



2026-2028

Year 9 Options

Quick Comparison of Option Subjects

GCSE FINE ART

Students who study GCSE Fine Art:

1. Have a passion for art & design and enjoy creating artwork but can also fulfil a given brief
2. Are willing to experiment with new materials, techniques and ways of working and are not afraid to make mistakes
3. Can work independently and WANT to work on their projects outside of lesson time

What will I learn?

- Various drawing techniques
- Painting (watercolours, acrylic, oils)
- Colour theory
- Mono printing, lino printing, image transfers
- Scaling up, gridding, stretching paper
- Artist analysis, annotation, evaluation
- Advice on how to be a professional artist, exhibit with galleries, promote your work etc.

How will I be assessed?






100% practical coursework (Component 1 = 60%, Component 2 = 40%)

GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES

Business Studies is for students who:

-  **Dream big** – want to run their own business or take over a family business
-  **Enjoy real-world learning** – exploring how businesses really work in today's world
-  **Aspire to exciting careers** in:
 - Marketing & Advertising, Finance & Banking, Sales & Management, Manufacturing & Enterprise, Human Resources and much more
-  **Want to understand the world around them** – why companies succeed or fail
-  **Want to learn how money is made** and how smart decisions create profit

You will learn about:

-  **Advertising and marketing** – how businesses attract and keep customers
-  **Money and profit** – managing finances, costs, revenue, and making profit
-  **Real businesses** such as **Facebook** and **Apple**, and how they operate successfully
-  **Entrepreneurs and success stories** – how people like **Jeff Bezos**, **Richard Branson**, and **Mark Zuckerberg** built global businesses
-  **Managing people and production** – motivating staff and producing goods and services efficiently

How will I be assessed?

2 exams - 1 hour 45 each.

GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE

Students who study Computer Science:

1. Want to go on and have a career in the computing industry creating websites, apps and tech startups?
2. Have good problem solving and mathematical abilities.
3. Are interested in how computers operate.
4. Are willing to learn a programming language and practice their your skills outside of lesson time.

What will I learn?

- 3.1 The fundamentals of algorithms
- 3.2 Programming (Python)
- 3.3 How data is stored
- 3.4 How computers work
- 3.5 Creating computer networks
- 3.6 How to defend with Cyber Security
- 3.7 How to use Databases and SQL
- 3.8 Ethical, legal and Environmental Impacts of Tech

How will I be assessed?

2 x Written Exams (50% each)

Paper 1 (Examined on Units 3.1 and 3.2)

Paper 2 (Examined on Units 3.3 – 3.8)



GCSE DRAMA - AQA



Why Choose Drama?

Learn how professional theatre is made, from acting to design.

Master performance techniques and critical evaluation skills.

Build the confidence, teamwork, and communication skills needed for many jobs including **Law, Marketing, and Teaching**.

We love this subject because it lets you explore the world from different perspectives.

Course Structure

Component 1 (40%): Written Exam, 1 h 45 mins, on theatre roles and a set play (*Blood Brothers*)

Component 2 (40%): Create and perform your own original play + a written portfolio.

Component 3 (20%): Performance of two scripted extracts for an examiner.

"You will enjoy this qualification because it is one of the most creative and collaborative subjects you can choose!"

GCSE FOOD & NUTRITION

Students who study Food & Nutrition:

1. **Are ENTHUSIASTIC about Food and who enjoys to cook.**
2. **Aspire to have a future career within the food industry**
3. **Have a passion to explore and broaden your knowledge and palate based upon different cultural dishes catering to all dietary requirements.**

What will I learn?

You will build upon prior knowledge from Yrs7-9 developing higher order skills when cooking and understanding of where certain foods come from.

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

- **Food, nutrition and health.**
- **Food science.**
- **Food safety.**
- **Food choice.**
- **Food provenance.**

How will I be assessed?

