



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

# YOUR FUTURE YOUR CHOICE

Key Stage 4 Options  
for September 2024



# Your Curriculum Offer

Choosing the curriculum that you will follow in Years 10 and 11 is a major decision and an exciting opportunity. It is vital that choices are only made after the most careful consideration of the pathways on offer. The companion "Subject Information Guide" will give more information to assist your choices and should be read before completing the online application. Many subjects are, of course, compulsory and have to be taken. Where you are given the opportunity to select courses, it is important to maintain a broad and balanced curriculum in order to keep as many opportunities open as possible for the future. The good news is whatever you choose to study, Wolgarston is consistently in the top of schools for the progress students make, outperforming other local schools in this key Government measure and we continue to be one of the top Staffordshire schools. (See School Performance Tables). In addition, the 6<sup>th</sup> Form is now the highest performing in Staffordshire (2023), outperforming all other schools locally including private and grammar schools, so you can choose options with confidence that there is a successful Post 16 offer.

The curriculum we offer is about more than just exam results and we also look to develop our students to be rounded individuals prepared for life.

## AIM HIGH

We want you aim high so that you will have the freedom to take every opportunity you get when considering which university to attend, apprenticeship to apply for or college place to pursue. At Wolgarston we offer a wide range of courses to suit many individual tastes and needs, all of which provide opportunities for you to be successful and help prepare yourself for adult life. The curriculum process is designed to inform you and your parents/carers as fully as possible about subjects you will study from Year 10.

## CAREERS PLANNING

*'Good career guidance is the key to social mobility: It is about showing young people – whatever their social and family background – the options open to them, and helping them make the right choices to set them on the path to rewarding future careers.'* (**Good Career Guidance – Reaching the Gatsby Benchmarks**)

Choosing your Key Stage 4 options is a brilliant opportunity to refine your learning to suit your skills, interests and aspirations. It is the first key milestone on your career pathway. Everyone will follow their individual career route; these Year 9 options are your first chance to begin to shape your future. You can access first hand advice with our careers advisor who will be available in the library on Options evening.

To support you, we have subscribed to an online careers service called '**Start**'. Some information has already been sent out for students to log in and parents to create an account. I hope you have been able to use this resource?

Students simply go to **<https://login.startprofile.com/>**

Students then enter their username – this is their school username (Format is L-Handley23)

The Password needs to be entered – this is Wolgarston123 but it is important to change it once they are in.

If you think you might eventually want to go to University you can research the courses available at **<https://www.ucas.com/careers-advice>**

Some of you will have a very clear idea of a future career and you can work backwards to understand which Key Stage 4 options would be best to take. Others will not be sure yet so it's important to opt for a good balance that gives you the opportunity to study for qualifications that you are passionate about.

# Choices for Year 10

## The Academic Pathway

We expect 75% of students to choose the Academic Pathway. This means taking the 'English Baccalaureate' comprising; English, Maths, at least 2 GCSE Sciences, a Foreign Language and either History or Geography.

The vast majority of Academic Pathway students will go on to study A levels at our highly successful Sixth Form.

Students planning to attend the very top universities (the Russell Group) will need to achieve grade 9,8 or 7 in their GCSEs. The 6<sup>th</sup> Form offers courses requiring 5 GCSEs at Grade 5 and above that will open doors to the best universities and employers.

## The Vocational Pathway

Approximately 25% of our students choose the Vocational pathway. This pathway includes an academic core curriculum but allows more opportunity to develop vocational experiences through a mixture of GCSE and BTEC courses.

Our BTEC provision is externally inspected annually by EDEXCEL and has been consistently graded outstanding. Students can still continue on to A Levels or select from our Level 3 BTEC courses in Sixth Form.

## PATHWAY CHOICE

You will need to think very carefully about which Pathway to choose and the Subject Information Guide will help inform you as to what is on offer. As we cannot guarantee that sufficient numbers will pick any particular option to make the course viable, you need to choose reserve subjects. We hope to offer you at least, either your first or second subjects. If **different** reserve subjects are not identified, you may be allocated into another course with spaces, so you must make sure all choices are completed.

