



**OUR
ASPIRATIONAL
FAMILY**





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A letter from the Headteacher to Year 9 students

Dear Year 9 student,

Choosing your options is one of the most important decisions of your educational career. Making sure you pick the Key Stage 4 courses that are right for you will make a big difference to the next two years and beyond. Getting it right will help you to finish Year 11 with a set of GCSE results that reflects your hard work and it could be as important as influencing your future career choices and whether you go on to future education – so it's a really important decision and you should treat it as such.

This booklet sets out the decision-making process and provides you with some of the advice you will need in order to get it right.

Speaking to your parents/carers, your teachers, your form tutor and our Careers Lead, as well as any member of the Senior Leadership Team will be important. These groups of people know you best and can give you advice based on this. Take the time to really think about your decision as once your choices have been made and agreed, you will not be able to change them.

You will be working on the KS4 courses you choose throughout Year 10 and 11, starting in September 2026. KS4 is demanding and you must be confident that you like the subjects you have chosen and that you feel confident that you can do well in them.

I am very proud of every subject area and teacher here at Burnley High School and have great confidence in our staff. I know whichever course you opt for, you will receive the highest quality teaching, support and opportunities. You will be supported at every stage by your form tutor, Head of Year and all staff. However, you also need to know that being successful at KS4 demands maturity and that maturity begins now by making sure you choose your options wisely.

I very much look forward to supporting you with this process and the next exciting chapter in your life at Burnley High School.

Kind Regards,

Miss E Lewis

Headteacher



A letter from the Headteacher to parents

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your child is at an important stage in their education when they will be make important decisions about the subjects they will study in Year 10 and 11. As you will be aware, throughout KS3, all students cover a compulsory range of subjects, but as they move into their KS4 studies, they are able to 'opt' for a number of subjects. The courses we offer allow students to develop and pursue their personal interests whilst retaining the breadth of knowledge for them to be successful after they leave Burnley High School. We offer a range of GCSE subjects as well as some vocational qualifications. Burnley High School has been preparing your students through a rich Key Stage 3 curriculum and careers programme to ensure they are fully equipped and prepared to make informed choices on the next steps that will support their future aspirations. Students will continue to take part in our Personal Development programme, which meets statutory requirements for Relationships and Sex Education as well as Citizenship and PHSE.

This booklet outlines the Key Stage 4 curriculum information you will need to help your child/young person to make these informed choices. Please read this booklet carefully and see it as the beginning of the process. It is important that the decisions are made by your child, but with your input and agreement. It is very important that the course choices are selected very carefully and not based on options their friends are taking, or the teacher they currently have. During the options process, we will make every attempt to meet individual preferences, however, there are occasions when this is not possible due to popularity of courses.

I am confident that your child/young person is well taught at Burnley High School and is provided with the right advice and guidance to help them make these critical decisions. During KS4, students will regularly be given advice on planning workload and revision techniques and we want to work with you for the benefit of your child/young person and value your support as they embark and move forward on this important journey.

Kind Regards,

Miss E Lewis

Headteacher

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

At Burnley High School we aim for all students to follow a broad and balanced curriculum to keep as many pathways open to them for their future chosen careers.

The timetable for subjects is as follows:

Subject	Hours over 2 weeks
English Language and Literature	10 hours
Mathematics	10 hours
Science (Combined)	10 hours
Physical Education	2 hours
Religious Studies	4 hours
Option 1	5 hours
Option 2	5 hours
Option 3	5 hours

Core subjects:

Core subjects include English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and Religious Studies which are compulsory for all students. Sets will be decided by Heads of Department for English, Mathematics and Science to ensure your child can access the best possible learning to allow them to achieve their potential. It is essential students achieve a grade 4 or above in English and Mathematics at GCSE, if they fail to do so they will be required to resit these subjects at college which can limit their options.

Options and final allocation:

Students will choose three options from different pathways to study in depth at GCSE. It is important that students choose subjects they are passionate about as this will enable them to be successful and also to pursue their talents beyond GCSE. Every effort is made to try and allocate students with their first choice subjects in line with their preference but unfortunately this **cannot be guaranteed**. It is likely that some students may have to change their choices due to low take up of a subject or oversubscription. Students must also **select reserve choices accurately, and be willing to study them** if their first choice cannot be allocated.

What is the English Baccalaureate?

