



Hawkleigh Hall High School

Options 2024

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Introduction

We understand the importance of supporting your child through the choices in Year 9 as this determines their journey into the next stage of their time in education. Our options process is designed to provide advice and guidance to both you and your child to make informed decisions about the subjects they will study for the next two years.

Choosing your subjects

Students should choose subjects that they enjoy and will achieve good grades in. This means they need to do their research into what the subjects will be like in Years 10 and 11. It is important to realise that subject choices made now constitute a serious commitment for two years. We strongly advise that you and your child discuss the options process very carefully. This booklet has been designed to give you three key pieces of information about the subjects to help you make your choices:

- Information about the subject
- What is the course content is
- How the course is assessed

Please read the booklet carefully and use this information to help you and your child make your decisions. You may find it useful to rank the subjects that you like so you know what your top three choices. We have also included some quotations from students that are currently studying each subject to help you make your mind up.

Guidance for Students

Use this checklist to make sure you have given enough thought to your choices:

- Read this booklet thoroughly and research all your options before you make a decision
- Talk to your teachers about the course and your suitability for it
- Take some time to consider what you might want to do when you leave Hawkley. If you have a firm idea about a career or about subjects you may want to study post-16 then choose these options
- If you don't have a firm idea about what you want to do post-16, choose options that will give you plenty of choice post-16
- Don't be afraid to ask for advice from teachers, friends, family or students that are currently studying subjects you are thinking about choosing – you cannot have too much information to help you make your choices!

Good reasons for choosing an option:

- You are good at the subject
- You think you will enjoy the course
- It fits your future career ideas and plans
- It goes well with your other choices
- You think you might want to continue studying it post-16
- Your research shows that it will interest you and motivate you to learn

Bad reasons for choosing an option:

- Your friends have chosen it
- You think it will be easy
- You think it is a good option for a boy/girl
- Someone else thinks it is a good idea
- You like the teacher you have now
- You did not research your options properly and don't know enough about the subject

Introduction

Compulsory Subjects

In key stage 4 all students study:

Subject	Qualification
English Language and Literature	GCSE (2 certificates)
Science (Trilogy or Separate)*	GCSE (2 Certificates for Trilogy Science and 3 certificates for Separate Sciences)
Mathematics	GCSE (1 certificate)
Core Physical Education	None

*At the beginning of Year 10 students will start their studies in science. Throughout the course their progress is carefully monitored to ensure they are gaining the necessary disciplinary and procedural knowledge. This data is then used to determine whether students are entered for the Trilogy Science or Separate Science GCSEs.

These subjects take up approximately $\frac{3}{5}$ of the periods in the week. The remainder are given over to the option subjects.

Option Subjects

The option subjects are listed in the table below, with students free to choose any combination of subjects (two from Box A and one from Box B). This year we have been able to offer a range of vocational options which are equivalent GCSEs, however the number of groups we are able to offer is limited and we cannot guarantee these choices. Therefore, if you select a vocational option, please also choose a GCSE backup option as well. Students will spend approximately $\frac{2}{5}$ of the periods in the week studying your chosen subjects.

Box A - Choose any 2			Box B - Choose 1
GCSE Choices ¹ :		Vocational Choices ² :	GCSE Choices ¹ :
Art: Art & Design	Geography ³	Vocational ICT	Computer Science
Art: Photography	GCSE PE (Boys)	Level 2 Award in Construction	Geography ³
Art: Textiles	GCSE PE (Girls)	Child Development and Care	History ³
Business Studies	History ³	Sport Studies (Boys) ⁵	Spanish ⁴
Computer Science	Music	Sport Studies (Girls) ⁵	
Design Technology	Religious Education		
Drama	Spanish ⁴		
Food and Nutrition ⁵			

¹ = These are all GCSE qualifications graded 9-1

² = These are equivalent GCSE qualifications approved by the government. The number of groups available is limited. If you select a vocational option, please also indicate a backup GCSE

³ = Counts as Humanity for the English Baccalaureate

⁴ = Counts as Language for the English Baccalaureate

⁵ = Gender specific classes are dependent on numbers opting

Introduction

Options Interview

Every student is offered an options interview with parent(s) / carer(s) and a senior member of staff. The process for choosing subjects will be explored and the appropriateness of each subject choice discussed in detail. The whole options process is about finding the right balance of subjects to get the best possible value in terms of qualifications for each student, while still ensuring a balance to the curriculum.

During the options process school can be contacted using the dedicated options email: year9options@hhhs.net

Advice to Students

These choices are very important because your grades at GCSE are your “passport” to future education or employment. Make sure you:

1. **Choose the subjects you are likely to do best in.** Use the information in your reports and the feedback you have had from your teachers to guide you
2. **Don't make a choice just because you like the teacher.** That teacher may well not be taking the group you end up in.
3. **Be realistic** about your strengths and weaknesses and accept realistic advice about the type of course you choose.
4. **Above all, don't choose a subject because your friend is doing it.** There is no guarantee you will be in the same class.

The majority of students will study the 3 subjects they choose, however there are always some students whose choices cannot be accommodated. In these cases, students will be re-interviewed and asked to re-select one of their choices.

A note about the English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

This is not a separate qualification, but students who gain “good passes” in all of the subjects listed below will be able to state that they have the Ebacc. Good passes means gaining grade 5 or higher.

- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- Two Science GCSEs (Trilogy or Separate Science count for this)
- A foreign language GCSE and
- Either History or Geography GCSE

Only these 5 GCSEs will count towards the Ebacc. We have researched entry requirements for local Further Education providers and Universities and at present none of them have the EBacc as an entry requirements. There is no guarantee however that it will not be used in the future.

If you wish to conduct further research into University courses, the Russell group of Universities have produced a useful guide called “Informed Choices” which can be accessed from the following website <https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

Introduction

The Russell Group is made up of the following Universities:

University of Birmingham	University of Bristol	University of Cambridge	Cardiff University	Durham University
University of Edinburgh	University of Exeter	University of Glasgow	Imperial College London	King's College London
University of Leeds	University of Liverpool	London School of Economics & Political Science	University of Manchester	Queen Mary, University of London
University of Nottingham	University of Oxford	Newcastle University	Queen's University Belfast	University of Sheffield
University of Southampton	University College London	University of Warwick	University of York	

GCSE Grading System

The Government introduced a new GCSE grading system, this removed the A*-G grades and replaced it with a system based on numbers 1-9 (1 is the lowest grade and 9 the highest).

The old lettered grades do not completely correspond with the new numbered system. A rough guide to how the new grades compare is shown in the table below:

New Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Old Grades	G/F-	F/E	E+/D	C	C+/B-	B/B+	A	A*	A**

A grade 4 is considered a standard pass, while a grade 5 is considered a strong pass.

The grading system for the vocational subjects is below, along with their equivalent GCSE grade:

	Level 1			Level 2			
Grade	Pass	Merit	Distinction	Pass	Merit	Distinction	Distinction*
GCSE Equivalent	1	2	3	4	5/6	7	8

Core and Compulsory

GCSE English Language and Literature

Compulsory: English language and English literature (2 GCSEs, Grades 1-9)

GCSE English Language

The English language course develops the vital skills of reading, writing, and speaking and listening, which are fundamental in the daily world. They are essential skills that underpin the success of many other subjects and enhance life both academically and socially.