Please note, courses with insufficient numbers opting for them, may not run and students will be allocated a second choice or, where possible, allowed to choose an alternative option. Oversubscribed courses will be allocated fairly.

Please read through this guide before completing the online options form, this is important to ensure you are as informed as possible about the choices next year.

## ONLINE FORM

You will be supplied with a link and a QR code to access the online form at the same time as the Year 9 Options Evening on Thursday 21 March.

This link will also be emailed to you.

All online forms must be completed no later than **Friday 26 April 2024**

# Compulsory Subjects

*All students have to study the following subjects:*

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

Students will study both subjects separately, enabling students to gain two GCSEs: one in English Language and one in English Literature. The time is allocated to the courses accordingly. Please note that the GCSE English Language course has 20% of marks awarded for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar and these are vital skills for students to focus on. Students will study a rich variety of fiction and non-fiction texts including R. L. Stevenson's 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' and William Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice'.

## MATHEMATICS

Students in Year 10 and Year 11 continue to build on their mathematical knowledge and problem-solving skills; essential to everyday life and necessary for financial literacy and many forms of employment. GCSE Mathematics has a foundation tier (grades 1-5) and a higher tier (grades 4-9). Students must sit three question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series. A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.

## SCIENCE

We offer two tailored pathways for students. Approximately 30% of our students will be selected (based on their performance in Year 9) to study 3 separate Science GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The remainder will study for two GCSEs in Science, examined in Year 11. All these courses count towards the English Baccalaureate and can lead on to A level study.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students are expected to participate in core PE, providing them with lifelong knowledge and skills in a range of sports and exercise. In addition to core PE, the subject can be studied in depth as an optional subject through either GCSE PE or BTEC Tech Sport. The PE Department will determine which the most appropriate course is.

## HUMANITIES

All students choose from either Geography or History. See options Information to choose.

## RELATIONSHIP, SEX AND

## HEALTH EDUCATION,

## CAREERS & CITIZENSHIP

Relationship, Sex, Health Education, Careers and other aspects of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) and Citizenship will be studied through drop down days, assemblies and tutor time.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Schools are required to teach religious education. At Wolgarston, all students are required to study this as a GCSE subject. The course requires students to study world and social affairs in the context of two major world religions. In addition, the beliefs and practices of Christians are studied in depth with those of either Buddhists or Muslims.

# Qualification Types

## GCSE

Most of the courses that students will follow in Years 10 and 11 will lead to a GCSE qualification. These are assessed through examinations and practical work completed during the two years of study.

Most courses are now examination based. Students will have Learning Checks and Key Assessments at regular intervals to check their learning, provide feedback and prepare them for the GCSE examinations. In addition, practical work will be completed in some subjects which is then examined as part of the GCSE and it is crucial that students work hard to complete these to a high standard. Where coursework remains, deadline dates will be issued to each student so that they know about deadlines in advance. They will need to make sure that the work they complete is the very best that they can achieve. They will need to listen to the advice given by subject teachers and be prepared to ask for help and put in extra work.

GCSE examinations take place at the end of Year 11 and test the knowledge, understanding and skills they have developed during their studies. Careful preparation for examinations is vital. Revision will need to be ongoing throughout their courses and the students will be given opportunities to practice effective examination techniques.

GCSE grades are awarded from 1-9:

- The bottom of grade 7 is aligned with the bottom of grade A
- The bottom of grade 4 is aligned with the bottom of grade C
- The bottom of grade 1 is aligned with the bottom of grade G

Note the new benchmark for a “Good Pass” is now set at 5 though a Grade 4 will be equivalent to the old C Grade. As a successful school we are pushing for our students to aim at Grade 6.

## BTEC

An alternative to GCSEs is the BTEC qualification which we offer for Sport BTEC in the vocational pathway and Option Blocks. We also offer Health & Social Care in the vocational pathway.

BTECs differ from GCSEs in that the emphasis is on assignment work in addition to an exam. Most of the marks are awarded internally.