The English Baccalaureate is not a qualification in itself. The measure recognises where students have secured a 'strong good' grade, currently grade 5 across a core of academic subjects – English, Mathematics, History or Geography, the Sciences and a Modern Foreign Language. The subjects included are designed to ensure all students have the opportunity to study a broad core of subjects, allowing further progression. For example, for students hoping to go to university, The Russell Group guide on making informed choices for post-16 education identifies 'facilitating subjects' at A Level. These are subjects most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and ones that will keep the most options open to students.

Making your choice

Students will use an online form to make their choice. They will be asked to select their first option for block 1, their first and a backup option for blocks 2 and 3. The choice of subjects in each option block will be explained later in this booklet.

Teachers at the school know your child well enough to guide you to make the right choice. Please use parents evening as an opportunity to speak to teachers regarding the GCSE course and whether each subject is for you. This booklet should also help in the decision making process.

Whilst making your choices some key questions to consider are:

Which subjects are you most successful in?

Grades matter when applying for sixth form, college, university, apprenticeships and jobs throughout your life. Your teachers will be able to help you understand your progress so far in year 9 as well as your expected outcomes in year 11.

Which subjects do you enjoy the most?

Two years is a long time and students excel in the subjects that they enjoy. Though you are not studying as many subjects overall you are studying more in-depth and all GCSE courses are demanding so ensure you choose the ones you are going to put the time and effort into.

Which subjects link in with your future possible career?

Will this choice lead to the A levels, college courses and university courses that I am interested in? Speak to your form tutors as well as teaching staff for advice. Also visit college websites to look at potential future courses, what subjects do they recommend you study?

Which subjects do your teachers recommend?

Teachers know you best, use parents evening to ask them about the GCSE course as well as how successful they think you will be if you choose their specialism as an option.

What not to do:

Do not pick a subject just because your friends have chosen it.

You may not end up in the same class and this is the time to be selfish about what you want and need for your future.

Do not pick a subject just because you like the staff member that teaches it.

There is no guarantee that you will get a certain teacher for some subjects.

Remember:

You might not get your first choice so also pay close attention to your reserve option as you must be willing to study it.

It is really important to choose an option because you are good at it and you enjoy it.

Lesson time is valuable and every lesson will focus on the knowledge students need.

What to do next

Read through this booklet carefully to inform your decisions. Use parents evening as an opportunity to speak to your teachers and get their advice with your parents. Speak to your teachers in school also and ask them questions about the different courses to make an informed decision.

Think carefully and talk through your decisions before any final choices are made.

Remember you are choosing the right pathway for you but ensure you seek advice to ensure you have all the information before making a final decision.

Once the option choices are made and the courses start in September students will not be permitted to switch options so it is important the right choices are made.

Important dates

Monday 26th January 2026

- Options lessons taster day: An opportunity for year 9 students to sample potential options subjects during a full school day.
- Options Evening in school 3.15-4.15pm.

Friday 27th February 2026

- Options forms released online and completed by parents/carer.

Friday 27th March 2026

- Options form completion deadline.

July, 2026

- Options letter confirming choices sent home.



Option Pathways

You will have received notification of the recommended pathway for your child. Please see the tables below. This provides more information about how the subject curriculum is organised for students when they begin their GCSE course.

For all pathways the following subjects are compulsory, and not an option: English Language and English Literature (2 GCSEs), Maths (1 GCSE), Combined Science (2 GCSEs), Religious Education (1 GCSE). Students will also continue to receive 1 hour of core P.E per week.

<u>Option 1</u>	<u>Option 2</u>	<u>Option 3</u>
History Geography	Triple Science Technology Art Sport Science Citizenship	Spanish Music iMedia Sport Science Catering Citizenship

Reserve choices must be selected carefully and students must be willing to study these.

We cannot always guarantee first choice allocation.

We will advise you which pathway your child will be following, so the most suitable options can be selected.



Core Subjects

English Language GCSE



Qualification: GCSE English Language - EDUQAS

Why is it important that I study this course?

The English Language course allows students to develop their understanding of the way texts are constructed and the specific choices writers make. This helps them create their own pieces of writing and it helps students understand the choices they need to make for different texts. This is important knowledge they need to develop in order to be successful in whatever career they choose to pursue.

What will I learn?

