance. If you love listening to music, and can spot all the details, sing every riff and "air-drum" every beat you have already developed some of the abilities you need. OK, so you can't mime playing it in the exam, but if you can already think that rhythm or sing that tune in your head, you have some skills!</p>
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	Eduqas GCSE Music
Course content	<p>Performing (playing music) on your own and in a group. This could be in any style, on any instrument or voice, including DJ skills, rapping, singing, band and orchestral instruments.</p> <p>Exploring how great pieces of music were put together, then when you have learnt some of the techniques, composing your own music. This could involve using computer software, writing for a specific purpose, writing songs etc.</p> <p>Listening to a variety of music and learning how to identify the facts about what you hear. You will already have heard about the elements of music in your Key Stage 3 lessons. At GCSE you focus on how these are used for different purposes.</p>
Exam information	<p>Component 1 – Performing (30% of overall grade)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of two pieces, lasting a total of 4-6 minutes, recorded in year 11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o One piece must be an ensemble (group piece) lasting at least one minute o Grade 3 music is the standard level and can score full marks if played perfectly o You can use any instrument or voice or choose a technology option. <p>Component 2 – Composing (30% of overall grade)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two pieces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o One in response to a brief set by WJEC – there are 4 to choose from. o One free composition – ANY style you want to write in. <p>Component 3 – Appraising (40% of overall grade)</p> <p>Listening examination (1hr 15mins):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 questions, 2 on each area of study: AoS 1 Musical Forms and Devices (Set Work: <i>Badinerie by JS Bach</i>); AoS 2 Music for Ensemble; AoS 3 Film Music; AoS 4 Popular Music (Set Work: <i>Africa by Toto</i>)
Careers useful for	<p>Being a musician isn't the only career in music – other options include being a sound technician, community musician, music therapist, teacher, or private tutor, or a range of careers in the music industry, in a concert hall or music venue.</p> <p>The arts/creative industries - this might include work in film, TV, theatre, radio, arts administration, or creative education.</p> <p>Professions such as medicine, law, accountancy - music is highly regarded as an academic subject and so could complement your other studies in leading to a professional career.</p>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT

Introduction to Subject	<p>Do you...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Want to know more about the science and benefits of sport and exercise? - Want to follow a course that develops knowledge and understanding through practical involvement? - Have a keen interest in sport and always look forward to PE? - Take part in sport outside of school? - Want to improve your own performance in a range of sports? - Attend extra-curricular clubs and play for a team/club?
Qualification	GCSE / BTEC – the course you are entered for will be determined by your attainment
Exam Specification and board	GCSE (1-9)- Edexcel BTEC Tech award in Sport - Pearson
Course content	<p>GCSE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theory/classroom-based course looking at the theory and principles behind performance in sport. - There are two theory units; Component 1: Fitness and Body systems; Component 2: Health and performance. - One Unit will be practical based. - The course builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills established in Key Stage 3 PE. - You should have an interest in PE, sport, science and enjoy being active and keeping fit. <p>BTEC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theory/classroom-based course looking at the theory and principles behind performance in sport. - Three theory-based units; Component 1: Preparing participants to take part in physical activity and sport; Component 2: Taking Part and improving other participants performance; Component 3: Developing Fitness to improve other participants' performance in physical activity or sport.
Exam information	<p>GCSE:</p> <p>The GCSE course is assessed over two theory units and one practical. Unit 1 is assessed through 2 written exams (60%) Unit 2 is assessed through PEP coursework (10%) Unit 3 is assessed through three practical performances: one team activity, one individual activity and a choice of one or the other for the third (30%)</p> <p>BTEC:</p> <p>The tech award is assessed over three different theory units. Unit 1 is assessed through coursework which will include 3 tasks (30%) Unit 2 is assessed through coursework which will include 4 tasks (30%) Unit 3 is assessed through a written exam (40%)</p>
Careers useful for	PE Teacher; Sports psychologist; Physiotherapist; Personal trainer; Professional Sports Coach

