



ST. AIDAN'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL



Key Stage 4 Course Booklet

2019 - 2021



INTRODUCTION

During your first three years at St. Aidan's you have continued to follow the National Curriculum but you now face having to make a number of important decisions about the courses you will follow in Years 10 and 11.

The National Curriculum requires that you must continue to follow courses in several of the subjects you have taken so far, so your programme of work will remain broad and balanced through to the end of Year 11. This is important as it means that almost all career areas remain open to you.

In Years 10 and 11 some subjects are compulsory, some offer choice within the subject, others are optional. You and your parents will be involved in a thorough programme of consultation. You will also need to obtain advice from your Form Teacher, your Subject Teachers, your Head of Year and the Careers staff.

I am delighted to be able to tell you that our GCSE results at St. Aidan's in recent years have been excellent, placing the school very high in the national ranking of comprehensive schools, as well as being ranked as one of the top schools in Yorkshire. With hard work and determination, I have no doubt you can match the achievement of our former pupils in two years' time. You will continue to receive all the support and encouragement we can give you to enable you to achieve your potential.

John Wood

HEADTEACHER

KS4 COURSES IN YEARS 10 AND 11

This guide gives details of the courses in Years 10 and 11 and explains what choices you can make. All the courses are for both boys and girls and last the full two years.

CORE COURSES

All pupils follow courses in the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Religious Studies
- Science
- Modern Languages*
- Physical Education

* The majority of pupils are expected to continue with a Modern Foreign Language. Core Skills is available for some pupils.

Information and Communication Technology is integrated across other subjects.

OPTIONAL COURSES

A further 3 options are chosen from the list below.

- ASDAN: Level 1/2 Award
- Art: Fine Art
- Art: Graphic Communication
- Business
- Computer Science
- Core Skills
- Dance
- Drama
- French
- Geography
- Health & Social Care: Level 1/2 Technical Award
- History
- ICT: Level 1/2 Certificate
- Media Studies
- Music
- Physical Education (Full GCSE)
- Technology: Design & Technology
- Technology: Textiles Specialism
- Technology: Food & Nutrition
- Technology: Engineering Manufacture Cambridge National Certificate - Level 1/2

In addition, all students follow a course in Careers Education, which takes place in tutorial time and occasionally in normal lesson time.

Technical Award Gradings

Level	Technical Award Grade	GCSE equivalent (approx.)	
Level 2	Distinction*	A*	8/9
	Distinction	A/A*	8
	Merit	A/B	6/7
Level 1	Pass	C	4/5
	Advanced Credit	D	3
	Credit	F	1/2

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any significant alterations or additions to the information contained on the course pages will be made available at the Year 9 Information Evening on 31st January 2019 and/or the Year 9 Parents' Evening on 19th February 2019.

CORE COURSES

Pupils must choose **ONE** element from each section

ENGLISH

 English Language and English Literature

MATHS

 Maths

No further choices

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

 Religious Studies

Options within the subject - see subject description
This course will also cover significant elements of Citizenship

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

 Physical Education

No further choices

SCIENCE

 Combined (worth 2 GCSEs)

 Separate (worth 3 GCSEs)

MODERN LANGUAGES

 French

 Spanish

 German

 Core Skills

OPTIONAL COURSES

Pupils must choose **THREE** options from this section

 ASDAN (can be chosen as one or two options)

 Health & Social Care: Level 1/2 Technical Award

 Art: Fine Art

 History

 Art: Graphic Communication

 ICT: Level 1/2 Certificate

 Business

 Media Studies

 Computer Science

 Music

 Core Skills

 Physical Education (Full GCSE)

 Dance

 Technology: Design & Technology

 Drama

 Technology: Engineering Manufacture Cambridge National Certificate - Level 1/2

 French

 Technology: Food & Nutrition

 Geography

 Technology: Textiles Specialism

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE

**English Language****Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing - 50% of overall GCSE**

Section A Reading: Students will read a single source from 20th or 21st century fiction, e.g. an extract from novels and short stories. They will consider how writers use language and structural techniques to capture the interest of readers. Students are also required to put forward a critical view of the extract in response to a statement given on the exam paper.

Section B Writing: Students will use a written prompt or visual stimulus to produce descriptive or narrative writing. Accuracy and the organisation of their work will be a key focus.

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives - 50% of overall GCSE

Section A Reading: Students will use two linked sources from different time periods, e.g. 19th century and either the 20th or 21st century to consider how each presents a perspective or viewpoint to influence the reader. Sources will be non-fiction and literary non-fiction, e.g. broadsheet newspapers, articles, travel writing, diaries, letters, autobiography and biography.

Section B Writing: Students will write an article, speech or letter presenting a point of view on a topic which links to section A. Accuracy and organisational techniques will be a key focus.

Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language (0% weighting of GCSE)

Students are required to deliver a presentation to the class in Year 9. They must respond to questions and feedback and use Standard English. This is assessed by their Year 9 teacher and appears on the exam certificate as an endorsement awarded as a pass, merit or distinction.

English Literature**Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel - 40% of GCSE Literature**

Section A Shakespeare: Students will answer one question on a Shakespeare play. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole. Text choice will be Macbeth. There are marks for accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar in this section. This is a closed book exam.

Section B 19th Century Novel: Students will answer one question on a 19th Century novel. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole. Text choices will be: Frankenstein, The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, Jane Eyre or A Christmas Carol depending on the English teacher and group. This is a closed book exam.

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry - 60% of GCSE Literature

Section A Modern Texts: Students will answer one question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text. Text choices: Lord of the Flies, Animal Farm, An Inspector Calls, The History Boys, Blood Brothers or The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (play script) depending on the English teacher and group. There are marks available for accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar in this section. This is a closed book exam.

Section B Poetry: Students will answer one question on poems from the AQA Anthology. They will have to respond to a taught poem printed on the exam paper and one other poem they have been taught from the selection. The poetry studied will be on the themes of love or conflict. Poets are for example: Robert Browning, Carol Ann Duffy, Seamus Heaney, Thomas Hardy, William Blake, Wilfred Owen and John Agard.

Section C Unseen Poetry: Students will answer one question on an unseen poem printed on the exam paper and then answer another question comparing the first poem with a second unseen poem.

What will I do on the course?**English Language**

English Language is a core subject in the National Curriculum and includes a wide range of reading and writing tasks that will be a continuation and development of the kind of work pupils have been used to in English at KS3. Speaking and listening activities will play an important role in accessing the texts studied.

Assessment is in terms of students' skills in Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening.

English Literature

English Literature has now been given equal weighting to English Language and builds on the skills acquired at KS3, looking in greater depth at significant works of English Literature – in prose, drama and poetry. Students will study the themes and ideas of writers such as Shakespeare, Charles Dickens and Mary Shelley as well as more recent writers such as Alan Bennett and Simon Armitage.

How are these courses assessed?

There is now no tiering for English exams. Both courses are linear and examined at the end of Year 11. We use end of unit assessments under timed conditions in lessons throughout the course to indicate progress. Students have to study both English Language and English Literature.

There is no written coursework for English.

What can I do with these courses?

English Language at GCSE prepares students for some of the skills required at A Level English Language, e.g. analysis of nonfiction texts and journalistic writing. GCSE English Literature prepares students for the type of texts they will study at A Level and close analysis essay skills. Following the English Language and English Literature courses will enable students to access all three English A Level courses at St. Aidan's: English Language, English Literature and English Language and Literature.

MATHEMATICS



Course Outline:

The course is broken into two tiers and covers the following areas:

	Higher	Foundation
Number	(15%)	(25%)
Algebra	(30%)	(20%)
Ratio, proportion and rates of change	(20%)	(25%)
Geometry and measures	(20%)	(15%)
Probability and statistics	(15%)	(15%)

What will I do on the course?

