



Pleckgate
HIGH SCHOOL



Year 9 Options 2025

Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed

Dear Parent/Carer

Your child is at an important stage in their education when they will make important decisions about the subjects they will study in year 10 and 11. To ensure that your child follows a curriculum pathway that is bespoke and personalised they have been allocated to Pathway A, B or S.

At Pleckgate we offer a broad range of qualifications to support all curriculum areas, these include GCSEs, Cambridge Nationals and BTEC Awards.

Your child has been studying a rich Key Stage 3 curriculum, including PSHE and a well sequenced careers programme that will support your child in making informed choices about their future aspirations.

This booklet outlines Key Stage 4 curriculum information about each subject area that you will need to help your child make these informed choices.

Please read this booklet carefully and see it as the beginning of the process. It is important that final decisions are made as a result of discussions with your child, class teachers during parent's evenings and a review of academic information for each subject area.

Please note that while we aim to offer all the courses advised in this booklet, in the event of a group being extremely small, we cannot guarantee that a course will run. We will, of course, inform you on an individual basis if we foresee this problem once your child has made their choices.

Thank you for your support in helping to guide your child during this important stage in their education.



James McKenzie
Deputy Headteacher

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

At Pleckgate High School, all pupils follow a broad and balanced curriculum in order to keep as many pathways open to pupils in the future.

Core Subjects

GCSE qualifications in English language, English literature, mathematics, science, a humanities subject (history or geography) and religious education are compulsory for all pupils. Pupils on pathway B will also study for a GCSE in a modern foreign language.

In addition, all pupils attend lessons in core physical education and PSHE. We also offer a wide variety of other qualifications from which pupils may choose.

Setting and groups will be decided by Heads of Department to ensure that your child can access the best possible learning in order to ensure the highest possible level of achievement.



Final Subject Allocation

Every effort will be made to ensure that your child is allocated a course in line with their preference. However, this cannot be guaranteed.

It is inevitable that some pupils may need to change their selection due to over subscription or low uptake of a subject.

Careers Advice and Guidance

Careers guidance also plays an important part in preparing pupils for life beyond Pleckgate High School.

This will include one-to-one appointments, guest speakers and our on-line careers programme, Unifrog.

Various options are possible beyond Pleckgate High School such as Sixth-Form Colleges for academic and vocational qualifications, National Traineeships, Modern Apprenticeships and other employment opportunities.



Key Stage 4 Curriculum



What is the English Baccalaureate?

The English Baccalaureate is not a qualification in itself.

The measure recognises where pupils have secured a 'strong good' grade, currently grade 5 across a core of academic subject:

- English
- Mathematics
- History
- Geography
- The sciences
- Modern foreign language

This ensures that all pupils have the opportunity to study a broad range of subjects, allowing further progression.

For example, for pupils hoping to go to university, [**The Russell Group guide on making informed choices for post-16**](#) education identifies 'facilitating subjects' at A Level.

These are subjects most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and ones that will keep the most options open to pupils.

Curriculum Pathways

Pathway A (curricular hours per week)	GCSE English Language and Literature (5 hrs) (2 GCSEs)	GCSE Maths (4 hrs)	GCSE Combined Science (5 hrs) (2 GCSEs)	GCSE RE and Core PSCHE (2.5 hrs)	Core PE (1 hr)	Humanities Option GCSE History Or GCSE Geography (2.5 hrs)	Open Option (including GCSE Separate/Trip le Sciences) (2.5 hrs)	Open Option (2.5 hrs)
Pathway B (curricular hours per week)	GCSE English Language and Literature (5 hrs) (2 GCSEs)	GCSE Maths (4 hrs)	GCSE Combined Science (5 hrs) (2 GCSEs)	GCSE RE and Core PSCHE (2.5 hrs)	Core PE (1 hr)	Humanities Option GCSE History Or GCSE Geography (2.5 hrs)	MFL Option GCSE French Or GCSE Urdu Or GCSE Arabic (2.5 hrs)	Open Option (including GCSE Separate /Triple Sciences) (2.5 hrs)
Pathway S (curricular hours per week)	GCSE English Language and Literature (5 hrs) (2 GCSEs)	GCSE Maths (4 hrs)	GCSE Combined Science (5 hrs) (2 GCSEs)	GCSE RE and Core PSCHE (2.5 hrs)	Core PE (1 hr)	Bespoke Curriculum Pathway & additional support. In discussion with Miss Langfeld (7.5 hrs)		

Pupils at Key Stage 4 will follow one of these specifically planned 'Pathways', based upon their performance in assessments at Key Stage 3 and expected levels of achievement.



Making choices

- 01. Which subjects is your child best at?**
- 02. Which subjects does your child enjoy doing?**
- 03. Which subjects does your child's teachers recommend?**
- 04. Will the chosen subject help your child in their possible future career?**
- 05. Has your child checked with everyone who can help and advise them?**

How NOT to choose!

Your child should not choose a subject just because they like the teacher. It may well be that they will not have the same teacher next year.

Your child should not choose a subject because a friend chooses it. It may be right for them but not for your child!

Your child should not choose a subject because it looks easy - all subjects involve two years of continuous hard work and commitment.

Your child should not make assumptions or take advice from people who are not experts.

Remember...

Your child must be prepared to study their reserve choices, so please encourage them to choose these subjects carefully.

Examination Entry

Mathematics, science and MFL subject qualifications are tiered entry at GCSE. The foundation-level paper gives pupils a chance of achieving GCSE grades 1-5 and the higher-level papers gives pupils a chance of achieving GCSE grades 4-9.

The Head of Department in the appropriate subject is responsible for making the decision about which tier of paper your child will be entered for and this decision will be made using information about how well pupils have performed on assessments in year 10 and 11.

What to do next...

Read carefully through the next few pages. Think carefully before any decisions are made on which subjects to choose.

Pupils should use this booklet, their report and discussions with their teachers to help them choose their option subjects.



Important dates

Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd January 2025	Year 9 Options Briefings for pupils and parents
Thursday 30th January 2025	Year 9 reports uploaded to EduLink
Tuesday 4th February 2025	Year 9 parents' evening
Wednesday 5th February 2025	Google form for submitting option choices emailed to pupils
Thursday 13th February 2025	Deadline for Google form to be submitted
Thursday 27th February 2025	Meeting with parents/pupils at school to discuss options choices further, by invitation only

Confirm Options Choices

On Monday 27th January, a link to the Google form to submit curriculum option choices will be emailed to your child's school email account. Please do not attempt to submit curriculum option choices in any other way, they will not be accepted.

