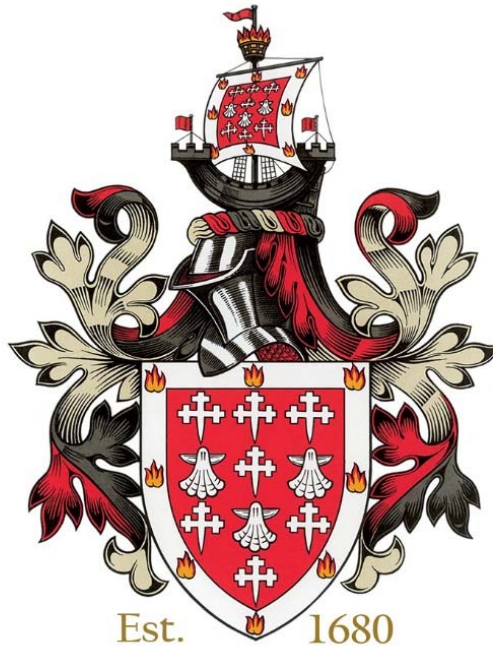


Davenant Foundation School



KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS BOOKLET 2018 - 2020

IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY – MARCH 2018

Students work through careers programme with Form Tutors

9 JANUARY 2018

Year 9 'Introduction to the GCSE Process' Evening
5.30pm Options Fair - 7.30pm Options Talk in School Hall

18 JANUARY 2018

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

25 JANUARY 2018

CareersFest – Epping Forest College 3pm – 7pm

19, 20, 21 FEBRUARY 2018

Options Clinic 4pm - 6pm

2 MARCH 2018

Options Forms to be returned to Form Tutors



KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS

During Key Stage 3, students are taught and assessed in a broad range of subjects. Teachers and students develop an understanding of individual strengths and weaknesses over the course of the three years. Evidence suggests that if young people do well up until 14, they will also do well in their GCSEs.

Students who are in Years 10 and 11 are usually between the ages of 14 and 16. They are now in Key Stage 4 and during this stage they will normally sit national exams including GCSEs. Some of the subjects they are taught are part of a compulsory 'core' curriculum, but they also get to choose a small number of subjects that they think they will do well in, and have an interest in studying.

CORE CURRICULUM

Compulsory subjects:

English, Mathematics, Science, and Religious Studies.
Core PE does not lead to a qualification.

Expectations:

It is expected that nearly all students, unless agreed at a careers meeting or a meeting with Mrs Blow and her team, should take either a **Modern Foreign Language** or a **Humanities subject (Geography or History)**.

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

SO WHAT DO YOU NEED TO CONSIDER?

When you are choosing subjects for Year 10 it is useful to think about:

Likes and what are you good at – It is easier for you to build your subject choices around what you like doing and what you succeed in. Whilst this might give a general indication of where your strengths lie, e.g. in the arts, sciences, technical subjects or business studies, you also need to consider any subjects that might be required in your future career.

Interests – What kind of person are you? Do you like writing projects, helping people, being outdoors or designing something? These factors and others should be thought about when deciding the type of work that you might enjoy in later life. This may then influence your choice of subjects in Key Stage 4.

Course content and assessment – In a few practical subjects there are controlled assessments. These are assessments done throughout Years 10 & 11, often in class time and count towards the students' final grade. Students are warned in advance that these are happening and are given time to prepare; however, they often sit the assessment under 'exam conditions' in class. Different subjects have differing amounts of pre-exam assessment and the nature of the controlled assessment can vary. Students must bear this in mind when making their choices. How you learn is important and needs to be considered. A discussion about the mix of controlled assessment or coursework and final exams should be part of your decision making.

Post 16 – Knowing which type of career might best suit you will arm you with information on qualifications and training routes. Some jobs and learning require specific qualifications at GCSE and at certain grades, although most simply like to see students with a range of good grades that demonstrate their commitment to hard work.



WHAT SHOULD I CHOOSE?

As a school 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. We therefore would like **all** students to choose **either** a Humanities or a Modern Foreign Language subject. *(Some students will choose both as part of the EBACC qualification.)* We also highly recommend that students choose a creative subject as part of their free options. This is not compulsory but to have a creative subject as part of their GCSEs shows a balanced and creative element to their qualifications.