Lessons will cover the work required for the various areas and will relate as much as possible to everyday life and support work in other subjects.

In line with the AQA specification students will learn to:

- use and apply standard techniques
- reason, interpret and communicate mathematically
- solve problems within Mathematics in other contexts

Contextual questions are essentially problems that are constructed within real life areas.

Homework is a vital part of the course; it is at home that you will have the chance to put into practice the techniques you have learned in class. Practice is essential if you are to completely understand the work done.

How is this course assessed?

Mathematics will be assessed entirely by three examinations taken in May and June of Year 11 which all carry equal weighting. The exam papers are all 1½ hours long and content from any part of the course may be assessed in any of the exams. Paper 1 is non-calculator.

There is **no coursework** for Mathematics.

What can I do with this course?

Mathematics is a vital qualification for all job applications in later life. You will develop foundations for further study at A Level in Mathematics and related subjects such as the Sciences. In addition, you will learn problem solving techniques and to think logically.

Where can I get further information?

For further information please talk to your Mathematics teacher.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES



Students will choose to study either:

Option 1: Religious Studies - Christianity, Islam and four Philosophical and Ethical themes

or

Option 2: Religious Studies - Christianity, Islam, two Philosophical and Ethical themes and two St. Mark's Gospel themes

Course Outline:

Option 1:

Religious Studies - Christianity, Islam, Philosophical and Ethical themes

- Beliefs, Teachings and Practices (50% of the qualification)
Students are required to study two religions in depth. We will study Christianity and Islam.

- Ethical and Philosophical Studies (50% of the qualification)

Students are required to focus on one religion for this unit. We will focus upon Christianity.

There are four elements to this unit:

1. Relationships and families
2. Religion and Life
3. The existence of God and revelation
4. Religion, Peace and Conflict

Option 2:

Religious Studies - Christianity, Islam, Philosophical and Ethical themes, St. Mark's Gospel

- Beliefs, Teachings and Practices (50% of the qualification)
Students are required to study two religions in depth. We will study Christianity and Islam.

- Ethical and Textual Studies (50% of the qualification)

Students are required to focus on one religion for this unit. We will focus upon Christianity.

There are four elements to this unit:

1. Religion and Families
2. Religion, Peace and Conflict or Religion and Life
3. The life of Jesus (ministry, teaching, Passion)
4. St. Mark's Gospel as a source of religious, moral and spiritual truth

What will I do on the course?

You will experience different teaching methods and activities so that in lessons you will have traditional teaching as well as group work and discussion. You will be encouraged to develop your own ideas and to explore them orally and in writing. You will have regular assessment tasks and tests so that you know how you are progressing towards your GCSE.

How is this course assessed?

The course will be assessed through two external examinations, each worth 50% of the total GCSE.

What can I do with this course?

You can continue Religious Studies at A Level and at university and it is also an excellent foundation for all your other subject and career choices. The thinking and reasoning skills you develop during your course will be valuable tools for the future and your ability to make decisions and reach conclusions about difficult issues will be recognised by universities and colleges and by employers. Religious Studies will be a useful subject to offer if you are thinking about any career that involves working with people, like teaching, social work, the police or marketing. It is valuable for careers in the Media and for Law. If you are thinking of Medicine, Nursing, Veterinary Science or other related careers you will find the work you have done in ethics is very useful.

Where can I get further information?

You can get more information from your Religious Studies teacher or any of the Religious Studies staff. You can also look on the school's website or check www.aqa.org.uk

SEPARATE SCIENCE (Three individual GCSEs)



In this course you will study six, seven or eight units each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics respectively.

There will be two hours of each Science taught every week by specialist teachers.



What will I do on the course?

This course is split into three different GCSEs studying aspects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. A GCSE is awarded for each individual Science. The following units are studied in each science:

Biology

- B1 – Cell level systems
- B2 – Scaling up
- B3 – Organism level systems
- B4 – Community level systems
- B5 – Genes, inheritance and selection
- B6 – Global challenges
- B7 – Practical skills

Chemistry

- C1 – Particles
- C2 – Elements, compounds and mixtures
- C3 – Chemical reactions
- C4 – Predicting and identifying reactions and products
- C5 – Monitoring and controlling chemical reactions
- C6 – Global challenges

Physics

- P1 – Matter
- P2 – Forces
- P3 – Electricity
- P4 – Magnetism and magnetic fields
- P5 – Waves in matter
- P6 – Radioactive decay – waves and particles
- P7 – Energy
- P8 – Global challenges

Throughout the course you will be required to carry out practical work, think about how Science is used in the world around you and discuss different ideas about Science. There will be no controlled assessment in Separate Science, however, there will be eight assessed practical activities for each Science allowing you to develop and demonstrate your skills.

How is this course assessed?

You will sit two examinations for each Science, each of 1 hour 45 minutes duration and worth 50% of that Science GCSE. They will cover:

- | | | |
|-----------|------|------|
| B1-3 & B7 | C1-4 | P1-4 |
| B4-6 & B7 | C5-8 | P5-8 |

What can I do with this course?

The three Separate Sciences are excellent preparation for taking an A Level in a Science. It is an option for those students considering a career in Science or other areas where competition is strong.

Where can I get further information?

Speak to your Science teachers.

COMBINED SCIENCE (Two GCSEs)



In this course you will study six units each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There will be two hours of each Science taught every week by specialist teachers.



What will I do on the course?

You will study the following topics:

Biology

- B1 – Cell level systems
- B2 – Scaling up
- B3 – Organism level systems
- B4 – Community level systems
- B5 – Interaction between systems
- B6 – Global challenges

Chemistry

- C1 – Particles
- C2 – Elements, compounds and mixtures
- C3 – Chemical reactions
- C4 – Predicting and identifying reactions and products
- C5 – Monitoring and controlling chemical reactions
- C6 – Global challenges

Physics

- P1 – Matter
- P2 – Forces
- P3 – Electricity and magnetism
- P4 – Waves and radioactivity
- P5 – Energy
- P6 – Global challenges

Throughout the course you will be required to carry out practical work, think about how Science is used in the world around you and discuss different ideas about Science. There will be no controlled assessment in Science, however there will be sixteen assessed practical activities throughout the course allowing you to develop and demonstrate your skills.

How is this course assessed?

You will sit six exams each of 70 minute duration and worth $\frac{1}{6}$ of your final grade. They will cover:

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| B1-3 | C1-3 | P1-3 |
| B4-6 | C4-6 | P4-6 |

What can I do with this course?

A GCSE in Science is vital for entry onto many other courses at Sixth Form level and at college.

Where can I get further information?

Speak to your Science teachers.

FRENCH / GERMAN / SPANISH (First Foreign Language)

FR
DE
ES

On these GCSE Language courses you will build on the foundations of Years 7 – 9 to become independent and confident linguists. You will learn new vocabulary and more advanced grammar to help you communicate more effectively. Learning in class is supported by homework activities directed at the key skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing.



What will I do on the course?

There are three trips run every year in Year 10. These go to France, Spain and Germany and as well as allowing you to improve your language skills you can enjoy time with your friends experiencing a different culture in the summer sunshine. Work in school will involve whole class, small group and pair activities that focus on the key skills. You will use real materials from TV, videos, DVDs, internet downloads, novels and newspapers in your learning.

How is this course assessed?

You will have exams in listening, reading and writing including translating from target language to English and vice versa. Speaking is assessed with your teacher in May of Year 11 through an individual conversation that will include discussion of a picture and a topic prepared by the student. All exams are equally weighted and take place in June of Year 11.

What can I do with this course?

Large numbers of students go on to study Languages in the Associated Sixth Form. From this base most go on to study Languages at university where a Languages degree makes you the most employable type of graduate alongside medics and teachers. Our Sixth Form courses also offer further travel abroad to language schools in Salamanca and Cologne and work experience in France.

