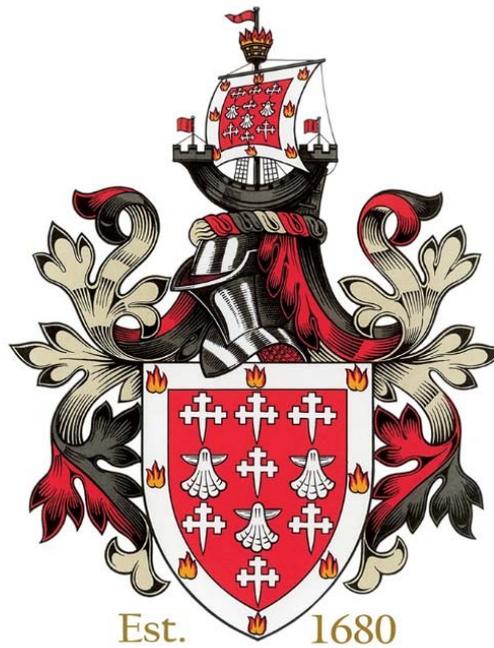


Davenant Foundation School



KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS BOOKLET 2020 - 2022

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this year's Option Booklet. This is to be read in conjunction with the presentation by senior staff on Thursday 12th March. This year we are introducing what we call the Davenant Diploma.

The Davenant Diploma is a mix of core and chosen subjects that students will take at GCSE level over the next two years. This booklet, along with the presentation, will explain the options process, how to choose on line and support you as parents and students.

There have been significant changes over the last four years with GCSEs and I am proud to say at Davenant we have embraced the new exams, fully supported students with their learning and obtained some of the best results in the schools history.

The new grading system 9-1 has now fully transitioned and all GCSE exams are now graded with the new number system. All GCSEs are also linier which means all exams are taken in the summer of Yr 11 (except RE). There is also significantly less coursework for students to complete and only a few subjects that have alternative assessments.

This booklet contains detailed information on all the options available to students but we recommend that you talk to the subject specialists that will be available on Thursday 12th March in the Gym from 6.30pm



DAVENANT DIPLOMA



At Davenant we want students to enjoy their GCSEs and achieve the best they can. It is important, however, that students have a broad and balanced set of GCSEs that ensure they keep options open at post 16. Both employers and universities like students to have a range of skills and knowledge that will benefit them in further studies and the workplace. The **Davenant Diploma** is a range of subject choices that fully support the students ensuring they have this breadth and depth of **Knowledge and Skills**.

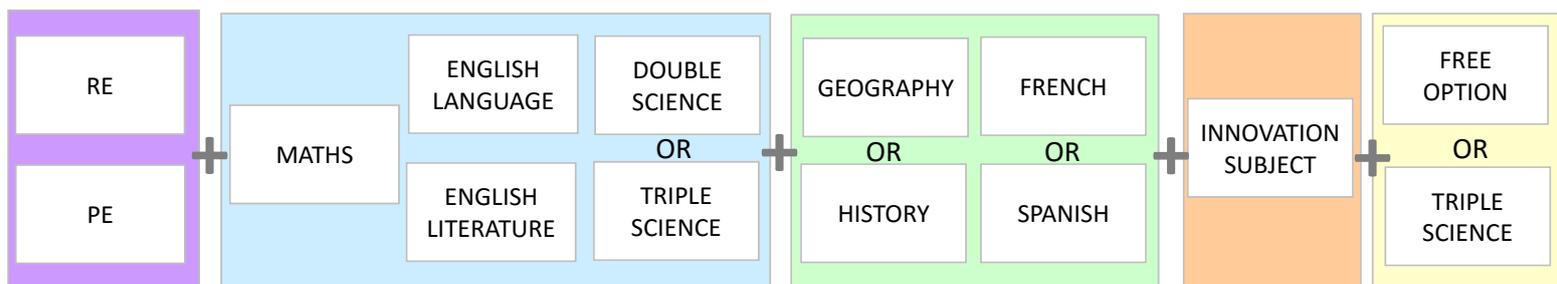
Students have a **Core Provision** that all must take in KS4 .

These include:

- **Mathematics**
- **English**
- **Science**
- **Religious Education (taken in Year 10)**
- **P.E.**

SUBJECT	Year 10 Hours per fortnight
English	7
Mathematics	7
Science	9
Religious Education	4
Physical Education	3

Students firstly choose a Humanities and Modern Foreign Language subject. (*Some students in consultation with Mrs. Blow and senior team can have this reviewed, see below*) Students will then choose an **Innovation Subject** and then a full **Free Choice** subject. This personalised combination of subjects will make up what we call the Davenant Diploma.



A DIFFERENT PATHWAY



We are aware that there are a small number of students who would find the expectation of 9 to 10 GCSEs with a Humanities and or Language would be too much. We want all students to enjoy their studies, while ensuring they get the qualifications they need and go on to the next level of study. We have a number of courses that would suit this style of learning and have additional support. If you want to consider this option please discuss with us at one of the Options Clinics or with Mrs Blow.



DAVENANT DIPLOMA - WHAT IS OUR RATIONALE?



- We believe that a **Language** gives a sound understanding of language construct and supports other subjects as well.



- We believe a **Humanities** subject gives you analytical skills and the ability to present a coherent and persuasive argument.



- We believe an **Innovative** subject enhances creativity, problem solving skills, project development and teamwork. The most sought-after skills from employers.

The Davenant Diploma gives students a broad set of skills and knowledge for their next phase of study or work. As a school we fully value all subjects and what they have to offer our students.



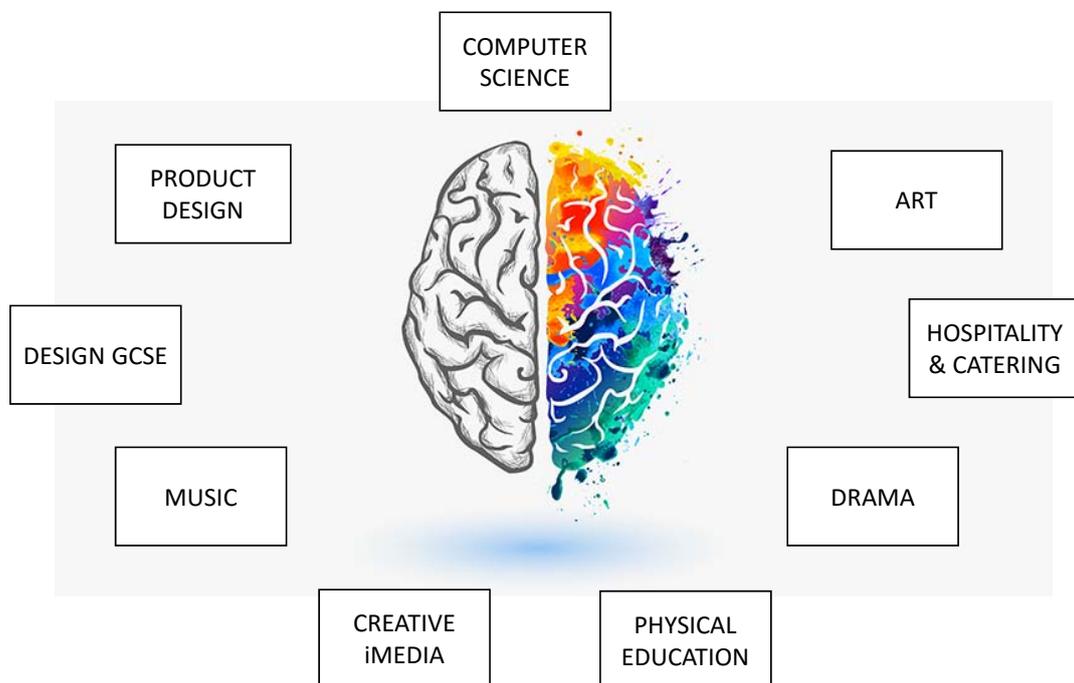
INNOVATION & CREATIVITY

More and more companies and universities are looking for students and graduates who can be **Creative and Innovative** .