The qualification will be split into two sections: reading and writing. Students will work on the following skills, focusing on both fiction and non-fiction extracts:

- Evaluate texts
- Compare viewpoints
- Analyse the effect of language
- Analyse the effect of structural devices
- Summarise key information
- Develop understanding of why writing is interesting and how phrasing can be used to do this
- How rhetoric is used in non-fiction writing and how the devices can be successful
- How vocabulary can be developed so it is ambitious and sophisticated

How will I be assessed?

English Language Paper 1

Section A - Fiction reading and Section B – Fiction writing (narrative or description) – 50%

English Language Paper 2

Section A – Non-fiction reading and Section B – Non-Fiction writing (article, letter, essay or speech) - 50%

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

English Language is a core subject and is therefore needed in order to access college courses.

It is also relevant to a lot of A Level, BTEC and apprenticeship courses as it demonstrates the ability to write to high standard and to speak confidently and in a formal way.

English Language will allow you to study a wide range of courses, such as Law, History and Media Studies.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to a member of the English Department

English Literature GCSE



Qualification:

GCSE English Literature – AQA

Why is it important that I study this course?

English Literature allows students to appreciate how texts are written and how writers have been inspired by societal factors. Being able to analyse language, support comments with evidence and infer is a transferrable skill that will ensure students are successful in their courses at college and in their chosen career.

What will I learn?

- Students will study three set texts: ‘Macbeth’, ‘An Inspector Calls’ and ‘A Christmas Carol’
- Students will also study a poetry anthology, titled ‘Power and Conflict’
- They will also study Unseen Poetry

Whilst studying these different components, students will learn how to:

- Support comments with evidence from the text
- Analyse the author’s language choices
- Comment on societal factors that influenced the writer
- Compare poems

How will I be assessed?

Literature Paper 1

Shakespeare and 19th Century Novel - 40%

Literature Paper 2

Modern Texts and Poetry - 60%

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

English Literature is a core subject and is therefore needed in order to access college courses.

English Literature will support you in being able to support your comments with evidence and being able to make inferences based on the text. It will allow you to study a range of different texts from different time periods to understand how language and attitudes have developed and changed.

English Literature will allow you to study a wide range of courses, such as Psychology, Sociology, Law and Media Studies.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to a member of the English Department



Mathematics GCSE

Qualification:

OCR GCSE Grades 9-1

Why is it important that I study this course?

Mathematics is present in every career and in many aspects of everyday life from shopping, cooking, paying the bills, deciding on which mortgage to take out or even making sure your wage is correct. GCSE Mathematics embeds key knowledge to prepare you for life after school as well as developing your ability to problem solve which is an essential skill in any workplace. It develops prior learning as well as introduces new learning such as Trigonometry which is important for those in engineering. This course provides essential Mathematical knowledge for a range of careers from Footballer, Lawyer, Journalist to Hair and Beauty therapist.

What will I learn?

You will study the 5 main areas of Maths in depth, these are algebra, geometry, data, ratio and proportion and number. From fractions to angles, pie charts to solving equations or Pythagoras to ratio; this course is varied and exciting as you become Mathematicians ready to take on any problem you may face in your life after Burnley High School.

How will I be assessed?

The Mathematics GCSE consists of 3 exam papers:

- Paper 1: 1 hour 30 minutes, 80 marks, non-calculator
- Paper 2: 1 hour 30 minutes, 80 marks, calculator
- Paper 3: 1 hour 30 minutes, 80 marks, calculator

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

Many college courses and careers require at least a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics as this shows that you have the Mathematical ability to problem solve, be systematic in your approach to work and have a solid grounding in key Mathematical areas, such as fractions, decimals, and percentages, which are ever present in the workplace. A GCSE in Mathematics opens many doors in future careers as well as providing you with the knowledge to support your everyday life from budgeting, reading bus timetables to decorating a house.

Where can I find out more?

Speak to any of your Mathematics teachers.

Combined Science GCSE



Qualification:

GCSE Science – AQA Double award

Why is it important that I study this course?

Science is key within STEM related subjects. Through learning how to conduct scientific research and experiments, we are able to gain a better understanding of the world around us. This allows humans to develop new technologies to improve treatment of diseases, improve energy sources and tackle global warming.

What will I learn?

You will have the opportunity to learn the following key knowledge:

- ☐ The structure of the heart and the causes of cardiovascular disease.
- ☐ Understand how metals are extracted from their ores.
- ☐ Learn the symptoms and transmission of several diseases such as Malaria.
- ☐ Understand how to calculate resistance in an electrical circuit.
- ☐ Design a practical to test the effect of limiting factors of Photosynthesis.
- ☐ Understand how to calculate relative formula mass and moles.

