



Greig City Academy

**Key Stage 4 Courses
2024**

A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

It is at this stage of your child's education that you have the opportunity to select some of the subjects that he or she will be able to study for the next two years. They will study these subjects throughout Key Stage 4 and will sit a GCSE public examination in May and June 2026

Clearly the decision that you are just about to make is one of extreme importance to your son or daughter. It will require a considerable amount of discussion both at school and at home. This booklet, the various parents' evenings and your individual interview will all aid you in that decision making process.

You should read this booklet carefully and please feel free to seek advice from the school at any time during the next, very important, weeks.



Mr. P.V. Sutton

Principal

KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM

The Key Stage 4 curriculum consists of **Core Subjects**, which everybody takes and **Option Subjects**, from which the students make a choice. This arrangement provides students with the maximum opportunity to develop their own interests and abilities, while at the same time making sure that they study a range of different subjects.

CORE SUBJECTS (Compulsory)

This group of subjects do not have to be chosen - **everyone must do them**. They are described on the pages nearer the front of this booklet. The full list of core subjects is:

English (Language and Literature)

Mathematics

Science (Combined)

Religious Studies

Physical Education

OPTION SUBJECTS (Choices) The choice of which option subjects to study depends more on the interests and ability of the individual. Students choose up to four optional subjects. The subjects we plan to include in our options are as follows.

Business Studies (GCSE)

Economics

Retail (Technical Certificate)

Computing

Design & Technology

Drama (BTEC)

Food Preparation and Nutrition

GCSE Support

Geography

History

Media Studies

MFL: French

MFL: German

MFL: Spanish

Music (BTEC)

Physical Education (GCSE)

Sociology

Art and Design

Art and Design, Textiles

Travel & Tourism

Triple Science

Core
Subjects

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus No: 8700

Head of English: Mr Jones

Paper 1

“Explorations in creative reading and writing”

(1 hour 45 mins)

80 marks in total – 50% of the GCSE

Section A: Reading (1 hour)

(Worth 40 marks)

In this section of the exam, students must read an extract from a work of fiction. Then they must answer 4 questions that assess their reading skills. In this section of the exam, there is one extended writing question that is worth 20 marks.

Section B: Writing (45 mins)

(Worth 40 marks)

In this section of the exam, students will be required to write their own piece of creative writing. They will have a choice of two questions and must pick one question they would prefer to write an answer to.

Paper 2

“Writers’ viewpoints and perspectives”

(1 hour 45 mins)

80 marks in total – 50% of the GCSE

Section A: Reading (1 hour)

(Worth 40 marks)

In this section of the exam, students must read two examples of non-fiction writing that are discussing the same topic or issue. Then they must answer 4 questions that assess their reading skills. Some of these questions will require the students to compare the two texts. In this section of the exam, there is one extended writing question that is worth 16 marks.

Section B: Writing (45 mins)

(Worth 40 marks)

In this section of the exam, students will be required to write their own piece of non-fiction writing. The question will specify what type of non-fiction they will need to write (such as an article or a letter) and students must write in the appropriate style and form.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus No: 8702

Head of English: Mr Jones

The texts we study for English Literature:

- Shakespeare Text – ‘Macbeth’
- 19th Century Novel – ‘The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde’
- Modern Text – ‘An Inspector Calls’ (of ‘Lord of the Flies’ for Sets 1 and 2)
- Poetry – ‘Power and Conflict’ AQA Anthology

The poems we study from the ‘Power and Conflict’ Anthology:

- ‘Ozymandias’ by Percy Bysshe Shelley
- ‘London’ by William Blake
- ‘The Prelude’ by William Wordsworth
- ‘My Last Duchess’ by Robert Browning
- ‘The Charge of the Light Brigade’ by Alfred Lord Tennyson
- ‘Exposure’ by Wilfred Owen
- ‘Storm on the Island’ by Seamus Heaney
- ‘Bayonet Charge’ by Ted Hughes
- ‘Remains’ by Simon Armitage
- ‘Poppies’ by Jane Weir
- ‘War Photographer’ by Carol Ann Duffy
- ‘Tissue’ by Imtiaz Dharker
- ‘The Émigrée’ by Carol Rumens
- ‘Kamikaze’ by Beatrice Garland
- ‘Checking Out Me History’ by John Agard

Paper 1

“Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel”

(1 hour 45 mins)

64 marks in total – 40% of the GCSE

Section A: Shakespeare (50 mins)

(Worth 30 marks + 4 marks for VSPAG)

For this question, students will be given an extract from the play ‘Macbeth’ and a related question. To answer the question, students must refer to the extract and the play as a whole.

Section B: 19th Century Novel (50 mins)

(Worth 30 marks)

For this question, students will be given an extract from the novel ‘Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde’ and a related question. To answer the question, students must refer to the extract and the novel as a whole.

Paper 2

“Modern texts and poetry”

(2 hours 15 mins)

96 marks in total – 60% of the GCSE

Section A: Modern Text (45 mins)

(Worth 30 marks + 4 marks for VSPAG)

Students will have a choice of two essay questions. They must pick one that they feel more confident with and write a detailed essay in response.

Section B: Power and Conflict Poetry (45 mins)

(Worth 30 marks)

Students will be given a copy of one poem from the ‘Power and Conflict’ collection. Accompanying the poem, there will be an essay question, asking them to compare the poem to another one from the collection. Students must pick a poem they would like to compare it to and write an essay exploring the similarities and differences of the two poems.

Section C: Unseen Poetry (45 mins)

(Q1 is worth 24 marks + Q2 is worth 8 marks)

For this section, students will be given two poems they have not studied before. Students will first write an essay about the first poem. Then they must write an answer comparing the first poem to the second poem.

GCSE English Revision Tips	Useful for Language	Useful for Literature
<p>Read regularly! Students should be reading a minimum of 20 minutes a night of a fiction book. This is the best way to make progress in the subject. Also, read one non-fiction article from a newspaper each week.</p>	✓	
<p>Complete Bedrock! https://app.bedrocklearning.org/ All students have log-in details for Bedrock. They should try to complete this and get at least 25 points a week. This will help them develop their vocabulary needed to succeed in the subject.</p>	✓	
<p>Complete revision guides! There are lots of useful revision guides available in Amazon and Waterstones designed to help students achieve success in English. These include: CGP, York Notes and AQA Study Guides.</p>	✓	✓
<p>Watch English Revision Videos on YouTube! https://www.youtube.com/@mrbruff There are lots of great YouTube channels that help students to revise English. We recommend Mr Bruff, Mr Salles, Stacey Reay and First Rate Tutors, but there are many other great YouTubers too.</p>	✓	✓
<p>Use Genius! https://genius.com/ Genius is a great website for analysing poetry. It has the poems they must learn with suggested ideas about what each line of the poem could suggest. This is useful for revising poems again or for learning a poem that has been missed.</p>		✓
<p>Use Sparknotes (and 'No Fear Shakespeare')! https://www.sparknotes.com/shakespeare/macbeth/ Sparknotes is a useful website for revising the key ideas, characters and quotes from the different GCSE Literature texts. It is especially useful for revising Shakespeare because it has a "No Fear Shakespeare" feature which translates Shakespeare into modern English. This might be useful for any students who struggle with 'Macbeth'.</p>		✓
<p>Create revision flashcards! Create revision flashcards on some of the key terminology, characters or quotes that need to be revised. Then test yourself at home. For example, write 'Lady Macbeth' on one side, and 4 key quotes about her on the other; or write 'Metaphor' on one side and a definition of a metaphor on the other.</p>	✓	✓
<p>Complete past papers from AQA! https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700/assessment-resources?f.Resource+type%7C6=Question+papers On the AQA website is a section called Assessment Resources. This includes past question papers for both English Language and English Literature. Students can revise by practising these past papers in timed conditions.</p>	✓	✓
<p>Watch the films! Sometimes a good way to revise the story of the Literature texts is to watch the film adaptations. There are excellent versions of 'Macbeth' that are available such as the Michael Fassbender version and the Denzel Washington version.</p>		✓