50% NEA (Non Exam Assessment) September-April

50% Exam Paper 2hrs

GCSE FRENCH

Students who study GCSE French:

1. **LOVE** communicating in a foreign language and finding out about people and places.
2. **ENJOY** the prospect of travelling and being able to immerse themselves in the culture and language. Speaking the language of the country you are visiting, or speaking to people from those countries, is really rewarding and exciting and enriches your experience of being abroad.
3. **ASPIRE** to have a well-paid job in the UK or abroad, eg in business, travel & tourism, finance, law, journalism, TV, education, social work, healthcare - basically ANYWHERE WHERE STRONG COMMUNICATION SKILLS ARE REQUIRED. Large international employers eg BAE recruit people with languages, as this fits their international ethos and they know they are recruiting someone who has ambition and drive. Languages broaden your mind. This is a big world. Be part of it!

What will I learn?

I will learn how to communicate about themes which are relevant to my own life.

The three themes are:

- *People and lifestyle*
- *Popular Culture*
- *Communication and the World around us*

I will develop my knowledge and skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing so that I can become more confident about understanding and speaking the language in lots of different topics.

How will I be assessed?

4 exams: listening, speaking, reading and writing at the end of the 2-year course.

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Students who study Geography GCSE.

Geography gives a balanced viewpoint which is good preparation for the world of work.

Employers want people with the following attributes:

- Good communication skills
- Ability to manage themselves
- Ability to work as a team
- Numeracy and literacy
- Ability to solve problems
- Computer literacy
- Spatial awareness
- Environmental and social awareness

What will I learn?

Paper 1: Physical Geography - One 90 mark exam

- Natural Hazards (earthquakes and weather hazards)
- The living world (rainforests and deserts)
- UK coasts and river landscapes.

Paper 2: Human Geography - One 90 mark exam

- Urban issues and challenges (Rio & Manchester)
- The changing economic world (UK & Brazil)
- Resource management and energy.

Paper 3: Geographical applications and skills - One 75 mark exam

Application of skills learnt from two field visits and from an information booklet.

How will I be assessed?

There will be regular exam practice and an assessment at the end of each unit of work.

There will be **three written exam papers at the end of Year 11. 2 x 90 minute exams and one 80 minute exam.**

GCSE HISTORY

Students who study GCSE History:

1. Studying GCSE History will help you to answer important questions, such as: Why do wars happen? Why do we have a welfare state? Why did the Great Depression happen? How did African Americans gain more civil rights?
2. Have a better understanding of the world we live in and how past events have shaped and influenced it. For example, by learning about the Wall Street Crash and Great Depression you will understand what inflation is, what stocks and shares are and why countries cannot just print more money when their economy is struggling.
3. Develops your thinking skills, analytical skills and your communication and literacy skills.
4. History helps with careers such as: Law, journalism, police, army, games designer, costume designer, librarian, civil service, business, advertising, media and many more.

What will I learn?

Paper 1:

USA Opportunity and Inequality; 1920-1973

Conflict & Tension the Interwar Years

Paper 2:

Health & the People

Elizabethan England

How will I be assessed?

Two two hour written exam papers at the end of Year 11.

GCSE PE

Students who study GCSE PE :

1. **Enthusiastic, committed and determined**
2. **Love sport and competing**
3. **Want to have a career that is linked with physical activity**

What will I learn?

- **Applied anatomy and physiology**
- **Physical training**
- **Socio-cultural influences**
- **Sports psychology**
- **Health, fitness and well-being**
- **Practical activity assessment (3 sports)**
- **Evaluating and Analysing Performance (AEP)**

How will I be assessed?

2 exams 1 hour each, 1 written piece of coursework, 1 team sport, 1 individual sport and 1 other sport

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Students who study GCSE Religious Studies:

1. Studying GCSE RS will help you to answer important questions, such as: Is it ever right to go to war? Can God exist if there is evil and suffering in the world? What happens when we die? Is there evidence of reincarnation? Should the law on abortion be change?
2. The course will develop your thinking skills, analytical skills and your debating skills.
3. RS helps with careers such as: education, law, journalism, police, army, social services , immigration, medical careers , civil service media and many more.

What will I learn?

**Paper 1:
Christian and Muslim
Beliefs and practices**

**Paper 2: Philosophical
and ethical thematic
studies**

- Relationships and families
- Religion peace and conflict
- Religion and life
- Crime and Punishment

How will I be assessed?

Two written exam papers at the end of Year 11.