How is the course assessed?

The course is divided into three components:

Component 1 - 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose

This is an external examination where students are assessed on their reading and writing skills. Section A is a critical reading and comprehension exam using challenging texts from the 20th century. The subject criterion requires that students understand a range of texts and these are explored throughout the course. Section B tests their creative writing skills, offering opportunities to narrate and describe.

Component 2 - 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading Study and Transactional /Persuasive Writing

This is another external examination where students are also assessed on their reading and writing skills. In section A, students are assessed on extracts taken from high quality non-fiction writing from the 19th and the 21st century. In section B, students are assessed on their written skills based on transactional and persuasive writing.

Component 3 - Spoken Language

This is internally assessed and students use their speaking and listening skills to plan and deliver a presentation. Spoken Language is reported separately to the English language GCSE.

GCSE English Language and Literature

Compulsory: English language and English literature (2 GCSEs, grades 1-9)

GCSE English Literature

The English literature course allows students to explore human experiences and imagination in the written form. It encourages students to develop skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. They are given opportunities, through a range of high quality literary texts, to develop their own personal response to challenging themes that are engaging and relevant in the world today. It encourages students to read a variety of genres for pleasure, understanding how literature is both rich and influential. The importance of accurate writing is emphasised as marks are awarded for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

How is the course assessed?

The course is divided into two components

Component 1- Shakespeare and Poetry

This is an external exam where students are assessed on their reading, writing and critical thinking skills. In section A, the subject criterion requires that students become critical readers of a Shakespearean play. The texts currently studied are 'Macbeth' or 'Romeo and Juliet'. In section B, students study a range of poetry from a prescribed anthology, involving a comparison of the texts.

Component 2- Post 1914 Century Prose/ Drama and Unseen Poetry

This is an external exam where students are again assessed on their reading, writing and critical thinking skills. In section A, the subject criterion requires that students become critical readers of a post 19th century British novel or play. In section B students study a classic 19th century literature text, from authors such as Charles Dickens or Jane Austen. Finally in section C students are assessed on unseen poetry from the 20th and 21st century. As in component 1, the poetry section requires students to make comparisons between the texts.

For further information, please contact Mrs L. Orrell

GCSE Mathematics

Compulsory: Mathematics (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Mathematics

Course Outline

Students studying the GCSE mathematics course will cover the following areas:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change
- Geometry and Measures
- Probability
- Statistics

This course will enable students to appreciate the uses of mathematics in society, whilst enabling them to acquire skills essential for advancement in their chosen path after leaving school. The application of skills will be embedded throughout the course to develop students understanding of how mathematics is relevant in the “real” world. Elements of mathematics are used in all careers. Some fields require daily and skilled use of mathematical concepts, such as science, business and accountancy.

The mathematics GCSE is a required qualification for further study in many areas including those wishing to apply for apprenticeships. For those wishing to study mathematical, scientific and economics based subjects, a good GCSE grade is essential. Many degree level courses at university also require applicants to have a minimum grade qualification in mathematics, regardless of the subject being studied.

Method of Assessment

The mathematics GCSE is assessed using three separate examinations, two with the use of a calculator and one without. Each exam lasts 1 hour 30 minutes.

There are two tiers of assessment: Foundation (grades 1-5) and Higher (grades 4 -9).

Students are entered at the tier appropriate to their attainment and the school will recommend the level of entry.

For further information, please contact Miss T. Sinclair

GCSE Science – Trilogy and Separate

Compulsory: 2 GCSEs (3 if the Separate Science GCSEs are taken, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Trilogy Science

This course is completed over two years with the content being examined at the end of Year 11. It contains two papers for each component of the Sciences (biology, chemistry and physics) with a total of 6 examinations.

Trilogy science will lead to two GCSE grades that will range from 9-9 to 1-1. There is a higher and foundation tier of entry. The maximum grade that can be achieved on the foundation paper is 5-5, while the minimum grade for the higher paper is 4-4. This course will be studied by all GCSE classes apart from those that are entered for separate Science GCSEs.

Assessment:

The course contains 6 individual exams each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes. Each exam counts as 16.7% of the course. There are 70 marks available in each paper and this contains multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions. Students will be entered for either Foundation or Higher Tier and they will be awarded two GCSE grades.

Overview of Content

Biology:

- Paper 1: Information studied is about the body and the environment including cell structures and functions, organ systems such as the digestive and circulatory, diseases and how we fight them, photosynthesis and respiration.
- Paper 2: Information studied includes how the body controls itself, hormones and reproduction, inheritance and cloning as well as adaptations, evolution and biodiversity.

Chemistry:

- Paper 1 is about atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure and properties of various substances, conservation of mass and reactivity. Also includes energy changes and rates of reactions.
- Paper 2 is about rate of chemical change, crude oils, alkene, alkane and alcohols. Also, methods of chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.

Physics:

- Paper 1 is about energy and electricity, magnetism, particle and atomic theory.
- Paper 2 is about forces, moments, speed and stopping distances, Newton's Laws, momentum, space, the life cycle of a star, waves and radiation.

For further information, please contact Mrs L. Glascott

GCSE Science – Trilogy and Separate

Compulsory: 2 GCSEs (3 if the Separate Science GCSEs are taken, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Separate Science

This course is completed over two years with the content being examined at the end of Year 11. It contains two papers for each component of the Sciences (biology, chemistry and physics) with a total of 6 examinations, these examinations are longer than those taken for Trilogy Science.

From the beginning of Year 10 student progress is carefully monitored in Science through regular assessments to gauge how well students are gaining the necessary disciplinary and procedural knowledge. This data is then used to determine whether students are entered for the Separate Science GCSEs.

The GCSE separate science qualifications enable a deeper learning of science at Key Stage 4. This is particularly of interest to students who either enjoy and are interested in science, or those who are considering science related post 16 courses and careers. Separate science enables the deeper exploration of scientific phenomena and theories, promotes critical evaluation and further develops understanding of the wider world.

Whilst studying separate sciences are not essential to accessing science A levels, those students who have studied separate sciences find the transition to A level easier, whilst those that have only studied combined science find the first 3-6 months of science A levels challenging. It is worth also noting the tough competition for science related university places. Those students who wish to follow science related courses at university will be in a favourable position if they have studied separate sciences at GCSE.

Students who study separate science at GCSE may go on to complete science A levels or level 3 applied science. Typical career routes include medicine, veterinary, engineering, architecture, analytics, nuclear, energy, agriculture and thousands more!

Assessment:

This course has two tiers of entry with foundation tier awarding grades 1-5 and higher tier ranging from grade 4-9.

