



# Options Booklet 2022



**Huxlow**  
Science College  
Opening Doors to Brighter Futures

Dear Parents, Carers and Year 8 Students

Welcome to the Year 8 Options evening and booklet. We are looking forward to explaining to you our Options process and showing you the wide range that are on offer at Key Stage 4. We encourage you to ask lots of questions, look at as many subjects as possible and discuss the choices carefully before making your final choices.

This is an exciting time in the education journey, and you should be aware that in the currently changing landscape of education and employer expectations across the UK students are expected to study a broad and balanced curriculum at Key Stage 4 to ensure they are in the best place to progress to 16+ courses, university if desired and the world of work. We will help student make their choices by providing as much information as you need.

Year 8 students have already had an assembly, where information about the options schedule and subjects on offer were shared with students to help them consider what is available. A careers information afternoon took place today, where students discovered key sector information to help inform Options choices.

Our Options Evening event consists of presentations, opportunities for discussions with teachers, current students, and the Careers Advisor. This booklet forms just one part of the Options process and it is vital that students and parents are acquainted with the courses that are available and that you use the opportunities to discuss these during the evening or by talking to teachers in the next few days.

It is important that students are aspirational in their choices and that you are aware of the Government's introduction of the English Baccalaureate. This is an additional qualification awarded to those students achieving 9-5 in Maths, English, a Humanities subject, a science subject, and a Language. We will organise our option blocks to give students every opportunity to achieve this additional qualification and accommodate your preferences.

Unless advised otherwise, all students study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science and French at GCSE or equivalent level.

Students must then also choose five other option subjects; their top three and two reserve options. All student choices will then be discussed by our Options Team. Where concerns are raised regarding the appropriateness of choices made, students and parents may be contacted to advise and discuss them further.

We will endeavour to meet all the combinations students select but may have to ask students to reselect where timetabling, staffing and numbers are unable to accommodate their preferred choice. We may not be able to run a course where insufficient numbers choose to take it.

In the summer term we will inform you by letter of the choices that have been finalised for the timetable in Year 9.

We hope this booklet helps familiarise you with the courses available so that you can help your child make choices that maximise their full potential.

Yours faithfully



Mr Paul Letch  
Headteacher

# Making Good Choices

## What do you need to think about? - advice from Year 10 students

### Do...

- Keep your choices broad so your future choices remain open
- Select courses you are informed about and so you fully understand the commitment
- Pick subjects that allow you access further education and careers you may want to do after GCSE
- Make choices for subjects you are passionate about
- Make choices that reflect your strengths. Look at your grades.
- Do try and strike a balance between creative and academics

### Don't...

- pick to be with your friends. This might not be the right choice for you.
- pick because you like the teacher. You may have a different teacher next year
- take the easy option—remember your ideas and aspirations will change

### Are you still unsure? Then use Unifrog!

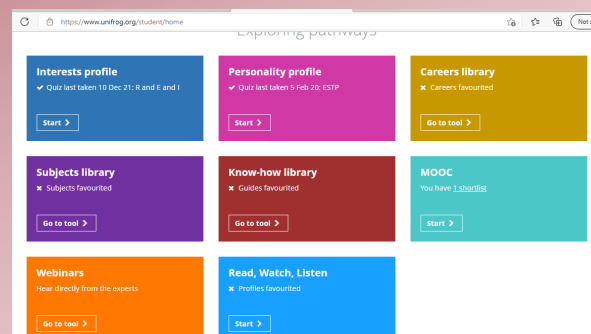
A student friendly, online resource where you can search by career, subject and further education. Inform yourself of the grades and subjects you need to move on in further education and your career.

Log on at <https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in>

Sign in with your school email and type in your password)

(Click forgot password to get a new one sent to your school email )

**Browse hundreds of careers and further education choices.**



# Understanding GCSEs

As of 2018 GCSE grades have changed to a 1-9 scale as opposed to the old lettered grades. This allows for more differentiation between passing grades and creates a top year (Level 9) to acknowledge exceptional pupils.

Grade 9 is only awarded to 1-5% of pupils nationally.

Grade 5 indicates a strong pass while Grade 4 indicates a standard pass.

Grade 4 would have been the equivalent to a Low 'C' under the old grades.

Grade 4 is the minimum level students need to achieve in Maths or English. Otherwise they will need to continue to study these subjects in Post 16 education .

Old Grades	New Grades
	9
A*	8
A	7
B	6
C	5 Strong Pass
	4 Standard Pass
D / E	3
F	2
G	1
U	U

# Curriculum

## Core Subjects

These are subjects that all pupils will study and provide foundation of knowledge applicable across a wide range of subjects.

English Language & Literature	2 GCSE's
Maths	1 GCSE
Science	2 GCSE's
(Triple Scientists study 3 GCSE's: Biology, Chemistry and Physics)	
French	1 GCSE or equivalent
Core PE	Non GCSE
Religious Studies	Non GCSE

## Optional Subjects

These are specialised subjects that students will chose from. Choices should be made based on the direction pupils want to take with their further education, training or career

### OPTION SUBJECTS

Geography, History, Religious Studies, Design & Technology, Hospitality & Catering, Graphic Communication, Art Graphics, Art, Craft & Design, Textiles, Photography, Creative i-media, Computer Science, Music, Dance, Drama, Sociology, Psychology, Business Studies, Health and Social Care, Sports Studies, Triple Science





# English Language

## Why should I study this course ?

All students study English Language in line with the National Curriculum.

## Further Education links

You will need a good English grade to ensure you can access other subjects like from Humanities to PE, French to DT. A good writing style is essential in all subjects as is interpretation of multiple types of text.