The deadline for submission of the options form is **Thursday 13th February 2025**. If the form has not been completed by this date your child's curriculum option choices will be made on their behalf.

It is vital that the curriculum options form is completed in the presence of a parent/carer. The details of the parent/carer witnessing the selection process must be provided on the form.

The form contains detailed, specific instructions on how to complete each question. If the form is completed incorrectly, options choices will be made on behalf of pupils by school.

Please see paper versions of the options forms on the next two pages. We strongly advise that you complete paper copies of these before submitting the online forms.



Google forms - Pathway A



Pleckgate

Year 9 options

Year 9 Options Choices- Pathway A 2025

YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM IN THE PRESENCE OF YOUR PARENT OR CARER, WE WILL CONTACT THE NAMED PARENT FOR VERIFICATION.

This form will be used to allocate your subject choices for year 10 and 11. It is important that you read through all the advice and guidance in the Options Booklet before you complete this form. If you do not submit this form by **13th February 2025** we will make your option choices on your behalf.

Please note: We cannot guarantee that you will be allocated your choices

* Indicates required question

What is your first name (as it appears on EduLink)? *

Your answer

What is your surname (as it appears on EduLink)? *

Your answer

What is your tutor group? *

- 9APP
- 9CHW
- 9FMU
- 9JCO
- 9JCR
- 9LMC
- 9MCR
- 9NAH
- 9NH
- 9RPA

What is the name of the parent/carer who is present as you complete this form? *

Your answer

Please choose your **FIRST CHOICE** humanities option: *

(Note: your **RESERVE CHOICE** will be the other subject)

- GCSE Geography
- GCSE History

Please choose your **FIRST CHOICE** science option: *

(Note: your **RESERVE CHOICE** will be the other option)

- GCSE Combined Science (two GCSEs awarded for Science)
- GCSE Triple Science (three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

Please choose your **FIRST CHOICE** optional subject: *

(Note: if you selected 'GCSE Triple Science' for your **FIRST CHOICE** science option you **MUST** select 'GCSE Triple Science' in the list below, any additional subject will be ignored)

- GCSE Triple Science (three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- GCSE Arabic
- GCSE Art
- GCSE Business
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Drama
- GCSE Design Technology
- GCSE French
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- Vocational Hospitality and Catering (Level 1/2)
- BTEC Music
- CHAT Information Technology
- CHAT Sport or GCSE PE (qualification decided by the PE department)
- GCSE Sociology
- GCSE Statistics

Please choose your **SECOND CHOICE** optional subject: *

(Note: this **MUST NOT** be the same subject that you selected in the previous question)

- GCSE Arabic
- GCSE Art
- GCSE Business
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Drama
- GCSE Design Technology
- GCSE French
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- Vocational Hospitality and Catering (Level 1/2)
- BTEC Music
- CHAT Information Technology
- CHAT Sport or GCSE PE (qualification decided by the PE department)
- GCSE Sociology
- GCSE Statistics
- GCSE Urdu

Please choose your **RESERVE CHOICE** optional subjects: *

(Note: you can choose as many as you like but these **MUST NOT** be the same subjects you selected in the previous two questions)

- GCSE Triple Science (three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- GCSE Art
- GCSE Business
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Drama
- GCSE Design Technology
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- Vocational Hospitality and Catering (Level 1/2)
- BTEC Music
- CHAT Information Technology
- CHAT Sport or GCSE PE (qualification decided by the PE department)
- GCSE Sociology
- GCSE Statistics

Google forms - Pathway B



Pleckgate Year 9 options

Year 9 Options Choices- Pathway B 2025

YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM IN THE PRESENCE OF YOUR PARENT OR CARER. WE WILL CONTACT THE NAMED PARENT FOR VERIFICATION

This form will be used to allocate your subject choices for year 10 and 11. It is important that you read through all the advice and guidance in the Options Booklet before you complete this form, if you do not submit this form by **13th February 2025** we will make your option choices on your behalf.

Please note: We cannot guarantee that you will be allocated your choices.

This form is automatically collecting emails from all respondents. [Change settings](#)

What is your first name (as it appears on EduLink)? *

Short-answer text

What is your surname (as it appears on EduLink) *

Short-answer text

What is your tutor group? *

- 9APP
- 9CHW
- 9FMU
- 9JCO
- 9JCR
- 9LMC
- 9MACR
- 9NAH
- 9NH
- 9RPA

What is the name of the parent/carer who is present as you complete this form? *

Short-answer text

Please choose your **FIRST CHOICE** humanities option: *

(Note: your **RESERVE CHOICE** will be the other subject)

- GCSE Geography
- GCSE History

Please choose your **FIRST CHOICE** languages option: *

(Note: if you chose 'GCSE Arabic' or 'GCSE Urdu' you must be **at least** as proficient in reading/writing these languages as you are French, you will need to sit an assessment to verify this)

- GCSE Arabic
- GCSE French
- GCSE Urdu

Please choose your **RESERVE CHOICE** languages option: *

(Note: This **MUST NOT** be the same subject you selected in the list above)

- GCSE Arabic
- GCSE French
- GCSE Urdu

Please choose your **FIRST CHOICE** science option: *

(Note: Your **RESERVE CHOICE** will be the other option)

- GCSE Combined Science (two GCSEs awarded for Science)
- GCSE Triple Science (three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

Please choose your **FIRST CHOICE** optional subject: *

(Note: if you selected 'GCSE Triple Science' for your **FIRST CHOICE** science option you **MUST** select 'GCSE Triple Science' in the list below, any additional subject will be ignored)

- GCSE Triple Science (three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- GCSE Art
- GCSE Business
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Drama
- GCSE Design Technology
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- Vocational Hospitality and Catering (Level 1/2)
- BTEC Music
- CNAT Information Technology
- CNAT Sport or GCSE PE (qualification decided by the PE department)
- GCSE Sociology
- GCSE Statistics

Please choose your **RESERVE CHOICE** optional subject: *

(Note: You can choose as many as you like but these **MUST NOT** be the same subjects you selected in the previous question)

- GCSE Art
- GCSE Business
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Drama
- GCSE Design Technology
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- Vocational Hospitality and Catering (Level 1/2)
- BTEC Music
- CNAT Information Technology
- CNAT Sport or GCSE PE (qualification decided by the PE department)
- GCSE Sociology
- GCSE Statistics

Would your parent/carer like an invite to discuss your options choices with a member of the Senior Leadership Team on 27th February 2025? *

- No
- Yes

If you selected 'Yes' to the question above please give further information about why you have requested a meeting.

