

WINGFIELD ACADEMY

TOGETHER
EVERYONE
ACHIEVES
MORE



KEY STAGE 4
OPTIONS

2025/26



Wingfield Academy

INTRODUCTION

FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Over the coming weeks you will be making decisions with your child about their choices of subjects to study in years 10 and 11.

Students have already received some guidance on their option subjects in PSHE lessons throughout this half term. In this booklet you will find a summary of each of the subjects that are available.

There will be a further opportunity to discuss your child's progress in these subjects at our Options/Progress evening on Thursday 5th February 3:15pm - 6:00pm.

Shortly after, all Year 9 students will receive a Google form via their school email account. Completing the form is how students will submit their 4 option choices. This will need to be completed by Tuesday 10th February 2026.

Starting on Monday 23rd February, every student will have an interview with a member of the senior leadership team to discuss the 4 option choices they have made.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via jah@nclt.ac.uk



Miss J Harper
Associate Senior Leader

KS4 SUBJECTS

Core subjects at Key Stage 4

SUBJECT	LESSONS PER WEEK IN Y10	LESSONS PER WEEK IN Y11	QUALIFICATION
English and English Literature	4.5*	4.5*	Two GCSEs
Maths	4.5*	4.5*	Single GCSE
Science	4.5*	4.5*	Two GCSEs
History <u>or</u> Geography <u>or</u> Spanish	2.5^	2.5^	Single GCSE
PE	1	1	Core PE (BTEC Sport can still be chosen in the options below)

* Students will have 5 lessons in one week and 4 lessons in the next week.

^ Students will have 3 lessons in one week and 2 lessons in the next week.

Optional subjects at Key Stage 4

Your choice of subjects here will make up the other periods of the week. You will study 3 options subjects.

This is the list of subjects you can choose from.

- You must make 3 choices and a 4th back up choice.
- You will submit your choices on the google form by **Tuesday 10th February 2026**.

Option Subjects 2025-2026

Business
Childcare
Dance
Drama
Engineering
Food and Cookery
Fine Art
Graphic Communication

Health and Social Care
iMedia
Music
Photography
PE - BTEC Sport
Religious Education
Spanish

IMPORTANT: You must choose either History Geography or Spanish as a core subject. However, you can select Spanish as an option subject if you would like. For example you could study Geography as a core subject and Spanish as an optional subject. You should be aware that this will require you to be resilient with additional revision and examinations.

IMPORTANT: You can choose either Fine Art or 3D Design or Graphics. You cannot select more than one of these subjects.

ADVICE ON MAKING OPTIONS CHOICES

Do

- ✓ Think seriously before making your decisions
- ✓ Take account of your strengths and importantly, what you enjoy!
- ✓ Find out as much as you can about what each subject involves
- ✓ Think about what you would like to do after GCSEs

Do not

- ✗ Choose a subject because a friend is doing it
- ✗ Choose a subject because you like your current teacher of that subject

After GCSEs - What are your choices?

Further Education:

You can continue your education either in Sixth Form or at one of the local colleges.

Employment/Training:

You can find a job or more likely a training placement which will prepare you for a certain job.

Whatever route you intend to take, it is important that you end Key Stage 4 with the very best grades you can.

The national benchmark is a grade 5 in English and Maths, but it is crucial that you achieve your minimum expected grades.

Employers and training providers regard this as an important standard of education. In further education you will need that standard to go on to advanced courses, which can in turn lead to university.



YOUR
KEY
STAGE 4

**SUBJECT
OPTIONS**

BUSINESS



Why should I study Business?

BTEC Enterprise is an up-to-date and engaging qualification that is relevant to the world of business today.

This qualification equips learners with the skills and confidence to explore how different business situations affect business decisions. It is a well rounded introduction to the subject.

The qualification will encourage learners to make informed choices about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways as well as develop life skills that enable them to become financially and commercially aware.

What will I study?

- Sizes and features of small to medium sized enterprises
- Markets sectors and industries in which enterprises operate
- Aims and objectives of enterprises
- Skills and characteristics of entrepreneurs
- Market research methods
- Understanding customer needs
- Understanding competitor behaviour
- Understanding the outcomes of situational analyses which may affect enterprises (PEST, SWOT)

What skills will I need?

Students who are interested in taking this course should have followed the Key Stage 3 Programme of Study in Computing.

Success in this course requires strong communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

Additionally, creativity, and a keen interest in business concepts are crucial for navigating the coursework effectively and preparing for success in the dynamic field of enterprise and marketing.



How will I be assessed?

Component 1 - Exploring enterprises

- Internal component of coursework
- 30% of the qualification

Component 2 - Planning and presenting a Micro-Enterprise idea

- Internal component of coursework
- 30% of the qualification

Component 3 - Marketing and finance for enterprise.

- External exam - 2 hours
- 40% of the qualification

What does learning look like in this subject?

Planning is an essential part of working in the business sector. You will draw on some of the key knowledge and understanding needed to make business decision. The majority of work is completed on the computer using Google Classroom. You will research and prepare reports on different markets in the industry. We also conduct research including other peers and students to gather data, e.g. taste testing.