These assignments assess a student’s knowledge, understanding and skills within the chosen subject.

BTEC qualifications are ideal for students interested in studying a particular subject in more depth and with an emphasis on practical, work-related application of that subject. BTEC allows students to cover several different units on various topics within the chosen subject. These units are then combined with the examination element to give an overall award.

The BTEC results are awarded as follows:

| Level 1                        |
|--------------------------------|
| Pass                           |
| Merit                          |
| Distinction                    |
| Level 2                        |
| Pass (Equal to Grade 4)        |
| Merit                          |
| Distinction (Equal to Grade 7) |
| Distinction *                  |



# Art and Design

Creativity can be defined as “intelligence having fun” and this is the way the course is shaped. You choose your project theme, the artists you study and the artistic style you develop.

The subject allows you to build abilities in working independently, forming opinions and solving problems in unique ways. These are skills that all future employers will value, not just those in creative industries.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?



**Portfolio project-** This is a project you build around a theme that you choose. We encourage pupils to choose something they are interested in. You will then build up a body of work around this such as exploring materials, artists and developing your own work. This project runs from the beginning of year 10 to January in year 11



**Exam project-** This is the smaller project you get given in January in year 11. The structure is still the same of your portfolio project but you will be given a list of themes to choose from by the exam board.



**Exploring a range of materials and techniques-** Throughout the course, you will develop in a range of skills such as drawing, painting, photography, photoshop and mixed media. We guide pupils to work in materials that suit their style.



**Documenting your process-** Throughout your project you will document your ideas behind your work.

## ASSESSMENT

**Portfolio project-** 60% Entirely coursework based.

**Exam project 40%-** Majority of this project is coursework based. However this project also includes a 10 hour practical session where you will create a final piece for your project. You will have planned for this leading up to the exam with help from your teacher. There is no written element to this exam.

## SKILLS



Creativity



Independence



Resilience



Problem solving



Effective design

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?



Anyone that enjoys being creative.



People who have good ideas



Not just those that are good at drawing and painting, there are many ways to create art.



Someone who enjoys trying different ways of working.



An interest in the visual qualities of good design

## CAREERS



It can add an interesting element to any future pathway, even one not related to design.



Creative courses in higher education- Fine Art, Graphics, Photography, Costume Design, automotive design, product design, illustration, fashion, textiles, architecture, interior design, animation, curation, art history.



Careers as graphic designer, illustrator, fine artists, art teacher/lecturer, architect, fashion and textiles designer, animator, game designer, concept artist, costume designer, theatre and TV set and prop designer, photographer.

## FIND OUT MORE



<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/art-and-design-j170-j176-from-2016/>



# Business Studies

Everything is a business! The specification introduces you to the business world, empowering you to develop as a commercially minded and enterprising individual. The focus of the specification is to introduce and nurture an enthusiasm for studying business in a range of contexts. You will appreciate how businesses operate in a dynamic and competitive environment and develop an understanding of the interdependent nature of business functions from a local to a global perspective.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

**Business Activity** - Learners will understand the nature of business activity and how it is concerned with meeting the needs of customers and making a profit.

**Influences on Business** - Learners will understand how businesses operate in an external environment and the influences that impact on business activity.

**Business Operations** - Learners will understand that business operations are concerned with the efficient management of the resources within a business to maximize profit.

**Finance** - Learners will understand the finance functions of a business to ensure smooth running.

**Marketing** - Learners will understand that marketing involves identifying, anticipating and satisfying customer needs.

**Human Resources** - Learners will understand recruitment, training, organization, retention, development and motivation of employees is key to business success.

## ASSESSMENT

**Paper 1** - Exam on Business Dynamics – 2 hours – 100 marks - 62.5% of qualification.

**Paper 2** - Written Case Study Exam on Business Considerations – 1hrs30 – 60 marks - 37.5% of qualification.

A learning check and key assessment each half term.