How will I be assessed?

You will sit 6 exams consisting of:

Biology Paper 1 and 2

Chemistry Paper 1 and 2

Physics Paper 1 and 2

Each paper has 70 marks available.

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

Science will enable you to acquire core skills, such as critical thinking, problem solving and innovation, which you will be able to apply to the challenges of the ever-changing environment that we live in. It is an essential qualification for several careers such as medicine, engineering, and forensic science.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to Mrs Di Michele or Mrs Grant

Religious Studies GCSE



Qualification:

Edexcel Specification B: Christianity and Ethics. Islam, Peace and Conflict

Why should I study this course?

Religious Education prepares students to take part in the development of tomorrow's rapidly changing world. Religious Education contributes greatly to understanding the diversity of religion and non-religious belief in our community and the world today. It helps to foster young peoples' own cultural, social, spiritual and moral development. The lessons learned in Religious Education prepare students for responsibilities, experiences and opportunities later in life and helps them to understand the views and opinions of people whose beliefs and values differ from their own. Lessons provide a space for reflection on ideas and opportunities to develop thoughts about questions of meaning and ethics. The issues of religion and belief discussed in lessons frequently top the news agenda and RE helps make sense of them.

What will I learn?

Religion and Ethics: Christianity- Christian Beliefs, Marriage and the Family, Living the Christian Life and Matters of Life and Death.

Religion, Peace and Conflict: Islam- Muslim Beliefs, Crime and Punishment, Living the Muslim Life and Peace and Conflict.

How will I be assessed?

100% examination

Religion and Ethics:

Christianity- 1hr45mins

Religion, Peace and Conflict:

Islam- 1hr45mins

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

There are a wide range of courses that you can go on to study with a

GCSE in RE A-Levels- Philosophy, Sociology, Psychology, Law, Politics.

Any other courses that are about dealing with the public, e.g. hospitality, Tourism.

Careers

Teaching, Civil Service, National Security, Diplomatic Service, Defence Industry, Human Rights, Law, Politics, Emergency Services: Police, Fire, Ambulance, Human resources.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to Mrs Martin or Mrs Metcalfe



Option Choices

History GCSE



Qualification:

Edexcel 9-1 GCSE

Why should I study this course?

Because History gives us the tools to analyse and explain problems in the past, it positions us to see patterns that might otherwise be invisible in the present – thus providing a crucial perspective for understanding (and solving!) current and future problems.

Studying the diversity of human experience helps us appreciate cultures, ideas, and traditions that are not our own – and to recognise them as meaningful products of specific times and places. History helps us realise how different our lived experience is from that of our ancestors, yet how similar we are in our goals and values.

What will I learn?

Weimar and Nazi Germany 1919-1939

Crime and Punishment c500 – Present Day

Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588

American West c1835–c1895

How will I be assessed?

3 Exams

Paper 1 – Thematic and Historic Environment 1 hour and 15 minutes

Paper 2 – Period Study and British Depth Study – 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper 3 –Modern Depth Study - 1 hour and 20 minutes

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

History will not only set you up for further study within History, but it will ensure you have the advantage of key skills and knowledge to further any study you encounter. History teaches inference, investigation skills and empathy. Within this, it will give you a greater appreciation for the wider world and the makeup of Britain.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to Miss Waring or Mr Brayfield.

You can also look on the Edexcel website too.

AQA Geography GCSE

Studying Geography gives you the opportunity to travel the world via the classroom, learning about both natural and social sciences along the way. You will understand how Geography impacts everyday life and discover the key opportunities and challenges facing the world. You will also develop academic and life skills from writing, teamwork and communication to analytical skills. You will carry out fieldwork to a river and urban area fieldwork. Fieldwork is an enjoyable opportunity to explore new environments, improving your understanding of topics as they come to life, it provides you with useful skills in collecting, understanding and later communicating data to different audiences.

Course Overview

Section A—The Challenges of Natural Hazards—Tectonic hazards, earthquakes and volcanoes. Weather Hazards—Hurricanes and flooding and climate change.

Section B—The Living World - Ecosystems, tropical rainforests (The Amazon) and cold environments (Alaska).