GCSE TRIPLE AWARD SCIENCE

Students who study Triple Award Science:

1. **Achieved well at KS3:** have a solid understanding of key concepts.
2. **Ability in maths:** involves many mathematical calculations.
3. **Career Aspirations:** medicine ,veterinary science, research, technology.
4. **A-Level Science:** stronger foundation.
5. **Willingness to work hard:** more content, additional workload.
6. **Good time management:** pace is demanding.
7. **Passion for the subject:** enjoys science.

What will I learn?

Students studying Triple Science at GCSE will take Biology, Chemistry, and Physics as three separate GCSEs with 3 separate teachers, covering all Combined Science content plus additional topics and practicals.

Key topics include genetics, ecosystems, and homeostasis (Biology), organic chemistry, rates of reaction, and analysis techniques (Chemistry), and forces, energy, waves, and space physics (Physics).

How will I be assessed?

6 x 1 hr 45 min Exam Papers

2 x Biology, 2 x Chemistry, 2 x Physics

NCFE ENGINEERING TECH AWARD

Students who study Engineering:

1. Are **ENTHUSIASTIC** about Design & Technology, mainly Product Design and Technical Drawing.
2. **Aspire** to have a career in the evolving and modern industry of Engineering- aerospace, civil, transportation, environment to enhance our future.
3. **Enjoy** the challenge of asking questions such as, how does it work? Can it be made better? Will it improve daily living?

What will I learn?

You will build upon prior knowledge from Yrs7-9 with a focus upon the engineering world. You will be encouraged to explore workshop practices and CAD/CAM

You will develop workshop skills to a higher level focusing more on quality control, working to set tolerances and how to interpret working drawings

2 lessons will be practical based. 1 lesson will be theory per week. You **MUST** be organised and work to deadlines. A contribution to project work will be required.

How will I be assessed? This is a **VOCATIONAL** subject not GCSE (Level 1/2 Pass, Merit or Distinction)

60% NEA (Non Exam Assessment) September-April

40% Exam Paper 1hr 30mins

PEARSON EDEXCEL

TECH AWARD: BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Students who study Health and Social Care:

1. Are caring, empathetic and compassionate people who want to make a difference in the lives of others.
2. Aspire to have a career caring for others in professions such as, nursing, mental health, social work, physiotherapy, psychology and childcare
3. Are curious about the world around them and want to further their knowledge and understanding of the health and social care sector

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 - Coursework 30%, Component 2 - Coursework 30%, Component 3 - Exam 40%

What will I learn?

- **Component 1 - Human Lifespan Development**

You will explore different aspects of growth and development, factors that can affect this, different events that can impact on individuals' physical, intellectual, emotional and social development, coping with life events

- **Component 2 - Health and Social Care Services and Values**

You 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**

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

CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL TECH AWARD: SPORT STUDIES

Students who study Cambridge National Sports Studies:

- 1. Are committed, enthusiastic**
- 2. Enjoy sport**
- 3. Want to have a career that is linked with physical activity**

What will I learn?

- R184 -- Contemporary issues in sport (mandatory) - EXAM 1h15m = 70 marks**
- R185 -- Performance and leadership in sports activities (mandatory) - Assignment and practical**
- R186 -- Sport and the media (option selected by WLD) – Assignment**

How will I be assessed?

1 exam & 2 written assignments

PERFORMING ARTS: MUSIC TECHNICAL AWARD

Students who study Music:

1. Are interested in creative and practical careers linked to music performance, live events, theatre or make-up — but do not need to be highly skilled musicians.
2. Enjoy hands-on, practical lessons and working creatively, whether that is performing, designing make-up, or planning how an event runs.
3. Want a vocational course that builds confidence, teamwork, organisation and communication — skills valued in many careers, not just the arts.

What will I learn?

You will explore different roles within Performing Arts, not just performing.

You will:

Take part in a short performance (around 3 minutes) that is matched to your ability

Create your own work, which may include make-up design, character concepts or creative planning

Learn how performances and events are planned, organised and evaluated

Develop skills in working as part of a team, meeting deadlines and presenting ideas

This course is accessible for all abilities.

The focus is more on creativity, effort and practical skills, rather than technical musical talent.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 – Performing

Unit 2- Creating

Unit 3- Performing arts in practice