'Future graduates will need creativity and empathy – not just technical skills.'

This was taken from an article released in the press about the need for creativity and innovation within the business world and has been a theme amongst top companies such as Google and Microsoft for quite a while. Taking a **Innovative** subject challenges you in a different way, uses different parts of your brain and is complementary to your other subjects. Innovative subjects help with perseverance, confidence, collaboration, decision making, team work as well as enhancing the students' creative side.

At Davenant, the ability to be creative and innovative is incredibly important to us and that is why all students are to take an innovative option as part of their studies. We offer a broad variety of subjects that should suit all skills, passions and abilities.



**CREATIVITY
IS THE WAY I SHARE
MY SOUL WITH
THE WORLD.
-BRENE BROWN**

**“creativity is
intelligence
having FUN”**

- ALBERT EINSTEIN



WHEN CHOOSING SUBJECTS THE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED:

Student

- What do I enjoy studying?
- What are my strengths?
- If I choose this option now, will it keep more options open later for further study / training / work?

Parent / Carer

- Are they choosing a subject to stay in the same class as friends?
- Are they choosing a subject because they believe that it will not involve much work?
- Are they choosing a subject because they like the teacher?
- Have they chosen subjects which challenge them but allow them to achieve their potential?
- Does their choice qualify them for the English Baccalaureate? Is that important for them?

If you have any questions about the **Key Stage 4 Curriculum**, please do not hesitate to contact us or talk through them with us at the options clinics.

Courses

GCSE courses are awarded from grade 9 to 1, with grade 9 being reserved for the most outstanding candidates, and U meaning 'ungraded'. Whilst the average grade across the country is 5/4, we would expect the vast majority of our students to be working towards all grade 5s, or better, with many achieving much higher grades in all subjects.

In some subjects, all candidates will take the same examination papers, whilst in others they will take different combinations of papers according to their ability. In such cases it will, of course, be important to ensure that our students take combinations of papers in which they are likely to achieve their full potential. Some subject papers are 'tiered' and allow candidates to sit a paper most suited to their level of ability. These tiers may be at Higher or Foundation level, depending on the subject. Each tier has a limited range of grades, so it will be important for staff to identify the most appropriate level of entry.

In all GCSE examinations which require the writing of sentences in English, 5% or more of the marks will be awarded for spelling, punctuation and grammar, often called "quality of written communication".

The School draws up an Assessment Plan for each GCSE year that aims to let you know how each subject is assessed over that year. A copy of the Assessment Plan for the year is available on the school website and it is very important that any deadlines are met and all assessments and exams are prepared for. Parents will be informed if coursework assignments are overdue or controlled assessments are not being properly prepared. Students will be given assistance in developing the skills needed to cope with the demands of controlled assessments, coursework and examination preparation.



CAREERS EDUCATION & GUIDANCE

During the course of Year 10, students will receive extensive careers advice and guidance. Parents are invited to borrow (or purchase) recommended books which offer help in decision making. Also the Careers Library and computer facilities are freely available to all students. Students may use Kudos and Microdors assisted careers choice computer programs in their own time.

The Form Tutor is the first person to contact with queries, but if you wish to talk through the process or choices in more detail please book an appointment with the senior team at one of the **Option Clinics** through INSIGHT

Our Careers co-ordinators are always willing to see parents and students to discuss the implications of subject choice and the options process in general as well.

ADDITIONAL STUDY SUPPORT

- Allows students to receive some individual support
- Gives students space and time to concentrate on producing quality work in a less formal, yet well supervised and supported atmosphere
- Have access to a full range of resources and ICT facilities

This option will only be available to students, whom it is felt will benefit from this support and who are invited to take it. For further details, contact Mrs Blow (Head of Learning Support). If your son/daughter wishes to take up this option, they need to discuss this with Mrs Blow or a member of the Senior Team.



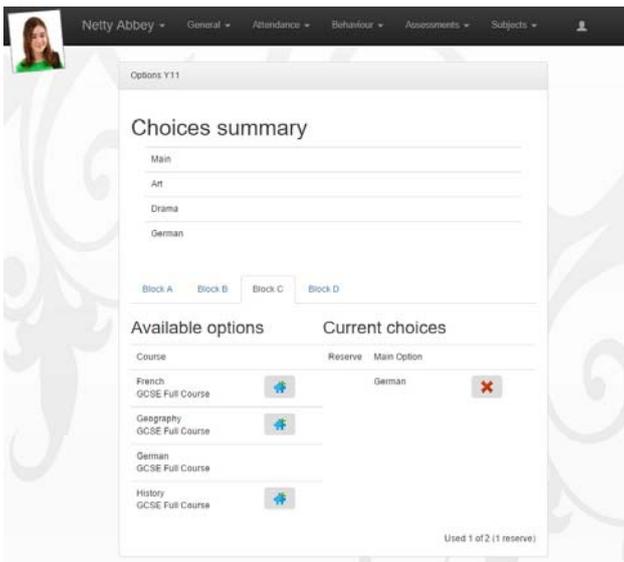
COMPLETING THE OPTIONS FORM ONLINE

Students should refer to the Options Booklet and subject descriptors before making their choices. If choosing a subject that has an * after it then students should see the Head of Department before making a final choice, so that they can receive guidance about the suitability of their proposed choice.

The option with ** are for students for whom an alternative approach to GCSEs has been identified and this will be discussed in advance with Mrs Blow or the Senior Management Team. Unless agreed at the meeting, you should not indicate these as a choice.

It is essential that all students put a reserve choice down that they are prepared to do. Unfortunately, numbers of students on most courses are limited but we will endeavour to restrict the number of second choices any student has to take.

Students should not choose Computer Science **and** Creative iMedia as these are closely related. Please speak to the Head of Department if you are considering both of these subjects.