The course is assessed through six 100 mark exams which are 1hr 45 minutes each. There are two exams for each individual science and each is worth 50% of the grade in that science. Students will receive a grade from each science on completion. It is possible for students to sit different tiers in different sciences, but the same tier must be sat in the same science. For example, foundation biology in both papers, but higher chemistry in both chemistry papers. All six papers consist of a variety of question styles including multiple choice, structured, closed short answers and open responses.

GCSE Science – Trilogy and Separate

Compulsory: 2 GCSEs (3 if the Separate Science GCSEs are taken, Grades 1-9)

Overview of Content

Biology:

- Paper 1: Information studied is about the body and the environment including cell structures and functions, organ systems such as the digestive and circulatory, diseases and how we fight them, photosynthesis and respiration.
- Paper 2: Information studied includes how the body controls itself, hormones and reproduction, inheritance and cloning as well as adaptations, evolution and biodiversity.

Chemistry:

- Paper 1 is about atomic structure and the periodic table, bonding, structure and properties of various substances, conservation of mass and reactivity. Also includes energy changes and rates of reactions.
- Paper 2 is about rate of chemical change, crude oils, alkene, alkane and alcohols. Also, methods of chemical analysis, chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.

Physics:

- Paper 1 is about energy and electricity, magnetism, particle and atomic theory.
- Paper 2 is about forces, moments, speed and stopping distances, Newton's Laws, momentum, space, the life cycle of a star, waves and radiation.

For further information, please contact Mrs L. Glascott

Expressive Arts

GCSE Art and Design

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Art and Design

- This course may be for those students who have enjoyed working in a variety of ways and using a wide range of materials, as they have in years 7, 8 and 9.
- This course will lead to A level and diploma courses in a wide range of art and design courses at all local colleges. Students can go on to study at university and/or employment in the creative industries.

What is the Course Content?

- The Art and Design General course is a wide experience of different materials and techniques. Over the two year course students will have experience in at least five of following: Ceramics, Drawing, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture and Textiles.

How is the Course Assessed?

- This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available.
- Scheme of assessment - The GCSE is made up of coursework (60%) and examination (40%).
- All projects over the two years are submitted as coursework.
- The examination is an unaided practical test. Students choose one question from the examination paper and have a number of weeks to make preparatory work. Students then have to make a final examination piece or pieces in ten hours.

Other information

- As part of the course students will visit galleries and exhibitions.
- A weekly evening art club from 3.00 to 6pm is provided where students are welcome to attend and add further work to their coursework portfolio.
- At the end of the course students exhibit their coursework and examination pieces for marking. An evening is held where students, families and friends are invited to view the exhibition.

What do our students think?

"I chose GCSE Art and Design because I have always enjoyed making art work and on the course I like working with lots of different materials. I am interested in taking art at college and would like to work with art in some way in the future."

"I chose GCSE Art and Design because I liked art in lower school. I have really enjoyed making new kinds of things with materials I have never used before and I really like the relaxed atmosphere at art club. Art is really important to me because it is so different to all my other GCSE subjects."

For further information, please contact Mr. J. Whitehead

GCSE Photography, Animation and Video

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Photography, Animation and Video

- This course is for those students who have an interest in still photography and the moving image such as animation and video.
- This course will lead to A level and diploma courses in photography and moving image courses at all local colleges. Students can go on to study at university and/or employment in the creative industries.

What is the Course Content?

- During the course students will study digital photography, video and different kinds of animation. Students will keep a sketchbook for research, contact sheets, storyboards and other supporting work.

How is the Course Assessed?

- This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available.
- Scheme of assessment - The GCSE is made up of coursework (60%) and examination (40%).
- All projects over the two years are submitted as coursework.
- The examination is an unaided practical test. Students choose one question from the examination paper and have a number of weeks to make preparatory work. Students then have to make a final examination piece or pieces in ten hours.

Other information

- As part of the course students will visit galleries and exhibitions.
- A weekly evening art club from 3.00 to 6pm is provided where students are welcome to attend and add further work to their coursework portfolio.
- At the end of the course students exhibit their coursework and examination pieces for marking. An evening is held where students, families and friends are invited to view the exhibition.

What do our students think?

"I chose GCSE Photography because I have always liked taking photographs and I enjoy learning from different photographers work. Photography is important to me because I am interested in a course at college when I leave school."

"I really like making my own videos and animations and sometimes publish them on Youtube. I chose GCSE Photography to do something that I enjoy and build on my skills. I think that I would like to work in some way with computer games as a career and hope to do this at college when I leave school."

For further information, please contact Mr. J. Whitehead

GCSE Art: Textiles

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Textiles

- This course is for those students who have an interest in working with thread, fabrics and other materials.
- This course will lead to A level and diploma courses in textiles, fashion and other related courses at all local colleges. Students can go on to study at university and/or employment in the textile, fashion and other creative industries.

What is the Course Content?

- The GCSE Textile course is an exciting experience in working with a range of fabrics, threads and other materials. During the course students will experience hand and machine embroidery, printmaking, digital textile work, batik, soft sculpture, fashion, weaving, felt making and other textile techniques.

How is the Course Assessed?

- This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available.
- Scheme of assessment - The GCSE is made up of coursework (60%) and examination (40%).
- All projects over the two years are submitted as coursework.
- The examination is an unaided practical test. Students choose one question from the examination paper and have a number of weeks to make preparatory work. Students then have to make a final examination piece or pieces in ten hours.

Other information

- As part of the course students will visit colleges, galleries and exhibitions.
- A weekly evening art club from 3.00 to 6pm is provided where students are welcome to attend and add further work to their coursework portfolio.
- At the end of the course students exhibit their coursework and examination pieces for marking. An evening is held where students, families and friends are invited to view the exhibition.

What do our students think?

"I chose GCSE Textiles because I have always liked creating things, especially with materials and fabrics. I particularly enjoyed machine embroidery and made a wall hanging for my exam exploring printing and stitching. Textiles is important to me because I am interested in a course at college when I leave school."

"I really like making my own clothes and quite often get ideas from the TV and magazines. I chose GCSE Textiles to do something that I enjoy and build on my skills. I think that I would like to work in some way with fashion as a career and hope to do this at college when I leave school."

For further information, please contact Mrs J. Gooden

GCSE Drama

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Drama

The course provides students with the opportunity to develop prior learning whilst exploring drama and developing a love for the theatre. Learners are able to demonstrate their skills as performers or through technical options. GCSE Drama aims to give students the opportunities to develop:

- Creative and imaginative powers and the practical skills for communicating and expressing ideas, feelings and meanings in drama
- Knowledge and understanding of drama within a social, cultural and historical context.
- Understanding of how plays & ideas relate to their social, historical & cultural context.
- Inter-personal and group working skills
- Creative and performance skills
- Improvisation skills
- Communication and evaluative skills
- A wider understanding of the performing arts, including the technical aspects of sound, lighting, makeup, costume and set design.

What is the Course Content?

The course consists of three units of work especially created to enhance and develop performance and technical skills and prepare the learners for practical examinations. Over the course, learners will take part in two performances, either as an actor or by developing a technical skill.

Component 1 is a written exam (40%) Component 2 is a devised performance and internally assessed (40%). Component 3 is the performance of two extracts of a script for an outside examiner (20%).

