



THE DEANERY
Church of England High School and Sixth Form College



Options booklet 2024

NAME:

FORM:

Introduction

Welcome to the Key Stage 4 Options booklet. This booklet is designed to help pupils and parents make important choices regarding the GCSE examinations that pupils will sit. It will also provide useful information about Key Stage 4 and the examinations system.

In Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9), pupils follow the National Curriculum and have little choice regarding the subjects they study. Year 9 pupils have now reached an important milestone as they will be given the opportunity to make choices regarding their programme of study during Key Stage 4.

Many 14-year old pupils will not know where life is going to lead; therefore, they will choose a **balance of subjects** that will keep opportunities open for them. This is perfectly sensible.

Other students, however, may know the broad area of work they are interested in. We have therefore tried to create courses in both pre and post 16 phases which allow students to progress through a range of qualifications in a given broad career area.

If it is proving difficult to make a choice between subjects please bear in mind that it is often possible to study a subject at A-Level, even if it has not been chosen as a GCSE option (this is dependent on entry requirements at the time.)

Please read the information in this booklet carefully. Make sure you visit the Year 9 Options page on the school website. We will also be hosting an Options Event on **Thursday 11th January** for parents that wish to come into school and speak to subject leads.

We will do our best to ensure that all pupils can study their chosen subjects but we cannot guarantee that this will always be possible. A subject area which does not reach sufficient numbers will not run. Oversubscribed classes will mean some pupils not getting their preferred choice and being allocated a reserve choice. In this situation, pupils will be chosen for their reserve by random selection to ensure a fair system is observed.

The Grading System

The Government have introduced new, tougher GCSEs. The reformed GCSEs are graded 9 to 1 instead of A*-G. Currently a Grade 4 is considered a 'Standard Pass' and a Grade 5 is considered a 'Strong Pass'. Most post-16 qualifications currently ask for a Grade 4 or 5, as a minimum, in Maths and English.

Pupils are assessed in a variety of ways depending on the subject. In some subjects credit is given for work done throughout the two years which is assessed through Controlled Assessment. This is either a long project in school time or shorter pieces of work completed under exam conditions. Controlled Assessment is an essential element of some GCSEs and a GCSE grade cannot be awarded without it being completed. Many subjects are now 100% examination.

English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The English Baccalaureate is not an essential criteria and is not a course in its own right. The EBacc simply means that the pupil has completed a set of GCSEs that match the criteria. It is not compulsory; however, it should be noted that the subjects are of high value when selecting career paths and courses later in a person's education or career. The subjects needed to fulfil the EBacc are:

1. Maths
2. English Language and English Literature
3. Two Sciences
4. A Modern Foreign Language
5. History and/or Geography

This broad range of subjects provides an excellent platform for further and higher qualification routes.

At The Deanery Church of England High School, all pupils will study:

English Language, English Literature, Maths, Religious Studies, Combined/ Separate Sciences. Pupils are encouraged to consider fulfilling all or part of the EBacc by opting for either History and/or Geography **and** Spanish or French. This will be discussed at the Guidance Interviews.

Whilst pupils passing the combination of subjects will be deemed to have gained the EBacc, they will not receive an additional certificate on results day to signify this.

BTEC

BTECs are alternative qualifications with a high proportion of coursework. These are not GCSE courses but are equivalent to GCSE. Grading is Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*. Please see the subject pages for more details on these courses. Selection of these courses will be discussed at the Guidance Interviews.

Future Education- The Deanery Sixth Form

Your son/daughter is in the unique and privileged position of having a clear progression route into the Deanery Sixth Form.

The Sixth Form curriculum is designed to offer continuity for pupils. We aim to provide a range of choices and opportunities to prepare pupils for higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

Our Sixth Form is highly successful with exceptional examination results across all types of courses. Details of the courses on offer and entry requirements can be found on the website. These may assist in guiding GCSE choices, although only a small number of Sixth Form courses require the subject to have been studied at GCSE.

Your son/daughter will receive support and guidance relating to the transition into post-16 study whilst studying for their GCSEs in Y10 and Y11.



Key Stage 4: Subjects to be studied

Pupils are expected to study the following subjects to GCSE level:

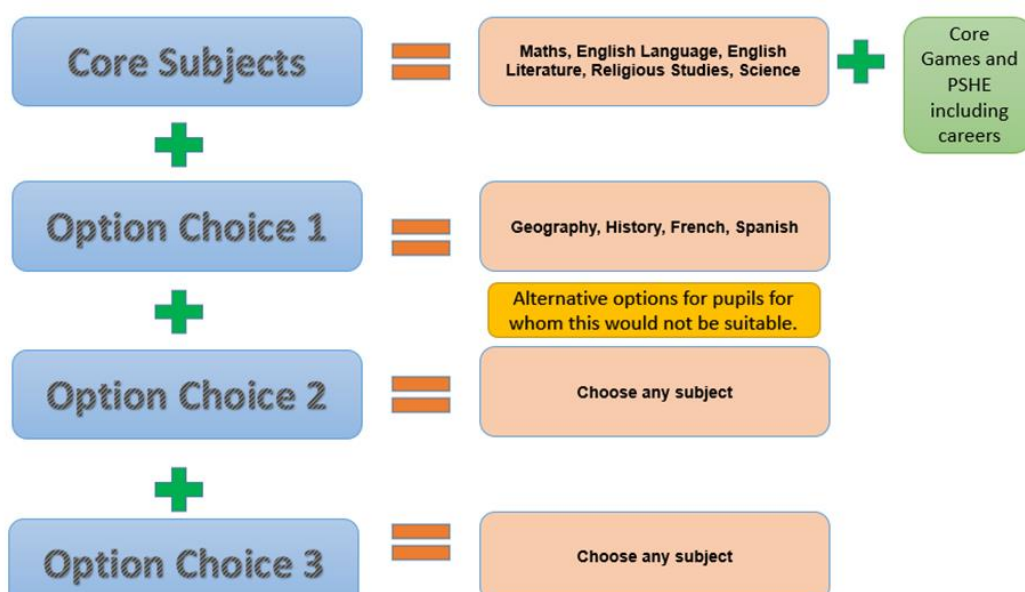
- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Religious Studies
- Science (Combined / Single)

All students must study Combined Science, which is the equivalent of two GCSEs. Combined Science comprises of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. A small cohort of students will be encouraged to study the Separate Science pathway; this would be an option choice and would result in three GCSEs. This would result in the pupil having two other option choices. The following are compulsory non-GCSE subjects:

- Physical Education (Games)
- PSHE
- Careers Education

All pupils follow courses in Physical Education (Games) throughout Key Stage 4. **It is essential that pupils are correctly attired for PE and the necessary PE kit, as set out in the uniform policy, is a requirement of all pupils until the end of Year 11.**

We encourage pupils to consider choosing subjects that fulfil the Ebacc suite as this offers them a broad and balanced curriculum. Most pupils will select an EBacc subject from 'Choice 1' and for those pupils where it is appropriate, that they are encouraged to select an additional Ebacc subject.