## Career Links

A secure grade in English Language will open many doors at A level, careers and beyond. Careers like: Doctors, the Law, teaching, communications and media, journalism, civil engineer, social media manager, copy editor, para legal, editor and writer

## Where can I find out more ?

AQA specification English Language, you will find a link on Huxlow Science college website.

## What will the course involve?

### You will

All students will study a range of fiction extracts for Language paper 1 and Non-fiction extracts for Language paper 2 and learn how to develop a descriptive or narrative writing account. The programme of study will take place over three years. You will also work on how to write for specific audiences and purposes and develop their understanding of what makes good writing.

The subject requires real effort in order to achieve strong results. It is also vital that students are reading regularly as this will greatly improve their understanding of how texts are written and how they can develop

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>AQA</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
Language paper 1	Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	50%
Language paper 2	Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives	50%

## What will I learn ?

### You will:

- Learn how to infer key aspects from a text and how to support your ideas successfully with evidence from the text
- Secure an awareness of language and structure in a text and how writer's craft creates meaning in the text
- Secure evaluative skills and respond to an extended writing question
- Create and draft extended creative and narrative writing, building description and using sentence craft, establish purpose, audience and text type and develop grammatical knowledge.

# English Literature



## What will the course involve?

All students will study *Romeo and Juliet*, *An Inspector Calls*, *A Christmas Carol* and the AQA Power and Conflict poetry anthology. You will study the background of the text, key influences of the author and analyse linguistic devices and analyse lexical choices.

The subject requires real effort in order to achieve strong results. It is also vital that students are reading regularly as this will greatly improve their understanding of how texts are written and how they can develop their own writing.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>AQA</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
Literature paper 1	Shakespeare and the 19th century novel	40%
Literature paper 2	Modern texts and poetry	60%

## What will I learn ?

You will:

- Learn how to infer key aspects from a text and how to support your ideas successfully with evidence from the text
- Learn about texts and their cultural, social and moral background
- Secure an awareness of language and structure in a text and how writer's craft creates meaning in the text
- Learn about literary techniques the author has used in order to provide the reader with a message
- How to write an analytical essay with academic tone

## Why should I study this course ?

All students study English Literature in line with the National Curriculum. It will introduce to you a broad range of texts that will help to unlock the world around you.

## Further Education links

You will need a good English grade to ensure you can access other subjects like from Humanities to PE, French to DT. A good writing style is essential in all subjects as is interpretation of multiple types of text.

## Career Links

A secure grade in English Literature will open many doors at A level, careers and beyond. Careers like: Doctors, the Law, teaching, communications and media, journalism, civil engineer, social media manager, copy editor, para legal, editor and writer.

## Where can I find out more ?

AQA specification English Language, you will find a link on Huxlow Science college website.



# Mathematics

## Why should I study this course ?.

### What will the course involve?

The GCSE consists of all aspects of Mathematics: Number, Algebra, Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change, Geometry and Measures, Statistics and Probability.

It is a course that focuses on applying Mathematics in context, problem solving, reasoning and the functional elements of Mathematics. It encourages a teaching approach that is enriching and engaging for all learners. It concentrates on the mathematical knowledge and applications that are most accessible and relevant.

All students are required to study mathematics at higher or foundation

### How will I be assessed ?

<u>OCR</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
Paper 1	Calculator	Out of 100 marks
Paper 2	Non-Calculator	Out of 100 marks
Paper 3	Calculator	Out of 100 marks

## Further Education links

## Career Links

### What will I learn ?

You will:

Be taught the content of the Mathematics curriculum at higher or foundation level. Links to real life problem solving as well as financial implications will also be covered.

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to

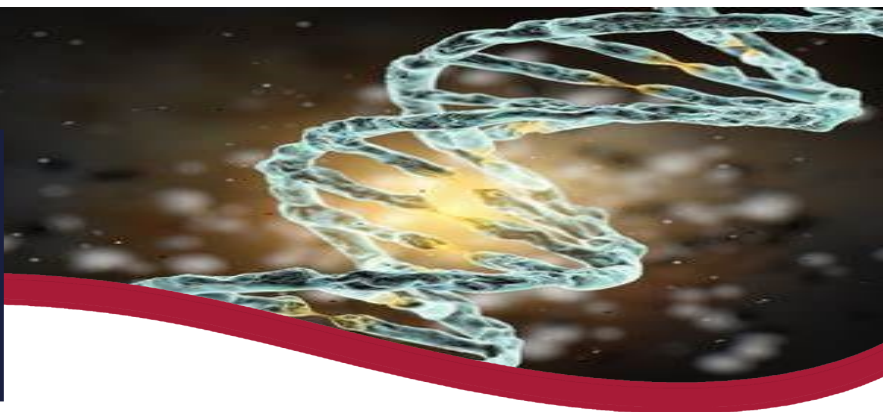
[Mathswatchvle.co.uk](https://www.mathswatchvle.co.uk)

[Corbettmaths.co.uk](https://www.corbettmaths.co.uk)

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/mathematics-j560-from-2015>



# Combined Science



## What will the course involve?

You will be studying two Science GCSEs – Combined Science Double Award in Year 9, 10 and 11.

These are totally separate qualifications and so lead to separate GCSEs i.e. students can achieve a 9-1 Grade in Combined (Paper 1) and a 9-1 Grade in Combined (Paper 2).