Students are expected to attend at least two live theatre performances throughout the two year course as they have to write a theatre review and it will also develop their skills as a practitioner.

Units of work that the learners will study include:

- Exploring play texts
- Theatre in education
- Actors workshops
- Devising workshops.
- Exploration of key practitioners.

How is the Course Assessed?

- This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available
- There is a coursework element to this exam, worth 30% of the final exam grade
- Students will sit one written paper that is worth 40% of the final grade.

What do our students think?

"I chose drama because I wanted to develop my self- confidence. I have done that, and more! I have developed new relationships with people and it's been a form of release from academic studies"

"Drama has really helped with my speech skills and having the confidence to get up in front of people. I now have a real thrill when performing!"

For further information, please contact Miss R. Vanstone

GCSE Music

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Music

If you have a genuine interest in music, and developing your performing, composing, music theory and analytical skills, then you should consider opting for GCSE music. The GCSE music course focuses on practical music making and offers students the opportunity to study an enjoyable and rewarding course.

Studying GCSE Music will provide you with the skills to access A-Level Music/Music Technology, or BTEC Music courses, which could lead to studying for a music-related degree. Developing your performance skills will help develop your self-confidence and improve both physical and mental well-being. Music technology plays a significant part in composition work. Developing your music technology skills will prepare you for a multitude of possible careers in the music or media industries.

What is the Course Content?

Performing (30%) – Coursework

- Students may either sing **or** select an instrument of their choice on which to develop their performance skills. It is NOT essential that you already play an instrument as the course caters for performers of varying ability. Also, it is NOT essential that you can sing.
- Students will prepare and record several performances throughout the course, and then select one solo and one ensemble performance (of at least 4 minutes combined duration) from their recorded portfolio, for assessment and submission.

Composing (30%) – Coursework

- All students will develop their composing skills in a variety of musical styles and make use of music technology to record and develop their work.
- Students must submit two contrasting compositions (of at least 3 minutes combined duration) for assessment, each completed under controlled classroom supervision. Compositions could be as diverse as a piece for solo flute, a full-on rock song or a piece of film music. One composition is a 'free-choice', and the other is prescribed by the exam board.
- Students will be expected to appraise and evaluate their compositions.

Understanding Music (40%) – Examination (90 minutes)

- Students learn to appraise, develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical context and musical language in relation to the following four 'Areas of Study':
 1. Western classical tradition 1650–1910
 2. Popular music
 3. Traditional music
 4. Western classical tradition since 1910
- Students must be able to listen attentively to unfamiliar music from all four areas of study, to identify and accurately describe musical elements, and use a wide range of musical language and terminology (including staff notation).

GCSE Music

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

How is the Course Assessed?

- This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available.
- Performing and composing are coursework elements, and are worth 30% each, of the final grade. Performances and compositions are assessed by the class teacher, and then moderated externally by an AQA subject specialist.
- There is one written exam, taken at the end of the course, worth 40% of the final grade. This consists of a 90-minute exam, split into two sections. In the first section (60 minutes), students listen to, and answer questions on, a variety of un-prepared musical excerpts from the 4 'Areas of Study'. In the second section (30 minutes), students answer questions based on prepared study pieces, including Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A major, and three songs from Paul Simon's Graceland album.

The flexibility of the course allows students to submit work throughout the course so that they can continuously improve assessment marks and potential grades.

GCSE music is a demanding and intensive course which develops self-discipline, confidence, independent learning and promotes creative skills, whilst providing a balance to other subjects.

What do our students think?

"I chose GCSE Music as an option because I am passionate about music (I play guitar and compose songs), and want to continue studying music after high school. I really like how much theory I have learned, and how I have been able to use my song-writing skills in my composition work. I think GCSE music is important because it allows me to enjoy music in school, and I will need the GCSE qualification in order to progress onto college, and study A-Level music".

"I enjoy music outside of school, and wanted to learn more about music. I like the fact that it's a break from other subjects such as English, Maths and Science. I like the freedom of the composition and performance work. GCSE Music is important because it has helped me to develop my confidence, and my understanding of different musical styles".

For further information, please contact Ms S. Varadi

Humanities

GCSE Geography

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Geography

There has never been a better time to study Geography. It is relevant in our continually developing and changing world and it leads to a qualification that is highly valued by employers. The course is based on a balanced framework of physical and human geography. It allows students to investigate the link between the two themes, and approach and examine the battles between the man-made and natural worlds.

The course will give you the chance to get to grips with some of the big questions which affect our world and help you understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world.

Those who have studied Geography at GCSE have gone on to have successful careers such as:

• Environmental health officers	• Environmental engineers	• Recycling officers	• Forestry managers
• Military GIS (Geographical Information Systems) analysts	• Environmental impact officers for oil or quarrying companies	• Chartered surveyors (property surveyors)	• Hazard prediction and management experts
• Architects or urban planners	• Pollution analysts	• Police officers	• Transport officers
• Coastal engineers	• Travel and tourism industry experts	• Leisure centre managers	• Town planners
• Flood protection managers	• Teachers	• Civil servants for DEFRA	• Estate agents

What is the Course Content?

The syllabus we follow at HHHS is AQA GCSE Geography.

The main topics are:

- **Living with the Physical Environment**
 - The Challenge of Natural Hazards (Plate tectonics/weather hazards/climate change).
 - The Living World (Extreme environments, rainforest/desert ecosystems).
 - Physical Landscapes in the UK (Coasts/rivers/glacial landscapes).
 - Geographical Skills.

GCSE Geography

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

- **Challenges in the Human Environment**
 - Urban Issues and Challenges (Water and energy conservation and sustainability/ migration/urban regeneration).
 - The Changing Economic World (The global development gap/transnational corporations/ aid/economic futures).
 - The Challenge of Resource Management (Food/energy/water supply).
 - Geographical Skills.
- **Geographical applications**
 - Issue Evaluation (includes pre-release resource booklet 12 weeks before the exam).
 - Fieldwork (In normal circumstances, students need to undertake **two geographical enquiries**, each of which must include the use of primary data collected as part of a fieldwork exercise.)
 - Geographical Skills.

How is the Course Assessed?

This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1 to 9 are available. It is assessed by 3 examination papers, as shown below:

- Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment *Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (35% of GCSE).*
- Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment *Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (35% of GCSE)*
- Paper 3: Geographical Applications *Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (30% of GCSE)*

Question types on each paper include multiple-choice, short answers, levels of response and extended prose.

What do our students think?

"I find the subject interesting and I think the knowledge is useful in present times. I like the human side of Geography where you learn about cities and also I find animals interesting and natural hazards. It gives you a good idea of what is going on around the world."

"I chose this subject because I find it interesting and you learn about different parts of the world. Geography is important because you get to know about the world and what condition it is in. You also learn about different ways you can help the less fortunate countries."

For further information, please contact Mrs K. Fairclough.

GCSE History

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE History

Why choose this subject?