Free choice may be made from any of the subjects, although you will be guided carefully to make sure you have a broad balance. You cannot choose a subject twice. You cannot choose Art and Art Textiles. You can only select one Technology subject.

GCSE Computer Science will only be available for those pupils demonstrating the required ability in Maths. The most recent assessment score and Attitude to Learning will be used to assess this. Pupils not meeting the criteria may only take the course at the discretion of the Subject Leader, in consultation with the Senior Progress Leader. Pupils can select a subject in option 1 and one of the other subjects also listed in option 2 and/or 3. It is possible for a pupil to study any combination of History, Geography and a Language if they wish to; **they are not limited to selecting one of these subjects.**

Monitoring Pupils' Progress

Tutors and subject teachers will be keeping a careful track of pupils' progress throughout Key Stage 4. However, it is essential that pupils monitor their own progress and have their own goals.

You will receive regular information regarding progress and Attitude to Learning throughout the course.

Parental attendance at parents evening is vital in all years but this is especially so in Key Stage 4.

What can parents do to help?

The support of parents is a **crucial** aspect to the success of their child at school.

Parents can help by:

1. Providing a quiet place in the home where their child can do homework. Technology is a distraction.
2. Checking that sufficient time is allowed for homework. This may mean checking that homework is completed before your child goes out or has social time.
3. Talking to their child about the progress of work; encouraging them when it is difficult and helping if there are problems.
4. Ensuring their child is aware of deadlines and supporting them to meet them.
5. Encouraging their child to produce the best possible work in terms of presentation.
6. Ensuring that their child goes to bed at a reasonable time so that he/she is neither tired nor late for school.
7. Providing basic equipment which can be used at home. This should include a calculator, and English dictionary and, for students taking a modern language, the appropriate French or Spanish dictionary.
8. Ensuring their child has a **black pen**, pencil, ruler, eraser, compass, protractor etc.

Remember, if you have any concerns we are here to help. Do contact us sooner rather than later if you are anxious about your child's work.

Making Decisions

Making decisions is never easy! It is essential that you think very carefully regarding which subjects to study.

Remember:

- **do** choose subjects you enjoy,
- **do** choose any subjects which are essential for your career choice,
- **do** look at the information in the library and ask Mrs Mahon and Mrs Martin for advice,
- **do** discuss your ideas with your parents and teachers.

But:

- **do not** choose a subject because you like or dislike a particular teacher. You may never have that teacher again,
- **do not** choose a subject because a friend has chosen it.

Other great sources of information and help:

National
Careers
Service

<https://www.unifrog.org>

Use your personal login to search for subject links to career pathways, further and higher education options



<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

The official government careers service, they provide information, advice and guidance to help you make decisions on learning, training and work. You can also arrange to speak to careers advisers.

<https://icould.com>

Search by school subject or job type and get career ideas, job profiles and watch video stories from real people doing real jobs.



<https://www.plotr.co.uk>

A great website where you can explore career ideas, learn more about different job roles within different areas and take a quiz to find out what career might suit you.



Will I get what I choose?

Although it is hoped the majority of pupils will be allocated to the subjects they have opted for, the school can only accommodate a certain number in each area. Pupils **will not** be allocated on a 'first come first served basis'.

If too few pupils choose a particular subject, it may not be a 'viable' group, in which case pupils will be allocated to their reserve choices.

If too many pupils apply for a particular course, then some pupils will be allocated their reserve choice. Pupils will be chosen by random selection unless the subject has selection criteria; please check subject pages for this information.

It is essential that reserve choices are filled in; option forms that are incomplete will be returned to pupils.

A very small number of pupils might be approved for two options and additional support. This must be agreed by school in guidance discussions.

The procedure

Options assembly and booklet distribution

Options page on the website: <https://www.deanery.wigan.sch.uk/options/>

Guidance interviews: At the Options event

Options event: Thursday 11th January 2024

Option form return deadline: 22nd January 2024

Option forms are returned to: options@deanery.wigan.sch.uk or handed in at the options event or handed to Mrs Watts or Mrs Mahon in the office opposite 222.

PLEASE NOTE: If a pupil fails to return the properly completed Options Form by the date set, they may be allocated to whatever subjects have capacity.

Section A

Core Subjects

These are all compulsory

English Language

Core Subject

Subject Leader: Mrs Allan

Specification: AQA GCSE English Language

Why is this a core subject?

English Language is the study of effective and purposeful communication – be it speaking, reading or writing. The study of English Language aims to improve confidence and ability in reading skills and to deepen understanding of writing for different purposes, and technical accuracy.

What will I study?

You will study a variety of fiction and non-fiction sources from the 19th, 20th and 21st Centuries. You will also study the necessary skills to write both creatively and discursively.

How will I be assessed?

One Non-Exam Assessment: Spoken Language Endorsement

100% exam

Two examinations.

Links to other subjects

GCSE English Language develops key literacy skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) which are relevant to all other subjects. English Language supports the skills you are required to develop in other subjects, such as evaluative skills in Religious Studies or reading for meaning in History.

Possible Career Paths

Studying English can make a significant contribution to any profession, as all jobs require key communication skills such as the ability to speak well, listen to others, read varied texts and write accurately. Possible career paths that link directly to English Language are teaching, law, journalism and the media.

English Literature

Core Subject

Subject Leader: Mrs Allan

Specification: AQA GCSE English Literature

Why is this a core subject?

English Literature helps you to develop reading skills such as inference and deduction whilst broadening your understanding of different forms of literature and of different times and places. English Literature aims to deepen literary understanding and knowledge of influential writers both currently and historically.

