Macmillan Academy

YEAR 9 ROUTES

2021

Inspiring every student to succeed

Introduction

Dear Student

You are entering an exciting time, over the next few weeks you will make some very important decisions. These decisions will shape the next two years of your education; they will have an impact on the qualifications you achieve, what you do after Year 11 and influence your future career.

This booklet has been written to help guide you through this process. There are a number of staff in the Academy ready to support you; from your tutor, Head of Year, subject teachers, to heads of department, careers advisors and senior leaders. All staff know how important it is that you make the right choices, and are ready to help you, so you just need to ask!

The Year 9 Routes video that accompanies this booklet explains the different qualifications that students can study in Key Stage 4, the different routes that students can take and how the Key Stage 4 curriculum fits together.

As part of the options process you will be invited to meet a senior member of staff to discuss your choices via SchoolCloud. Parents are very welcome to attend this meeting; it is a great opportunity to ask questions about the curriculum and qualifications on offer.

Our aim is to make sure that you complete Year 11 in the best possible position to continue your learning, whether that is in employment, an apprenticeship, or in Post 16 education. To access the level 3 Post 16 courses at Macmillan you will need to obtain 5 or more good grades, and to choose from the full range of courses you will need to have at least a grade 4 in GCSE English and Mathematics.

In Key Stage 4 English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science and PE are compulsory subjects that all students must study. Other important subjects such as Citizenship, Careers, Enterprise, PSHE and work-related learning are taught through the tutorial program and special events.

This year we have assigned every student a Route. There are different guidelines to follow depending on the route you have been assigned.

	Pathway	Enterprise	Ebacc Option	Full Ebacc
A	✓	✓		
B		✓		
C			✓	
D				✓

Route A: These students accessed Pathway in year 9, they will continue to spend some time in Pathway and could choose to do the Enterprise course with Mr Wilson Stonestreet. They are welcome to study an Ebacc subject or to do the full English Baccalaureate should they wish.

Route B: These students could choose to do the Enterprise course with Mr Wilson Stonestreet. They are welcome to study an Ebacc subject or to do the full English Baccalaureate should they wish.

Route C: These students must choose at least one Ebacc subject in their options. They are welcome to do the full English Baccalaureate should they wish.

Route D: These students must do the full English Baccalaureate as part of their options.

The Ebacc subjects are : Computing, Geography, History, French & Spanish

To attain the full English Baccalaureate you must choose a humanities subject (Geography or History) and a language (French or Spanish) as well as studying English, Mathematics and Science.

A	B	C	D	E	F
Double Science (G)					
	Double Science (G)				
		Double Science (G)			
			Double Science (G)		
				Double Science (G)	
Triple Science (G)			Triple Science (G)		
Art (G)				Art (G)	
	Business Studies (G)	Enterprise (V)	Enterprise (V)*		Business Studies (G)
	Computing (G)		Computing (G)		Computing (G)
	Design Technology(G)				
		Drama (G)		Drama (G)	
Engineering (V)		Engineering (V)		Engineering (V)	
French (G)		French (G)		French (G)	
					Food & Nutrition (G)
	Geography (G)		Geography (G)		Geography (G)
Health & Social Care (V)		Health & Social Care (V)		Health & Social Care (V)	
	History (G)		History (G)		History (G)
iMedia (V)		iMedia (V)			
Music (G)					
	Physical Education (G)		Physical Education (G)		Physical Education (V)
	Religious Studies (G)		Religious Studies (G)		Religious Studies (G)
Spanish (G)		Spanish (G)		Spanish (G)	

* for students on Route A and Route B only

You may have noticed that after each subject there is a code. This tells you the type of qualification on offer.

Code	Qualification	Level
G	GCSE	1 or 2
V	Vocational	1 or 2

BTEC and OCR are vocational qualifications that are assessed differently to GCSEs. In general, a greater proportion of the course is assessed by coursework, and there are fewer exams compared with GCSEs.

The choice is vast, but as I mentioned earlier, there are many experienced staff at the academy ready to guide you. It is important that have prepared well for your 1:1 appointment. Students get the best out of this meeting if they have thought carefully about their options and discussed them with their parents, teachers and friends. For more specialist help you are most welcome to contact me by telephone or email.

Yours sincerely

N. Stott
Deputy Principal (Curriculum)

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Art and Design (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

We live in a diverse world; everywhere you look is influenced by creativity, for example, fashion design, marketing and textiles. Studying art, craft and design can support you to develop the skills in order to compete in this market. Art, craft and design is also hugely enjoyable and can enable you to express yourself. You will see your practice improve rapidly and you will receive regular feedback on your progress. Your knowledge of artists, craftspeople and visual cultures will broaden and deepen and you will become increasingly inventive after linking your work with that of established practitioners, both historical and contemporary. All art, craft and design teachers are practitioners and produce their own work. Indeed our facilities are set up as studios enabling you to be artists, craftspeople and designers.

What will I study on this course?

