



Noel-Baker Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy

Guided Curriculum Choices Booklet 2021



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DRIVE

LEADING STUDENTS TO A BRIGHT FUTURE



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DRIVE page 2



Guided Curriculum Choices Booklet 2021

Who can offer advice?

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Mrs A Donaghy | Headteacher |
| Mrs K Richardson | Deputy Headteacher |
| Mr S Leach | Deputy Headteacher |
| Miss S Howard | Assistant Headteacher |
| Mrs C Pedlar | Assistant Headteacher |
| Mr M Taylor | Assistant Headteacher |
| Mr R Oliver | Associate Assistant Headteacher |
| Miss K Barron | Associate Assistant Headteacher |
| Mrs C Groves | Associate Assistant Headteacher |
| Miss C Sargent | Associate Assistant Headteacher |
| Mrs H Macleod | SENCo |
| Mrs D Scott | Pastoral Lead for Year 9 |

Year 9 Form Tutors:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Miss T Lampert | Mr M Hall |
| Miss K Dunn | Mr J Eavis |
| Mrs D Smith | Miss C Tween |
| Miss F Guest | Miss S Higgins |
| Mrs D Dunbar | Miss L Langton |

...and of course subject teachers and parents/carers



Important Message

Dear Student,

This year, our Guided Curriculum Choices event has to be virtual because of the current climate, but this puts key information in the palm of your hand that can be watched and re-watched to help you make your decisions.

The transition from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 is an important time in a student's life. For the first time you are being asked to make decisions about some of the subjects which you will study. These decisions will affect the career path which you take in the future as well as the options available post-16 and beyond. At Noel-Baker Academy, we are committed to supporting you to make the best decisions so that you have the most appropriate curriculum moving forwards.

The most important thing is to think about where you want your career path to take you. It is *absolutely fine* not to be sure which path to take, and even if you feel sure now, you may well change your mind in the future. The best advice is always to choose a range of subjects which will keep lots of doors open to you and this is why we are passionate about the pathway system.

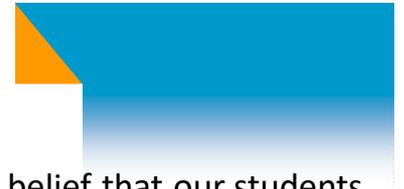
Look for subjects you enjoy and can do well in but remember that sometimes you might need to choose something because you need it for your career path, even though you might not enjoy it as much as something else. Once the academic year starts in September it will not be possible for you to change subjects. Listen carefully to the advice you are given and don't be frightened to ask if you are unsure of anything.

We are always here to help.

Noel-Baker Academy



OUR VISION



At Noel-Baker Academy, everything we do is underpinned by our belief that our students are **ENTITLED** to the very best breadth and depth of provision.

We are proud of our students and our community and are determined that Noel-Baker Academy will enable its students to be the very best that they can be.

OUR VALUES

LEAD

To show the way; to be first or foremost

- We are **compassionate, considerate and kind**. We look out for each other and look after those who need our support.
- We **welcome and value all members of our community** – students, parents and staff. We expect all members of our community to work with us to play an active part in our children's education, to support each other to ensure that the highest standards of academic achievement, effort and conduct are met.
- We **encourage** each other, and we **celebrate our successes**.

EMPOWER

To give power to; to enable;

- We are **compassionate, considerate and kind**.
- We teach our students to **take responsibility** for themselves, their actions and decisions; by insisting on excellent behaviour and learning habits that will set them up for life and enable them to fulfil their potential and their aspirations.
- We prepare our students for life beyond school by providing them with **clear boundaries, routines and structures**.
- We know that **factual knowledge is a prerequisite for deep understanding**: that **the more you know, the more you are able to learn and understand**.
- We empower our students to achieve through our unrelenting focus on **hard work, commitment and perseverance**.

ACHIEVE

To accomplish; to get or attain by effort;

- We believe that **all children are entitled to learn "the best that has been thought and said."** Our students are the inheritors of the greatest ideas, written texts and discoveries of the past.
- Our purpose is therefore to provide a **rich education** that will allow them not only to achieve excellent qualifications but also to become thoughtful, educated and well-rounded young adults.

DRIVE

To cause and guide progress; to impel forward;

- We recognise that **success takes hard work**, commitment and perseverance. We also know that with **persistent effort and patience, amazing things can be achieved**.
- We know that students who put in more effort, who **practise**, who revise and who learn more ideas and knowledge are able to develop greater expertise and thereby become more intelligent.





KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM

WHAT SUBJECTS ARE COMPULSORY?

English Language and English Literature, Mathematics, Triple Science and, on pathway A, Spanish are all compulsory subjects and will be entered for these examinations at the end of year 11. Students will study for five lessons a week in English Language and English Literature (two GCSEs), four lessons in Mathematics (one GCSE) and five lessons in Science (to gain at least two GCSEs).

Personal Social Health and Economic studies and Religious Studies are also compulsory and will be delivered during the academic day during daily timetabled lessons. In addition to this, every student will undertake two lessons a week of practical physical education. Whilst these do not result in a formal qualification, they are a core element of the curriculum and allow students to maintain regular physical activity to support their health and wellbeing throughout the two years and to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives, now and in the future to help students stay healthy, safe and prepare them for life and work in modern Britain.