What will I study?

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

An Inspector Calls by J. B. Priestley

Power and Conflict AQA Poetry anthology

Unseen Poetry

How will I be assessed?

100% exam

Two examinations.

Links to other subjects

GCSE English Literature develops an understanding of the wider world, including social and historical issues. There are numerous links to other subjects - you will discover links with History, Geography, and Religious Studies to name a few. English Literature supports the skills you are required to develop in English Language (and covers many of the same assessment objectives).

Possible Career Paths

Studying English Literature can make a significant contribution to any job that requires you to think analytically. English Literature is a useful subject in many careers including politics, civil service, teaching, law, journalism and social work.

Mathematics

Core Subject

Subject Leader: Mr Hesketh

Specification: Edexcel GCSE Mathematics

Why is this a core subject?

Mathematics is a fundamental part of human thought and logic, and helps us in understanding the world and ourselves. It forms a crucial part of day-to-day life as adults, enabling us to manage our finances and provide for our future. Mathematics provides an effective way of building mental discipline and encourages logical reasoning and mental rigor. In addition, mathematical knowledge plays a crucial role in understanding the contents of other school subjects such as science, social studies, and even music and art.

What will I study?

1 Number

2 Algebra

3 Ratio, proportion and rates of change

4 Geometry and measures

5 Probability

6 Statistics

How will I be assessed?

100% exam

Three examinations – Paper 1 Non-Calculator, Papers 2 and 3 Calculator.

Links to other subjects

Mathematics underpins the teaching of other subjects. In particular, there are many links with Science, Technology and Engineering as a core STEM subject. Skills learned in Mathematics are also used in Food Technology (Ratio, proportion and rates of change) and Geography (Statistics).

Possible Career Paths

Studying Mathematics can make a significant contribution to any job that requires you to use calculations, from office work to careers in retail. It develops the skill of being able to reason and decide which skill is needed to solve problems. Mathematics is a useful subject in many careers including sales, marketing, business and construction. If you are interested in a career in accountancy, medicine, engineering, architecture, teaching, IT, law enforcement and many other areas, a good grade in GCSE Mathematics is essential, and you may need to study it at A level.

Religious Studies

Core Subject

Subject Leader: Mr Martin

Specification: AQA GCSE Religious Studies A

Why is this a core subject?

Religious Studies is a highly valued subject which gives you the opportunity to reflect upon the beliefs and values of two major world religions and a range of moral and ethical issues. You will consider your own thoughts and approaches and those of others, who may disagree with you, in order to consider new ways of thinking and to respectfully reflect upon the reasons for differences in key beliefs. Religious Studies aims to deepen religious and theological understanding. The subject makes a significant contribution to pupils' communication and thinking skills and you will develop the ability to analyse and evaluate differing arguments. Religious Studies supports you in developing a better understanding of the world.

What will I study?

Exam 1: The Study of Religion

Unit 1: Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings

Unit 2: Christianity – Practices

Unit 3: Islam – Beliefs and Teachings

Unit 4: Islam - Practices

Exam 2: Thematic Studies

Theme A: Relationships and Families

Theme B: Religion and Life

Theme D: Religion, Peace and Conflict

Theme E: Religion, Crime and Punishment

How will I be assessed?

100% exam

Throughout the course, we will regularly discuss exam technique and give you the strategies to effectively prepare for the exam. Past-paper questions will be used in lessons in a variety of ways to help support you and allow you to become familiar the style of questions. You will complete regular knowledge checks, retrieval quizzes and keyword tests to recall key knowledge. Exam papers and revision resources will be used in each topic to support you in your preparation for the final exams.

Links to other subjects

Religious Studies is an academic subject which develops a range of skills necessary for the wider world. Alongside complimenting English and the Humanities subjects, links can be made to many other subjects.

Possible Career Paths

As a subject based around understanding the beliefs and values of others, studying Religious Studies can make a significant contribution to any job that requires you to work with other people. It develops the skill of being able to think clearly and coherently. Religious Studies is a useful subject in many careers including teaching, social work, customer service, law, journalism, civil service, politics and many more!

Science

Core Subject

Subject Leader: Miss Ruddick

Specification: AQA Trilogy Combined Science

Why is this a core subject?

Science is a set of ideas about the material world, whether it be investigating, observing, experimenting or testing out ideas and thinking about them. Learning about the scientific method teaches you how to think, learn, solve problems and make informed decisions. Science education gives you the skills and knowledge you need to succeed in school and beyond.

What will I study?

Biology

Cell biology
Organisation
Infection and Response
Bioenergetics
Homeostasis and Response
Inheritance, Variation and Evolution
Ecology

Chemistry

Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
Bonding
Quantitative Chemistry
Chemical Changes
Energy Changes
The Rate of Chemical Change
Organic Chemistry
Chemical Analysis
The Atmosphere
Using Resources

Physics

Energy
Electricity
Particle Model of Matter
Atomic Structure
Forces
Waves
Magnetism and Electromagnetism

How will I be assessed?

100% Exam.

There are six papers; two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics.

Links to other subjects

Mathematics, ICT and literacy are all needed to communicate about Science investigations. Many scenarios in Geography, History and Physical Education also raise questions that can be investigated scientifically.

Possible Career Paths

There's more to Science careers than stereotypes suggest; you can work in laboratories, offices, hospitals, factories or crime scenes. Science opens pathways for limitless career choices – from an astronaut to a zoologist!

It is possible to select Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) as one of your options. Please speak to Miss Ruddick for further details.

Section B

Optional Subject Details

History

Option subject

Subject Leader: Mrs Lindley

Specification: Edexcel GCSE History

What will I be studying?

Paper 1: Crime and Punishment in Britain c1000- present day. Whitechapel c1870-1900. Victorian Crime. Policing the Inner City.

Paper 2: British Depth Study of Elizabeth I and a Period Study of Superpower Relations during the Cold War 1941-91.

Paper 3: Modern Depth Study of Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939

How will I be assessed?

100% examination. You will sit three examinations outlined above.

Throughout each scheme of work, you will complete exam questions in class to help you prepare. You will also be expected to complete exam questions at home. You will complete regular knowledge tests and key terminology definition tests. There will be regular mock papers for each of the modules to prepare you for your final GCSE exams.

Anything else I need to know?

