



KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS

2017

INFORMATION

BROCHURE

Introduction

We are pleased to introduce the Key Stage 4 Options booklet for September 2017. Students begin GCSE courses from the start of Year 9. This approach has many advantages, including creating more curriculum time to secure the very best grades possible.

Some subjects are compulsory (EBacc subjects) and some are optional (option subjects). Full details of each subject are contained in this booklet, with clear guidance about how to choose optional subjects.

The EBacc is a key performance indicator which recognises students' achievements in five academic subjects that bridge the core and personalised pathways. It is awarded to those students who achieve the following:

- English Language and/or Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Modern Foreign Language
- History or Geography

When considering what choices to make in the optional part of the curriculum, students should think about the following questions:

- What am I good at?
- What do I enjoy?
- What are my aspirations and expectations?
- Am I making my choices for the right reasons?

Choosing the right and most appropriate subjects is essential if students are to achieve their full potential however choices made at this point will not define a student's future career path.

It is important to us that the choices that you make are informed. Please take time to read this booklet, visit the individual subject areas of interest and speak to the teachers within those areas.

Once you have evaluated the range of different courses on offer, you will need to make your choices using the KS4 Options Choices Google Form, which can be found by going to the homepage of the School website: www.queensmeadschool.org.uk

Once on the homepage, go to the top right hand corner and select the "Parents" tab.



CONTACT US **HOME** OUR SCHOOL PARENTS STUDENTS

The Google Form must be submitted by Tuesday 25th April

The Curriculum (weekly)

- All students will have 4 periods of English, with 3 periods of Maths and Science
- All students will have 2 periods of PE and 1 period of Religious Studies each
- All students will have to choose a language from French, German or Spanish.
- All pupils will have to choose either History or Geography

The following subjects are offered as part of the optional curriculum. Please choose subjects in order of preference (first choice, second choice and third choice). We aim to accommodate your top choices as far as possible.

Option Subjects:

Art and Design, Business Studies, Child Development, Classical Civilisation, Computer Science, Design Technology, Drama, Economics, Engineering, Food, French, Geography, German, Health and Social Care, History, IT, Music, Sociology, Spanish, Sport and Textiles.

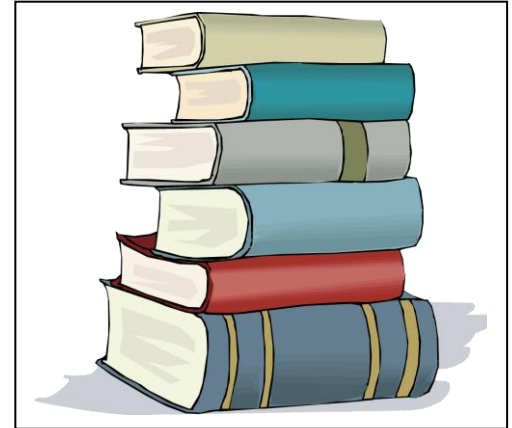
ENGLISH

Why study English?

English provides the foundation for every single subject you study and every single interaction you have.

A GCSE in English Language or Literature is often a basic requirement for university courses, a large number of other courses, apprenticeships and jobs of all descriptions.

English gives you the opportunity to discuss and respond to other writers ideas, as well as the chance to develop your own writing skills.



Exam Board and Syllabus

Students will study towards achieving the following qualifications in English:

- AQA GCSE English Language (course code 8700)
- AQA GCSE English Literature (course code 8702)

Course Details

Over the three years, students will develop, practise and perfect the key skills and understanding to allow them to demonstrate a range of reading and writing skills. They will study a number of texts, including:

- Prose reading from the 19th century, a Shakespeare play and a modern play
- Thematically linked 19th, 20th and 21st century fiction and non-fiction reading texts and fiction texts
- An anthology of poetry and unseen poetry

Assessment Details

English Language	Assessment type and % of final grade
Explorations in creative reading and writing – fiction writing	1 hour and 45 minute exam- 50% of qualification
Writer's viewpoints and perspectives – based on 19 th and 21 st century non-fiction texts	1 hour and 45 minute exam - 50% of qualification
English Literature	Assessment type and % of final grade
Shakespeare and a 19 th century novel	1 hour and 45 minute exam - 40% of qualification
Post-1914 drama, a poetry anthology and unseen poetry	2 hours and 15 minute exam - 60% of qualification

Further Studies/ careers in English

A-Levels in English Literature, English Language, History, Politics and Psychology, in particular.

Degrees in English, Law, Humanities and Journalism.

Careers such as journalism and the law rely heavily on the use of advanced English and analytical skills. The majority of career paths require at least a grade 5 in English Language and English Literature.

Notable English graduates

Stephen Fry – Broadcaster and journalist

James Franco- Writer and actor

Ian Hislop – Editor (Private Eye)

Emma Watson – Actress

Quentin Blake – Writer and illustrator

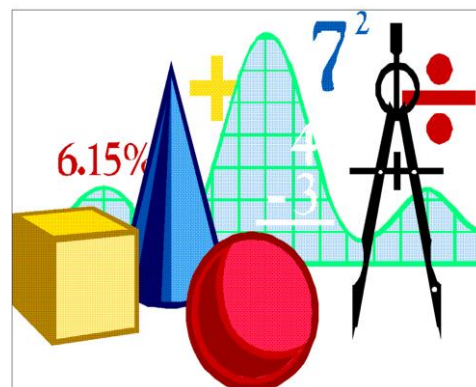
Contact Details

Miss Scott, Head of English

MATHEMATICS

Why Study Mathematics?