THE ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE (EBACC)

The EBACC is a government-led initiative all schools follow to ensure that young people's options stay open for further study and future careers. It is made up of English, maths, science, a language and either history or geography; subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and opens up lots of doors to employment.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education showed that studying subjects included in the EBACC provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in fulltime education. Equally, it also showed that pupils are much more likely to be successful in employment and employment-centred routes, such as apprenticeships. In addition, Sutton Trust research revealed that studying the EBACC can help improve a young person's performance in English and maths too. The government's ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBACC subject combination at GCSE by 2022, and 90% by 2025.

STUDYING LANGUAGES

As a central part of the English Baccalaureate, languages are a key skill pupils need for their future. At Noel-Baker Academy, we are passionate about pupils studying languages yet you have heard all the reasons why some people don't learn languages, many of these founded on long-held myths and misconceptions. The truth is, in today's increasingly interconnected and interdependent world, proficiency in other languages is a vital skill that gives you the opportunity to engage with the world in a more immediate and meaningful way—whether in your neighbourhood or thousands of miles away—while better preparing you to compete and succeed in the global economy. This is even more true in a post-COVID world where the use of virtual meetings has risen and allowed more companies to work across borders.

Connect! - One of the most rewarding aspects of the human experience is our ability to connect with others. Being able to communicate with someone in his or her language is an incredible gift. Bilinguals have the unique opportunity to communicate with a wider range of people in their personal and professional lives.

Advance Your Career—Language skills can be a significant competitive advantage that sets you apart from your monolingual peers. They are among the top eight skills required of *all* occupations—no matter your sector or skill level—and the demand for bilingual professionals is rising exponentially. In fact, between 2010 and 2015, the number of U.K. job postings specifically geared toward bilingual candidates *more than doubled*. Employers are seeking professionals who can communicate seamlessly with customers in new and expanding overseas markets, as well as serve and sell to a large foreign-born population here at home.

Feed Your Brain—The many cognitive benefits of learning languages are undeniable. People who speak more than one language have improved memory, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, enhanced concentration, ability to multitask, and better listening skills. They switch between competing tasks and monitor changes in their environment more easily than monolinguals, as well as display signs of greater creativity and flexibility. If that weren't enough, as we age, being bilingual or multilingual also helps to stave off mental aging and cognitive decline.

Strengthen Your Decision Making—Studies show that decisions made in your second language are more reason-driven than those made in your native language. Contrary to popular assumptions, when we deliberate in a second or third language, we actually distance ourselves from the emotional responses and biases deeply associated with our mother tongue. The result? Systematic and clear-headed decisions based on just the facts.

Boost Your Confidence—Any language learner can attest to making his or her share of mistakes while discovering a new language—often in front of an audience. It's a necessary part of the learning process! Learning a language means putting yourself out there and moving out of your comfort zone. The upside is the amazing sense of accomplishment you'll feel when conversing with someone in their native language.



HOW MANY CHOICES CAN I MAKE?

PATHWAY A

Students following Pathway A will make 2 curriculum choices. Their first option comprises either geography or history. This is part of the government-led drive to improve access to post-16 and post-18 options—pupils who study the English Baccalaureate are significantly more likely to achieve higher post-16 grades as well as achieving more rounded and well-suited post-18 qualifications. This means that pupils **do not** specialise too early in their lives and therefore they can take longer to establish the direction they want their career pathway to go.

At Noel-Baker we not only agree with and support the government's drive but believe that a student cannot achieve their potential without knowing the world around them and where they have come from; understanding the knowledge that has preceded them and the legacy which they have inherited.

PATHWAY B

Students following Pathway B will make 3 curriculum choices. Their first option comprises either Geography, History or Spanish. Students can use their second option choice to follow the EBACC route in the same way as pathway A.

NON-PATHWAY-SPECIFIC CHOICES

The other choices for both pathways are comprised of a wide variety of subjects which pupils can choose from including choices not made from Geography, History and Spanish (for pathway B). Some of these, such as Drama and Food, can be chosen to continue studying for years 10 and 11, but some subjects, such as Sociology and Business Studies, have not been studied previously. With all subjects it is important to ask the teachers for their advice and to find out exactly what the course entails to see whether it is the right choice moving forwards.



THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process will take place online and you will show us which subjects you would prefer, with two reserve subjects. It is an application form because you are applying to join a class and by completing it you are saying that you will apply yourself to the work.

The timetable will be designed to give as many students their choices as possible, but there are limitations:

- Your work in subject areas to date;
- The equipment available;
- The class sizes;
- The level of examination work;

The subjects are arranged in order to satisfy current requirements of the National Curriculum and offer a broad, balanced and sensible package. The final decision about choices of subjects will be made by the academy in the light of student and parent wishes, progress of students and suitability of courses.

You must accept that occasionally, some students will not get all the choices they make. We may need to recommend that you choose another subject rather than the one you have chosen. Parents/carers can always contact the academy should they wish to discuss curriculum choices further.

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Tuesday 9th February 2021 | Guided Curriculum Choices event goes live on https://www.noelbakeracademy.co.uk/guided-curriculum-choices/ |
| 2. Wednesday 10th February 2021 | Opportunity to book an appointment with a subject teacher to discuss the potential curriculum choices. |
| 3. Friday 26th February 2021 | Deadline for online submission of curriculum choices. |



HOW DO I CHOOSE WHICH SUBJECTS TO TAKE?

Consider the following:

Your abilities

It is important that you choose subjects at the level with which you will be able to cope. Think about the subjects you are doing at the moment:

- Which are you good at?
- Are there any you find difficult?
- All subjects need certain skills if you are to succeed at them.
- What are your best skills and with which subjects do these fit?