History is a popular GCSE subject which many students do very well in. It is also a subject which is highly respected and valued by colleges and universities. You will study history through the eyes of people who lived at the time and express your own opinions. You will cover history from different time periods and from different parts of the world.

What could this subject lead to?

- History can lead to many careers and opportunities. These include Law, politics, public sector, business, marketing, economics, teaching, academia, insurance, and archaeology.
- Some of the skills developed include analysis, research, essay writing, communication, problem-solving and arguing.

What is the Course Content?

- **Medicine in Britain c1250 – Present Day**
 - Ideas about the cause of disease and illness over 4 time periods.
 - Approaches to prevention and treatment over 4 time periods.
 - Medicine on the Western Front – how WW1 helped to change medicine
- **Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-91**
 - The origins of the Cold War, 1941-58; Cold War crises, 1958-70; the end of the Cold War, 1970-91
- **Early Elizabethan England, 1558-1588**
 - Queen, government and religion; Challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad; Elizabethan society in the Age of Exploration
- **Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39**
 - The Weimar Republic 1918–29; Hitler's rise to power, 1919–33; Nazi control and dictatorship, 1933–39; Life in Nazi Germany, 1933–39

GCSE History

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

How is the Course Assessed?

This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available

Unit	Type of Assessment	Time of Assessment	Total % of final examination
Paper 1 Thematic Study (Medicine) and study of an Historic Environment (WW1 trenches)	1 hour 15 minute examination	Summer 2022	30%
Paper 2 Period Study (Superpower relations and the Cold War) and British Depth Study (Early Elizabethan England)	1 hour 45 minute examination	Summer 2022	40%
Paper 3 Modern Depth Study (Germany, 1918-39)	1 hour 20 minute examination	Summer 2022	30%

What do our students think?

"I picked history because I love learning about the past and discovering how we got to this point today."

"It is important because you can learn about the past to prevent negative events repeating themselves."

For further information, please contact Miss H. Reeves

GCSE Religious Education

Optional: Religious Studies (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Religious Education

RE is an interesting and exciting course for students in our Hawkley Community. The course offers the opportunity for debate and learning about the practices and beliefs of religious and non-religious groups of people. Students will have the chance to consider their views on many aspects of life and their own worldview, alongside the worldview of those in the wider community. It is an interesting and thought-provoking course that will challenge you personally and help to build critical thinking skills, evaluation, and empathy. The topics will provide an opportunity to reflect on personal issues relating to life and to fully consider your own views about the moral issues we study. These topics will be studied from the perspective of religious believers in society and challenges they may face in practising their faith. Throughout the course you will be offered the opportunity to consider the big questions in life and how these may be responded to. The course is designed to help you understand religious ideas, beliefs and outlooks and develop a better understanding of the world we live in.

The subject can support options for further education and study in areas such as politics, law, History, psychology, sociology and philosophy and ethics. Careers within the public services can often be supported by an RE GCSE, as well as those within journalism, education, health and social care, media and tourism.

What is the Course Content?

- **Relationships** – Issues of equality, gender prejudice and discrimination, cohabitation, commitment, responsibilities, and roles.
- **Life and Death** – Origin and value of human life, beliefs about death and the afterlife, euthanasia, abortion, euthanasia, quality of life, sanctity of life and soul.
- **Good and Evil** – Crime and Punishment, Forgiveness, Good, Evil and Suffering, Freewill, Justice and Morality.
- **Human Rights** – Human Rights and Social Justice, Prejudice and Discrimination, Issues of Wealth and Poverty, Personal Conviction, Relative and Absolute Poverty.
- **Study of Christianity** – beliefs, teachings, and practices.
- **Study of a World Religion** – beliefs, teachings, and practices.

How is the Course Assessed?

- No controlled assessment
- This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available.
- There are 3 exams – a 2-hour exam and then an hour each for the Study of Christianity and Study of a World Faith.

For further information, please contact Miss C. Sorry

Modern Foreign Languages

GCSE Spanish

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Spanish

Spanish is one of the world's most widely spoken languages spoken by over 400 million people in over 20 countries and in large parts of the United States of America with over 40 million native speakers in the USA alone. The new exciting GCSE Spanish covers many of the necessary skills for the global workplace and equips students to become confident speakers of the language.

Apart from being an important part of the Ebacc qualification, the demand from employers for Spanish is massive with over 70% of businesses in the UK requiring people with language skills. Therefore, companies and businesses are increasingly looking for people with qualifications in a foreign language. Choosing a foreign language will equip you with many of the vital skills employers are looking for such as communication skills, presentation skills and speaking skills, as well as listening and reading skills. Being able to speak another language will give you a big advantage in the job market in future as people with foreign language skills are highly sought after.

What is the Course Content?

The specification covers distinct themes with a range of topics within those themes. These are as follows:

Theme 1: People and Lifestyle

This theme covers:

- Topic 1 – Identity and relationships with other
- Topic 2 – Healthy living and lifestyle
- Topic 3 – Education and Work

Theme 2: Popular Culture

This theme covers:

- Topic 1 – Free-time activities
- Topic 2 – Customs, festivals and celebrations
- Topic 3 – Celebrity culture

Theme 3: Communication and the World Around us

This theme covers:

- Topic 1 – Travel and tourism, including places of interest
- Topic 2 – Media and Technology
- Topic 3 – The environment and where people live

GCSE Spanish

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

How is the Course Assessed?

GCSE Spanish consists of four units all of which are skills based and are equally weighted in terms of examinations.

1)	Listening 25%	understanding what other people are saying in Spanish and responding in English plus a short task transcribing spoken sentences in Spanish.
2)	Reading 25%	understanding what other people have written in Spanish and responding in English. Translation of short sentences from Spanish into English.
3)	Speaking 25%	Communicating with other people in Spanish through conversation, discussion and role-play.
4)	Writing 25%	communicating in writing to other people in Spanish through written texts and translation of short sentences into Spanish.

- This course has two tiers of entry Foundation and Higher. Students will be entered to the appropriate tier accordingly. Higher Tier grades go from Grade 9 to Grade 3 and Foundation Tier Grades go from Grade 5 to Grade 1

What do our students think?

"I chose GCSE Spanish because it can open up a wider range of job opportunities in other countries. Also I wanted to challenge myself and was eager to widen my knowledge of Spanish speaking countries."

"I chose Spanish because it gives you more job opportunities and the trip to Barcelona helped me with speaking and was a lot of fun! I enjoy learning new vocabulary and being able to write my own opinion and learn how to pronounce words."

For further information, please contact Mr K. O'Rourke

Physical Education

GCSE Physical Education

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE PE

Studying GCSE (9-1) PE will open students' eyes to the amazing world of sports performance. Not only will they have the chance to perform in three different sports through the non-exam assessment component, they will also develop wide ranging knowledge into the how and why of physical activity and sport.

The combination of the physical performance and academic challenge provides an exciting opportunity for students. They can perform, and then through the academic study learn how to improve their performance through application of theory.