Where can I get further information?

Talk to your Languages teachers and look at the posters in the languages department showing where our linguists have gone to university and what they have studied. Log in to your Languages Online account and try some intermediate games and activities. Why not download the duolingo app and become a better language learner through a daily challenge?

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



The aim of the department is to provide opportunities which will positively influence the physical, social, moral and emotional development of the individuals we teach.



What will I do on the course?

Our hope is that pupils are able to be independent in their learning by the end of Key Stage 4 and can follow their own programme of sport, health and recreation in the Associated Sixth Form and beyond. Our programme of study for Years 10 and 11 has been devised to recognise the growing maturity of pupils at Key Stage 4. The programme is designed to enable pupils to experience greater independence, leadership and ownership in their lessons. Pupils will have greater choice and experience varied roles such as coach, referee, and team manager and will have sporting, recreational and health promoting opportunities.

Students will be able to choose from a variety of sports -

Invasion games:

- Football
- Basketball
- Netball
- Hockey

Net games:

- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Badminton

Target and striking games:

- Cricket
- Softball
- Rounders

Other activities include fitness, weights, aerobics and dance where there are also extra-curricular clubs. World Games is also offered as an option where students can experience games such as Lacrosse, Ultimate Frisbee and Aussie Rules.

The Department also aims to provide opportunities for academic and leadership development. GCSE Physical Education is a popular option for many pupils and also on offer is the highly recognised Junior Sports Leadership Award for those who are interested in developing leadership and coaching roles in Sport and Recreation.

This programme is a nationally recognised qualification which is formally assessed by the students leading younger pupils in our local primary schools. It is a popular and successful course.

CORE SKILLS



English and Mathematics

This course gives pupils more time to work on the core subjects of English and Mathematics.



It provides extra teaching in small groups with specialist teachers, providing valuable opportunities for them to practise the key concepts taught in their main English/Mathematics lessons and to receive additional tuition where necessary. There is opportunity during the two years to move between English and Mathematics, depending on individual need.

Since the teaching groups are smaller than average, there is more time to consolidate learning and to reinforce other skills e.g. organisational, thinking and revision skills.

Please note: Students taking this Core course DO NOT take a Modern Foreign Language. (Core Skills is also available as an optional course).

CAREERS EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE

In Year 9 you are encouraged to think seriously and practically about your future career plans. You will make your choice of GCSE subjects in line with the National Curriculum and, therefore, will be continuing studies across a broad spectrum of subjects which keep open a wide range of career options. All students in Year 9 are encouraged to visit the Careers Department to use the Careers Library and use relevant computer programmes such as New Kudos to research career ideas. This will help to ensure that you choose the relevant GCSE subjects.

Throughout Key Stage 4 you will receive ongoing careers information, advice and guidance from the Careers Department to help you plan for your future. We have a team of professionally qualified Career Advisers and a dedicated Work Experience Co-ordinator to assist you at all times. In Year 10, students will be involved in the "Be Real Game" and learn more about the world of work and managing finances.

During Year 11, Careers Advisers will help you make informed decisions on what to do post-16, be it to continue into the Associated Sixth Form, go to college or do an apprenticeship, and every student will have an individual careers guidance interview. At the end of Year 11 there will be the opportunity to do work experience. We can assist you in finding a placement and will help you prepare for this opportunity to ensure that you get the most out of it.



You can use the facilities of the Careers Department at any time and we are open daily from 8.30am to 5.00pm. We organise careers events and regularly invite employers and guest speakers in to talk to students about different courses and careers opportunities.



ASDAN (Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network)



ASDAN is an awarding body whose programmes and qualifications offer flexible ways of developing and accrediting personal, social and work-related abilities.

**Course Outline:**

ASDAN offers a range of programmes and qualification covering a vast array of skills and areas of study. The ASDAN course at St Aidan's will be tailored to the specific needs and interests of the students who opt for it. On the ASDAN course, opportunities also exist for mentoring and students benefit from being in smaller groups, allowing time for help with organisation and time management. This can be chosen as either 1 or 2 options.

What will I do on the course?

Areas of study could include:

- 1) Short Course Qualifications
- 2) Employability Skills Development
- 3) AOPE: Award Of Personal Effectiveness

Short Courses are offered in a huge range of subjects – Environmental, Expressive Arts, FoodWise, Gardening, Sports and Fitness, Computing, Construction and Hospitality. All the Short Courses develop skills and knowledge in a specific area as well as encouraging team work and problem solving. The courses are assessed by means of a portfolio of work which is internally assessed.

The **Employability Skills Development** course takes an activity-based approach to raising learners' awareness of the working environment. It can support learners in preparation for traineeships, apprenticeships or getting a job. The course is assessed by means of a portfolio of work which is internally assessed.

Each activity on the **AOPE** course gives the students the opportunity to learn and develop Wider Key Skills and the skills of Personal Effectiveness. Activities are chosen from the following assessment units: Working with Others, Planning and Reviewing Learning, Dealing with Problems in Daily Life, Planning and Carrying out Research, Group Discussion, Preparing for and Giving a Presentation and Developing Self. In addition, students will also develop skills of Creativity, Resilience, Writing for a Purpose and Numeracy.

The emphasis of the AOPE course is to develop the skills through doing. Therefore the majority of the learning and skills development takes place through practical activities adding up to a total of at least 60 hours assessed work. Students learn how to plan (setting their own goals and targets), how to manage their time effectively and to reflect on the skills they are developing. Possible activities might include re-designing and planting a garden at school, taking part in an enterprise project, designing and producing a leaflet, practical science investigations, planning and going on a journey and organising an activity to raise money for charity. Projects vary from year to year depending on the interests of the group.

The Award of Personal Effectiveness is a nationally recognised qualification available at Level 1 and Level 2. The course is 100% coursework; students build up a portfolio of work and evidence for the units they have completed which is externally assessed.

What can I do with this course?

The skills which ASDAN courses develop are highly valued by employers. As the courses develop Personal Effectiveness Skills as well as Improving Own Learning they can also prepares students for the more independent approach required for success at A Level, Further Education and in Higher Education.

Where can I get further information?

More details are available from Mrs King.

ART: FINE ART



The aim of the course is to give you a broad experience of a variety of approaches and techniques in Art. Your Art teacher will show you how to source a range of different artists, architects, photographers, illustrators, fashion and interior designers and you will use the ones that inspire you as a launch pad to create your own work.

**Course Outline:**

Throughout the course you will be encouraged to hone your creative thinking whilst developing your practical skills through tailor made workshops. Coursework will consist of two components. The first one is a shorter project, where you can experiment and build your skills in a range of media. The second begins in Year 10 and finishes in January of Year 11. This is often tackled in a more ambitious way as there is more time to complete it. Ideas are initiated by you and you make choices depending on what you enjoy. In the final stages of Year 11 there will be an externally set assignment. This will be an extended project, which lasts about one term. There is no written examination in Art although you will be tested on your practical skills and your ability to respond creatively to a starting point.

What will I do on the course?

You will gain a variety of practical skills such as drawing, painting, printing, collage, mixed media, and will work in three dimensions such as clay work or installation art. If desired, students can also have access to our specialist Art IT rooms to manipulate images, initiate designs or work with their own photographs. Eventually you will focus more on the activities which are your strengths. Each component will involve gathering relevant imagery, developing ideas creatively, exploring media and researching artists. The course is conducted in a relaxed but purposeful atmosphere and much of the teaching takes place on a one-to-one basis. By the end of the course students will have gained a range of practical skills and increased their ability to think independently and creatively.

How is this course assessed?

Your two coursework projects will be worth 60% of your overall grade and your examination project will be worth 40%. These are assessed at the end of the course but you will get feedback throughout the course as well.