Your Future Career

When choosing subjects, you need to be aware of the subjects that particular jobs may need, but some people worry too much at this stage about the subjects they choose being relevant to a job. You will probably change your mind about what you wish to do in the next few years. Many of the jobs which exist now were not invented 10 years ago. Having flexibility and a good balanced education is the only way to prepare for them.

Will I be successful in the subjects I choose?

Year 10 and 11 are difficult, but exciting years. You are moving forward towards your career choices and beginning to refine the subjects you choose to take. In order to be successful, you need to work hard so it is important you make the right choices for you at this vital transition into KS4. Choose carefully spending time considering your subjects.

- Read this booklet describing each course;
- Talk to subject staff about your ability/skill level and if it is an appropriate course for you;
- Talk to subject staff about the course and what it entails;
- Talk to your parents/carer;
- Consider what subjects you enjoy.

Please remember these important points when choosing your subjects: -

Do choose subjects that you enjoy and/or have the skills required to be successful;

Do choose subjects that match your learning style;

Do choose the level that suits your progress so far;

Do not choose a subject because it is what your friends are doing;

Do not choose a subject because you like the teacher.



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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

The study of English Language is invaluable for your future, no matter what you are aiming for. A good command of the spoken and written word is not only attractive to potential colleges, 6th forms and employers but fundamental in your daily life. Whatever you end up doing, English Language is a 'must have' subject for college, university, work and life!

Curriculum Leader: Mr Jared Linekar

Exam Board: AQA

Compulsory: Yes

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

All students study English Language in Year 10 and 11. At the beginning of Year 10, students will get to grips with some fascinating travel writing extracts that take students on a journey from Homer's 'The Odyssey' to Bill Bryson's 'Notes from a Small Island'. Students then move onto 'Narratives of Liberation' which is a look at post-colonial literature from authors such as Chinua Achebe and NoViolet Bulawayo before finally moving onto 'Crime and Punishment through the Ages'. In Year 11, Language lessons are more closely linked to the study of the key GCSE Literature texts.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

This qualification will be assessed through two written examinations at the end of Year 11, and an in-class spoken Language assessment, all of which are compulsory. All texts in this examination will be unseen. Importantly, all examinations for English Language and English Literature are un-tiered, which means students are not limited to a 'foundation tier' exam; there is no limit to the grade students can achieve.

| Module | Elements | Assess-ment | Date | % |
|---|--|-----------------------|--------------|----|
| Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing | Section A: four questions about an unseen text written in the 20th or 21st century. Section B: one question from a choice of two that ask you to write creatively from a given stimulus. | 1 hour 45 mins. | June 2023 | 50 |
| Paper 2: Writers' View-points and Perspectives | Section A: four questions about two unseen texts written in different eras, including the 19 th century. Section B: write a specified non-fiction text from your own perspective on a given subject. | 1 hour 45 mins. | June 2023 | 50 |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Sports Journalist, Lawyer, Film Director, Public Relations Executive, Fashion Journalist, Author, Newsreader, Politician, Actor, Architect, Creative Director, Scriptwriter, Teacher, Customer Service, Retail and many, many more!





ENGLISH LITERATURE

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

The study of English Literature demonstrates, perhaps more than any subject, a student's academic potential. It is often considered to be the more difficult of the two English GCSEs which makes it attractive to potential colleges, 6th forms and universities who may want to know if you have the academic ability for the courses you have chosen.

Curriculum Leader: Mr Jared Linekar

Exam Board: AQA

Compulsory: Yes

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

All students study English Literature in Year 10 and 11. At the beginning of Year 10, students will read, annotate and analyse Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' before moving onto the modern play 'An Inspector Calls' by J.B. Priestley. Finally, students study William Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. In Year 11, students cover Power and Conflict poetry while retrieving previous knowledge from the texts studied in Year 10. Further opportunities for revision and the study of unseen poetry are built into the curriculum throughout KS4.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

This qualification will be assessed through two written examinations at the end of Year 11. Although all questions are unseen, students will have studied each of the texts they will be assessed on with the exception of 'unseen poetry'. Importantly, English Literature is un-tiered, which means that there is no limit to the grade students can achieve.

| Module | Elements | Assess-ment | Date | % |
|---|--|------------------|-----------|----|
| Paper 1: Shakespeare and 19 th Century Novel | Section A: one question where students analyse an extract from Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. Section B: one question where students analyse an extract from Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'. | 1 hour 45 mins. | June 2023 | 40 |
| Paper 2: Modern Text and Poetry | Section A: one essay question from a choice of two on Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls'. Section B: one comparative question about two poems from the anthology. Section C: two questions on unseen poetry. | 2 hours 15 mins. | June 2023 | 60 |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Sports Journalist, Lawyer, Film Director, Public Relations Executive, Fashion Journalist, Author, Newsreader, Politician, Actor, Architect, Creative Director, Scriptwriter, Teacher, Customer Service, Retail and many, many more!





MATHEMATICS

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Mathematics is a core subject to fully engage with society and the world. While there are clear links to the financial industries and engineering, any of us that need to budget, to calculate interest payments, or to look behind the data we're being given will find mathematics useful. In the modern world, it's vital that we equip ourselves with the knowledge to reason effectively, and mathematics is the subject of abstract proof and logic.