Section C—Physical Landscapes in The UK Rivers —processes and formations. Coasts—processes and formations.

Paper 2- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 35% of GCSE: Challenges in the human environment

Urban Issues and Challenges - Urban growth creates opportunities and challenges for cities in LICs and NEEs—Lagos Nigeria. Urban sustainability requires management of resources and transport.

The Changing Economic World - The gap between rich and poor countries, multinational companies, employment structures in different countries, the economic situation of the UK.

The challenge of resource management - The global distribution of food, water and energy. Demand for food supply and different strategies to increase food supply.

Paper 3 - Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes 30% of GCSE: Geographical Applications

Issue evaluation - A resource booklet will be available twelve weeks before the date of the exam. Students will apply knowledge and understanding to interpret, analyse and evaluate the information and issues in the pre-release resources booklet. They will also use geographical skills to set the issues in context and to examine conflicting viewpoints about the issues. You will be asked questions on this booklet in your exam.

Fieldwork—Pupils must complete fieldwork. Pupils will carry out a physical fieldwork enquiry at The River Don and a human fieldwork enquiry in Burnley Town Centre. In paper 3 there will be questions based on the use of fieldwork materials from an unfamiliar context and questions based on students' individual enquiry

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

GCSE Geography allows you to become a well-rounded individual with knowledge and understanding of the human and physical world around you. You use a lot of geographical and maths skills so you are highly employable with a Geography GCSE.

It will give you entry into further and higher education.

Careers in geography are very vast, such as, tourism, climate change, town planning, conservation, population management, resource management, hazard assessment and disaster management, sustainability, cartographer, climatology, weather reporter and meteorologist.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to Miss Waring, Mr Riley or Mr Redman



Spanish GCSE



Qualification:

Pearson Edexcel Spanish GCSE (2024 Specification)

Why should I study this course?

Knowing another language is almost like having a superpower! Not only can it help with the mastery of your first language, it aids communication and problem-solving skills as well improving your memory. Knowing another language, in particular Spanish, means that you can communicate with 572 million people world-wide!

What will I learn?

You will cover six thematic contexts in total;

1. My personal world
2. Lifestyle and wellbeing
3. My neighbourhood
4. Media and technology
5. Studying and my future
6. Travel and tourism

How will I be assessed?

You will have 4 exams in total, all worth 25% of your final grade.

1. Listening
2. Reading
3. Writing
4. Speaking (conducted with your class teacher)

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

Knowing another language also makes you more employable and as an added incentive, in many instances, language skills also lead to hiring bonuses and increased salaries.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to Miss Costello for more information.

Design & Technology



Qualification:

GCSE Design & Technology (Eduqas)

Why should I study this course?

Through studying GCSE Design & Technology, you will be prepared to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world, and be aware of, and learn from, wider influences on design and technology, including historical, social/cultural, environmental and economic factors. The course will offer you the opportunity to solve real problems by designing and making products or systems.

GCSE D&T is based on the development of your skills and ideas through taught components and self-motivated study. You must be committed, have empathy, an open and inquisitive mind which thinks 'why is this?', have a love for design and engineering and feel motivated to work both theoretically and practically and express your own ideas. Are you keen to help others? Are you resilient? Are you creative, enthusiastic and imaginative? Are you able to sustain an investigation? Are you willing to experiment and take risks in your work? Are willing to review your progress and make improvements?

What will I learn?

You will study the main components of: Technical Principles, and; Designing and Making Principles. This will allow you to develop knowledge and understanding of design and technology, its impact on daily life, and develop a broad understanding of materials, systems and processes.

Each of these areas is further divided into core knowledge and understanding and in-depth knowledge and understanding; design and technology and our world; smart materials; electronic systems and programmable components; mechanical components and devices; materials (electronic systems, programmable components & mechanical devices; papers & boards; natural & manufactured timber; ferrous & non-ferrous metals; thermoforming & thermosetting polymers; fibres & textiles); understanding design and technology practice; understanding user needs; writing a design brief and specification; investigating challenges; developing ideas; investigating the work of others; using design strategies; communicating ideas; developing a prototype; making decisions. You will also learn how to select and work with materials and components; mark out; use tools and equipment; use specialist techniques and use surface treatments and finishes.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Design & Technology in the 21st Century – 50%. 100 marks – final written examination (2-hour exam).

A mix of short answer structured and extended writing questions assessing candidates' knowledge and understanding of technical principles; designing and making principles, along with their ability to: analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology.