You will also study the economics involved with starting and maintaining a business, being introduced to concepts such as viability, revenue and profit. You will come to an understanding around the psychology of popular business strategies such as strategic pricing. Your knowledge will be contextualised with real-world examples of businesses that have used the concepts that you will learn of to their advantage and become success stories.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Homework will be set every two weeks and will be designed to reinforce key skills learnt during lesson time, this will form part of your revision of theory topics throughout the course.

CHILDCARE

Why should I study Childcare?

Childcare at Wingfield is an excellent subject to choose if you aspire to work with young children in the future. This may be in an early years setting such as a nursery, or in any number of roles that require an understanding of child development, such as nursing or social work.

Childcare is a course that equips you with study skills that can be incredibly useful in your life after Wingfield, as you will be researching, writing and referencing at a college level.

What will I study?

This course is made up of a none examined assessment (NEA), which you will study for throughout Year 10 and complete in Year 11. The tasks you are given are professional tasks that you would be expected to carry out if you worked in an early year's setting such as activity planning and risk assessments.

You will cover content on the role of an early year's practitioner, the development of children aged 0-5, transitions that children may experience and factors that can affect their learning and development.

How will I be assessed?

The overall course is assessed by 50% exam and 50% non-examined assessment (NEA). The NEA is marked internally.

The exam is marked externally, you will sit one paper that is an hour and a half long in the summer exam series of Y11.

The exam is worth 50% of your final grade.

What skills will I need?

Writing is a key skill in childcare, NEA and a written exam there is a lot of extended writing involved in the course and so you must be proficient and willing to write independently for extended periods of time.

The main skill required for this subject is the ability to research well. You must be able to research and write independently during lessons.

A good understanding of ICT is needed as you will be using Google Documents and different search engines to find information.

What does learning look like in this subject?

Lessons are all computer based and you will spend a large percentage your time researching and learning content for your NEA and exam. During work experience at the end of year 10, we prioritise childcare students to have a placement in an early years setting to gain experience.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Homework is set once every two weeks on Google Classroom, and it is often exam based to give you experience answering exam style questions.



DANCE

Why should I study Dance?

Dancing promotes a positive physical and mental health lifestyle. Dancing helps boost your self-esteem, social skills and general well-being. In dance confidence is key when taking to the stage therefore embedding it into your everyday life.

Possible career opportunities; Professional performer, choreographer, dance instructor, movement therapist, artistic director and many more...

What will I study?

Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts

You will develop your understanding of performing arts by examining work of performing arts professionals and the processes used to create performance.

Component 2: Developing skills and techniques in the Performing Arts

You will develop your performing arts skills and techniques through the reproduction of dance repertoire as a dancer.

Component 3: Responding to a brief

You will work as part of a group to contribute to a workshop performance responding to a brief and stimulus.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts (30% of overall grade)

This is assessed through practical and theory coursework.

- Practical: Stylistic workshops (Recorded)
- Theory: Portfolio (Evaluating practical workshop and professional works, both off and onstage job roles)

Component 2: Developing skills and techniques in the Performing Arts (30% of overall grade)

This is assessed through practical and theory coursework.

- Practical: rehearsal and performance assessment in front of a live audience
- Theory: Written rehearsal logs

Component 3: Responding to a brief (40% of overall grade)

This is assessed through written and practical exams.

- Written exam 1: Initial Ideas Log (1 hour)
- Written exam 2: Rehearsal Log (1 hour)
- Practical Exam: Devised Performance in front of a live audience
- Written exam 3: Evaluation Log (1 hour)

Written notes can be taken into the exam.



What skills will I need?

- Collaboration and team skills
- Confidence and creativity
- Dedication and reliability
- Desire to improve physical technique
- Enthusiasm and passion for dance
- Interest in gaining/developing knowledge of professional dance works
- Self-reflection and evaluation (Verbal and written)

What does learning look like in this subject?

You will have 2 hours of practical lesson where you will participate in teacher/ student-led workshops, rehearse performances and regularly perform with evidence being collated.

You will have 1 hour of theory per week, these lessons are computer based; completing research tasks, coursework assignments and exam preparation.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Homework will be set regularly, including task such as; creating choreography, practising choreography, completing research and evaluation tasks alongside completing coursework assignments.

DRAMA

Why should I study Drama?

Drama promotes a variety of skills; collaboration, confidence, emotive expression and the ability to solve problems are all but a few.

Drama stimulates the imagination and creativity; it develops a better understanding of human behaviour and empathy with situations that might seem distant. That is what you get from working in a drama studio.

Possible career opportunities include Professional performer, Director, drama, Musical Theatre Performer, teacher/ instructor, Drama/ play therapist, Artistic director and many more...

What will I study?

Exploring the Performing Arts: You will develop your understanding of performing arts by examining work of performing arts professionals and the processes used to created performance.

Developing skills and techniques in the Performing Arts: You will develop your performing arts skills and techniques through the reproduction of drama repertoire (Drama/Musical Theatre) as an actor/ performer.

Responding to a brief: You will work as part of a group to contribute to a workshop performance responding to a brief and stimulus.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts (30% of overall grade)

This is assessed through practical and theory coursework.

- Practical: Stylistic workshops (Recorded)
- Theory: Portfolio (Evaluating practical workshop and professional works, both off and onstage job roles)

Component 2: Developing skills and techniques in the Performing Arts (30% of overall grade)

This is assessed through practical and theory coursework.