Curriculum Leader: Mr D Green

Exam Board: Edexcel

Compulsory: Yes

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

In the GCSE maths course you will expand your understanding of the four main areas of mathematics: Number; Algebra; Geometry; and Statistics. You will focus heavily on multiplicative reasoning and applying the knowledge that you have learned across multiple contexts. For example, interpreting statistical data and information and drawing conclusions from the different ways data can be manipulated. All students will learn all content in Foundation tier, with decisions around progressing to the Higher tier made throughout the duration of the course.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Your teachers will assess you through the qualification with a mixture of low-stakes tests, quick quizzes and recaps to help you succeed and stay on track. Grades are allocated on the basis of the three exams at the end of the course. Paper 1 is non-calculator, while papers 2 and 3 are both calculator papers. The exam board assesses with exams across three assessment objectives.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|--------|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| AO1 | Procedural Fluency | Examination Papers 1, 2 and 3. | May/June 2023 To be announced | 50% Foundation 40% Higher |
| AO2 | Reasoning | Examination Papers 1, 2 and 3. | May/June 2023 To be announced | 25% Foundation 30% Higher |
| AO3 | Problem solving | Examination Papers 1, 2 and 3. | May/June 2023 To be announced | 25% Foundation 30% Higher |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

A robust mathematical qualification opens doors throughout every sector of the economy. Specifically, mathematics is a key component of the STEM sector (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and the subject is also essential for jobs in medicine, as well as fields such as psychology or architecture.

There are numerous post-16 pathways that involve the study of mathematics, from multiple A Level qualifications to the practical focus of Core Maths. Similarly, mathematics is highly valued by employers for students that will be seeking competitive apprenticeships at all levels.



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SCIENCE

Why is Science important and why do I study it?

Through science we can understand how and why the world changes and continues to change around us and the impacts our choices have on the world in which we live. Through building up a body of key knowledge and concepts, you will be able to recognise the power of rational explanation using evidence and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. You will understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

Curriculum Leader: Mr J Drake

Exam Board: AQA

Compulsory: Yes

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

Biology: Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation, Evolution and Ecology.

Chemistry: Energy changes, Quantitative Chemistry, Rates and extent of chemical change, Organic chemistry, chemical analysis, using resources and chemistry of the atmosphere.

Physics: Particle model, Atomic structure, Forces, Waves, Electromagnetism and Space

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

You will complete formative and synoptic assessments throughout Year 10 and Year 11. You will also complete one mock exam at the end of Year 10 and then another two mock exams in Year 11.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|-----------|---------------------------|------------|---------------------|-----|
| Chemistry | Paper 1 and Paper 2 Exams | 1h 45 Exam | Paper 1- May 2023 | 50% |
| | | 100 marks | Paper 2 – June 2023 | 50% |
| Biology | Paper 1 and Paper 2 Exams | 1h 45 Exam | Paper 1 – May 2023 | 50% |
| | | 100 marks | Paper 2 – June 2023 | 50% |
| Physics | Paper 1 and Paper 2 Exams | 1h 45 Exam | Paper 1 – May 2023 | 50% |
| | | 100 marks | Paper 2 – June 2023 | 50% |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Gaining GCSEs in Science will open a world of job opportunities to you. Here is a list of some of the jobs which you could pursue that are linked to science;

Beekeeper, Marine Biologist, Ornithologist, Paramedic, Nurse, Doctor, Dentist, Personal Trainer, Nuclear Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Wing designer, Mineral's technology apprentice, Tree Surgeon, Pharmacist, Aerospace Engineer, Vet, Editor, Physiotherapist, Farmer, Formula 1 Engineer, Biomedical Scientists, Solar Panel Manager, Chemical Engineer, Pharmacologist, Ecologist





HISTORY

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Curriculum Leader: Mr C Walker

Exam Board: AQA

Compulsory: EBACC option

Have you enjoyed the subject at KS3 and are keen to learn more through a more detailed examination of different themes? Through studying GCSE History you will be able to answer key questions such as; why do wars happen?; why do people migrate?; how has the past shaped current events?

Covering a range of topics History helps to develop students' understanding and skills of society and culture through looking at the past and seeing the impact on the present.

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

There are four key topics that are studied in GCSE History that continues and develops the topics covered at KS3 -

- one period study: Germany 1890-1945 Democracy to Dictatorship
- one thematic study: Migration, empires and the people c.790 to the present day
- one wider world depth study: Conflict and Tension 1918-1939
- one British depth study including the historic environment: Norman England c.1066-c.1100

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

This qualification will be assessed through two written examinations at the end of year 11, both of which are compulsory. There are two preparatory mock exams and in class assessments.

There is a historic environment topic focus in the Norman England c.1066-c.1100 Depth Study which changes each year – for the 2023 cohort the topic is: Yorkshire after the Norman conquest, c1066–c1088.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|--|---|------------|-----------|----|
| Paper 1: Understanding the modern world | Section A: The Period Study— Germany 1890-1945 Democracy and Dictatorship Section B: Wider Depth Studies— Conflict and Tension 1918-1939 | 2 hours | June 2023 | 50 |
| Paper 2: Shaping the Nation | Section A: Thematic Study—Migration, empires and the people c.790 to the present day Section B: Depth Study— Norman England 1066-1100 | 2 hours | June 2023 | 50 |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

- Entry onto an A level history course.
- You could use your knowledge and skills to enter the world of work.
- Employers value history as a qualification because of its academic nature

Possible careers include -

Journalism, Law, Business, Politics, Archaeology, Marketing, Museum Curation and Teaching.



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GEOGRAPHY

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Our world is ever changing, and geography provides the knowledge to help you interpret and prepare for the future. Geography will give you an understanding of major global issues, many of which are driving workplace opportunities. These include global trade and industry, environmental responsibility and the management of resources. As a result, you will understand the impact choice has on our globe.