Compulsory Subjects

MATHS	DOUBLE SCIENCE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	ENGLISH LITERATURE
PE	RE

Compulsory to choose at least one of these

GEOGRAPHY	FRENCH
HISTORY	SPANISH

Free Choice

OPEN OPTION 1	OPEN OPTION 3
OPEN OPTION 2	

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 their style of learning and have additional support. This includes a Level 1 or 2 GCSE in Leisure and Tourism and/or an extended Design and Technology GCSE course. These subjects, along with other options, would support students in getting their qualifications for post 16 education. These options will be discussed further at option clinics or by appointment.

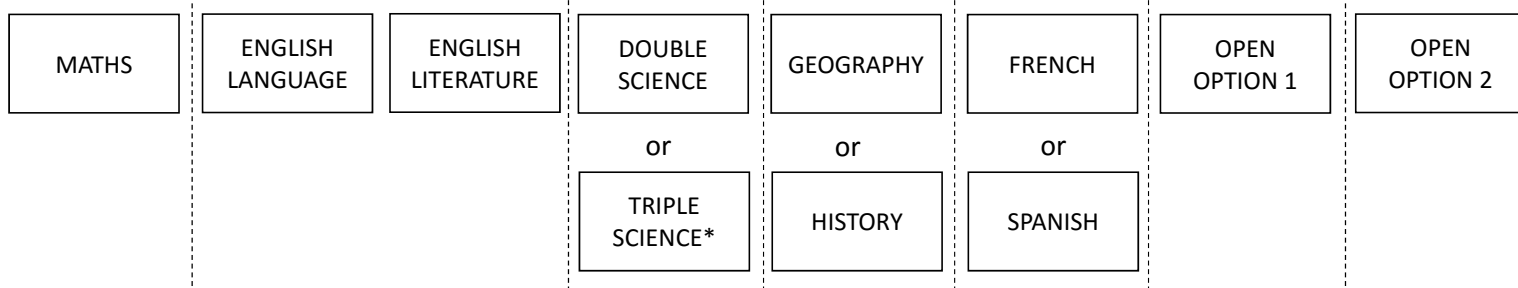


ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE

The English Baccalaureate - The government has created an award called the 'English Baccalaureate' in an attempt to encourage the majority of students to study a broad range of subjects. This will not be compulsory; however, for most students it is highly recommended as recent announcements by the Government have made it clear that it will increasingly become a measure of GCSE success.



Currently the government has indicated that the English Baccalaureate will require students to achieve a Grade 5 or above in English, Mathematics, Science(s), a Modern Foreign Language, and a Humanity such as History or Geography. The English Baccalaureate will not be appropriate, or attractive, to all students, but it should be part of your decision making process. The option blocks that we have created should allow students to combine English Baccalaureate subjects with a wide variety of other subjects. It should be noted that many good universities now expect the best candidates to have a foreign language GCSE.



**If you take triple science that would be one of your Open options taken*



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 won't 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.

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 do full justice to themselves. 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 sent to parents in September 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 AND GUIDANCE

During the course of Year 10, students will receive extensive careers advice and guidance. Parents are invited to borrow (or purchase) recommended text books which offer help in decision making. Also our 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 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.

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 get their forms signed by Mrs Blow before handing them in.



COMPLETING THE OPTIONS FORM

A copy of the Options Form can be found on the following page for your reference. Fill this in and keep it for your own records. The separate coloured copy should be **completed and handed in on or before 2 March 2018**.

In addition to English, Double Science, Mathematics, Core Religious Studies and PE, students must choose a first and a second choice from each of the four option blocks below. **Remember you must, unless otherwise agreed, choose either a Humanities subject (Geography/History) or a Modern Foreign Language.**

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 Head of Department's initials should appear next to your subject choice below. (Heads of Department are named in the subject description section.)

The options 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 second choice down that they are prepared to do. Unfortunately, numbers of students on most courses are limited. Where a subject is over-subscribed, students who have submitted their forms after the deadline may have to take their second choice of subject in that option block. We will endeavour to restrict the number of second choices any student has to take.

