



GOODWIN
ACADEMY



Year 8 & 9 Options
2017 – 2019/20

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Introduction

Welcome to the Goodwin Academy Options Booklet for 2017-2019/20.

This is the first time since starting school that our students have had the opportunity to take control of a significant part of their curriculum. This is also the first year that we have extended our Key Stage 4 from two to three years. This development will allow students in year 8 to complete an additional option subject, giving them an even more broad curriculum offering. Year 9 students will continue to benefit from a broad and balanced curriculum that will allow a range of further and higher education pathways to be followed once they have completed year 11.

Choosing option subjects for study in Key Stage 4 is an extremely important part of the year for the students involved. We therefore devote significant time to the process and the timeline for this is shown below:

Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st February 2017
Assemblies for year 8 and 9 students to explain options process

Wednesday 22nd February 2017
Options Evening

Week Beginning 27th February 2017
Subject assemblies

Thursday 16th March 2017
Options form submission deadline

May 2017
Parents and students informed of subject choice allocations

Ongoing throughout process
Individual meetings with students and members of the Senior Leadership Team

The following pages offer further clarification about how we organise Key Stage 4 as well as explaining the key staff involved in the options process. Also included is information on the core curriculum that all students will follow.

KEY STAFF

FOR ANYTHING RELATED TO THE OPTIONS PROCESS	
Name	Role
Mr B Chidwick	Assistant Principal: Curriculum
Mr M Evans	Assistant Principal: Director of Mill Road
Mr G Myers	KS3 Manager
Miss R Butterfield	Year 8 Progress Leader
Mrs D Lowther	Year 9 Progress Leader

FOR SPECIFIC 'NEXT STEPS' ADVICE AND GUIDANCE	
Name	Role
Mr C Stanley	Head of Sixth Form
Mrs G Hamilton-Hopkins	Head of Pathways and Enrichment

MAKING OPTIONS CHOICES

Year 8

All students will study the following core curriculum:

- GCSE English (5 lessons per week)
- GCSE Maths (5 lessons per week)
- GCSE Combined Science (5 lessons per week)
- PSHCCEE (careers, relationships and related education- 1 lesson per week)
- Core PE/Games (2 lessons per week)

Students will then choose 4 subjects from the option subjects outlined in this booklet:

- **One** from Option Choice 1 (the first box on the options form- 3 lessons per week)
- **Three** from Option Choice 2 (the second box on the options form- 3 hours per week each for a total of 9 lessons)

Year 9

All students will study the following core curriculum:

- GCSE English (5 lessons per week)
- GCSE Maths (5 lessons per week)
- GCSE Combined Science (5 lessons per week)
- PSHCCEE (careers, relationships and related education- 1 lesson per week)
- Core PE/Games (2 lessons per week)

Students will then choose 3 subjects from the option subjects outlined in this booklet:

- **One** from Option Choice 1 (the first box on the options form- 4 lessons per week)
- **Two** from Option Choice 2 (the second box on the options form- 4 hours per week each for a total of 9 lessons)

The Core Subjects

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

You will learn how to write for different purposes and audiences and to use interesting vocabulary and the correct grammar, spelling and punctuation. You will learn how to examine literary and non-fiction texts, commenting on their content, language and structure.

Which skills will I develop?

You will develop strategies to help you read, understand, analyse and interpret different types of texts including plays, poetry, biography and novels. You will develop writing skills, using descriptive, argumentative and persuasive techniques, organising your ideas and writing fluently and confidently, as well as editing and proofreading your own writing.

How will I learn?

You will learn through the continual practice of reading, writing, and speaking and listening. You will learn through a variety of teacher and student-led activities, home learning and through individual, paired and group work.

How will my work be assessed?

English Language

Paper 1:	You will answer four questions responding to the language and structure in a single literary text and then complete a description or story.	Exam 50%
Paper 2:	You will answer four questions on the content, language and writers' viewpoints in two non-fiction texts. You will then argue your point of view on a given topic.	Exam 50%
Speaking and Listening:	You will give a presentation followed by questions. This does not count towards your final grade and is awarded a separate grade of Pass, Merit or Distinction.	Assessed in school 0%

Where might this lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level English Language/Literature and A Level Media Studies. GCSE English may also develop an interest in A Level Drama, Theatre Studies and Performing Arts. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Journalism, Teaching, Retail, Personnel and Administration.

The Core Subjects

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

You will develop the ability to analyse and appreciate the written word. You will learn to use literary language and write about texts using critical and imaginative responses. For examination purposes, you will read Shakespeare, texts written before 1914, modern texts, texts from other cultures and poetry, both contemporary and English Heritage.

Which skills will I develop?

You will develop strategies to help you read, understand, analyse and interpret what is read. The focus on analysis will be on character, theme, setting and context whilst exploring language devices, structure and form. You will be asked to make links between texts and understand the social and historical significance of texts.

How will I learn?

You will learn through the continued practice of reading, writing, and speaking and listening. You will learn through a variety of teacher and student-led activities, home learning and through individual, paired and group work.

How will I be assessed?

English Literature

Paper 1:	You will answer two questions, both based on an extract from the texts. The current texts are Macbeth by William Shakespeare and A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens.	Exam 40%
Paper 2:	You will answer one question on the play <i>An Inspector Calls</i> , compare two poems from a collection of fifteen that have been read and examined in an anthology, and finally examine and compare two 'unseen' poems.	Exam 60%

Where might this lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level English Literature and A Level Media Studies. The study of GCSE English Literature may also develop an interest in A Level Drama, Theatre Studies and Performing Arts. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as: journalism, teaching, retail, personnel and administration.

The Core Subjects

GCSE MATHEMATICS

EXAMINATION BOARD: Edexcel

What will I learn?

You continue to develop your understanding of Mathematics from a real world perspective as well as the abstract. The six areas of the syllabus; number; algebra; ratio; proportion and rates of change; geometry and measures. Probability and Statistics will have the emphasis on the application of learning.

Which skills will I develop?

Amongst the many skills developed throughout the course, the most important are representation (identifying and simplifying), analytical skills (making connections and generalising), interpretation and communication.

How will I learn?

The GCSE curriculum demands that Mathematics is learnt in a way that emphasises using functional maths. Lessons will be a mixture of teacher led activities, individual tasks and collaborative work, with students having the opportunity to review their learning. ICT will be used both as a teaching and learning tool.

How will my work be assessed?