## SKILLS

- Management & Leadership
- Problem Solving
- Analysis of Local and Multinational Enterprises
- Basic Accountancy & Finance
- Creativity & Marketing

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

- Someone who is creative and has an eye for entrepreneurialism.
- Someone who enjoys finding trends in data sets.
- Someone who is curious about businesses and how they operate to make money.
- Someone who likes keeping up with current affairs in the world and business.

## CAREERS

- Business Analyst
- Creating your own business
- Marketing
- Finance/Accountancy
- Human Resources
- Management
- Social Media Manager
- Estate Agent
- Retail
- Sales

## FIND OUT MORE








[https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/business-gcse/#tab\\_keydocuments](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/business-gcse/#tab_keydocuments)

# Computer Science





Our 21st century lives are dominated by computers. Even if you don't carry around a computer with you at all times (that's right – your mobile phone), you probably watch TV, listen to the radio, use social media, travel in cars, buses or trains, revise using YouTube or BBC Bitesize, have an electric light in your bedroom... I could go on, but I'm sure you get the idea!

How many people actually know how computers, these vital facilitators of modern life, actually work? Computer Science GCSE aims to inform students of the fundamentals of computers and computing.





## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

-  Fundamentals of algorithms and programming
-  Fundamentals of data representation
-  Computer systems
-  Fundamentals of computer networks and cyber security
-  Relational databases and ethical considerations of computing











## SKILLS

-  Logical thinking
-  Problem solving
-  Python programming
-  Use of pseudocode

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

-  People who like problem solving
-  People who can work through a problem and be resilient
-  People who enjoy puzzles
-  People who like to know how things work

## CAREERS

-  Computer programmer
-  Day trader
-  Machine learning engineer
-  CAD designer
-  3D printing materials manager
-  Games developer
-  Clothes designer
-  Geographical information systems officer
-  Music data analyst
-  MI5, MI6 and GCHQ operatives

## ASSESSMENT

There are two examinations in the summer of Y11.

- Paper 1 (2 hours) - Computational thinking and programming skills
- Paper 2 (1 hour 45 minutes) - Computing concepts

Students also have to complete a programming project using the Python high level language – this is not externally assessed and does not contribute to the overall grade.

## FIND OUT MORE



<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/computer-science-and-it/gcse/computer-science-8525>



# Food Preparation & Nutrition






**PLEASE BE AWARE!** This is **NOT** a course for students who 'quite' like to cook – it has to be a true passion!

Eduqas is the exam board we follow and their standards are high.






You will need to enjoy the challenge of creating highly skilled foods – be positive, gain a sense of pride from your successes, be determined and enjoy where the 'sometimes' mistakes lead you to next in the kitchen.

Practical challenges have to be backed up with well organised paper work with research you have carried out independently as part of your home study.






## SKILLS

-  Developing your food making skills using Fruit Vegetables, Dairy, Cereals, Meat/Fish/ Eggs, Sugars, Fats & Oils
-  How to develop and adapt a food product to suit a wide variety of special diets
-  How to work safely as well as hygienically in a kitchen area
-  Independently researching and using a computer to prepare written coursework
-  Multi-tasking – planning your work so that you become more organised and able to work efficiently within time limits

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

-  Food Commodities & where food comes from
-  Principles of Nutrition
-  The Science of Food
-  Diet & Good Health
-  Planning, Preparing, Cooking & Presenting highly professional food dishes

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

-  You enjoy cooking at home – trying out new foods – being creative?
-  You are able to research and present information independently?
-  Science is one of your favourite subjects? – Food is very much a type of Science!
-  You are an organised person who enjoys the challenge of working under time pressure?
-  You have got a genuine interest in learning how to keep our bodies functioning healthily?

## ASSESSMENT

### 50% written examination

This is a challenging test on your knowledge of the subject content in the form of a 1 hour & 45-minute written exam.

### 50% coursework

In Year 11 you will have a Food Science task to complete as well as a Food Practical where you will research a topic, plan three dishes to make in three hours and then evaluate the results.