Mathematics is a very versatile subject and a key skill in life. A GCSE in mathematics is often a basic requirement for any science-based university course, a large number of other courses, apprenticeships and jobs of all descriptions. Mathematics is vital in your everyday life, from budgeting your monthly wages to buying a house. Mathematics is a requirement for most further education courses.



Exam Board and Syllabus

EDEXCEL GCSE Mathematics

Linear

For more information see:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/mathematics-2015.html>

Course Details

Each of the four strands of number, algebra, data handling and shape and space are covered during this GCSE course. You are expected to learn specific methods to solve different types of questions, as well as developing the ability to problem solve in a mathematical manner. You will learn to apply the functional elements of mathematics in real-life situations.

There are two tiers of entry; Foundation (Grades 1-5) and Higher (Grades 4-9 (content: 50% 4-6, 50% 7-9)).

Assessment Details

3 1.5 hour long exams

1 non-calculator

2 calculator

Much more limited formula sheet than before.

Further Study and Careers in Mathematics

A-Levels in Mathematics, Sciences, Economics and Psychology in particular.

Degrees in Mathematics, Sciences, Engineering, Aerospace, Architecture, Accountancy and Finance.

Careers in the above rely heavily on solid mathematical knowledge. Many careers require at least a C grade (under the new grade system that will be a 5) in Maths, such as Teaching (any subject), the Police Force and Retail Management.

Notable Mathematicians

Stephen Hawking - world renowned speaker on the Mathematics of Science

Ada Lovelace - invented computer programming

Rachel Riley - celebrity TV mathematician

Contact Details

Mr Thorne, Head of Mathematics

COMBINED SCIENCE & TRIPLE SCIENCE

Why Study Combined Science or Triple Science?

GCSE study in Combined Science provides the foundations for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. Students gain an insight into how science works, and appreciation of its relevance to their everyday lives. Students will develop their scientific enquiry and mathematical skills during both courses.



Exam Board and Syllabus

Students will be studying a new specification and will either gain 2 GCSEs (Combined Science) or 3 GCSEs (Biology, Chemistry and Physics). A decision will be made during Year 9 as to which is the more appropriate of these two routes for students.

More information can be found on the Edexcel web site:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/sciences-2016.html>

Course Details

Most of the topics covered at GCSE build on what students have learnt in Years 7 - 9 and include areas from Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are some areas that students will not have learnt before including: genetic modification, the development of medicines, equilibria, astronomy and radioactivity.

Assessment Details

There will be a new **9–1** grading system, replacing A*–G. There are **no controlled assessments** in the new qualifications. Questions assessing students' use of **mathematical skills** will make up 15% of the assessments. There are core practicals that must be carried out during the course and students will be tested on their understanding of these in the exams. Students will take 6 exams, these will either be 1h 45min each (separate sciences) or 1h 10min each (Combined Science).

Further Study and Careers in Science

Biology, Chemistry and Physics A-Levels, Applied Science Level 3 BTEC, Nutrition, Engineering, Scientific Research, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Forensics, Patent Law.

Science graduates are often extremely attractive to employers because of their high levels of analytical skill, excellent problem solving and decision making abilities.

Notable Scientists

Brian Cox (Physics at Manchester University)

David Attenborough (Natural Sciences at Cambridge University)

Pope Francis (Chemistry at University of Buenos Aires)

Contact Details

Miss Higham, Head of Science

ART & DESIGN

Why Study Art & Design?

Art and Design offers the opportunity to learn about visual communication and expression. You will develop the skills to organise and express your ideas, observations and feelings through drawing, painting, print making, three-dimension studies, photography and new technologies.

The course lays the foundation for the study of Art & Design and embeds the skills required to pursue Art and Design at KS4.



Qualifications in Art & Design

Students will be entered for a GCSE in Art and Design.

Art and Design certificate.

Course Details

Year 9 learning will consist of practical workshops focused on improving the key skills of drawing, painting, sculpturing and photography, students will then generate a presentation of all the best elements of their work. There will be an opportunity to develop larger scale final pieces and examine in depth the work of artists and designers.

Students will then be invited to display their work in a public exhibition for moderation.

Assessment Details

Students will be assessed on the quality of their research skills and ability to identify and apply context. They will experiment with a range of visual media, develop key practical skills and showcase their final outcomes in a school exhibition.

Further Study and Careers in Art and Design

Fine Art – University and career opportunities
Architecture – University and career opportunities
Graphics / Illustration – Apprenticeship courses
Animation – University and career opportunities
Fashion – University and career opportunities
Design industry – Apprenticeship courses
Printmaking – University and career opportunities

Notable Artists

Damien Hirst
Tracey Emin
Louise Bourgeois
Peter Blake
David Hockney

Contact Details

Ms Evans, Head of Art

BUSINESS STUDIES (GCSE)

Why Study Business Studies?