Introduction to Subject	Are you interested in the big questions in life? What is the purpose of life? Is there a God? What happens when we die? Why is there evil in the world? Should people bother to get married? Are men and women equal? If so, this course is for you
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	AQA
Course content	<p>This course looks at ethical and philosophical problems through the religions of Christianity and Buddhism, as well as non-religious theories. Questions about God's existence and how we decide the right or wrongness of an act is central to this course.</p> <p>We examine both Christian and Buddhist beliefs and practices, as well as four themes which will be chosen from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships and Families • Religion and Life • The Existence of God and Revelation • Religion Peace and Conflict • Religion Crime and Punishment • Religion Human Rights and Social Justice <p>In our lessons we approach common themes and examine religions in this way; we always begin with the students' own experiences and from there we then explore the experiences, beliefs and values of religious communities. Our approach is always open, recognising that we are individuals with different viewpoints and perspectives; every opinion is listened to and respected.</p> <p>FAQs</p> <p>Q. Do I have to be religious to take Religious Studies GCSE? A. NO! This course is for anyone, if you are interested in the big questions in life, you like to argue or you have lots of questions yourself then this is a great course for you!</p> <p>Q. What good will a GCSE in Religious Studies do me? A. Religious Studies supports and compliments the learning in many subjects including History, English, Media and Sociology to name just a few. The skills for analysis and evaluation are highly sought after by colleges and employers. Religious Studies is also a very attractive GCSE and A-Level for universities looking for critical and analytical thinkers!</p>
Exam information	<p>Exam Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x 1 hour 45 minute exams sat at the end of Year 11 • No coursework/controlled assessment • Short and long answer questions • Exam board: AQA
Careers useful for	Doctor; Teacher; Lawyer; Police Officer; Social Worker; Journalist/Reporter; HR; Publishing; Chef; Childcare worker; Firefighter.

Introduction to Subject	<p>All students study Science at Key Stage 4.</p> <p>Students will follow one of two courses which will be determined based on option choices.</p>
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	AQA Combined Science: Trilogy
Course content	<p>The syllabus provides students with opportunities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire a systematic body of scientific knowledge and develop an understanding of Science, including its strengths and limitations; • Develop experimental and investigative skills; • Develop an understanding of the nature of scientific ideas and activity and the basis for scientific claims; • Develop their understanding of the technological and environmental applications of Science and of the economic, ethical and social implications of these.
Exam information	<p>The Combined Science course will be followed by all students.</p> <p>This covers key aspects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, all three areas of science will be examined and leads to 2 GCSE qualifications.</p> <p>6 papers: 2 Biology, 2 Chemistry, 2 Physics.</p> <p>All papers 1 hour 15 minutes.</p>
Careers useful for	<p>Science has many transferable skills across many career industries.</p> <p>Some specific science industry careers are Doctor, Nurse, Midwife, Engineer, Finance, Banking, Microbiology, Astronomy, Marine Biologist, Pharmacist and many more.</p>

SOCIOLOGY

Introduction to Subject	<p>Sociology is the study of society and how people interact with each other.</p> <p>We investigate various sociological theories surrounding key issues in our society today.</p> <p>For example, what does Marxism say about crime and deviance or what do Feminists believe about male and female roles in the family today?</p>
Qualification	GCSE
Exam Specification and board	AQA GCSE (9-1) 8192
Course content	<p>Unit 1: Sociology of family and education</p> <p>Family forms, functions of the family, roles and functions of education and education and capitalism.</p> <p>Unit 2: Sociology of crime and social stratification, criminal and deviant behaviour, social construction of crime and deviance, poverty, power and life chances and gender, age, and ethnicity.</p> <p>In our lessons we study the way in which our attitudes and behaviours are affected by the society in which we live. Particular attention is paid to the changing shape of the family and its potential implications for wider society, and the links between upbringing and criminality.</p>
Exam information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x 1 hour 45 minute exams sat at the end of Year 11 • No coursework/controlled assessment • Short and long answer questions • Exam board: AQA
Careers useful for	<p>Any career that involves mixing with other people.</p> <p>Particularly H.R., Lawyer, Doctor, C.E.O. of a company: NHS; everything except lighthouse keeper.</p>