Long-answer text



Core subjects

- English Language GCSE
- English Literature GCSE
- Mathematics GCSE
- Combined Science GCSE
- Separate Sciences GCSE
- Religious Studies GCSE
- Physical Education (CORE)
- PSHE

English Language GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

GCSE English Language is an exciting and important subject because it helps pupils to develop essential skills that they will use throughout their lives. This subject teaches pupils how to read and understand different types of texts, from stories to articles, and how to express their own ideas clearly through writing.

It also encourages creativity, as pupils get to write their own stories and explore various writing styles. Additionally, strong English skills are crucial for success in many other subjects and future careers, making this GCSE a valuable stepping stone for their education and personal growth.

What will I learn about?

Alongside the study of the set texts for the English Literature GCSE, all pupils write for a wide range of purposes and audiences. In creative writing, there is a strong emphasis on completing full narratives, writing from both personal experience and being more imaginative.

Viewpoint writing is also explored in depth, across a range of topics and formats including speeches, letters, articles, reports and reviews. This leads on to an individual spoken language presentation, where pupils are given the opportunity to express their opinion on a topic that is personal to them and that they feel passionate about. This is internally assessed at the end of year 10, and pupils can be awarded a pass, merit or distinction mark, which is recorded on their GCSE certificate.

Active reading of nonfiction, including understanding the writer's craft and viewpoint, is also explored in detail. Pupils read a range of 20th century and pre-19th century texts, often linked by theme, to look at the different perspectives across time about topics that are still pertinent today. Pupils also read a wide range of short stories and extracts from short stories to analyse the writer's craft and understand how writers create impressions of characters, settings and different moods and atmospheres.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

Exam Board: Eduqas

- Fiction Reading & Writing Exam
- Non fiction Reading & Writing Exam
- Spoken Language individual presentation

Is this qualification for me?

English Language is a core subject and all pupils are required to study this subject.

N.B.: It is a legal requirement that any pupil who does not achieve a 'good' GCSE grade in English (currently 'Grade 4') at the end of Year 11 will be required to continue to study the subject until 18.

English Language GCSE

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

Pupils should have a good understanding of different types of texts, such as stories and articles, which helps them analyse and interpret information. Strong reading skills are essential as they allow pupils to identify main ideas and details. Writing skills are equally important; pupils should practice expressing their thoughts clearly and creatively, using proper grammar and punctuation. Additionally, participating in discussions and group activities can enhance their communication skills and boost confidence.

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- A Level English courses
- Degree in English
- All university courses require grades 9-4 at least, in English, in order to get onto degree courses.
- Pupils wishing to do A Levels at sixth form level are therefore required to have this qualification in order to progress on to A Level courses.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Journalism
- Librarian
- Teaching
- Translator
- Administration
- Marketing
- Public relations
- Advertising
- Publishing
- Careers in Law
- Any career that involves communication



How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

If you would like to find out more about GCSE English Language, please email Mrs Patel at Rpatel@pleckgate.com

English Literature GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

GCSE English Literature is an engaging subject for Key Stage 4 pupils because it allows them to explore a wide range of stories, poems, and plays from different time periods. This subject encourages pupils to think critically about characters, themes, and the author's message, helping them to develop their analytical skills.

Reading literature also sparks creativity and imagination, as pupils can connect with the emotions and experiences of the characters. Additionally, studying literature enhances their understanding of language and improves their writing skills, making it a valuable part of their education that prepares them for future studies and careers.

What will I learn about?

Our English Literature curriculum is engaging and allows pupils to study a range of full texts at GCSE. These include "Macbeth" by William Shakespeare, "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens, "An Inspector Calls" by JB Priestley and a range of poetry from the AQA "Power and Conflict" cluster of poems.

Pupils read full texts, intensely studying them in Year 10, and then refining their exam skills in Year 11. Pupils are encouraged to read independently, and home learning is essential to enable pupils to develop skills and knowledge required in the examinations.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

Exam Board: AQA

- **Literature Paper 1** – Macbeth and A Christmas Carol
- **Literature Paper 2** – An Inspector Calls, Power & Conflict poetry, Unseen Poetry

Is this qualification for me?

English Literature is a core GCSE subject that all pupils are required to study.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

To succeed in GCSE English Literature, you need a good understanding of different types of literature, such as novels, plays, and poetry. Additionally, having experience in writing essays will be beneficial, as you'll need to express your thoughts clearly and support your ideas with evidence from the texts.

Overall, a love for reading and a willingness to explore different interpretations will help you do well in this subject!

English Literature GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- A Level English courses
- Degree in English
- All university courses require grades 9-4 at least, in English, in order to get onto degree courses.
- Pupils wishing to do A Levels at sixth form level are therefore required to have this qualification in order to progress on to A Level courses.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

English qualifications provide an excellent basis for any career route either academic or vocational.

- Journalism
- Librarian
- Teaching
- Translator
- Administration
- Marketing
- Public relations
- Advertising, Publishing
- Careers in Law
- Any career that involves communication.

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

Visits to the theatre to watch live performances

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

If you would like to find out more about GCSE English Literature, please email Mrs Patel at Rpatel@pleckgate.com

Mathematics GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

GCSE mathematics is a compulsory GCSE subject and must be undertaken by all pupils. GCSE mathematics gives you the opportunity to study topics such as geometry, calculus and trigonometry (pure mathematics) and to use these ideas within the 'applied' topics such as mechanics and statistics.

Mechanics is strongly linked to physics and builds on ideas of motion and forces to work out how and why objects move. Statistics allows us to make sense of the complex and variable world around us via analytical methods in order to draw reliable conclusion.

What will I learn about?

There are 243 topics which are tested on the mathematics papers. These are broadly divided into the areas of algebra, ratio and proportion, number, data and statistics and geometry. Any of the topics on the specification can appear on either/all of the papers.

The course also covers mathematical content in real life situations and cross curricular content.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

There are 2 tiers of examination, higher and foundation. Questions in the Foundation Tier papers are targeted at grades 5 to 1. Questions in the Higher Tier papers are targeted at grades 9 to 4.

- **Paper 1:** Calculator
- **Paper 2:** Non-Calculator
- **Paper 3:** Calculator

All examinations are 90 minutes long

Is this qualification for me?

Mathematics is a core subject and all pupils are required to study this subject. To be numerically literate will be of great benefit and GCSE mathematics prepares pupils to be able to cope with simple number problems to more complex scenarios which require much more thought and effort.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

A willingness to persevere with an activity when you feel unsure of your ability is essential. You will be expected to cope with not knowing and to use problem solving and reasoning skills to work out the answers to problems. You need to be prepared to work and think hard (but the buzz you get when things suddenly fall into place is worth waiting for!)