Paper 1 Non-calculator	A formal examination consisting of one paper in which a calculator cannot be used (90mins).	External Examination 80 marks
Paper 2 Calculator	A formal examination consisting of one paper in which a calculator can be used (90mins).	External Examination 80 marks
Paper 3 Calculator	A formal examination consisting of one paper in which a calculator can be used (90mins).	External Examination 80 marks

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level Mathematics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Geography and Psychology. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Medicine, Accountancy, Insurance, Teaching and Computer Game Design. Almost every employer will look for Mathematics as proof of ability to think logically and analytically.

The Core Subjects

GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

You will learn how to develop practical skills through investigation work followed by standard procedures. You will learn about the importance of Science to society through the disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. You will continue to learn how Science helps us to understand the world around us.

Which skills will I develop?

You will learn how to handle equipment, measure and record, research and select information. You will work in groups, following directions and will also focus on key skills in literacy, numeracy and ICT.

How will I learn?

You will learn through teacher-led activities, self-directed activities, research, discussions, hands-on practical work and by working collaboratively in small groups.

How will my work be assessed?

6 exam papers	Types of Questions	How's it assessed?
	Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.	
Biology Paper 1	Biology topics 1–4: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.	1 hour 15 min exam F and H Tier 70 marks 16.7% of GCSE
Biology Paper 2	Biology topics 5–7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution and Ecology.	See above
Chemistry Paper 1	Chemistry topics 8–12: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes and Energy changes.	See above
Chemistry Paper 2	Chemistry topics 13–17: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.	See above
Physics Paper 1	Physics Topics 18-21: Energy, Electricity, Particle model of matter, Atomic structure	See above
Physics Paper 2	Physics Topics 22-25: Forces, Waves, Magnetism and electromagnetism	See above

Where will it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics or BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science. Sixth Form study can lead to a University course to study for a degree. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Pharmacist, Researcher, Forensic Scientist, Hairdresser, Chef or Police.

The Option Subjects



The Option Subjects

GCSE TRIPLE SCIENCE: BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS (by invitation only)

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

You will learn how to develop practical skills through investigation work followed by standard procedures. You will learn about the importance of Science to society through the disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. You will continue to learn how Science helps us to understand the world around us.

Which skills will I develop?

You will learn how to handle equipment, measure and record, research and select information. You will work in groups, following directions and will also focus on key skills in literacy, numeracy and ICT.

How will I learn?

You will learn through teacher-led activities, self-directed activities, research, discussions, hands-on practical work and by working collaboratively in small groups

How will my work be assessed?

6 exam papers	Types of Questions	How's it assessed?
Biology Paper 1	Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response. Biology topics 1–4: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.	1 hour 45 min exam F and H Tier 100 marks 50% of GCSE
Biology Paper 2	Biology topics 5–7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution and Ecology.	See above
Chemistry Paper 1	Chemistry topics 1–5: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes and Energy changes.	See above
Chemistry Paper 2	Chemistry topics 6–10: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.	See above
Physics Paper 1	Physics Topics 1-4: Energy, Electricity, Particle model of matter, Atomic structure	See above
Physics Paper 2	Physics Topics 5-8: Forces, Waves, Magnetism and electromagnetism and Space	See above

Where will it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics or BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science. Sixth Form study can lead to a University course to study for a degree. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Pharmacist, Researcher, Forensic Scientist, Hairdresser, Chef or Police.

The Option Subjects

GCSE FRENCH

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

This course consists of three main themes:

1. Identity and culture.
2. Local, national, international and global areas of interest.
3. Current and future study and employment

Which skills will I develop?

You will develop the skills to interact with French native speakers both orally and in writing. The aim is to enable you to communicate in everyday situations.

How will I learn?

You will follow this course using realistic, work related contexts and many authentic French documents.

How will my work be assessed?

Paper 1: Listening	One paper: Foundation tier or Higher tier Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally Section B – questions in French, to be answered in French or non-verbally	External Examination 25 %
Unit 2 Speaking	7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier) 10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) A Role-play, a Photo card to describe and a general conversation.	Recorded with class teacher but externally assessed. 25%
Unit 3 Reading	One paper Foundation tier or Higher tier Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally Section B – questions in French, to be answered in French or non-verbally Section C – translation from French into English.	External Examination 25%
Unit 4 Writing	One paper: 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier) Translation from English into French + structured writing (responding to bullet points).	External Examination 25%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A-Level French. This qualification is highly regarded by employers; people with a language will earn more and are seldom unemployed. This qualification would be useful in the Trade, Business, Leisure and Tourism industry.

The Option Subjects

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

You will investigate a number of aspects of our world. This will include extreme environments, your role as a global citizen, how our world is changing, and how other countries differ from the UK.

Which skills will I develop?

You will develop information processing skills and methods of investigation. You will need to develop an understanding of analysis as you will be expected to explain how different processes link together. A number of traditional geographical skills will be developed including map skills, data collection, source analysis and the use of maps and diagrams.

How will I learn?

You will learn through a series of focused case studies that develop detailed knowledge of certain ecosystems and aspects of human geography. There will be an element of independent learning, including field skills, and you will develop skills in geographic information systems. During the course you will have class work marked by your teacher, yourself and your peers.

How will my work be assessed?

Unit 1: Living With The Physical Environment	What's assessed; The challenge of natural hazards, The living world, Physical landscapes in the UK, Geographical Skills	Externally Assessed 1hour 30 min Exam 35%
Unit 2: Challenges in The Human Environment	What's assessed; Urban issues and challenges, The changing economic world, The challenge of resource management, Geographical skills	Externally Assessed 1hour 30 min Exam 35%
Unit 3: Geographical Applications	What's assessed; Issue evaluation, Fieldwork, Geographical skills	External Assessment 1hour 15 min Exam 30%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level Geography, Sociology and Psychology. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Business Management, Surveyor, Climatologist, Teacher/Academic, Land or Environment, Cartographer, Architect or Demographer.

The Option Subjects

GCSE HISTORY

EXAMINATION BOARD: Edexcel

What will I learn?

The first unit you will investigate is the development of crimes and their punishments from the 11th century to the present day. We will study the crimes that had the death penalty – such as theft of goods more than the value of 12d (5p today!); the development of the police force from the 19th century and the case of the last man to be hung in Britain. As part of this unit, there will be a depth study of 19th century Whitechapel and Jack the Ripper.

For Paper 2 we need to study two different topics – and you get to help choose which ones you'd like! During Options Evening and in the lessons following that evening, we will tell you about the different topics available and you get to vote. The most popular in the two sections of Paper 2 will be the ones we study together.

Last, but not least, we will be looking at how the German people coped with life after 1918 and why they elected Hitler into power. We will study their attitudes to women, young people and their workers, as well as the treatment of Jewish people.