## CAREERS

-  Working within the Hospitality & Catering industry
-  Hotel Management
-  Health Care Industry – for example, a Dietician, Nurse, Environmental Health Officer
-  Teaching
-  Food Scientist – developing / enhancing / promoting new food products

## FIND OUT MORE



<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/food-preparation-and-nutrition-gcse/>

Speak to our GCSE Food students in Year 10 and Year 11 – they will tell you of their experiences on this course. Finally, for further information from me, I look forward to our discussions at Options Evening. (Mrs Beach)



# French






French GCSE will start you on your journey to being able to communicate with people from other cultures.

Once you master French, it will open opportunities for you to learn other languages and massively improve your career prospects. A foreign language makes you more employable.

Being able to speak even a small amount of a foreign language could enable you to travel more easily, with less stress. You will be able to eat /but what you wish more easily and have a more enjoyable time.

*'If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart'. Nelson Mandela.*

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

-  Holidays
-  Family and Relationships
-  School and Future Plans
-  Hobbies and Health
-  Environmental Issues





## ASSESSMENT

French is divided into 4 skills and each have a paper that is worth 25%:






1. Listening- short answers in French/English including a dictation.
2. Reading – short answers in French/English including a translation into English.
3. Writing- variety of writing tasks in French.
4. Speaking- role play, describing a photo with follow-up questions in French.

NB: GCSE French has 2 levels of Entry – Foundation and Higher. Specific tasks may vary according to which tier students eventually take.

## SKILLS












-  Spoken and written communication skills
-  Better understanding of English and grammar
-  Interpreting skills- picking out key /relevant facts from spoken and written material.
-  Cultural awareness

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

-  You enjoy French
-  You are prepared to work consistently over the 2 years
-  You are prepared to speak the language in a pair work activity
-  You are curious about how languages are formed
-  You have a thirst for knowledge about other cultures, traditions and language

## CAREERS

A Foreign Language can be combined with many other skills/qualifications in the workplace and Higher Education:

-  Law
-  Engineering
-  International Sales
-  Travel
-  Marketing
-  Tourism
-  Teaching
-  Chemical Engineering
-  Civil Service
-  Journalism
-  Study Abroad

## FIND OUT MORE



[Pearson Edexcel GCSE French \(2024\) | Pearson qualifications](#)







# Geography

There has never been a better or more important time to study geography. With growing interest in issues such as climate change, migration, environmental problems and social issues, geography is one of the most relevant GCSEs you could choose to study.





Geographers are also highly employable.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?



Paper 1: Living with the physical environment (35% of GCSE)

-  The Challenge of natural hazards (tectonics & weather)
-  The living world (ecosystems)
-  Physical landscapes in the UK (rivers & coasts in the UK)
-  Geographical skills

Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment (35% of GCSE)

-  Urban issues and challenges (urbanisation, UK cities)
-  The changing economic world (measures of development, tourism, aid, LICs, NEEs, UK economy)
-  The challenge of resource management (food, water & energy)
-  Geographical skills

Paper 3: Geographical applications (30% of GCSE) Issue







-  evaluation (pre- release material)
-  Fieldwork (at least 2 occasions, one human investigation and one physical investigation)

## ASSESSMENT





This is a linear assessment taken at the end of Year 11. You will be assessed over 3 examinations. Paper 1 and 2 are worth 88 marks and will take 90 mins per paper. Paper 3 is worth 76 marks and will take 75 mins.

## SKILLS






Geographers can:

-  Handle data
-  Ask questions and find answers
-  Make decisions about an issue
-  Analyse material
-  Organise themselves
-  Think creatively and independently




## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

-  I enjoy the subject!
-  I want to know why things in the world are how they are
-  I would like to know what the world will be like in the future for both myself and my children, and how my actions today can make a difference
-  I will learn about some of the most interesting places in the world

## CAREERS

-  Travel consultancy/ tourism
-  Engineering
-  Local council i.e. Town planning/ surveyor/ conveyancing/ architecture/ housing management/ GIS/ Geospatial mapping
-  Managing resources and land i.e. hydrology (Environment Agency), meteorology/ oceanography, waste management, forestry
-  Logistics

Further study could include:

-  Apprenticeships
-  BSc or BA Honours Degree in Geography
-  BSc in Environmental Sciences

<https://apprenticeshipguide.co.uk/apprenticeship-by-school-subject/geography-2/>

## FIND OUT MORE

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



# Graphic Communication

This is a creative course that follows the same project structure as Art and Design. This means that students can only select one or the other.