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>OCR</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
Combined Science (Paper 1) External Examinations (Higher or Foundation Tier)	Biology, Chemistry and Physics (separate paper 1 for each subject)	50%
Combined Science (Paper 2) External Examinations (Higher or Foundation Tier)	Biology, Chemistry and Physics (separate Paper 2 for each subject)	50%

## What will I learn ?

Combined Science		
Biology	Chemistry	Physics
B1 Cell Level Systems	C1 Particles	P1 Matter
B2 Scaling Up	C2 Elements, Compounds & Mixtures	P2 Forces
B3 Organism Level Systems	C3 Chemical Reactions	P3 Electricity and Magnetism

Combined Science GCSE		
Biology	Chemistry	Physics
B4 Community Level Systems	C4 Predicting and Identifying Reactions and Products	P4 Waves and Radioactivity
B5 Interaction Between Systems	C5 Monitoring and Controlling Chemical Reactions	P5 Energy
B6 Global Challenges	C6 Global Challenges	P6 Global Challenges

## Why should I study this course ?

This course is a core element of secondary education. Therefore, you must study this course unless you choose to study triple science.

## Further Education links

BTEC science, BTEC sport

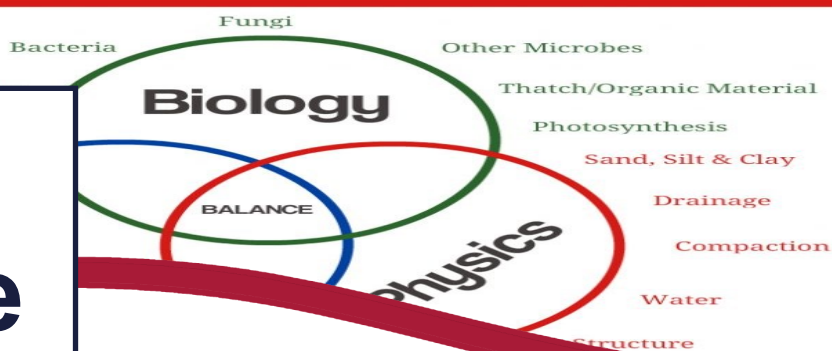
## Career Links

Scientific roles e.g. in a laboratory, health care and forensics.

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to your science teacher or the Head of Science

# Triple Science



## Why should I study this course ?

If you would like a career in science and wish to go on to study science in sixth form and beyond.

## Further Education links

A Level Physics, A Level Biology, A Level Chemistry.

## Career Links

Doctor, dentist, health care professional and engineering.

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to your science teacher or the Head of Science

## What will the course involve?

You will study the three separate sciences if you choose this option.

Students taking this course will have fifteen lessons of Science a fortnight. These lessons will be equally divided between the three Sciences. This course will enable students to gain three Science GCSEs. The study of separate Sciences is demanding.

### Aims of the course

To enable students to achieve a high level of understanding in the Sciences.

To give pupils the satisfaction of learning a subject to a greater depth than that provided by the combined science double award.

## How will I be assessed ?

OCR	Content	Grade percentage
<b>Paper 1 (Higher or Foundation Tier)</b>	Biology, Chemistry and Physics (separate Paper 1 for each subject)	50%
<b>Paper 2 (Higher or Foundation Tier)</b>	Biology, Chemistry and Physics (separate Paper 2 for each subject)	50%

## What will I learn ?

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
B1 Cell Level Systems	C1 Particles	P1 Matter
B2 Scaling Up	C2 Elements, Compounds and Mixtures	P2 Forces
B3 Organism Level Systems	C3 Chemical Reactions	P3 Electricity
B4 Community Level Systems	C4 Predicting and Identifying Reactions and Products	P4 Magnetism and Magnetic Fields
B5 Genes, Inheritance and Selection	C5 Monitoring and Controlling Chemical Reactions	P5 Waves in Matter
B6 Global Challenges	C6 Global Challenges	P6 Radioactivity
		P7 Energy
		P8 Global challenges



# BTEC in Health and Social Care

## What will the course involve?

The course consists of 3 components, as shown in the table below. Components one and two are internally assessed, based on project work that students will research themselves. Please note there is external verification of this work, so strict adherence to deadlines is required. Component 3 is a traditionally taught and examined unit with a written examination.

## How will I be assessed ?

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care				
Component number	Component title	GLH	Level	How assessed
1	Human Lifespan Development	36	1/2	Internal
2	Health and Social Care Services and Values	36	1/2	Internal
3	Health and Wellbeing	48	1/2	External Synoptic

## What will I learn ?

### Human Lifespan Development will involve internally assessed projects on:

- Human growth and development across life stages.
- Factors affecting Growth and development
- Different types of life event
- Coping with change caused by life events

### Health and Social Care Values will involve internally assessed projects on:

- Health and social care
- Barriers to accessing services
- Care Values
- Reviewing own application of care values

### Health and Wellbeing, in this module you will study and be examined on:

- Factors affecting health and well being
- Physiological indicators
- Lifestyle indicators
- Health and Wellbeing improvement plans

## Why should I study this course ?

If you would like a career in health care or social work and wish to go on to study Level 3 BTEC Health and Social Care in sixth form and beyond.

## Further Education links

Level 3 BTEC Health and Social Care

## Career Links

Health care, social work, speech and language therapy, paramedic and councillor.

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to your science teacher or the Head of Science



# Business (BTEC award in Enterprise)

## Why should I study this course ?

Business Studies GCSE is relevant to the world of work and employers value the qualification. You will gain useful skills for education and employment, and understand more about how businesses work.

## Further Education links

It is useful if you want to study Business A Level or Level 3 courses.