- Options module will be on the Parent Module within INSIGHT
- Enter the preferred choices
- Preference requests will be confirmed in the Summer Term

Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3	Choice 4
Geography	French	Music	Music*
History	Spanish	Drama	Drama
	Additional Study Support**	Product Design	Computer Science*
		Fine Art	Creative iMedia*
		Design	Design
		Hospitality & Catering	Hospitality & Catering
		Creative iMedia*	Child Development
		Computer Science*	Business
		PE	PE
			Triple Science
			History
			Geography

The INSIGHT module will go live on 16th March for Keying in your option choices



IMPORTANT DATES

12 MARCH 2020

Subject Market in the Gym 6.30pm – 7.30pm
Options Evening in the School Hall 7.30pm – 8.30pm

16 MARCH 2020

INSIGHT goes live for entering Options choices

19 MARCH 2020

Year 9 Parents' Evening
4pm – 7pm in the School Hall

23, 24, 25 MARCH 2020

Options Clinics

27 MARCH 2020

Deadline for receipt of online Options applications

If you have any questions or queries please don't hesitate to contact us



ART

Examination Board: OCR Syllabus Number: J171

If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Bray



WHAT IS GCSE FINE ART ALL ABOUT?

The course is designed to encourage learners to develop knowledge, skills and understanding along with creativity and imagination. Learners will explore a number of areas of study, including drawing, mixed media, printing, painting and sculpture.

They will be encouraged to:

- Develop ideas through investigations informed by the work of other artists/designers
- Refine their ideas and experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes
- Record their ideas, observations and insights visually and through written annotation
- Use **drawing** skills for different needs and purposes
- Realise personal intentions through the sustained application of the creative process

The new GCSE specification started in September 2016 and consists of 2 components:

- The Art & Design Portfolio 60%.
- The Art & Design OCR-set Task (10 hour exam) 40%.

Component 01 Art and Design Portfolio:

Students produce a portfolio of practical work showing their personal response to a starting point.

Component 02 Externally Set Task:

Students will select **one** starting point from an early release question paper to which they will produce a personal response. The students will be given a period of time to plan and prepare and develop their project. Finally, they will be given **ten** hours of controlled time in which to work on their final piece.

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

You will enjoy this course if you are creative, you enjoy drawing and painting and exploring a range of media. If you like a challenge, enjoy thinking, analysing images and looking at art and design this is the course for you. It is demanding, but rewarding. Above all you, will enjoy this course if you are interested in developing your skills and talents.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNT BEFORE?

GCSE Art follows on from what you have learnt at Key Stage 3. However, instead of the class teacher telling you exactly what to do each lesson, projects will start with teachers introducing you to skills and approaches. You are then encouraged to develop your own ideas and skills in response to a given theme. Teachers advise, guide you and give you specific tasks to help you, but ultimately you are in charge of what you produce.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

The ability to 'read' and interpret images and artefacts through analysing them. You are expected to visit exhibitions, as well as using books to research and learn about artists, art movements and the intentions behind the work they produce. You will develop your critical skills and have the opportunity to discuss work in group situations.

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS?

In addition to skills of independent learning, creative thinking and technical skills, there are hundreds of jobs directly linked with Art.

These include:

Architecture, Interior Design, Furniture Design, Computer Related Design, Illustration, Fashion Design, Graphic Design, Animation, Advertising, Teaching, Art Administration, Film and Television, Furniture Design, Garden Design, Theatre Design (costume and set), Make-up Artist and Jewellery Design, Ceramicist, Publicity, Sculptor, Painter, Printmaker, Museums and Gallery work, Archaeology, Art Therapy, Painting or Artefact Restoration, Art Critic.



BUSINESS

Examination Board: Edexcel
Syllabus Number: 1BS0

If you would like further information, please contact Mr Flanagan

WHAT IS GCSE BUSINESS ALL ABOUT?

GCSE Business is all about understanding the 'Business World'. As a consumer, you come into contact with a variety of businesses every day; from purchasing a bus ticket on the way to school, to 'tweeting' a friend on your phone, and clothes shopping at the weekend. All of these activities are not possible without businesses.

This course provides you with an insight into how this 'Business World' operates. You will study big businesses like Apple Inc, and small businesses like your local hairdresser, and learn:

- How businesses get started;
- How businesses manufacture, price, promote and distribute the products or services they sell to consumers;
- How businesses recruit, train and motivate their staff; and
- How businesses grow within the UK and internationally

The GCSE Business Course is divided into the following areas:

Theme 1: Investigating Small Business

Theme 2: Building a Business

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

You will enjoy this course if you are interested in the 'world of work', and if you are curious about how such organisations as McDonalds, Nike, Manchester United Football Club and BMW-Mini operate.



HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

For many of you this will be your first experience of Business Studies, as it is only studied in Years 10 to 13. GCSE Business involves a lot of numeracy as you are required to carry out calculations such as profit. Literacy is also important as you are required to write in a formal structure when being assessed.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

Theme 1: Investigating Small Business	1 hr 30 mins	50%
Theme 2: Building a Business	1 hr 30 mins	50%

Business is a linear course and both units 1 and 2 will be examined at the end of Year 11.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

You will be asked to make presentations on areas of work studied, so team-working skills will be developed. You will be expected to read newspapers, and watch business news programmes so that you are aware of the external pressures businesses face. You will develop information retrieval skills, and report writing skills.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT – Cambridge National

Examination Board: OCR
Syllabus Number: J818



If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Doherty

WHAT IS THE CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT ALL ABOUT?

The aim of this course is to encourage the understanding of reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal care and conditions for development. The coursework elements consider the biological, psychological and emotional needs of children from 0-5 years. Emphasis is placed on developing a wide variety of skills to make informed decisions and to manage resources to meet the needs of young children.

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

If you are interested in the behaviour and development of young children, you will find this course interesting. You will be able to relate it to your own experiences within your family and friends. There will be opportunities to meet pregnant mothers and various health professionals such as a health visitor and a midwife. You will be encouraged to take a keen interest in TV documentaries about children and do your own research on a wide variety of topics relating to Child Development. You will need to be able to work independently on the controlled assessments. Time management and good organisation are essential for success in this subject as 50% of the marks are awarded for coursework.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

Child Development is not taught at Key Stage 3 so it will appear to be a totally new subject. However you will each come with different experiences and perspectives which help to enrich this course. Also some topics may link to areas that you have covered in PSHE, Science, or will cover in Psychology.

WHAT ABOUT THE EXAMINATION?

There is one, 1hr 15 min, written paper which tests your knowledge and understanding of the specification contents. This includes topics such as understanding reproduction, roles and responsibilities of parenthood, antenatal care, preparing for birth along with many other exciting topics.

ARE THERE ANY CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS?

Students will be expected to submit two pieces of coursework, each consisting of 4 short tasks, both of which are worth 25% of the course. Unit one will allow learners to investigate the different equipment and nutritional requirements of children from birth to five years. Unit two will allow learners to investigate the developmental norms of children from birth to five years.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

You will learn to develop your ability to plan, gather, record, collate, analyse viewpoints, interpret and evaluate evidence, which will further develop your communication skills. In particular you will develop good time management skills and learn to work independently. You will also gain social skills and self-confidence. You will gain invaluable transferable skills that will be beneficial in further studies and apply to many subjects.

WHAT TRIPS WOULD I GO ON?

The Child Development department run an exciting trip to The Baby Show at London's ExCel centre. This is a fantastic opportunity to research and prepare for the writing of the coursework tasks in year 10.

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS?