Whether pursuing History because it fits with a possible career path, because you have a passion for it, or even if you choose to take very different options alongside History; History is relevant to YOU. Colleges, Universities and employers value History GCSE as they recognise students of History can analyse, research, handle facts, understand differing points of view and have a strong understanding of the wider world.

Complementary Courses

History is of value to everyone and whilst it mainly complements other Humanities subjects, there is a value in History beyond this. History is an academic subject that will develop the skills required in many other subjects.

Beyond GCSE, The Deanery Church of England 6th Form College offers an A Level Course that explores Anglo-Saxons and the Norman Conquest, Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992 and Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany in the 20th Century. Recently, History students have gone on to study History, Film, STEM subjects, English and Law at University.

Possible Career Paths

Lawyer, Barrister, Journalist, Media, Researcher, Archaeologist, Teacher, Lecturer, Policing, Politics, Armed Forces, Archaeologist, Government jobs including MI5/6, Civil Service jobs and the financial sector.

You can study History AND Geography you are not limited to one subject.



Geography

Option subject



Subject Leader: Mr Jones

Specification: AQA GCSE Geography

What will I be studying?

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment: The Challenge of Natural Hazards, The Living World, Physical Landscapes in the UK

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment: Urban Issues and Challenges, The Changing Economic World, The Challenge of Resource Management

Paper 3: Geographical Applications: Issue Evaluation, Fieldwork

How will I be assessed?

100% examination.

A section of each lesson will be dedicated to helping you practise the perfect exam technique. You will be given regular exam questions as homework on past topics to ensure your knowledge of the subject stays fresh in your mind. You will complete regular knowledge tests and key terminology definition tests. We will utilise past exam papers at various points in the year as mock examinations to get you prepared for the real thing.

Anything else I need to know?

Colleges, Universities, and employers value Geography students above most. A Geography student will leave the classroom with a passion for the world around them and be well prepared for further education and the world of work. A Geography student will be critical and well informed about issues surrounding topics such as current events, climate change, the UK and global economies to name just a few. Geography students will not be out of place in any given career as their skill set will be broad, from researching and analysing data to writing reports, understanding perspective, communication, and teamwork.

Complementary Courses

Geography is an academic subject that will develop the skills required in many other subjects.

Beyond GCSE, The Deanery Church of England 6th Form College offers an A Level Course that explores Hazards, Changing Places, Coastal Environments, Global Cities, and Ecosystems. Recently, Geography students have gone on to study Geography, Marine Environments, STEM subjects, Business and Accounting, and Events Marketing at University.

Possible Career Paths

Conservationist, Town Planner, Transport Planner, Accountant, Police, Teacher, Lawyer, Surveyor, Architect, Travel Agent, Journalist, Estate Agent, Armed Forces, Market Research. The list is endless!

You can study History AND Geography you are not limited to one subject.

Languages:

Option subject

French or Spanish

Subject Leader: Miss Deegan

Specification: : Pearson Edexcel **GCSE French** or **Spanish**

What will I be studying?

This new course promotes culture, communication, and connection. Six new thematic contexts will be the focus for the teaching and learning of the vocabulary and grammar. They are: My personal world, Lifestyle and wellbeing, My neighbourhood, Media and technology, Studying and my future, and Travel and tourism.

How will I be assessed?

100% examination – 25% per skill: Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing.

To prepare, you will complete regular practice of exam skills and questions in class and at home.

The speaking exam will take place with your class teacher and be marked by the exam board. You will complete regular mock papers for each skill including mock speaking exams.

Anything else I need to know?

Knowledge and understanding of a second language will enhance your life and career and open up a whole other culture. Learning a language boosts your literacy which will assist other subjects.

Colleges, universities and employers strongly value Languages as they show that you have a good memory, an appetite for lifelong learning and can communicate clearly.

There is an increasing shortage of speakers of European languages in business in the UK and globally, so your skills will be highly desired.

Complementary Courses

Languages is an academic subject which complements many other subjects. It is often studied alongside business, humanities, STEM and law.

Possible Career Paths

Languages complements any careers path. A Languages qualification could lead you into STEM, tourism, journalism, sport, law, the digital/tech/media sector, the police and border force, The Armed Forces. Languages graduates often begin on a higher salary than other graduates.

A side pupils can select SPANISH only

B side pupils can select FRENCH only

**If you speak a different language at home to a good standard, you may be able to take an extra GCSE in it when you are in Year 11 - see Miss Deegan for further information.*

Computer Science

Option subject

Subject Leader: Miss Kelsall

Specification: AQA GCSE Computer Science

What will I be studying?

Paper 1: Computational thinking and programming skills. This paper assesses algorithm design, coding, problem solving and computational thinking.

Paper 2: Computing concepts. This paper assesses data representation, computer systems, networking, cyber security, databases and the ethical and legal aspects of computer science.

How will I be assessed?

100% exam / Python Programming experience throughout (assessed in Paper 1).

Throughout the course you will complete exam questions in class to help you prepare for your final exam. You will complete regular knowledge tests and homework activities to develop your knowledge of each topic. You will also complete mock exams for both papers.

Anything else I need to know?

It is hard to imagine a world without computer systems – mobile phones, tablets, PCs, laptops and many more examples are all around us every day. Computer Science gives you the opportunity to investigate how these technologies are created and the inner workings of their hardware, such as the CPU and RAM. You will learn how binary is at the core of data representation in Computer Science and you will also have the opportunity to write algorithms using pseudocode. The algorithms that you write can then be implemented using Python to solve real-world problems. Be ready to be resilient as you develop your computational thinking skills to tackle some complex problems!

You will need to have very good mathematical skills to choose this option as we have some entry requirements based on your Maths grade. This is due to lots of logical thinking that is involved in the subject and the importance of mathematical concepts throughout the course.

Complementary Courses

Computer Science compliments subjects that use problem-solving, data analysis and understanding how to interpret results to provide a clear working path, along with more creative subjects. Some of the most popular subject choices for students alongside Computer Science include: Music, Business, Maths, Textiles, Physics, Art/Design, and Engineering.

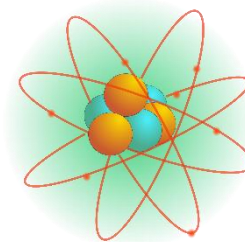
Possible Career Paths

Computer Science is an exciting subject and can provide you with huge opportunities across lots of different industries. Some of the jobs that you could do in the future include Computer Programmer, CAD Designer, Machine Learning Engineer, Games Developer, Clothes Designer, Software Architect, Music Data Analyst or even a job at MI5!