The subjects that qualify for the **English Baccalaureate** are shaded.

Students should not choose Computer Science **and** Creative iMedia or Business Studies **and** Leisure & Tourism as these are closely related. Please speak to the Head of Department if you are considering one of these subjects.



GCSE OPTIONS CHOICE FORM: 2018 – 2020

Name : Form:

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C	BLOCK D
HISTORY	HISTORY	HISTORY	TRIPLE SCIENCE
GEOGRAPHY	GEOGRAPHY	GEOGRAPHY	MUSIC
FRENCH	FRENCH	FRENCH	DRAMA
SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH	ART
COMPUTER SCIENCE*	MUSIC	CREATIVE iMEDIA*	CREATIVE iMEDIA*
BUSINESS STUDIES*	DRAMA	PHYSICAL EDUCATION*	BUSINESS STUDIES*
CHILD DEVELOPMENT	ART	PRODUCT DESIGN	FOOD PREP & NUTRITION
	TEXTILE DESIGN	FOOD PREP & NUTRITION	TOURISM **
PRODUCT DESIGN EXTRA**		ADDITIONAL STUDY SUPPORT**	

1 ST	1 ST	1 ST	1 ST
2 ND	2 ND	2 ND	2 ND

I confirm that I have read the options booklet and discussed my choices with my Parents/Carers

Student signature Date:

Parent/Carer signature: Date:

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND HANDED IN BY 2 MARCH 2018



ART

Examination Board: OCR (currently under review)
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 STUDIES

Examination Board: Edexcel
Syllabus Number: 1BS0

If you would like further information, please contact Mr Merry

WHAT IS GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES ALL ABOUT?

GCSE Business Studies 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 Studies 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. Design work you may have done in Art and / or Design Technology lessons, as well as what you have learnt in Maths, will really help you to understand the production and finance elements of GCSE Business Studies.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS?

Theme 1: Investigating Small Business **1 hr 30 mins** **50%**

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

Business Studies 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.

Most importantly, we hope you develop that unique entrepreneurial skill of being someone who is willing to take a risk, and set up a business of their own in the future – who knows, it's a set of skills that might make you the next Lord Alan Sugar!



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 60% 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 written paper which tests your knowledge and understanding of the specification contents. Have a look at the OCR website Home Economics- Child Development for detailed information of the specifications. This paper has an assessment weighting of 50%.

ARE THERE ANY CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS?

Students will be expected to submit three pieces of work for assessment.

One individual task - this involves a problem solving and investigational approach towards a study of a child or children up to their fifth birthday. This carries 30% of the assessment for the course. The task will assess a variety of skills including research, selecting and justifying choices, planning practical work and evaluation. The work will be internally assessed and externally moderated. **You will need to have a child under five to visit in order to complete this Child Study Task.**

Two Resource Tasks – these are a focused assessments with the emphasis placed on the implementation of practical skills. These carry 20% of the total marks. Once again it will be internally assessed and externally moderated.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

You will learn to develop your ability to 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.

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS?

This is a valuable course to study if you wish to pursue a career working with children or 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 Mr R W Taylor



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– 40%

This unit covers the body of knowledge about computer systems on which the examination will be based. This includes systems, memory, storage, networks, system security, software, and ethical concerns.

Component 2: Computational thinking and programming assessed by written examination– 40%

Students develop programming techniques to enable them to solve problems. Students learn to create algorithms and use programming techniques. They will also learn the fundamentals of computer logic, program translation and how different types of data is represented in computers.

Component 3: Programming project, assessed by controlled assessment– 20%

Students complete a programming project under controlled assessment conditions. They will analyse a problem, design a solution, develop and program, test the completed program and evaluate its success.

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. With this course you will actually be learning to write your own code. 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 80% towards your final grade. There is one controlled assessment task contributing 20% towards your final grade.

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 Mr R W Taylor



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%

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%

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 task set by the exam board.

R085 Creating a multi-page website - 25%

In this unit you will be able to apply skills, knowledge and understanding gained in in units R081 and R082. Multipage websites are the basis of internet content and are therefore used extensively in the creative digital media sector, whether for mobile phones or computers in all their forms. Assessment is from a project you undertake.