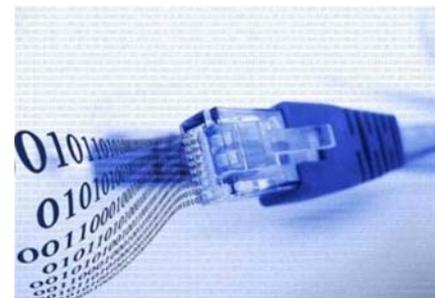
This is a valuable course to study if you wish to pursue a career working with children, become a teacher, a midwife, an educational psychologist, a police officer, a social worker or work in the NHS, as well as an important subject for the future when you may well become a parent.



COMPUTER SCIENCE GCSE

Examination Board: OCR

If you would like further information, please contact Mrs T Theron



WHAT IS THE COMPUTER SCIENCE GCSE ALL ABOUT?

It must be emphasised that Computer Science is completely different from ICT. While ICT will teach you how to use software effectively, Computer Science looks at the science of computers. This course will give learners a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Learners will no doubt be familiar with the use of computers and other related technology from their other subjects and elsewhere. However, the course will give them an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming, which many learners find absorbing.

UNITS

Component 1: Computer systems assessed by written examination– (50%)

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

Component 02: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming assessed by written examination–(50%)

Students apply knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators.

Practical programming

Students will undertake a programming task(s) during their course of study which allows them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. Students will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations, in particular component 02 (section B).

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

Do you enjoy problem solving and mathematics? This course will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills through the study of computer programming. For many learners, it will be a fun and interesting way to develop these skills.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

In Year 7 you learned the basics of programming by using Scratch to create a game. In Year 9 you have studied programming with Python and control systems using Flowol. With this course you will develop your programming skills in Python by applying them to a variety of problems. A lot of the course content, such as learning about how computers work, will be new to most learners. There are strong links to Mathematics and logical thinking skills you have acquired will be utilised for this GCSE.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS AND COURSEWORK?

There are two examinations which will be taken at the end of Year 11, being 100% towards your final grade (50% each). Programming will be assessed as part of the second written examination.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

This course gives learners a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. It provides excellent preparation, higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science. It will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills through the study of computer programming.

WHAT USEFUL RESOURCES MIGHT I NEED FOR THIS COURSE?

It is beneficial for students to have access to a computer and printer with the relevant software packages at home. It is also useful to have Internet access.



CREATIVE iMEDIA

Examination Board: OCR

If you would like further information, please contact Mrs T Theron



WHAT IS CREATIVE iMEDIA ALL ABOUT?

This vocationally-related qualification give students experience of making products using creative ICT skills. It takes an engaging and practical approach to learning and assessment. It will equip students with a range of skills and provide opportunities to develop transferable skills such as research, planning, and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively. The hands on approach has strong relevance to the way people use the technology required in creative media.

UNITS

R081 Pre-Production Skills - 25% (written examination)

This unit will enable learners to understand pre-production skills used in the creative and digital media sector. It will develop their understanding of the client brief, time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques that form part of the planning and creation process. Assessment is by an examination set by the exam board.

R082 Creating digital graphics - 25% (controlled assessment)

In this unit you will be able to apply the skills, knowledge and understanding gained in unit R081. Digital graphics feature in many areas of our lives and play a very important part in today's world. The digital media sector relies heavily on these visual stimulants within the products it produces, to communicate messages effectively. Assessment is from a project you will undertake that will be internally assessed and externally moderated.

R088 Creating a digital sound sequence - 25% (controlled assessment)

In this unit you will be able to apply skills, knowledge and understanding gained in in units R081 and R082. Gaming technologies, mobile phones and multimedia websites all use digital sound sequences to enhance and inform their content. You will undertake a project to create a digital sound sequence which will be internally assessed and externally moderated.

R086 Creating a digital animation - 25% (controlled assessment)

Digital animation is used in a wide range of applications in the creative and digital media sector. It can enhance applications, and be used to entertain and inform the viewer. You will undertake a project to create a digital animation which will be internally assessed and externally moderated.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

This course builds on many topics studies in KS3. You will already have gained some experience in planning and evaluation work. You will also have produced graphics, animation and multimedia assets such as sound files.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS AND COURSEWORK?

There is one examination which will be taken in Year 11 and this contributes 25% towards your final grade. The other three units are internally marked and externally moderated project tasks. You will build a portfolio of evidence to show your work in these units.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

You will use a range of software packages and gain an appreciation of how design products work for a specific audience. This course will also equip you with real-world skills in planning, design, communication and evaluation.

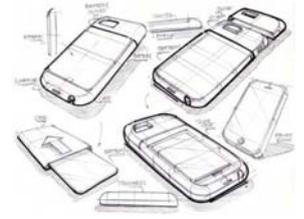
WHAT USEFUL RESOURCES MIGHT I NEED FOR THIS COURSE?

It is beneficial for students to have access to a computer and printer with the relevant software packages at home.



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN

Examination Board: AQA
Syllabus No: 8552



If you would like further information, please see Miss Rooney

WHAT IS DESIGN TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN ALL ABOUT?

GCSE Design Technology: Product Design gives students the opportunity to experience many aspects of the design world. They will learn graphic design techniques, use of different materials and modern industrial manufacture processes, while investigating influential designers. They will learn all aspects of being a successful designer and how to market their product to particular target markets.

WHICH CAREER PATHS WOULD THIS LEAD TO?

As Product Design is a direct result of the world around us and applies to everything we use, the job possibilities are vast. Any job which includes an understanding of peoples' needs can be achieved from the skills learnt through this subject. Some examples are:

Graphic Design
Jewellery Design
Advertising
Project Management
Stage Set Design

Furniture Design
Interior Design
Architecture
Construction
Costumes Design

Film Set Design
Engineering
Surveying
Teaching
Upholstery

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK AND/OR EXAM?

Candidates must produce a 40 page electronic design folder, consisting of 5 chapters which supports a final prototype of the fully investigated product. The folder is A4 and is handed in as a PowerPoint presentation (e-portfolio). The folder and prototype value is 50% of their final grade. Candidates are also required to complete a 2 hour written paper which counts for 50% of their final grade.

AQA also now set the non exam assessment (coursework) criteria. They have deadlines for marking which must be adhered to in order for the student to receive the marks. If the dates are missed then the student will not receive the mark for their non exam assessment. More details regarding this are given to candidates during the course. ALL above work mentioned is compulsory.

HOW DOES THIS FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNT AT KS3?

All of the techniques and processes learnt in years 7, 8 and 9 are essential for the development onto GCSE. Students use what they have learnt as a base for what they can move on to. They will also have more time to move on and develop their skills further as we will be building on their prior learning.

WILL I ENJOY THE COURSE?

Design Technology: Product Design offers so many opportunities and there are no two pieces of work which are exactly the same. Candidates are given opportunities to explore new design and express themselves through what they would like to manufacture. **Students must understand that the coursework is of GCSE standard. Students who choose this option must be creative and prepared to work hard.**



DESIGN

Examination Board: OCR GCSE (9-1)
Syllabus Number: J170



If you would like any further information, please contact Mrs Kennedy or Mr Walker.

WHAT IS GCSE DESIGN ALL ABOUT?