Which skills will I develop?

- critical reasoning and analytical skills, including problem solving and thinking creatively
- independent learning skills - including doing your own research
- able to construct an argument and communicate clearly, both verbally and written
- an ability to think objectively and with an open mind
- appreciation of the different factors that influence the activities of groups and individuals

How will I learn?

Lessons will be delivered through a variety of methods. These range from role-play, group work to verbal and visual presentations. You will be given support and practical advice on how to write essays and how to approach exam questions successfully.

How will my work be assessed?

Paper 1: Crime & Punishment	A thematic study and an historic environment	External Exam 30%
Paper 2: Student vote	A period and a British depth study	External Exam 40%
Paper 3: Weimer and Nazi Germany 1918-39	A modern depth study	External Exam 30%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level History, Psychology, Sociology, Media or Business Studies. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as archaeology, accountancy, heritage site manager, engineering, curator, journalist, law/police force, politics, business, media or teaching. In fact the list is endless; the skills you learn studying history are useful for just about any career you can think of!

The Option Subjects

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

The course consists of looking at contemporary ethical issues, such as the justification of war, scientific advances in fertility treatments, personal responsibility (the use of drugs, relationships) and the right to life (abortion and euthanasia). Each of these topics helps to develop an understanding of how a specific religion reacts to these ethical issues, as well as to help the students to gain a better understanding of their own views on the subject.

There is also a unit of the Philosophy of Religion, where we study ultimate questions, for example the question surrounding the existence of God, life after death and the origins of the Universe.

How will my work be assessed?

Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teaching and practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Buddhism* Christianity* Islam* Judaism <p>This component focuses on how having a religious faith can impact on the way people live their lives, developing an appreciation and understanding of the multi-faith society we live in.</p>	External Examination 50%
Component 2: Thematic Studies	<p>Four religious, philosophical and ethical studies themes, choosing from the following.</p> <p>Religious, philosophical and ethical studies themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">*Theme A: Relationships and families.*Theme B: Religion and life.*Theme C: The existence of God and revelation.*Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict.*Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.*Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice.	External Examination 50%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level Religious Studies, Sociology, Law, Government & Politics, History and Psychology. It also provides contextual knowledge to support subjects such as English. This qualification is useful if considering employment where there is a need of interpersonal interaction

The Option Subjects

GCSE ART & DESIGN: FINE ART

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

In Fine Art you will learn how to design and develop creative ideas from a given starting point. You will also find out about different artists and their works. You will be introduced to professional creative techniques and you will be required to produce two pieces of coursework.

What skills will I develop?

In Fine Art you be given opportunities to develop your skills in:

• Mark-making	• Monoprint, collagraph and block printing
• Assemblage	• Construction
• Carving	• Digital working methods
• Charcoal, pastels, pen and ink, crayons and pencil	• Watercolour, gouache, acrylic and oil paint
• Found materials	• Clay, wood and metal
• Different papers and surfaces on which to work	

You will also develop three main creative skills:

- How to draw and record images using a selection of materials and processes.
- How to use and apply colour using different media and techniques.
- How to work in 3D, 2D and through computer aided design programs such as Photoshop.

All of these will form an integral part of the coursework units.

How will I learn?

You will be given set projects to work on. You will have to undertake research and develop your own ideas. You will work on your own and be responsible for working to a set time scale.

How will my work be assessed?

Component 1	This is internally assessed. You will be required to produce a portfolio of work at the start of year 10.	Controlled Assessment 60%
Component 2	This will be an examination at the end of year 11.	External Assessment 40%

At the end of the course you will sit an examination, which lasts 10 hours. Your work will be assessed by your teacher and also by an external examiner. It will be marked using exam board criteria.

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level, Level 3 Btec art and design courses. This qualification is also useful if considering employment in the creative industries, there is many careers available for those who are able to envision, design and create beautiful things.

Art curriculum writer £47,000	Architect £38,000+	Display designer £22,000	Jeweller Maker £20,952	Picture framer £13,500 to £30,000
Art Historian £32,004	Architectural Illustrator £49,000	Film Storyboarding £65,500	Interior decorator £25,000 and £40,000.	Playground/theme park/sports area/golf course designer £54,930
Arts Administrator £30,000	Architectural Illustrator £49,000	Food stylist £ 26,420	Interior designer £45,000	Prop maker/set design £41,320
Arts and cultural planner £50,000	Art Preservationist £27,500	Floral designer £20,000	Landscape architect £19,818 - £39,657	Private art instructor £27,097
Art Consultant £20,000	Book Illustrator £42,000	Fashion illustrator £20,000	Medical illustrator £28,462	Product designer £25,000
Art Critic £31,360	Caricaturist/Cartoonist £24,435	Film Critic £42,000	Metal Artist £28,445	Police artist £28,462
Art/design/colour consultant £42,500	Ceramist £20,000+	Film Director £35,359	Mural artist £19,410	Poster artist £20,000+
Art Dealer £29,664	Children's book illustrator £33,080	Furniture designer £28,000	Museum Curator £42,570	Printer designer £21714
Art Director £36,902	Commercial artist £20,000+	Gallery owner £40,030 -£80,070	Motion picture sculpture/modeller £32,650	Tattoo artist £25,620
Advertising director £28,000+	Concept artists for video games/film and television £35,000	Graphic Illustrator £42,500	Special effects designer £33,000	Teacher/Instructor £27,097+
Art Therapist £31,383+	Commercial Printer £20,935	Hair Stylist £14,000+	Special effects makeup £19,417	Urban street artist/Graffiti £25,298
Airbrushing vehicles Transportation equipment painting £42,300	Courtroom Illustrator £35,000	Interior Architect £45,000+	Sculptor/3D artist £25,287	Visual effects artist £27,000
Airbrushing fingernails or makeup £33,160	Forensic Artists £35,230	Jewellery Designer £20,000	Painter £26,580	Visual Merchandiser £30,000

Any other Career

Fine Art can be great preparation for any other career that requires high employment skill sets in fine motor skills, presentation skills, an eye for aesthetics and creative thinking. Studying Fine Art will help shape these transferrable skills that enable you to seek employment in career fields outside of the creative arts.

What kind of companies will hire you?

The following types of organizations often employ Fine Artist.