Business Studies is highly relevant to everyday living and you will come across 'real life' business examples in your daily life. It is an interesting subject that covers different aspects of business such as Business Start-ups, Finance, Marketing, Production, Human Resources and Business Growth. It is a well-respected GCSE that employers value and it helps to prepare learners for the workplace in a range of sectors and enterprises.



Exam Board and Syllabus

Edexcel GCSE Business Studies 9-1 course.

More information can be found on the Edexcel web site:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/business-2017.html>

Course Details

You will learn about a range of key business features that are found across the economy. Students develop a good understanding of what it takes to work in small, medium and large enterprises. Develop a good appreciation of the challenges facing entrepreneurs and the skills needed to be successful. Key topics include; Marketing, External Environment, Finance, Motivation and Communication.

Assessment Details- 100% exam assessment:

Unit	Topic	Assessment Type	% of Final Grade
1	Introduction to Small Business	External Examination	50
2	Building a business	External Examination	50

Further Study and Careers in Business

GCSE Business Studies will help you prepare for Further and Higher Education such as A Levels, BTEC and other vocational courses. You will become skilled in making decisions, being creative, solving problems, understanding finance, dealing with data, communicating and working as part of team.

A GCSE Business course could lead to work in a business-related profession such as Accountancy, Law, Marketing or the Leisure and Tourism industry.

Notable Entrepreneurs



Nick Jenkins



Sir Richard Branson

Contact Details

Mrs Jetha, Head of Business Studies

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Why Study Child Development?

This course is suitable for anyone who is interested in families and young children. There are an increasing number of jobs in the childcare sector with parents returning to work after having a baby and the age at which children start nursery being ever lowered. The country is looking for highly skilled professionals to look after children in nurseries, schools and after school provision



Qualifications in Child Development

Students will study for an OCR Cambridge National in Child Development.

Course Details

The topics covered in Year 9 will form the basis of the course content in Years 10 and 11 and will include a mix of practical skills, project work and theory work.

The three units to be covered are:

- Health and well-being for child development
- Understanding the equipment and nutritional needs of children aged 0-5 years
- Understanding the development of a child from birth to five years

Assessment Details

The Health and well-being unit is worth 40% of the marks and is assessed by an exam, whilst the other 2 units are jointly worth 60% of the marks and are assessed via coursework. The coursework projects are very practical in nature such as making meals for children, planning activities to be carried out with children and looking at the factors to be considered when choosing equipment for children.

Further Study and Careers in Business

After studying Child Development you can progress onto the BTEC National Diploma course in Children's Play Learning and Development which is run at Queensmead. Alternatively you can use the course to progress to university to study Teaching, Nursing, Child Psychology, Youth Work, Special Needs, Play Therapy, Social Work etc.

Notable Child Care Professionals

Jo Frost (Super-nanny)

Maria Montessori

Rudolf Steiner

Penelope Leach

Contact Details

Mrs Waller, Head of Home Economics

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION



Why Study Classical Civilisation?

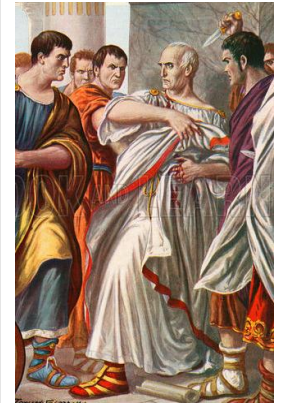
Classical Civilisation gives you a chance to study the ancient world, from the first civilisations in History to the decline and fall of the Roman Empire. The GCSE course covers Ancient Greece and Imperial Rome.

It is a vibrant, exciting and thought-provoking course that explores the literature, key battles, mythology, archaeology, politics and history of these distant, mysterious and fascinating cultures.



Course Details

Year Nine	Year Ten	Year Eleven
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -How did Civilisation begin? - The world of Ancient Egypt - Was Alexander all that great? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Myth and religion in Ancient Greece and the Roman Empire - Death and the underworld - The universal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roman City Life - Ancient warfare, including the Spartans in Thermopylae



Exam Board and Syllabus: OCR Classical Civilisation (J199) GCSE

Assessment Details

Topic	Assessment Type	% of final grade
Thematic Study – Myth and Religion	External Examination	50
Literature and Culture	External Examination	50

Further Study and Careers in Classical Civilisation

A study of Classical Civilisation complements many other popular GCSEs including English, Art, Performing Arts and History. Classical Civilisation is **a highly regarded academic subject** which encourages students to develop the critical and evaluative skills which will enable them to go on to study a wide range of courses at university. It has particular value for careers in Teaching, Law, Journalism, Politics, the Media and Management.