- Skills development - drawing, painting, sculpture, textiles, photography, digital media.
- Exploring the work of other artists.
- Learn about British art and the art of different cultures, historical and contemporary.
- Themes for projects are generated by what local exhibitions can be accessed.

How will I be assessed on this course?

40% externally set assignment, 60% portfolio (coursework).

The externally set assignment has a preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time.

What qualifications will I get at the end of the course?

A GCSE in Art and Design (Art, Craft and Design) awarded by AQA

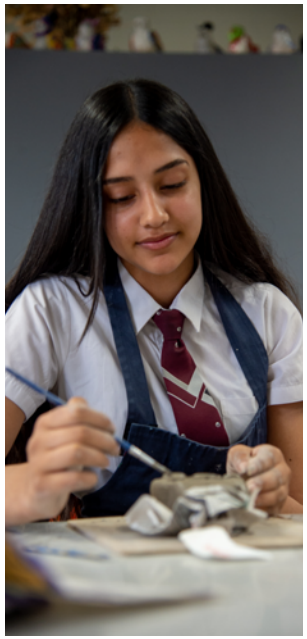
What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

Jobs in the creative industries amount to the third largest contributor to our nation's wealth every year. In the visual arts and design there are four main strands; fine art, fashion and textiles, graphic design and communications and film/industrial design and crafts.

See an art and design specialist in the art department to get a list of potential careers that are too numerous to list here.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mrs A Charlton - Head of Art Visit the AQA website



Business Studies (GCSE)

Why study this subject?
GCSE business studies is an exciting subject that is grounded in the real world. Students of GCSE business studies will:

Actively engage in the study of business and economics to develop as effective and independent students and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.

Use an enquiring, critical approach to distinguish facts and opinions, build arguments and make informed judgements.

Develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills to contemporary issues in a range of local, national and global contexts.

Appreciate the range of perspectives of different stakeholders in relation to business and economic activities.

Consider the extent to which business and economic activity can be ethical and sustainable.

What will I study on this course?
- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Marketing
- Human resources
- Finance and economics

How will I be assessed on this course?
1 examinations at the end of Year 11.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?
Any career will benefit from an understanding of how organisations work. You could go on to study A levels or BTEC diplomas in business, law or economics, a business studies qualification would be useful when applying for a business related course but would also help support application for many subjects.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?
Contact Mrs Steel for further information.
Visit the Edexcel website - www.edexcel.com

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Computing (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

Do you enjoy solving problems?
Are you interested in finding out about the latest gadgets and technology? Are you interested in finding out how things work?
Do you want to create the next great phone app, computer game or software?
Do you want to help shape the future with technology?
Do you want to gain an insight into the area of robotics and artificial intelligence?

What will I study on this course?

- Learn how to create your own programs and games using new programming languages.
- Find out about computer architectures.
- Look at past and emerging technologies around the world.
- How networks such as the internet work, and what they will look like in the future.
- How to write and understand computer languages.
- How new software is developed and created.

How will I be assessed on this course?

At GSCE the course is based upon:

- 100% examination

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

You could become a software developer, creating the next big computer game or phone app. Computing could lead to you working in web design, creating new websites and applications for millions of people to use on the internet. You could use your skills as a developer to help create programming and networking solutions for the medical profession, armed forces or work in a science background developing technologies that could impact of our lives in the future.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Miss Glasgow for further information.

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Design Technology (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

Product design places imaginative practical work is at its heart. This course allows students to challenge ideas of functionality, aesthetics, materials, sustainability, social contexts and ethics in order to design products to solve real problems, improve people's lives and make a difference to society.

What will I study on this course?

Students will gain a broad understanding of core and specialist technical principles such as new and emerging technologies, energy, materials, systems and devices and materials and their working properties. They will also gain an understanding of a range of designing and making principles which will allow them to explore, design, create and evaluate prototypes to solve real world problems working in areas from a variety of modelling materials.

How will I be assessed on this course?

Examination: 50 % of GCSE

What is assessed?

- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles

Questions in the exam will be based on the following:

Section A – Core technical principles (20 marks)
A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding.

Section B – Specialist technical principles (30 marks)
Several short answer questions (2–5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of technical principles.

Section C – Designing and making principles (50 marks)
A mixture of short answer and extended response questions

Non-exam Assessment: 50% of GCSE

Practical application of:

- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mrs Cottle for more information.

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Drama (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

Do you enjoy practical and creative activities?
Do you enjoy working as part of a team?
Do you want to develop your skills of analysis and evaluation?

If you answer yes to these questions then GCSE drama could be the course for you.

What will I study on this course?

In Year 10, you will explore different stimuli and play texts in order to develop your skills and understanding of the medium and elements of drama. During the first year of the GCSE you will devise a performance for component 1 and complete portfolio evidence.

In Year 11, you will explore both a set text and attend a live theatre performance in preparation for the written examination. The remainder of the course will involve rehearsing for a scripted performance assessed by an external examiner.