- Practical: rehearsal and performance assessment in front of a live audience
- Theory: Written rehearsal logs

Component 3: Responding to a brief (40% of overall grade)

This is assessed through written and practical exams.

- Written exam 1: Initial Ideas Log (1 hour)
- Written exam 2: Rehearsal Log (1 hour)
- Practical Exam: Devised Performance in front of a live audience
- Written exam 3: Evaluation Log (1 hour)

Written notes can be taken into the exam.



What skills will I need?

- Collaboration and team skills
- Confidence and creativity
- Dedication and reliability
- Desire to improve acting technique
- Enthusiasm and passion for the arts
- Interest in gaining/ developing knowledge of professional performance works
- Self-reflection and evaluation (Verbal and written)

What does learning look like in this subject?

You will have 2 hours of practical lesson where you will participate in teacher/ student-led workshops, rehearse performances and regularly perform with evidence being collated.

You will have 1 hour of theory per week, these lessons are computer based; completing research tasks, coursework assignments and exam preparation.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Homework will be set regularly, including task such as; creating choreography, practising performances, completing research and evaluation tasks alongside completing coursework assignments.

ENGINEERING

Why should I study Engineering?

The disciplines that a learner will study within the qualification include: mechanical, electrical and electronic, aerospace, communications, chemical, civil, automotive, biomedical, software.

Learners could progress to a wide range of apprenticeships, A level courses in Maths, Science, Engineering and Technology or a variety of Diplomas in Engineering. This qualification will also prepare learners for recruitment into the armed forces in the Army, Royal Air Force or the Royal Navy.

What will I study?

The study of engineering is the application of maths and science to solve real world problems. This involves an understanding of the different disciplines of engineering and how they have shaped the products and projects of the modern world.

You will also learn about engineers such as Henry Ford and Alexander Bell. Learners will be able to read technical drawings, select appropriate materials along with tools and machinery, and know how to carry out a practical task, working in a safe manner in line with current health and safety legislation.

How will I be assessed?

Written Exam Paper - 1 hour 30 minutes
40% of the final grade

The written paper will include: multiple-choice questions, a varying number of short-answer questions, three 9-mark extended response questions, equations, SI units.

Synoptic Brief - 22 hours
60% of the final grade

Synoptic assessment enables learners to show that they can transfer knowledge and skills learnt in one context to resolve problems raised in another by designing and making a product. This will consist of a portfolio of research and engineering drawings (done by hand and on AutoCAD) and the product that has been made.

*“Scientists investigate that which already is.
Engineers create that which has never been.”*

Albert Einstein



What skills will I need?

- Drawing skills
- Making skills
- CAD skills
- Mathematic and Scientific principles
- Problem Solving skills

What does learning look like in this subject?

Engineering lessons will be a combination of theory work and practical workshops.

There will also be a number of trips and workshops that will enhance learning and provide future opportunities.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Students will be expected to complete 1-2 lessons per week in the learner workbook and 30 minutes practise using the revision cards. A parent/guardian's signature will be required to confirm this has been done.



FOOD

FOOD AND COOKERY

Why should I study Food and Cookery?

Studying Level 1/2 Technical Award in Food and Cookery will give students the fundamental skills and knowledge they'll need to prepare for a career in the hospitality and catering sector. This qualification covers key subject areas, from food health and safety and information on key food groups and key nutrients, to recipe development, amendment and evaluation.

Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study such as a T level in catering, Level 3 applied certificate/Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition. Apprenticeships as a production chef, commis chef or chef de partie.

What will I study?

- Health and safety relating to food, nutrition and the cooking environment
- Food legislation and food provenance
- Food groups, key nutrients and a balanced diet
- Factors affecting food choice
- Food prep, cooking skills and techniques
- Recipe amendment, development and evaluation
- Menu and action planning for completed dishes



How will I be assessed?

Written Paper - 1 hour 30 minutes

40% of the final grade

The written paper will include: Multiple choice questions, short answer questions and extended response questions (80 marks).

Non-Exam Assessment

60% of the final grade

Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task.

What skills will I need?

- Writing skills
- Understanding recipe adaptations
- Interest in diet and nutrition
- Problem solving
- Professional behaviour
- Organisational and planning skills

What does learning look like in this subject?

Lessons will include a variety of theory and practical, where you will be expected to organise your ingredients independently. There will be 1-2 practical lessons each term.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Tasks will be set weekly and will reflect the learning that has taken place during each week of study.

FINE ART

Why should I study Fine Art?

Studying the arts offers you freedom in what you study based around your own interests rather than following prescribed topics. You are encouraged to be independent in your decision making and reflect upon your choices.

Creativity is now ranked third in the top ten skills desired by employees, moving up from tenth place in 2015.

The creative economy has risen by 13.7% since 2011 against an average increase of 2.1% in total jobs in the wider economy.

You will learn a range of transferable skills that will be essential in all jobs such as: resilience, creative thinking, independence and observation skills.

What will I study?

Component One: Personal portfolio (60%)

You will be given a title as a starting point, which you then independently research to develop ideas. You will discover and mimic artists that influence you and trial and test a variety of techniques from: glass, ceramics, print, paint and pencil. You will develop a personal style, and form opinions about your art and the art of others. You will communicate your ideas and intentions through a range of personal experiments and unique creative outcomes.