Graphic Communication suits students who want to use their creative skills in the response to design briefs and to create products for a client.

It also suits students who want to use predominantly digital media.

## SKILLS

- ⚙ Creativity
- ⚙ Independence
- ⚙ Resilience
- ⚙ Problem solving
- ⚙ Effective design

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The first year will be spent creating a portfolio in response to a set brief. The portfolio will consist of:

- 📖 Exploring a range of chosen materials, techniques and processes
- 📖 Researching and being inspired by other designers
- 📖 Creating a final design or product.

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

- 🌀 Anyone that enjoys being creative.
- 🌀 People who have good ideas
- 🌀 People who enjoy using digital technology
- 🌀 Someone who enjoys trying different ways of working.
- 🌀 An interest in the visual qualities of good design

## ASSESSMENT

This project is worth 60% of your GCSE grade and teachers will be there to support, guide and help you find your own artistic style. The project is a fantastic opportunity to build a body of interesting work that you are proud of.

There is no written examination, just a timed response to a new brief.

## CAREERS

- 📍 Web design
- 📍 Brand Identity
- 📍 Illustration
- 📍 Magazine editing
- 📍 Print Design
- 📍 Logo design

## FIND OUT MORE



<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/art-and-design-j170-j176-from-2016/>



# Health and Social Care

Health and Social care is a popular BTEC Tech Award which combines controlled coursework assessments with an exam at the end of Y11.

Students will need to demonstrate an interest in how people grow and develop as individuals, what can affect a person's growth and development, and what support can be put in place for differing needs in society. Students will need to be able to demonstrate empathy for others and be non-judgmental.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

### Component 1: Human Lifespan Development

Learners will explore different aspects of growth and development and the factors that can affect this across the life stages. They will explore the different events that can impact on individuals' physical, intellectual, emotional and social development and how individuals cope with and are supported through changes caused by life events.

### Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values

Learners will explore health and social care services and how they meet the needs of service users. They will also study the skills, attributes and values required when giving care.

### Component 3: Health and Wellbeing

Learners will explore the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators, and person-centered approaches to make recommendations to improve an individual's health and wellbeing.

## ASSESSMENT

Human Lifespan Development (Component 1): Assignment tasks in controlled conditions (30%)  
Health and Social Care Services and Values (Component 2): Assignment tasks in controlled conditions (30%)  
Health and Wellbeing (Component 3): Written Examination Paper (40%)

## SKILLS

- ⚙ Subject specific vocabulary
- ⚙ Research techniques
- ⚙ Communication skills
- ⚙ Independence
- ⚙ Measuring a client's health
- ⚙ Identifying health indicators
- ⚙ Computer literacy

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

- ⚙ Anyone who wants to work with people
- ⚙ Students who are organised & good at planning
- ⚙ Those who are caring and empathetic
- ⚙ Those who enjoy working with others

## CAREERS

- 📍 Studying HSC at level 3 (Equivalent to A-level)
- 📍 Degree in HSC
- 📍 Doctors / Nurses / Care assistants
- 📍 Nursery nurse
- 📍 Teacher
- 📍 Paramedic
- 📍 Dentist / Hygienist
- 📍 Midwife
- 📍 Counsellor

## FIND OUT MORE





<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/health-and-social-care-2022.html>







# History

Choose a subject which is relevant to the 21st century as it will help you to understand the background to current issues. Choose a subject which will give you valuable transferable skills for the workplace. Choose to think independently and critically. Choose a unique opportunity to study some of the most dramatic and important events and turning points in history. Choose to meet some of the most fascinating, controversial and influential people who have ever lived and evaluate their impact.