How will I be assessed on this course?

Component 1: Devising (40%).
The creation, development and performance of a devised piece of drama based on stimulus material.

An evaluation and analysis of the process and performance through either written and/or recorded evidence.

Component 2: Performance of text (20%).
The performance of two key extracts from a play, assessed by a visiting examiner.

Component 3: Theatre makers in practice (40%).
Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

Questions based on the study of a complete performance text, explored practically during the course.

An analysis and evaluation of a live theatre performance seen as part of the course.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

Drama is recognised and valued for its contribution to the development of skills needed for a wide range of future employment, including: interpersonal skills, group working skills and communication.

At Post 16 level: A Level drama and theatre is available. This course allows you to continue developing your practical skills in more depth as well as developing a greater understanding of how theatre works.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mrs Slee for further information.

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Engineering (BTEC)

Why study this subject?

The UK is regarded as a world leader in engineering, which covers a wide range of exciting and rapidly developing areas such as renewable energy, space, low carbon, aerospace, automotive, agri-food and bioscience. People with engineering skills are always in demand. Between 2010 and 2020, engineering companies are projected to have 2.74 million job openings.

Middlesbrough and the wider Teesside area have a history of engineering excellence which is well known throughout the world. The Award gives you the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment to prepare you for either a route into further education or an engineering apprenticeship.

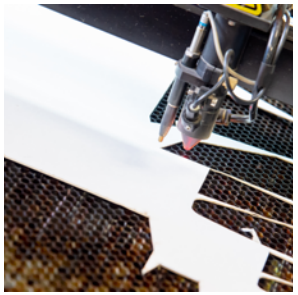
What will I study on this course?

The qualification has three components that focus on the assessment of knowledge, skills and practices.

- Component 1: Exploring engineering sectors and design applications
- Component 2: Investigating an engineering project
- Component 3: Responding to an engineering brief

Areas cover:

- Development of key engineering practical and technical skills, such as research, observation, measurement, making, using computer-aided design (CAD) and disassembly
- Knowledge of key engineering sectors (mechanical, electrical/electronic and engineering design) and the interrelation of each in industry
- Knowledge of the stages involved in planning and implementing an engineering project
- Knowledge and skills involved in the investigation of solutions to engineering problems in response to a given brief.



How will I be assessed on the course?

Component 1 and 2 are internally assessed through assignments and component 3 is externally assessed. The external assessment is based on a set task that requires learners to demonstrate that they can identify and use effectively an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge from across the whole qualification in an integrated way. The external assessment contributes 40 per cent of the total qualification.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

The BTEC level 2 tech award can help you gain entry to a modern apprenticeship or further education where you could go on to study any of the level 3 engineering qualifications. At the academy we offer subsidiary, diploma or extended diploma in engineering (Level 3). The extended diploma gives you direct access to university.

Where can I find out more information about this qualification?

Contact Mrs Cottle for further information.

English Language & English Literature (GCSE)

Why study this subject?
English is one of the key qualifications required by colleges, universities and employers.

The study of English will support your other GCSE choices as you will learn to read in-depth, analyse texts and express yourself clearly in writing as well as speech.

The English GCSEs allow you to study engaging and powerful novels, plays and poetry from across the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

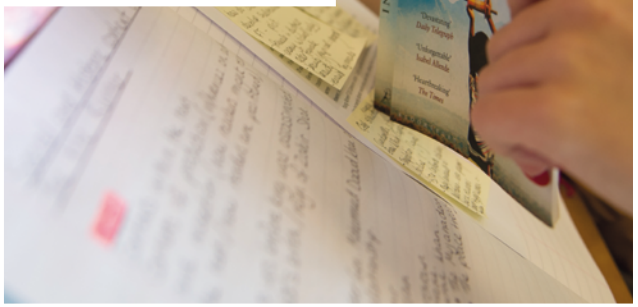
What will I study on this course?
- Fiction and non-fiction
- Poetry
- Drama texts
- Speaking and listening presentations
- Reading and writing skills

How will I be assessed on this course?
GCSE English language: 100% examination GCSE English literature: 100% examination

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?
At Post 16, we offer AS and A levels in English language and English literature. These courses develop analytical skills and your own critical writing. The work is extremely varied; you will have the opportunity to study texts in detail, to produce original writing and to hopefully visit the theatre. Your final grades will result from both examinations and coursework.

English is such a wide subject that it can lead to all sorts of courses as well as the traditional English routes. You could study linguistics, communication studies, media studies, cultural studies, gender studies, women's studies or TEFL (which is teaching English as a foreign language). The universities regard English as a sound basis for other, completely different degree courses such as law, economics and management.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?
Contact Mrs Colabella for further information.



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Enterprise and Marketing (OCR Level 2 National)

Why study this subject?
Business and enterprise are relevant to everyone, whether you are an employee, a consumer, or possibly even a budding entrepreneur. An OCR national in enterprise and marketing offers a selection of business units which provide an insight into many interesting areas. This course allows you to look closely at how businesses start-up, market themselves, manage their money and much more.