Component Two: Externally set assignment (40%)

This is a mini portfolio of work in which you respond to a starting point set by the exam board. In the same way as component one, you will cover all 4 assessment objectives whilst undertaking this creative journey. You can create art in the media of your choice exploring new techniques or refining favourites.

This project will conclude with you creating a final outcome in a 10-hour formal assessment (over two days).

How will I be assessed?

It is essential that all 4 Assessment Objectives are met by each unit of work, or project. 25% of the marks are available for each Assessment Objective.

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- **AO1** Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources
- **AO2** Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes
- **AO3** Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses
- **AO4** Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.



What skills will I need?

The art GCSE course offers students the opportunity to develop their creative ideas and practical skills in a variety of ways.

Painting, drawing, collage, digital art, printmaking, fused glass, ceramics and sculpture are the main specialisms alongside studying the work of other artists.

Students are encouraged to work from observation and individual research in order to creatively develop their own ideas using a variety of materials and media – and demonstrate a skilful and sensitive command of techniques.

Students will be expected to demonstrate the ability to record ideas, observations, insights and independent judgements visually and through informative written annotation, using suitable specialist vocabulary.

In order to be successful, a high degree of interest and commitment is more important than having an artistic ability.

What does learning look like in this subject?

All lessons will be practical and based in the technology rooms. Occasionally there will be opportunities to work outside the classroom on location-based photoshoots and educational visits.

As projects develop, students will have a personalised plan which is updated during 1:1 tutorials. Students must keep up with tasks and homework must always be completed as this is actual coursework; so students need to be organised, responsible and proactive.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Students are expected to complete a minimum of two hours homework per week. We recommend this to be undertaken at the weekend when students can spend two consecutive hours on their practical tasks.

IMPORTANT: You can choose either Fine Art or 3D Design or Graphic Communication. You cannot select more than one of these subjects.

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

Why should I study Graphics ?

When studying Graphics you are encouraged to be independent, reflecting and refining the graphics processes in order to progress.

You will create your own company, and design and make all graphic communications needed.

Design graduates are incredibly employable. Creativity is now ranked third in the top ten skills desired by employees.

What will I study?

Component One: Personal portfolio (60%)

This is a portfolio of work that shows coverage of the 4 assessment objectives. You will be given a commercial design brief as a starting point, which you then independently research to develop ideas. You will discover and mimic existing graphic designers that influence you; trial and test a variety of graphics communication areas from: advertising and branding, typography, packaging design, signage and multimedia.

You will develop a personal graphic style, and form opinions about your work and the work of others. You will communicate your ideas and intentions through a range of personal experiments and unique creative outcomes.

Component Two: Externally set assignment (40%)

This is a mini portfolio of work in which you respond to a starting point set by the exam board. In the same way as component one, you will cover all 4 assessment objectives whilst undertaking this creative journey. You can create work in the media of your choice exploring new techniques or refining favourites.

This project will conclude with you creating your final product in a 10-hour formal assessment, (over two days).

How will I be assessed?

It is essential that all 4 Assessment Objectives are met by each unit of work, or project. 25% of the marks are available for each Assessment Objective.

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- **AO1** - Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources
- **AO2** - Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes
- **AO3** - Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses
- **AO4** - Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.



What skills will I need?

The Graphic Communication GCSE course offers students the opportunity to develop their creative ideas and practical skills in a variety of ways.

Students will study the work of other graphic designers and design independent photoshoots to generate a wide variety of ideas. Students are encouraged to work from observation and individual research in order to creatively develop their own ideas using a variety of materials and media – and demonstrate a skillful and sensitive command of techniques.

Students will be expected to demonstrate the ability to record ideas, observations, insights and independent judgements visually and through informative written annotation, using suitable specialist vocabulary. The purpose of integrated written annotation is to encourage students to analyse critically, evaluate and reflect on their own work and that of others.

What does learning look like in this subject?

All lessons will be based in the computer rooms. Occasionally there will be opportunities to work outside the classroom on educational visits.

As projects develop, students will have a personalised plan which is updated during 1:1 tutorials. Students must keep up with tasks and homework must always be completed as this is actual coursework; so students need to be organised, responsible and proactive.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Students are expected to complete a minimum of two hours homework per week. We recommend this to be undertaken at the weekend when students can spend two consecutive hours on their practical tasks.

IMPORTANT: You can choose either Fine Art or 3D Design or Graphic Communication. You cannot select more than one of these subjects.

GEOGRAPHY

Why should I study Geography ?

Geography is the study of the world in which we live, important in itself to know and understand. Geography will help you better understand the world's people, places and environments from the local to the global scales. It helps you connect places and make well considered decisions as a global citizen.

With rising numbers of students studying this subject, and geography graduates experiencing some of the lowest levels of graduate unemployment, there has never been a better time to study geography.

Additionally, geographical skills such as decision making and investigating are key in preparing for 21st century living and working.

What will I study?

The Physical content includes Weather Hazards and Climate change, Ecosystems and Biodiversity and River/Coastal landscapes. This content allows you to understand key processes which affect our day to day weather, the fauna in our gardens and the reasons for natural disasters such as droughts, hurricanes and floods. Many of these core concepts have been covered in Y9.