## Career Links

Accountancy/Human Resources/  
Banking/Marketing/Recruitment/  
Law/Finance /Distribution/  
Administration/Retail/Insurance/  
Hospitality

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Mrs Facey

## What will the course involve?

This course is active and enjoyable. To solve business problems you need to be good at communicating and explaining your ideas. You will be required to work well in teams, show good presentation skills, write well and demonstrate good maths skills. You will learn how to be a creative thinker and how to make decisions.

This course allows students to investigate a wide range of businesses and celebrate the diversity and innovation in the Business world so students are more knowledgeable about the ever changing world of business and our economy.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>Edexcel</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Theme 1</b> Investigating small business	Exam at end of Year 11 1.5 hours	50%
<b>Theme 2</b> Building a business	Exam at end of Year 11 1.5 hours	50%

## What will I learn ?

**You will:** In Theme 1 you will be introduced the world of small businesses and will look at what makes someone a successful business person. You will study the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. You will find out how to develop an idea and spot an opportunity, and how to make a business more effective and successful. You will understand how to make and manage money well. You will also see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved.

In Theme 2 you will learn more about how small businesses are developed beyond the start-up phase, and discover how businesses promote themselves and keep their customers happy. You will learn how businesses manage both their finances and the people who work for them. Theme 2 focuses on key business concepts and decisions used to grow a business, with an emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. It also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.



# French

## What will the course involve?

You will cover 3 key themes over the 3 years. You will either be entered in the Foundation or Higher Tier.

Year 9 : Theme 1—identity and culture (social media, leisure, celebrations and relationships)

Year 10 : Theme 2—local and global issues (home, town, environment, poverty and social inequalities, health and holidays)

Year 11 : Theme 3— school and careers (school routines, lessons, rules, future studies and world of work)

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>AQA</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Listening</b>	All 3 themes (questions on a variety of tracks)	25%
<b>Reading</b>	All 3 themes (texts with questions + translation from French to English)	25%
<b>Speaking</b>	A conversation (all questions and answers prepared with the teacher and rehearsed over the 3 years)  A role play and a photo card with questions	25%
<b>Writing</b>	3 or 4 different writing tasks (Higher or Foundation) on the 3 Themes taught.	25%

## What will I learn ?

You will:

- Have weekly vocabulary tests and “doing” homework (same as KS3)
- Study texts, listening tracks and complete translations on the topics mentioned above and write paragraphs on the topics taught with very specific guidelines to meet the success criteria
- Develop your English literacy with English grammar teaching and explaining cognates which are unfamiliar English words
- Develop your cultural awareness with French music, films, celebrations and discussions about the French lifestyle.
- Reflect and discuss topics such as environmental, health or social issues but also colonisation and its impact on a country’s arts, food and culture.

## Why should I study this course ?

Same routine you already know + a lot of French culture and media. Results have been consistently strong so you will be successful

## Further Education links

**A– Level French**

## Career Links

Diplomacy, law, medicine, tourism, hospitality, trade...

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Miss Maubert





# Geography

## Why should I study this course ?

Geography helps you to make sense of the world you live in. It is the study of where places are and what they are like. It looks at how people live in different parts of the world and how and why places change. As the world 'gets smaller' and our environment is increasingly threatened, we need more than ever to understand the geography of the world.

A survey of employers showed that Geography is rated as one of *the most useful* sub-

## What will the course involve?

Geography is enquiry-based, about real world issues, both global & local.

You will investigate three areas:

**Living in the UK Today.**

**The World Around Us**

**Geographical Skills.**

There will be geographical skills taught through the units and also **two field trips**

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>OCR</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
You will be assessed by three examinations:		
Living in the UK	1 hr examination	30% of GCSE
The World Around Us	1 hr examination	30% of GCSE
	1 hr 30m examination	40% of GCSE

## Further Education links

GCSE Geography is a diverse and multidisciplinary course and lends itself to a wide variety of 'A' Levels, such as Geography, Biology, English, Economics and more.

## Career Links

This qualification can lead to the further study of Geography and is also useful in a variety of careers linked with Advertising, Armed Services, Estate Agency, Farming/Forestry, Leisure & Tourism, Selling & Marketing, Nature Conservation, Planning and Transport, plus many others.

## Where can I find out more ?

Geography GCSE OCR A Geographical Themes website

Mr D Ashurst [d.ashurst@huxlow.northants.sch.uk](mailto:d.ashurst@huxlow.northants.sch.uk)

Mr M Yewman

[m.yewman@huxlow.northants.sch.uk](mailto:m.yewman@huxlow.northants.sch.uk)

## What will I learn ?

**The Living in the UK module** will focus upon Landforms and the environment along with studying the People of the UK and environmental challenges we face.

**The World around us module** will focus upon global ecosystems, how people live in other countries and global environmental threats.

**Field studies and trips** are an integral part of the Geography GCSE experience so that students can see what we have studied in class. The Geography Department are proposing to take students to:

**The Norfolk Coast and Hunstanton**—To examine the coastal processes operating at the beach and an urban investigation in the town

**Newark upon Trent**— An urban fieldtrip study of a town and its surrounding area

There are also a wider selection of trips and experiences being planned and there is an opportunity, should you wish to be involved, in gaining the prestigious **Eco Schools Green Flag award for the school**. This is an environmental project aimed at informing both the school and local community about environmental issues.

# History



## What will the course involve?

Exploration of a wide variety of British and Global history to gain an understanding of the world we live in today.

Developing skills to effectively debate and discuss historical events.

Opportunities to engage in interesting class discussion where everyone is encouraged to participate and give their point of view.