What will I study on this course?
As the OCR national course is a practical introduction to life and work as an entrepreneur, you will:

- delve deeper into how the sector works
- appreciate the importance of business planning and understanding the market
- analyse and evaluate the skills that you develop.

How will I be assessed on this course?
2 internal assignments.
2 external assessment.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?
Any career will benefit from an understanding of how organisations work. You could go on to study level 3 academic or vocational qualifications in business, law or economics. A business studies qualification would be useful when applying for a business-related course but would also help support an application for many subjects.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?
Contact Mrs Steel for further information.

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Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

GCSE food preparation and nutrition is a new exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. This qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

What will I study on this course?

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

1. Food, nutrition and health: macro nutrients, micro nutrients, nutritional needs and health.
2. Food science: cooking of food, heat transfer and the functional and chemical properties of food.
3. Food safety: food spoilage, contamination and the principles of food safety
4. Food choice: factors affecting food choice, British and international cuisines, sensory evaluation, food labelling and marketing.
5. Food provenance: environmental impact and sustainability of food, food processing and production.

How will I be assessed on this course?

EXAM: Paper 1: Food preparation and nutrition (50%) written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes.

NON- EXAM ASSESSMENT (NEA): Task 1: Food investigation (15%) written report

Students must show an understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Students will submit a written report (1,500–2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.

NON- EXAM ASSESSMENT (NEA): Task 2: Food preparation assessment (35%)

Written Portfolio

Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task.

Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved. Students will submit a written portfolio (15 A4 pages) including photographic evidence.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

Studying food preparation and nutrition can lead to exciting and well paid career options. Consumers are becoming increasingly reliant on the food industry to develop solutions for their nutritional needs. This course could lead you into roles such as a chef, food product developer, buyer (who travels the world sourcing new food products for manufacturers), food safety inspectors, nutritionists, dieticians, quality managers, teacher, food engineer, food scientist, food technologist, food photographer, food stylist, home economist, hotel and restaurant manager, microbiologist, working in food magazines, radio and television. For more information on food careers please visit www.tastycareers.org.uk

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mrs Garbutt for further information.

Geography (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

Geography will appeal to you if:

- You are curious about the world, people and environments.
- You like asking questions and finding answers.
- You enjoy practical, hands-on work.
- You are interested in local, regional and global issues.
- You have the ability to think independently.
- You want a well-respected, broad qualification to prepare you for many future courses or employment.

What will I study on this course?

Students will travel the world from the classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use. Students are also encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

How will I be assessed on this course?

Students will be assessed on their exam performance only, (no coursework). All exams will take place at the end of the course. Students will take three exams:

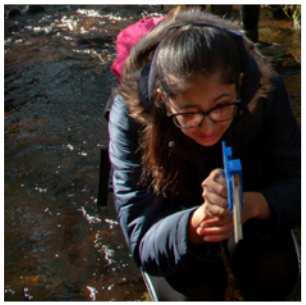
- Physical geography (90mins)
- Human geography (90mins)
- An issue evaluation, skills and fieldwork (75mins)

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

You will find that studying geography is a brilliant step towards a wider range of courses and/or employment opportunities. Geography is a well-respected facilitating subject leading into many diverse careers including; advertising, education, environmental management, finance, law, marketing, retailing, sales, and social/health services.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mr Cox for further information.



Health and Social Care (BTEC)

Why study this subject?

Would you like the opportunity to study a 'hands on' course alongside your GCSEs? A course that gives you a taste of what the sector is like and well as the skills and confidence to succeed in your next steps?
With this award you will learn the care values, develop valuable skills and explore potential careers.

What will I study on this course?

There are three components to the course.

1. Component 1 will focus on life span development and explore how we develop from conception until we die.
2. Component 2 will focus on health and social care services and the values we need to uphold.
3. Component 3 will develop your knowledge of health and wellbeing.

How will I be assessed on this course?

Components 1 and 2 are internally assessed assignments
Component 3 will be an externally assessed task against a brief set by BTEC.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

With this course you can continue onto level 3 at the academy and then onto university for nursing, midwifery, dental nurse, physiotherapy, radiography, social work, primary school teaching and so much more.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Miss Hargreaves or other health and social care staff for further information.
Visit the Edexcel website www.edexcel.com search BTEC Tech awards.

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History (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

Employers recognise and value the skills that studying history provides.

A history qualification can lead to many different careers.

Studying GCSE history helps you to develop a greater understanding of the world in which you live.

The course builds upon and extends knowledge and skills already acquired.

What will I study on this course?

Paper 1:

- One period study: America, 1920–1973: Opportunity and inequality. This period study focuses on the development of the USA during a turbulent half century of change.
- One wider world depth study: Conflict and tension 1918-1939. The inter-war years and the causes of the Second World War.