Changing cities, Global development and Resources and Energy are all included in the Human paper. These allow us to develop an understanding of the inequality in society around wealth, resources and jobs. All features key to 21st century living.

Paper 3 is based on Fieldwork skills and understanding the geographical challenges of the UK such as migration, climate change and transport. There are 2 fieldwork trips where you practice data collection and geographical concepts in real life.

How will I be assessed?

The course consists of 3 exam papers with no coursework element anymore. The skills we work on during the 2 fieldwork trips will be assessed in paper 3:

The Physical Environment
37.5% - 1hr 30mins

The Human Environment
37.5% - 1hr 30mins

Geographical Investigations: Fieldwork and UK Challenges
25% - 1hr 30mins



What skills will I need?

Geography is based around the skills of geographical investigation, using this information and data to be able to write in detail and in a balanced manner to form geographical decision and learning.

We expect you to be focussed, resilient and well considered in your learning and geographical decisions.

What does learning look like in this subject?

Lessons are based around a key idea or concept in geography with tasks such as data analysis, explanation of patterns, understanding viewpoints and developing problem solving solutions. We use ICT, recent documentaries and clips alongside tasks such as discussions, decision making and investigation to understand the content.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

In Year 10 you will be expected to complete a weekly online retrieval quiz based on previous content or exam application.

During Year 11 you will be expected to complete retrieval alongside an additional task such as revision, wider reading and example exam application.

IMPORTANT: You must choose either History or Geography or Spanish as a core subject. You cannot choose Geography as one of your 3 additional choices.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE



Why should I study Health and Social Care?

If you have a passion for helping people and wanting to make a difference to their lives then Health and Social Care will provide you with the knowledge and understanding to take on further study and work or train in careers such as:

- Registered care homes
- Social work
- Hospital and primary care trusts
- Nursing homes
- Health centres

A BTEC Tech Award prepares you for employment and provides a good grounding to go onto a more advanced course such as BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate/Diploma in Health & Social Care.

What will I study?

Component 1 – Human Lifespan Development

You will look at how people grow and develop from birth up until the end of their life. You will study the impact of different factors such as relationships and lifestyle factors on growth and development. You will then study how different life events such as parenthood and bereavement may impact on growth and development and how support and personality traits can help them to adapt to these life events.

Component 2 – Health and Social Care Services and Values

You will study how different service providers and social care services meet the needs of services users. You will look at the types of barriers which may prevent a service user from accessing a service. You will find out about the different skills, attributes and values which are important in the health and social care profession.

Component 3 – Health and Wellbeing

You will look at the factors that can have a positive or negative influence on a person's health and wellbeing. You will learn to interpret physiological and lifestyle indicators, and what they mean for someone's state of health. You will develop the knowledge and understanding of how this information is used to recommend appropriate actions for improving a person's health and wellbeing. You will also explore the difficulties an individual may face when trying to make these changes.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 is assessed by an internally assessed and externally moderated assignment, consisting of 3 tasks which is set by the exam board. This involves extended amounts of time typing up your work on a computer.

Component 2 is assessed by one internally assessed and externally moderated assignment, consisting of five tasks. This involves extended amounts of time typing up your work on a computer.

Your internally assessed assignments are worth 60% of your overall grade.

Component 3 is an externally assessed exam lasting two hours. This exam paper is marked out of 60 and includes extended written answers. This is worth 40% of your overall grade.

What skills will I need?

What are the things that will make me successful in this subject?

You will need the ability:

- Get involved in group discussions
- Self manage
- Meet deadlines
- Organise your time
- Work independently

You will need an interest in health and social care.

What does learning look like in this subject?

Theory lessons for the internally assessed components will introduce you to the content of each task for the Pearson Set Assignments (PSA's) and allow you to gain knowledge understanding of the component content

What homework will I receive in this subject?

The exam component will involve regular practice of exam papers, particularly for homework. In addition to attendance at period 6.

HISTORY

Why should I study History ?

Studying history helps us to understand the world around us, how the past has shaped global and national events and relationships and how this can link to our lives today. It explains the way that people and communities interact with each other even today!

History is seen as being a challenging topic and provides evidence of complex thinking and analytical skills which many employers want. Even if you do not wish to work in education, law, politics or the heritage and tourism industry, History is a very desirable GCSE to have.

What will I study?

- Conflict and Tension 1918-1939
- Britain, Health and the People Medieval to Modern
- Germany Democracy and Dictatorship 1890- 1945
- Elizabethan England 1568-1603

How will I be assessed?

There is no coursework element to this course.

Instead you will complete:

- 4 exam papers (1 hour long each)
- 25% of your grade per paper
- A mixture of sources questions, short answer questions and essay answers.
- Marks will be available for spelling grammar and punctuation.



What skills will I need?

You will need to be willing to read long pieces of text and write extended answers in response to exam questions.

You should have an analytical enquiring mind and an interest in why things happen.

A good memory is an advantage as detail is important.

Being able to give an opinion on a subject is essential to reach the top levels.

What does learning look like in this subject?