MATHEMATICS

Examination Board: Edexcel

THE COURSE

The GCSE course consists of many topics which aim to develop competence in the areas of **Number, Algebra, Ratio, proportion and rates of change, Geometry and measures, Probability and Statistics**. Within each topic opportunities arise for students to demonstrate their understanding of the concepts involved, problem solving capabilities, ability to use correct mathematical language and notation, accuracy and how well they can present their work. Mathematics is a key subject in the areas of science, technology, engineering and the business world. There are few fields of administration which do not depend on some form of statistical analysis. Other areas of employment with a significant mathematical content include accountancy, banking, actuarial work, electronic data-processing, operational research and teaching.

ASSESSMENT

There are two tiers of entry: foundation and higher. There are three examination papers of equal weighting for each tier. Each paper will assess the students' ability to recall, select and apply their knowledge of mathematics and to interpret, analyse and solve problems. Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long. The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total mark across all three papers where 9 is the highest grade.

Foundation (grades 1-5)	Paper 1 Non-calculator 33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks 	Paper 2 Calculator 33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks 	Paper 3 Calculator 33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks 
	Paper 1 Non-calculator 33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks 	Paper 2 Calculator 33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks 	Paper 3 Calculator 33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks 

Organising work and setting:

Homework is set and checked each Monday to cover current teaching topics together with consolidation, revision and practice of previous work and almost always include flipped learning activities. The aim is to build on developing key skills and fluency with topics taught, leading to reasoning and problem solving. Regular assessments are given during the course to inform students of their progress and so that we can review and reflect on teaching strategies employed.

All students are allocated to sets from year 7- 11. We have higher and mixed ability groups only, movement between sets is fluid and depends on multiple criteria. Students who are not achieving their potential are given in and out of class intervention support.

Why study Maths?

GCSE Maths is something you will often see on job adverts as a requirement. Maths is valued by employers because it develops analytical and precise, logical thinking skills. You will often find that you need Maths if you decide to go on to higher education. If you want a career in teaching, nursing and many other jobs, Maths will be on the list of essential qualifications that the admissions team will want to see. This is to gauge your suitability for higher study and in many cases, because Maths will factor into the course in some way.

Do you know what you really want to do in the future? If so, have you thought about how continuing to study Maths will help you? It could make a huge difference to whether you achieve your aims. If you don't know what you want to do, then studying Maths will help to keep your options open. You will need at least a grade 5 in GCSE Maths to study Core Maths and at least a grade 7 to study A level Maths in Sixth Form. Studying Maths will help keep your options open. Maths opens doors.

Advanced Maths qualifications are highly regarded by employers and universities. They are often required or recommended for entry to university and degree apprenticeship programmes, even for subjects that do not have a large amount of mathematical content. Many employers use numeracy tests to filter applicants. Students who have studied Maths beyond GCSE are likely to be better prepared for such tests.

Studying Maths develops your numeracy, graphical and problem-solving skills. These skills are really useful preparation for the Maths used in many university degree courses, higher apprenticeships, and the workplace. It can also increase your confidence and fluency in the Maths used in everyday life.

Many other subjects studied after GCSE include mathematical content. Maths skills are included in the assessment of around a third of all non-Maths A levels. It's likely that if you study Maths alongside subjects like these you will achieve better results in them.

There are three main paths involving advanced Maths qualifications:

Core Maths

Core Maths is a relatively new type of qualification. It's designed for students who have passed GCSE Mathematics at grade 5 or above, but who have not chosen to study AS or A level Mathematics.

You will learn some new topics, but it mostly involves Maths you will have already used for your GCSE. Where it differs is its focus on developing the skills you need to apply Maths to the kinds of real-life problems you will meet in study, work and life.

AS/A level Mathematics

A level Mathematics is one of the most popular A level subjects in Sixth Form.

It involves studying:

- pure Maths – use of algebra, graphical techniques and new material such as calculus
- statistics – including analysis of data, interpretation of graphs such as scatter diagrams, and new topics including the Normal distribution and hypothesis testing.
- mechanics – studying the motion of objects by considering forces, using 'suvat' equations and interpreting graphs representing motion.

AS/A level Mathematics with AS/A level Further Mathematics

A level Further Mathematics is a second A level in Maths, designed to broaden and deepen the Maths covered in A level Mathematics. It is taken alongside A level Mathematics. Only grade 8 or grade 9 students are allowed to study Further Maths.

COMBINED SCIENCE

Examination Board: OCR
Specification: Gateway science
Staff to contact: Mr Corrigan (Deputy Head Teacher-Curriculum)
Ms Ahlin (Head of Science Faculty)

Course aims

GCSE study in sciences provides the foundation for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all learners should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. They should be helped to appreciate how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas relating to the sciences which are both interlinked, and are of universal application.

These key ideas include:

- The use of conceptual models and theories to make sense of the observed diversity of natural phenomena
- The assumption that every effect has one or more cause

- That change is driven by differences between different objects and systems when they interact
- That many such interactions occur over a distance and over time without direct contact.
- That science progresses through a cycle of hypothesis, practical experimentation, observation, theory, development and review.
- That quantitative analysis is a central element both of many theories and of scientific methods of enquiry

Teaching time

Students will study 10 hours of science over a two-week cycle. This means they will have a science lesson every day. This is taught by one teacher.

Suitability, careers and future study

All students that do not choose to study triple science will study combined science and will be studying towards a double GCSE qualification (9-9 to 1-1)

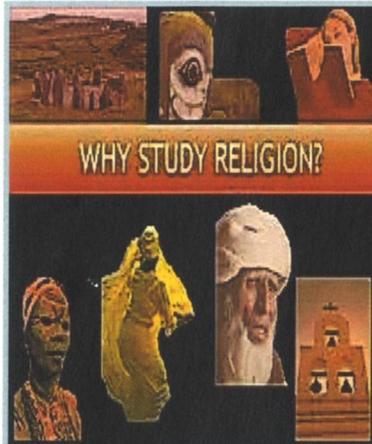
Please note that it is still possible to study science A levels having followed the combined science pathway.