Paper 2:

- One thematic study: Britain-Health and the people (studying medicine from c1000 to the present day)
- One British depth study: Elizabethan England c1568-1603. This may include a field visit.

How will I be assessed on this course?

Paper 1: Written examination (50%)
Paper 2: Written examination (50%)

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

A Level history/university courses, then onto careers including those linked to law, police work, television and radio, conservation, business and many others.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mrs Dixon for further information.

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iMedia (OCR)

Why study this subject?

ICT is everywhere. Use of ICT is moving at such a fast pace that people without relevant skills are being left behind. Every industry will use ICT in some capacity and employers are looking for highly trained young professionals who have relevant ICT skills. ICT capability is fundamental to participation and engagement in modern society.

- Can you think of one workplace that will not use ICT in some way?
- Are you keen to work in the digital job sector which is growing twice as fast as the economy as a whole?
- What would life be like without the internet, your Xbox or Playstation and your mobile phone?

What will I study on this course?

The qualification is achieved by completing four units of study.

1. Pre-production skills
2. Digital graphics
3. Creating a multimedia product
4. 1 optional unit

How will I be assessed on this course?

Each of these units are equally weighted (25% each). Pre-production skills in assessed via an exam, all other units are coursework.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

ICT is such an important part of our life that trained experts will be found in almost all career paths including; television, film, advertising, radio, publishing, games authoring, software development and web design.

At Post 16, A level computing, BTEC ICT and A level media are available. Computing covers the more theoretical side of the subject and offers you the chance to undertake a major project of computer programming. ICT concentrates on improving your understanding, knowledge and practical skills. All of these courses can lead to university qualifications.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Miss Glasgow for further information.

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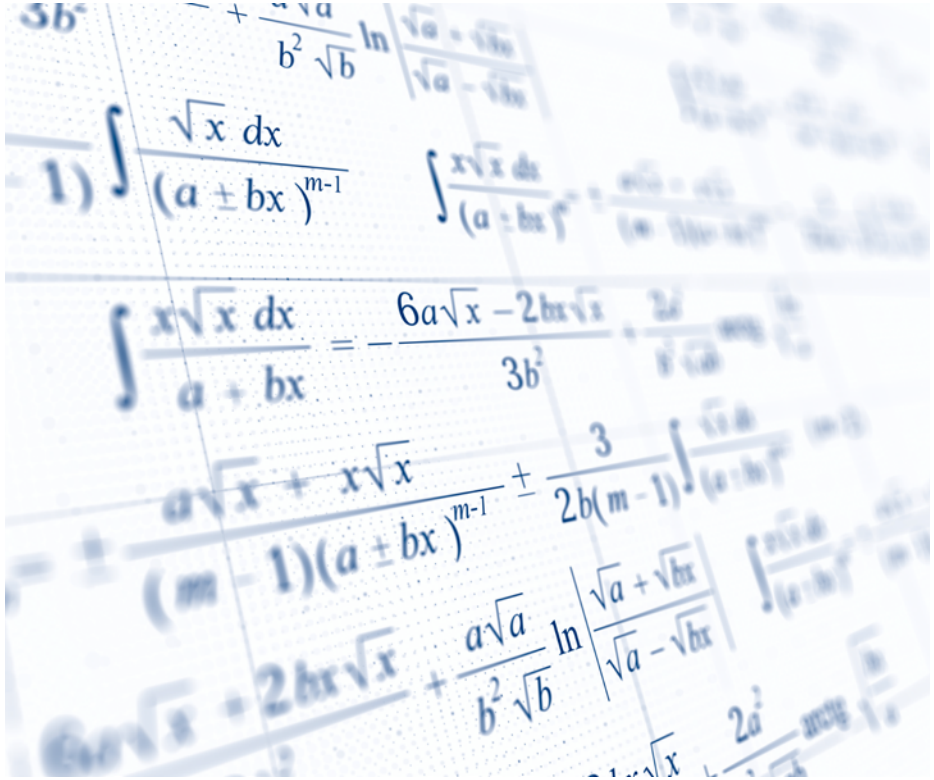
Mathematics (GCSE)

Why study this subject?
Mathematics is the language of the universe. Everything around us has a foundation in mathematics in one way or another, from aeroplanes flying to the number of petals on a flower.

Mathematics is applied in many other subjects from physics to ICT to art and design. You wouldn't have a mobile phone or a computer if it wasn't for the application of mathematics.

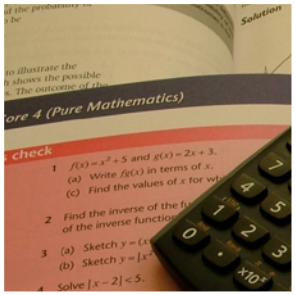
What will I study on this course?
The course will cover data handling/statistics, number and algebra and shape and space.

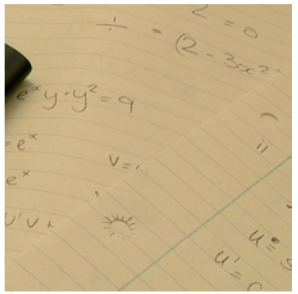
How will I be assessed on this course?
The course is assessed 100% by examination taken in Year 11.