Mathematics GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

GCSE mathematics opens many doors there is the academic and vocational route such as:

- A Level mathematics and engineering courses
- Degrees in mathematics, statistics, all types of engineering, accounting and finance
- Pupils wishing to do A Levels at sixth form level are therefore required to have this qualification in order to progress on to A Level courses.
- Btec courses
- Apprenticeships
- Extended Diplomas

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

Almost all jobs and careers require you to have maths GCSE but there are also many careers in which you would make a lot of use of your mathematics. These include:

- Business management
- Psychology
- Banking
- ICT
- Engineering

You will also find that you will need a 5-9 grade for entry to most university courses.

Degrees in mathematics, statistics, all types of engineering, accounting and finance.

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

Pupils take part in taster days at university. Competitions takes place between various educational settings and in school we have the very popular Chess club.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to Mr Khan or Mr Smith

Combined Science GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

Combined sciences will appeal to pupils who are curious about how the world works and enjoy exploring scientific ideas. It is suitable for those who like a balanced and practical approach to learning science and prefer studying at a pace that allows for comprehensive understanding.

If you have a general interest in biology, chemistry, and physics or want to develop analytical and problem-solving skills, this qualification could be for you. It is ideal for pupils who want to keep their future options open without the intensity of separate sciences but still enjoy working practically and learning about key scientific principles.

What will I learn about?

You will study key topics in biology, chemistry, and physics, building on what you have learned at Key Stage 3. In biology, you will explore living organisms, health, and the environment. Chemistry will include understanding materials, chemical reactions, and how substances interact. Physics will focus on energy, forces, waves, and space.

Compared to Key Stage 3, you will encounter some new ideas and develop more advanced skills and techniques. You will also develop more practical skills through hands-on experiments and learn how to apply scientific concepts to real-life scenarios.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

Combined sciences integrate biology, chemistry, and physics into two GCSE qualifications. Lessons include a balance of theory and practical work, with plenty of opportunities for experiments to deepen your understanding.

Assessments are exam-based, with 6 papers (2 per subject). You will complete multiple-choice questions, structured responses, and analysis tasks. Practical work is assessed through questions on required practicals in the exams rather than a separate coursework project.

Is this qualification for me?

Combined sciences is ideal for pupils of all abilities who want to study science but prefer a more integrated approach compared to separate sciences. It provides flexibility and ensures a well-rounded foundation in science without requiring the extra commitment of studying three separate GCSEs. It is a good choice for pupils who enjoy science and want to develop key skills for the future while keeping their options open.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

To succeed in combined sciences, you should have a willingness to participate in discussions, experiments, and independent study. You'll need to be curious, organised, and prepared to learn both theory and practical skills. An interest in understanding the natural world and solving problems will help you thrive, along with the ability to work independently and as part of a team.

Combined Science GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

Combined sciences provides access to a wide variety of post-16 science courses, including A-levels in biology, chemistry, physics, or other STEM-related subjects. It is also an excellent starting point for vocational qualifications such as BTEC Applied Science.

The skills you gain in critical thinking, problem-solving, and data analysis will support further education in a wide range of fields.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

This qualification opens doors to numerous career paths, including:

- healthcare
- engineering
- environmental science
- technology
- education.

It is also beneficial for roles that require analytical thinking and problem-solving skills, such as business, law, and finance. Combined sciences equip you with transferable skills valued in a wide range of professions.

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

You will have the chance to participate in workshops, and attend science-themed trips. These might include visits to museums, research centers, or industry locations. There may also be opportunities to engage in collaborative STEM activities or competitions. These activities are optional but highly encouraged as they can enrich your learning experience and provide additional inspiration.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?
Speak to your science teacher or Mr Birbeck or Mrs Sharp.

Separate Sciences GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This subject will appeal to pupils who are curious about the world around them and enjoy understanding how things work. It is ideal for those with a passion for discovering more about life processes, physical phenomena, and chemical reactions.

If you have an interest in exploring nature, solving problems, conducting experiments, or even imagining future technologies, this qualification could be for you. Separate sciences are especially suited to pupils who enjoy asking questions, working systematically, and engaging in both practical and theoretical learning. Pupils with aspirations for careers in health, engineering, research, or technology, as well as those simply passionate about science, will find this option rewarding.

What will I learn about?

You will study three sciences in depth: biology, chemistry, and physics. In biology, you'll learn about the human body, ecosystems, and genetics. Chemistry will teach you about chemical reactions, materials, and the role of chemistry in industry and the environment. Physics will cover topics like forces, energy, waves, and space science.

Compared to Key Stage 3, you will go into more detail and encounter new, fascinating ideas. For example, you will explore how DNA is inherited and affects our characteristics, how new materials are developed, and the principles behind modern technology. You will also develop hands-on practical skills and learn how to analyse data critically.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

The course includes both practical and theoretical elements. A significant proportion of the lessons will involve experiments designed to help you understand and apply scientific concepts.

Assessments are entirely exam-based, with separate examinations for biology, chemistry, and physics. Each subject has 2 x 1hr 45min exams. These typically include a mixture of multiple-choice questions, structured questions, and extended responses. Practical work is integrated into your learning and required practical work is assessed within the exams. There is no separate coursework project.

Is this qualification for me?

This qualification is suited to pupils of all abilities who are motivated to deepen their understanding of science. Separate sciences require commitment, as they cover more content than combined sciences, but they are an inclusive option for anyone willing to engage with the subject.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

To succeed in this subject, you should be organized and willing to engage in both independent and collaborative work. You'll need strong observational skills and the ability to analyse information and draw conclusions. It's helpful if you've shown interest and aptitude in science during Key Stage 3. A readiness to ask questions and explore ideas is just as important as good grades. Above all, you need curiosity and the determination to challenge yourself.

Separate Sciences GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

Separate sciences provide the best foundation for further study in biology, chemistry, and physics at A-level or equivalent qualifications.

They also prepare you for vocational routes like BTEC Applied Science and T-Levels. Whether you aim to continue studying sciences or pursue a different path, the analytical and problem-solving skills you develop will be invaluable.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

Separate sciences open doors to a wide range of careers, including medicine, nursing, environmental science, engineering, computer science, pharmacy, biotechnology, forensic science, astrophysics, and many more.

Even if you choose a career outside science, the skills you gain—critical thinking, data analysis, and effective communication—are highly sought after in almost every field.