Content overview	Assessment overview	
<p>Content is split into 18 teaching topics B1-B6, C1-C6 and P1-P6 and a practical activity skills topic CS7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic B1: Cell level systems • Topic B2: Scaling up • Topic B3: Organism level systems • Topic CS7: Practical skills (PAGs B1-B5) 	<p>Paper 1 (Biology)</p> <p>J250/01</p> <p>1 hour 10 minutes 60 mark written paper</p>	<p>16.7% of total GCSE</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic B4: Community level systems • Topic B5: Interaction between systems • Topic B6: Global challenges • Topic CS7: Practical skills (PAGs B1-B5) <p>With assumed knowledge of B1-B3</p>	<p>Paper 2 (Biology)</p> <p>J250/02</p> <p>1 hour 10 minutes 60 mark written paper</p>	<p>16.7% of total GCSE</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic C1: Particles • Topic C2: Elements, compounds and mixtures • Topic C3: Chemical reactions • Topic CS7: Practical skills (PAGs C1-C5) 	<p>Paper 3 (Chemistry)</p> <p>J250/03</p> <p>1 hour 10 minutes 60 mark written paper</p>	<p>16.7% of total GCSE</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic C4: Predicting and identifying reactions and products • Topic C5: Monitoring and controlling chemical reactions • Topic C6: Global challenges • Topic CS7: Practical skills (PAG C1-C5) 	<p>Paper 4 (Chemistry)</p> <p>J250/04</p> <p>1 hour 10 minutes 60 mark written paper</p>	<p>16.7% of total GCSE</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic P1: Matter • Topic P2: Forces • Topic P3: Electricity and magnetism • Topic CS7: Practical skills (PAGs P1-P5) 	<p>Paper 5 (Physics)</p> <p>J250/05</p> <p>1 hour 10 minutes 60 mark written paper</p>	<p>16.7% of total GCSE</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic P4: Waves and radioactivity • Topic P5: Energy • Topic P6: Global changes • Topic CS7: Practical skills (PAGs P1-P5) 	<p>Paper 6 (Physics)</p> <p>J250/05</p> <p>1 hour 10 minutes 60 mark written paper</p>	<p>16.7% of total GCSE</p>

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Examination Board : Edexcel : Beliefs in Action

Staff : Ms Sheridan, Mr Horner, Mr Dainty . Mr Khan



WHY STUDY RELIGION?

Religious education helps you to understand life in our multi faith world.

It will provide you with knowledge and skills to examine the religious and secular beliefs that underpin and motivate events in all spheres of life and throughout history. We teach you to engage with diverse moral and spiritual issues with respect, empathy and discernment.

In today's multi-faith world, a lack of religious knowledge can lead to ignorance, fear, extremism, prejudice and conflict. All of these we seek to combat as we promote the academic and spiritual skills necessary to address life issues and to understand human responses to ultimate questions.

All GCA students study RS as part of their compulsory education.

Will this subject help me in my future career ?



An RS qualification shows that you are a deep thinker who understands people, their beliefs and cultures.

It is, therefore, a highly respected subject with employers and colleges because it teaches students to be:

Discerning thinkers and communicators who can argue and debate with skill and confidence

Open-minded, unbiased, informed and objective

Focused yet aware of a variety of perspectives

Excellent at research and analysis

These qualities are valued in a vast number of jobs and professions., for example in all fields of education, Teaching (primary, secondary, tertiary), Law, Journalism, Librarian, Nursing, Media, Social work, Human Resources, Civil Service, Politics, Religious Leadership and many other occupations.

How will it be assessed?

This course is assessed totally by examination. You will sit 2 papers leading to a full course GCSE qualification. The exam consists of two 90 minute papers.

Do you have to be religious to do well in RS ?

Absolutely not.! To study RS at GCSE, it doesn't matter if you have a religious faith or not. What is crucial, is for you



to be prepared to listen to other people's viewpoints and be prepared to find out why people believe what they do. You will need to be prepared to explore theological and philosophical issues, to 'stand in another's shoes' and be prepared to develop, express and defend your own and others' ideas.

What will I study in RS?

The Edexcel course includes elements of Theology and Ethics and leads to a GCSE Qualification. Students will study the following topics

Area of study 1

- 1. Christian Beliefs**
- 2. Marriage and the family**
- 3. Living the Christian Life**
- 4. Matters of life and death**

Area of study 2: based on Islam

- 1. Muslim Beliefs**
- 2. Living the Muslim life**
- 3. Peace and conflict**
- 4. Crime and punishment**

Studies in RE will include reading , watching film clips, written tasks, class discussions, role-plays, debates, group work, revision and short end of module tests. Literacy skills are important in RE and you will be encouraged to develop your knowledge of specialist terms and your communication and essay writing skills.

Option
Subjects

BUSINESS STUDIES GCSE

Examination board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus Number: IBS0

Staff to contact: Mr Albrecht and Mr Khurshid

What I will learn on this course?

Theme 1 – Investigating small business

Theme 2 – Building a Business



While studying the two themes of this course you are likely to learn a lot of new things. You will be introduced to the world of small businesses and will look at what makes someone a successful business person. You will find out how to develop an idea or spot an opportunity and turn it into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business more effective and manage money well. You will also see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved.

In Year 11 you will learn more about how small businesses are developed and discover how they promote themselves and keep their customers happy. Finally, you will learn how businesses manage both their finances and the people who work for them.

What skills will I need to be successful?

The following skills and interests are recommended in order to successfully complete the course:

- A good level of English and literacy skills
- An interest in the world and curiosity about how money works
- An ability to work independently
- Good thinking and communication skills
- Able to retain information
- Entrepreneurial skills – able to come up with new ideas
- **Good at examinations**



How will I be assessed?

Theme 1 - Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes. Questions will comprise of a combination of multiple-choice, short- and extended-answer, data response and scenario-based questions with a total of 90 marks. 50% of final grade.

Theme 2 – Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes. Questions will comprise of a combination of multiple-choice, short- and extended-answer, data response and scenario-based questions with a total of 90 marks. 50% of final grade.

Books/other materials/visits/field courses:

1. Natwest Investment banking in YR10
2. Bank of England, City of London (banking) in YR11

Possible further education courses:

- Any Business and Finance related A-Levels
- Vocational Business Studies or Accounting courses
- BTEC Enterprise L3

Most employers find Business Studies qualifications extremely useful.



4Ps of Marketing Mix

ECONOMICS GCSE

Examination board: OCR

Syllabus Number: J205

Staff to contact: Mr Albrecht

What I will learn on this course?

The course introduces students to basic economic concepts and helps them develop the appropriate range of analytical, critical and reasoning skills to enable them to think like economists. It provides an excellent foundation for advanced study in economics.

Component 1 introduces students to the main economic agents, the basic economic problem and the role of markets, including the labour market and the importance of the financial sector.

Component 2 focuses on the main economic objectives, such as economic growth, low unemployment, fair distribution of income and price stability, and other roles of government. Other aspects are the importance of international trade and the impact of globalisation.

What skills will I need to be successful?

The following skills and interests are recommended in order to successfully complete the course:

- A good level of English and an interest in reading about the world and money
- A general interest in the world and curiosity about what makes it work
- An ability to research independently and work in teams
- Good communication skills
- Interest in business, politics and money

How will I be assessed?

This is an externally assessed qualification, with **two exams of 90 minutes each** at the end of the course. Both question papers have a section with multiple choice questions.

Books/other materials/visits/field courses:

- Bank of England visit (Y10)
- Investment banking club (Y11)
- A range of interesting guest speakers

Possible further education courses:

- Economics A level
- Enterprise BTEC L3



Economics GCSE is a great start for your academic career. It is highly rated by universities and employers.