Component 2: Design & Make Task: Externally set – 50%. 100 marks – Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) - 30 hours.

A sustained design and make task, based on a contextual challenge set by Eduqas, assessing candidates' ability to: identify, investigate and outline design possibilities; design and make prototypes; analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology. Students will work independently on their chosen context, aiming to design and manufacture a high-quality, fully functioning prototype which meets the brief requirements.

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

Studying Design & Technology will enable you to develop a wide range of transferable skills for further education, work and life: creative and innovative thinking; use of imagination and experimentation; the ability to critique and refine your own ideas; knowledge and understanding of all design and technological activity and influences; decision making skills; develop high quality, imaginative and functional prototypes; and communication skills.

The design, technology and engineering industries are one of the fastest growing economic sectors in the UK, with 18% of the working population involved in a vast amount of engineering careers, fashion, architecture, and manufacturing, amongst many more..! Please speak to Miss Morris or Miss Lindsay - Eduqas D&T Website: [GCSE Design and Technology | Eduqas](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/gcse-design-and-technology)

Triple Science GCSE



Qualification:

AQA Triple Science

GCSE Biology

GCSE Chemistry

GCSE Physics

Why should I study this course?

Science impacts countless decisions we make each day from managing our health and well-being to developing technologies. Triple Science will give you the opportunity to develop your natural human curiosity to ask questions (What is the problem?), construct a hypothesis (How do I solve it?), test it with evidence and evaluate the result (Did the solution work?), and make future decisions based on that result. It is key to innovation, global competitiveness, and human advancement.

What will I learn?

You will have the opportunity to learn the following key knowledge:

- ☐ How monoclonal antibodies are produced.
- ☐ Detection of plant diseases.
- ☐ What Nanoscience consists of.
- ☐ Calculating percentage yield of a product.
- ☐ Factors that affect thermal insulation.
- ☐ The life cycle of a star.

How will I be assessed?

You will sit 6 exams consisting of:

Biology Paper 1 and 2

Chemistry Paper 1 and 2

Physics Paper 1 and 2

Each paper has 100 marks available.

Each exam takes 1 hour and 45 minutes.

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

Studying Triple Science will provide you with a strong foundation of key concepts in all three disciplines (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) especially if you are interested in studying A-level Science at college. It will enable you to develop essential skills for various careers such as Biochemist, Astronomer, and chemical engineer.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to Mrs Di Michele and Mrs Grant.

Sport Science

Please note: Sport Science is NOT like KS3 PE where students do practical lessons.

This is a course based on the theory of Sport Science, with no assessed practical lessons.

Qualification:

OCR Cambridge National in Sport Science: **60% coursework, 40% written exam.**

Why should I study this course?

Physical Education supports the curriculum's vision for young people to become confident, connected, actively involved, lifelong learners. Studying this course will help develop learners who have a passion in sport and want to follow a career pathway in sports.

What will I learn?

Students will learn a variety of different units within the course which will widen their subject knowledge within the sporting world, including:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Sport Science.
- Develop learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations.
- Develop independence and confidence in using skills that are relevant to the Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and Health.
- Prepare students for physical activity in ways which keeps them safe as well as learning how to react should injuries happen and how to recognise common medical conditions.
- Learn how to conduct fitness tests, including interpreting and feeding back on the data you get from these as well as how to design, implement and evaluate fitness training programmes.
- Develop knowledge of either how the body responds to exercise and understand how technology helps inform us of these changes, or a delve into the world of sports nutrition to understand how what we eat can impact our performance in sport.
- Develop the skills of team working, research and planning and understand that sports performance goes far beyond just the simple physical movements of the human body.

How will I be assessed?

This qualification is taught over 120 guided learning hours (GLH) and 150 total qualification time (TQT). It has mandatory and optional specialist units. Learners must complete the three mandatory units, two coursework assessments and one exam assessment. Units studied will be:

- R180- Reducing the risk of sports injuries and dealing with common medical conditions
- R181- Applying the principles of training: fitness and how it affects skill performance
- R183: Nutrition and sports performance

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

The course's skills will help you progress onto further study in the Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and Health sector. This may be Level 3 vocational qualifications, such as the Cambridge Technical in Sport Physical Activity, AS and A-Levels, such as Biology, Physical Education, Psychology, Science, Sport or an apprenticeship in roles such as Community activator coach, Leisure team members, Personal trainer or an Outdoor activity instructor.