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

There will be opportunities to attend workshops, and participate in field trips to places like UCLAN, and observatories such as Jodrell Bank.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?
Speak to your science teacher or Mr Birbeck or Mrs Sharp.

Religious Studies GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This qualification is for pupils who enjoy learning about the two biggest religions in the UK today; Christianity and Islam and the different beliefs within them. It is for pupils who love giving their own opinion but also listening to other people's opinions and considering why not everyone agrees.

Religious Studies prepares pupils to take part in the development of tomorrow's rapidly changing world. Religious Studies contributes greatly to understanding the diversity of religion and non-religious belief in our community and the world today.

What will I learn about?

The lessons learned in Religious Studies prepare pupils for responsibilities, experiences and opportunities later in life. Religious Studies allows young people growing up in a diverse society to understand the views and opinions of people whose beliefs and values differ from their own.

Lessons provide a space for young people to reflect on their own ideas and develop their thoughts about questions of meaning and ethics. The issues of religion and belief discussed in lessons frequently top the news agenda and RS helps make sense of them.

The course consists of the following topics:

- **Religion and Ethics:** Christianity- Christian Beliefs, Marriage and the Family, Living the Christian Life and Matters of Life and Death.
- **Religion, Peace and Conflict:** Islam- Muslim Beliefs, Crime and Punishment, Living the Muslim Life and Peace and Conflict.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

2 x 1hr 45min exams

Exam 1 - Religion and Ethics: Christianity

Exam 2 - Religion, Peace and Conflict: Islam

Is this qualification for me?

Religious Studies is a core subject and all pupils are required to study this subject.

Religious Studies GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

There are a wide range of courses that you can go on to study with a GCSE in Religious Studies, in particular A-Levels in:

- Philosophy
- Sociology
- Psychology
- Law
- Politics

A GCSE in Religious Studies will help with all further study as you will have an understanding of those around you as well as developing your written skills.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Public Service Industries such as the Police
- Social Worker
- Civil Service
- Youth Worker
- Charity Officer
- Teaching
- Law
- Ministry
- Hospitality
- Tourism



Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

Pupils will have the opportunity to visit Blackburn Cathedral.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

www.pleckgate.com/wp-content/uploads/Year-10-Curriculum-Journey-202324.pdf
www.pleckgate.com/wp-content/uploads/Year-11-Curriculum-Journey-202324.pdf

PSHE

Personal, Social & Health Education

There is only one
good, knowledge,
and one evil,
ignorance.

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

The curriculum will give pupils a sense of empowerment and the knowledge, skills and understanding to become aware, active and responsible citizens, both at local, national and global levels. It helps to build confidence in pupils to make well informed decisions on how to stay safe and be involved in their communities and be the best possible version of themselves.

It is for pupils who love giving their own opinion but also listening to other people's opinions and considering why not everyone agrees.

What will I learn about?

The PSHE curriculum focuses on the three core themes of PSHE – Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Sex Education and Living in the Wider World. PSHE helps pupils develop a breadth of knowledge of the world around them.

Our curriculum ensures current and future preparation for our pupils to help them become well rounded individuals that are prepared for life after Pleckgate High School. A core purpose of our PSHE programme is to tackle barriers to learning, raise aspirations, and improve the life chances of all pupils.

PSHE helps our pupils to really think about themselves, how they treat other people, be aspirational and have good strong values through learning from all 3 core themes and the statutory content for RSE and health and wellbeing. This promotes academic attainment and helps build resilience and positive wellbeing, therefore PSHE is vital for our young people.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

The PSHE curriculum is not examined, however it is a crucial and purposeful educational component. We want all of our pupils, of course, to succeed academically, but we endeavour that through their PSHE learning that they know how to lead happy, healthy and fulfilling lives.

There is no formal assessment for PSHE. You will be assessed by your teacher in each lesson through question and answer sessions, written pieces of work and constant formative assessment.

Is this qualification for me?

PSHE is a core subject and all pupils are required to study this subject.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

An open-mind, a willingness to learn from others and a mature attitude.

PSHE

Personal, Social & Health Education

There is only one
good, knowledge,
and one evil,
ignorance.

Socrates

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

PSHE helps pupils with the following, which in turn will help with all further study and careers:

- develop qualities like resilience, independence, critical thinking, and responsibility;
- make positive decisions;
- take individual responsibility for physical and mental wellbeing;
- develop the personal and social skills required to succeed socially and in the world of work;
- know where and how to ask for help;
- learn how to engage with the world around you

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

There are PSHE enrichment activities throughout the year where new themes are explored in greater detail and previous learning is consolidated. These may be delivered by external professional speakers, for example:

- Wasted Lives - learning about the consequences of dangerous driving.
- Debate Club - debating the big issues and taking part in local, national and international competitions.
- Respect Me sessions about RSE

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

The skills learnt in PSHE will help with every future career.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

www.pleckgate.com/wp-content/uploads/PSHE-Curriculum-Journey-Year-10.pdf

www.pleckgate.com/wp-content/uploads/PSHE-Curriculum-Journey-11-FINAL-2022-23.pdf

Option subjects

- Arabic GCSE
- ASDAN Personal Development Programme
- Art & Design GCSE
- Business GCSE
- Computer Science GCSE
- Design & Technology GCSE
- Drama GCSE
- French GCSE
- Further Maths - Level 2
- Geography GCSE
- Health & Social Care BTEC
- History GCSE
- Hospitality & Catering BTEC
- IT Level 1/2 CNAT
- Music BTEC
- Physical Education CORE
- Physical Education CNAT
- Sports Studies
- Statistics GCSE
- Sociology
- Urdu GCSE



Arabic GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This subject will appeal to pupils who have a passion for language learning and knowing more about the world around them. It is for pupils who already poses a reasonable level of Arabic and have the desire to build on this so they can confidently converse with people both orally and in writing.

What will I learn about?

The Arabic language course focuses on developing pupils' skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) so they can effectively communicate with Arabic speakers. This will provide them with a deeper understanding of the society in which they live, in particular, and of Arab culture in general. Arabic is the mother tongue in 22 countries in Asia and Africa, and now ranks sixth among the most widely used languages in the world, with 246 million speakers, in addition to the 1.6 billion Muslims in the world who use it in worship.

During the course, 5 themes are covered:

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday and travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

Each exams is worth 25% of your overall grade.