Technical Certificate in Retail Business

Examination board: WJEC

Qualification Number: 603/7021/X

Staff to contact: Mr Albrecht

What I will learn on this course:

Unit 1 introduces learners to the business of retail and provides them with the opportunity to explore the dynamic and competitive nature of the retail industry. They will gain knowledge and understanding of different types of retail business and retail activity, as well as the impact of external factors on the industry.

Unit 2 allows learners to develop knowledge and understanding of the principles of customer service for retail business and offers the opportunity for learners to develop skills in investigating the customer service experience across retail organisations.

Unit 3 provides learners with the opportunity to develop their understanding of the importance of merchandising and marketing retail products, and how retail businesses use merchandising and marketing to achieve their aims. Learners will also apply their knowledge and understanding to develop skills in designing visual merchandising installations and promotional materials that achieve specific aims.

What skills will I need:

The following skills and interests are recommended in order to successfully complete the course:

- A real interest in Business and how to sell products and services
- An interest in money
- An ability to get stuck in a topic and do some research
- Good thinking and communication skills

How will I be assessed:

Summary of Assessment	
Unit 1: The business of retail Written examination: Time of exam –1 hour 30 minutes 40% of qualification	80 marks
Questions requiring objective responses, short and extended answers, based around applied situations. Learners will be required to use stimulus material to respond to questions.	
Unit 2: Customer service for retail business Controlled assessment: 6 hours 30% of qualification	60 marks
An assignment brief will be provided by WJEC that will include a scenario and several tasks available via the WJEC Secure Website.	
Unit 3: Merchandising and marketing retail products Controlled assessment: 8 hours 30% of qualification	60 marks
An assignment brief will be provided by WJEC that will include a scenario and several tasks available via the WJEC Secure Website.	



What can I do afterwards?:

Possible further education courses:

- Any Business and Retail related BTEC level 3 courses or A-Levels
- Apprenticeships in the retail sector

Computing– GCSE – (9-1) Full Specification (J277)

Examination Board: Oxford and Cambridge Board (OCR)

Staff to Contact:

Mr Porter (JF01) Mr Earle (JF08) Mr Ullah (JF10)

Course Content

This course is designed to offer students an understanding of the fundamentals of computing and programming and provide the tools required for preparing and participating in an evolving information-based society. Throughout the course, students develop technological and programming skills, by gathering, processing and manipulating data. The course offers a firm grounding in computer science, which is essential for students' careers.

The course allows students to progress either to study for an Advanced Level qualification or directly into employment. Succeeding with this qualification best equips a student for A level Computing, As well as a very basis to think about a university degree in computer sciences.

To gain a good pass in this GCSE qualification, candidates must complete 2 written papers which worth 50% each of total marks at the end of year 11.

What will I learn on this course

You will learn how to apply programming and critical thinking skills to solve problems for different end users, for example you could be asked devise a program / application like a game or interactive quiz that stores scores and levels. In addition, you will learn the theory (key words and processes) of computer science, which will enable you to answer challenging exam questions on topics such as: algorithms, the use of code or simulation, practical applications like robotics and the effectiveness of programs to solve problems.

What skills will I need

You will need to have at least an **average B at school assessment levels in KS3** at the end of year 9. You will also need a **B at school assessments in Maths and Science**. Math's is essential. You will need to be someone who can cope with timed exams and who can manage their time effectively to complete controlled assessment units as well. You will need to have excellent attendance, good listening skills and organisational skills. Also desirable, are good analytical and problem solving skills. **You need the ability to think logically and understand the basics of algebra and have coding experience.**

Assessment

Your coursework assessment units will be assessed by the school and also sent for external assessment by an exam board moderator. Your exams will be assessed by the exam board. Grading is based on the new 9-1 system. The lowest grade being 0 after that, but that is a non-pass.

How parents can Help

The course requires students to manage and organise their own work schedules and revisit learning based on the theory taught in class. Students should be encouraged to practise programming using PYTHON. Parents can support students by checking their student diaries on a weekly basis for homework and revision set and encouraging students to review and discuss the work they learnt in theory lessons; ensuring students revise a topic learnt on a weekly basis. This not only helps them with their written exams, but also helps them to embed knowledge needed for the controlled assessed units. It is desirable that students have access to a computer. Daily **after school clubs** will be offered throughout the year and it would help if parents encourage their children to attend these in order to meet given **deadlines**.

Careers and Future Study

Almost every career path is touched by computers and the use of Computing. A good pass in GCSE Computing followed by a suitable 'A' level and Degree can lead into careers in Artificial Intelligence as well as Software Engineering, Programming, Network Management, Data Management, Systems Analysis, Project Management, Music Technology, Web Design and Graphics, just to name a few. Moreover, whatever the career path someone chooses to follow, good Computing/programming skills are desirable in vocations that are not purely based on IT (e.g. law, medicine, journalism, education). Often, having good COMPUTING skills leads to promotion within a given field. Students who succeed on this course often go on to university to study: Architecture, Electronic Engineering, Animation, Web Design, Computer Programming and Business & IT to name but a few.

GCSE DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Examination Board:

OCR Oxford and Cambridge Board RSA

Staff to Contact:

Mr Hilmi (EG-02) Head of Faculty for Design & Technology

Course Content:

Your course is called **OCR GCSE (9-1) Design & Technology**.

The two key components of the course are:

- ***The Iterative Design Challenge. This is a single task that is worth 50% of the GCSE.*** (Non-Examination Assessment)
- ***The other 50% of the GCSE covers The Principles of Design and Technology.*** (and is in the form of an Examination)

GCSE Design and Technology opens the door to a wide range of **STEM careers** in the creative, engineering and manufacturing industries. It is also excellent preparation for careers in many other fields e.g., medicine, law and computer science. Whatever STEM career you choose, the knowledge and skills you learn, particularly those concerned with rapidly developing technologies, will be extremely valuable. You will also develop key skills, such as teamwork and time management which are highly prized by employers.

Design and Technology is purposeful, as well as being fun and exciting! Studying GCSE Design and Technology will build on what you learnt about designing and making in Key Stage 3. You will use your knowledge and skills to design and make new and better solutions to real problems - on your own and with others - working with materials you choose.

Key Features:

The content of the **OCR GCSE Design and Technology Specification** has been set out in two main sections to allow for clarity and allow for progression.

Core principles of Design and Technology:

- Identifying requirements
- Learning from existing products and practice
- implications of wider issues
- design thinking and communication
- material considerations
- Mechanical devices and electronic systems
- New and emerging technologies

In-depth principles of Design and Technology:

- Papers and Boards
- Timber
- Metals
- Polymers
- Fibres and Fabrics
- Design Engineering

What you will be doing?

- Understanding users
- Learning about materials, uses and their properties
- Analysing products

- Learning how things work and operate
- Designing: Including Computer Aided Design (CAD)
- Making: Including Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM)
- Evaluating your own work and others' work

Assessment:

Component	Assessment type	Time	Marks available	% of qualification
Principles of Design and Technology	Written paper	2 hours	100 marks	50%
Iterative Design Challenge	Non-exam assessment	Approx. 40 hours	100 marks	50%

The Iterative Design Challenge is a single task that is worth 50% of the GCSE. Each design task is based on **contextual challenges**. There will be three open and real-world contexts for students to interpret and explore, creating iterations when designing and making through the processes of **‘Explore, Create and Evaluate’**.