Notable Classicists

Chris Martin – Lead singer of Coldplay
 J.K. Rowling – Author
 J.R.R. Tolkien – Author
 Oscar Wilde – Poet and playwright

Contact Details

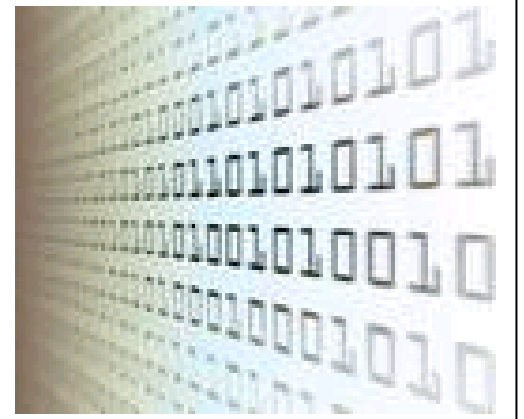
Mr Seaman, Head of Classics and Cultural Studies

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Why Study Computing?

"There is a world out there just bursting with invention and opportunities and 90% of it is driven by a computer."

Computing is a course that has real relevance in our modern world. While you will no doubt already have some knowledge of computers and skills in related areas, the course will give you a more in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a closer look at what goes on "behind the scenes". As part of this course you will investigate computer programming.



Exam Board and Syllabus

OCR, GCSE Computer Science

More information can be found on the OCR web site:

www.ocr.org.uk

Course Details

Through this study of computer programming the course will help you develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills. The course will stimulate interest and engagement with technology and technology-related careers.

Assessment Details

Unit	Topic	Assessment Type	% of Final Grade
Computer Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Systems architecture• Memory• Storage• Networks• System security• Systems software• Moral, legal, cultural concerns	External Examination 1 hour 30 minutes written exam	40
Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Algorithms• Programming techniques• Producing robust programs• Computational logic• Translators and facilities of languages• Data representation	External Examination 1 hour 30 minutes written exam	40
Programming Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Programming project including elements of analysis, design development and testing.	Controlled assessment 20 hours	20

Further Study and Careers in Computing

With technological developments there will be a greater demand for professionals who are qualified in this area.

- Software Developer
- App Developer
- Web Designer
- Computer Engineer

Notable Computing Practitioners

Mark Zuckerberg
Sheryl Sandberg
Bill Gates

Contact Details

Mr Taylor, Head of ICT and Computing

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Why Study Design Technology?

Design Technology is a course that enables students to develop the skills, understanding and experiences to become the engineers of the future. You will design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of materials and techniques.

Students who enjoy practical lessons and are interested in working with a range of materials would be well suited to Design Technology.



Qualifications in Design Technology

Students will work towards achieving either a new GCSE in Design Technology or Technical Award: Materials Technology.

Course Details

Much of the practical work in Year 9 will focus on wood, metal and plastics as the main materials. Students will use a wide range of machinery, materials, processes, hand tools and equipment throughout the course. These tasks will develop their design and practical skills. Students will be given the opportunity to explore each of the three individual areas of Design Technology

Assessment Details

Students will be assessed on their ability to design, plan, make and evaluate a number of products using a range of materials. The ability to follow a creative but logical process is a vital skill for all engineers. Students will work independently and collaboratively to develop and hone their skills.

Further Study and Careers in Design Technology.

Many of the students who enjoyed studying GCSE DT have gone on to study A Level Product Design. You can also study any Design and Technology related course at Post 16.

Notable and Designers.

Sir James Dyson is a British industrial designer and founder of the Dyson company. He is best known as the inventor of the Dual Cyclone "bagless" vacuum cleaner, his net worth in 2012 was £1.34 billion.

Contact Details

Mr McGinnity, Head of Design Technology

GCSE DRAMA

Why Study Drama?

If you have a keen interest in acting or enjoy being on stage then Drama is the course for you. Students are required to participate practically in both improvised and scripted performances, although they do not need to have any prior experience. You must be prepared to work hard, perform in public and you will be encouraged to participate in the extensive extra-curricular opportunities on offer in the Performing Arts department, including concerts and the annual production.



Qualifications in Drama

Students will study the Edexcel GCSE in Drama.

Course Details

You will explore improvisation to develop vocal and movement skills and will then apply these in performing scripted and devised plays.

The course covers a range of dramatic techniques and will require students to critically evaluate their own performances and creative talents.

Students can also opt to focus on the design concepts of performance including: Sound, lighting, staging or costume.

Assessment Details

Assessment for this course is in the form of 3 live performances (2 scripted excerpts and 1 devised piece -60%) and a 1 hour 30 minute written exam which focuses on a practically explored play script (40%).

Further Study and Careers in Drama

A-Level Theatre Studies
A-Level Performing Arts
Drama Degree
Professional Actor
Teacher
Director
Producer
Stage Manager
Broadcaster
Community Arts Worker
Arts Administrator

Notable Actors



Idris Elba



Kiera Knightly

Contact Details

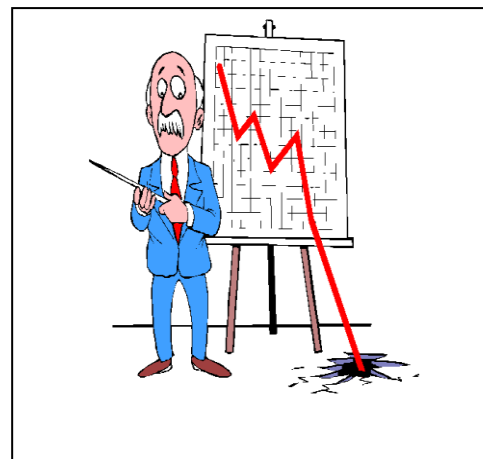
Mr McGuigan, Head of Performing Arts

ECONOMICS

Why Study Economics?