What can I do with this course?

Firstly, it enables you to move on and study an Art Course in the Associated Sixth Form, either Fine Art, Graphics or Photography. After this it will take you to a university degree and then into any of our growing creative industries as diverse as architecture, graphic design, teaching, fashion design, photography and interior design, to name just a few.

Where can I get further information?

You can talk to your Art Teacher or go online to the Art and Design section of www.qualifications.pearson.com

ART: GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION



The course will give you the experience of a range of Graphic Design techniques. Projects will be set by your Art Graphics teacher, allowing for choice in both materials and outcome. The aim is to develop a wide range of new skills and encourage creativity.

**Course Outline:**

Coursework will consist of two projects, a shorter introductory project that will last for one term and a second major project that will last about two terms. In the final stages of Year 11 there will be a 10 hour examination, which follows a preparation period of eight weeks. The question paper allows for choice and personal interpretation of a chosen brief.

What will I do on the course?

You will produce graphic work, based on a series of briefs, supported by a research folder that explores media development as well as experimentation and interpretation of ideas. You will investigate artists, designers and graphic design styles in order to enrich your own understanding of the subject and to develop your knowledge of Design. Media is wide and varied but primarily involves the use of Photoshop software. The software is able to facilitate the production of complex multi-layered images and develops sophisticated IT skills. The designs can be printed onto a large scale using the school's A0 printer. Personal photography is encouraged as part of the design procedure. Traditional media is also an important part of this course including drawing, painting and illustrative design. Animation may also be used where appropriate. Homework is set fortnightly and supports the work produced in class. Work can be improved and developed throughout the course as skill levels evolve.

How is this course assessed?

The two coursework projects will be worth 60% of the overall grade and the examination project 40%. These are assessed at the end of the course but feedback is on-going throughout.

What can I do with this course?

Firstly, it enables you to move on and study a related course in the Associated Sixth Form, either Graphic Communication, Fine Art or Photography. After this it will take you to university degree level and then into careers as diverse as graphic design, fashion design, photography, architecture, interior design, to name just a few. The media industry now employs more graduates than any other industry and continues to grow annually.

Where can I get further information?

You can talk to your Art Teacher or go online to the Art and Design section of www.qualifications.pearson.com

BUSINESS



Business and Economics courses are both well established in the Sixth Form and our GCSE in Business has been a popular choice for students for many years.

**Course Outline:**

There are two units which are to be studied over the two year GCSE course:

- Investigating Small Business
- Building a Business

What will I do on the course?**In Year 10 you will study:**

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- How to spot a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making the business effective
- Understanding the external influences on business

In Year 11 you will study:

- Growing the business
- Making marketing decisions
- Making operational decisions
- Making financial decisions
- Making human resource decisions

How is this course assessed?

- The final GCSE grade will be determined by two written examinations
- Each individual paper is 1hr 30mins duration
- Both papers are equally weighted with each representing 50% of the final GCSE grade
- Both papers will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions

What can I do with this course?

The GCSE in Business provides skills which can be utilised both in further study and employment. It is very good preparation for progression onto A Level courses in Economics and in Business, or to other A Level courses.

Where can I get further information?

For more details please speak to Mr Illingworth, Head of Economics/Business or other members of staff within the Department (Religious Studies/Business block).

CORE SKILLS

**English and Mathematics**

This option gives pupils more time to work on the core subjects of English and Mathematics.

**Course Outline:**

This course provides extra teaching in small groups with specialist teachers, providing valuable opportunities for them to practise the key concepts taught in their main English and Mathematics lessons and to receive additional tuition where necessary. There is opportunity during the two years to move between English and Mathematics, depending on individual need.

Since the teaching groups are smaller than average, there is more time to consolidate learning and to reinforce other skills e.g. organisational, thinking and revision skills.

This course is also available in place of a Modern Foreign Language, (see entry under Core Courses).

COMPUTER SCIENCE



Computer Science is a practical subject where learners can apply the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to real-world problems. It is an intensely creative subject that involves invention and excitement.

**What will I do on the course?**

Students will be introduced to the Computer Systems architecture, computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. You will study the impact of Computer Science in a global context through looking at the ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with Computer Science, and apply this knowledge using computational thinking. You will be using algorithms, learning about programming techniques, how to produce robust programs, computational logic, translators and facilities of computing languages and data representation. Students will also become familiar with computing-related mathematics.

60% of the course revolves around problem solving, algorithmic thinking and programming, which is ideal for existing programmers and those new to programming. We will develop your skills from the ground up using Python, Visual Basic and a number of other languages over the course of Year 10, ready for your final assessments in Year 11.

How is this course assessed?

The final GCSE grade will be determined by a combination of coursework and examination:

- **Examination (100%)**
Two written examinations. Paper 1 focusses on the theoretical aspects of the course, whilst Paper 2 focusses on the programming aspects of the course.
- **Grades available**
The full grade range of 9-1 is available.

What can I do with this course?

A Computer Science qualification values computational thinking, helping learners to develop the skills to solve problems and design systems that do so. These skills will be the best preparation for learners who want to go on to study Computer Science at A Level and beyond. The qualification will also provide a good grounding for other subject areas that require computational thinking and analytical skills including:

- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Financial and Resource Management
- Science and Medicine

The increasing importance of Computer Science means there will be a growing demand for people who are qualified in this field and with its importance as a STEM subject it is a solid grounding for progression onto A Level courses in the above fields.

Where can I get further information?

Further information can be found at the following location www.tinyurl.com/z57hsl7

For further explanation, please feel free to see Mr Marshall, Head of Computing and ICT.

DANCE



The AQA specification focuses on the aesthetic and artistic qualities of dance and the use of dance movement as a medium of expression and communication in the performance, creation and appreciation of dance.

**Course Outline:**

The aims of the course can be summarised as follows:

- develop understanding and appreciation of a range of dance styles
- develop aesthetic and artistic sensibility to dance works
- develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to perform, choreograph and appreciate dance, including an awareness of its artistic contexts
- develop life-skills and attributes including decision making, critical and creative thinking, aesthetic sensitivity and the ability to both co-operate with, and lead others

What will I do on the course?

Throughout the two year course there will be numerous opportunities to take part in workshops with practising professional dancers and choreographers, as well as visits to the theatre to appreciate a variety of dance works.

How is this course assessed?**Component 1: Performance and Choreography 60%**

- Performance of a duet/trio and set phrases
- Choreography of a dance based on a single stimulus from a choice of five options, which can either be a solo lasting at least 2 minutes or group choreography of at least 3 minutes

Component 2: Dance Appreciation 40%

- Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes

Assessment and evaluation of a range of professional works and analysis of own performance and choreography.

What can I do with this course?

GCSE Dance is an excellent option for male and female students with an interest in physical and creative expression. The course prepares students for any Dance or Performing Arts based course at Sixth Form level and is useful for those thinking about a career in any of the following areas:

- Choreographer
- Professional dancer
- Dance teacher
- Arts manager
- Youth worker
- Primary school teacher
- Community Arts practitioner
- Dance therapist

Where can I get further information?

For further information please visit AQA website or speak to Miss Miller (Dance Teacher).

DRAMA



“Drama is life with the dull bits cut out”

Film director: Alfred Hitchcock

**Course Outline:**

Drama is an exciting, creative and challenging course. No previous experience is necessary. However, as Drama is very practical and interactive, being enthusiastic and willing to collaborate with others is essential. GCSE Drama improves confidence and communication skills.

The written component is challenging. However, the balance between the practical assessment tasks and the written examination gives candidates the best opportunity to succeed.

What will I do on the course?

This course will develop and deepen your understanding of, and enjoyment in, theatre. We run numerous trips throughout the year to venues across the country. You will experience a wide range of theatre styles, both as an audience member and a participant.