The other 50% of the GCSE covers The Principles of Design and Technology. This is a single 2 hour examination component with questions covering both ‘core’ and ‘in-depth’ content. 15% of the final written exam will be Maths based and students need to show an understanding of both maths and the Materials Science and properties, which makes up a further 10% of the written exam.

What are the benefits?

- Develop key skills within Design and Technology applicable to all career paths.
- Opportunities to achieve accreditation, certificates and or experience from external organisations such as CREST Awards, STARPACK Awards, TECHSOFT and many others.
- Opportunities to work with professionals within the Design and Technology industry such as Product Designers, Engineers, Robotics Experts and CAD CAM specialists. Including routes into STEM

How parents can help?

It is essential that your child have access to a computer. Scheduled **after school clubs** will be offered throughout the year and it would help if parents encourage their children to attend these in order to meet given **deadlines**.

Some useful links to help your child:

www.ocr.org.uk

www.technologystudent.com

www.data.org.uk

www.bbcbitesize.com

Further education and career paths:

The study of design and technology can lead to future careers in STEM related professions such as: **Product Design, Engineering, Architecture, Graphic Designers, Fashion and or Textile Designers, Web Designers, Multimedia Designers, Interior Designer, Design Journalist, Stage Theatre Prop Designer, Design Critics, Robotics and Electronic Engineers, Civil Engineers, Furniture Maker, Innovation Designers, Structural Engineers** and many more.

Performing Arts

BTEC NQF Level 1/2 Tech Award – Acting

Examination Board: BTEC Edexcel Pearsons

Staff to Contact:

Ms J Ajoku (Head of Drama)

About the Performing Arts sector

The Performing Arts are a major part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. Overall, the industry contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy. There are 5,480 businesses and 101,593 people working in the Performing Arts sector. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will complement GCSE study through providing an opportunity for practical exploration and application alongside conceptual study, leading to strong opportunities to progress into post-16.

Components

Internal Controlled Assessment

- **CORE Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts** (36 GLH) x1 Practical presentation & x1 Written 'PADLET' Assessment **(30%)**
- **CORE Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts** (36 GLH) x 3 Acting style workshops & x1 Scripted Performance **(30%)**

Externally Assessed

- **CORE Component 3: Performing to a brief** (48 GLH) x 4 Milestone Logs & x1 Devised Performance **(40%)**

These exciting components (units) require students to perform roles that require many skills, the BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts provide a practical, real-world approach to learning and develop specific knowledge and skills learners need to work successfully in the industry, such as:

- Core knowledge and understanding of your chosen sector: Performing Arts
- Experience of tackling real-world scenarios
- Hands-on practical experience (actor, director, choreographer roles etc.)
- Chance to explore potential careers within the performing arts
- Transferable employability skills

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Staff to contact: Ms N. Karsan

About the course:

The course equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and technical skills required to apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. This enables students to make informed decisions about food and nutrition. It provides students with a sound knowledge base for preparing and making food. Students explore the skills required to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously.

Assessment:

Written examination.

At the end of the course students will sit a written examination. This is worth 50% of the final GCSE mark.

The written examination is for 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Subject content for the examination is:

1. Food commodities
2. Principles of nutrition
3. Diet and good health
4. The science of food
5. Food provenance
6. Cooking and food preparation

Controlled Assessments.

There are 2 controlled assessments.

Assessment 1 – The Food Investigation Assessment.

This is worth 15% of the final qualification.

Students will be expected to research and investigate the working characteristics, function and chemical properties of ingredients through practical work.

Assessment 2 – The Food Preparation Assessment

This is worth 35% of the final qualification.

Students will apply their knowledge and understanding of food products and showcase their practical skills to select suitable dishes for the given task. They will be expected to prepare a menu of 3 dishes within a single session and produce a detailed evaluation.

How parents can help:

If you choose this course you will be expected to provide your own ingredients for each practical cooking lesson or make a £10 donation per term towards the cost of ingredients for all of your cooking sessions. This is about £1 per cooking session. We aim to do one practical cooking session and one experimental study of food every week.

Further study and careers:

This course would be useful for students considering a job in the food industry including: Sport Nutrition, Food Marketing Management, Food and Nutrition, Food Safety and Quality Management.



STUDY SUPPORT-KS4



Staff to contact: Ms Henriques, Ms Giordani
Email: dhenriques@greigcityacademy.co.uk

What is Study Support?

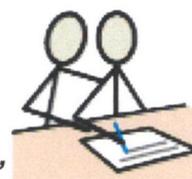
The GCSE Study Support option is recommended for those students who would benefit from taking one less GCSE e.g. eight subjects instead of nine. By attending timetabled study support sessions throughout the two-year period students are able to receive personalised help and guidance to assist them with knowledge, understanding and confidence in their chosen GCSE study subjects.

Student Comments:

"You will get as much help as you need, there is a lot less stress"

"My parents know that I am getting my work done, I go after school too"

"The work I do is related to my class work, my teachers always email work"



The majority of students who take this option do so because they have a history of learning needs in areas of literacy and/or numeracy. Study Support may also be taken by students who do not have English as their first language and who have been in the country for less than two years and may need help with reading, comprehension and writing in English.



What Support will you receive?

A variety of resources to support individual/group needs to include:



Full ICT access e.g. My MATHS, Maths Genie, Doodle, coursework planning and writing.

Support from subject specialists with tackling exam questions.

Subject Specific Revision Guides core and non-core subjects.

Differentiated texts and work packs e.g. Macbeth, An Inspector Calls, Jekyll & Hyde.

Practice papers.

Verbal Reasoning/Speaking/Discussion activities.

Careers guidance, advice and interview practise.

Headstart programme and Barclays lifeskills programme.



How can Study Support help?

-Can improve grades at GCSE.

-Develop independent study skills and habits.

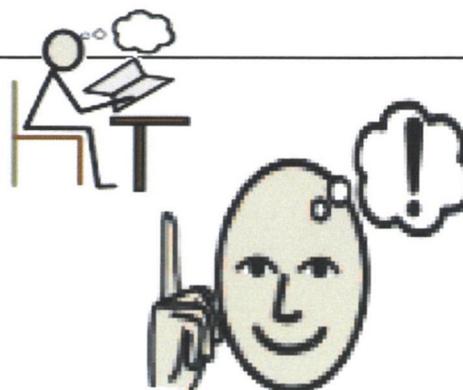
-Assist and reinforce literacy & numeracy basics.

-Help with revision planning.

Extra Maths tuition

Develop skills for the workplace: problem solving, CV writing and interview techniques.

-Assist with future plans & destinations post 16.



Examination Board: AQA GCSE Geography

Staff: Head of Department – Mr A McGregor

GCSE Geography Teachers –Ms S Takacs / Mr J Holt / Mr A McGregor/ Mr P Letford



Why Study Geography?

"Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future" - "Without Geography you are nowhere".
Michael Palin

Geography is a subject where you will develop a large range of skills, many of which will compliment your other studies. It is a traditional and highly valued subject, both by sixth form colleges and by universities.

Students with geography qualifications are much sought after by a wide range of professions: town planning; civil engineering; Geographical Information Systems (GIS) analysts; Transport management; Journalism; Media Programmer; Housing Managers; Lawyer; Park Rangers; Seismologists; Meteorologists; Volcanologists; Armed Forces; Teachers; Quantity Surveyors; Landscape Designers; air Traffic Controllers; engineering ; Transport management; Logistics; Hydrologist; Development and charity work.