Curriculum Leader: Miss Berridge

Exam Board: AQA

Compulsory: EBACC option

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

Students will study three papers. Topics within these units include: the Challenge of Natural Hazards (earthquakes and hurricanes), Physical Landscapes in the UK (rivers and coasts), the Living World (rainforests/hot deserts), Urban Issues and Challenges, the Changing Economic world, the Challenge of Resource management (food and UK resources) and researching a geographical issue (coastal fieldwork and Derby regeneration). All students will go for two days fieldwork.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

- Assessment – the course is 100% exam based and includes three papers.
- Each sub unit will have an end of unit test. Each test will include prior learning as well as the current topic being studied. You will have mock exams, exam questions in lessons and retrieval quizzes,

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|---------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|----|
| Paper 1 | Living with the physical environment | 1 hour 30 minutes | May 2023 | 35 |
| Paper 2 | Challenges in the human environment | 1 hour 30 minutes | June 2023 | 35 |
| Paper 3 | Geographical applications and skills | 1 hour 15 minutes | June 2023 | 33 |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

GCSE Geography could be a stepping stone onto A-Levels Geography, or getting onto an apprenticeship. Geography graduates from university are consistently rated as extremely employable due to transferable skills and knowledge

A sample of career paths include: diplomat, political analyst, economic development professional, GIS specialist, utilities manager, coastal management, civil engineering, planning, pollution analyst, disaster manager and environmental consultant.



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BUSINESS STUDIES

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

GCSE Business studies is a course which will suit students who have a keen interest in the world of business. If you have an awareness of current affairs and what is going on in the world and enjoy problem solving and decision-making, then this is the course for you.

Curriculum Leader: Mr R Davis

Exam Board: OCR

Compulsory: No

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

- The role of business enterprise and entrepreneurship and the different forms of business ownership
- The role of Marketing, including the marketing mix and market research
- The role of Human Resources, including communication in business, recruitment and selection, training and development and motivation
- The impact of the legal environment of businesses, including employment law and consumer law
- Production and quality assurance
- The role of the finance function, including sources of finance and how to complete and use key financial documents
- The impact of the external environment on business - ethical, environmental, economic and globalisation

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

This course is 100% examination. There are two written exams at the end of the course. The exams will consist of a mix of data response, short answer, extended writing and case study based questions.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|---------|---|------------------------|-----------|----|
| Paper 1 | Business activity, marketing and people. | 1 hour 30 minutes Exam | June 2023 | 50 |
| Paper 2 | Operations, finance and influences on business. | 1 hour 30 minutes Exam | June 2023 | 50 |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

The good thing about Business is that it keeps your options open, both for further study and for your chosen career. Progression pathways include studying A-levels and other level 3 courses in Business, gaining apprenticeships or becoming an entrepreneur .

There are a huge range of job possibilities open to you, such as retail, administration, manufacturing, accountancy, banking, insurance, education, health care and marketing to name a few. This course will help provide you with the knowledge and skills to set up and run your own business.





FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition. This course is perfect for anyone who has a love for cooking and trying new foods. Students who choose this course should also want to learn about the nutritional side of food.

Curriculum Leader: Mrs Sibson
Exam Board: AQA
Compulsory: No

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

Throughout the 2 years you will study the following 5 core topics:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

There are three assessments for Food Technology. The non-exam assessments are internally assessed and are completed in controlled conditions during lesson time during Year 11, this involves producing a portfolio of work and will include a practical exam. At the end of Year 11 students will complete a written exam which is externally assessed.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----|
| Paper 1 | Written exam | 1 hour 45 minutes | June 2023 | 50% |
| Non- exam assessment | Food investigation | 10 hours | September 2022 | 15% |
| Non-exam assessment | Food preparation assessment | 20 hours | November 2022 | 35% |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

There are a variety of different job opportunities linked to Food Technology such as a chef, catering manager, dietician, nutritionist and Food Technology teacher.





SPANISH

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Spanish is spoken by over 500 million people worldwide, and a number of countries in Latin America are seen as potential markets for UK businesses.

As a language, communication is a vital skill to be able to succeed in Spanish. Students will also need initiative and resilience, to be able to answer reading and listening questions by working out meaning where they might not understand every single word.

Curriculum Leader: Mr Linekar

Exam Board: AQA

Compulsory: EBACC option

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

The content of the GCSE falls into three themes: Identity and Culture; Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest; and Current and Future Study and Employment.

In Theme 2 (Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest), students will learn about contemporary social issues that affect people in Spain and Spanish-speaking countries, such as poverty and homelessness, as well as global issues such as environmental concerns.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

GCSE Spanish is assessed via four exams, which cover each of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. These four exams each contribute 25% to the overall GCSE grade.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|---------|-----------|--|-----------|----|
| Paper 1 | Listening | Foundation: 35 mins Higher: 45 mins | June 2023 | 25 |
| Paper 2 | Speaking | Foundation: 7-9 mins Higher: 10-12 mins | May 2023 | 25 |
| Paper 3 | Reading | Foundation: 45 mins Higher: 1 hour | June 2023 | 25 |
| Paper 4 | Writing | Foundation: 1 hour Higher: 1 hour 15 mins | June 2023 | 25 |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Studying languages can lead you to a number of traditional language-based careers, such as a translator, interpreter or diplomat. However, for many people having an additional language is an asset which helps them to succeed in a career less immediately associated with languages, and these can range from marketing to journalism, from intelligence to international development.

As well as university study, languages can be beneficial for a number of career roles in the tourism sector. Spain is the most popular destination for British tourists, and local colleges offer a range of courses in travel and tourism, some of which are based at East Midlands Airport.