Industrial and product design companies	Colleges/universities/schools
Galleries	Fine art press
Museums/cultural institutions	Museums/cultural institutions/galleries
Television/radio/film	Corporate public relations departments
Event planning firms/venues	Government departments, agencies and public bodies
Retail/stores	Graphic design studios
Hospitality	Advertising agencies
Colleges/universities/schools	Multimedia companies
Web service companies	Hospitals and health care institutions
Industrial design studios	Book publishing firms
Architectural firms	Newspapers and magazines

The Option Subjects

GCSE ART AND DESIGN: GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

In Graphic communication you will learn how to design and develop creative ideas from a given starting point. You will also find out about different artists / designers and their works. You will be introduced to professional creative techniques and you will be required to produce two pieces of coursework.

Which skills will I develop?

In Graphic communication you be given opportunities to develop your skills in:

- Communication Graphics
- Design for print
- Advertising and branding
- Illustration
- Packaging design
- Typography
- Multi-media
- Signage
- Exhibition graphics

All of these will form an integral part of the coursework units.

How will I learn?

You will be given set projects to work on. You will have to undertake research and develop your own ideas. You will work on your own and be responsible for working to a set time scale.

How will my work be assessed?

Component 1	This is internally assessed. You will be required to produce a portfolio of work at the start of year 10.	Controlled Assessment 60%
Component 2	This will be an examination at the end of year 11.	External Assessment 40%

At the end of the course you will sit an examination, which lasts 10 hours. Your work will be assessed by your teacher and also by an external examiner. It will be marked using exam board criteria.

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level Art and A Level Graphics. This qualification is also useful if considering employment in the creative industries, there is many careers available for those who are able to envision, design and create beautiful things

Advertising Consultant £43,270.00	Book Illustrator £42,000	Digital animator £53,970.00	Layout Artist £52,672.00	Photo Retoucher £27,000.00
Advertising illustrator £43,400.00	Cartoonist £24,435.00	Drafting technician £41,978.00	Layout Designer £27,100.00	Scientific Illustrator £48,840.00
Animator £24,435.00	Colourizing Technician £42,500.00	Editorial Illustrator £34,708.00	Logo Designer £45,140.00	Technical Illustrator £29,136.00
Teacher/Instructor £27,097	Comic Book Illustrator £48,000	Entrepreneur £ 58,000.00	Magazine Designer £21,714.00	User interface designer £46,000.00
Art Director £50,000.00	Commercial Artist £42,900.00	Fashion Illustrator £40,000.00	Medical Illustrator £48,840.00	Video Game designer £50,000.00
Art Editor £29,531.00	Consumer Advocate £44,000,00	Film Animator £115,377.00	Multimedia Designer £26,500.00	Wallpaper Designer £25,000.00
Billboard Designer £34,500.00	Corporate Designer £41,360.00	Graphic Designer £42,900.00	Packaging Designer £35,000.00	Web Designer £23,000.00
Blogger £24,000.00	Creative director £51,739,00	Greeting Card Designer £42,460.00	Photo Editor £24,582.00	Webmaster £26,649.00

Any other Career

Graphic Communication can be great preparation for any other career that requires high employment skill sets in fine motor skills, presentation skills, an eye for aesthetics and creative thinking. Studying photography will help shape these transferrable skills that enable you to seek employment in career fields outside of the creative arts.

What kind of companies will hire you?

The following types of organizations often employ Graphic designers.

- Corporate public relations departments
- Government departments, agencies and public bodies
- Graphic design studios
- Film and television studios
- Advertising agencies
- Multimedia companies
- Web service companies
- Hospitals and health care institutions
- Industrial design studios
- Book publishing firms
- Architectural firms
- Newspapers and magazines
- Printing companies
- Schools, Colleges and universities

The Option Subjects

GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

In Photography you will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of lens-based and light-based media, techniques and processes, including both traditional and new technologies. You will learn how to develop creative ideas from a given starting point. You will also find out about different artists and their work to support your ideas. You will be required to produce two projects to meet the coursework requirement.

In Photography, you will be given opportunities to develop your skills in:

- Portraiture
- Location Photography
- Studio Photography
- Experimental imagery
- Installation
- Documentary photography
- Photo-Journalism
- Moving image: film, Video and animation
- Fashion Photography

How will I learn?

You will be given set projects to work on. You will have to undertake research and develop your own ideas to create a final piece or pieces. You will work on your own and in groups to develop your skills. You will be responsible for working to a set time scale.

How will my work be assessed?

Component 1	This is internally assessed. You will be required to produce a portfolio of work.	Controlled Assessment 60%
Component 2	This will be an examination at the end of Year 11.	External Assessment 40%

At the end of the course you will sit an examination, which lasts 10 hours. Your work will be assessed by your teacher and also by an external examiner. It will be marked using exam board criteria.

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A level Photography, Graphics or BTEC Art and Design courses. This qualification is also useful if considering employment in the creative industries, there is many careers available for those who are able to envision, design and create beautiful things.

Aerial Photographer £35,980	Cinematographer £59,430	Film Editor £32,060	Multimedia Designer £26,500	Photojournalist £34,000
Animator £24,435.00	Commercial Photographer £36,000	Food Photographer £32,000	Medical Photographer £28,462	Travel Photographer £15,300
Architecture Photographer £29,000	Digital animator £53,970.00	Landscape Photographer £33,350	Action/Sports photographer £20,000	Video Editor £61,750
Teacher/Instructor £27,097+	Event Photographer £20,011	Lighting designer £27,511	Pet Photographer £20,011	Visual effects Artist £33,000
Astrophotography £40,000	Equine Photographer £28,350	Landscape Photographer £33,350	Photo Editor £24,582	Web designer £23,000.00
Camera Operator Television and Motion Picture £64,910	Fashion Photographer £49,000	Lighting technician £33,680	Photo Retoucher £27,000	Wildlife photographer £30,280

Any other Career

Photography can be great preparation for any other career that requires high employment skill sets in fine motor skills, presentation skills, an eye for aesthetics and creative thinking. Studying photography will help shape these transferrable skills that enable you to seek employment in career fields outside of the creative arts.

What kind of companies will hire you?

The following types of organizations often employ photographers.

Government departments, agencies and public bodies

Film and television studios

Advertising agencies

Art Galleries

Multimedia companies

Web service companies

Sport organisations

Hospitals and health care institutions

Industrial design studios

Book publishing firms

Architectural firms

Newspapers and magazines

Printing companies

Schools, Colleges and universities

Estate companies

The Option Subjects

BTEC BUSINESS First Award

EXAMINATION BOARD: BTEC

What will I learn?