Foundation tier (Grades 1-5)

- **Listening exam** – 35 minutes
- **Speaking exam** – 30 minutes
- **Reading exam** – 45 minutes
- **Writing exam** – 60 minutes

Higher tier (Grades 4-9)

- **Listening exam** – 45 minutes
- **Speaking exam** – 30 minutes
- **Reading exam** – 60 minutes
- **Writing exam** – 75 minutes

Is this qualification for me?

To be successful in this qualification you will need to be comfortable working in two or three tenses and be able to read, write, speak and understand spoken Arabic. You will have shown a good attitude to learning and progress in your study of French at KS3. Ideally you should have a love of learning languages and a real interest in developing your Arabic knowledge further.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

pupils need to have the ability to write a short paragraph in Arabic, verbally answer some simple questions on a familiar topic in Arabic and be able to translate sentences or a short text from Arabic into English and vice versa in at least two tenses. You will be required to pass a competency assessment to evaluate your ability to read and write in Arabic and it is expected that your ability in these skills in Arabic will be at least as good as your ability in French.

Arabic GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

To be successful in this qualification you will need to be comfortable working in two or three tenses and be able to read, write, speak and understand spoken Arabic. You will have shown a good attitude to learning and progress in your study of French at KS3.

Ideally you should have a love of learning languages and a real interest in developing your Arabic knowledge further.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Business
- Marketing
- Teaching
- Translator
- International Administration
- Interpreter
- Public relations
- Diplomatic service
- Government
- Advertising
- Publishing



How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to Ms N Benjelloun, Mrs L Connell or see Miss C Jackson - Head of Modern Foreign Languages.

ASDAN Personal Development Programme

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This programme will appeal to pupils who enjoy practical learning, solving real-world problems, and engaging with their local community. It is ideal for pupils who are interested in personal growth, teamwork, and developing life skills that will prepare them for adulthood.

Whether you enjoy creative activities, group work, or independent projects, this programme offers something for everyone. It is particularly suited for those who thrive on achieving practical outcomes and working on meaningful tasks that make a difference in their lives and others'.

What will I learn about?

You will learn skills that prepare you for everyday life and future work environments. These include:

- Communication and teamwork
- Managing money and personal finances
- Problem-solving in real-life contexts
- Planning and organizing projects
- Citizenship and contributing to your community

You'll work on activities and challenges that you can relate to your own interests and goals.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

The course is divided into modules, each focusing on a specific area of personal development such as:

- Independent living
- Health and well-being
- Community action
- Work-related learning

You will complete challenges within these modules, earning credits toward the qualification. There are no formal exams; instead, your work will be assessed through a portfolio of evidence. This means keeping a record of the activities and projects you complete, which will be marked to determine your overall grade.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

To succeed in this programme, you'll need:

- A positive attitude and willingness to engage in activities
- The ability to work both independently and as part of a team
- Good organization skills for planning and completing projects
- An interest in learning through practical, hands-on experiences
- No prior knowledge is required participate and do your best.

ASDAN Personal Development Programme

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

The skills and experiences gained through the ASDAN Personal Development Programme provide a strong foundation for post-16 courses, including:

- BTEC vocational qualifications
- Apprenticeships
- Level 1 and 2 courses in areas like health and social care, business, or construction
- Further ASDAN qualifications

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

This qualification supports careers in a wide range of fields, such as:

- Customer service
- Health and social care
- Retail
- Hospitality
- Community work
- Administration



Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

You may have opportunities to participate in workshops, community projects, and workplace visits to complement your learning. Attendance at these activities is encouraged to fully benefit from the programme. In some cases, you may be involved in volunteering or organizing events, which will further develop your confidence and leadership skills.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

You can speak to Miss Langfeld or Mrs Belshaw. You can also visit the ASDAN website at www.asdan.org.uk to explore more about the programme and its benefits.



Art & Design GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

GCSE Art will appeal to pupils who have a love of art, a great imagination and a desire to see just how amazing their art skills can become. Pupils who are excited to create, design and make their own artistic ideas come to life using a wide variety of materials, media techniques and processes.

pupils who are enthusiastic to learn about different styles of art and are motivated to develop their own unique styles and artwork.

What will I learn about?

Pupils will continue to build and improve upon the skills, techniques and processes that they have learned throughout their KS3 art studies. Pupils will be given a broad initial starting point, such as 'structures', 'portraits', 'identity' or 'cultures'. Pupils will then decide how they choose how to respond including what they want to draw from and which materials they prefer to work with. The only limitation is their own imagination! They will explore the work of other artists, designers and craftspeople and use their chosen artists' influence to inspire their own ideas. Pupils will develop and refine their own ideas through a journey of imagination, experimentation and exploration into a creative, unique and impressive 'final piece'

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

Throughout the GCSE Art course pupils will complete at least two coursework projects which will be worth 60% of your overall grade. Both projects are carefully structured and will enable you to develop a good understanding of how to cover the assessment criteria. They will sit one mock exam which will help all pupils gain an understanding of what will be expected in their final exam. The final exam will be at the end of the course during which pupils will complete their final piece for their final exam project. The final exam project is worth 40% of the overall mark and will start in January of year 11 and conclude in May.

Is this qualification for me?

The GCSE Art, Craft and Design course is suitable for all pupils with; a passion for art, a great imagination and who are keen to explore and develop their skills with a range of materials to their highest possible standard!



Art & Design GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

There are a wide range of courses that you can go on to study with a GCSE in art, craft and design. Some courses courses include:

- Digital animation and Game Arts
- Fine Art
- Graphic Design
- Digital Art
- Photography & Moving Image
- Animation and Illustration
- Fashion and Textiles
- 3D Design
- Animation and Illustration
- Architecture
- Product Design

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

The examining board recently did a survey of 100,000 different UK businesses and found that Art based GCSEs were the **THIRD** most sought-after qualification to these employers!

Over 1,000,000 people in the UK are currently working in Art related jobs. There are too many career options to cover them all here but consider this; everything you watch, play, buy, wear, read, use, build etc has been designed by someone. Have a think if you can think of something that wasn't designed by someone? Access Unifrog to explore endless art based careers.

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

During the autumn term of year 10 international mixed media artist Ian Murphy will lead a workshop day. At the start of the summer term in year 10 digital artist Emelbi will lead another workshop day. There may also be the opportunity for gallery visits and external workshops.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Please speak to Mrs Wilson in F71.

Business GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

Business isn't just for those that have aspirations of changing the world and becoming multi-millionaires (although it's great if that's what you plan to do!). What you will learn is just as applicable to small-businesses, freelancers, managers and contractors. It will also appeal to pupils who:

- want to set up their own businesses in the future
- want to join their family in running the family business
- want to have a management position in a business
- are interested in developing their own products
- are interested in how the economy works
- are interested in politics

What will I learn about?