This course will prepare learners for the further study of PE or sport science courses as well as other related subject areas such as psychology, sociology and biology. Learners will also develop the transferable skills that are in demand by further education, Higher Education and employers in all sectors of industry. Students will have the opportunity to develop a wide-ranging set of key skills, including communication using appropriate language, dealing with pressure, split second decision making, interpreting and analysing data, as well as analysing and evaluation performance so improvements can be made. The specification also encourages the development of strong literacy and numeracy skills. The acquisition of such a diverse range of skills is of great benefit as you continue education.

What is the Course Content?

Component 1: Physical Factors Affecting Performance

- Applied anatomy
- Physical training

Component 2: Socio-cultural Issues and Sports Psychology

- Socio-cultural influences
- Sports psychology
- Health, fitness and well-being

Component 3: Performance within Physical Education

Part 1: Performance of three activities taken from 2 approved lists;

- one from the 'team' list,
- one from the 'individual' list
- one from either list

Part 2: Analysing and Evaluating Performance (AEP)

How is the Course Assessed?

This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available.

GCSE Physical Education

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

Component 1: Physical Factors Affecting Performance

- Applied anatomy
- Physical training

60 marks, 1 hour written paper 30% of GCSE total

Component 2: Socio-cultural Issues and Sports Psychology

- Socio-cultural influences
- Sports psychology
- Health, fitness and well-being

60 marks, 1 hour written paper, 30% of GCSE total

Component 3: Performance within Physical Education

Part 1: Performance of three activities taken from 2 approved lists;

- one from the 'team' list,
- one from the 'individual' list
- one from either list

20 marks per activity, practical moderation, 30% of GCSE total

Part 2: Analysing and Evaluating Performance (AEP)

20 marks, coursework, 10% of GCSE total

Points to consider if you are suitable for this qualification:

- Suitable level of practical ability at KS3
- Positive attitude to learning at KS3
- Commitment to enrichment activities in PE.
- Suitable level of academic ability linked to English, Maths and Science

What do our students think?

"I picked GCSE PE because I liked having the freedom of not having to sit behind a desk all day. All the teachers are really supportive and easy to get along with and the lessons are really enjoyable."

"GCSE PE gives me the chance to develop my practical skills in sport I play outside of school. I also now better understand how my body works when playing sport and can help me improve."

For further information, please contact Mr. L Coupland

Technologies

GCSE Business Studies

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Business Studies

Why choose this subject?

GCSE Business will equip you with the transferable 'enterprise' skills that are so highly valued by employers, regardless of the profession. These include; communication, initiative, leadership, team work, decision-making, problem-solving, independence, creativity, numeracy and presentation skills, to name but a few!

What could this subject lead to?

This qualification can lead to further study at college, as well as help you to achieve your ambition of working for a local business, a global corporation, or aspire to make your own success as an entrepreneur.

What is the Course Content?

- Business Activity
- Influences On Business
- Business Operations
- Finance
- Marketing
- Human Resources

How is the Course Assessed?

- The course is 100% externally assessed at the end of the 2 years
- There are 2 written exam papers
- It is one tier of entry and all grades 1-9 are available
- Exam Component 1: Business Dynamics is 2 hours long and worth 62.5% of the qualification. This exam includes a mixture of short and structured questions that cover a broad sample of the content.
- Exam Component 2: Business Considerations is 1.5 hours long and worth 37.5% of the qualification. This exam is the data response paper and learners are expected to apply their understanding of business content to specific contexts.

What do our students think?

"I chose GCSE Business to open up more career pathways for the future. Business is important because it educates you on problems you may face later in life and how you can solve them. Business lessons are challenging but I enjoy working as a team in the different activities and the variety of fun lessons really inspire me to learn."

"The reason I chose to study GCSE Business was because I was interested in learning about something I had never studied before. I wanted to know how to become an entrepreneur and about the laws surrounding business. So far I've managed to gain an insight from real people in the business world and learn about finance and money management which are so important."

For further information, please contact Mrs M. Anderson

GCSE Computer Science

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Computer Science

Computer Science is a very practical subject – students will be able to use the knowledge and skills they learn in the classroom on real-world problems. In addition, this is a highly creative subject calls on learners to be inventive.

There are many career choices within the Computer Science field. These include software developer, computer hardware engineer, computer system analyst, information security analyst, computer programmer, drone operator and Cyber security consultant.

You will gain valuable thinking and programming skills that are extremely attractive in the modern workplace, a deep understanding of problem solving and experience in creating logical and efficient solutions, ability to write down solutions to problems for other people to understand.

What is the Course Content?

- Real world programming skills, understanding of the fundamental principles including programming, data representation, computer systems, computer networks, cyber security and ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society.

How is the Course Assessed?

- This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available
- There are two exam papers at the end, one focusing on computer systems and one with a focus on computational thinking, algorithms and programming. Each paper lasts 1.5 hours and is worth 50% of the total GCSE each. Students will undertake a programming project in the final year of the course. This allows for you to gain practical experience of using the skills developed throughout the specification. Students will engage in an authentic experience, which supports their learning and exam preparation.

What do our students think?

"I enjoy that we have full control of the pace of learning. It is worth doing it if you are good at maths. It's a satisfying subject because you feel you've achieved something when you make a program."

"I enjoy solving puzzles and problems. Taking this GCSE has allowed me to develop this into a real skill, applying it to real life problems to create my own programs."

For further information, please contact Mrs M. Anderson

GCSE Design and Technology

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Design and Technology

Do you like solving problems? This course has been designed to encourage students to be able to design and make products with creativity and originality, using a range of materials and techniques. You don't have to be great at drawing but you will be challenged to come up with great ideas. The Design and Technology GCSE sets out the knowledge, understanding and skills required to undertake the iterative design process of exploring, creating and evaluating. The majority of the project is delivered through theory and practical projects.

Design and Technology sets pupils up for careers in:

- Engineering/Industrial careers
- Product Design
- Jewellery Design
- Furniture Design
- Fashion Design
- 3D Design
- Interior Design
- Gaming Design
- Set design for films
- Architecture
- Teaching
- Construction Industry

What is the Course Content?

Designing & Making Skills:

- Drawing techniques
- Design products to meet the needs of clients and consumers
- Consider environmental and sustainability issues in designing products
- Solving technical problems
- Using an extensive range of tools and equipment
- CAD/CAM – Using ICT programs such as Google Sketchup and 2D Design to make products using the Laser cutter and our 3D printers
- Understand the advantages of working as part of a team when designing and making products

Technical Knowledge:

- New and emerging technologies
- Energy storage and generation
- Modern and smart materials
- Systems approach to designing
- Mechanical devices
- Materials and their working properties

Core & Specialist Technical Principles:

- Selection of materials or components
- Forces and stresses
- Ecological and social footprint
- Scales of production
- Sources and origins
- using and working with materials
- Stock forms, types and sizes
- Specialist techniques
- Surface treatments and finishes

GCSE Design and Technology

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

How is the Course Assessed?

This course has one tier of entry and all grades from 1-9 are available

There are two assessment units:

Unit 1 – Externally Assessed

What's assessed?

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

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Unit 2 – Internally Assessment (Non-exam Assessed)

What's assessed?