The course consists of four units of work. **Unit 1** deals with the business environment that enterprises have to operate in. You will learn about the important aspects to Business start-up and their development. **Unit 2** will enable you to be able to calculate and evaluate business finances. **Unit 3** delves into the world of marketing. You will discover how to promote and advertise a brand to increase sales and meet demand. The Customer is always right, that's what **Unit 4** teaches you. You will study customer service techniques and learn how to solve problems.

Which skills will I develop?

In the presentation and analysis of your work you will develop a wide range of ICT skills. During the completion of units, literacy and numeracy skills will be applied. You will develop study and independent research skills and an ability to apply your learning to a real business context.

How will I learn?

A variety of methods of learning will be applied. You will learn through individual and group work and through presentations as well as through practical application of skills. The course will put classroom based learning into a real business context and encourage you to participate in a real business setting.

How will my work be assessed?

Enterprise in the Business World	Coursework Unit	Centre Assessed externally moderated 25%
Finance For Business	Exam	Exam 25%
Promoting a Brand	Coursework Unit	Centre Assessed OCR Moderated 25%
Principles of customer service	Coursework unit	Centre Assessed OCR Moderated 25%

Where might it lead?

If you select this option it can lead to further areas of study such as a Level 3 Business qualification and then on to University. This qualification is also useful when considering future employment. The topics and case studies used throughout this course will help you understand the world of work. Business has strong academic and vocational aspects to it.

The Option Subjects

Year 8 Performing Arts Option DRAMA & PRODUCTION ARTS

EXAMINATION BOARDS: Edexcel, Trinity, LAMDA

“The Company”

As a student taking a Level 2 Performing Arts Course, you will be invited to join “The Company” where you will learn how to be part of a successful Performing Arts Group, taking their productions all over Kent!

At the start of the course you will get to know your fellow members of the company and take part in a series of workshops to develop your skills. You will have the opportunity to explore a range of theatre work including Acting, Technical Theatre and Front of House. You will be part of the academy’s annual pantomime, perform at theatres in Kent, including the Gulbenkian and tour local Primary Schools with productions.

During your first year you will have the opportunity to take your Bronze Award in the Arts, followed by LAMDA Acting qualifications.

In your second and third year you will start to specialise in your chosen area of either Acting or Technical Theatre. This will see you embark on your BTEC First Award in Performing Arts where you will take three units. Each unit will allow you to explore a range of skills in your chosen field and demonstrate your knowledge through performances. Although this course is mainly practical there are some written elements such as log books and research that have to be completed in order to support and validate your learning.

Other Opportunities – Visits to theatres, National Youth Theatre Auditions, Workshops

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Actor, Teacher, Holistic Therapist, Technician, Costume & Make-Up Designer or Director. Drama is also welcome on a CV where the job applied for involves working with others, addressing members of the public and negotiating with others.

The Option Subjects

Year 8 Performing Arts Option

DANCE

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA, IDTA, Sports Leader

“The Company”

As a student taking a Level 2 Performing Arts Course, you will be invited to join “The Company” where you will learn how to be part of a successful Performing Arts Group, taking their productions all over Kent!

In your first year you will have the opportunity to develop your skills as a dancer through a series of practical workshops. You will be inspired by professional works and be expected to take part in performances such as the academy’s annual pantomime and showcase. You will take your Level 1 Dance leader Course as an introduction to coursework and standards and then you will be offered the opportunity to take IDTA Vocational Examinations.

In year 2 and 3 you will progress to your GCSE Course:

What will I learn?

GCSE Dance helps you develop technical and expressive skills as well as knowledge and understanding of dance through performance, choreography and critical appreciation of dance.

This four unit specification enables you to: increase confidence and self-esteem, employ the skills of problem solving and creativity and make knowledgeable decisions about dances. It allows you to actively and physically demonstrate your ability.

What skills will I develop?

Dance is a fantastic way to keep fit and encourage co-ordination along with mental dexterity. The government recommends two hours of exercise every week – GCSE Dance will promote good health, encourage an enjoyable learning environment, support team work , as well as stretching your imagination, building confidence and developing social skills.

How will I learn?

You will take part in practical lessons with elements of theory work that will later relate to the written exam. There will be controlled assessments and practical assessments over the two year course, with a written exam at the end of the second year.

How will my work be assessed?

Component 1 Performance & Choreography	Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration)• Duet/trio performance (three and a half minutes in duration) Choreography <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solo or group choreography – a solo (two to two and a half minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (three to three and a half minutes)	Internally Assessed & Externally Moderated 60%
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Component 2 Dance Appreciation	What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills • Critical appreciation of own work • Critical appreciation of professional works Questions Based on students' own practice in performance and choreography and the GCSE Dance anthology.	Written paper Externally assessed 40%
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Other Opportunities – Visits to the theatre, Move It, Opportunity to perform at a professional theatre, Primary School Tours and Dance Leader Opportunities

Where might it lead?

Studying this course may lead to further areas of study such as A Level Dance, BTEC National Level 3 Award, Certificate or Diploma. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Dancer, Choreographer, Reflexologist, Holistic therapist, costume and make up or Aerobic and fitness.

The Option Subjects

Year 9 Performing Arts Option BTEC LEVEL 2 FIRST AWARD IN PERFORMING ARTS

EXAMINATION BOARD: Edexcel

What will I learn?

You will have the opportunity to take part in a series of workshops in class and with theatre companies and practitioners. Through these activities, you will explore all the skills required to be a performer, including improvisation, working with text, stagecraft, use of voice, expression through movement.

You will also take part in productions such as the annual academy pantomime, performance at theatres outside of school, tour Primary Schools with productions and take part in Variety and Showcase evenings.

Which skills will I develop?

Alongside your theatrical skills you will learn how to meet deadlines, work and co-operate with others, listen and respond to others and work within the perimeters of a challenge.

Over time your drama and life skills will develop and you will complete the course with many skills to place upon your CV.

How will I learn?

The lessons are mainly practical with some log book keeping. Emphasis is on the development of practical skills and the use of an Interactive Notebook will support and validate your learning.

Work is filmed on a regular basis for assessment.

How will my work be assessed?

Unit 1 – Individual Showcase	Practical Exam set by Edexcel. Students will be given a practical audition scenario to respond to. Their work is filmed and sent to the exam board.	Externally Assessed
Unit 2 - Production	Although this is Unit 2, it is in fact the final unit of the course. Students as a company will prepare a full-scale production for performance.	Internally Assessed
Unit 3 Acting Skills	This unit gives students the opportunity to hone and refine their skills. Through a series of exploratory workshops, students will enhance their working practice as a performer and this will culminate in a mini performance in front of an invited audience.	