What can this qualification lead to afterwards?
Mathematics is such an important part of our life that trained experts will be found in almost all career paths, including; business, academia, computer design, architecture, accountancy, teaching, law, travel and construction. At Post 16, A level mathematics and A level further mathematics are available. This course can lead to many university qualifications.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?
Contact Mr Syed or Mr Taylor for further information.





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Modern Foreign Languages (French or Spanish - GCSE)

Why study this subject?

Do you like communicating with others?
Do you want to have a talent that is applicable to almost every job you could do?
Do you want to work for a global company?
Do you understand the importance of languages when competing in today's job market?
Do you like to travel?
Do you want to discover new cultures?
Do you want to develop your confidence, creativity and listening skills?

If the answer is YES to any of the above, then Spanish or French is for you!

What will I study on this course?

You will build upon previous knowledge and deepen your understanding of the language itself across a range of topics.

You will work with the foreign language assistant and possibly have the opportunity to visit France or Spain or work with students from abroad.

How will I be assessed on this course?

You will complete four tests, at either foundation or higher level, in the summer of Year 11 which are each worth 25%. These are: listening, reading, speaking and writing.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

You will be in demand as languages can improve your career prospects. You could be one of the few who can help the UK companies which are currently losing 20% of their business annually because they lack employees with language skills. Also, learning a foreign language is an incredibly rewarding experience and a serious confidence booster. You'll get to learn more about yourself, meet new people, and perhaps travel to places you would've never dared to visit before. Language and culture are intimately linked and learning another language will give you an insight into other cultures.

At Post 16 A levels in both languages are available. You will study a wide range of topical issues and can focus on your own interests in the speaking examinations. You will have the opportunity to work with the foreign language assistant and complete work experience in either France or Spain. Both of these courses can lead to university qualifications.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mrs Watson for further information.

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Music (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

Do you enjoy listening to music?
Do you enjoy performing music?
Do you enjoy learning new skills and being creative?

Your answers to these questions may persuade you that music is for you.

What will I study on this course?

In Year 10, you will:

- Develop knowledge of music through musical workshops.
- Have plenty of opportunities to perform both in class and to the wider community.
- Produce a musical composition on a genre of your choice.
- Listen to and appraise music from a variety of sources.

In Year 11, you will

- Record your prepared performance pieces which you work on in your peripatetic lessons.
- Complete a second composition based on a set brief.
- Learn 2 set works which will appear in 2 out of 8 questions in your examination.
- Sit the listening and appraising examination.

How will I be assessed on this course?

The course is 30% composing coursework which is internally assessed. 30% performance recording (this is done in the academy by the music staff). 40% for the written listening and appraising examination.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

A GCSE in music also prepares students for A level music. At Post 16 an A level in music can allow you to take your degree in music. This allows you to access a wide range of graduate careers. Even if you do not go on to take A level, music provides variety and a sense of commitment which looks good on any CV.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mr Taylor for further information.

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Physical Education (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

If you love playing sports and enjoying learning about the science behind it then studying PE at GCSE could be a good move for you. Physical education is not just about sports though. You will learn a lot about health, well-being, the human body and apply a range of skills that will help you in your future career.

Entry Requirement

As the course requires you to be assessed in three sports it is important that to be successful you are currently regularly participating in competitive sport either for the academy or an external club. You should also be committed to continuing this participation throughout Key Stage 4 as some elements will be covered during enrichment time, for example rock climbing. Students who perform best on the course reach at least a Step 7 score for performing athletes.

What skills will I gain from this course?

As well as developing your theoretical knowledge of sport, physical activity and health you will also gain many valuable skills from studying PE that will help you in other GCSE subjects, as well as your future career. Some of the skills that you will develop include:

- **Communications skills:** Many aspects of PE involve working in teams towards a common goal.
- **Social skills:** PE is a very social subject and can involve a lot of group work.
- **Analysis and evaluation: G**CSE PE involves analysing your own and others' performance while looking for ways it could be improved – like being your very own pundit!
- **Physical fitness:** As a PE student, you'll also benefit from being physically fit. Not only will this help you in the physical side of the subject itself, but it will also improve your general well-being and boost your brain power!

How will I be assessed on this course?

Paper 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport	Paper 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport	Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport
What's assessed? • Applied anatomy and physiology • Movement analysis • Physical training • Use of data	**What's assessed?** • Sports psychology • Socio-cultural influences health, fitness and well-being • Use of data	**What's assessed?** Practical performance in **three different physical activities in the role of player/performer (one in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third in either one).** Analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity.
How it is assessed Written exam: 1 hour 15 mins 78 marks 30% of GCSE	**How it is assessed** Written exam: 1 hour 15 mins 78 marks 30% of GCSE	**How it is assessed** Assessed by teachers and moderated by AQA 100 marks 40% of GCSE

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

Physical education lends itself to a range of careers in sports and fitness as well as other industries that you may not have considered before. For example, did you know that many nutritionists, physical therapists and chiropractors have a degree in PE?