## SKILLS

-  Source analysis
-  Source evaluation
-  Formulating arguments
-  Communicating ideas

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

-  Crime and Punishment from 500AD to the present day
-  The Elizabethan Age, 1558 – 1603
-  Germany in Transition, 1919-1939
-  The Development of the USA 1929 - 2000

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?






-  Curious
-  Empathetic
-  Analytical
-  Reflective

## ASSESSMENT

You will complete an exam for each unit at the end of Y11. Each exam will have 5-7 questions. Some questions assess your knowledge and ability to explain and reach judgements.

Others assess your ability to evaluate historical sources and interpretations. There are also some marks available for written communication.

## CAREERS

-  Law
-  Local government
-  Civil service
-  Tourism
-  Research

## FIND OUT MORE

 <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/history-gcse>



# Media

Media Studies is a popular GCSE which combines creative and practical work with an academic qualification, preparing students for modern creative industries.

Students will need to demonstrate accurate written and practical skills and be able to analyse media products in detail, using specific terminology and theoretical concepts.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Media Language – semiotics, narratology, genre, specific media terminology
- Media Representation – how stereotypes are formed: gender, race, class, nationality, age
- Media Industries – how producers market and distribute their media products
- Media Audiences – how are audiences targeted and how do audiences behave?

## ASSESSMENT

70% exam - 35% for each paper (2 papers overall)

30% Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) - Students will be asked to design and create their own media product according to an exam board set brief.

Example tasks include a print advertising campaign, pages from magazines, video content such as a viral TikTok campaign, radio adverts, music videos, social media campaigns on Instagram, extracts from a television programme.

## SKILLS

- Creative thinking
- Analytical and interpretative understanding of a range of different media forms
- Subject specific vocabulary
- Practical skills

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

- Creative thinkers
- Well-read students
- Independent thinkers
- Open-minded people
- Conscientious students

## CAREERS

- Journalism
- Law
- Media production e.g. camera operation or sound engineering
- Photography
- Teaching or lecturing
- Marketing
- Social media industries
- ...and many more.

## FIND OUT MORE



<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/media-studies/gcse/media-studies-8572/introduction>

# Music




Being a subject with practical components, music can offer a nice change of pace on your timetable and it is a subject that allows you the time to develop and hone your talent for composition and/or performance.

This is reflected in the fact that 60% of the assessment grade is coursework-based, which can take some of the pressure off when it comes to your final exams in Year 11.

Perhaps most importantly though, let us not forget that music is at its core an enjoyable, stimulating and intellectually challenging subject to study.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

GCSE Music is divided into three main components:





-  Performing (playing music)
-  Composing (writing your own music)
-  Appraising (listening to and analysing music)

## ASSESSMENT




Your final grade is decided by two practical components and a written examination at the end of the course.

- Performing (30%)
- Composing (30%)
- Appraising exam (40%)








## SKILLS

-  Creative thinking
-  Adaptability
-  Communication
-  Confidently performing/presenting in front of others

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

-  You play (or are willing to start playing) a musical instrument or sing.
-  You are interested in a range of musical styles (e.g. classical music, popular music [pop, rock, rap, electronic etc.], film music, and music for ensemble).
-  You like to create your own music.

## CAREERS

-  Music Producer
-  Recording Engineer
-  Artist Manager
-  Tour Manager
-  Music Publicist
-  Composer
-  Music Arranger

## FIND OUT MORE



<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music-gcse>



# Spanish

Studying a modern foreign language increases your future employability. The skills and rigour involved with studying languages are highly regarded by universities for various courses.





Learning Spanish will also enable you to enjoy a much wider range of books, films, and songs in the language.

Importantly, it is part of the EBacc group of subjects that indicate you are an academic student suitable for many prestigious areas of higher education.