The diagram below shows the possible progression routes for further study:



**Cambridge National in Sport Science
(Level 1/Level 2)**

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graph TD; A[Cambridge National in Sport Science (Level 1/Level 2)] --> B["A Level  
Physical Education  
(Level 3)"]; A --> C["Apprenticeship  
e.g Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and Health sector (Level 2 and 3)"]; A --> D["Cambridge Technicals  
Sport and Physical Activity  
(Levels 2 and 3)"];
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A Level
Physical Education
(Level 3)

Apprenticeship
e.g Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and Health sector (Level 2 and 3)

Cambridge Technicals
Sport and Physical Activity
(Levels 2 and 3)

Where can I find out more?

Mrs Walton, Mr Nicolson, Mr Sykes or Mr Roberts and by visiting the OCR Cambridge National Sport Science Website for more information on the Specification.

Creative iMedia



Qualification:

Cambridge Nationals Certificate - Creative iMedia

Why should I study this course?

Cambridge National in Creative iMedia will encourage students to:

Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of digital media including factors that influence product design, use of media codes and conventions, pre-production planning techniques, legal issues and creation/publishing/distribution considerations.

Develop learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations. Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.

Develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the media industry and more widely.

Design, plan, create and review digital media products which are fit for purpose meeting both client and target audience requirements.

What will I learn?

You will be learning in practical, real-life situations, such as: Developing visual identities for clients, Planning and creating original digital graphics, Planning, creating and reviewing original digital media products.

How will I be assessed?

For this qualification, students must achieve three units: one externally assessed and two Non Examined Assessment (NEA) units.

Key to units for this qualification: M = Mandatory Students must achieve this units, O = Optional Students must achieve one of these units, E = External assessment We set and mark the exam, N = NEA You assess this and we moderate it

Unit no.	Unit title	Unit ref. no. (URN)	Guided learning hours (GLH)	How are they assessed?	Mandatory or optional
R093	Creative iMedia in the media industry	K/618/5870	48	E	M
R094	Visual identity and digital graphics	M/618/5871	30	NEA	M
R095	Characters and comics	T/618/5872	42	NEA	O
R096	Animation with audio	A/618/5873	42	NEA	O
R097	Interactive digital media	F/618/5874	42	NEA	O
R098	Visual imaging	J/618/5875	42	NEA	O
R099	Digital games	L/618/5876	42	NEA	O

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

Using the skills & learning this course teaches, students can go on to further education in Media Studies (A-Level), Apprenticeship Media and Broadcast Assistant Pathway (Level 3), Cambridge Technicals Information Technology and Digital Media (Level 3), T Level Digital Production Design and Development or Media, Broadcast and Production (Level 3)

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to Mr Gregson

Hospitality and Catering



Please note: Hospitality and Catering is NOT like KS3 food tech where students are regularly cooking

In practical lessons. This is a course based on the theory of the Hospitality and Catering Industry, with a final meal of two courses made for two clients.

Qualification:

Eduqas Hospitality and Catering Level 1 /2. **60% coursework, 40% written exam**

Why should I study this course?

The hospitality industry is the 4th biggest employer in the UK, accounting for 3.2m jobs in 2016. With shows such as the Great British Bakeoff, Masterchef and The Great British Menu displaying the talent and creativity of British chefs, it has never been more a more popular time to work within this industry.

What will I learn?

- How Hospitality and Catering provisions operate.
- Health and safety requirements (legislation and the role of the employee and employer).
- How food can cause ill health (food poisoning, cross contamination, the Environmental Health Officer).
- Time management, multi-tasking, preparing time plans, independence, presentation and health and safety.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 – The Hospitality and Catering Industry

Written exam 90 minutes

Worth 40% of the qualification - 80 marks

Unit 2 – Hospitality and Catering in Action

NEA (None Exam Assessment) - 9 hours will be allocated for this assessment

Worth 60% of the qualification - 120 marks.

Marked as Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Merit or Distinction

You will be given a scenario from the exam board

Planning, practical cooking and service, written evidence to show coverage of the assessment criteria

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

As well as teaching you a life skill, this course also teaches you transferrable skills valued by both colleges and employers. These include: team work, time management and meeting deadlines, communication and multi-tasking.

Where can I find out more?