There may also be opportunities to take part in professional workshops with actors, directors, lighting technicians and stage combat instructors.

The Drama Department has excellent resources. A superbly equipped Drama Studio, two rehearsal rooms and a costume and props store occupy a dedicated area on the ground floor of Bede House. Drama students are encouraged to get involved with both the onstage and backstage life of the extra-curricular production work that takes place throughout the year.

How is this course assessed?**Practical work: (60%)**

Candidates are required to present practical work for assessment from an exciting variety of options. These include: Devised Thematic Work, Scripted Performance, Improvisation, Physical Theatre, Set Design, Costume etc.

Written Paper: (40%)

Candidates will be given an opportunity to show their knowledge and understanding of how plays are constructed and realised. Plays are studied from a practical perspective.

The written paper is comprised of three sections:

- multiple choice questions on theatre terminology
- four questions on an extract from the set play chosen
- one question (from a choice of three) on a live theatre production seen

What can I do with this course?

Drama is far more than simply an extra-curricular activity. Taking GCSE Drama is excellent preparation for the A Level Drama and Theatre course and is directly useful for anyone considering a career in Law, Medicine, Teaching, Media, the Performing Arts industry, public relations, management or any field of work requiring people skills.

Where can I get further information?

Please see Mrs Bray for further information.

“I’m so glad I took Drama. I’ve gained so much confidence and it’s my favourite subject”

Year 10 GCSE student

FRENCH

France is one of the most interesting and exciting countries in Europe for UK citizens to holiday in or to do business with. For French Language GCSE you will build on the foundations of Years 7 – 9 to become a more independent and confident linguist.

**Course Outline:**

You will learn new vocabulary and more advanced grammar to help you communicate more effectively. Learning in class is supported by homework activities directed at the key skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing.

What will I do on the course?

There is a trip run every year in Year 10 to Nice, France, where you will stay with a host family, attend classes in French and experience French culture. Work in school will involve whole class, small group and pair activities that focus on the key skills. You will use real materials from TV, videos, DVDs, internet downloads, novels, poetry and newspapers in your learning.

How is this course assessed?

You will have examinations in listening, reading and writing including translating from target language to English and vice versa. Speaking is assessed with your teacher in May of Year 11 through an individual conversation that will include discussion of a picture and a topic prepared by the student. All examinations are equally weighted and take place in June of Year 11.

What can I do with this course?

Large numbers of students go on to study Languages in the Associated Sixth Form. From this base most go on to study Languages at university where a Languages degree makes you the most employable type of graduate alongside medics and teachers. Our Sixth Form courses also offer further travel abroad to language schools in Salamanca and Cologne and work experience in France.

Where can I get further information?

Talk to your Languages teachers and look at the posters in the languages department showing where our linguists have gone to university and what they have studied. Log in to your Languages Online account and try some intermediate games and activities. Why not download the duolingo app and become a better language learner through a daily challenge?

FR

GEOGRAPHY

The study of Geography focuses on major issues of immense importance, which our society faces today. It is designed to lead you to an understanding of the nature and origin of these issues and the various ways in which they might be managed effectively.

**Course Outline:****Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment (35%)**

- The Challenge of Natural Hazards - earthquakes, volcanoes, extreme weather and climate change
- The Living World - ecosystems including the tropical rainforest
- Physical Landscapes in the UK – Coastal and Glacial Landscapes

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment (35%)

- Urban Issues and Challenges - reasons for urban growth, problems it causes and sustainability
- The Changing Economic World - variations in global development and reducing the development gap
- The Challenge of Resource Management - managing resources with a focus on energy

Paper 3: Geographical Applications (30%)

- Issue Evaluation - use information given to evaluate an issue and decide what should be done
- Fieldwork - carry out two fieldwork enquiries and answer questions about them in the examination

What will I do on the course?

You will follow an up-to-date course based on the real world which will be delivered through a variety of teaching methods including discussions, group work, drama, debates, fieldwork, role play, presentations, map work, satellite imagery, GIS, ICT and personal research. In all areas there is an opportunity for you to explore different parts of the world, the idea of sustainable development and to emphasise your future role in caring for the environment.

How is this course assessed?

100% of the course is examination based through three papers which contain questions worth between 1 and 9 marks. There is no longer any controlled assessment or coursework. However, students are required to carry out fieldwork which is then examined in Paper 3. There is also no longer a foundation paper. All students sit the same three papers which are graded 9-1.

Class teachers will closely monitor progress throughout the course and students will have many opportunities to practise their examination technique and gain insights into how they will perform in the final examination.

What can I do with this course?

Geography is concerned with the real world – past, present and future. Through the course you study economic, social, historical, cultural and environmental aspects of Geography, and some more traditional physical Geography topics.

You should think about Geography if you:

- have enjoyed Geography so far
- are concerned about the environment
- like to understand where we live and why
- are interested in current affairs
- are unsure about what you want to do and wish to keep your future options open
- are interested in travel, or different cultures

Furthermore, studying Geography at GCSE means that it might be an option at A Level. Top universities view Geography as one of eight facilitating subjects, and in 2016 the Guardian suggested it was the 'must have A Level'. This is all because Geography teaches you knowledge and skills which are relevant and transferable as you move into higher study or employment.

Geography links brilliantly with other subject areas at GCSE like Sciences, History and Religious Studies. It also connects Sixth Form options like Economics, Business Studies and Travel and Tourism.

Where can I get further information?

- Talk to your Geography teacher or older students
- Ask to look at textbooks and resources that GCSE students use
- Look at displays of visits and fieldwork trips in the Geography corridor
- Seek information from the Careers Department

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Level 1/2 Cambridge National Award



This is an involving and engaging vocational GCSE equivalent qualification option for students who have an interest in Health and in People; and wish to develop skills and learn the theory that can prepare them for further study and employment within this sector.

This qualification will fulfil entry requirements for academic and vocational study post-16.



Course Outline:

There are four units of study:

Unit 1 (RO21): Providing good quality care for individuals in health, social and early years care settings

Unit 2 (RO22): Communication with people in different care settings

Unit 3 (RO23): Understanding body systems and health problems

Unit 4 (RO29): Understanding different dietary needs of people

What will I do on the course?

Unit 1 (RO21): EXAM UNIT and contributes 25% of final grade.

Essential values of care for use with individuals in care settings. This is a taught unit and involves learning about the rights of users in a variety of care settings and how those rights are maintained, together with the values of care for that setting. Specific topics include: protecting children from abuse, promoting equality in the workplace, the importance of confidentiality, implementing hygiene and health, the importance of safety policies, and the role of legislation in care settings.

Unit 2 (RO22): PORTFOLIO UNIT and contributes 25% of final grade.

Communicating and working with individuals in health, social care and early years settings. This unit involves learning about how to communicate well with different client groups in care settings, including those with disabilities. Specific tasks include writing scripts and performing role-plays to demonstrate effective communication. A portfolio will be produced independently by the pupil and internally assessed.

Unit 3 (RO23): PORTFOLIO UNIT and contributes 25% of final grade.

Body Systems and diseases. This unit involves researching and producing annotated diagrams of the three body systems; the cardiovascular system, the respiratory system and the digestive system. Students also have to research diseases and medical conditions, which can affect these systems, including

strokes, angina, asthma, cystic fibrosis and types of cancer. A portfolio will be produced independently by the pupil and internally assessed.

Unit 4 (RO29): PORTFOLIO UNIT and contributes 25% of final grade.

This unit involves understanding the nutrients needed for good health. Students explore the importance of diet at all life stages. They find out about the key nutrients required for good health from childhood to old age and apply their knowledge in practical situations. A portfolio will be produced independently by the pupil and internally assessed.

How is this course assessed?