Practical application of:

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

How it's assessed

- Non-exam assessment (NEA): 30–35 hours approx
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Students will produce a working prototype and a portfolio of evidence (max 20 pages)
- Work will be marked by teachers and moderated by AQA

What do our students think?

"I picked Design Tech because I liked doing it in younger years and I think its something I could use when I am older. I enjoy the practical side of the lesson and the teacher is helpful when it comes to making. I also enjoy designing for different people and designing products that can help people. It is an important subject because it helps you to understand how to make and fix products and helps you to understand everyday products."

"I picked DT because I have always liked making things and designing products. I enjoy the making side of the subject because you can use the tools and equipment, I also enjoy the theory because I have learned a lot about different areas and existing products. I think it is an important subject because it lets you be creative and see your ideas come to life."

For further information, please contact Mr D. Barton

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

The course will enable students to:

- demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking using a variety of food commodities, cooking techniques and equipment
- develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical processes as well as the nutritional content of food and drinks
- understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health
- understand the economic, environmental, ethical, and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, and diet and health choices
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food
- understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international), to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes

What could this subject lead to?

The food industry is one of the biggest employers in the UK and studying GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition can open doors to many exciting careers in lots of different working environments, for example:

- Medical and scientific - dietician, sports nutritionist, environmental health
- Commerce and industry - product and recipe development, food retail management
- TV, journalism and advertising - food styling, home economist, food magazine editor
- Education- teaching and training
- Hotel and leisure- hotel/catering manager, chef, events management.

This option choice also links well with Science and P.E.

What is the Course Content?

The Food preparation and Nutrition syllabus is divided into 5 main sections:

- Food nutrition & health
- Food science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

1 Option Choice, GCSE Qualification (1 GCSE, Grades 1-9)

The range of food and ingredients studied will focus on the recommended guidelines for a healthy diet based on the main food commodity groups.

Practical Work

Throughout this course students will be involved in lots of practical cookery and will be required to bring ingredients from home for these lessons.

How is the Course Assessed?

50% examination – 1 hour 45 minutes

- Section A – (20 marks, multiple choice)
- Section B – (80 marks, longer written answers)

50% Practical Investigations set by AQA in year 11

- Task 1 – 10 hours of scientific practical investigation into the working properties of foods.
Written or electronic report with photographic evidence of work carried out (1,500-2,000 words).
- Task 2 – 20 hours to research, plan, trial and evaluate a menu of three dishes.
- 3 hour practical (included in the time) to produce the planned dishes.
- Written or electronic report with photographic evidence of work carried out.

What do our students think?

"I chose Food Preparation and Nutrition in order to gain a range of culinary skills that I could use later in life. The subject offers the chance to learn about different countries and their national cuisine, which I am really interested in. This course is important in the curriculum as it also teaches about maintaining a healthy diet whilst working with a budget (something that is crucial in modern day life.)"

"I picked Food Preparation and Nutrition because I really enjoyed it through lower school and thought it would be a good thing to pick. I really enjoy food preparation and nutrition because of all the practical lessons and it is really interesting to learn about other peoples cultures. I would recommend picking this subject because it is an important life skill and will help you in the future. Overall you should pick food preparation and nutrition because it will help you later in life and help you to understand the importance of correct food choices."

For further information, please contact Mrs L. Neil

Vocational Subjects

Cambridge National in Sports Studies

1 Vocational Option Choice, Equivalent to 1 GCSE Qualification

Cambridge National in Sport Studies

The Cambridge Nationals in Sport Studies take a more sector-based focus, whilst also encompassing core physical education themes. Learners have the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge about different types of sport and physical activity, skills development and sports leadership to their own practical performance. They will learn about contemporary issues in sport such as funding, participation, ethics and role models, and sport and the media. Learners will develop an appreciation of the importance of sport locally and nationally, different ways of being involved in sport and of how this shapes the sports industry.

What is the Course Content?

- It will be compulsory for pupils to take part in a variety of water sports activities, this will take place after school for several weeks (This will incur a cost of approximately £26).
- It will be compulsory to lead a group of younger students in a lesson.

The course is split into four Sports Studies units:

- R184: Contemporary Issues in sport
- R185: Performance and Leadership in sport
- R187: Increasing awareness of Outdoor Adventurous Activity

How is the Course Assessed?

All results are awarded on the following scale:

- Distinction* at Level 2 (*2)
- Distinction at Level 2 (D2)
- Merit at Level 2 (M2)
- Pass at Level 2 (P2)
- Distinction at Level 1 (D1)
- Merit at Level 1 (M1)
- Pass at Level 1 (P1)

R184: Contemporary Issues in sport

- Written Paper (1 hour 15 minutes) - 70 Marks
- OCR set and marked

Cambridge National in Sports Studies

1 Vocational Option Choice, Equivalent to 1 GCSE Qualification

R185: Performance and Leadership in sport

- Performance 80 marks
- Team/ individual activity 14 marks x2
- Applying improvement methods 14 marks
- Planning a sporting activity 14 marks
- Leading a sporting activity 14 marks
- Reviewing your leading of a sporting sessions 10 marks
- Moderated

R187: Increasing awareness of Outdoor Adventurous Activity (OAA)

- OAA 40 marks
- Provision for OAA 6 marks
- Safety aspects of participating 12 marks
- Planning OAA lesson 12 marks
- Participate in OAA 10 marks
- Moderated

What do our students think?

"A great option for people who have the ability to lead and help groups of children with P.E."

"Sport Studies was the best choice for me because I enjoy playing and leading in sport and it can help me build the skills I need for the job I want in the future. Lessons are interesting and useful not only in school but outside in the team I play for."

Please note: normally this option runs as mixed gender, we aim, if numbers allow, to run this option as a boys and girls option separately.

For further information, please contact Mr L. Coupland

Level 2 Award in Child Development and Care

1 Vocational Option Choice, Equivalent to 1 GCSE Qualification

Child Development and Care

The Level 1/2 Technical Award in Child Development and Care in the Early Years is designed for students who want an introduction to child development and care that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to students who wish to pursue a career in the early years sector or progress onto further study. It is aimed at a range of students who wish to be introduced to childcare and development for children aged 0-5 years.

What is the Course Content?

This qualification will enable learners to develop significant transferable knowledge and study skills that will support progression including:

- an awareness of learning styles
- a basic introduction in to working with children in a variety of settings
- an understanding of roles and responsibilities when working in a setting
- an understanding of equality and diversity within a childcare setting
- a basic understanding of the stages and sequence of child development
- an introduction to observing children and how it supports development
- an introduction to the influences that affect holistic development
- an introduction to everyday care routines and the types of activities that can support the development of independence an introduction to supporting children through transition.

Content area 1	Child development
Content area 2	Factors that influence the child's development
Content area 3	Care routines, play and activities to support the child
Content area 4	Early years provision
Content area 5	Legislation, policies and procedures in the early years
Content area 6	Expectations of the early year's practitioner
Content area 7	Roles and responsibilities within early years settings
Content area 8	The importance of observations in early years childcare
Content area 9	Planning in early years childcare

How is the Course Assessed?