Curriculum Leader: Mr S Ogleby

Exam Board: OCR

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Engineering is important. It is challenging and exciting. The subject is practical, academic and above all a valuable subject. Engineering is one of the key influences that shapes our society, engineers don't just work with machines, designs and electronics they use maths and science to improve the way we live and work. The subject of Engineering is part of all our lives. It involves learning ways to protect our natural resources, designing and building safer, faster, quieter and more fuel efficient ways of travelling, developing the smart phones we use to be smaller and more useful. To study this subject you need to be practical, creative and be a good problem solver. Although the course does have a practical element it also requires a good level of written skills.

Compulsory: No

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

During Year 10 and 11 learners will study the processes involved in designing new engineered products and the requirements of a design specification. Learners will research through research and practical activities and will understand how market requirements and opportunities inform client briefs and will use practical skills such as drawing, computer modelling and model making to communicate design ideas. The Engineering Design qualification encourages learners to communicate and consult with a client to develop a viable and innovative product. Learners will apply practical skills to produce a prototype in the form of a model and test design ideas to inform further product development. Through reflection, learners evaluate the prototype, making a comparable outcome against specification points, and assess possible, practical solutions and improvements to their prototype design.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Assessment – R105 will be externally marked. Units R106, R107 and R108 will be centre assessed and then externally moderated. This happens at set points throughout the course depending on the individual unit of work. The course is 25% exam based and 75% coursework based. On-going assessments to track your progress will take place throughout Year 10 and 11 by your subject teacher.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|--------|--|--|--------------|----|
| R105 | Design briefs, design specifications and user requirements | 1 hour written paper, OCR set and marked | May 2022 | 25 |
| R106 | Product analysis and research | Centre-assessed tasks, OCR-moderated Approx 10–12 hours | May 2022 | 25 |
| R107 | Developing and presenting engineering designs | Centre-assessed tasks, OCR-moderated Approx 10–12 hours | January 2023 | 25 |
| R108 | 3D Realisation | Centre-assessed tasks, OCR-moderated Approx 10–12 hours | May 2023 | 25 |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Studying an engineering based course automatically places you in a demand industry. Engineers are constantly in high demand so you will enjoy fantastic employment prospects. A career in engineering is interesting and fun and below is just a small selection of career choices you could make within the world of engineering.

Aerospace engineer, agricultural engineer, automotive engineer, biomedical engineer, chemical engineer, civil engineer, computer engineer, design engineer, electrical engineer, environmental engineer, geological engineer, marine engineer, mechanical engineer, petroleum engineer, or software engineer.





SOCIOLOGY

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Sociology gives students an understanding of our society. Students build a deep understanding of the inequalities of society and the impact this can have due to the barriers individuals face.

You will enjoy this course if you are interested in society and current sociological issues related to topics such as education, family, crime and social policies.

Curriculum Leader: Miss C Young
Exam Board: AQA
Option

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

Students will study a range of sociological theories and explanations within all core topics.

In Year 10 students will study family, education and research methods units.

In year 11 students will study social stratification and Crime and Deviance.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Sociology is 100% exam assessment, there are 2 exam papers. Paper 1 assesses your knowledge of family and education whilst paper 2 is social stratification and crime and deviance. In both papers, there are 4 extended writing questions as well as smaller mark questions.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|----------------|--|-------------------|-----------|-----|
| Paper 1 | The Sociology of families and education. | 1 hour 45 minutes | June 2022 | 50% |
| Paper 2 | The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification. | 1 hour 45 minutes | June 2022 | 50% |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Closely linked post-16 options you could choose are sociology, psychology and politics. Career choices you can make that are related to sociology include;

- Social sciences, teaching, social work or law degrees.
- Apprenticeship working with people (E.g. Health).
- Employment in education, social work or police force.





ART AND DESIGN

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, art and design is a great choice. The skills you gain make it a great complement to other subjects. Art and design is a way of seeing things and making sense of the world around you. It can help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

Curriculum Leader: Mrs K Sibson

Exam Board: Edexcel

Compulsory: No

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

- Drawing from first hand and second hand sources using a range of mark making techniques.
- Experimentation with a range of materials and techniques.
- Development of painting skills with an emphasis upon use of materials with the aim of producing artwork to a high standard.
- The study of key themes in Art, for example, portraiture and landscape a exploring these themes within the contexts of culture, history and contemporary practice.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Two folders are created throughout the course, a coursework folder and an examination folder.

The coursework folder is developed throughout year 10 and one term of year 11 and constitutes 60% of the overall grade.

The examination folder is started in the Spring term of year 11 and follows a theme given by the examination board, the folder constitutes 40% of the final grade and culminates in a ten hour practical examination.

Both folders contain investigation of the artwork by established artists and artwork produced by the student. Students must also produce written work exploring the theme, analysing artists/artwork and explaining their personal response to the project.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|---|--|---|--|------------|
| Component 1: Personal Portfolio | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and explore ideas • research primary and contextual sources • experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes • present personal response(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students' work must comprise supporting studies and personal response(s) • Students' work must show evidence of all four Assessment Objectives • All work is internally set and is internally marked using the assessment grid provided by the exam board and internally standardised | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All marks must be submitted before moderation • First assessment is in May/June | 60% |
| Component 2: Externally Set Assignment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and explore ideas • research primary and contextual sources • experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes • present personal response(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ESA paper will be released on 2 January each year and may be given to students as soon as it is released. • A 10-hour sustained focus period under examination conditions will take place in April or May | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All marks must be submitted before moderation • First assessment is in May/June | 40% |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

You can continue your art and design studies at AS and A-level, where the same titles are available. You'll also be able to choose areas of study to specialise in within a particular title. If you don't want to take your art and design studies any further, the transferable skills you gain will still be valuable. You'll develop problem solving, creative thinking, investigation, research, communication and teamwork skills, and gain the ability to develop, refine and present ideas. Employers and universities regard all of these highly.