What will I learn on this course?

On this course you will study three key units and exam papers:

1. **Paper 1** Physical Geography (1hr 30 mins/35% GCSE)
2. **Paper 2** Human Geography (1hr 30 mins/35% GCSE)
3. **Paper 3** Geographical skills & Fieldwork (1hr 15 mins/30% GCSE)

All exams are completed at the end of year 11. To see a detailed course outline with the breakdown of topics covered and the exam structure please see below.

The *geographical skills* unit involves using data and resources to answer key questions about a specific geographical issue or debate today. Past examples of debates include water stress in the UK and dam & road construction in the world's rainforest. You will also analyse your own primary data collected during field trip visits.

What skills will I need?

Geography uses many transferable skills which are valued in most careers. For example:

- Numerical analysis
- ICT skills
- Presentation skills, including graphs
- Individual and group work
- Organisation
- Communication skills – Oral and Written
- Problem Solving skills
- Map skills



Fieldwork

Fieldwork is a key part of the course. Students will complete a residential visit towards the end of year 10 to collect primary data for the geographical skills unit. As well as, day visits to collect additional data and to support their studies. Past visits have included beach profiling studies on the Essex coastline.

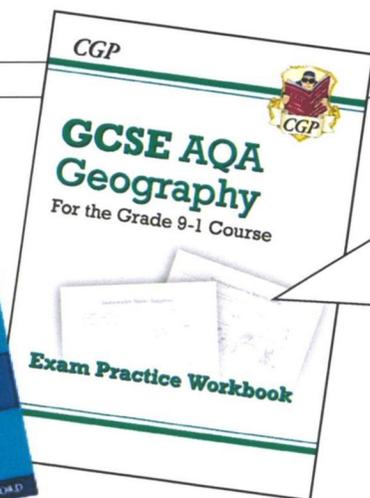
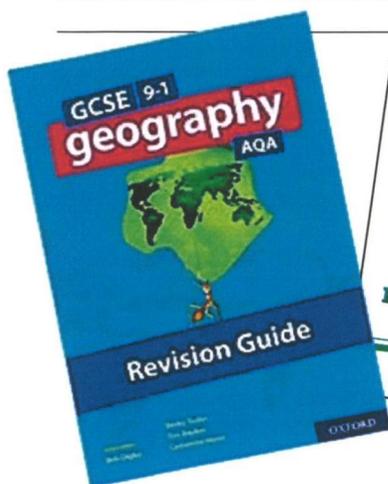
What can I do afterwards?

The GCSE course provides an excellent foundation for progression to AS/A2 courses. It is a great subject to have on your curriculum vitae for applications for university or work. Geography is classed as a science at A-Level on university applications.

Course Outline

Paper 1 (1hr 30)	
Section A The challenge of natural hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural Hazards• Tectonic Hazards• Weather Hazards• Climate Change
Section B The living world	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecosystems• Tropical rainforests• Hot desert environments
Section C Physical landscapes in the UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UK Landscapes• Coastal Landscapes• River Landscapes
Paper 2 (1hr 30)	
Section A Urban issues and challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The urban world• Urban change in the UK• Sustainable urban development
Section B The changing economic world	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The development Gap• Nigeria: a newly emerging economy• The changing UK economy
Section C The challenge of resource management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resource management• Energy management
Paper 3 (1hr 15)	
Section A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issue evaluation
Section B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fieldwork

Geographical skills 10% of EACH paper



Students can buy for £2 the revision guide; this covers everything that they need from year 10-11.

We recommend that you buy an exam practice workbook to help you answer GCSE questions. We can lend you the mark scheme in school.

HISTORY

Staff to contact: Ms Axelrod (DG04), jaxelrod@greigcityacademy.co.uk

Examination board: Edexcel GCSE History

Why should I study History?

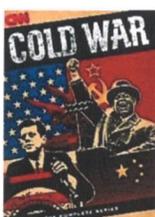
The course helps you understand the world we live in and the fascinating stories of people and key events that have contributed to this. It shows you how to question things that other people do not question. It teaches you to understand and critique other people's views. It teaches you how to write, evaluate, evidence, argue, debate, and form your own opinions on events and to present them in a logical and confident manner.

What will I study?



Paper 1 - Exam – Migrants in Britain, 800-present – in this breadth study evaluating continuity and change you will examine the reasons for migration to the UK, the experiences of migrants and how migrant communities shaped Britain. We begin with the Vikings and end at the present day.

Paper 2 – Exam – i) Elizabethan England - you will learn about how Elizabeth I overcome challenges to her reign, the age of exploration around the world, her war with Spain and how ordinary people lived in the 1500s, including theatre and fashion.



ii) Paper 2 – Exam – ii)The Cold War – as part of this paper you will get the chance to learn about international history by studying the political and ideological rivalry between the USA and the Soviet Union in the second half of the 20th century. This was a key turning point in global history. We will look not only at Europe, but at the effect of this rivalry in places such as Cuba and Afghanistan.

Paper 3 – Exam - 'The rise of Hitler and Nazi Germany' - you will understand how Germany's democracy was established after WW1 and how and why it was destroyed by the rise of the Nazis by 1933. You will also look at the impact of Nazi rule on different groups in German society.



There will be opportunities to visit historical sites and museums around London.

What will lessons be like?

You will have opportunities to learn history through individual, paired and group work. We also use film and documentary clips, as well as class debates. You will look at the work of historians and sources produced during the time periods you are studying. You will be taught how to structure and write exam answers to the highest level. We also focus on developing students' independent learning skills and their revision skills so that you are able to get the best grade possible.

How can parents help?

- Providing a space at home for completion of homework/coursework.
- Informing teachers of any concerns or difficulties via the student planner.
- Encouraging students to visit the library and use the internet to conduct further research.
- Encouraging students to see current films/newspapers in order to understand the current world.
- Help students revise by testing them on what they have learnt.

What can I do afterwards with History?

Employers and universities love History. That is because it teaches you how to argue, debate, understand evidence, and write and present yourself clearly and confidently. If an employer sees History on your CV, they know you can do these things, and they know they can trust you to represent them.

Many history graduates go on to do a wide variety of jobs in the fields of **law, politics, research, civil service, TV and film production, marketing, teaching or journalism**. The analytical skills involved mean that it is also popular with people who pursue careers in **finance, banking, business studies and government**. History complements all other subjects well and provides useful skills for *all* careers and study options. It is a subject that can only open doors for students.



MEDIA STUDIES

Teacher to contact: Miss Harrison

What will you learn on this course?

GCSE Media Studies will allow students to engage in an in-depth study of media products in relation to the four areas of the theoretical framework: media language; media representations; media industries and media audiences.

Students will be introduced to areas of study such as the internet, advertising, newspapers, magazines, film, video games, music videos, the radio and television. The course aims to foster a critical understanding of a range of media texts and the ways in which they are read and understood by different audiences.

The practical production element is a key component of the course, empowering students to explore and represent their own experiences by developing practical production skills. This will allow students to apply their knowledge and engage with selected software, such as Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Premier Pro.

There will be a trip to a major British institution for all students. Where possible, pupils will have the opportunity to benefit from guest speakers from the media industry to complement areas of study.

What skills will you need?