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Actor, Teacher, Holistic Therapist, Technician, Costume & Make-Up Designer or Director. Drama is also welcome on a CV where the job applied for involves working with others, addressing members of the public and negotiating with others.

The Option Subjects

Year 9 Performing Arts Option

DANCE

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

GCSE Dance helps you develop technical and expressive skills as well as knowledge and understanding of dance through performance, choreography and critical appreciation of dance.

This four unit specification enables you to: increase confidence and self-esteem, employ the skills of problem solving and creativity and make knowledgeable decisions about dances. It allows you to actively and physically demonstrate your ability.

What skills will I develop?

Dance is a fantastic way to keep fit and encourage co-ordination along with mental dexterity. The government recommends two hours of exercise every week – GCSE Dance will promote good health, encourage an enjoyable learning environment, support team work, as well as stretching your imagination, building confidence and developing social skills.

How will I learn?

You will take part in practical lessons with elements of theory work that will later relate to the written exam. There will be controlled assessments and practical assessments over the two year course, with a written exam at the end of the second year.

How will my work be assessed?

Component 1 Performance & Choreography	Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration)• Duet/trio performance (three and a half minutes in duration) Choreography <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solo or group choreography – a solo (two to two and a half minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (three to three and a half minutes)	Internally Assessed & Externally Moderated 60%
Component 2 Dance Appreciation	What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills• Critical appreciation of own work• Critical appreciation of professional works Questions Based on students' own practice in performance and choreography and the GCSE Dance anthology.	Written paper Externally assessed 40%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course may lead to further areas of study such as A Level Dance, BTEC National Level 3 Award, Certificate or Diploma. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Dancer, Choreographer, Reflexologist, Holistic therapist, costume and make up or Aerobic and fitness.

The Option Subjects

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE (Cambridge National Certificate)

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

What will I learn?

You will complete four units of work:

- Essential Values of Care for use with Individuals in Care Settings
- Communicating with Individuals in Health, Social Care and Early Years Settings
- Using Basic First Aid Procedures
- Understanding Body Systems and Disorders

Which skills will I develop?

You will develop independent research and study skills. During completion of portfolios, ICT, Literacy and Numeracy skills will be developed.

How will I learn?

A variety of methods of learning will be used. You will learn through individual and group work and through presentations as well as through practical application of skills. By visiting and interviewing local employees and through independent research, you will develop your understanding of this sector.

How will my work be assessed?

Unit RO21: Essential Values of Care	Examined Unit looking at a service user's rights and application of the care values.	External Examination 25%
Unit RO22: Communicating with Individuals	Coursework Unit looking at communication and the skills associated with this.	Internally Assessed Portfolio 25%
Unit RO23: Understanding body systems and disorders	Coursework Unit looking at the structure and function of body systems and investigating disorders	Internally Assessed Portfolio 25%
Unit RO31: Using Basic First Aid Procedures	Coursework Unit looking at the importance of being able to apply first aid procedures promptly. Students will complete a first aid course to support this unit.	Internally Assessed Portfolio 25%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical in Health & Social Care, Level 3 Childcare Course, Level 3 Public Services or Nursing Qualifications. This qualification is also useful if considering employment such as Care Assistant, Nursing, Midwifery, Public Services, Teaching or Social Work.

The Option Subjects

GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

What will I learn?

You will learn about food nutrition and health, food science, food safety, food choices and food provenance. You will develop a wide range of practical skills as well as ICT skills. The course is designed to encourage you to become an independent learner, team worker as well as being a creative thinker.

Which skills will I develop?

- Practical food skills
- Knowledge of how nutrition and health are linked
- Knowledge of culture and other factors that help decide our food choices
- Food product design through adapting existing recipe ideas and designing our own ideas
- You will be equipped with important practical skills that will enable you to progress onto a variety of skilled jobs.

How will I learn?

You will complete a number of task based activities in Year 10 that are designed to develop your food preparation skills. As you progress into Year 11, you will be expected to complete two tasks set by the exam board. Task one consists of a report including photographic evidence, whilst task two is a portfolio with a timed practical assessment and photographic evidence.

How will my work be assessed?

Unit 1	This will be an examination at the end of Year 11.	External Assessment 50%
Unit 2	This is internally assessed and consists of two tasks. Task 1 involves food investigation looking at the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Task 2 is a food preparation assessment requiring candidates to 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.	Controlled Assessment 50%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level Food Technology. This qualification is also useful if considering employment in areas such as Health and Social Care, Catering, Dietician and Food Product Design.

The Option Subjects

BTEC LEVEL 2 AWARD: ENGINEERING DESIGN AND PRODUCT INVESTIGATION

EXAMINATION BOARD: BTEC

What will I learn?

British Engineering has changed; it is no longer the gritty, grimy profession that many people assume it is. Engineering and Manufacturing encompass a really diverse range of skills and knowledge ranging from Electronics to Civil Engineering. Britain is still very highly regarded as a center for innovation and development of new technologies. You will follow a broad based course that will introduce you to CAD /CAM, Manufacturing processes, Engineering Design and how products are made.

Which skills will I develop?

You will develop three main creative skills:

- How to analyse engineering products
- How to design engineered products
- How to manufacture engineering products

How will I learn?

You will be given set projects to work on. You will be guided with resources and other materials to develop skills and knowledge that will be used with practical and written activities.

How will my work be assessed?

This course is made up of three major elements:

Unit 9: Interpreting and Using Engineering Information

This is an Examined Unit and is based on the work covered in the course as a whole. This exam can be retaken if needed.

Unit 2: Investigating an Engineered Product

This Unit is internally assessed and is made up of four parts. Each part is an investigation into the fine detail of an engineered product, looking at Design, Materials, Manufacturing and Quality issues. These elements have a practical element to them to make the study relevant.

Unit 12: Engineering Design

This Unit is internally assessed and is made up of 3 parts. Each part is focused on the following aspects of a new product in terms of it's, Specification & Design, Development and Manufacturing. This unit has significant practical activity involved and will make use of CAD / CAM, as well as our excellent Engineering workshop with its new Lathes and Milling Machines.

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as Level 3 Engineering. This qualification is also useful if considering employment or apprenticeship in Manufacturing, Engineering as well as within the Scientific and Design industries.

The Option Subjects

GCSE DESIGN TECHNOLOGY MATERIALS

EXAMINATION BOARD: TBA

What will I learn?

This is a new Specification which focusses on the use of Materials such as Timber Metal and Plastic and how products can be designed and made using them.

The course is will use practical work to help develop a good working knowledge of Materials and their use within the course, there is however a significant level of theory to learn as well.