R086 Creating a digital animation - 25%

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. Assessment is from this project task you will complete.

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. You have made webpages although on this course you will use web-authoring software to do so.

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.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Examination Board: AQA

If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Bhatt



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.

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 Bhatt

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 and Nineteenth Century Novel are worth 40% of the final Literature GCSE, and Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry 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 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.



FOOD PREPERATION AND NUTRITION

Examination Board: WJEC/CBAC

If you would like further information, please contact Miss Giles



WHAT IS GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION ALL ABOUT?

By studying food preparation and nutrition learners will:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks
- Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health
- Understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food
- Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes

WILL I ENJOY THE COURSE?

Food Preparation and Nutrition is an enjoyable course if you are interested in the science of food, how the ingredients work within the food we make and within our bodies. There will be some practical food work, investigating the science of how variables can change the make up of the food and some opportunities to develop making 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?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition 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, particularly the study of nutrition. **Please note that although this is considered a practical subject there is a large amount of theory /written work to be carried out.**

WHAT ABOUT THE EXAMINATION?

Component 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition. A theory paper of 1 hour 45 minutes which is 50% of the final exam mark.

IS THERE ANY COURSEWORK?

This is 50% of the final exam mark and is divided into two areas:

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition. Non-examination assessment

Task 1: (15%) **A food investigation task** set by WJEC. Duration: 8 hours with 1500-2000 words.

Task 2: (35%) **One** task to be selected from a choice of **two** tasks set by WJEC. Duration: 12 hours with 30 sides of A4.

Both tasks take place in the second half of the course (**Year 11**)

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

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



FRENCH

Examination Board: AQA
Syllabus Number: 8658



If you would like further information, please contact Dr Rafael

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 6 – 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** (assessed June 2019) 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 debating, researching, presenting, investigating and writing.

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
- International Relations, 1943-1991: Cold War to the collapse of the Soviet Union
- Henry VIII and his Ministers 1509-1540
- Crime and Punishment in Britain 1000-Present and Whitechapel: Crime and Policing in the inner city

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.



MATHEMATICS



Examination Board: Edexcel GCSE

If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Greagsby

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 Mr O'Sullivan

WHAT IS GCSE MUSIC ALL ABOUT?

GCSE Music is about making 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 and composing 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.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Examination Board: OCR
Specification Number: J587



If you would like further information, please contact Mr Redgrave

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

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- 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)

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 3**). The activities that you choose to offer will be decided by yourself after consultation with Physical Education staff. 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 be assessed 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.

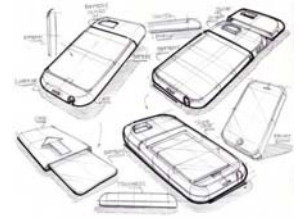
ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS?

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.



PRODUCT DESIGN

Examination Board: AQA
Syllabus No: 8552



If you would like further information, please see Miss Rooney

WHAT IS PRODUCT DESIGN ALL ABOUT?

GCSE 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 PRODUCT DESIGN 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 Product Design. 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 on a USB (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. This is no longer a tiered paper; candidates are provided with a preparation sheet which is set out in March of Year 11 and applies to section A of the exam paper. This sheet sets the theme of the paper for students to investigate before the exam.

AQA have also now set 'Controlled Assessment' criteria which means that all coursework must be done within school, excluding external research. They have deadlines for marking which must be adhered to in order to receive the marks. If the dates are missed then the student will not receive the mark for that chapter. This is the main part of controlled assessment. More details regarding this are given to candidates during the course. ALL above works are 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?

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 and therefore much different to what they have experienced in lower years. Students who choose this option must be creative and prepared for hard work.**



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Examination Board: AQA
Syllabus: Spec A – Beliefs Practices and Comparative views on current issues

If you would like further information, please see Mr Escott

All students will follow a one-hour R.E. GCSE Short Course, but may opt to take the full course. See main body for details on how the course is examined

WHAT IS THE COURSE ALL ABOUT?

