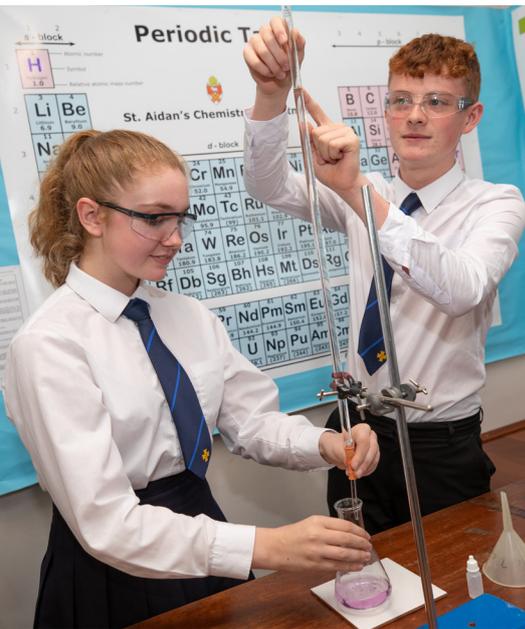




ST. AIDAN'S  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL



# Key Stage 4 Course Booklet

2021 - 2023



## 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.



Chris Burt  
HEADTEACHER

# KS4 COURSES IN YEARS 10 AND 11

This guide gives details of the courses in Years 10 and 11 and explains the choices you can make. All the courses last the full two years.

## CORE COURSES

All students follow courses in the following subjects:

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

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

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: Engineering Manufacture Cambridge National Certificate - Level 1/2
- Technology: Food & Nutrition
- Technology: Textiles Specialism

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

## 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 24th February 2021 and/or the Year 9 Parents' Evening on 4th March 2021.

## CORE COURSES

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

### ENGLISH

 English Language and English Literature

No further choices

### 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)  BTEC  
(Equivalent to one GCSE)

 Separate (worth 3 GCSEs)

### MODERN LANGUAGES

 French

 Spanish

 German

 Core Skills

## OPTIONAL COURSES

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

 ASDAN Level 1/2 Award (can be chosen as one or two options)

 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: Engineering Manufacture Cambridge  
National Certificate - Level 1/2

 Technology: Food & Nutrition

 Technology: Textiles Specialism

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE

“English Language is a core subject in the National Curriculum and includes a wide range of reading and writing tasks”



## English Language

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

**Section A Reading:** You will read a single source from 20th or 21st century fiction, e.g. an extract from novels and short stories. You will consider how writers use language and structural techniques to capture the interest of readers. You 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:** You will use a written prompt or visual stimulus to produce descriptive or narrative writing. Accuracy and the organisation of your work will be a key focus.

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

**Section A Reading:** You 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:** You 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)**

You are required to deliver a presentation to the class in Year 9. You must respond to questions and feedback and use Standard English. This is assessed by your 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:** You will answer one question on a Shakespeare play. You 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:** You will answer one question on a 19th Century novel. You 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:** You will answer one question from a choice of two on your 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:** You will answer one question on poems from the AQA Anthology. You will have to respond to a taught poem printed on the exam paper and one other poem you 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:** You 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.



“English Literature has equal weighting to English Language and builds on the skills acquired at KS3”



### 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 you have been used to in English at KS3. Speaking and listening activities will play an important role in accessing the texts studied.

Assessment is based on your skills in Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening.

#### English Literature

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

### Where can I get further information?

You can find out more information from Miss Fairburn, the Head of Department. Please also see the department area of the school website for the GCSE course outline and the KS4 wider reading list. In addition, a continual variety of resources can be found in your class teacher's page on Microsoft Teams.

# MATHEMATICS



“Mathematics is a vital qualification for all job applications in later life.”



## 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, you 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



You 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)

You are required to study two religions in depth. We will study Christianity and Islam.

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

We will mainly focus on Christianity for these units, however some reference to other religious traditions will be made.

There are four elements to this unit:

- Relationships and families
- Religion and Life

Plus two of the following:

- The Existence of God and Revelation
- Religion, Peace and Conflict
- Religion, Crime and Punishment
- Religion, Human Rights and Social Justice

### Option 2:

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

**Beliefs, Teachings and Practices** (50% of the qualification)

You are required to study two religions in depth. We will study Christianity and Islam.