Lessons are heavily based around literacy skills. We will do lots of reading and writing. We will learn about events and people, remember and link them together. Analyse how one event leads to another and what is the most important factor in creating change.

We will regularly use textbooks and some videos to help discover information. In your exercise book you will answer exam style questions and in your topic booklet you will make notes which you can revise from.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Homework is every week and it is an online SENECA quiz to build topic knowledge and an exam question to practice exam skills.

IMPORTANT: You must choose either History or Geography or Spanish as a core subject. You cannot choose History as one of your 3 additional choices.

IMEDIA

Why should I study iMedia ?

This qualification will encourage independence, creativity and awareness of the digital media sector. It is designed to assess your application of creative media skills through their practical use. This involves web design, game design, app development and creating digital images using Photoshop.

It will provide you with essential knowledge, transferable skills and tools to improve your learning in other subjects with the aims of enhancing your employability when you leave education. Future careers could include Animator, Computer programmer, Graphics designer, Web developer, Digital video technician, Audio digital technician plus many more.

What will I study?

- R093 Creative iMedia in the media industry
- R094 Visual identity and digital graphics
- R097 Interactive digital media
- R099 Digital games

How will I be assessed?

Exam Unit - (Worth 40%)

R093 is an exam unit completed on paper. The exam lasts for 1 hour 15 minutes.

Coursework - (Worth 60%)

R094, R097 and R099 are coursework based. All work is submitted to Google classroom.

What skills will I need?

Students who are interested in taking this course should have followed the Key Stage 3 Programme of Study in Computing.

You will need to have a hands on approach to learning with a creative mind that will enable you to create fully functioning digital media products. Also good literacy skills and enjoy problem solving as well as the ability to stick to deadlines and targets.



What does learning look like in this subject?

Planning is an essential part of working in the creative and digital media sector. You will hand draw some of the key documents needed to create digital media products and gain an understanding of their application.

The majority of work is completed on the computer using specialist software. You will research and prepare reports on the use of digital graphics in industry. You will learn Photoshop to digitally edit graphics for the creative and digital media sector. We also hold competitions to create fun graphics such as editing an image of yourself to fit a theme e.g. Halloween. You will also have the opportunity to take part in national competitions gaining certificates relevant to Computing.

You will learn how to use Dreamweaver web creation software to combine components to create a functional, intuitive and aesthetically pleasing website. At the same time, you will create some of the website using HTML coding language.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Homework will be set every two weeks and will be designed to reinforce key skills learnt during lesson time.



MUSIC



Why should I study Music ?

Music is a form of self-expression. Studying music boosts self-esteem and helps develop self-confidence. It helps to relieve stress and has a positive effect on mood and mental health.

Studying music provides transferable skills such as self-management, creativity, teamwork, problem-solving, and communication skills. These are all skills which colleges, universities and perspective employers look out for!

Possible career opportunities include: Performer, sound engineer, social media manager, event's organiser, music producer, song writer, music teacher and music therapist.

What will I study?

Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles

You will explore the techniques used in the creation of different musical products and investigate the key features of different musical styles.

Component 2: Music Skills Development

As a performer you will develop two musical disciplines through practical activities, while documenting your progress and planning for further development.

Component 3: Responding to a Music brief

You will be given the opportunity to develop and present music in response to a given music brief.

What skills will I need?

You need to enjoy performing and have enthusiasm for music!

You need to be well-motivated, dedicated, determined and resilient.

You need to be confident enough to perform in front of others.

You need to be creative and be able to work and rehearse as part of a group and on your own.

You need self-discipline and good time management.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles (30% of overall grade)

This will be assessed via coursework.

- Task 1: Portfolio (Understanding of 4 different styles connected to a theme)
- Task 2: Music products (3 30-60seconds examples related to a theme)- DAW Project, Composition and Performance.

Component 2: Music Skills Development (30% of overall grade)

This will be assessed via coursework.

- Portfolio: Rehearsal evidence with explanations and two musical outcomes.

Component 3: Responding to a brief (40% of overall grade)

This will be assessed via external exam.

- Activity 1: Initial response to a Music Brief (2 hour)
- Activity 2: Create a music product (16 hours)
- Activity 3: Individual commentary on the creative process (1 hour)

Written notes can be taken into the exam.

What does learning look like in this subject?

You will have 2 hours of practical work per week, practicing your instrument independently and in a group.

You will have 1 hour of theory per week which will be computer-based research tasks on different musical genres to prepare for component 1.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

You will practice your musical pieces at home alongside completing research and evaluation tasks.

PHOTOGRAPHY



Why should I study Photography ?

Studying the arts offers you freedom in what you study based around your own interests rather than following prescribed topics.

You are encouraged to be independent in your decision making and reflect upon your choices.

You will learn a range of transferable skills that will be essential in all jobs such as: resilience, creative thinking, independence and observation skills.

What will I study?

Component One: Personal portfolio (60%)

This is a portfolio of work that shows coverage of the 4 assessment objectives.

You will be given a title as a starting point, which you then independently research to develop ideas. You will discover and mimic photographers that influence you and trial and test a variety of techniques from light painting, moving image, digital image manipulation, practical image manipulation, contemporary and traditional photography techniques. You will develop a personal style, and form opinions about your work and the work of others. This project will conclude with you creating a final outcome in a 10-hour formal assessment (over two days).