Exploration of sources written and produced by those who experienced key moments from the past.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>Edexcel</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
Paper 1	Medicine Through Time	30%
Paper 2	Henry VIII and his ministers Superpower Relations	40%
Paper 3	Weimar and Nazi Germany	30%

## What will I learn ?

You will:

- Find out about the medical challenges facing previous generations including the Black Death, the Great Plague and the horror of Cholera outbreaks. Also consider the ways in which the prevention and treatment of disease has changed over time.
- Find out how close we really came to all out nuclear warfare between the USA and USSR.
- Study the reign of one of the most transformative kings of England who was known for his six wives but more consequentially for being the architect of the English Reformation
- Find out about how Germany recovered from the loss of World War I only to be financially ruined by the end of the 1920s due to the Great Depression. This will then lead to a study of why the German people turned to Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party in their desperation.

## Why should I study this course ?

We live in a complex but fascinating world. It is very difficult to understand the world and events around us if we do not study and understand history. We have an excellent team of History teachers at Huxlow, who love the subject, and who strive to do everything possible to ensure all students achieve.

## Further Education links

A Level History, Law , English, Politics

## Career Links

The law, teaching, journalism, the Civil Service, politics, architecture, and town planning, research, accountancy, publishing, production companies, business, cultural

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Mr Davies, Mrs Holmes or Miss Samples



# Psychology

## Why should I study this course ?

Psychology develops many transferable skills such as analytical thinking, evaluative ability, concise writing, extended writing, scientific principles and mathematical analysis.

## Further Education links

A-Level Psychology

## Career Links

Healthcare, law, business, forensics, law enforcement, academia, medicine, human resources, sports and exercise, education etc.

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Miss Hayes, Miss Dewdney or Mrs Isaksen.

## What will the course involve?

Psychology is the study of the human brain and behaviour. It is an engaging and varied subject which tries to explain why people act, think and respond in different ways. Psychology enables you to reflect, think critically and answer questions which we often wonder about in everyday life but do not always get to study in the classroom!

## How will I be assessed ?

OCR	Content	Grade percentage
<b>Paper 1: Cognition and Behaviour</b> (100 marks, 1 hour 45 minutes)	Memory, Perception, Development and Research Methods	50%
<b>Paper 2: Social Context and Behaviour</b> (100 marks, 1 hour 45 minutes)	Social Influence, Language, thought & Communication, Brain & Neuropsychology and Psychological Problems	50%

## What will I learn ?

**Memory:** Different types of memory, how memory is stored and what impacts how accurate it is.

**Perception:** What sensation and perception is, how they are influenced by nature/nurture, visual illusions and what social factors impact perception.

**Development:** How the brain develops, how our thinking develops and effects of learning on development.

**Research methods:** How psychologists carry out research and how to design your own psychological research.

**Social influence:** Why people obey and conform and why people act in a pro-social and anti-social way.

**Language, thought and communication:** Differences between animal and human communication and types of non-verbal communication.

**Brain and neuropsychology:** Structure and function of the brain and different techniques of brain scanning.

**Psychological problems:** Effects of mental health problems, theories of



# Art

## What will the course involve?

You will create a portfolio of work based on the themes set by your teacher.

You will experiment visually with a range of media to explore your theme before resolve it into a personal and meaningful final piece.

You will work in a range of wet and dry media including clay and print making, but ultimately the media you use for your final piece depends on what direction you have taken your experiments.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>AQA</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Component 1— Portfolio</b>	Portfolio project 1 Portfolio Project 2	60%
<b>Component 2— Externally Set Exam</b>	Theme set by Exam board and 10 Hour invigilated exam over several days	40%

## What will I learn ?

You will:

- actively engage with the creative processes of art, craft and design in your chosen title(s) and area(s) of study using a wide variety of media
- become effective and independent learners through the study of art, craft and design and develop critical understanding
- develop your creative, imaginative and intuitive capabilities when exploring, creating and producing images, artefacts and products
- become confident in taking risks, learning from your experiences through exploring and experimenting with ideas, processes, materials and techniques,
- develop and refine your ideas, supported by an understanding of your context and what has informed them
- show an understanding of the purpose, intentions and functions of art, craft and design, and how this impacts the direction of your work

## Why should I study this course ?

You enjoy art and keen interest in a career in creative media. You are willing to put the effort in and enjoy the creative freedom and developing your own responses to a theme. You like to take creative risks.

## Further Education links

A– Level Art / Photography / Visual communication

## Career Links

Graphic Designer, Illustrator, Animator, Fashion Design, Interior Designer, Art Director, Concept Artist, Photographer, Printmaker, Advertising, Computer Graphics, Architect.

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Miss Pollock or  
Mr Turner [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk)





# Textiles

## Why should I study this course ?

Do you have a passion for creativity?

Do you have attention to detail

Do you want to be the next Coco Chanel?