The law currently requires all students in England to study Religious Education for a minimum of 50 hours over the course of KS4. At Davenant we choose to follow the Religious Studies GCSE Exam Specification A from AQA. There are two major themes, firstly 'Religion in the Contemporary World' and secondly 'Key Practices and Beliefs'. Students have to examine themes and perspectives from two major world faiths. The two studied at Davenant are Christianity and Islam.

SHORT COURSE ONLY

The GCSE Short course is worth $\frac{1}{2}$ a GCSE.

Students who at the end of Year 11 are only entered for the short course will sit one 1h45m exam on Religious themes including:

Christian and Islamic views towards:

- Theme A: Relationships and families
- Sex, marriage and divorce
- Families and gender equality
- Theme B: Religion and life
- The origins and value of the universe
- The origins and value of human life
- Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict
- Religion, violence, terrorism and war
- Religion and belief in 21st century conflict
- Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment
- Religion, crime and the causes of crime
- Religion and punishment

FULL COURSE ADDITION

Student who choose this option will earn a whole GCSE.

Students who at the end of Year 11 who will also be entered for the full course will sit a second 1h45m exam on the beliefs and practices of Christianity and Islam.

- Christianity: Key beliefs
- The nature of God
- Jesus Christ and salvation
- Christianity: Practices
- Worship and festivals
- The role of the church in the local and worldwide community
- Islam: Key Beliefs
- The nature of God
- The Five Pillars of Islam
- Authority
- Islam: Practices
- Worship
- Duties and festivals



WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

You will have the opportunity to develop many aspects of the various Key Skills. In particular, the course enables you to develop skills of communication, working with others and problem solving through a range of activities including group discussion, class debate and various written activities – all of which engage with contemporary issues in today's society.

ARE THERE ANY VOCATIONAL LINKS WITH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION?

Employers look for someone with an enquiring mind, understanding and an appreciation of other people's points of view, and an ability to come to clear, informed decisions. These are all skills which are developed in Religious Education. Specifically, an RE qualification meets needs in broadcasting, law, journalism, publishing and teaching, as well as full time work with religious agencies. There are also many exciting and fulfilling opportunities to work abroad, long and short term. The understanding gained in RE can enhance work undertaken in a variety of fields including medicine and the building industry.



SCIENCE

The Science department runs two routes through Key Stage 4 Science.
In September 2016 the department introduced new syllabuses for the two routes.

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. The first exams in these new syllabuses will take place in May and June 2019 and students will receive grades on the new 9-1 scale rather than the traditional A* to G scale.

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. It puts heavy emphasis on scientific theories as well as the role of science in society.

The GCSE in Combined Science is an acceptable entry qualification for the study of Advanced Level Biology, Chemistry or Physics in Year 12.

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. The Triple Sciences GCSEs cover the same content as the Combined Science syllabus plus extra extension content. Each of these GCSEs is acceptable entry qualification for the study of Advanced Level Biology, Chemistry or Physics in Year 12

Triple Science is a very popular choice; students are encouraged to opt for it if they enjoy science. It is important to note that students do not have to study Triple Science in order to be able to study sciences at A Level. However, Triple Science is a better preparation for studying A Level Biology, Physics or Chemistry than Double Science because students are introduced to a wider range of concepts, which will be built on in A Level Science and the increased curriculum time means those concepts can be studied in greater detail.

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 at the GCSE style assessments students have sat during Year 9.



SPANISH

Examination Board: AQA
Syllabus Number: 8698



If you would like further information, please contact Dr Rafael

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 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 6 – 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.



TEXTILE DESIGN

Examination Board: OCR GCSE (9-1)
Syllabus Number: J174



If you would like any further information, please contact Mrs Kennedy

WHAT IS GCSE TEXTILES DESIGN ALL ABOUT?

The course is focused on the Art of Textiles which means we explore colour, pattern, and texture in printed and dyed design, surface decoration, fashion and contemporary textile art. The specification provides an innovative and imaginative qualification rewarding flair and creativity; and allows for independence. This is the new specification GCSE.

WILL I ENJOY THE COURSE?

Yes, if you are someone who is creative, enjoys fashion and design and 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 textile techniques and media, you need to experiment with your ideas, challenge yourself and take risks. The possibilities are endless...