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

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

There are four elements to this unit:

- Religion and Families
- Religion and Life
- St. Mark's Gospel: The life of Jesus (ministry, teaching, Passion)
- 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 external examinations taken in May/June of Year 11.

## 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?

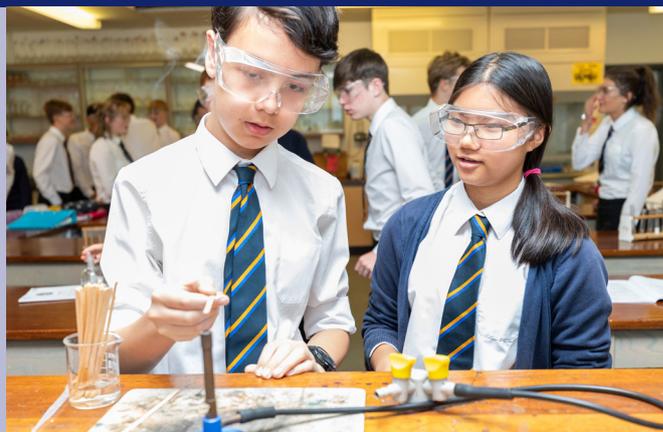
You can get more information from your Religious Studies teacher or any of the Religious Studies staff. You can also look on the school's website or check [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

# BTEC LEVEL 1/LEVEL 2 FIRST AWARD IN PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED SCIENCE (Equivalent to one GCSE)



As with other Science options this course will be taught with two hours per week for each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

This course would be most appropriate for students who make better progress via a system of continual assessment than by sitting terminal exams.



## What will I do on the course?

The course is split into the following four units:

1. Principles of Science
2. Chemistry and Our Earth
3. Energy and Our Universe
4. Biology and Our Environment

The content of the units is as follows:

### Principles of Science

In this unit you will:

- explore cells, organs and genes
- explore the roles of the nervous and endocrine systems in homeostasis and communication
- explore atomic structure and the periodic table
- explore substances and chemical reactions
- explore the importance of energy stores, energy transfers and energy transformations
- explore the properties and applications of waves in the electromagnetic spectrum.

You will be asked to apply knowledge and understanding of these learning aims in familiar and unfamiliar contexts to solve mathematical and non-mathematical problems.

### Chemistry and Our Earth

In this unit you will:

- investigate chemical reactivity and bonding
- investigate how the uses of chemical substances depend on their chemical and physical properties
- investigate the factors involved in the rate of chemical reactions
- understand the factors that are affecting the Earth and its environment.

### Energy and Our Universe

In this unit you will:

- understand ionising radiation, its uses and sources
- know how electrical energy produced from different sources can be transferred through the National Grid to homes and industry
- know the components of the Solar System, the way the Universe is changing and the methods we use to explore space.

### Biology and Our Environment

In this unit you will:

- investigate the relationships that different organisms have with each other and with their environment
- demonstrate an understanding of the effects of human activity on the environment and how these effects can be measured
- explore the factors that affect human health.

### How is this course assessed?

Each unit is worth 25% of the overall mark. The first unit being assessed by an external examination, the other three units are assessed through internal assessment of assignments. There are 10 assignments overall, 4 in Chemistry, 3 in Biology and 3 in Physics.

### Where can I get further information?

Speak to Mr Park – Head of Science.

# 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?

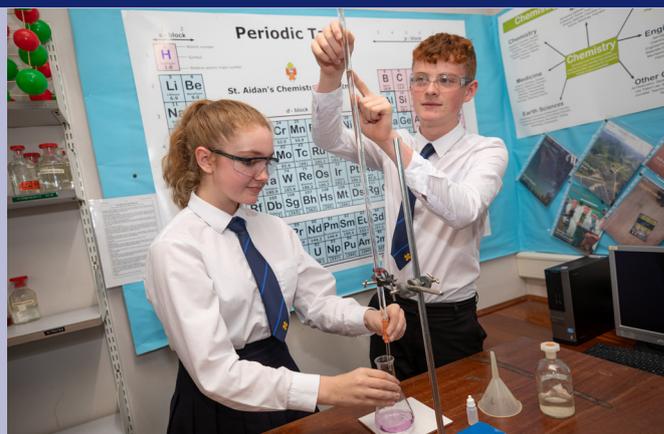
Speak to your Science teachers.