## Further Education links

A– Level Art, Fashion Design, Textile Design

## Career Links

Textile designer, producer, pattern cutter, costume designer, sample machinist, Dressmaker

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Miss Whitworth or Mr Turner [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk)

## What will the course involve?

You will develop skills in making creative outcomes using textile and other materials. Learners will be expected to make a range of practical developments and samples, developing ideas through practical sampling and ongoing evaluation. You will have the opportunity to use traditional skills and modern technologies, as well as a range of materials they may not traditionally associate with textiles. Nobody's work will be the same and you are encouraged to follow their own path of development, allowing them to specialise in skills they excel at.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>AQA</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Component 1— Portfolio</b>	Portfolio project 1 Portfolio Project 2	60%
<b>Component 2—</b>	Theme set by Exam board and 10 Hour invigilated exam over several days	40%

## What will I learn ?

The GCSE in Textiles will give learners the opportunity to develop an understanding of:

- fashion design and illustration
- costume design
- constructed textiles
- printed and dyed textiles
- surface pattern
- stitched and embellished textiles
- developmental textiles
- digital textiles
- creative textiles





# Photography

## What will the course involve?

You will

Photography focuses on the technical aspects of design, looking at light-sensitive materials and digital methods of development and production to create static and moving images. You will explore a variety of areas but mainly focus on Portraiture and Studio Photography developing a range of concepts and prototypes to suit a variety of situations and briefs.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>AQA</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Component 1— Portfolio</b>	Portfolio project 1 Portfolio Project 2	60%
<b>Component 2— Externally Set Exam</b>	Theme set by Exam board and 10 Hour invigilated exam over several days	40%

## What will I learn ?

You will:

Learners will explore, acquire and develop skills, knowledge and understanding through the application of traditional and or digital techniques and processes specific to their chosen area(s) of study of Photography.

Learners will explore practical and relevant critical and contextual sources such as the work of historical and contemporary photographers and the different purposes, intentions and functions of photography as appropriate to their own work.

Learners will demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding through area(s) of study relevant to Photography.

## Why should I study this course ?

An interest in lighting and staging

Have a clear eye for design

Are able to work independently over a period of time.

Are happy to experiment with a range of media.

## Further Education links

A level Media

Photography

## Career Links

Photographer , Film making, Editor, Film production, Camera operator, photo technician, Stylist, Medical Illustrator

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Miss Pollock or Mr Turner [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk)



# Graphic Communication

## Why should I study this course ?.

Creative,  
Imaginative,  
Love Design  
Enjoy experimentation

## Further Education links

A Level Art and Design  
Graphic Design

## Career Links

Graphic Design  
Illustration  
Product Design  
The arts

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Miss Whitworth &  
Mr Turner [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk)

## What will the course involve?

You will create a portfolio of work based on the themes set by your teacher.

You will experiment visually with a range of media to explore your theme before resolve it into a personal and meaningful final piece.

You will work in a range of wet and dry media to produce typography and packaging through a variety of methods, but ultimately the media you use for your final piece depends on what direction you have taken your experiments.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>AQA</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Component 1— Portfolio</b>	Portfolio project 1 Portfolio Project 2	60%
<b>Component 2— Examination</b>	Theme set by Exam board and 10 Hour invigilated exam over several days	40%

## What will I learn ?

You will:

- actively engage with the creative processes of graphic communication in your chosen title(s) and area(s) of study using a wide variety of media
- become effective and independent learners through the study of graphic communication and develop critical understanding
- develop your creative, imaginative and intuitive capabilities when exploring, creating and producing images, typography and products
- become confident in taking risks, learning from your experiences through exploring and experimenting with ideas, processes, materials and techniques,
- develop and refine your ideas, supported by an understanding of your context and what has informed them
- show an understanding of the purpose, intentions and functions of graphic communication, and how this impacts the direction of your work



# Design Technology

## What will the course involve?

You will be work on a variety of projects developing your iterative design process across both Graphic Design and Resistant Materials, where you learn new skills within design and making, which you will be able to showcase in a large piece of Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) This NEA must include a multi material practical outcome of a product which solves a problem. Examples of the set brief are: Outdoor Eating / Theme parks

We like to encourage students to use a variety of tools, machinery and techniques within the workshop/computer suites with industry standard machinery and software.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>EdExcel</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Component 1— Written Paper (1)</b>	Core Content—Design Timber (1 hour 45 mins)	50%
<b>Component 2— Externally Set Non –</b>	Theme set by Exam board and written work and practical outcome (45 hours)	50%

## What will I learn ?

You will:

- Learn about the design world.
- Where materials come from and how they are formed
- How design is influenced by the past and the future.
- Material properties and experiment with wood, plastic and metals.
- Experiment and become competent with a wide variety of tools and equipment.
- Develop my creativity into a variety of products.
- Develop an understanding with Computer Aided Design.
- How to use the laser cutter / plotter cutter and 3D printer independently
- Go through the design process, from brief, through research, design, prototype, make and evaluate

## Why should I study this course ?

Do you enjoy practical tasks?

Are you creative?

Do you like drawing?

Do you like experimenting with different materials?

## Further Education links

A Level Design and Technology

Level 3 Construction/Carpentry

## Career Links

Product Design,

Architecture,

Engineering,

Carpentry

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Mr Meadowsmith or

Mr Turner [edexcel.com](http://edexcel.com)



# Hospitality and Catering

## WJEC Level 2

### Why should I study this course ?.

Is your favourite lesson that lesson when you do practical?

Do you like presenting your food to a good standard?

Do you enjoy learning new techniques?

Do you like the idea of creating meals and serving them in a professional environment?

### Further Education links

Level 3 Hospitality and Catering

### Career Links

Chef, Food Science, Baker, Butcher

Event Management,

Hotel Management

### Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Mrs Dube or Mr Turner [wjec.co.uk](http://wjec.co.uk)

### What will the course involve?

This structure has been designed to develop your knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering providers; how they operate and what they have to take into account to be successful. There is the opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations. You will also have the opportunity to develop some food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

### How will I be assessed ?

<u>WJEC</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
Unit 1 Examination	Focus on Hospitality & Catering in Industry	40%
Component 2— Coursework (inc. practical)	Hospitality and Catering in action	60%

### What will I learn ?

You will:

- Develop practical skills – speed and finesse is key.
- Evaluate dishes/meals you may eat and consider how these can be developed, adapted or improved.
- Think about how foods should be stored, prepared, cooked and served - safely and hygienically with no loss in quality
- Think about factors that can contribute to food induced ill-health.
- Think about how to adapt meals to meet specific dietary needs
- Consider why food/ingredients act in a specific way
- Observe media to research and explore the topics you will cover in class.
- Engage with the Hospitality and Catering sector as much as possible.