A good standard of written English is a must, as well as the ability to work to tight deadlines. Verbal contribution is vital in exploring, discussing, and debating the media.

As a large element of the course is externally assessed at the end of the two-year course, students will need to be autonomous and realise the importance of studying outside of lessons.

How will you be assessed?

What is the exam board and specification?

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: GCSE Media Studies

Syllabus Number: 8572

Written examinations:

Paper 1 (media industries, audiences and representations)

Controlled tests: 1 hour & 30 minutes

35% of the marks *84 marks*

Paper 2 (media language and contexts)

Controlled tests: 1 hour & 30 minutes

35% of the marks *84 marks*

Both controlled tests will be externally set and marked by AQA.

Coursework:

30% of the marks - 72 marks.

Students will create a media text linked to an over-arching (annually changing) theme.

This component will be centre assessed and externally moderated by AQA.

What can you do afterwards?

The course offers valuable experience and knowledge for students considering a career in the media sector such as digital marketing, media planning, public relations, social media, UX/UI Designer, journalism, film editing, photography, directing, production and more. The analytical skills gained will serve as a useful complement to many other subjects.



128 million people speak French fluently and use it on a regular basis. Think how many more employment and travel options that gives you! Communicating in any other language is a very important skill. Learning a language like French will open up endless opportunities in many future careers.

**++ L'Oreal ++ Renault ++ Evian ++ Chanel ++
Air France ++**

Communicating in another language is an incredibly important skill and will also open up endless opportunities in many future careers.

Why should I choose French at GCSE?

- because you **enjoy learning a language** find it easy to remember new words and like expressing yourself in the language
- because you have an **open mind** and are **interested in cultures** other than your own
- because many **universities want students** that have studied a **Modern Foreign Language** regardless of which university course they are applying for
- because you have family that speak French or because you have learnt it before and it is useful to you
- French GCSE grades at GCA have are impressive.

So, what will I learn?

GCSE French is designed to give you the skills to get by comfortably in the language. If you imagine what you might need to say if you were on a trip to a French speaking country, or what you will need to say in order to successfully communicate a message to a French speaker with no or very little English, you have an idea of what the course is about. In order to make progress in French, you will need to be unafraid to have a go at new vocabulary. You should have some previous knowledge in this or have attained good results in your KS3 Spanish and German

How will I be assessed?

You will be studying the AQA GCSE syllabus, in which all the language skills carry equal weighting and there is no controlled assessment or coursework. There will be separate final exams in speaking, listening, reading and writing at the end of year 11. There are tiers of entry: foundation and higher and this will be decided for you in Year 11. This syllabus will enable you to both use and build on the linguistic skills that you have learnt in years 7-9 in your German and Spanish lessons and match them to your knowledge of French. This will enable you to go further with new skills, such as translations or the ability to understand short passages of actual French literature.

What can I do afterwards?

By studying any language at GCSE you are opening up your career path in almost any career that you choose: business, travel and tourism, media, IT, administration, secretarial work, marketing, sales, finance, customer service, accountancy – not to mention translation and interpretation and, of course, teaching! There are also several university courses where a GCSE in a foreign language is an entry requirement.

*Did you know, a recent government survey found that **75% of employers need to employ staff with language skills** – so having a GCSE in any language opens up opportunities for you!*



German is the most common 1st language spoken in the EU being spoken in Germany and Austria.

It is also one of the main languages of Switzerland. It is considered the **most important business language** in the European Union. Even after Brexit, Germany is one of our biggest trade partners. Look at this list of companies that require a basic level of German:

**Mercedes Benz - E.ON energy - Deutsche Bank - BMW
Bosch- Adidas.**

Communicating in another language is an incredibly important skill and will also open up endless opportunities in many future careers.

Why should I choose German at GCSE?

- because you *enjoy German* lessons, find it easy to remember new words and like expressing yourself in the language
- because you have an *open mind* and are *interested in cultures* other than your own
- because many *universities want students* that have studied a *Modern Foreign Language* regardless of which university course they are applying for
- German GCSE grades at GCA have been impressive.

What will I learn?

GCSE German is designed to give you the skills to get by comfortably in the language. If you imagine what you might need to say if you were on a trip to a German speaking country, or what you will need to say in order to successfully communicate a message to a German speaker with no or very little English, you have an idea of what the course is about. In order to make progress in German, you will need to be unafraid to have a go at new vocabulary.

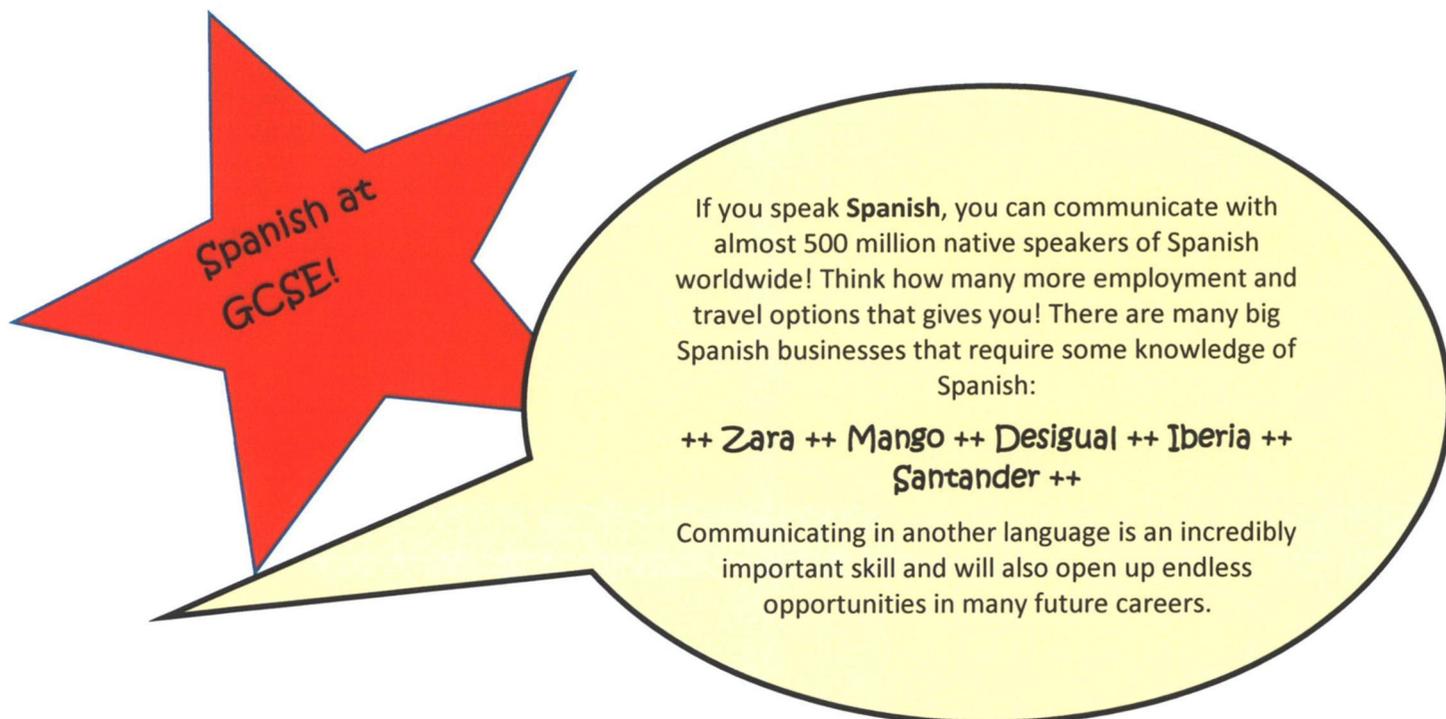
How will I be assessed?