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mr Coates or your PE teacher for more information.

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Religious Studies (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

Religious studies impacts on everyday life across the country and all over the world. There are links to news items every day.
Do you understand where other people are coming from and what makes them tick?
Do you have strong views, enjoy debates and have questions on current moral issues?
Do you like to be in touch with what is happening in the world?
Whether you have religious faith or not – are you prepared to listen to others?

Your answers to these questions may persuade you that religious studies is for you.

There are over 7 billion people on the planet, over 6 and a half billion are religious, whether you are or not doesn't change this figure – find out what most of the world follow.

We aim to improve your knowledge and understanding on a variety of topics and 2 major world religions. We also wish to improve your ability to see both sides of a situation – even f you disagree, foster tolerance, sympathy and empathy and enable better essay writing skills that will help not only for GCSE but A level and beyond.

What will I study on this course?

A: 2 main world religions (Paper 1)

- Christian beliefs and Practices
- Islamic beliefs and practices

B: Themes (Paper 2)

- Matters of life (eg Abortion, Euthanasia, Animal rights)
- Crime and punishment (eg reasons for crime, punishment, death penalty)
- Human rights and social justice (eg prejudice, discrimination, exploitation, poverty)
- Relationships and family life (eg marriage, contraception, divorce)

How will I be assessed on this course?

100% examination involving two separate papers (Paper 1 and 2) in Year 11.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

A wide range of careers, including jobs that involve making tough decisions and communicating effectively with others, such as; jobs in the armed forces, forensic science, the police, youth work, journalism, retailing, social work, nursing, public health, medicine, law, and the media. A-Level religious studies, complements a range of subjects including; humanities, sciences, law, art, engineering, health and social care. Any related degree course. The skills gained from GCSE religious studies are regarded favourably by many universities.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact any member of the religious studies department for further information.

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Science – Combined AQA Trilogy (GCSE)

Why study this subject?

Can you think of one workplace that will not use science in some way? Do you enjoy learning new skills and being practical?
What would life be like without knowing about your planet, how physical concepts work, and amazing experiments?

Your answers to these questions may persuade you that science is for you.

Entry Requirements

This course is suitable for students of all ability.

What will I study on this course?

Over the two years you will study ten biology modules, ten chemistry and ten physics modules. The topics in these modules are grouped to give them all the same themes.

How will I be assessed on this course?

The course has no controlled assessments, and will have six examinations (two in each subject) at the end of the second year each worth 16.7% of the overall two GCSEs.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

At Post 16 A levels are available in physics, chemistry and biology. These three A levels cover the more theoretical side of the subject and offer you the chance to undertake a major grounding in the sciences. These can lead to a variety of careers including; medicine, pharmacy, veterinary science and many others. Science is such an important part of our life that trained experts will be found in almost all career paths from television, film, advertising, radio, publishing, science, sports and teaching.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Mr Shaw for further information.

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Science – AQA Triple (GCSE)

Why study this subject?
Do you have a passion for science? Are you fascinated by the world around you and intrigued to learn more about how it works? Do you want to look in depth at biology, chemistry and physics?

Entry Requirements
This course is challenging and would be best suited to students who are currently achieving well in their science lessons.

What will I study on this course?
You will study modules in each of the three sciences, comprising physics, chemistry and biology topic areas.

In biology the main themes are cells level systems, larger scale structures, organisms and communities, genetics, and global challenges.

The main themes in chemistry are: particles; elements, compounds and mixtures; chemical reactions; predicting and identifying reactions and products; monitoring and controlling chemical reactions; global challenges.

In physics the main themes are: matter, forces, electricity, magnetism and magnetic fields, waves in matter, radioactivity, energy and global challenges.