# 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.

## 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?

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. 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.

### 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 you will be independent in your learning by the end of Key Stage 4 and can follow your 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 students at Key Stage 4. The programme is designed to enable you to experience greater independence, leadership and ownership in your lessons. You will have greater choice and experience varied roles such as coach, referee, and team manager and will have sporting, recreational and health promoting opportunities.

**You 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 you 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 students 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 students more time to work on the core subjects of English and Mathematics.



Core Skills provides extra teaching in small groups with specialist teachers, providing valuable opportunities for you to practise the key concepts taught in the 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 start considering your future career plans and options. 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 Year 9 students will be offered information, advice and guidance from our Career Advisers on how to choose GCSE options and will have the opportunity to explore career ideas through the use of relevant computer programmes such as Kudos.

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 participate in career activities to 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 that to continue into the Associated Sixth Form, go to college or apply for an apprenticeship, and every student will have individual careers guidance appointments. We offer the opportunity to do work experience and will assist you in finding a placement and help you prepare for this opportunity to ensure that you gain a relevant insight into the world of work.

You can visit the Careers Department at any time as 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 career 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 qualifications 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 you will benefit from being in smaller groups, allowing time for help with organisation and time management.

## What will I do on the course?

AOPE: The Award Of Personal Effectiveness course St. Aidan's follows within the ASDAN programme is a substantial and wide ranging qualification. The purpose of the course is to enable students to:

- Develop and demonstrate a range of personal and employability skills
- Broaden their experience
- Manage their learning in a variety of real life contexts

Each activity on the AOPE course gives you 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.

You will learn how to plan (setting your own goals and targets), how to manage your time effectively and to reflect on the skills you 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. The skills developed are all valuable to support your learning in other subjects and for future employers.

Projects vary from year to year depending on the interests of the group.

## Single and Double ASDAN Course Options

The ASDAN course is offered as both a single or double course option in the timetable. This offers you the opportunity to spend further time to developing valuable prevocational skills.

## How is the course assessed?

The emphasis of the AOPE course is to develop the skills through following a 'Plan, Do, Review' process. 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. The Award of Personal Effectiveness is a nationally recognised qualification available at Level 1 and Level 2. The course is 100% coursework; with no examination. You will build up a portfolio of work and evidence for the units they have completed which is externally assessed.

## How can the course be used after Year 11?

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 prepare you 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 Ms Hedges.

## ART: FINE ART



Fine Art provides you with knowledge, skills and experiences in a wide range of art forms. You are taught the skills to investigate and explore a variety of approaches, processes and techniques ranging from painting and drawing to sculpture, photography, digital manipulation and installation art.



### Course Outline:

By using artists and designers as a stimulus, lessons are creative and explorative, building your confidence to produce your own personal responses.

The course is split into 2 components; coursework and exam. All work, in both components is assessed.

The coursework component consists of 2 projects, the first is a shorter, introductory project giving you an opportunity to learn skills, techniques and processes. The second is often more ambitious and independent, building on the skills and processes taught. This project provides an opportunity for you to explore and excel your own strengths and interests.

The exam component is externally set and begins in January of Year 11. It requires you to creatively and independently respond to a chosen starting point, using the analytical, explorative and creative skills learnt over the course. The component concludes with a 10-hour exam to produce an outcome to your starting point.

### What will I do on the course?

Through guided learning and independent study, the Fine Art GCSE allows you to explore a range of materials, from methods of drawing and painting, to mixed media, digital manipulation, photography and installation. The course builds confidence and knowledge, giving you opportunities to find your own creative strengths. You will investigate artists as you go, and gain the skills and know how to analyse and recreate styles and techniques. Lessons are relaxed but purposeful, and can vary from workshop or demonstration-led lessons to more independent study and one to one tuition.

### How is this course assessed?

There are 2 components to the course; The coursework unit (60%) and the Exam unit (40%). Assessment criteria for both components focus on 4 skill areas and you will build a portfolio of evidence for each over the 2 years. Both components end in a final outcome. These are assessed and moderated at the end of the course but feedback is ongoing throughout.