Everything around us in the world has been designed; from the clothes you're wearing, the apps that you use on your phone, the car that you drive or the products that you have in your home. This course is a springboard for a career in the creative industry. The specification provides an innovative and imaginative qualification rewarding flair and creativity. The Art, Craft and Design course focuses on graphic communication and textile design. Students will explore colour, pattern, texture, printing, dyeing, typography, elements of photography and 3D design.

WILL I ENJOY THE COURSE?

Yes, if you are someone who is creative, enjoys fashion, graphics, interiors, costume, visual identity and design, and who likes to work in a practical subject this is the course for you. You are given themes which are explored through a wide range of media and techniques, you need to experiment with your ideas, challenge yourself and take risks. The possibilities are endless... Design plays a part of our daily lives and is part of a global industry. This course gives you amazing opportunities to develop skills for future jobs and careers in: Textiles, Fashion, Theatre, Costume, Sportswear, Footwear, Graphics, Illustration, Publishing, Advertising, Journalism, Interiors, Marketing, Branding, Media.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

The course is very practical and you will use key processes and skills which you have learnt at Key Stage 3. You will also learn lots of new techniques on the GCSE Design course which will provide you with a solid foundation if you wish to take this subject further at A-level or degree.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

You will not only acquire the techniques necessary to produce inspiring design work but also a wide range of approaches to express yourself through different materials and media. Gain knowledge of the arts, crafts people and designers and apply the relevant processes and applications to inspire your work. Confidence to take risks, problem solve, communicate ideas and develop independent thinking.

WHAT IS THE COURSEWORK AND EXAMINATION THAT HAVE TO BE COMPLETED?

GCSE Art, Craft and Design students must explore and create work associated with areas of study from within graphics and textile design. There are two components to the course assessment.

Each student must complete a portfolio of their work around a set theme and will involve producing a sketchbook(s) of drawing and design ideas which are developed and realised in both areas of graphic and textile design. This is worth 60% of the total GCSE.

The second component is completed in Year 11 and is an externally set assignment. You will select one question from the early release exam paper which you will plan, develop and produce work for over a set period of weeks. You will then complete a final piece over ten hours in a two day practical exam. This is worth 40% of the total GCSE.

There is no written examination.



DRAMA

Examination Board: Eduqas

If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Flanagan



WHAT IS GCSE DRAMA ALL ABOUT?

GCSE Drama is all about understanding what it is like to put yourself in somebody else's shoes. You will play many parts in different imaginary situations. You will have the opportunity to create your own work as well as look at plays written by other people. You will also see plays performed by others.

The GCSE Drama course is in three parts:

- In **part one** of the course you will use drama to express your ideas about a range of themes. You will devise a group performance (and have a written controlled assessment explaining how you came up with these ideas)
- In **part two** of the course you will look at a play to see how a playwright expresses their ideas about a theme or topic and explore ways of making the play work on stage. You will also complete a written examination on this in Year 11. This will include an evaluation of a live theatre piece
- In **part three** of the course you will take part in the performance of an extract from a play from an existing script

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that is both practical and creative. You may have done some acting before or helped out backstage on a production. You may have always wanted to have a go at making a play, performing, making costumes, building a set or operating the lights but never had the chance. You will enjoy this course if you enjoy working as part of a team as drama involves a lot of group work.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

GCSE Drama follows on from drama work that you will have done at Key Stage 3. You will develop your characterisation, directorial and acting skills to a higher level. You will also look at plays in more detail and look at different ways of bringing a script alive on stage. You will look at the way others have created a performance by seeing plays at the theatre.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

Part One: The examination for GCSE Drama is a practical performance that you devise in a group based on an assignment brief set by the Board. You will be given a style to work in and you will write your own script for this. This is internally examined and the video is sent to the board.

Part Two: You will perform an extract from a play in front of an audience and the examiner will be present at the performance.

Part Three: You will have a 1 hour 30-minute examination based on a play that you will study in Year 11.

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK?

There is a controlled assessment in Part 1. You will be expected to write about your ideas and character and how you developed them in preparation for performance and an evaluation. This will be in controlled conditions.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

As well as acquiring the skills involved in creating and performing drama, you will also be able to acquire skills in working with others, problem solving and communication. You will also find that drama will help you feel more self-confident and prepare you to deal with a range of different situations and people. Attendance, reliability and commitment to group work, stamina, and keeping pace with all note-making, creativity, willingness to develop practical skills and work at the craft of acting, a love of theatre are the top tips for success in drama!



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Examination Board: AQA

If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Bruce



WHAT IS GCSE ENGLISH ALL ABOUT?

The aim of this two year course is to build your skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening whilst studying a wide range of material as set down in the National Curriculum. You will learn to write in a variety of ways and to spell and punctuate accurately. Everyone studies English Language GCSE, because you need it for everyday life as an adult. Success in the course will give you the chance to be prepared for anything you might encounter in the future - writing a letter, giving a presentation or compiling business correspondence.

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

You will enjoy this course because it has a tremendous amount to do with everyday life. It involves studying a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to create your own texts in a variety of forms and purposes. You will give presentations to the class and you will work in small groups as well as individually.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

It follows on from previous work done in Key Stage 3, in that you are developing your vocabulary and your ability to deal with a wider range of fiction and non-fiction texts and material. There is also the opportunity to continue to develop your creative writing skills.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

You will have two English Language exams which will be sat at the end of Year 11. Paper 1 is Explorations in Creative Reading, and Writing, Paper 2 is Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives, each exam will be worth 50% of your total English Language grade. You will be expected to respond analytically and creatively to fiction and non-fiction texts. Your teachers will assist you in preparing for examinations by developing your ability to take notes, to summarise and plan your ideas.

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK?

No, coursework has been replaced with examinations in the current GCSE syllabus. **However**, all students must complete a spoken language component of their GCSE language. Although it does not go towards your final grade, the assessment is a mandatory part of the qualification and must be achieved (whether distinction, merit or pass).

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

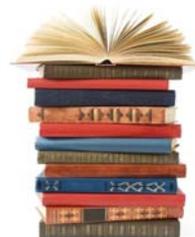
You will learn how to exercise self-discipline, to summarise your ideas (aloud and on paper), to think about why a writer has constructed a text in a particular way in order to have an effect on the audience. You will develop skills for responding creatively to a variety of texts and stimuli. Most of all, you will have a foundation qualification that will take you on to college or a future career.

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS?

The English language is all around us. As a result of this it is important to have full understanding of the way it works. A mastery of English will enable you to communicate effectively with others (in oral and written forms), interpret information you have been presented with and think in a logical manner.



ENGLISH LITERATURE



Examination Board: AQA

If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Bruce

WHAT IS GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE ALL ABOUT?

English Literature is about learning how to analyse texts, such as poems, plays and novels and being able to explain your point of view to someone else in written form.