Speak to Ms Coleman or Miss Lindsay

Art GCSE



Qualification:

Art Craft and Design GCSE- AQA

Why should I study this course?

Art GCSE is based on the development of your skills and ideas through taught components and self-motivated study. The course will develop your skills but you must be committed, love the subject & feel motivated to work practically and express your own ideas. Are you keen to develop your visual skills? Are you creative, enthusiastic and imaginative? Are you able to sustain an investigation? Are you willing to experiment and take risks in your work? Are willing to review your progress and make improvements?

What will I learn?

You will learn a range of enjoyable, creative and exciting approaches to making art such as painting, drawing, printmaking and photography. You will develop observational skills through sustained studies as well as shorter workshop exercises. You will learn to analyse artworks and to present high quality research on a range of artists and designers. You should be prepared to make trips to support your studies with first-hand experiences.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Portfolio 60% No time limit. 96 marks.

A portfolio that in total shows explicit coverage of the four assessment objectives. It must include a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work undertaken during the student's course of study

Component 2: Externally set assignment 40% Preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time. 96 marks.

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

What are the Assessment Objectives?

AO1 - Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.

AO2 - Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.

AO3 - Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.

AO4 - Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

The creative industries are one of the fastest growing economic sectors in the UK and are responsible for over 5% of all jobs.

There are many career choices which art can support. For example: architect, graphic designer, artists, teacher, curator, lecturer, photographer, theatre designer, museum educator, costume designer, craftsperson and many more...!

Where can I find out more?

Miss Lindsay (HoF Art, D&T, Computer Science and Hospitality and Catering)

AQA Website [AQA | Subjects | Art and Design](#)

BBC Bitesize [GCSE Art and Design - AQA - BBC Bitesize](#)

GCSE Citizenship

Qualification:

Edexcel 9-1 GCSE

Why should I study this course?

Citizenship Studies is about how people take an active part in democratic politics and work together for a better society, locally, nationally and globally.

In this subject you will learn about power, democracy, the operation of government and the legal system, and the role of the UK in the wider world. You will explore and learn about different controversial and topical issues with political, social, ethical, economic and environmental dimensions in local to global contexts.

- You get an excellent understanding about current affairs.
- You have a well-rounded view of our society and how and why it works the way it does.
- You know and understand the role of the British legal system.
- You get an excellent knowledge of the key British values.
- You get to complete a Citizenship Action project.

What will I learn?

Theme A: Living together in the UK.

Theme B: Democracy at work in the UK.

Theme C: Law and justice.

Theme D: Power and influence.

Theme E: Taking citizenship action.

How will I be assessed?

2 Exams

Paper 1 –Themes A-C 1 hour and 45 minutes

Paper 2 – Themes D-E 1 hour and 45 minutes.

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

Citizenship will give you the skills to be a well rounded citizen and member of the community. It will set you up for careers in law, criminal justice, human rights, journalism, politics and social care. It will set you up to make a difference to support those around you in need.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to Miss Waring or Miss Gregson.

You can also look on the Edexcel website too.

GCSE Music

Qualification:

OCR GCSE Music (level 2 qualification)

Why should I study this course?

Music is a great option for anyone that has an interest in the subject and would enjoy learning an instrument to a good standard. You must also be confident performing a piece of music in front of your teacher. You must be creative and willing to compose two pieces of music as a part of your coursework. Lastly, this course is better suited to students with good listening skills, who are able to analyse and consider carefully what they hear.

What will I learn?

Performance:

Perform one solo.

Perform in one ensemble.

Composition:

Compose a song.

Compose a piece of music to a set brief.

Listening and Appraising Exam:

1:30 min exam based on,

Rhythms of the World

Conventions of Pop

Concerto Through Time

Film Music

How will I be assessed?

2 x Performances assessed and marked by teacher.

2 x Compositions assessed and marked by teacher.

1:30min Listening exam at end of year 11.

How will this course help me after my GCSEs?

Music GCSE proves you are the kind of person who can be resolute and focused. It takes a lot of skill and effort to learn a musical instrument. You will have also demonstrated excellent listening and analysis skills. From GCSE music, you can study A-Level Music or BTEC Level 3 Music. You could go on to do a music degree, or a vocational music qualification that allows you to access a music profession, for example, music teacher, performer, composer, therapist.

Where can I find out more?

Please speak to Miss Kavanagh.

You can also look on the OCR GCSE Music website too.