### What can I do with this course?

A GCSE in Fine Art provides you with a strong foundation for further progression into Art and Design courses, including an A-level in Fine Art, Graphics or Photography in our Associated Sixth Form. These stepping stones provide the skills and knowledge required for a career in one of the many creative industries.

### 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](http://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, games 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](http://www.qualifications.pearson.com)

# BUSINESS



Business and Economics courses are both very popular 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

To be successful at GCSE Business you will need to have an enquiring mind and be interested in the world around you. It helps to ask questions about the decisions you make, in terms of the products you buy and the brands you like, alongside thinking about the reasons businesses do what they do.

## 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 Perry, Head of Economics/Business or other members of staff within the Department (Religious Studies/Business block).

# 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. This course is ideal for students who have enjoyed their learning throughout Years 7 to 9 in Computer Science and who wish to extend their learning in the various areas that have been taught.



## What will I do on the course?

You 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. You will also become familiar with computing-related mathematics.

50% of the course revolves around problem solving, algorithmic thinking and programming, which is ideal for both old and new programmers. 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, including a project where you are able to test your programming skills and creativity to develop a solution to a number of problems provided.

## 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/CompSci2020](http://www.tinyurl.com/CompSci2020)

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

## CORE SKILLS



### English and Mathematics

This option gives you 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).

## 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 you 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

Many GCSE Dance students end up in careers that are not related to dance, like medicine, dentistry, accountancy and teaching of other subjects. GCSE Dance helps you develop skills that are transferrable to other careers and subjects later in life and gives you balance in your subjects throughout Years 10 and 11.

### Where can I get further information?

For further information please visit AQA website or the Dance department.

# 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 you 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. You 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%)

You 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%)

You will be given an opportunity to show your 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

## FR

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?

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. 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.

### 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?

## 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 river 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 interesting and up-to-date course based on the real world. Each lesson makes you think about how the world works. This might include how natural processes such as rivers have shaped the land around us, how and why urban areas are changing, the future issues our planet faces, the impacts of hazardous events and much more. There are many links to real places such as Chile, the Philippines, India, London, The Lake District, the Arctic and Nigeria. You will also be able to draw on recent events in the news to enhance your understanding.

All of this will be delivered through a variety of teaching methods, including discussions, group work, debates, fieldwork, presentations, map work, satellite imagery, GIS, ICT and research.

Besides the time you spend in class you will also carry out two days of fieldwork. One day is based in Leeds collecting fieldwork about an urban area and investigating the success of the Leeds Trinity regeneration project. A second day is spent on the Holderness Coast looking at coastal features and evaluating the sea defences in the town of Hornsea.

### 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 controlled assessment or coursework. However, you are required to carry out fieldwork which is then examined in Paper 3.

### 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

Geography is also included in the list of core academic subjects which count towards the EBacc qualification. Furthermore, studying Geography at GCSE means that it might be an option at A Level. The Royal Geographical Society have some really useful information about why Geography is such a great option: <https://www.rgs.org/geography/choose-geography/geography-at-school/> It is not only the knowledge you learn, it is also about the skills you develop 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 a highly engaging vocational GCSE equivalent qualification option for students who have an interest in health and in people. The course is very much focussed on 'real world' health and care situations; the work of health professionals; and the skills they use. The course will help to develop skills and learn the theory that can prepare you 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): How a variety of health care professionals provide good quality care in different settings.**

**Unit 2 (RO22): How health care professionals communicate with people in different settings.**

**Unit 3 (RO23): Studying several body systems like circulation or breathing and the diseases that can affect them.**

**Unit 4 (RO29): Understanding different dietary needs of people, for example those who need a gluten-free or low fat diet.**

### What will I do on the course?

Unit 1 (RO21): This is a fully taught unit that is examined in a final exam worth 25% of the final grade. We study the rights and needs of people in care settings and how these are met by health care professionals. Topics include protecting children from abuse; promoting equality in the workplace; the importance of confidentiality; ensuring hygiene and health; the importance of safety policies; and the role of legislation in care settings.

Unit 2 (RO22): This is a coursework unit and contributes 25% of final grade. You will be taught about effective communication in health, social care and early years settings.