Economics is highly relevant to everyday living and you will come across 'real life' economic examples in your daily life. For example;

- What is the real cost to society and the economy of alcohol and tobacco consumption?
- What causes house, food and fuel prices to rise and fall?
- Why do some people earn so much more than others, and are such differences justified?



Exam Board and Syllabus

Students undertake the OCR GCSE Economics 9-1 course.

More information can be found on the OCR web site:

www.ocr.org.uk

Course Details

Key topics include:

What is the economic problem?

What are competitive markets and how do firms operate in them?

What are the objectives of the government?

How does the government raise and spend money?

Assessment Details- 100% exam assessment:

Unit	Topic	Assessment Type	% of Final Grade
J205/01	Introduction to Economics	External Examination	50
J205/02	National and International Economics	External Examination	50

Further Study and Careers in Economics

OCR GCSE Economics will help you prepare for further and higher education such as A Levels, BTEC and other vocational courses. You will become skilled in making decisions, being creative, solving problems, understanding finance, dealing with data, communicating and working as part of a team. A GCSE Economics course could lead to work in business, finance or a profession such as Accountancy, Law, Marketing and Economics.

Notable Economists

Mark Carney – Governor of the Bank of England

Stephanie McGovern – Financial Journalist

Alison Wolf CBE – Professor at Kings College, London

Contact Details

Mrs Jetha, Head of Business Studies

ENGINEERING

Why Study Engineering?

Engineering students are second only to medics in securing full-time jobs and earning good salaries.

Royal Academy of Engineering Report 2016

Most rewarding aspect of being an engineer: "The ability to work on a variety of different projects helping to change the world. You can see what you have done and put your name to it." Alice McGregor, Aktins Engineer



Exam Board and Syllabus

Engineering (Single Award)
8852: AQA

More information can be found
on the AQA website:

www.aqa.org.uk

Course Details

The new GCSE introduces students to a host of new technologies, helping them to gain practical skills and understanding to inspire a lifelong interest in engineering. It will particularly appeal to those who enjoy being creative, with an affinity for drawing, design, maths and problem-solving.

Assessment Details

Exams in Engineering include questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to:
Recall information, draw together information from different areas of the specification.
Apply their knowledge and understanding in practical and theoretical contexts.

Further Study and Careers in Engineering

Over 80% of engineers are happy in their job, 98% of engineers find their job rewarding.

Just a few engineering job sectors:

Automotive, Aviation Building Services, Chemical Engineering, Civil Aerospace, Civil and Structure, Civil Engineering, Communications, Computer Engineering, Construction, Defence and Electrical Engineering

Notable Engineers

Neil Patterson, Chief Engineer,
McLaren Automotive.

Neil studied engineering at a college. He started working with International Automotive Design as a design engineer, then with NedCar in the Netherlands as a design engineer. He is currently Chief Engineer at McLaren.

Contact Details

Mr McGinnity, Head of Design
Technology

FOOD

Why study Food?

Whether you just enjoy cooking, or want to work in the food industry or to be a chef at a restaurant, this course is right for you.

It will provide students with experience of using different cooking techniques to enable them to cook with confidence as well as ensuring they are informed about what they should be eating and the effect different foods will have on their health.

This course is designed for students with an interest in food and cookery.



Qualifications in Food

Students will study towards a GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition in year 11 and Jamie Oliver's Home Cooking Skills Level 1 BTEC in Year 9

Course Details

During this course you will:

- Learn knowledge, skills and confidence to enjoy cooking a wide range of dishes leading to a practical task to cook a 3 course menu
- Understand food, its functions in the body and in recipes and the science that supports this
- Understand balanced diets and how to modify recipes for health

Assessment Details

Students will undertake a variety of assessment tasks including demonstrating that they can:

- Plan, prepare, cook and present a nutritious, home cooked meal using basic ingredients for home cooking skills

For GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition in year 11 students will:

- Carry out an investigation into the scientific principles that underpin the preparation and cooking of food
- Plan, prepare, cook and present a 3 course menu in 3 hours
- Complete one exam assessing your knowledge of the theory behind food preparation and nutrition

Further Study and Careers in Food:

The food industry is diverse and offers a wide variety of exciting.

You can study Food at University which can lead to careers such as a Food Scientist, Food Buyer or Food Technologist. Other related University courses include Environmental Health, Dietetics, Nutrition and Food Engineering.

Food GCSE will also give you a basic understanding of the skills required for a career in Catering or Hospitality and all students get the opportunity to participate in the Young Chefs Academy at the University of West London on a Saturday morning as an introduction to this career path or to extend their practical skills.

Notable people in Food:



Jamie Oliver, Lorraine Pascale,
Mary Berry, Heston Blumenthal

Contact Details

Mrs Waller, Head of Home Economics

FRENCH/GERMAN/SPANISH

Why Study a Modern Foreign Language (MFL)?