Please note that GCSE Spanish is an intense and fast-paced course. It should only be chosen by pupils who are genuinely passionate about studying Spanish and who will work hard both in and out of lessons in the short time available.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The course is split into three themes:

-  Theme 1: Identity and Culture (Me, my Family & Friends; Technology, Free Time; Customs & Festivals).
-  Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest (Home, Town, Neighbourhood & Region; Social Issues [charity work and healthy living]; Global Issues [Environment, poverty]; Travel and Tourism).
-  Theme 3: Current and Future Study and Employment (Life at School & College; Work Experiences).
-  Film study.






## ASSESSMENT

The final Spanish exam is tiered. There is a Foundation tier (grades from 1-5) and a higher tier (grades 4-9). Decisions on entries are made after regular assessments throughout the course and in consultation with pupils and parents.



There are 4 exams:

- Paper 1: Listening (25%)
- Paper 2: Speaking (25%)
- Paper 3: Reading (25%)
- Paper 4: Writing (25%)








## SKILLS

-  Learning a new language improves your memory.
-  Being bilingual makes you a better multitasker.
-  Knowing other languages encourages cultural appreciation.
-  Speaking other languages makes you a better communicator (in your native tongue too!)
-  Learning a language encourages creativity.

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

-  Although this course is open to any student, you need to be committed to achieving a high level of Spanish in a very short time.
-  You have an interest in other cultures and broadening your horizons.

## CAREERS

-  Teacher
-  Interpreter or translator
-  Law enforcement professional
-  Healthcare professional
-  Journalist/Writer/Copywriter
-  Sales professional
-  Tourism

## FIND OUT MORE

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/spanish-8698>








# Physical Education

Examination PE is for students who really **love** their sport and physical activity... and want to do and learn more!

We deliver two different courses and we choose which one will suit each student best, from either GCSE Physical Education or BTEC Tech Award in Sport. This gives all of our sports people the best possible chance at success!!

Both of the Course are Level 2 Courses and carry equivalent points ie. there is not 'one better than the other'. We have very experienced staff delivering both courses and we are confident that we are able to select the course that would give your child the most positive outcome. This may mean that in some circumstances, we will not run the GCSE PE course in favour of the BTEC Tech Award, and vice versa; or as we do in most years, we may run both.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

-  Practical Sports Performance – you will need to perform well in 2 or 3 different sports, depending on the course you are selected for.
-  Applied Anatomy & Physiology – you will learn about the body and how it enables you to perform in physical activity
-  Movement Analysis – you will know how and why the body moves as it does
-  Physical Fitness Testing & Training – how fit do you think you are? How do you know? We will be finding out!
-  Socio- cultural influences – what can stop people from participating? How can we overcome this?

## ASSESSMENT






### GCSE PE

Practical performance in 3 different sports (30%)  
Personal Exercise Programme Coursework (10%)  
2 Written Examination Papers: Fitness & Body Systems, Health & Performance, (60%)






### BTEC TECH SPORT

Preparing participants for sport (Component 1):  
Assignment tasks and practical performance as a coach/leader (30%)  
Taking part and improving performance in sport (Component 2): Assignment tasks and practical performance in 2 different sports (30%)  
Developing fitness to improve performance in sport (Component 3): Written Examination Paper (40%)

## SKILLS

-  Presentation & Leadership Skills: you will lead warm ups and practical sport sessions
-  Time management: you will complete work by a set deadline
-  Organisation: you will have the correct equipment for every lesson, practical or theory
-  Confidence: you will demonstrate your skills and abilities and sharing ideas
-  Teamwork and Independence: you will work with others and by you

## WHO WILL THIS SUIT?

-  A genuine interest in sport and physical activity
-  A commitment to sport and extra-curricular clubs in and out of school
-  100 % participation in all activities from swimming to trampolining!
-  Dedicated to work outside of lessons on projects and events
-  Responsible – you will be a leader and role model to other students!!

## CAREERS

-  Sports Coach
-  Physical Education Teacher
-  Physiotherapist
-  Sports Analyst
-  Leisure Services
-  Sports Psychologist
-  Sport Business Management

## FIND OUT MORE

### GCSE PE



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

### BTEC Tech Sport



<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/sport-2022.html>