Which skills will I develop?

This course has a common core that builds on the work done within KS3. The core knowledge focuses on the following:

- new and emerging technologies
- energy generation and storage
- developments in new materials
- systems approach to designing
- mechanical devices
- materials and their working properties

How will I learn?

You will complete a number of task based activities in Year 10 that are designed to develop your DT Materials skills. As you progress into Year 11, you will be expected to complete one task set by the exam board and prepare for the final exam.

How will my work be assessed?

Unit 1	This will be an examination at the end of Year 11.	External Assessment 50%
Unit 2	This is internally assessed and consists of a task set by the exam board. You will complete a detailed portfolio and make a prototype of your final design	Controlled Assessment 50%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level Product Design or Level 3 Engineering. This qualification is also useful if considering employment in areas such as Manufacturing, Construction and Engineering.

The Option Subjects

GCSE DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY TEXTILES

EXAMINATION BOARD: TBA

What will I learn?

This is a new Specification which focusses on the use of Textiles and how products can be designed and made using them.

The course is will use practical work to help develop a good working knowledge of Textiles and their use within the course, there is however a significant level of theory to learn as well.

Which skills will I develop?

This course has a common core that builds on the work done within KS3. The core knowledge focuses on the following:

- new and emerging technologies
- energy generation and storage
- developments in new materials
- systems approach to designing
- mechanical devices
- materials and their working properties

How will I learn?

You will complete a number of task based activities in Year 10 that are designed to develop your DT Textiles skills. As you progress into Year 11, you will be expected to complete one task set by the exam board and prepare for the final exam.

How will my work be assessed?

Unit 1	This will be an examination at the end of Year 11.	External Assessment 50%
Unit 2	This is internally assessed and consists of a task set by the exam board. You will complete a detailed portfolio and make a prototype of your final design	Controlled Assessment 50%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as A Level Product Design or Level 3 Textiles. This qualification is also useful if considering employment in areas such as Textiles Design, Retail and Fabric Technologies.

The Option Subjects

BTEC CREATIVE DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCTION

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

What will I learn?

The main aim of this course is to develop your understanding of the media: cinema, television, newspaper, radio, advertising, music, Internet and publishing industries. We aim to help you discover how these industries work, who their audiences are, how various people are represented and how their products are constructed.

Which skills will I develop?

You will develop the ability to analyse various media texts, in both spoken form and written work; develop practical skills in photography and desktop publishing; develop creative skills in the designing of your own media products and develop the ability to write detailed self-evaluations and evaluate real media products.

How will I learn?

You will learn through discussion, analysis, design, computer-based and written work. You will learn through teacher-led activities and models, and then through individual, paired and group work.

How will my work be assessed?

Core Units		
Unit 1: Digital Media Sectors and Audiences	In this unit learners will explore the digital media industry and all five key sectors that fall under it (Digital Moving Image, Digital Audio Production, Digital Publishing, Website Production and Digital Games Production). They will also explore the different types of audiences and how audiences can engage with each sector.	External Assessment 25%
Unit 2: Planning and Pitching a Digital Media Product	In this unit learners will use their verbal, written and visual communication skills to enable them to formulate, develop and pitch ideas of a product that they then plan to produce.	Internal Assessment 25%
Optional Units – Course is made up of 2 of the following units		
Unit 3: Digital Moving Image Production	In this unit learners will investigate key features of digital moving image productions, including structures, generic conventions and audience address, in preparation for the making of a film or video.	Internal Assessment 25%
Unit 4: Digital Audio Production	In this unit, learners will explore techniques and procedures for recording digital audio in different locations and under different conditions. They will then record audio for a particular digital media product, edit it and review the work.	Internal Assessment 25%
Unit 5: Digital Publishing Production	In this unit, learners will gain the knowledge and skills required for the design and development of digital publishing products. They will also have an overview of how to source materials and then combine them. Learners will organise and manage the production of a digital publishing product.	Internal Assessment 25%

Unit 6: Website Production	In this unit, learners will explore the technical requirements for website production: how to organise and manage the production of a website, plan and prepare suitable content, and create hyperlinks between pages.	Internal Assessment 25%
Unit 7: Digital Games Production	In this unit, learners will gain knowledge of 2D and 3D digital games platforms and audiences. Learners will create pre-visuals to show what the game will look like, as well as preparing a document that explains all aspects of the game and what the player does. The learner will then go on to create a portion of the game, creating the component assets to be placed in a games engine.	Internal Assessment 25%

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as BTEC Level 3 Creative Media Studies. This course is a further development on the Level 2 course. This could lead onto university to study subjects like journalism, teaching, retail, film and TV, publishing, video production and advertising.

The Option Subjects

BTEC INFORMATION AND CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

What will I learn?

Give you the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the information technology sector and some aspects of the creative industries e.g. electronic publishing or multimedia production.

Which skills will I develop?

To explore the fundamentals of technology and gain the practical skills, knowledge and understanding to design, make and review:

- information technology systems and products, e.g. a relational database
- creative technology products, e.g. a digital animation
- products that combine information technology and creative technology, e.g. a website

How will I learn?

You will learn through discussion, analysis, design, computer-based and written work. You will learn through teacher-led activities and models, and then through individual, paired and group work.

How will my work be assessed?

Core Units		
Unit 1: The Online World	Provides you with a firm understanding of the fundamentals of digital technology and the pivotal role they play in today's online world.	External Computer Based Assessment 25%
Unit 3: A Digital Portfolio	This unit is your chance to show off! A digital portfolio is an exciting onscreen way to showcase your achievements to potential employers or when applying for a course. It is all about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the projects you have created and developed• your use of communication and presentation skills• your capabilities and potential.	Internal Assessment 25%
Optional Units – Course is made up of 2 of the following units		
Unit 4: Creating Digital Animation	How are the amazing visual effects in science fiction and fantasy films, and computer games, made? This unit provides you with an introduction to tools/techniques and processes that are used commercially when creating computer animation.	Internal Assessment 25%
Unit 6: Creating Digital Graphics	In this unit you will investigate a range of applications and features of existing graphic products and consider their audience and purpose. You will be able to apply some of what you discover to your own digital graphic products.	Internal Assessment 25%
Unit 7: Creating Digital Video	In this unit you will investigate the range of applications and features of digital video products which have been created for a specific audience and purpose. You will apply some of your findings to your own digital products.	Internal Assessment 25%

Unit 9: Spreadsheet Development	In this unit you will understand the many uses for spreadsheets and the tools and techniques that are available and become skilled at using them. You will be able to apply some of your findings to your own spreadsheet solutions.	Internal Assessment 25%
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Where might it lead?