This is GCSE equivalent course.

Unit 1: Written Exam (25% of total marks)

Unit 2, 3 & 4: Internally assessed/externally moderated portfolio (75% of total marks)

What can I do with this course?

You can progress onto a variety of A Level courses including Health and Social Care, Biology or Psychology.

Career pathways include Nursing, (adult, child, mental health...), Midwifery, Social Work, Early Years work and Primary Teaching, Occupational Therapies, Cardiographer, Dietician, Paramedic, Music Therapist.....or something completely different!

Where can I get further information?

Speak to Dr Bryant or Mrs Clark for more information. Look at textbooks in the library. See the Health and Social Care notice board outside Bi5.

HISTORY



The GCSE History course follows on from some of the highlights of the Key Stage 3 course and particularly those in Year 9 History, so if you have enjoyed History in Year 9 it is likely you will enjoy it at GCSE.



What will I do on the course?

Was the Black Death really such a big deal? Why did Hitler persecute the Jews so severely in the 1930s? Were medical operations commonly carried out without anaesthetics? What did cause the Second World War? Did William the Conqueror really win the Battle of Hastings? Smallpox, polio, cholera: which was the biggest killer?

The answers to these and many other questions are discovered when you study History at GCSE. What we offer are highlights from some of the best bits of Key Stage 3 History.

Topics we hope to offer include:

- “Blood, Gore, Disease and Health:” the history of modern medicine and health, from medieval times to today
- “Dictators and Democracy:” the development of modern Germany, 1890-1945
- “Peace, Revenge and War:” Conflict and tension in the world, 1919-1939
- “Kings, Barons and Peasants:” The Normans in England, 1066-1100

Homework (groan!) will be given once a week, with exercises and past papers to develop your skills for the two examinations.

How is this course assessed?

The course will consist of two examinations at the end of Year 11, each worth 50% of the total GCSE. One paper will cover mainly 20th century topics (Germany and Conflict and Tension 1919-1939), the other British history over time (Medicine and Health, The Normans).

Grades available: 9-1 (History is a common examination sat by all candidates).

What can I do with the course?

GCSE History is an excellent preparation for Sixth Form courses of an academic or vocational nature. It will suit anyone interested in the past and who may wish to study History, Politics, English, Languages, Economics and Science at A Level.

Where can I get further information?

For further details please contact Dr Nicholas at St. Aidan's or any of the History teachers.

ICT Level 1/2 Certificate



The Cambridge Nationals suite is an exciting and modern series of more applied qualifications which have been recently updated to reflect changes in the field of digital applications. The ICT qualification is intended to be hands-on, working with a variety of standard and modern applications, including Office software, web authoring and multimedia.



What will I do on the course?

The aim of the course is to develop in-depth ICT skills in a modern context which students can use to solve a range of complex problems.

The ICT Level 1/2 Certificate qualification includes two mandatory units that must be completed as part of the qualification:

Unit R001: understanding computer systems

- 1 hour written examination
- worth 60 marks
- based around generic ICT skills and knowledge

Unit R002: using ICT to create business solutions

- 10-hour centre assessed task, externally moderated
- worth 60 marks
- based around the skills needed within business:
 - use of email
 - design and creation of business documents
 - use of spreadsheets and databases

Following the two mandatory units of work, students must complete a further two optional ones as well in order to gain the full certificate. All of these units are internally assessed and externally moderated, with each earning up to 60 marks towards the final grade like Unit R002.

We are currently looking at the following optional units to study from:

- **R005:** creating an interactive product using multimedia components
- **R006:** creating digital images
- **R008:** introduction to computer programming
- **R009:** exploring computer hardware and networks

How is the course assessed?

The externally assessed unit R001 is taught during lessons so that students can develop the necessary theory that is required to pass the course, but the final written paper for this unit is taken under exam conditions either during the January or July examination period of Year 11.

The three internally assessed units of work are taught and completed during lesson time, with some use of homework to produce evidence. Work is then marked internally by staff, before marks and work are passed to OCR for moderation.

What can I do with this course?

From this course, students can progress directly onto the Level 3 Cambridge Technicals qualification which is offered to our post-16 students. The skills that are developed during the course are invaluable for both further study and education on any number of different courses.

Where can I get further information?

For more details, please see Mr Marshall, Head of Computing and ICT.

MEDIA STUDIES



On the Media Studies GCSE course you will study all aspects of the media from print media (magazines, newspapers, poster), to broadcast media (films and TV programmes), to e-media (internet sites and music).



What will I do on the course?

The media play a central role in contemporary society and culture. They shape our perceptions of the world through the representations, viewpoints and messages they offer. The media have real relevance and importance in our lives today, providing us with ways to communicate, with forms of cultural expression and the ability to participate in key aspects of society. The economic importance of the media is also unquestionable. The media industries employ large numbers of people worldwide and operate as commercial industries on a global scale. The global nature of the contemporary media, coupled with on-going technological developments and more opportunities to interact with the media, suggest that their centrality in contemporary life can only increase.

You will study and experience a wide variety of media texts: magazines, advertising, music videos, computer games, news, to name but a few. You will study these texts from an analytical point of view, considering how and why texts are created in the way they are, and the impact and relevance they have on audiences and society.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through two examinations and coursework.

The examinations are worth 70% of the overall GCSE grade. They will focus on analytical skills through the study of media texts such as specific TV genres and film marketing.

The coursework is worth 30% of the overall grade. Here you will create a media product from a choice of tasks set down by the exam board. It is your opportunity to be creative and use technology to create exciting media products.

There is no tiering in Media Studies, which means that all students who choose this subject will not be limited in the grade they can achieve. All will have the opportunity to achieve grades from 9 to 1. However, due to the written element of the course, you must have secure skills in English to succeed in Media Studies.

What can I do with this course?

Many people make the wrong assumption that Media Studies is only useful if you want to go in to a media-related profession like a filmmaker or radio presenter. However, this is not the case. The analysis, essay writing and practical skills you develop in Media Studies can prepare you for a variety of interesting careers such as jobs in advertising and marketing, PR and business to name but a few. The skills that you learn as a Media Student will help your studies in many other academic subjects as well. The GCSE in Media Studies is also an excellent starting point to develop these skills in A Level Media Studies and we have many students who go on and successfully complete degrees in media-related and non-media related disciplines.

MUSIC



In this course you will explore a wide range of music through practical methods, which will allow you to play to your strengths.

What will I do on the course?

Your teacher will give you a firm grounding in a variety of compositional techniques, including those which use music technology.

You will have plenty of performance opportunities during the course, which will enable you to gain in confidence in playing with others. As a GCSE Music student you will be offered group lessons with a visiting instrumental/vocal teacher paid for you by the school. There is an expectation that you will participate in at least one of the extra-curricular music ensembles run by the department.

There will also be opportunities to go on trips to concerts and musical events to enhance your musical experience.

Course Outline and Assessment:

Component 1: understanding music (40%)

Examination paper with listening exercises using excerpts of music from the Western Classical Tradition, Popular music and Traditional music.

- Section A: listening (68 marks)
- Section B: study pieces: Haydn “Clock Symphony” and Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Heart Club Band by the Beatles (28 marks)

Component 2: performing music (30%)

As an instrumentalist and/or vocalist and/or via technology:

- Performance 1: solo performance (36 marks)
- Performance 2: ensemble performance (36 marks)

A minimum of four minutes of performance in total is required, of which a minimum of one minute must be the ensemble performance. You do not need to have taken ABRSM examinations on your instrument/voice.

Component 3: composing music (30%)

- Composition 1: Composition to a brief (36 marks)
- Composition 2: Free composition (36 marks)

The combined duration of both compositions must be at least three minutes long.

What can I do with this course?