You will be studying the AQA GCSE syllabus, in which all the language skills carry equal weighting and there is no controlled assessment or coursework. There will be separate final exams in speaking, listening, reading and writing at the end of year 11. There are tiers of entry: foundation and higher and this will be decided for you in Year 11. This syllabus will enable you to both use and build on the skills and language that you have learnt in years 7-9 and then enable you to go further with new skills, such as translations from German into English and from English into German or the ability to understand short passages of actual German literature.

What can I do afterwards?

By studying any language at GCSE you are opening up your career path in almost any career that you choose: business, travel and tourism, media, IT, administration, secretarial work, marketing, sales, finance, customer service, accountancy – not to mention translation and interpretation and, of course, teaching! There are also several university courses where a GCSE in a foreign language is an entry requirement.

Did you know, a recent government survey found that 75% of employers need to employ staff with language skills – so having a GCSE in any language opens up opportunities for you!



Why should I choose Spanish at GCSE?

- because you *enjoy Spanish* lessons, find it easy to remember new words and like expressing yourself in the language
- because you have an *open mind* and are *interested in cultures* other than your own
- because many *universities want students* that have studied a *Modern Foreign Language* regardless of which university course they are applying for
- Spanish GCSE grades at GCA have are impressive. Last year's cohort achieved 72% A*—C

So, what will I learn?

GCSE Spanish is designed to give you the skills to get by comfortably in the language. If you imagine what you might need to say if you were on a trip to a Spanish speaking country, or what you will need to say in order to successfully communicate a message to someone with no or very little English, you have an idea of what the course is about. In order to make progress in Spanish, you will need to be unafraid to have a go at new vocabulary

How will I be assessed?

You will be studying the AQA GCSE syllabus, in which all the language skills carry equal weighting and there is no controlled assessment or coursework. There will be separate final exams in speaking, listening, reading and writing at the end of year 11. There are tiers of entry: foundation and higher and this will be decided for you in Year 11. This syllabus will enable you to both use and build on the skills and language that you have learnt in years 7-9 and then enable you to go further with new skills, such as translations from Spanish into English and from English into Spanish or the ability to understand short passages of actual Spanish literature.

What can I do afterwards?

By studying any language at GCSE you are opening up your career path in almost any career that you choose: business, travel and tourism, media, IT, administration, secretarial work, marketing, sales, finance, customer service, accountancy – not to mention translation and interpretation and, of course, teaching! There are also several university courses where a GCSE in a foreign language is an entry requirement.

*Did you know, a recent government survey found that **75% of employers need to employ staff with language skills** – so having a GCSE in any language opens up opportunities for you!*

Examination Board: Pearson BTEC Tech Award

Staff to contact: Mr. David Mishra – Mr. S Coles

Music Practice

Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles

Component 2: Music Skills Development

Component 3: Responding to a Music Brief

What skills will I need:

Reading –	Task sheet content set by Pearson - reading for understanding.
Writing -	Reports and mini projects / music analysis power point submissions
Listening Skills –	Listen to music and analysing music, integrating new knowledge.
Playing music -	Keyboard skills – instrumental or singing skills
Logic Pro X -	Logic skills for creating and producing.
Composing	Creative compositional skills
Performing	Technical instrumental development with peripatetic music teacher

The work you produce will be assessed by Pearson staff externally.

Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles – externally assessed.

Component 2: Music Skills Development – externally assessed.

Component 3: Responding to a Music Brief – externally assessed.

Component 3 is carried out under strictly controlled conditions and timed

Deadlines for students

Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles must be completed by March Yr. 10

Component 2: Music Skills Development must be completed by March Yr. 11

Component 3: Responding to a Music Brief must be completed by May Yr.11

What can I do afterwards?

Possible further education courses:

BTEC - Music – Level 3 - Advanced level

BTEC - Performing Arts (Drama) Level 3 – Advanced level.

Performance possibilities & professional auditions

All students will be taught to GCSE level 2 standards and will understand the academic levels required by Sixth form and A level courses.

All students will have professional work-related tuition in preparation for the work environment.

Computer skills for both a Mac & PC will feature in all courses in the faculty.

There are transferable skills, which play an essential role in developing personal effectiveness for young adults and in the application of specific vocational skills in the workplace.

GCSE PE Sport Studies

GCSE Physical Education would be a good choice of subject if you have a general interest in Sport and Science. The vast majority of students who opt for the subject have played on the school's sports teams and play sport outside of school. Homework is set every week and you will be tested on your subject knowledge on a regular basis.

The GCSE PE course is both a Theoretical course and a Practical course, the theory element is 60% of the course and you will study the following topic areas in a classroom. (for nearly all your five extra PE lessons)

- 1. Applied anatomy and physiology
- 2. Movement analysis
- 3. Physical training
- 4. Use of data
- 5. Sports psychology
- 6. Socio-cultural influences
- 7. Health, fitness and well-being

At the end of Year 11 you will have to sit two written exams each lasting one hour and 15 minutes.

You will also have a Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport this is worth 40% of your grade.

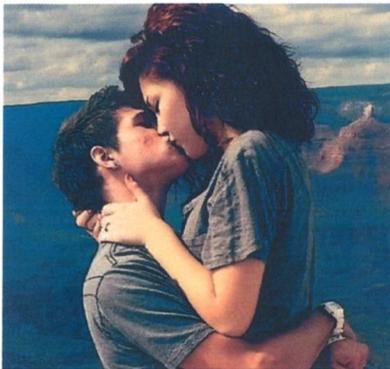
- Practical performance in three different physical activities in the role of player/performer (one in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third either in a team or in an individual activity).
- Written Analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity

SOCIOLOGY

I ♥
SOCIOLOGY

Examination Board: AQA (www.aqa.org.uk)

Head of Department: Ms Wallace



What is included in the course?

Unit 1: Families, education, social theory, and methodology

Unit 2: Crime and deviance, Social stratification, social theory, and methodology

You will:

- develop an understanding of the interdependence between individuals, groups, institutions, and societies
- be encouraged to reflect on your own experience of the social world
- acquire knowledge and develop skills that enable you to play informed roles within the community
- critically analyse and interpret written and numerical data
- create informed arguments based on evidence and examples

How will I be assessed?

Sociology is 100% examination

There are 2 exams each lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Both Unit 1 and Unit 2 are worth 50% of the GCSE.

What are lessons like?

Sociology is all about the world around you and this means there are lots of opportunities to discuss and apply examples from your life. In lessons there are a variety of activities, including group and paired work.

Due to the importance of the media in society, we watch lots of film and documentary clips and look at current examples in the media including news articles and celebrity gossip.

As the course is 100% exam, we will also spend lots of time practising exam answers; learning how to structure responses to gain the best grade possible and developing revision strategies.

What careers can sociology lead to?

The course can lead on to a variety of degree courses and careers including social work, law, teaching, politics, police and probation officers, journalism, crime scene investigators, business, social researcher and media.