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that gives you the opportunity to develop your own point of view. In the lower school, you have read all sorts of things and now is your chance to read more widely, to read something more demanding and also to take part in group and pair work on analysing a text. You will also have opportunities to see texts being performed in and outside of school.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

GCSE Literature follows on from literature work that you have covered at Key Stage 3. You will develop your essay writing skills, your note-taking and your ability to present your ideas to the class. You will be able to look at texts in more detail and understand why texts have been written a particular way and how the author was influenced by the life and times in which he or she lived.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

There are two Literature GCSE examinations which are both sat in the summer Year 11. Paper 1: Shakespeare (*Macbeth*) and Nineteenth Century Novel (*A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens) are worth 40% of the final Literature GCSE, and Paper 2: Modern Texts (*An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley) and Poetry (Power and Conflict cluster) is worth 60%. You will have to write essays under timed conditions on a range of literature you have studied in class. Examinations in English Literature are closed book, so no texts allowed. Therefore, you must be able to revise, remember and recall quotes and annotations. The exams are normally quite demanding but we prepare students by giving them guidelines on how to plan their written assignments.

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK?

No, all coursework has been replaced with exams in the current GCSE curriculum.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

As well as writing essays, you will be able to acquire skills in note-taking, working with others, observation and listening.

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS?

Studying English literature enables you to think in an analytical way about the language. This is beneficial to all jobs which require communications skills.



FRENCH

Examination Board: AQA
Syllabus Number: 8658



If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Estrella

WHAT IS GCSE FRENCH ALL ABOUT?

GCSE in French is about learning how to communicate with and understand speakers of this language. It also teaches how people from other countries live and think. You will put yourself in their place by acting out scenes based in the foreign country, and you will learn how to express your own wishes, plans and opinions in French. In doing all this you will also extend your understanding of how languages work and your understanding of English will be enhanced.

WHAT WILL I HAVE TO DO?

- You will practise speaking French in role-plays, conversations and by preparing speeches and presentations to be delivered to one or more other people
- You will get practice in giving information and opinions and in finding out what other people have to say
- You will get frequent practice in listening to all sorts of French speakers, young, old, male and female, so that you understand the language when you hear it spoken at normal speed
- You will read a variety of texts in French, ranging from notices and signs to advertisements, leaflets, letters and magazine or newspaper articles. These will cover a range of subjects from tourist information to fashion, sport, cuisine and other areas of general interest
- You will practise writing correct French from short notes and messages, formal and informal letters, to more extended stories and descriptions. Sometimes you will be given a precise plan to write to, at other times you will be able to use your imagination to produce pieces of your own composition
- You will practise translating from and into French

DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

You will not notice any major differences in the kind of work you do at the moment: you will build on the French learnt at Key Stage 3, revising things that you have learnt before and adding new topics and extending your understanding of old ones.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

You will be assessed in four language elements: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Each element counts 25% towards the final grade. You will take the GCSE examination at either Foundation or Higher Level. Foundation papers give access to grades 1 – 5; Higher to 3 – 9.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will have regular opportunities to work in groups, developing teamwork skills. You also will develop summary-writing, role-playing and presentational skills in the course of Key Stage 4 Languages.



GEOGRAPHY



Examination Board: **AQA (8035)**

If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Blair

WHAT IS GCSE GEOGRAPHY ALL ABOUT?

You live in the world – why not find out more about the **challenges** and **opportunities** it offers, and how to get **involved**?
Discover how people are using different **environments**, both your own and those in other parts of the world.
How have different **landscapes** developed – what are the great natural forces involved?
Investigate issues of **sustainability** – will the earth be able to provide us with all the **resources** we take for granted now?

The GCSE Geography course is **linear** and is divided into three parts. (It is important to appreciate that due to government guidelines this new specification is **more challenging and the content coverage has been increased.**)

Unit 1 – **Living with the physical environment**

Unit 2 – **Challenges in the human environment**

Unit 3 – **Geographical applications**

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that:
Is relevant to the world you live in and the future
Encourages you to discuss **current affairs** and issues
Focuses on the **environment**
Involves **practical** work **outdoors**
Is studied through an “issue based”, **investigative** approach
Develops a full **range of skills** that will be useful in other subjects and in employment

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

You have already developed a range of skills and knowledge from Key Stage 3.
These will be of great help in GCSE. The GCSE course will take you further. It will introduce you to new skills and places and new ideas. You will also be able to apply what you are learning and understand more about how people’s decisions shape the world we live in.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

There is one tier of entry for this subject. For Units 1 and 2, exam papers are resource-based and each is assessed in a 1-hour 30-minute examination. Each one is worth 35% of the marks.
Unit 3 assess geographical applications and is worth 30% of the GCSE.

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK?

There is no coursework or controlled assessment for this subject.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

Geography is an ideal subject for developing a wide range of skills
Researching information from a variety of sources
Presenting information in a variety of ways
Manipulating data including statistics and ICT software
Working and co-operating with others when carrying out field work
These ‘transferable’ skills will not just be useful in Geography, but will help you make progress in many of your other subjects too.

WHAT COULD I DO NEXT WITH GEOGRAPHY?

A GCSE in Geography is a stepping stone to a whole range of future opportunities. The skills you develop will support you in further studies and employment.



HISTORY

Examination Board: Edexcel
Syllabus Number: The Making of the Modern World



If you would like further information, please contact Miss Smith

WHAT IS GCSE HISTORY ALL ABOUT?

History is an exciting, investigative part of our studies. Anyone who finds people, cultures or beliefs fascinating will find the study of History eye-opening. It will add to your own understanding of what has been, is, and is to come. You will study a wide range of countries and people with a focus on modern history and will develop skills in researching, explaining and analysing the past.

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

Students who currently enjoy History and want to add to their knowledge of the present, as well as the past, will enjoy GCSE History. History also appeals to students who enjoy writing, reading, researching, presenting, investigating and debating.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

GCSE History builds on the skills and knowledge you have developed since Year 7. It will allow you to examine sources, investigate why events happened, use ICT, and present your views in writing and debate in class.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

Three examination papers are worth 100% of the marks

The topics examined include:

- Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1945 (30%)
- International Relations, 1943-1991: Cold War to the collapse of the Soviet Union (20%)
- Henry VIII and his Ministers 1509-1540 (20%)
- Crime and Punishment in Britain 1000-Present and Whitechapel: Crime and Policing in the inner city (30%)

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK?

This GCSE is 100% examination based, with 3 exams being sat at the end of Year 11.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

As well as acquiring the skills of analysis, evaluation, oral and written presentation of your ideas and interpretations of events, you will also be able to acquire skills in working with others through group activities. The knowledge and understanding you develop of the wider world will allow you to play a part as an active citizen locally, nationally and internationally.

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS WITH HISTORY?

History is a good subject to study and acquire as a qualification for most careers, in particular, any careers demanding research, written reports, the ability to debate and present arguments, especially Law.



HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Examination Board: WJEC/CBAC

If you would like further information, please contact Miss Giles



WHAT IS HOSPITALITY AND CATERING ALL ABOUT?

By studying Hospitality and Catering learners will:

- Gain knowledge, understanding and skills relating to an important sector in our economy. In addition to developing sector specific knowledge and understanding, these qualifications also support learners to develop the essential employability skills that are valued by employers, further and higher education.
- There is the opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations.
- Learners will also have the opportunity to develop some food preparation and cooking skills as well as the transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

WILL I ENJOY THE COURSE?