GCSE Music is excellent preparation for students who are interested in studying Music, Music Technology or Performing Arts at A Level. Students who have studied music have gone onto careers in Performing, Teaching, the Recording Industry, Television and Radio. GCSE Music develops a whole range of skills that universities and employers are looking for, including commitment, self-discipline, communication and creativity.

Where can I get further information?

Please see Mr Pallant or Mrs Leonard for further information.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Physical Education at GCSE provides students with opportunities to develop skills and essential personal qualities that complement their other academic subjects. The course is taught so that leadership, communication, self-confidence, socialisation and determination are core values.

What will I do on the course?

Students will receive a well-rounded and full introduction to the world of PE, sport and sport science through the combination of physical performance and academic challenges.

Pupils may be assessed in a wide range of activities, some of which may be done in school and some which they may follow in their own time out of school, e.g. Horse-riding, Swimming, and Dance. This involves the student producing a video record of their best performances that are assessed by members of the PE staff through video analysis and off-site visits.

In theory lessons students will engage with a blend of scientific and social topics along with key issues and themes relating to contemporary global influences on physical education and sport.

Pupils will be expected to become an expert in the rules, tactics and techniques of one of their favourite sports and they will have to produce and evaluate a training programme that will improve their performance as part of their final assessment. Pupils will be expected to practise their sports in their own time. Homework will be set regularly in order to develop and improve students’ theoretical knowledge for the end of course examination.

The practical input not only helps maintain positive attitudes and increased activity levels essential for health but also provides students with regular fun, enjoyment and stress release.

The activities which will be delivered by the PE department in school are: Football, Basketball, Hockey, Athletics, Netball, Badminton and Cricket.

How is this course assessed?

- Candidates offer THREE activities as a performer for assessment, at least ONE must be an individual sport and ONE must be a team sport (30%)
- Evaluation of Personal Exercise Programme (10%)
- 2 Theory papers in applied Anatomy and Physiology, movement analysis, sports psychology and socio cultural influences, with a clear focus on healthy and active lifestyles (60%)

What can I do with this course?

Physical Education is an ideal pre-requisite for careers in Teaching, Health Care, Coaching, Armed Forces and all sports related jobs. Most importantly, we aim to make the subject enjoyable to ensure the candidate sustains a lifetime of physical activity.

Where can I get further information?

Please see Mr Strover, Miss Wadhams or your PE Teacher

The total list of activities in which students can be assessed are as follows:

Individual Sports		Team Sports		Specialist Individual	Specialist Team
Athletics	Badminton	Association Football	Netball	Polybat	Wheelchair Rugby
Table Tennis	Amateur Boxing	Badminton	Rowing	Boccia	Goalball
Rowing	Trampolining	Basketball	Rugby League		Blind Cricket
Snowboarding	Squash	Cricket	Rugby Union		Powerchair Football
Rock Climbing	Skiing	Dance	Sculling		Wheelchair Basketball
Canoeing	Diving	Field Hockey	Squash		Table Cricket
Tennis	Horse Riding	Gaelic Football	Table Tennis		
Gymnastics	Swimming	Handball	Tennis		
Dance	Kayaking	Hurling/Camogie	Volleyball		
Cycling	Golf	Lacrosse			

TECHNOLOGY: DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



The GCSE Design and Technology course combines practical activities with technical, mathematical and scientific learning to prepare students to participate successfully and confidently in an increasingly technological world.



Course Outline:

Throughout the course, students learn to use their imagination, innovation and creativity to design and make a range of sophisticated products, while also applying their practical and technical expertise. Students learn about the materials and processes that underpin the design and manufacture of everyday products through a variety of focused practical projects. Designing and making skills are taught through 2D sketching, 3D modelling, CAD/CAM, materials testing and experimentation. Students gain an awareness of the wider influences of design and technology, including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors.

What will I do on the course?

- Use sophisticated 3D and 2D computer software to generate high quality design solutions
- Produce a range of innovative design ideas to solve everyday problems
- Use mathematics and scientific principles to select materials and components
- Learn to operate hi-tech CNC machinery including 3D printers, Laser Cutters, CNC Router and CNC Lathe

How is the course assessed?

The assessment of the course is in two units:

Unit 1: A two-hour exam worth 50% of GCSE

What will be assessed in Unit 1?

- Section A – Core technical principles (20 marks)
A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding.
- Section B – Specialist technical principles (30 marks)
Several short answer questions (2–5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of technical principles.
- Section C – Designing and making principles (50 marks)
A mixture of short answer and extended response questions including a 12 marks design question.

Unit 2: Non-examined Assessment (NEA) worth 50% of GCSE

What is the NEA?

The NEA is an extended design and make project. Students are assessed on the quality and accuracy of the final manufactured product, along with the content of their design portfolio.

What will be assessed in the NEA?

- Investigating the problem in detail
- Designing and modelling ideas
- Production of a sophisticated final design, including the use of CAD
- The manufacture of a high quality product, including the use of CAM
- Evaluation of the finished product

What can I do with this course?

This course provides an excellent foundation for further studies in Product Design at A Level, progressing through to university where the knowledge and skills learnt will be highly desirable in a whole range of design-based subjects, that include; Product Design, Architecture, Engineering, Interior Design, Industrial Design, Graphic Design, Marketing, Advertising, Furniture Design, Stage and Set Design and many more.

Where can I get further information?

For further information contact Mr Botterill (Head of Product Design).

“Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited to all we know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to know and understand.”

Albert Einstein (1879 – 1955)

TECHNOLOGY: ENGINEERING MANUFACTURE Cambridge National Certificate - Level 1/2



The Cambridge National Certificate in Engineering Manufacture is ideally suited to students who prefer a practical approach to learning.

Engineering manufacture is a discipline of engineering dealing with the use of precision machines, tools and equipment to turn raw materials into new products.



Course Outline:

Students develop their core skills through working in a hands-on way to manufacture a variety of high-quality products. Students also gain an understanding of commercial processes and an in-depth knowledge of materials, including woods, metals and plastics. This practical approach to learning also aids in the development of key skills and attributes such as critical thinking, creativity, problem solving, independence, communication, self-confidence and teamwork.

What will I do on the course?

The course will provide students with a whole host of easily transferable skills, including:

- Using tools and equipment to make high quality products accurately and safely.
- Competently using sophisticated computer software to generate high quality 3D and 2D design solutions.
- Skilfully operating hi-tech CNC machinery including 3D printers, Laser Cutters, CNC Router and CNC Lathe
- Communication and teamwork

How is the course assessed?

The assessment of the course is in four units:

Unit 1: 1 hour written examination - worth 25% of overall qualification

In the exam, the students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of the following areas:

- The properties and uses of engineering materials
- Engineering processes and their application
- Developments in engineering processes
- The impact of modern technologies on engineering production

Unit 2: Preparing and planning for manufacture - worth 25% of overall qualification

In this unit, students are required to make a product by conventional methods. Students will learn how to safely and accurately use hand tools, measuring and marking equipment, as well as how to operate manually controlled machines, such as pillar drills, milling machines and centre lathes. Students will

need to apply quality control checks to review their finished products. On completion of this unit, students will understand, and be able to apply, the processes for making products, using a range of hand tools and manually operated machines.

Unit 3: Computer aided manufacturing - worth 25% of overall qualification

In this unit, students develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the application of CAD/CAM in the design and manufacture of products. Students learn how to set up and use a range of CNC machines independently and safely, and then make a range of products using computer-controlled equipment. Students will also learn how to produce Computer Aided Drawings (CAD) using both 2D and 3D computer software. On completion of this unit, learners will be able to use computer applications to manufacture high quality engineered products and produce sophisticated CAD drawings.

Unit 4: Quality control - worth 25% of overall qualification

In this unit, students carry out a range of techniques to test the quality of products they have made. Students also learn about the principles of lean manufacture and how it is applied in the 'real world' to improve the quality of manufacturing.