# Computer Science

## What will the course involve?

### Component 01: Computer systems

Introduces the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

### Component 02: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Application of knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. You develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>OCR</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Component 1— Examination</b>	Computer Systems 1 hour 30mins	50%
<b>Component 2— Examination</b>	Computational thinking, algorithms and programming	50%

## What will I learn ?

### You will:

Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation

Analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs

Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically

Understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems

Understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society

Apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science.

## Why should I study this course ?

Do you have an interest in computing?

Can you think logically and creatively?

Do you understand why accuracy and precision is important in coding

## Further Education links

A– Level Computer Science

Btec Computing

## Career Links

Coding

Software engineer


IT consultant

Games Developer

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Mr Morgan or Mr Turner [ocr.org.uk](http://ocr.org.uk)





# Creative I Media OCR Cambridge National

## Why should I study this course ?.

I want to develop your skills with  
still and moving images?

I want to develop my understanding  
of a range of multimedia

I want to see about a career in  
broadcasting

## Further Education links

A—Level in Media Studies

A— Level Computer Science

## Career Links

Graphic Design

Film Studies

Photography

Artworker

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Mr Morgan or

Miss Pollock [ocr.org.uk](http://ocr.org.uk)

## What will the course involve?

### **R093: Creative iMedia in the media industry**

You are introduced to the media industry, factors influencing product design, pre-production planning and distribution considerations.

### **R094: Visual identity and digital graphics**

You explore the features of visual identities and how to develop visual identities for clients. You will then apply the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics, incorporating a visual identity, which will engage a target audience. For your assessment, you apply your skills and knowledge in creating digital graphics against a specific brief.

### **Optional Units**

You will undertake one other unit which may be; creating a multi-page website, creating digital animation, creating a digital sound and video sequence or designing and developing digital games. Your teachers will help you choose the most appropriate units.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>OCR</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Component 1—C I M in the media industry</b>	1.5 hours written examination on the media industry and its factors	40%
<b>Component 2— Visual identity and digital graphics</b>	Coursework where you will create original digital graphics	25%
<b>Unit 3 1 Optional unit</b>	Teacher led coursework task	35%

## What will I learn ?

**You will:**

Develop a genuine interest in using computers for creative tasks

Be able to work independently and methodically

Develop flair for multimedia design & creation with still & moving image

Be organised – able to plan and deliver extended tasks and projects



# Drama

## What will the course involve?

The course builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills established in Key Stage 3 Drama. It will give you exciting opportunities to be involved in a number of different short productions, developing leadership skills, learning how to use your own body, voice and movement effectively. You should have an interest in Drama and performing to an audience, and appreciate a range of Drama scripts and plays.

Please be aware there is an examination and assignment writing on this course, so being competent in English will be a huge advantage when studying certain units of work. Additionally, this course relies heavily on out of lesson rehearsal time in Component 1 & 2.

## Why should I study this course ?

You will be able to grow in confidence, develop your performance skills and overcome the fear of making mistakes in a fun, creative and supportive environment.

## Further Education links

University, Drama Schools and Conservatoires

## Career Links

Acting, Directing, Technical Theatre, Community outreach, Law, Literature, therapy

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Miss Kirk

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>Edexcel</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade per-</u>
<b>Component 1 and 2: Performances (one scripted and one devised)</b>	Portfolio and Performance on creating theatre Two performance from a published	60%
<b>Component 3– Written Exam</b>	Section A– An inspector Calls Section B– Live theatre Evaluation	40%

## What will I learn ?

Our GCSE Drama offers students the opportunity to explore drama as a practical art form in which ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through choices of form, style and convention. Students will create, perform and respond to drama informed by their theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre.

In GCSE Drama our students are able to:

- Build confidence
- Become more creative
- Develop a variety of skills that are desirable to all colleges, universities and jobs.
- To gain knowledge of the theatre, directing, acting, set/lighting design.
- Gain experiences such as being part of a performance, directing and watching live theatre.



# Sport BTEC Level 2 Award

## Why should I study this course ?

You enjoy:

- sport, physical activity and exercise
- developing knowledge and understanding through practical learning
- learning about the benefits of training and exercise
- developing and improving your skills as a leader
- or if you are considering a sports-related career then this is the right course for you.

## Further Education links

Study Level 3 BTEC National in Sport:  
Extended Certificate (1 A level)  
Diploma (2 A levels)

## Career Links

Sports coach	PE Teacher
Physiotherapist Trainer	Personal
Sports Nutrition ence	Sports Sci-

## Where can I find out more ?

Mr Letts (Head of PE)  
Mr O'Connor (Level 3 Sport Lead)  
PE dept

## What will the course involve?

You will study 4 units across 3 years, each with a mixture of written assignments, practical performance and online examination. In the first year you will develop and refine your skills as a leader, eventually delivering and reviewing sessions to your classmates.

In the second year the next unit you will study include learning about fitness training and how this can benefit and improve your sporting performance. Students will have to pass an online exam with national benchmark of a Level 2 Pass in order to achieve the highest overall grade on this course.