DRAMA

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

The World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report predicts creativity, innovation and ideation will be key skills for the workforce of the future. When business leaders across the world were surveyed, they voted Creativity as the most important workplace capability to help their businesses survive and grow.

This means that the study of creative subjects, like Drama, is becoming even more important and relevant to young people to give you the chance to succeed – whatever your ambitions.

This is for anyone who has a passion for performing and is always looking to learn and develop their knowledge and skills.

Curriculum Leader: Mrs K Sibson

Exam Board: Eduqas

Compulsory: No

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

In GCSE Drama you will be learning how to create, perform and analyse theatre. You will also be able work collaboratively to generate, develop and communicate ideas, all of which will develop your emotional intelligence.

Your practical skills will be refined and will demonstrate creativity, reflection and resilience, as well as developing confidence and strong presentation skills. Your written skills, both analytical and creative, as well as your ability to self-reflect, will be developed through a range of tasks.

Practitioners: Stanislavski, Brecht, Frantic Assembly

Set Text: DNA by Dennis Kelly

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Assessment is both internal by subject teachers which is then externally moderated by an examiner and also by an examiner.

Component 1 – internally marked, externally moderated.

Component 2 – externally marked by a visiting examiner

Component 3 – Written exam

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|-------------|------------------------|--|---------------------|----|
| Component 1 | Devising Theatre | A portfolio of supporting evidence based on the rehearsal process A performance lasting between 5-16 minutes An evaluation of the final performance or design. | October of Year 11 | 40 |
| Component 2 | Performing from a text | A performance lasting between 5-14 mins using sections of a play text. | February of Year 11 | 20 |
| Component 3 | Interpreting Theatre | 1 hour 30 min exam. Section A – set text Section B – Live Theatre Review | Summer 2022 | 40 |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

There are many routes Drama can take you from becoming a professional performer, teaching, working in theatre but also journalism, public relations, becoming a drama therapist.

Drama equips you with many transferable skills that are valued in all professions.





MUSIC

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Music as a part of everyday life is a universal language that can unite all cultures. It can enhance your brain function and can have an impact on your emotions. It aids and enhances many skills such as: your ability to learn and understand, developing your memory; help you to learn discipline; help you to learn respect for others and the world around you; develops your self respect and self esteem giving you pride in yourself and your work; helps to develop your communication skills; develops and builds on your creativity and teamwork; help you to understand how music plays an important part in everyday life and develop your cultural awareness. "You have to, take a deep breath. and allow the music to flow through you. Revel in it, allow yourself to awe. When you play allow the music to break your heart with its beauty." — Kelly White. Are you willing to learn an instrument and put the effort and time into learning the instrument, both the technique and musical skills to become a musician? Can you work independently and as a member of a team, showing that you can actively engage and participate with others and the work? Then Music is for you.

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

The course consists of three core units which are studied and developed throughout year 10 with a focus on the coursework completion in year 11 and the listening examination at the end of the course. The three core units that you will study are; the integrated portfolio which requires you to demonstrate an understanding of performing on your instrument with accuracy, technical ability, fluency, musical expression and interpretation. You will also compose a piece of music for your instrument demonstrating compositional devices and instrumental technique specific for your instrument. The practical component which requires you to perform on your instrument with others within an ensemble demonstrating an understanding of performing with accuracy, technical ability, fluency, musical expression and interpretation with ensemble awareness. You will also compose a piece of music to a set brief. The listening and appraising examination unit will be studied throughout the course looking at the Four Areas of Study (The Concerto Through Time; Rhythms of the World; Film music; Conventions of Pop) culminating in a listening paper at the end of Year 11.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

This qualification will be assessed by external moderators for your coursework in May of Year 11 and through a written listening examination in June of Year 11. You will be assessed by the exam board through two practical performances; a solo performance and an ensemble performance. Two compositions; one a free choice and the other to a set brief. Ending with the written listening examination at the end of the two year course. On-going assessments to track your progress will take place throughout Year 10 and 11 by your subject teacher.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|--------------------|--|--|--------------------|----|
| Component 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance: You will perform a piece chosen by you on an instrument of your choosing (with guidance) . You will also create a composition in your own choice of style. | Minimum 4 minutes. Minimum 3 minutes. | Sept—December 2022 | 30 |
| Component 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensemble Performance: You will contribute to an ensemble performance (with guidance) . You will create a composition to a brief set by the exam board. | Minimum 4 minutes. Minimum 3 minutes. | January—March 2023 | 30 |
| Component 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A listening exam completed in controlled conditions where you appraise pieces of music from the different areas of study. | 1 hr 30 minutes | May—June 2023 | 40 |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

With a GCSE in music you can enrol on an A level Music or BTEC Level 3 Music course. This could then lead onto you studying for a music degree. Taking an internship or apprenticeship in music or going straight into a music career. Career choices that this could lead onto are media, such as television, radio or journalism. Music industry, such as music publicist, producer, recording, record labels, agent or management. Arts administration, such as road crew, backstage, grips, management or promotion. Music retail, such as music shop or instrumental repair. Education, such as teacher, lecturer, instrumental teacher or music therapist. Performing, such as soloist, band or a session musician. Composing, such as composer, arranger, song writer or an orchestrator. Music technology, such as recording engineer or producer.