Pearson Edexcel's GCSE Business (2017) qualification uses practical and enterprising content to engage and develop pupils. The assessments help to engage pupils by using real and relevant business examples.

The content provides opportunities to engage pupils with local, business enterprise examples in Theme 1 through to the international brands they recognise in Theme 2. The real-world contexts and examples of modern business practice are relevant to the business world and accessible to all pupils.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

The course is split into two themes:

Theme 1 Investigating small business: You will be introduced to local and national business environments and will develop an understanding of how these environments impact business behaviour and decisions.

Theme 2 Building a business: You will develop an understanding of the interdependent nature of business activity as well as the relationship between the business and the environment in which it operates.

Is this qualification for me?

Anyone can study business as it is a 9-1 GCSE. To be successful in this qualification you will need to have good literacy and numeracy skills and be interested in business, economics, current affairs and law.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

No previous knowledge or experience is required but you must be hardworking, inquisitive, determined, resilient, have an interest in the world of business and how the economy works. You must be committed to achieving the highest grades possible and be able to cope with the writing demands of assessments.

You must also be committed to finding out what is happening in the world of business each week by keeping up to date with the news and economic developments.

Business GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

This subject supports a pathway to Business and Economics courses at Key Stage 5, both through A Levels and with BTEC Nationals. It also helps with accounting, marketing, personnel managers and apprenticeships in these areas.

Excellent places to study business after Pleckgate include:

- Cardinal Newman
- Runshaw College
- Clitheroe Grammar

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Accountant
- Bank manager
- Business analyst
- Business development manager
- Business project manager
- Customer services manager
- Digital marketer
- Estate agent
- Financial adviser
- Human resources officer
- Investment analyst
- Management consultant
- Market researcher
- Pensions adviser
- Public relations officer

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

Opportunity to join the Young Enterprise club and set up your own business who sell goods to the public at the Trafford Centre and take part in Nationwide competitions.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to Mrs Coulthard - Head of Computer Science and Business

Also, read through the information on Edexcel's website link below with your parents

www.qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/business-2017.html

Computer Science GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

The Computer Science GCSE will appeal to pupils who have a keen interest in technology, problem-solving, and how computers work. It is ideal for those who enjoy logical thinking, coding, and exploring the impact of technology on the modern world. This course is perfect for anyone considering a future in fields like software development, cybersecurity, data analysis, or engineering, as well as those who want to develop essential computing that will help them in a wide variety of careers.

What will I learn about?

Pupils will build on several topics that they have already encountered in KS3, deepening their understanding of computer systems, including hardware, software, and networks, as well as how data is stored and represented.

They will develop programming skills by designing, writing, and debugging code, and enhance their computational thinking to solve complex problems. The course also covers cybersecurity, teaching about threats, prevention, and ethical considerations, while exploring the social, environmental, and ethical impacts of technology. Combining prior knowledge with new concepts, this GCSE provides a strong foundation for further study or careers in technology.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

Two examinations: **Exam 1** - Written exam. Worth 50% of the overall qualification and **Exam 2** - Practical python exam. Worth 50% of the overall qualification

Is this qualification for me?

This qualification is for you if you are interested in understanding how computers work and enjoy problem-solving, logical thinking, and exploring new technologies. If you have a curiosity about programming and are excited about the role technology plays in shaping the world, GCSE Computer Science is a great choice.

It's also ideal if you enjoy challenges and want to develop skills that are highly valued in many careers, from gaming and cybersecurity to engineering and data analysis.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

To succeed in GCSE Computer Science, you should have a curiosity about how computers work and a keen interest in technology. A solid foundation in basic mathematics is essential, as problem-solving and logical thinking are key components of the course.

Some prior experience with coding or programming—whether through school lessons, online resources, or personal projects—will be helpful, but a willingness to learn and experiment is just as important. Strong analytical skills, creativity, and perseverance will also support your success, as you'll tackle challenges like debugging code and designing algorithms. Most importantly, bring a positive attitude and a desire to explore the exciting world of computer science.

Computer Science GCSE

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

Careers talks with companies related to the subject.

Take part in participating in the computer science club running activities with KS3 pupils.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- IT and network manager
- Software development
- Cyber security
- Teacher
- AI and Machine Learning
- Data and analytics
- Games development
- Web Design
- Computer hardware engineer
- IT project manager



How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

GCSE Computer Science will prepare you for further study by providing a strong foundation in computational thinking, programming, and understanding how computer systems work. It develops problem-solving and analytical skills that are essential for A-level Computer Science and other advanced courses in technology and engineering.

The programming experience you gain will give you confidence to tackle more complex coding tasks, while your knowledge of topics like algorithms, data representation, and cybersecurity will prepare you for higher-level study. This qualification also equips you with transferable skills that are valuable in fields like mathematics, physics, and business, setting you up for success in further education and beyond.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?
Speak to Mr Whalley, Mr Whittaker or Mrs Coulthard (Head of Computer Science and Business)

Design & Technology GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This subject will appeal to pupils who enjoy practical work alongside theory work. If you like creating and designing new products then you will enjoy this GCSE course. You will work with materials and take designs into the manufacturing stage.

You will evaluate and adapt products and also learn about how technology works in the outside world.

What will I learn about?

You will learn about the technology industry and a range of materials, you will learn about the environment and the impact of different materials on this. You will develop your practical skills and you will also learn about the properties of materials and machinery.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

The written examination: A mix of short answer, structured and extended writing questions assessing your knowledge and understanding of five clear and distinct topic areas:

- design and technology and our world
- smart materials, electronic systems and programmable components
- mechanical components and devices
- materials - characteristics and functions of a wide range of wood, metal, paper, plastics and boards. One material will be studied in more depth than others.

The Non-examined assessment: This is based on a design and make task set by EDUQAS, assessing your ability to:

- identify, investigate and outline design possibilities
- design and make prototypes
- analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology

Pupils will be expected to be creative and innovative and come up with their own ideas for individual designs for new products independently. They will be able to choose to work with a range of different materials and select one for their non-examined assessment.

Is this qualification for me?

If you enjoy practical work and learning about materials then this is for you. You need to be able to be organised and work in lessons in a timely manner in order to produce the products and you also need to be independent and focussed in lessons.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

You need to have a good understanding of how to work with materials and machinery and equipment.

Design & Technology GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

This course provides a suitable foundation for the study of design and technology and Engineering at either AS, A level or apprenticeships.