In a global business world the ability to speak languages and understand different cultures is vital.

Speaking a second language gives our students an advantage for their future. MFL speakers can work anywhere in Europe or in an emerging economy. That is why the government has made MFL (either French, German or Spanish) an important part of the EBacc qualification and why the school is committed to MFL learning.



Qualifications in French, German and Spanish

All students will study towards achieving a GCSE in their chosen language. You will follow the AQA GCSE specification.

More information can be found on the AQA website:

www.aqa.org.uk

Course Details

You will build on what you already know and continue to develop your confidence and ability in the skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. The main focus will be to enjoy your learning and to make progress in your understanding.

Your teachers will use a variety of innovative ways to offer you new learning experiences. You will learn words and phrases to build up comprehension across a range of themes.

Assessment Details

You will be given a number of practical opportunities to demonstrate your progress and achievement in each of the four key elements of language: speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Further Study and Careers in MFL

A qualification in MFL could lead to a range of careers in Business and associated Business Services, Manufacturing, Sales, Finance, Community Services, Media and Communications.

Alternative career options include the travel and leisure industries, working overseas or in the UK, retail buying, logistics and distribution, where goods or equipment are moved across countries or international borders.

A Modern Foreign Language can also be studied at university/college alongside another subject such as History, Economics, ICT, Science and Geography.

Notable Linguists

Bradley Cooper and J.K. Rowling speak French.

Sandra Bullock and Hugh Laurie speak German.

David Beckham speaks Spanish.

Eddie Izzard speaks French, German and Arabic.

Contact Details

Mrs Bamber, Head of MFL

GEOGRAPHY

Why Study Geography?

Geography is a subject which holds the key to our future. It is an exciting subject which enables you to make sense of the world around you. You will develop an understanding of current events from the local to the global scale. You will investigate the Earth and its people, study the features of the earth such as coastal processes and volcanoes and develop a range of useful skills such as map reading, data collection and ICT. You will gain an understanding and appreciation of the cultures and backgrounds of people from all over the world.



Qualifications in Geography

Students will study towards the Edexcel B Geography GCSE qualification.

Course Details

The course covers both Physical and Human Geography. It covers topics such as hazardous Earth, development dynamics, challenges of an urbanising world and the UK's evolving physical landscape.

You will also go on two fieldwork trips (one urban and one rural) during the course. You will learn about many of the important issues facing the world today and evaluate how they have an impact on you and other people.

Assessment Details

You will be encouraged to take risks and explore the world using a range of resources and communicate your learning in a variety of ways. Verbal presentations, group work, extended projects and evaluative mini-essays are all included to give you the opportunity to achieve your potential and experience of what a career in Geography is really like. The Geography GCSE qualification is 100% exam.

Further Study and Careers in Geography

All employers want to know that you are aware of the world around you!

Geography prepares you for the world of work. Geographers with their skills of analysis, evaluation and argument, are highly employable.

Subject specific careers include: Travel Writer, Environmental Lawyer, Government Advisor, Renewable Energy Consultant, Town/Transport Planner, Estate Manager, and International Development/Aid Worker.

Notable Geographers

Mother Teresa - Missionary Sister

James Cracknell and Matthew Pinsent
- Olympic Rowing Champions

Michael Palin CBE - Travel Writer,
Presenter and Comedian

Michael Jordan - Hall of Fame
Basketballer

Contact Details

Miss Jupp, Head of Geography

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Why Study Health and Social Care?

You should study this subject if you are interested in understanding how humans grow and develop and how the different providers of health, social care and early years work to help and support them to do this. It will expand your knowledge, enabling you to develop research and independent learning skills, crucial for any future study and career. If you have an interest in knowing more about human development at all life stages and studying the skills and qualities needed to work in any caring profession, this is an essential course to take.



Exam Board and Syllabus

OCR- Cambridge Nationals <http://www.ocr.org.uk>

Health and Social Care Level 1/2 - J801, J811

Course Details

There are two compulsory units studied over the three years: essential values of care for use with individuals in care settings (exam) and communicating and working with individuals in health, social care and early years settings (coursework). In addition, there are two further coursework options that will be selected from: understanding body systems and disorders, pathways for providing care in health, social care and early years settings, understanding life stages, planning for employment in health, social care and children and young people's workforce. Creative activities to support individuals in health, social care and early years settings, understanding the development and protection of young children in an early years setting, understanding the nutrients needed for good health, or using basic first aid procedures. During these courses we look at a range of different types of people, how they develop, what their needs are, the different types of worker that can help them throughout their life, as well as how the health and well-being of all people can be improved.

Further Guidance

In order to succeed in this subject you should:

- Be motivated
- Interested in other people
- Want to know how to lead a healthy lifestyle
- Like project based work
- Manage your time well
- Regularly complete your homework
- Have opinions and be ready to express these
- Be a good communicator

Student views "It's really interesting learning about how different people develop, what problems they can face and how we can help them".