Hospitality and Catering is an enjoyable course if you are interested in developing skills in cooking, how the ingredients work within the food we make and knowledge of the food industry. There will be some practical work and some opportunities to develop cooking skills. There will also be theory work that will link in with the practical and you must be prepared to carry out research, planning and evaluation work to support this. There are opportunities for you to present your work using ICT.

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

WJEC Level 1/2 follows on from work that you have completed at Key Stage 3 although you will have more time to further your knowledge and understanding of the subject.

WHAT ABOUT THE EXAMINATION?

Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry will be externally assessed through an examination at the end of Year 11.

Details of the external assessment are as follows:

Duration: 90 minutes

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK?

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action is internally assessed:

The internal assessment will take place under controlled conditions, during lesson times.

You will be assessed on the safe planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of nutritional dishes.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

As well as developing your skills in food preparation and nutrition, you will develop your communication, mathematical and ICT skills, learning to work with others when problem solving and evaluating.

Career Paths:

The hospitality and catering sector includes all businesses that provide food, beverages, and/or accommodation services. This includes restaurants, hotels, pubs and bars. It also includes airlines, tourist attractions, hospitals and sports venues and businesses where hospitality and catering is not their primary service but is increasingly important to their success. According to the British Hospitality Association, hospitality and catering is Britain's fourth largest industry and accounts for around 10% of the total workforce.

Employment in the hospitality and catering industry can range from:

Waiting staff	Molecular Gastronomist	Food stylist
Receptionists	Food technologists	Sports nutritionist
Catering assistants	Food lawyer	Dietician
Chefs	Farmer	Quality tester
Hotel and Bar managers	Teacher	Food analysis
Food inspectors	Environmental health officer	



MATHEMATICS



Examination Board: Edexcel GCSE

If you would like further information, please contact Mr Cahil

WHAT IS GCSE MATHEMATICS ALL ABOUT?

GCSE Mathematics builds on the work you will have done at Key Stage 3 and the skills and knowledge support many other subjects. The work that you do will depend upon your level of ability in the subject. We continue with five main areas:

Number: Whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percentages, ratio, standard form, boundary values, approximations, estimating, powers and roots of numbers, proportional change, and irrational numbers.

Algebra: We start by substituting numbers into formulae, which you will also use in science. Then we progress to more complex formulae, changing the subject, and working out formulae to describe sequences of numbers. We learn how to expand brackets and to factorise, to solve equations and to draw graphs. At the highest level you will learn how to construct a proof.

Shape, Space and Measures: You will learn how to draw 3-D objects, and about the properties of polygons, particularly triangles and quadrilaterals. You will discover the rule that Pythagoras discovered. You will also learn how to calculate areas and volumes of a variety of geometrical shapes. At higher levels you will study trigonometry, including large angles, and drawing graphs of trigonometric functions, and geometric proof.

Handling Data: You will develop your skills of collecting and analysing data, and drawing helpful diagrams. You will calculate averages and measures of spread, including mean, median range and interquartile range. At the highest level you will need to be able to construct and interpret histograms.

Using and Applying Mathematics: In all of these, there is a strong emphasis on using and applying the skills that you learn, and you should be able to transfer these skills into other subjects. Many of the examples that we use relate to real-life situations.

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

If you have enjoyed mathematics so far, you will probably continue to enjoy it. If not, then it is our intention to help you to enjoy it! In this subject, satisfaction comes from understanding new concepts and getting correct answers to questions.

How does it follow on from what I have learned before?

In mathematics you are always building on what you have learnt previously, so the move from Year 9 to Year 10 will be seamless.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

The course is split into two tiers for examination: Foundation and Higher Tiers. You will follow the examination course that gives you the best chance of achieving your potential.

You need to realise that, if you don't reach the lowest grade available at your tier of entry you will be ungraded, so it is very important to be entered at the right level. Examination papers will be with and without calculator. There will be three examinations at the end of the two year course – one non-calculator and two calculator.

WHAT ABOUT COURSEWORK?

There is no coursework

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

This course will help you to develop problem-solving strategies that can be used in any context. You will begin to develop your ability to break down a complex problem into smaller parts. We hope that you will come to appreciate the power of mathematics and the need for it across a wide spectrum of life, and maybe you will enjoy it purely for its own intrinsic value.

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS?

Mathematics is an essential tool in all walks of life. Virtually all careers require numeracy skills.



MUSIC

Examination Board: Edexcel GCSE
Specification Number: 1MU0



If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Tubb

WHAT IS GCSE MUSIC ALL ABOUT?

GCSE Music is about performing, composing and listening to music. It covers performing, composing and listening in a wide variety of musical styles under four areas of study – Instrumental Classical Music, Vocal Music, Music for Stage and Screen (Films and Musicals) and Fusions (World Music). There are opportunities to use music technology such as sequencing and recording.

WILL I ENJOY THIS COURSE?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that

- Involves performing
- Involves listening to all kinds of music
- Involves composing and arranging music
- Gives you the opportunity to play music with others in e.g., rock groups, bands, orchestras or choirs
- Gives you the opportunity to learn more about and use music technology

HOW DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

GCSE Music follows on from work that you have done at Key Stage 3. You will improve your skills in performing, composing and appraising different types of music. You will listen to and analyse a wide variety of music and learn more about how and why it was written and/or performed.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMS?

There is one final written exam. You will listen to a CD and answer questions on pieces from the four Areas of Study which cover Instrumental Classical Music, Vocal Music, Music for Stage and Screen (Films and Musicals) and Fusions (World Music). There are opportunities to use music technology such as sequencing and recording. This examination is worth 40% of the marks.

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK?

You will perform (play or sing) two pieces altogether. One of the pieces will be a solo in any style and on any instrument. The other performance will be with other players (ensemble). The pieces you perform must be of a minimum Grade 4 standard, but that does not mean that you have had to have previously taken and passed the graded (ABRSM/Rock School) exam. You will be expected to receive tuition on your instrument/voice for this part of the course, and your instrumental/singing teacher will help you pick the most appropriate pieces. Music will be recorded and marked by your classroom teacher. This is worth 30% of the overall mark. You will also compose two pieces; one in response to a brief set by Pearson, and the other a free composition set by you. The combined duration of the compositions must be of at least three minutes. This is also worth 30% of the overall mark. If you are interested in music technology, you may use computer sequencing programmes, multitrack recorders, digital recording and sampling in the preparation and presentation of compositions. You may also use technology to record work and to produce printed scores and extract parts.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

As well as covering Music at GCSE level, the course will enable you to develop Key Skills in Communication and Information Technology, which could be useful to you in whatever you do afterwards. In particular, GCSE Music offers opportunities to develop the wider key skill of working with others (e.g. taking part in rehearsals, performing).

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS?

GCSE Music is a good preparation for further musical study and a solid foundation for the AS/A Levels in Music and Music Technology as well as BTEC National Diplomas (in Music, Popular Music and Music Technology) and the Vocational A- Level in Performing Arts. You may wish to take a GCSE in Music for its own sake, or perhaps to form the basis of a future interest. Alternatively, you may wish to go into a job where it is useful to have had experience of music or where you will need to use some of the skills developed during this course. These might include careers in the music industry, publishing, entertainment and teaching or any job which involves communication and expressive skills.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

It is **compulsory** for GCSE Music students to attend the co-curricular activities which apply to their instrument. **All** students are expected to take part in the main school choir to develop their general musicianship skills.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Examination Board: OCR
Specification Number: J587



Any further information required please see Ms Escoffery or Miss Cooper.