Single Sciences

Option subject



Subject Leader: Miss Ruddick

Specification: AQA Biology, Chemistry, Physics

What will I be studying?

Single science students will still cover the core science material, with the addition of extra depth within each unit:

Biology

Cell biology
Organisation
Infection and Response
Bioenergetics
Homeostasis and Response
Inheritance, Variation and Evolution
Ecology

Chemistry

Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
Bonding
Quantitative Chemistry
Chemical Changes
Energy Changes
The Rate of Chemical Change
Organic Chemistry
Chemical Analysis
The Atmosphere
Using Resources

Physics

Energy
Electricity
Particle Model of Matter
Atomic Structure
Forces
Waves
Magnetism and Electromagnetism
Space Physics

How will I be assessed?

100% Exam.

There are six papers; two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics.

Anything else I need to know?

Whilst the study of Single Science is not compulsory for post-16 study, this option is advantageous to those who wish to pursue science-related pathways in the future.

Complementary Courses

Scientific thinking links to all subjects and would therefore compliment any other object subject. It is particularly synonymous with Geography, P.E and Music.

Possible Career Paths

There's more to Science careers than stereotypes suggest; you can work in laboratories, offices, hospitals, factories or crime scenes. Science opens pathways for limitless career choices – from an astronaut to a zoologist!

Business

Option subject



Subject Leader: Mrs Birchall

Specification: Edexcel GCSE Business (9-1)

What will I be studying?

Theme 1: Investigating small business

You will learn about enterprise & entrepreneurship, spotting a business opportunity, putting a business idea into practice, making the business effective and understanding external influence on business.

Theme 2: Building a business

You will learn about growing the business, making marketing decisions, making operational decisions, making financial decisions and making human resources decisions.

How will I be assessed?

100% Exam - two examinations of 1 hour 45 minutes each in the summer of Year 11.

Throughout each scheme of work, you will complete exam questions in class to help you prepare. You will also be expected to complete exam questions at home. You will complete regular progress tests and key terminology checks. There will also be mock papers for each of the modules.

Anything else I need to know?

GCSE Business provides a skill in understanding the wider world of economics, politics, legislation, technology and social issues. Business is beneficial to everyone as you are going to be a part of the workplace.

Complementary Courses

Business mainly complements other humanities subjects, in particular Geography.

Beyond GCSE, The Deanery Church of England 6th Form College offers a Level 3 Cambridge Technical in Business that is the equivalent to an A Level. This can then lead you to business related degree subjects at University such as Business, Marketing and Accountancy. Recently, some of our Business students have gone on to study Business Management, Football Business & Marketing, Medicine and Primary School Education at University.

Possible Career Paths

Human Resource Managers, Public Relations, Project Management, Communications Officer, Marketing, Retail Management, Advertising, Finance and Accounting, Production and Operations, Office Manager and Purchasing/Buyer.

It could also give you the skills and confidence to perhaps one day run a business of your own.

Art, Craft and Design

Option subject

Subject Leader: Mr D Brown

Specification: AQA Art, Craft and Design



Romans 12:6: *Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.*

What will I be studying?

This is an enjoyable and broad course exploring practical and contextual work through a wide range of 2D and 3D media, processes and techniques with the opportunity to explore drawing, ceramics, digital, graphics, painting, printing, textiles and sculpture. The Art, Craft and Design specification allows you to keep your creative options open rather than committing to a specific area of Art and Design.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Portfolio

You will develop a portfolio of artwork that clearly provides evidence covering the four assessment objectives. It must include a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial ideas to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work that is undertaken during the course of study.

Component 2: Externally set assignment

You will respond to your chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper and must provide evidence covering all four assessment objectives.

Anything else I need to know?

All candidates will be expected to be equipped with a set of art materials that will support learning throughout the course. The art department offers high quality, tried and tested materials at a discounted price.

Complementary Courses

Other courses of interest for those wanting to express their creativity include: Creative I-Media, DT Graphics, Media studies and subjects of the Arts (Drama and Music).

The art qualification portfolios can be time consuming and this needs to be taken into consideration when opting for multiple creative options.

Possible Career Paths

Architecture, Animation, Art Curator, Artist, Communication Design, Fine Art, Fashion Design, Filmmaking, Gallery Education, Game Design, Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography, Publishing, Set Design, Teaching, Textile Design, Vehicle Design and Website Design.

Art, Craft and Design cannot be taken alongside Textiles.

Engineering – Programmable Systems

Option subject

Subject Leader: Mrs MacGillivray

Specification: Cambridge National in Engineering Programmable Systems Level 2

What will I be studying?

Throughout the course you will learn about the principles of electronic circuits, the components and devices used in electronic and programmable systems, and how to construct and test them, you will develop practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations.

You will use computer aided design (CAD) software to produce diagrams and simulate circuits and then construct and test electronic circuits for a specific purpose, using tools and equipment to assemble printed circuit boards.

Finally, you will solve problems using microcontroller programs to develop programmable systems and test that they solve such problems.

How will I be assessed?

Students must complete three units:

- one externally assessed unit (exam)
- two centre-assessed units (NEA).

Anything else I need to know?

This is a very modern course and has been developed to address the enormous shortage of engineers we have in this country. It centres on the underpinning knowledge engineers need which is a good grounding in electronics and programmable chips. The course therefore requires a modern independent learner as most of the work is done individually on the computer and recorded on Microsoft Power Point. There are also a lot of practical elements to the course requiring our students to be able to solder and manufacture efficiently. Please note - You will **NOT** be taking engines apart, but you will be learning about engineering and familiarising yourself with what engineering is all about.

Complementary Courses

GCSE Design & Technology Electronics, GCSE Design & Technology Graphics, Maths, Physics

Possible Career Paths

The UK is regarded as a world leader in engineering, which covers a wide range of exciting and rapidly developing areas such as renewable energy, space, low carbon, aerospace, automotive, agri-food and bioscience. People with engineering skills are always in demand. Between 2012 and 2024, engineering companies are projected to have over 3 million job openings.