What can I do with this course?

The OCR Cambridge National Certificates are tailored towards specific career areas and all have a focus on creativity. The Engineering Manufacture course provides an excellent foundation for further studies, including A-level Product Design with a progression through to University. The knowledge and skills learnt will be highly desirable in a whole range of subjects, including; Engineering, Product Design, Architecture, Industrial Design, Furniture Design, Theatrical Set Design and many more.

Where can I get further information?

For further information contact Mr Botterill (Head of Product Design).

TECHNOLOGY: FOOD AND NUTRITION



This course is an excellent choice for students interested in finding out about food and nutrition and how each influences the ever-expanding range of food products available to us. Much of the work is practical, giving students the opportunity to develop new skills in the preparation and cooking of food.

**Course Outline:**

This new GCSE is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food science and the working characteristics of food materials. It is an excellent choice for students who, through practical application, will learn more about:

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

What will I do on the course?

The course is delivered through preparation and practical activities, making it ideal for students who wish to follow a “hands-on” GCSE. The practical lessons cover all aspects of food preparation skills and will be supported by the teaching of nutrition and health. Dietary requirements, food science and safety will all be included along with the factors affecting food choices.

Close links have been formed with the food industry and, where possible, industrial visits take place to allow the students an opportunity to apply their learning in the workplace. Guest chefs visit school to further develop practical skills and focus on finishing techniques.

How is this course assessed?

The course is divided into two sections:

Paper 1 is a written paper of 1 hour and 45 minutes and accounts for 50% of the final mark and this is taken at the end of year 11. The paper has two sections, multiple choice questions and 5 further questions each with sub questions.

Non-examination assessment accounts for the other 50%. Task 1 of this section is a food investigation which consists of written and photographic evidence of practical work carried out. Task 2 is a food preparation assessment and is an entirely practical task with evidence of advanced planning.

What can I do with this course?

Given its practical nature the course offers the foundation for any food/consumer related career. The course is well suited to form a base for all post-16/further education courses. A study of GCSE Food and Nutrition can be relevant to degrees such as Food Science, Food and Nutrition, Human Nutrition, Food Technology, Food Marketing, Food Production and Manufacturing, to name a few.

Where can I get further information?

Please come along to the Food Technology Department and speak to Mrs Betteridge (Head of Technology), Mrs Hedges or Miss Blewitt. For the AQA specification visit www.aqa.org.uk

TECHNOLOGY: TEXTILES SPECIALISM



This exciting new course allows students to explore the fast moving and creative world of fashion and textiles through the prism of Design and Technology. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise through a wide variety of unique projects.

**Course Outline:**

Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Fashion, Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural and environmental factors.

Students will also study core technical and designing and making principles, opening up the opportunity to communicate their ideas through a broad range of materials, techniques and equipment. There will be a particular focus on developing skills and producing outcomes in textiles, but other material areas can be incorporated into this. The new Fashion Technology degree at Leeds University, developed in consultation with industrial partners, highlights the need for students who understand materials and technology in developing new products.

What will I do on the course?

- Produce innovative design ideas and create practical outcomes through a range of materials. These may include garments, interior products, toys, accessories and jewellery.
- Use specialist equipment including CAD/CAM Embroidery Machine, Sublimation Printer, Laser Cutter and electronic textiles, as well as traditional dyeing and printing tools.
- Apply Maths and Science principles to select materials and components.

How is this course assessed?

The assessment of the course is in two units:

Unit 1: A two-hour exam worth 50% of GCSE**How is Unit 1 assessed?**

- Section A – Core technical principles (20 marks)
A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding.
- Section B – Specialist technical principles (30 marks)
Several short answer questions (2–5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of technical principles.
- Section C – Designing and making principles (50 marks)
A mixture of short answer and extended response questions including a 12 mark design question.

Unit 2: Non-examined Assessment (NEA) worth 50% of GCSE**What is the NEA?**

The NEA is an extended design and make project. Students are assessed on the quality and accuracy of the final manufactured product, along with the content of their design portfolio.

What will I be assessed on in the NEA?

- Investigating the problem in detail
- Designing and modelling ideas
- Production of a sophisticated final design, including the use of CAD
- The manufacture of a high quality product, including the use of CAM
- Evaluation of the finished product

What can I do with this course?

This course provides an excellent foundation for further studies, including A Level Fashion & Textiles with a progression through to Art Foundation Courses and university.

Students completing this course could progress to further study or a career in many areas of the Textiles Industry, including: Fashion Design, Fashion Marketing, Fashion Communication and Promotion, Costume Design, Surface Pattern Design, Textile Science, Fabric Engineering, Interior Design, and Teaching/Lecturing.

Where can I get further information?

If you have any questions, see Miss Walker (Head of Textiles), in DT1.

“Fashion is very important. It is life-enhancing and, like everything that gives pleasure, it is worth doing well”

Dame Vivienne Westwood



COURSE CHOICE CALENDAR 2019

Monday 14th January: Course choice presentation to Year 9

Tuesday 15th or Wednesday 16th January: Option Booklets given out to students during form time

Thursday 31st January: Consultation with Heads of Subject - Main Hall, 5.45 - 6.30pm
Options Information Evening - Constance Green Hall, 6.45 - 7.30pm

Tuesday 19th February: Year 9 Parents' Evening

Thursday 7th March: Last day for course requests to be received by Tutors

1. No options with **English**
2. No options with **Mathematics**.
3. **Religious Studies:** tick **one** box for the course you wish to study.
4. **Science:** if you wish to study three separate Sciences, tick the separate box. Otherwise tick Combined.
5. **Modern Languages:** Tick one box in this section only. If you want to study more than one language, choose German or Spanish here and choose French as one of your options. If you wish to opt for the Core Skills course, tick the Core Skills box.
6. **Optional Subjects:** Choose **three** further subjects and **one** reserve subject from this section. If choosing ASDAN, it can be either one or two options (please select with a double tick (✓✓) if two options)

PLEASE NOTE: Whilst we will make every attempt to meet your course request, the school reserves the right to decide whether particular courses or combination of courses can go ahead. We hope that all the courses described in this booklet will be available but may have to cancel any course if there is insufficient demand or due to unforeseen circumstances.

CHARGING: In some practical subjects, you will make things, which we hope you will want to take home; if so, we ask you to tell us in advance and we may ask you to pay for ingredients or materials. In all other ways the compulsory aspects of the courses in this booklet are free of charge, although the school may ask for voluntary contributions towards the cost of certain things such as visits.

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL COURSE REQUEST FORM

CORE SUBJECTS

Religious Studies *Tick one only*

A: Christianity, Islam, Philosophy & Ethics	<input type="checkbox"/>	B: Christianity, Islam, Philosophy Ethics & St. Mark's Gospel	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Science *Tick one only*

Separate (3 GCSEs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Combined (2 GCSEs)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Modern Languages *Tick one only*

French	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>
German	<input type="checkbox"/>	Core Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Tick three Choices and mark one Reserve (with an R). ASDAN can be a double option

ASDAN: Level 1/2 Award	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health & Social Care: Level 1/2 Technical Award	<input type="checkbox"/>
Art: Fine Art	<input type="checkbox"/>	History	<input type="checkbox"/>
Art: Graphic Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	ICT: Level 1/2 Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	Media Studies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Computer Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	Music	<input type="checkbox"/>
Core Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Education (Full GCSE)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology : Design & Technology	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drama	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology: Engineering Manufacture Cambridge National Certificate - Level 1/2	<input type="checkbox"/>
French	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology: Food & Nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geography	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology: Textiles Specialism	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name _____ Form _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Hand completed form to Form Tutors by Thursday 7th March.





ST. AIDAN'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

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