The assessed work then includes each student writing scripts and performing role-plays to demonstrate effective communication.

Unit 3 (RO23): This is a coursework unit on human physiology and contributes 25% of final grade. This unit involves researching and producing annotated diagrams of three body systems; the cardiovascular system, the respiratory system and the digestive system. You will then research diseases and medical conditions which can affect these systems, including strokes, angina, asthma, cystic fibrosis and types of cancer.

Unit 4 (RO29): This is a coursework unit and contributes 25% of final grade, with students learning about the nutrients needed for good health. You will explore the importance of diet at different life stages, finding out about the key nutrients required for good health from childhood to old age and apply their knowledge in practical situations. Assessed work includes planning, preparing and cooking a balanced meal that meets the needs of someone with specific dietary needs.

### How is this course assessed?

This is a GCSE equivalent course.

Unit 1: Written Exam (25% total marks)

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

### What can I do with this course?

You can progress on to 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 B15.

## 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 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 or any of the History teachers.

# ICT

## Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate



Applied qualifications are a modern series of qualifications aimed to provide real-life skills and knowledge for you to use in a vocation-based environment. The ICT qualification that we offer 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 you can use to solve a range of complex problems.

This learning is split over 2 separate units:

#### **R012 - Understanding tools, techniques, methods and processes for technological solutions.**

This unit will look at the different technologies that exist and how they can then be used to select, store, manipulate and present data and information.

You will need to know about the project life cycle that all system development undergoes and what will happen at each phase.

Finally you will develop knowledge and understanding of the way in which information is stored, collected and used, as well as how it is affected by common law.

#### **R013 - Developing technological solutions.**

This unit is more hands on than the last and is designed to give you the opportunity to follow through the system life cycle learnt in the previous unit in order to develop your own piece of work.

### How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through a piece of coursework for R013, as well as a written external examination for R012.

Grades are awarded from Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction\*

### What can I do with this course?

From this course, you 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, posters), to broadcast media (films and TV programmes), to e-media (internet sites and music).



### What will I do on the course?

The media plays 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 has real relevance and importance in our lives today, providing us with ways to communicate, to understand cultural representations 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. You 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 assumption that Media Studies is only useful if you want to go into 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.

### What can I get further information?

If you require any further information, please see Mrs Trought in the English Resource Room.

## 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: Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A major, 3rd movement, Rondo and three songs from the musical "Little Shop of Horrors".

Other pieces to be studied: Three songs from Paul Simon's 'Graceland' album and Zoltán Kodály's 'Battle and Defeat of Napoleon' and 'Intermezzo' from Háry János.

#### 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, Mrs Elliott or Mrs Leonard for further information.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Physical Education at GCSE provides you with opportunities to develop skills and essential personal qualities that complement your 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?

You 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.

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

In theory lessons you 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.

You will be expected to become an expert in the rules, tactics and techniques of one of your favourite sports and you will have to produce and evaluate a training programme that will improve your performance as part of your final assessment. You will be expected to practise your sports in your own time. Homework will be set regularly in order to develop and improve your 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?

- Students 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 students sustain 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 and scientific learning to prepare you to participate successfully and confidently in an increasingly technological world.



## Course Outline:

Throughout the course, you will learn to use your imagination, innovation and creativity to design and make a range of sophisticated products, while also applying your practical and technical expertise. You will 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. You will 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-mark design question.

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

#### What is the NEA?

For the NEA, you will design and make a solution to a problem set by the exam board. You are assessed on the quality and accuracy of the final manufactured product, along with the content of your 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:

You will develop your skills through working in a hands-on way to manufacture a variety of high-quality products. You will also gain an understanding of commercial processes and an in-depth knowledge of materials, including metals, wood 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 you 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?

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

In the exam, you are assessed on your 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

You will be required to make a product by conventional methods. You will learn how to safely and accurately use hand tools, measuring and marking equipment, and how to operate manually controlled machines, such as pillar drills, milling machines and centre lathes. You will need to apply quality control checks to review your finished products.

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

In this unit, you will develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the application of CAD/CAM in the design and manufacture of products. You will 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. You will also learn how to produce Computer Aided Drawings (CAD) using both 2D and 3D computer software.