- The qualification has 2 assessments externally set by NCFE: one non-exam assessment and one written examined assessment.
- The course is graded as L1P, L1M, L1D, L2P, L2M, L2D, L2D*

Coursework and/or Examination

1 Exam and 1 summative assessment

For more information, please contact Mrs C. Knowles

Level 2 Award Construction

1 Vocational Option Choice, Equivalent to 1 GCSE Qualification

Level 2 Award in Construction

Construction isn't just a course for people who want to do practical tasks and go on to a construction related apprenticeship, it's for anyone who wants to learn a range of hands on, practical life skills that can be used when you leave school to help you get a job or even when you need something doing in your own home. Why not study something different that you have never, or may never get the opportunity to learn again.

Students will learn about different trades within construction and how construction activities are planned, costed and completed from start to finish, while also learning about all safety aspects involved.

Each unit helps to develop the students' knowledge and understanding of different areas within the construction industry and also helps with;

- Skills required for independent learning and development
- A range of generic and transferable skills within the construction industry and for adult life
- The ability to solve problems and work as a team
- The skills of project-based research, development and presentation
- The potential opportunity, to enter employment within a wide range of junior job roles across the construction industry.

Following from this course the students will be able to seek employment with apprenticeships or further college courses in a specialist area of their choice. Potential careers could include:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| • Joiner | • Site foreman/manager |
| • Plasterer | • Building maintenance |
| • Carpenter | • Construction Manager |
| • Bricklayer | • Quantity surveyor |
| • Painter and Decorator | • Architect |

What is the Course Content?

The course is based on three units;

- Safety and security in construction
- Practical construction skills
- Planning construction projects

How is the Course Assessed?

This course is the equivalent to a GCSE. There are three units the students have to pass. One of these units is internally assessed (Practical skills) and the other two will be externally assessed in the form of on screen assessments.

Externally assessed:

Unit 1: Safety and security in construction

Construction activities take place in many different contexts. Through this unit, students will gain the knowledge and understanding to be able to plan and minimise the risk to their own and others health and safety in different construction contexts.

- 60 minute examination/Total of 60 marks/Online assessment;
- Short and extended answer questions,

Level 2 Award Construction

1 Vocational Option Choice, Equivalent to 1 GCSE Qualification

- Each question will have an applied problem solving scenario;

Unit 3: Planning construction projects

Through this unit you will learn about different types of jobs that exist in the construction sector and how these jobs contribute to successful projects. Students will be required to work through a given brief and analyse the construction jobs needed to complete the work, complete a step by step time plan for the project and work out total costs of labour, materials and equipment.

- 120 minute examination/Total 60 marks/ Online assessment
- Short and extended answer questions
- Each question will have an applied problem solving scenario;

Internally assessed:

Unit 2: Practical construction skills

This involves each student performing a range of practical tasks based on a given assignment brief. This work is photographed and the students have to write a short evaluation and description of the tasks they carried out and how they performed each task. Students pick their best 3 skills for their assessment from the 5 different areas they will learn across Year 10 and Year 11;

- Bricklaying
- Plastering
- Joinery
- Tiling
- Painting and decorating

All units are graded Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction and Level 2 Distinction Star

Learners are allowed one re-sit opportunity in each unit and the highest grade will contribute towards the overall grade for the qualification.

What do our students think?

"I chose this subject because I want to go into trade when I am older, I also chose it because I like getting hands on with things. I like this subject because you can make things and you can improve your mistakes. I think it is important because if you ever need to do jobs when you are older you can do or it will help you get a different job."

"I chose Construction because I thought it was an interesting option and something new that I wanted to try. I like it because it is interesting learning about different roles in construction and there is a lot of practical work. This subject can help you further in life with practical skills and helps keep you safe on construction sites."

For further information, please contact Mr D. Barton

ICT

1 Vocational Option Choice, Equivalent to 1 GCSE Qualification

ICT

Technology is constantly evolving. This qualification will help you to develop knowledge, and understanding relating to different sectors, products and job roles that are from the ICT sector. You will explore the wide range of uses of hardware, application and specialist software, and in ICT context be introduced to a broad working knowledge of databases, spreadsheets, automated documents and images.

You will develop skills that are attractive to employers, colleges and universities including communication, coping with rapid changes in technology, critical thinking, designing, numeracy and data handling, problem solving, research, taking on responsibility and time management.

You will :-

- ☐ Explore the wide range of uses of hardware, application and specialist software in society
- ☐ Investigate how information technology is used in a range of contexts, including business and organisations, education and homes

What is the Course Content?

The qualification is made up of 2 units. Unit 1 will look at ICT in society and unit 2 is ICT in context. Unit 2 is assessed with project work, which is worth 60% of the qualification.

How is the Course Assessed?

You will be assessed through a mixture of exams and controlled assessments. Unit 1 is assessed through an exam which is worth 40% of your qualification. The exam will last 1 hour and 20 minutes. It is made up of short and extended response questions. Unit 2 is assessed with project work (no exam) which is worth 60% of the qualification. As part of this assessment, you will be given a scenario and will need to undertake a number of tasks.

This course is an equivalent GCSE and is assessed using grades Level 1 Pass to Level 2 Distinction * (9-1 equivalency)

Careers with ICT

The ICT industry offers a wide range of exciting opportunities which include data analyst, digital content producer, systems engineer and web marketing manager.

For further information, please contact Mrs M. Anderson

Options Form

Options Form

Name_____ Form_____

- **This form must be completed and returned to school no later than Tuesday 5th March**
- **You have a total of 3 choices to make; two must be from box A and one from box B**
- **We try our best to get as many people their first choices as possible, where we can't we speak to you again**
- **It may not be possible to give you your vocational choice(s).**
- **You should identify preferences as shown in the boxes – if we cannot get you your first preferences we will use the choices in preference 2**

Box A - Choose any 2		Box B - Choose 1	
GCSE Choices ¹ :		Vocational Choices ² :	GCSE Choices ¹ :
Art: Art & Design	Geography ³	Vocational ICT	Computer Science
Art: Photography	GCSE PE (Boys)	Level 2 Award in Construction	Geography ³
Art: Textiles	GCSE PE (Girls)	Child Development and Care	History ³
Business Studies	History ³	Sport Studies (Boys) ⁵	Spanish ⁴
Computer Science	Music	Sport Studies (Girls) ⁵	
Design Technology	Religious Education		
Drama	Spanish ⁴		
Food and Nutrition ⁵			

¹ = These are all GCSE qualifications graded 9-1

² = These are equivalent GCSE qualifications approved by the government. The number of groups available is limited. If you select a vocational option, please also indicate a backup GCSE

³ = Counts as Humanity for the English Baccalaureate

⁴ = Counts as Language for the English Baccalaureate

⁵ = Gender specific classes are dependent on numbers opting

First Preferences

Box A Choice 1
Box A Choice 2

Box B Choice

Second Preferences

Box A Choice 1
Box A Choice 2

Box B Choice

Parent Signature_____

Date_____