Component Two: Externally set assignment (40%)

This is a mini portfolio of work in which you respond to a starting point set by the exam board. In the same way as component one, you will cover all 4 assessment objectives whilst undertaking this creative journey. You can create work in the media of your choice exploring new techniques or refining favourites.

How will I be assessed?

It is essential that all 4 Assessment Objectives are met by each unit of work, or project. 25% of the marks are available for each Assessment Objective.

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- **AO1** Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources
- **AO2** Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes
- **AO3** Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses
- **AO4** Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

What skills will I need?

The art GCSE course offers students the opportunity to develop their creative ideas and practical skills in a variety of ways. Students will explore a range of photographic styles and techniques inspired by both historical and contemporary photography. Students will learn a range of practical skills such as special effects and also explore digital media.

Students are encouraged to work from observation and individual research in order to creatively develop their own ideas using a variety of practices and media – and demonstrate a skilful and sensitive command of techniques.

Students will be expected to demonstrate the ability to record ideas, observations, insights and independent judgements visually and through informative written annotation, using suitable specialist vocabulary. The purpose of integrated written annotation is to encourage students to analyse critically, evaluate and reflect on their own work (and that of others.)

In order to be successful, a high degree of interest and commitment is more important than having an artistic ability.

What does learning look like in this subject?

In lessons students will complete research tasks, learn editing techniques, complete photoshoots and present work on digital portfolios.

There will be opportunities to work outside the classroom on location based photoshoots and educational visits.

As projects develop, students will have a personalised plan which is updated during 1:1 tutorials. Students must keep up with tasks and ILT must always be completed as this is actual coursework; so students need to be organised, responsible and proactive.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Students are expected to complete a minimum of two hours homework per week. We recommend this to be undertaken at the weekend when students can spend two consecutive hours on their practical tasks.

PE

BTEC SPORT

Why should I study PE?

This course will allow you to experience different sporting situations and develop a wide range of sport analysis and leadership skills, gaining new theoretical knowledge linked to health and fitness. You will explore different types of participants and types of providers of sport and physical activity, looking at technology and equipment available for participation.

This course can lead to a wide variety of different careers, such as:

- A sports performer/official
- Sports coaching/ teaching
- Sports scientist
- Personal trainer/Army PTI
- Physiotherapist/Sports team doctor/ Sports Psychologist

What will I study?

This course is made up of 3 Components.

Component 1: Preparing participants to take part in sport and physical activity.

Component 2: Taking part and improving other participants sporting performance.

Component 3: Developing fitness to improve other participants performance in sport and physical activity.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 and 2:

- Internally assessed by your teacher and externally moderated
- Worth 30% of overall grade each

Each Component is made up of 3 Learning Tasks/Aims ranging from:

- Presentations
- Practical Tasks- Which require picture and video evidence
- Extended writing pieces

Component 3: Exam unit

- Externally assessed written exam (1hr 30mins in length)
- 60 marks
- Worth 40% of overall grade



What skills will I need?

- Good levels of performance in range of sport and leadership roles
- A keen interest in health and fitness
- Attendance at extra-curricular clubs/teams
- Be able to work effectively independently and as a member of a team
- Be able to meet deadlines
- Confidence
- Good communication skills

What does learning look like in this subject?

In lessons students will complete research tasks, learn editing techniques, complete photoshoots and present work on digital portfolios. Students are expected to complete photoshoots both in and outside of learning as part of their projects.

There will be opportunities to work outside the classroom on location based photoshoots and educational visits.

As projects develop, students will have a personalised plan which is updated during 1:1 tutorials.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Students must keep up with tasks and homework must always be completed as this is actual coursework; so students need to be organised, responsible and proactive.



3D DESIGN



Why should I study 3D Design?

Studying the arts offers you freedom in what you study based around your own interests rather than following prescribed topics. You are encouraged to be independent in your decision making and reflect upon your choices.

You will learn a range of transferable skills that will be essential in all jobs, such as: resilience, creative thinking, independence and observation skills.

What will I study?

Component One: Personal portfolio (60%)

This is a portfolio of work that shows coverage of the 4 assessment objectives.

You will be given a title as a starting point, which you then independently research to develop ideas. You will discover and mimic designers that influence you and trial and test a variety of ceramics techniques. You will develop a personal style, and form opinions about your work and the work of others. You will communicate your ideas and intentions through a range of personal experiments and unique creative outcomes.

Component Two: Externally set assignment (40%)

This is a mini portfolio of work in which you respond to a starting point set by the exam board. In the same way as component one, you will cover all 4 assessment objectives whilst undertaking this creative journey. You can create work in the media of your choice exploring new techniques or refining favourites.

This project will conclude with you creating a final product in a 10-hour formal assessment (over two days).

For all projects you will predominantly work with clay, in addition to completing ceramic pieces students will need to complete some drawings and photography work.

IMPORTANT: You can choose either Fine Art or 3D Design or Graphic Communication. You cannot select more than one of these subjects.

How will I be assessed?

It is essential that all 4 Assessment Objectives are met by each unit of work, or project. 25% of the marks are available for each Assessment Objective.

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- **AO1** Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources
- **AO2** Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes
- **AO3** Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses
- **AO4** Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

What skills will I need?