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

In this unit, you will carry out a range of techniques to test the quality of products you have made.

### How is the course graded?

Level	Cambridge National Certificate Grade		GCSE Equivalent Grade
Level 2	Distinction*	D*2	8
	Distinction	D2	7
	Merit	M2	6
	Pass	P2	5
Level 1	Distinction	D1	4
	Merit	M1	3
	Pass	P1	2

### 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 if you are 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 you the opportunity to develop new skills in the preparation and cooking of food.



## Course Outline:

This GCSE is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure you 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 you an opportunity to apply your 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. Studying 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), Ms Hedges or Miss Blewitt. For the AQA specification visit [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

## TECHNOLOGY: TEXTILES SPECIALISM



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

Dame Vivienne Westwood



### Course Outline:

This exciting course allows you to explore the fast moving and creative world of fashion and textiles through the realm of Design and Technology. You will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise through a wide variety of unique projects. You will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Fashion, Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural and environmental factors.

You will also study core technical and designing and making principles, opening up the opportunity to communicate your 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. You are assessed on the quality and accuracy of the final manufactured product, along with the content of your 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.

On completing this course, you 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.



# COURSE CHOICE CALENDAR 2021

**Week commencing Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January:** Course choice presentation to Year 9

**Week commencing Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February:** Options e-booklet sent out to students

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February:** Options Information Evening - pre-recorded presentation sent out to parents/carers

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 9 virtual Parents' Evening - for new subjects such as Business or Drama, Heads of Subject will be available for discussion

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March:** Last day for course requests to be submitted

This year the Options Form will be completed online. Please [click here](#) to access the online form. If for any reason you are unable to complete the form online, please contact school so we can assist you. An example of the options you can choose is shown overleaf.

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:** Tick **one** box for the course you wish to study.
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 - select both to count as two.

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**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

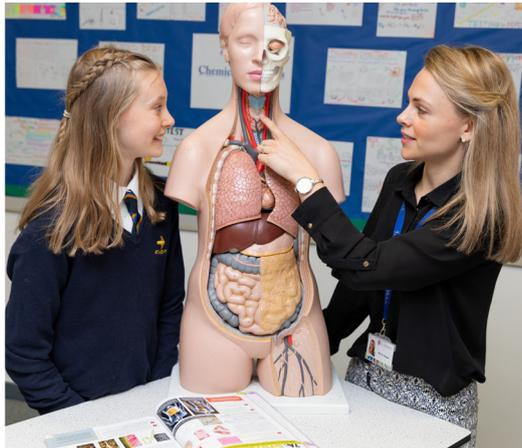
## COURSE REQUEST FORM

This year the Options Form will be completed online. Please [click here](#) to access the online form. If for any reason you are unable to complete the form online, please contact school so we can assist you. The form below shows the Options you can choose from:

CORE SUBJECTS			
<b>Religious Studies</b> <i>Tick one only</i>			
A: Christianity, Islam, Philosophy & Ethics	<input type="checkbox"/>	B: Christianity, Islam, Philosophy Ethics & St. Mark's Gospel	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Science</b> <i>Tick one only</i>			
Separate (3 GCSEs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Combined (2 GCSEs)	<input type="checkbox"/>
BTEC (Equivalent to one GCSE)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Modern Languages</b> <i>Tick one only</i>			
French	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>
German	<input type="checkbox"/>	Core Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS			
<i>Tick three choices and mark one Reserve (with an R). ASDAN can be a double option, counting as 2 out of your 3 choices</i>			
ASDAN: Level 1/2 Award	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health & Social Care: Level 1/2 Technical Award	<input type="checkbox"/>
ASDAN: Level 1/2 Award - double option (tick both)	<input type="checkbox"/>	History	<input type="checkbox"/>
Art: Fine Art	<input type="checkbox"/>	ICT: Level 1/2 Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>
Art: Graphic Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Media Studies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	Music	<input type="checkbox"/>
Computer Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Education (Full GCSE)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Core Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology : Design & Technology	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology: Engineering Manufacture Cambridge National Certificate - Level 1/2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drama	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology: Food & Nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/>
French	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology: Textiles Specialism	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geography	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Online forms should be completed by Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021.





**ST. AIDAN'S**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

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