Can you imagine a world without Textiles? "Textiles" 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:

Design - Textiles, Fashion, Interior, Theatre and/or Costume, Business, Sportswear, Footwear

Specific Textile and Fashion Jobs - Milliner, Tailor, Pattern-grader, Pattern-cutter, Fabric Technologist, Garment Technologist

New Textile Fibre Development - Research & development of the high-tech fabric from Formula One drivers to Fighter Jet pilots

Retail - Fashion Buyer, Fabric Buyer, Merchandiser

Advertising - Fashion Editor, Marketing, Fine Art Textiles, Researcher, Teacher

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

The course is very practical and you will use key processes such as quilting, applique, transfer printing and dyeing fabric which you learnt at Key Stage 3 along with learning lots of new techniques on the GCSE Art: Textile course. You will be required to draw and design your fabrics and products you want to make. You will have a lot more time and freedom and this will allow you to develop the skills and learn the new techniques to produce creative innovative and experimental Textile Art and make textile products for example a garment, wall hanging or a lampshade. There is no written examination.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP?

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

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

GCSE Art: Textile Design is made up of one portfolio of coursework and a practical exam which will be assessed. This specification encourages learners to **select**, **organise** and **present** work that represents the best of their achievement in response to the assessment objectives.

The portfolio is a controlled assessed unit which you follow a set theme and will involve you producing a sketchbook(s) of drawing and design ideas which is developed and experimented through into the textile techniques and you will make a practical textile piece e.g. wall hanging, a bag, a dress etc. This is worth 60% of the total GCSE.

The examination is completed in Year 11 you will carry out a ten hour practical task. You select one question from the early release exam paper which you have a number of set weeks preparation time to plan, develop and produce work and complete a final piece outcome in the two day exam. This is worth 40% of the total GCSE.



TOURISM

Examination Board: WJEC



If you would like any further information, please contact Mr Merry

WHAT IS TOURISM ALL ABOUT?

Tourism Level 1 / 2 Award introduces learners to one of the most important and dynamic employment sectors in the UK. Students will have the opportunity to explore various aspects of tourism in many different contexts. The learning experience is focused on applied learning, allowing students to apply their skills and knowledge to purposeful tasks set in a tourism context.

WHAT UNITS WILL I STUDY

• Customer Experience (Mandatory)	Internal Assessment
• Business of Tourism (Mandatory)	External Assessment
• Developing UK Tourist Destinations (Mandatory)	Internal Assessment
• European Tourism Destinations (Mandatory)	External Assessment
• Events Tourism (Mandatory)	Internal Assessment
• Promotional Activities for Tourism Organisations (Optional)	Internal Assessment
• Sustainable Tourism (Optional)	Internal Assessment

This structure has been designed to develop in students the understanding and skills related to a range of different types of tourism and tourism organisations. Each unit has been designed so that knowledge, skills and understanding is developed through tasks that have many of the characteristics of real work in tourism. Each unit has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning in the unit. This approach is called applied learning.

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

There is no specific requirement for prior learning with this specification. The qualification has been designed to build on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired at Key Stage 3, particularly skills related to literacy, numeracy, problem solving and enterprise.

WHAT ABOUT EXAMINATIONS AND COURSEWORK

The WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Tourism is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessment. Units 2 and 4 are externally examined. Unit 2 is a 75 minute examination with a mixture of short and extended answers. Unit 4 is a timed supervised assessment. The remainder of the units are internal controlled assessments tasks.

WHAT OTHER SKILLS MIGHT I DEVELOP

The qualifications have been devised around the concept of a 'plan, do, review' approach to learning where students are introduced to an understanding of the learning, review previous learning to plan activities, carry out activities and review outcomes and learning. This approach is similar to many work related activities in tourism and also provides for learning in a range of contexts thus enabling students to apply and extend their learning. As such, the qualification provides students with a broad appreciation of work in tourism and wider opportunities for progression into further education, employment or training. The applied purpose will also enable learners to learn in such a way that they develop:

- Skills required for independent learning and development
- A range of generic and transferable skills
- The ability to solve problems
- The skills of project based research, development and presentation
- The fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals, in a professional environment
- The ability to apply learning in vocational contexts