The 3D art design GCSE course offers students the opportunity to develop their creative ideas and practical skills using a variety of 3D modelling and sculptural techniques. Students will study the work of other designers and design independent photoshoots to generate a wide variety of ideas.

Students are encouraged to work from observation and individual research in order to creatively develop their own three dimensional artwork – and demonstrate a skilful and sensitive command of techniques. Students will be expected to demonstrate the ability to record ideas, observations, insights and independent judgements visually and through informative written annotation, using suitable specialist vocabulary.

The purpose of integrated written annotation is to encourage students to analyse critically, evaluate and reflect on their own work (and that of others.)

In order to be successful, a high degree of interest and commitment is more important than having an artistic ability.

What does learning look like in this subject?

All lessons will be practical and based in the technology rooms. Occasionally there will be opportunities to work outside the classroom on location-based photoshoots and educational visits.

As projects develop, students will have a personalised plan which is updated during 1:1 tutorials. Students must keep up with tasks and homework must always be completed as this is actual coursework; so students need to be organised, responsible and proactive.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Students are expected to complete a minimum of two hours homework per week.

We recommend this to be undertaken at the weekend when students can spend two consecutive hours on their practical tasks. For this course students need to be prepared to complete 3D clay work at home. We recommend students purchase their own clay tools and equipment to support with this.

RE



Why should I study RE?

Issues of religion and belief often top the news agenda. Religious Studies allows you to consider the views and opinions of others different from your own and disagree respectfully. It provides space for you to develop your own ideas and develop your own thoughts. It will equip you to handle issues in your own life and prepare you for your future workplace and adult life.

A knowledge of other cultures and world religious beliefs can be useful in many jobs where you are working with the public or communities. Many employers value GCSE Religious Studies because it shows you are good at understanding the views of others.

What will I study?

The course consists of 3 components:

Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World

You will study the following themes:

- Theme 1: Relationships
- Theme 2: Life and Death
- Theme 3: Good and Evil
- Theme 4: Human Rights

Study of Christianity

You will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity.

Study of a World Faith

You will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Islam.

How will I be assessed?

You will sit three examinations, one for each of the three components as follows:

Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World

- You will sit one 2 hour written examination accounting for 50% of your final qualification.

Study of Christianity

- You will sit one 1 hour written examination accounting for 25% of your final qualification.

Study of Islam

- You will sit one 1 hour written examination accounting for 25% of your final qualification.

What skills will I need?

- Analytical and strategic thinking
- Debating skills
- Research skills
- Critical evaluation
- Teamwork
- Conflict resolution
- Problem-solving
- Leadership skills
- Empathy
- Negotiation
- Written communication skills

What does learning look like in this subject?

GCSE Religious Studies lessons will contain a variety of different learning activities. However, a major focus will be on discussion work.

You will be required to work in groups and regularly contribute your ideas and opinions to class debate. You will also partake in written tasks and watching and analysing the media.

If you enjoy class discussion and possess good, clear written communication skills GCSE Religious Studies is an excellent option choice for you

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Homework will be set weekly and include both knowledge retrieval and the application of knowledge and skills.

SPANISH

Why should I study Spanish?

Besides making you a more attractive candidate to universities and employers, a second language opens doors to worldwide travel and communication. The study of a foreign language will help if you are considering the following careers:

- Journalist/Foreign correspondent
- Air cabin crew
- Tour guide
- MFL teacher/ESOL teacher
- Interpreter/Translator
- Logistics/Distribution manager
- Marketing manager (social media)
- Investment analyst
- Lawyer
- Advertising/Marketing

What will I study?

The Spanish GCSE course is made of 3 themes:

- **People and lifestyle** - Identity and relationships with others, healthy living and lifestyle, education and work
- **Popular culture** - Free time activities, customs, festivals and celebrations, celebrity culture
- **Communication and the world around us** - Travel and tourism including places of interest, media and technology, environment and where people live

How will I be assessed?

The Spanish GCSE course is divided into 4 exams: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

There is no coursework in Spanish.

Each exam is worth 25% of your overall grade.

The length of the papers varies, depending whether you sit the foundation or higher tier papers:

Listening: 35 or 45 minutes

Speaking : 8 or 11 minutes

Reading : 45 minutes or 1 hour

Writing: 1hr 10 minutes or 1 hour 15 minutes

The speaking exam takes place in school, with your class teacher. You will be given 15 mins to prepare and write some of your answers at the start of the speaking exam.



What skills will I need?

If you have any of these qualities, then Spanish is for you!

- Active listener
- Confident communicator
- Meticulous reader and writer
- Curious about Spanish speaking countries way of life and language

What does learning look like in this subject?

In lessons, we will cover all 4 skills through reading, writing, listening and speaking practice tasks. You will be asked to work in pairs often, to enhance your speaking and listening skills.

You need to be confident in speaking aloud as this will be the expectation in many lessons.

What homework will I receive in this subject?

Homework will be set weekly in Spanish, you are expected to practice all 4 skills at home regularly.

IMPORTANT: You must choose either History or Geography or Spanish as a core subject. You can also choose Spanish as one of your 3 additional choices.

For example, you could study Geography as a core subject and Spanish as one of your choices.



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