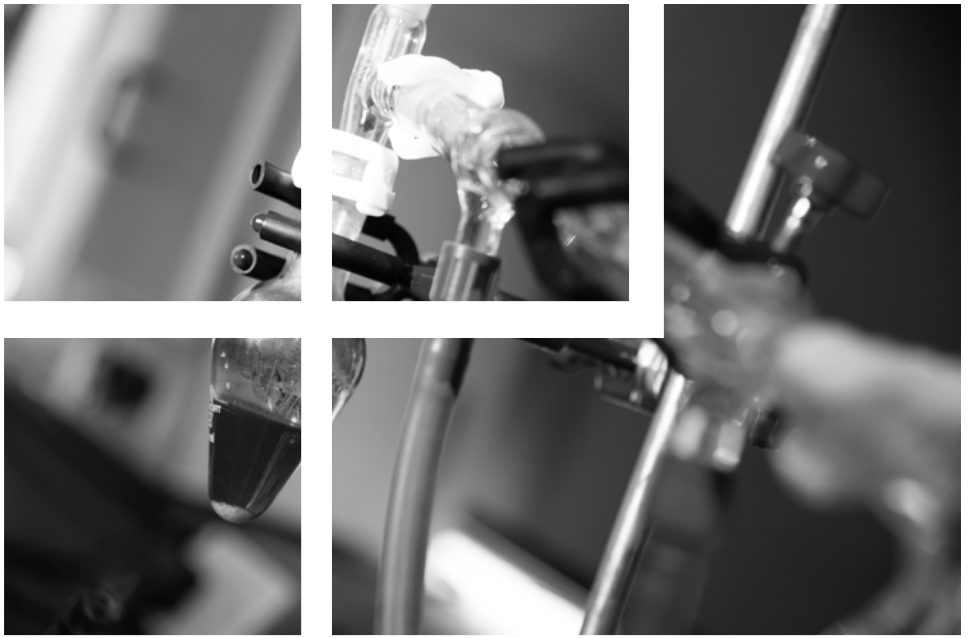
There is also a module for each subject that encompasses the practical elements of the course.

How will I be assessed on this course?
Each separate science has two terminal examinations in the summer of Year 11, each worth 50% of the final grade. There will be no controlled assessment in any of the courses.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?
Science is such an important part of our life that trained experts will be found in almost all career paths from television, film, advertising, radio, publishing, science, sports and teaching.

At Post 16 A levels are available in physics, chemistry and biology. These three A levels cover the more theoretical side of the subject and offer you the chance to undertake a major grounding in the sciences. They can lead to a variety of careers including; medicine, pharmacy, veterinary science and many others.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?
Contact Mr Shaw for further information.



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Sports Studies (OCR)

Why study this subject?

Students have the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge about different types of sport and physical activity, skills development and sports leadership along with their own practical performance. They'll also learn about contemporary issues in sport such as funding, participation, ethics and role models, and sport and the media. Students develop an appreciation of the importance of sport locally and nationally, different ways of being involved in sport and how this shapes the sports industry.

This course is designed to allow students the freedom to explore more deeply the things that interest them. The teaching of the qualification will normally be through practical work, learning skills and how to do things that may be relevant to the world of work. A lot of the qualification is assessed by coursework set. This will be done throughout the duration of their two year course. So if you enjoy project work, and doing practical things you may find Sport Studies a better option than a GCSE.

To ensure the qualification is robust and as stretching as a GCSE, the course has one exam. You will have two opportunities to take the test and therefore allows you to have the opportunity to re-sit if you needed to.

Entry Requirement

Obviously, you should have a keen interest in PE and Sport. In addition, you should be committed to continuing to participate in extra-curricular sport throughout Key Stage 4 as some elements will be covered during enrichment time, for example leading a football session for Y7 students.

What skills will I gain from this course?

The Cambridge National gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on the knowledge and understanding of skills in health, fitness, activity and sport. Some of the skills you will develop include:

- Being able to meet deadlines via hard work
- Work more at own pace with less pressures of examinations
- IT skills as many of the assignments are word processed
- Confidence to plan and lead effective sports sessions or to act as an umpire/ sports official
- Practical skills in one team and one individual sport
- Evaluative skills to identify strengths and areas to develop

The qualification builds on and uses the knowledge and skills learned in GCSEs. It has a broad focus on building knowledge and skills, including exploring the impact of how sport is covered by the media, as well as the positive and negatives this can have on the sport. The practical element also allows you to have more practical PE time in addition to the two hours of core PE each week.

How will I be assessed on this course?

Component 1: Contemporary Issues in Sport	Component 2: Developing Sports Skills	Component 3: Sports Leadership	Component 4: Sport and the Media
What's assessed? • Factors affecting participation • How sport promotes values • Importance of hosting a major event • Role of national governing bodies	**What's assessed?** • One individual sport • One team sport • Ability to evaluate a performance • Ability to referee / umpire	**What's assessed?** • Ability to plan, lead and evaluate a sports session for a group of younger students	**What's assessed?** • How sport is covered by the media • Positive and negative impacts of the media in sport
How it is assessed 60 minute exam 25% of overall grade.	**How it is assessed** Through practical lessons 25% of overall grade.	**How it is assessed** Centre assessed through practical and theory lessons 25% of overall grade.	**How it is assessed** Centre assessed through a series of coursework based tasks 25% of overall grade.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

Sport lends itself to a range of careers in sports and fitness as well as other industries that you may not have considered before. For example, did you know that many nutritionists, physical therapists and chiropractors have a degree in PE or sport?

Studying this qualification as part of Key Stage 4 will help you to make more informed choices for further learning, either generally or in this sector. The choices that learners can make at post-16 will depend on their overall level of attainment and their performance in the qualification. Learners who generally achieve at Level 2 across their Key Stage 4 learning may consider progression to either A Level PE or a Level 3 BTEC Sport.

Where can I find out more about this qualification?

Contact Miss Parkinson or your PE teacher for more information.

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