WHAT IS COVERED IN CORE / COMPULSORY PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

Students follow the National Curriculum statutory provision for 2 hours a week. This builds on knowledge and skills developed from Key Stage 3. During Key Stage 4 students tackle complex and demanding activities applying their knowledge of skills, techniques and effective performance. They decide whether to get involved in physical activity that is mainly focused on competing or performing, promoting health and wellbeing, or developing personal fitness. The view they have of their skillfulness and physical competence gives them the confidence to get involved in exercise and activity out of school and in later life.

WHAT IS GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION ABOUT?

The Physical Education specification covers three components, which can be inter-related to provide a coherent and coordinated course of study.

Component 01: Physical factors affecting performance

- 1.1- Applied anatomy and physiology
- 1.2- Physical training

Component 02: Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology

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

Component 03: Performance in Physical education

- 3.1- Performance of **three** activities taken from an approved list (see Mr Redgrave for details)

One from the 'individual' list

One from the 'team' list

One other from either list

- 3.2- Analysing and Evaluating Performance (AEP). A 14 hour piece of written coursework under controlled conditions.

WILL I ENJOY THE COURSE?

If you have an interest in sport, represent a school team or attend classes or clubs outside of school you will find the course very fulfilling. It will make you think about yourself and your sport very differently to the way you do now.

HOW DOES THE COURSE FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

Many of the skills and techniques you have developed over your three years at Davenant will hold you in good stead for the demands of GCSE Physical Education. You can choose to continue to follow these activities in more depth, or you can take the opportunity to develop yourself in more 'specialist' activities that you participate in outside of school or try a sport that is completely new to you.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

There will be three examinations.

60% of the course relates to written examinations. In paper one (one hour) you will answer questions on 'physical factors affecting performance (**component 01**)'. In paper two (one hour) you will answer questions on 'socio-cultural issues and sports psychology (**component 02**)'. The questions may require short answers, multiple choice answers, scenario questions and extended answer questions.

40% of the course relates to the Practical assessment and Analysing and Evaluating Performance (**component 03**). The activities that you choose to offer will be decided by yourself after consultation with Physical Education staff. You are expected to perform one of your sports outside of School whether it is individual or a team sport. You will also need to complete a competition log of all fixtures you have been involved in during the GCSE PE course. This will ensure that you obtain the highest mark possible. You are assessed continuously throughout the course and will have a final practical examination in the Spring Term in Year 11. You will also complete a piece of coursework based on your ability to analyse a performance in a sport of your choice.



WHAT OTHER SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

As you already know, sport is an excellent way of developing organisational skills, communication skills and learning to work effectively as part of a team. The course will also help you develop leadership skills, teaching and coaching skills and problem solving techniques. You will find that by learning such skills you will be become more confident and be able to deal with many 'real-life' situations.

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS?

Doing a GCSE in Physical Education can lead to a career in many different professions. There are the obvious ones such as a Sports Leader, a Sports Coach, a Physiotherapist, A Psychologist, a Teacher, or a Sports Development Officer, but there are also many others that people don't realise. These include a career as a Journalist, Technical Analyst, Media Analyst, Doctor, Official, Leisure Manager, Business Manager, Administration Manager, Marketing Manager, and Sports Media and Film Producer. There are also many opportunities to follow a career in the Armed Forces and Public Services.



SCIENCE

The Science department runs two routes through Key Stage 4 Science.

If you would like further information, please contact Mr Liebeschuetz

The two routes are:

Combined Science

Separate GCSEs in Biology, Physics and Chemistry. (Usually called Triple Science)

Both routes through Key Stage 4 Science put equal emphasis on Biology, Physics and Chemistry, and as Science is a core subject, all students must follow one of these two routes.

All the Science GCSE syllabuses are entirely assessed by external exams taken at the end of year 11.

COMBINED SCIENCE

Students study Science for nine lessons a fortnight when they follow this route. This course is a Double Award GCSE course. This means students will receive two grades in Combined Science when they receive their results. This course puts a great deal of emphasis on key scientific theories as well as the role of science in society.

Students who do not opt for Triple Science will follow the Combined Science course.

SEPARATE GCSEs IN BIOLOGY, PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY. (TRIPLE SCIENCE)

Students study Science for fourteen lessons a fortnight when they follow this route, and it will take up one of their option choices. The Triple Sciences GCSEs cover the same content as the Combined Science syllabus plus extra extension content

Triple Science is a very popular choice; students are encouraged to opt for it if they enjoy science. Whilst it is not essential that students study Triple Science at GCSE in order to be able to study sciences at A Level, it is strongly recommended. The extension topics that Triple Scientists study give students a significant head start in Science A Level courses. This is particularly true for Biology.

A maximum number of 62 students can follow Triple Science every year. If more than 62 students opt for Triple Science then we will select the top 62 students based on their performance in the Year 9 science exam on March 24th and other assessments taken in year 9.



SPANISH

Examination Board: AQA
Syllabus Number: 8698



If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Estrella

WHAT IS GCSE SPANISH ALL ABOUT?

GCSE in Spanish is about learning how to communicate with and understand speakers of this language. It also teaches how people from other countries live and think. You will put yourself in their place by acting out scenes based in the foreign country, and you will learn how to express your own wishes, plans and opinions in Spanish. In doing all this you will also extend your understanding of how languages work and your understanding of English will be enhanced.

WHAT WILL I HAVE TO DO?

- You will practise speaking Spanish in role-plays, conversations and by preparing speeches and presentations to be delivered to one or more other people
- You will get practice in giving information and opinions and in finding out what other people have to say
- You will get frequent practice in listening to all sorts of Spanish speakers; young, old, male and female, so that you understand the language when you hear it spoken at normal speed
- You will read a variety of texts in Spanish, ranging from notices and signs to advertisements, leaflets, letters and magazine or newspaper articles. These will cover a range of subjects from tourist information to fashion, sport, cuisine and other areas of general interest
- You will practise writing correct Spanish from short notes and messages, formal and informal letters, to more extended stories and descriptions. Sometimes you will be given a precise plan to write to; at other times you will be able to use your imagination to produce pieces of your own composition
- You will practise translation from and into Spanish

DOES IT FOLLOW ON FROM WHAT I HAVE LEARNED BEFORE?

You will not notice any major differences in the kind of work you do at the moment: you will build on the Spanish learnt at Key Stage 3, revising things that you have learnt before and adding new topics and extending your understanding of old ones.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

You will be assessed in four language elements: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Each elements counts 25% towards the final grade. You will take the GCSE examination at either Foundation or Higher Level. Foundation papers give access to grades 1 – 5; Higher to 3 – 9.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will have regular opportunities to work in groups, developing teamwork skills. You also will develop summary-writing, role-playing and presentational skills in the course of Key Stage 4 Languages.