Art Textiles

Option subject



Subject Teacher: Mrs Dixon and Mrs McCormick

Specification: GCSE Art Textiles

What will I be studying?

In Component 1 and Component 2 students are required to work in one or more area(s) of textile design, such as those listed below:

Art textiles, fashion design and illustration, costume design constructed textiles, printed and dyed textiles, surface pattern, stitched and/or embellished textiles, soft furnishings and/or textiles for interiors digital textiles installed textiles.

How will I be assessed?

The GCSE Art Textiles will be assessed in two parts:

In Component 1 which is a portfolio of work, students develop a textile product from their own brief or given tasks. They then realise this design by research and development of a range of ideas into a final manufactured product.

Component 2 is an externally set assignment where students respond to a starting point provided by AQA. This response provides evidence of the student's ability to work independently within specified time constraints.

Anything else I need to know?

You will be guided through the creative process and will be taught how to develop a range of design ideas for textiles. You will be taught how to use a sewing machine and will be able to create different surface patterns. You will spend time designing clothing, accessories and household items.

Inside your portfolio will include evidence of drawing as well as written annotation.

Complementary Courses

Creative I- Media, Media Studies, Drama, Maths, Science and Graphics.

Possible Career Paths

Fashion Designer, Interior Designer, Textile Designer, Illustrator or a Buyer for high street stores.

Please note that GCSE Art cannot be taken alongside this course.

DT Electronics

Option subject

Subject Leader: Mrs MacGillivray

Specification: GCSE Design and Technology Electronics

What will I be studying?

This is a new, modern qualification. You will be learning about new technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices. You will be prepared to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world.

You will be required to be creative and use your imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems: considering your own and others' needs, wants and values.

On this course, your practical work will be based around electronics and systems. You will model and build circuits as well as solder them and fault find if they do not work.

How will I be assessed?

In the second year of the course you will start your controlled assessment which is a project based around electronics and systems. This is 50% of the marks. At the end of Year 11, you will sit a two hour exam which is also 50% of the marks.

Anything else I need to know?

This course is a very modern course and requires a modern independent learner, as most of the work is done on the computer recorded in a power point. You must be organised and able to solve problems, you will also need to be creative and able to design.

Complementary Courses

Engineering Programmable Systems, Maths and Physics

Possible Career Paths

The possibilities are endless and a lucrative, exciting career opportunity could be waiting for you in any of the engineering disciplines, such as an Aerospace Engineer, Design Engineer, Nuclear Engineer, Communication Engineer etc. as well as working as an Architect or Civil Engineer or in the building trade.

Please note you can only select ONE DT subject. You can take Engineering alongside this course BUT not Graphics.

DT Graphics

Option subject

Subject Teacher: Mrs Hagan

Specification: GCSE Design and Technology Graphics

What will I be studying?

This is a new, modern qualification. You will be learning about new technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices. You will be prepared to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world.

You will be required to be creative and use your imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems: considering your own and others' needs, wants and values.

On this course, your practical work will be based around graphic design and graphic products. You will use CAD/CAM to design fonts and packaging along with 3D drawing. You will also need good practical skills as you will be making the products you design.

How will I be assessed?

In the second year of the course you will start your controlled assessment which is a project based around designing and making a range of graphic products and producing an A3 portfolio of design work. This is 50 % of the marks. At the end of Year 11, you will sit a two-hour exam which is also 50% of the marks.

Anything else I need to know?

This course is a very modern course and requires a modern independent learner, as the some of the work is done by hand and then the majority is completed on the computer and then recorded in your portfolio. You must be organised and able to solve problems, you will also need to be creative and able to design.

Complementary Courses

Art, Engineering Programmable Systems, Maths and Physics.

Possible Career Paths

The possibilities are endless and a lucrative, exciting career opportunity could be waiting for you in any of the design and engineering disciplines, such as Graphic Designer, Architect, Illustrator, Web Designer, Interior and Product Design, Game Developer and Brand Designer amongst others.

Please note you can only select ONE DT subject. You can take Engineering alongside this course BUT not Electronics.

Music

Option subject

Subject Leader: Mrs Johnson
Specification: Eduqas GCSE Music



What will I be studying?

Component 1 Performing: Perform two pieces, one solo and one ensemble, total performance must be four minutes long. This could be two pieces each lasting two minutes or a collection of shorter pieces.

Component 2 Composing: Write two compositions, one of which must be in response to a brief set by the exam board. Learners will choose one brief from a choice of four, each one linked to a different area of study. The second composition is a free composition for which learners set their own brief.

Component 3 Appraising: You will study four topics. Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices, Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble, Area of study 3: Film Music, Area of study 4: Popular Music, and two set works.

How will I be assessed?

60% Coursework: Performing and Composition. You must produce musical scores and recordings of the pieces you compose alongside a written log.

40% Listening Exam based on the four Areas of Study, this includes two set works.

Anything else I need to know?

It is essential that you have lessons on the instrument you wish to perform on, or your voice, during the course. The minimum performance standard is Grade 3 by the end of Y11.

Complementary Courses

Music encourages creativity and a variety of other skills which are vital to student development. Therefore, it is recognised as both an academic and practical subject. It works successfully alongside subjects such as Drama and Art but also Computing, Maths, History, Geography, Media and Dance. In the 6th form, students go on to study Performing Arts at Level 3, Music Technology or Music.

Possible Career Paths

Music encourages skills which are transferable in many jobs such as team work, confidence building, problem solving, creativity, technology, discipline, memory, co-ordination and more. This can lead to a variety of careers, such as: Musician, Teaching (primary/secondary), Studio Engineer, Web Design, Media, Business, Events, Arts Admin, Community Arts, Marketing, Radio, Music Therapy, Private Tutor, Sound Design, Theatre, Teaching Assistant, Bar work, Music Management and Sales.

*PLEASE NOTE: In order to select Music, the pupil must have already reached a level of competence in either a musical instrument or singing. The music department will make a final judgement if the level required is reached by February 2023.

Media Studies

Option subject



Subject Teacher: Mr Nestor and Mrs Lawrence

Specification: Eduqas GCSE Media Studies

What will I be studying?

Component 1: Magazines, Radio, Film, Video Games, Advertising and Marketing, Newspapers.

Component 2: Television Crime Drama, Music Videos, Social and Participatory Media.

Component 3: Your own Media production, in response to a brief set by the examination board.