This would support progression into a more specialised Level 3 vocational or academic course or into an apprenticeship. It will give learners the potential opportunity to enter employment within a wide range of job roles across the information technology sector and some aspects of the creative industries, such as website content manager, computer animator and graphic designer.

The Option Subjects

GCSE COMPUTING SCIENCE (by invitation only)

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

What will I learn?

- **Knowledge and understanding** – includes algorithms, contemporary secondary storage, cyber security and network protocol layers, alongside more familiar content such as binary representation of numbers, Boolean logic and systems architecture.
- **Problem solving** – advocates a systematic approach to problem solving using decomposition and abstraction.
- **Programming** – requires students to use one or more high-level programming languages with a textual definition, selected from a list approved by the awarding organisation.
- **Computing-related mathematics** – specifications must include appropriate computing-related mathematics. *This will mean that students will have to be a high level in mathematics.*

How will I learn?

You will learn through discussion, analysis, design, computer-based and written work. You will learn through teacher-led activities and models, and then through individual, paired and group work.

How will my work be assessed?

Component 1: Principles of Computer Science	Understanding of what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work; ability to interpret, amend and create algorithms. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the requirements for writing program code.• Understanding of binary representation, data representation, data storage and compression, encryption and databases.• Understanding of components of computer systems; ability to construct truth tables, produce logic statements and read and interpret pseudo-code.• Understanding of computer networks, the internet and the worldwide web.• Awareness of emerging trends in computing technologies, the impact of computing on individuals, society and the environment, including ethical, legal and ownership issues.	Written examination: 1 hr and 40 mins. 40% of the qualification. 80 marks
Component 2: Application of Computational Thinking	The main focus of this component will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding of what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work; ability to interpret, amend and create algorithms.• Understanding how to develop program code and constructs, data types, structures, input/output, operators and subprograms. This component may also draw on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding of binary representation, data representation, data storage and compression, encryption and databases.	Written examination: 2 hours 40% of the qualification 80 marks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understanding of components of computer systems; ability to construct truth tables, produce logic statements and read and interpret pseudo-code. ● Understanding of computer networks, the internet and the worldwide web. ● Awareness of emerging trends in computing technologies, the impact of computing on individuals, society and the environment, including ethical, legal and ownership issues. 	
Component 3: Project	<p>Students will develop a computer program. The content for this component will draw on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● algorithms, decomposition and abstraction ● design, write, test and refine a program ● data. 	<p>Non-examined assessment: 20 hours 20% of the qualification 60 marks</p>

Where might it lead?

Students will develop 'underpinning' concepts, which are useful in many subjects, for example mathematics, science and engineering. The rigorous approach of the subject will facilitate a smooth transition to the next level of study. It supports careers in programming, website design, computing and technology support industries.

The Option Subjects

MUSIC

EXAMINATION BOARD: Edexcel

Will this course suit me?

You will be creative and open-minded and have an enjoyment of listening to various styles of music. You will enjoy working with others as well as taking on individual responsibilities for a team and learning to play your part. You may have a passion for composing or performing or both but you will need to use this passion with some determination, as practice requires patience and discipline. You will find music making fun!

What will I learn?

You will explore a variety of genres of music including:

- Film Music
- Popular Music – Rock, R 'n' B, Dance, Singer-songwriters
- Traditional Music – Blues, Reggae, Folk and Fusion
- The Western Classical tradition – Baroque, Classical and Contemporary

You will gain an in depth understanding of how composers have used the elements of music. Your confidence using musical vocabulary will grow and you will be able to discuss music evaluating it' effectiveness and techniques. You will have an open mind and appreciate contrasting styles and how many styles have been influential in forming new styles over time.

Which skills will I develop?

You will have a passion for playing an instrument and will be expected to practise your chosen instrument or voice in your own time as well as performing in class developing your confidence, conviction and technical accuracy. You will become creators of your own music and develop your own style of composition through experimentation and planning. Your listening skills will naturally develop through the more we explore the various styles as highlighted above.

How will I learn?

You will develop your skills independently as a soloist as well as with other musicians and singers in an ensemble. You may learn more via ICT (use of MAC computers) or live with your chosen instrument. You will be set projects to complete independently as part of your course work inclusive of composing and appraising. You will perform in class informally on a regular basis.

How will my work be assessed?

This area depends on whether the skills of the group are more suited to the BTEC or GCSE criteria. The course is designed with the students in mind and their skills and aspirations. BTEC music consists of 4 units, one of which is externally assessed via an exam on the Music Industry, inclusive of composition, performance (either live or via ICT) and development of a music product. GCSE is based on 3 areas of performing, composing and a 40% weighted listening exam.

Where might it lead?

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music (Performing or Composing) and A Level Music or courses in Music Technology and Production. Students could explore more course options in the Performing Arts. This can lead to higher education courses and employment in the Music Industry as various roles or teaching.

The Option Subjects

BTEC LEVEL 2 AWARD: FIRST CERTIFICATE IN SPORT

EXAMINATION BOARD: BTEC

What will I learn?

Students will develop an understanding of the fitness requirements required by sports performances, how these components are tested and the methods of training to improve fitness and performance. They will also improve their practical expertise in a variety of sports.

Which skills will I develop?

IT skills will be improved as all assignments are completed on the computer. Furthermore, students will develop their leadership skills as they plan and deliver a sports session to Primary students.

How will I learn?

- You will be asked to prepare written reports and leaflets, complete practical assessments, use analysis systems to assess others and lead activity sessions
- You will be working in small groups and individually to complete tasks which are compiled to produce an overall portfolio of your work.

How will my work be assessed?

This qualification consists of two compulsory units that form the underpinning knowledge and skills required for the sector. All units are graded as either Pass, Merit and Distinction level.

Externally examined :unit

- *Unit 1 - Fitness for Sport & Exercise*

Internally assessed units through completion of assignments:

- *Unit 2 - Practical Sport (performance and knowledge in 2 chosen sports).*
- *Unit 5 - Leading Sports Activities (planning, organising and running sports sessions).*
- *Unit 6 - Training for Personal Fitness*

Where might it lead?

All students will also complete the Level 1 Sports Leaders Award alongside the BTEC qualification.

Studying this course can lead to further areas of study such as Level 3 Sport. The content of the course also provides a useful foundation of knowledge for potential careers in Sports Coaching, working in the health and fitness industry, sports and active leisure industry, PE Teaching, Physiotherapy, Nutrition, Fitness Instruction or Personal Trainer.