Curriculum Leader: Miss F Guest

Exam Board: OCR

Compulsory: No

Due to the nature of studying music, only students who play an instrument or sing will be considered and that the expectation is that student practice 30 minutes every day.



Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Religious Studies is a multi-disciplinary subject, which means that it links to other subjects. However, it is unique as it gives an opportunity to develop your knowledge and understanding of religion, philosophy and ethics. Some of the topics studied will be relevant to your own lives, either now or in the future. It is academically rigorous and requires a high level of written skills, such as referencing and evaluation.

RS promotes personal development skills that are useful beyond GCSE. Being able to express an opinion, listen to others and form logical arguments are transferable skills.

Curriculum Leader: Miss Berridge

Exam Board: AQA

Compulsory: No

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

You will study **two** world religions, Christianity and Islam. You will learn about key beliefs, worship, lifestyles and festivals within these two religions.

The course will also include the study of **four** philosophical and ethical themes:

- Relationships and families
- Religion and life
- Religion, peace and conflict
- Religion, crime and punishment.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

The course is 100% examination and there will be **two** examination papers. Each paper is worth 50% of the final grade. 96 marks are awarded for each paper, plus 6 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG). Each unit will have an end of unit assessment. You will have mock exams, exam questions and quizzes to assess your learning.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|-----------|-----|
| Component 1 | The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices | 1 hour 45 minutes | June 2023 | 50% |
| Component 2 | Thematic Studies: philosophy and ethics | 1 hour 45 minutes | June 2023 | 50% |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

GCSE Religious Studies could be a stepping stone onto A-level RS, as well as University courses of any kind. A sample of career paths include: Law (e.g. a Lawyer, Judge, Court Clerk, Court reporter); Public services (e.g. Police, Armed Forces, Local government, Civil servant); Education (e.g. Primary or Secondary teachers, Lecturer, School psychologist, Careers advisor); Health and Social care (e.g. Doctor, Nurse, Midwife, Social worker, Counsellor); Journalism (e.g. Editor, Copy writer, Reporter, Photographer, Writer); Tourism (e.g. Travel advisor, Tourist information officer, Hotel manager, Holiday rep).





FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

The Level 2 Further Maths Certificate is a qualification for students who are expected to achieve **grades 6+** in their mathematics GCSE and are likely to progress to study A Level Mathematics and/or A Level Further Mathematics. This qualification expands on the pure mathematics elements of the GCSE, while introducing pupils to more advanced concepts of historical significance in the development of maths.

Curriculum Leader: Mr D Green

Exam Board: AQA

Compulsory: No

Due to the nature of studying further mathematics, only students who are expected to achieve a grade 6 or higher in maths will be considered.

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

The further maths certificate has some overlap with the subject content of mathematics GCSE. The key difference in further mathematics is the focus on linking the areas of mathematics in more complex ways. There are six subject components to the qualification: Number; Algebra; Geometry; Coordinate Geometry in 2 Dimensions; Matrix Transformations; and Calculus. Matrices and calculus are not encountered in the GCSE Mathematics specifications, and offer new mathematical concepts to learn about with applications to computer science and data coding in the case of matrices, and in analysing complex rates of change in the case of calculus.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Your teachers will assess you through the qualification with a mixture of low-stakes tests, quick quizzes and recaps to help you succeed and stay on track. There are two exams at the end of the course. Paper 1 is non-calculator, while paper 2 is a calculator paper. The Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics is untiered, but pupils will still be given a grade from 5-9. The exam board assesses with exams across two assessment objectives.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|--------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| AO1 | Procedural Fluency | Examination Papers 1 and 2 | May/June 2023 To be announced | 60% |
| AO2 | Reasoning and Application | Examination Papers 1 and 2 | May/June 2023 To be announced | 40% |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

There are numerous post-16 pathways that involve the study of mathematics, and while this qualification is aimed at those undertaking A Level and university study, it would be highly advantageous to students applying for higher level apprenticeships in the STEM sector, such as Rolls-Royce.

Similarly, those looking to explore further qualifications in computer science or physics will find that the Further Mathematics curriculum will set them up with some of the underlying concepts that have powered developments in those fields.





BTEC SPORT

Curriculum Leader: Miss C Young
Exam Board: Pearson
Option

Why is this subject important and who should study it?

BTEC Sport involves the study of a range of components of sport including the human body, training and nutrition and leadership. You should study BTEC Sport if you have a keen interest in sport, have confidence in leading others and are have a positive attitude to learning about physical activity and theoretical aspects of sport.

What will I study during years 10 and 11?

Throughout the 2 years you will study the human body (Cardiorespiratory system, musculoskeletal system), principles of training, nutrition, sport psychology and leadership skills through planning, delivering and evaluating a session you have led.

How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

There are three components. One is externally assessed and is an exam, the others are assessed through internal assessment and are extended pieces of coursework.

| Module | Elements | Assessment | Date | % |
|--------|--|------------------------------------|---------------|-----|
| Comp 1 | Understand the body and supporting technology for Sport and Activity. | Internally assessed coursework. | Throughout | 33% |
| Comp 2 | The Principles of Training, Nutrition and Psychology for Sport and Activity. | Externally assessed synoptic exam. | Feb/ May 2022 | 33% |
| Comp 3 | Applying the Principles of Sport and Activity | Internally assessed coursework | Throughout | 33% |

What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

A variety of job opportunities in the sport and leisure industries e.g. coach, sports development officer, personal trainer, physiotherapist, sports nutritionist, PE teacher.