How will I be assessed?

70% Examination / 30% Controlled Assessment.

Throughout each scheme of work you will complete exam questions in class to help you prepare. You will also be expected to complete exam questions at home. You will complete regular knowledge tests and key terminology definition tests. There will be regular mock papers for each of the components. You will also compile a file of organised resources to support your revision for your final examinations.

In the Summer Term of Year 10, you will undertake a twelve-week Controlled Assessment production piece. This will involve researching, planning and producing a Media piece. Typical examples include magazines, film trailers, music videos, promotional materials for a film.

Anything else I need to know?

It has been reported that adults in Great Britain are consuming media for almost 8 hours a day. Therefore, Media Studies is a vital tool necessary to understanding the media's significance/ power, and the world around you that you encounter on a daily basis.

Complementary Courses

Media Studies is of value to everyone and whilst it mainly complements other Humanities subjects, there is a value in Media Studies beyond this. Media Studies is an academic subject that will develop the skills required in many other subjects, including English.

Beyond GCSE, The Deanery Church of England 6th Form College offers an A Level Course in Media Studies that explores all areas of the Media in depth. Learning beyond the classroom includes visits to the BAFTA accredited York Aesthetica Short Film Festival. Recently, Media Studies students have gone on to study History, Film, English, Psychology and Law at University.

Possible Career Paths

If you are looking for a job in this area, studying Media is a route into careers such as TV and film production, advertising, journalism, interactive media, web design and digital marketing.

Hospitality & Catering

Option subject



Subject Leader: Miss Millar

Specification: WJEC Hospitality & Catering Level 2

What will I be studying?

This qualification offers a unique opportunity for students to develop their knowledge and extend their skills within food preparation. It has been designed to support students to develop their knowledge, understanding and practical food preparation skills. Students will develop an array of culinary techniques, as well as knowledge of food traditions and kitchen safety.

The Hospitality and Catering qualification consists of two components:

UNIT 1: The Hospitality & Catering Industry - based on the structure of the industry, students will develop knowledge and understanding related to the wide range of establishments within this sector, styles of service, job roles, hygiene legislation, how establishments operate and what it takes to be successful.

UNIT 2: The Hospitality & Catering Industry in action - students will develop their practical food preparation skills, time management and learn about nutrition, special diets and menu planning. For the assessment students will be set a task by the exam board which will see them plan, prepare, cook and present a range of suitable dishes.

How will I be assessed?

40% External Examination based on Unit 1

60% Controlled Assessment based on Unit 2 (Internally assessed)

Anything else I need to know?

This qualification will encourage students to cook and enable them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously. This sector is the world's fourth largest industry of employment, with jobs being found in restaurants, hotels, airlines, hospitals and sports venues to name but a few. This course is designed to inspire and motivate, giving them the confidence to cook with ingredients from across the globe. There will be a range of opportunities to visit different catering establishments and work with professional chefs. Students will have to provide materials for practical tasks on a regular basis and come prepared for lessons with additional ingredients as required, along with an apron and suitable container in which to take home food.

Complementary Courses

Hospitality & Catering complements a range of other subjects including Science, Health & Social Care, Physical Education, Business studies and Child Development.

Possible Career Paths

As well as providing students with essential life skills it will prepare them for further education and employment within the Hospitality, Catering and Food Industry and in addition links well with careers in a wide range of sectors such as Environmental Health, Nutrition, Events & Marketing, Journalism, Medicine, Nursing, Teaching, Child Care and Sports Science to name but a few.

P.E.**Option subject****Subject Leader:** Mr Sweeney

Specification: AQA GCSE

**What will I be studying?**

Lessons will be classroom-based theory work and practical activities. During theory lessons you will study a variety of things including: how the body works, how it responds to exercise, types of training methods, diet and nutrition, sports psychology, injury and first aid, data analysis and socio-cultural aspects of sport.

During practical sessions you will develop skills and improve performance in a variety of activities that could include Trampolining, table tennis, netball, rugby, football, hockey and athletics.

How will I be assessed?

The theory work is assessed during 2 exams, each lasting 1 hour 15 minutes.

This makes up 60% of the total result.

The practical makes up the other 40% and requires assessments in three different sports. You need both an individual and team sport assessment with the third sport being either individual or team, e.g. rugby (team), trampolining (individual) and hockey (team) or table tennis (individual), netball (team) and dance (individual).

Anything else I need to know?

You will need to have demonstrated a commitment to PE at the Deanery during Y7, 8 and 9. This must include a dedication to bringing full kit to lessons and participation in all activities. It would also be advantageous to be involved in co-curricular activities in and/or outside of school.

Complementary Courses

GCSE Science

BTEC Sports L3

Possible Career Paths

Physiotherapy, Coaching, Sports Management, Performance Analysis, Sports Media, Sports Retail, Sports Science, Sports Nutrition.

*PLEASE NOTE: In previous years PE has been heavily oversubscribed. In the event of over-subscription, the following pupils will be allocated spaces as a priority;

1. Pupils that play a sport at club or national level. The pupil represents England Youth teams or other recognised competitive clubs such as Wigan Warriors
2. Pupils that play a sport for any of the school teams
3. Pupils that regularly attend co-curricular sporting activities. Regular attendance will be confirmed by PE staff.

Performing Arts

Option subject



Subject Teacher: Mrs Stafford

Specification: Eduqas Level 2 Vocational award in Performing Arts

Do you have a passion for performance? Are you a budding actor? Do you want to discover more about the fantastic roles behind the scenes? If so, it is time to uncover your potential.

What will I be studying?

Unit 1: Performing (30% of final marks)

You will learn the skills and techniques needed to produce a successful performance of an existing work. You will select a piece of music or an extract from a show.

This unit can be completed through either of the following disciplines: Drama or Musical Theatre (which may incorporate dance).

Unit 2: Creating (30% of final marks)

You will learn how to create and refine your own original work. You may explore your work through drama, dance, choreography or designing costumes.

This unit can be completed through any one of the following disciplines: devised drama, costume design, lighting design, make-up and hair, set design, sound design.

Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice (40% of final marks)

You will learn about the areas of the performing arts industry that need to be considered when responding to a commission, and will consider these when pitching your own idea.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through project work. For unit one and two you will complete projects in response to briefs. Unit three requires you to create a performance in response to a brief set by the exam board.