Further Study and Careers in Health and Social Science

Careers such as social work, caring for others (e.g. young children, the elderly or those with specific needs), early years teaching, the Police, Health Care Assistants, Doctors, Nurses and many related medical professions could follow from your study of this subject.

Contact Details

Mr Cullen, Head of Social Sciences

HISTORY

Why Study History?

History is a highly respected qualification showing that students have advanced skills in the research, analysis and presentation of key ideas.

Indeed, History GCSE helps you to develop analytical skills that are vital when making judgements in your future career. It also gives you an insight into the past and by its very nature asks you to investigate important and controversial issues.



Exam Board and Syllabus

Qualification in History

Students will study Edexcel GCSE (2016)

Course Details

The course is wide ranging: it looks at Germany and the rise of Hitler; changes in crimes and punishments in England over the last one thousand years; story of crime and life in Whitechapel; how the USA and the Russia faced up to each other in the Cold War and how Elizabeth became one of England's greatest rulers.

Assessment Details

You will be assessed on your ability to research an issue and solve problems. You will evaluate sources of evidence to develop your understanding and improve your knowledge. There are three written exams, covering the four topics, which will be assessed on the new 9-1 scale with 9 being the top mark.

Further Study and Careers in History

History is a gateway into many careers - such as Law, Medicine, Teaching, Journalism, Business and Commerce, Publishing – and many more!

History is a popular option at both GCSE and A Level and is highly regarded by top universities, including Oxford and Cambridge.

Notable Historians

QC Michael Mansfield (Barrister)
Jeremy Bowen (Journalist, BBC News)
Sacha Baron Cohen (Actor)
Conan O'Brien (Talk show host, writer)
John Abbot (British Secret Service)
Sir Howard Stringer (Chairman of Sony)
Gordon Brown (Former Prime Minister)
George Osborne (Politician)
Shakira (Musician)

Contact Details

Mr Brown, Head of History

ICT

Why Study ICT?

"We live in a world of technology and you need to know how to use it."

ICT is not just about learning how to use technology, you will also explore how technology is created and how it works for you. You will learn how ICT affects our daily lives; everything from commerce and communication to politics and the music industry.



Exam Board and Syllabus

OCR, Cambridge Nationals
Certificate in ICT

More information can be found
on the OCR web site:

www.ocr.org.uk

Course Details

- Examine how people and organisations solve problems using ICT tools and techniques
- Explore technologies from communication tools, like Facebook and the Internet, to tools that help to predict natural disasters
- Investigate the impact that ICT has on society

Assessment Details

Unit	Topic	Assessment Type	% of Final Grade
Unit 1	Understanding computer systems	External examination	25
Unit 2	Using ICT to create a business solution	Centre assessed task, OCR moderated	25
Unit 3	Handling data using spreadsheets	Centre assessed task, OCR moderated	25
Unit 5	Creating an interactive product using multimedia components	Centre assessed task, OCR moderated	25

Further Study and Careers in ICT

ICT is the future. There isn't an industry that doesn't rely upon people with expertise in it including Business Studies, Fashion, Engineering, Graphic or Game Designing, Health or the Environment.

Notable ICT Practitioners

Tim Berners-Lee, Meg Whitman and Marisa Mayer.

Contact Details

Mr Taylor, Head of ICT and Computing

MUSIC

Why Study Music?

You should study Music if you enjoy performing, composing, listening to and understanding the music industry. Students must be prepared to work hard, participate in enrichment activities and perform in public.

"I really enjoy my music lessons. I love that we get to do a lot of practical work and develop both our performance and composition skills." (Yr11 student)



Qualification in Music

Students will work towards achieving either a BTEC Level 2 qualification in Music.

Course Details

You will be able to develop your skills on a range of instrument types (including voice) to create a breadth of music types. You will also have the opportunity to learn about and use music technology for recording performances and creating compositions.

Assessment Details

Assessment is in the form of filmed performances including both group and solo, and written coursework. There is also a written element that will require you to undertake independent research and communicate effectively with a range of audiences.

Further Study and Careers in Music

For anyone looking to develop a career in the music industry, Music is a very influential course.

- A-Level Music
- A-Level Performing Arts
- Music Degree
- Professional Musician
- Teacher
- Composer
- Conductor
- Music Producer
- DJ
- Community Arts Worker
- Arts Administrator

Notable Musicians



Elyar Fox studied this course at Queensmead

Contact Details

Mr McGuigan, Head of Performing Arts

SOCIOLOGY

Why Study Sociology?

If you study Sociology, you will acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and structures such as gender, social class, race and ethnicity, culture and identity. You will understand sociological methods of study and a range of research methods but most importantly be given the opportunity to reflect on your own experience of the social world in which you live and develop skills which enhance your ability to participate more effectively in adult life.



Exam Board and Syllabus

AQA Sociology GCSE is 100% exam based. There are two exams both worth 50% and are 1 hour and 30 minutes long across six topics.

Course Details

The following topics are studied:

- Culture and Identity with Research Methods in Sociology.
- Education exploring the types of education on offer and how it has changed.
- Families and Households - exploring the different family types and how family structures have changed.
- Power - looking at different types of power and how politics affects our society.
- Mass Media - looking at how media has had an effect on society and how different people are represented in the media.
- Crime and Deviance - looking at who commits crime and why they commit it.