The next unit of work revolves around your practical performance in sport as an official and as a performer. Not only will you showcase your knowledge and experience as an official but you will perform a variety of sports and analyse your own performance to try and identify strengths and weaknesses that will help you become a more effective performer in the future.

## How will I be assessed ?

	Units of work	Assessment	Student Work
<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Unit 6:</b> Leading Sports Activities	Internal	3 assignments (written & visual)
<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Unit 1:</b> Fitness for Sport and Exercise	External	Online Examination
	<b>Unit 2:</b> Practical Performance in Sport	Internal	3 assignments (written & visual)
<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Unit 3:</b> Applying the Principles of Personal Training	Internal	3 assignments (written & visual)

## What will I learn ?

Achieving a successful grade in BTEC Sport can open up a huge variety of different opportunities which will allow you to investigate and experience many different pathways.

The practical, vocational style of learning and content of work helps build many transferrable skills that can be used in employment, education and training. These opportunities could include: further and higher education courses at school or college, apprenticeships or many sport & leisure sector employers.



# Music

## What will the course involve?

GCSE Music helps you to develop musical skills and interests, understand and evaluate a range of different kinds of music and make music both individually and in groups. The course is designed to give you the opportunity to develop your appreciation, understanding, performing and composing skills of music, whatever your previous experiences, through four interrelated areas of study:

- Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices
- Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>EDUQAS</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percent-age</u>
<b>Component 1 — Performing Music</b>	Performance 1 Performance 2	30%
<b>Component 2 — Composing Music</b>	Composition 1 Composition 2	30%
<b>Component 3 — Listening and</b>	Listening exam based on two set works and unfamiliar extracts of	40%

## What will I learn ?

**Alongside developing composing and performing skills, you will study:**

- The meaning of Western Classical Music: musical forms and structures; musical devices used in composition; music theory
- Information about a set piece to study, Badinerie by J.S. Bach
- What is meant by the word ensemble: chamber music; jazz and blues; musical theatre; performing in an ensemble
- The origins of film music: how it is created; the function of film music; musical techniques used in film music
- Pop and rock genres and their musical features: musical fusion; Bhangra
- Information about a set piece to study, Africa by Toto.

## Why should I study this course ?

If you already play an instrument or sing, you can develop your skills and get a GCSE out of it! If you don't already play an instrument or sing, you can take the opportunity to learn new skills which could stay with you for life. If you already enjoy writing your own music or songs, you can use this ability and experience

## Further Education links

A Level Music, or Music Technology, BTEC Music, BTEC Music Performance, or BTEC Music Technology

## Career Links

Professional singer, songwriter, live sound technician, musician, DJ, event manager, record producer, blogger, composer, music teacher, recording engineer, music therapist, director.

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Mrs Runnells



# Dance



## Why should I study this course ?

Dance promotes fitness, a healthy lifestyle, teamwork and creativity. It develops independent learning and critical and reflective thinking. It also develops an understanding of a range of dance styles through performance, creation and appreciation.

## Further Education links

Undergraduate and Postgraduate degrees in dance; Professional dance.

## Career Links

Dancing, teaching, creating, producing, management, policy making.

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Mrs Letts or Mrs Sghendo.

## What will the course involve?

**Component 1:** This component is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Performance 30% (40 marks)

Solo performance x2 (approximately one minute each in duration).

Duet/trio performance (3 minutes).

Choreography 30% (40 marks)

**Component 2:** This exam is 1 hour 30 minutes.

The paper is split into 3 sections. Knowledge and understanding. Own experiences and appreciation of 6 professional works. Knowledge and understand-

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>OCR</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Component 1— Portfolio</b>	Portfolio project 1 Portfolio Project 2	60%
<b>Component 2—</b>	Theme set by Exam board and 10 Hour invigilated exam over several days	30%

## What will I learn ?

**You will:**

- As a performer, building up confidence and self-esteem
- Self and body awareness as well as sensitivity to others and teamwork skills
- Effective performance requiring physical effort and determination to succeed and improve
- As a choreographer, employing problem-solving, creativity by using imagination and the ability to synthesize a number of elements
- Interpersonal and communication skill
- critical skills, making informed decisions about the dances you see
- articulation of knowledge, opinions and preferences,





# Sociology

## What will the course involve?

You will investigate and answer questions like this in GCSE Sociology:

Are all 'hoodies' hooligans? Why are young black people eight times more likely to be stopped and searched than white people? Why do girls do better at school than boys?

Sociology studies how society works. It will help you to understand how individuals fit into a wider social network and encourage you to question beliefs about society which you may have previously taken for granted. Sociologists are interested in why society works in the way that it does and the extent to which our behaviour and opportunities can be shaped by our social class, age, gender and race.

## How will I be assessed ?

<u>AQA</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Grade percentage</u>
<b>Paper 1</b>	Families Education Social theory and methodology	50%
<b>Paper 2</b>	Crime and deviance Social stratification	50%

## What will I learn ?

### You will:

You will learn to be open minded. Some things that you "know" are not always accurate. You will need to be able to analyse the information given to you and make decisions about its accuracy and representativeness. You will learn to view society from many different perspectives – and accept that different people see the same concept in different ways. You will also learn to accept the views of others – even if you do not agree with them.

## Why should I study this course ?

Sociology is about your life and the world around you. It is a subject that you will have experience of and one that will help you understand many aspects of your future. You can bring your own life events and ideas into the classroom in a way you might not be able to with other subjects.

## Further Education links

University courses:

criminology, sociology, law, history and many more

## Career Links

Police, civil service

Social work

The care professions

Journalism and teaching

## Where can I find out more ?

Talk to Mrs Holmes