Anything else I need to know?

It is expected that you will undertake independent research and, although extensive written homework may not be set regularly, it is a requirement that you undertake practical tasks and attend rehearsals.

Possible Career Paths

Drama encourages skills which are transferable in many jobs such as team work, confidence building, problem solving, creativity, technology, discipline, memory, presentational skills and more. This can lead to a variety of careers, such as: Actor, Dancer, Teaching (primary/secondary), Studio Engineer, Events, Arts Admin, Community Arts, Radio, TV, Choreographer, Composer, Drama Therapy and a variety of roles within the Theatre.

You will develop many skills during the course including, time management, problem solving, organisation and leadership.

Child Development

Option subject

Subject Leader: Miss Dyer

Specification: Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Child Development



What will I be studying?

Component 1: Children's Growth and Development – you will learn how children develop skills and abilities at different rates, although they usually follow the same pattern of development. This unit will develop your knowledge and understanding of children's growth and development across the five areas of development.

Component 2: Learning through Play -in this unit you will look at the different stages of play that children experience between birth and five years of age and how play can be structured by adults to encourage and influence learning. You will look at play opportunities that adults can provide for children in community settings, in the home and in early years settings. You will learn how specific activities and resources can promote learning across the five areas of development.

Component 3: Supporting Children to Play, Learn and Develop - this component will develop your knowledge and understanding of the individual circumstances that can have an impact on a child's learning and development. You will learn about the physical, cognitive/intellectual, communication and language and social and emotional circumstances that children may experience. You will also investigate the role of the adult in making sure that all children are safe when engaging in play activities. You will investigate how activities can be adapted to ensure all children can join in with play.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 and 2 are assessed via internally assessed coursework completed under exam conditions and component 3 is an external exam.

Anything else I need to know?

This course can lead to studying a range of vocational qualifications at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Children's Play, Learning and Development, which prepares you to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in aspects of child care.

Complementary Courses

You can study this alongside Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care.

Possible Career Paths

In the future it can lead to careers in primary school teaching, paediatric nursing, midwifery, early year's practitioner or any other child care related careers.

Health & Social Care

Option subject

Subject Leader: Miss Dyer

Specification: Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care



What will I be studying?

Component 1: Human Lifespan Development - in this component, you will study how people grow and develop over the course of their life, from infancy to later adulthood. This includes physical, intellectual, emotional and social development and the different factors that may affect them.

Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values - this component will give you an understanding of health and social care services and will help you develop skills in applying care values which are common across the sector.

Component 3: Health and Wellbeing - in this component you look at the factors that can have a positive or negative influence on a person's health and wellbeing. You will learn to interpret physiological and lifestyle indicators and what they mean for someone's state of health. You will learn how to use this information to design an appropriate plan for improving someone's health and wellbeing, including short- and long-term targets. Additionally, you will explore the difficulties an individual may face when trying to make these changes

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 and 2 are assessed via internally assessed coursework completed under exam conditions and component 3 is an external exam.

Anything else I need to know?

This course can lead to you studying a range of vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Health and Social Care, which prepares you to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in aspects of health or social care.

Complementary Courses

You can study this alongside Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Child Development

Possible Career Paths

In the future it can lead to careers in nursing, midwifery, social work or other health and social care related careers.

Section C

**The subjects in section 3
may be offered under
recommendation only.**

**These must be agreed. An
appointment must be made.**

Home Cooking Skills

Subject Leader: Miss Millar
Specification: Edexcel BTEC Award

Option subject
via
recommendation
only



What will I be studying?

Home Cooking Skills provides the ideal opportunity to develop students' practical cooking skills. The aim of the qualification is to give every young person the basic skills and knowledge to be able to cook for themselves in a healthy and cost-effective way for the rest of their lives, as well as gain the confidence to share these skills with friends and family. This course would suit pupils who enjoy the practical aspect of cooking but may find the external exam a challenge.

How will I be assessed?

The Home Cooking Award consists of two units, each will require the student to demonstrate their skills by selecting recipes for nutritious dishes and following the recipes to prepare, cook and present the meal.

UNIT 1: completed in year 10; Practical Food Assessment, internally assessed

UNIT 2: completed in year 11; Practical Food Assessment, internally assessed

Qualification awards: Successful students will be awarded a pass in each assessment. The full award counts as a ½ GCSE.

Anything else I need to know?

This course aims to give students the knowledge, skills and confidence to enjoy cooking meals at home. Students will gain understanding of how to economise when planning meals to cook at home. The course will encourage students to transfer skills learnt to other recipes to continue cooking for themselves and their families and to inspire others by passing on their knowledge. The course is based on the Chef Jamie Oliver's proposition that being able to cook is an essential life skill which empowers people to make changes that have benefits to health and wellbeing. Students will be introduced to basic cooking skills by following recipes for simple dishes and learning how to use kitchen equipment safely. Each recipe is underpinned with knowledge about sourcing food, nutrition, hygiene and food safety where relevant. Students will have to provide materials for practical tasks on a regular basis and come prepared for lessons with additional ingredients as required, along with an apron and suitable container to take food home in.

Complementary Courses

Home Cooking Skills complements a range of other subjects including Science, Health & Social Care, Child Development and ASDAN.

Possible Career Paths

This course will provide students with essential life skills and it will prepare them for further education. In addition, the course links well with careers in a wide range of sectors such as Catering, Nursing and Child Care to name but a few.

ASDAN

Option subject
via
recommendation
only



Personal Development Programme

Subject Leader: Mr Tobin

Specification: Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network

What will I be studying?

You will work through a range of activities and challenges that build up towards bronze, silver and gold awards. Topics covered include sport and leisure, science and technology, the environment and the world of work. This programme links to nationally recognised qualifications.

How will I be assessed?

You will complete a range of challenges that build up towards credits. The amount of credits you achieve determines whether you gain a bronze, silver or gold outcome.

Anything else I need to know?

This course has a flexible structure and you work at your own pace through the challenges. To gain a Personal Development Programme certificate you need to present evidence of your achievements by compiling an organised Portfolio of Evidence. This acts as proof of all the work you have done. This course also teaches you a range of skills such as team working and coping with problems.

Complementary Courses

This course fits alongside any other GCSE courses you choose and complements your studies.

Possible Career Paths

This course will fit in with any career path you choose.