Guidance for Students

In order to succeed in this subject you should:

- Be able to look at both sides of an argument
- Question the world around you
- Be motivated
- Have an interest in other people
- Like project based work
- Be organised
- Complete all homework and class work
- Have opinions and be ready to express these
- Be a good communicator
- Carry out sociological experiments and take part in experiments

Further Study and Careers in Sociology

You can continue Sociology into A-level at Queensmead or it can lead into studying Government & Politics. These subjects are also offered as degrees at university. Alternatively, studying Sociology could lead into careers in the Civil Service, Politics, the Police, Teaching and many more.

Contact Details

Mr Cullen, Head of Social Sciences

SPORT

Why Study Sport?

This course has been specifically designed to provide an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of sport, health and fitness. It encourages personal development through practical participation and performance in a range of sport and exercise activities. If you are interested in starting a career or educational journey in performance, health and fitness then Sport is a subject for you.



Qualifications in Sport

At the end of Year 9 students will be entered for either a GCSE in Physical Education or a BTEC Level 2 in Sport depending on their suitability.

Course Details

This course is structured to introduce learners to a wide range of skills and knowledge about physical wellbeing, performance and the industry of sport. You will practise skills in meaningful contexts, with the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding as to the importance of keeping healthy.

The course is aimed at anyone who is interested in any level of sport or physical education from those with serious athletic ambitions to those who enjoy exercise and wish to take their learning further.

Assessment Details

Students will undertake a variety of assessment activities designed to develop their practical and theoretical ability. Independent learning will form a significant part along with honing the core skills of teamwork, leadership and communication. Students will also develop their learning of anatomy which will reinforce the learning they undertake in Science. Students will be required to demonstrate a range of roles including that of coach, referee and performer whilst also being challenged to observe and critically evaluate the skills and abilities of others.

Further Study and Careers in Sport

Sport and Leisure is a rapidly expanding industry, with opportunities in practical careers such as coaching, instructing and leading, as well as in facility management and administration.

Employment options include; Recreation Assistant, Sports Leader, Fitness Instructor, Sports Retail, Armed Forces and Sports Development. Alternatively, students would be qualified to progress into more specialised Level 3 vocational or academic courses.

Notable Sports Practitioners

Toni Minichiello – Coach to Olympic Heptathlete champion, Jessica Ennis-Hill

Dave Reddin MBE – FA Head of Performance

Dame Kelly Holmes – GB Athletics Youth Coach and former 400m Olympic Champion

Contact Details

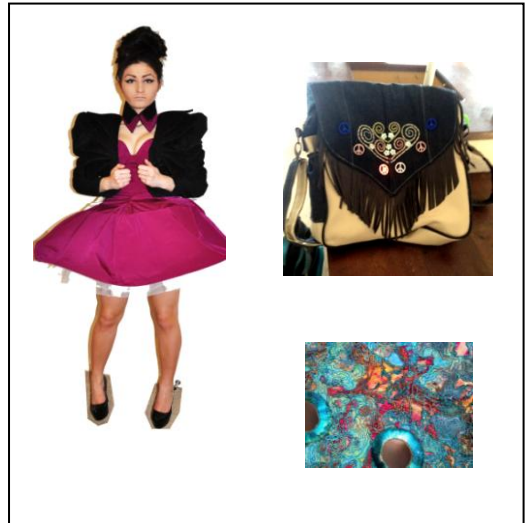
Mr Conway, Head of Physical Education

TEXTILES

Why Study Textiles?

If you like a challenge, enjoy being creative and pushing yourself to explore and experiment with fabric, fashion, patterns and textures then this is the course for you.

Textile Design is recognised as a valid form of Art and Design and is important in all aspects of modern life; whether it is purely as a form of decorative art or if it has more practical functions such as clothing or soft furnishings. This subject provides students with a range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities to explore their interests in textiles in ways that are relevant and developmental.



Qualification in Textiles

Students will work towards achieving a GCSE qualification in Art and Design Textiles.

Course Details: Candidates are required to work in one or more area(s) of Textile Design, such as those listed below. They may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas:

Fashion and/or costume

Printed and/or dyed materials

Domestic textiles

Constructed and/or applied textiles

Constructed and/or stitched and/or embellished textiles.

Candidates are required to integrate critical, practical and theoretical study in Textile Design that encourages direct engagement with original work and practice.

Assessment Details

You will be required to complete coursework which is 60% of the exam and a practical exam which is worth 40% of the qualification (10 hour exam over 2 days).

Further Study and Careers in Textiles

A level Textiles, related level 3 vocational qualifications, Degree courses related to textiles, Fashion, Sportswear or Textile Designer
Buyer for major fashion houses
Retail – working for designers or fashion stores
Window Dresser/Visual Merchandiser
Costumer in the theatre or for films
Tailor- making custom designed clothes for clients
Interior designer
Medical Textiles
Textiles engineering

Notable People who have studied Textiles:

Vivienne Westwood

Alexander McQueen

Stella McCartney

Contact Details

Mrs Waller, Head of Home Economics