Progression Route – ‘Academic’

- A level in Product design
- A Level in Engineering

Progression Route – ‘Vocational’

- Product designer
- Architect
- Electrician
- Engineering – a wide range of further education courses are available

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Engineering
- Product Design
- Architect
- Electrician
- Fashion



Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

There will be the opportunity to visit STEM establishments

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Look at Unifrog for information on careers and also speak to Miss Parkinson in school.

Drama GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

GCSE Drama appeals to pupils who are creative, love performance and acting, enjoy teamwork, are interested in theatre production, and want to build their confidence. If you dream of being on stage, whether as an actor or a performer, GCSE Drama is a great choice. You will get the chance to act in various plays and performances, learning how to portray different characters and emotions. This experience can help you become a confident performer

What will I learn about?

You will learn about:

- Devising your own original performances using a stimulus
- Performing an existing script
- Watching and evaluating live theatre
- What the role of a director entails
- Lighting and sound design
- Costume and set design

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

The subject content for GCSE Drama is divided into three components:

Understanding drama

Knowledge of drama and theatre, Study of one set play, Analysis and evaluation of live theatre.

Devising drama (Practical)

Process of creating devised drama, Performance of devised drama, Analysis of own work

Texts in practice (Practical)

Performance of two extracts from one play

Is this qualification for me?

GCSE Drama is the subject for you if: You have an interest in performing, you want to develop your confidence, you enjoy working as part of a team, you have an interest in watching performances, you are interested in other roles within theatre, such as directing or designing, you like working practically, you are committed and enthusiastic about Drama.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

To be successful in this subject, you are required to work as part of a team and demonstrate excellent communication and interpersonal skills. You have to think creatively about theatre and performance and you must also demonstrate empathy for the different character roles you perform. Drama teaches you to work as part of a team. Here you will learn to balance ideas, work with and listen to others, evaluate your work and develop your organisational skills.

Drama GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

Drama can give you a number of transferable skills that many other subjects cannot. These are useful and relevant in whatever career path you decide to choose, whether it is related to Drama or not. It teaches you presentation and teamwork skills and it helps in developing your confidence and empathy with others.

If you wish to continue studying Drama at a higher level, then studying GCSE Drama will prepare you for higher education such as A Level Drama. If you wish to pursue Drama as a career option then there are a number of routes that you can take.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Radio
- Presenter
- Teacher
- Stunt Artist
- TV Presenter
- Stage designer
- Actor/Actress
- Costume Designer
- Stage Manager
- Makeup Artist
- Director
- Writer
- Theatre Critic



Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

Visits to the theatre to watch live performances

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

If you would like to find out more about GCSE Drama, please email Mrs Birbeck at MBirbeck@pleckgate.com

French GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This subject will appeal to pupils who have a passion for language learning and knowing more about the world around them. It is for pupils who have a desire to increase their confidence, develop their problem solving skills and who want to be able to talk to people from across the French speaking world in their own language.

What will I learn about?

The topics studied in GCSE French are split into the following three themes:

Theme 1: People and lifestyle:

Topics include: family, healthy living and lifestyle, life at school/college, education post-16, jobs, ambitions

Theme 2: Popular culture:

Topics include: free time activities, customs, festivals and celebrations, celebrity culture.

Theme 3: Communication and the world around us:

Topics include: holidays, media and technology, the environment and my region.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

Each exams is worth 25% of your overall grade.

Foundation tier (Grades 1-5)

- **Listening exam** – 35 minutes
- **Speaking exam** – 30 minutes
- **Reading exam** – 45 minutes
- **Writing exam** – 60 minutes

Higher tier (Grades 4-9)

- **Listening exam** – 45 minutes
- **Speaking exam** – 30 minutes
- **Reading exam** – 60 minutes
- **Writing exam** – 75 minutes

Is this qualification for me?

To be successful in this qualification, you will need to have shown a good attitude to learning and progress at KS3. Ideally you should have a love of learning languages and a real interest in developing your French knowledge further.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

This course is academically challenging and a positive work ethic and resilience are needed to succeed in GCSE French. Pupils will need to have good literacy and problem solving skills as well as a good memory. Pupils need to have the ability to write a short paragraph in French, verbally answer some simple questions on a familiar topic in French and be able to translate sentences or a short text from French into English and vice versa. All of this you have been learning at KS3.

French GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- A Level French courses
- Degree in French or French with another subject e.g. Business, TEFL, Economics, Accounting.

The study of a modern foreign language will broaden your horizons, develop cultural knowledge and understanding and foster transferable skills such as confidence, communication, problem solving and creativity.

All of these skills are useful in a wide variety of further education courses.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

French is a highly relevant language to speak if you are aiming to work both in Europe, North America, Africa and Asia.

- Business
- Marketing
- Teaching
- Translator
- Interpreter
- Public relations
- Diplomatic service
- Government
- Advertising
- Publishing
- Careers in international Law

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

Many of you took the opportunity to come on the school trip to Paris last year. We are planning to run this trip again next academic year and it will be open again to Y10.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to your French teacher or see Miss C Jackson - Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Further Maths - Level 2

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

The level 2 further maths qualification is designed for pupils who are capable mathematicians with a keen interest in studying mathematics after they leave school.

What will I learn about?

During the further mathematics course, pupils are taught a more focused selection of topics compared to those covered at GCSE.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

There are no tiers of examination and questions are targeted at grades 9 to 4.

Paper 1: Non - Calculator

Paper 2: Calculator

All examinations are 1hr and 45 minutes.

Is this qualification for me?

Pupils targeted with grades 7 to 9 will gain valuable insights and reinforce their understanding of advanced topics covered in GCSE mathematics through this course.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

High levels of perseverance, and excellent understanding of algebraic reasoning and geometry are needed.

Further Maths - Level 2

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- GCSE mathematics opens many doors there is the academic and vocational route.
- Pupils wishing to do A Levels find the further maths course extremely beneficial as during year 12 many topics overlap.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

All careers such as:

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Data analytics
- Engineering



Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

Pupils take part in taster days at university. Competitions takes place between various educational settings and in school we have the very popular Chess club.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to Mr Khan or Mr Smith

Geography GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

If you have an interest in the world around you and you want to develop an understanding of the importance of connections between humans and the natural environment then you will enjoy this subject.

The study of geography is much more than just memorising places on a map. It's about understanding the complexity of our natural world and appreciating the diversity of cultures that exist across continents.

What will I learn about?

GCSE geography covers a large number of topics which means that there is something for everyone. The course will give an insight into a variety of the most important geographical issues. It builds on the work completed in years 7, 8 and 9.

These topics include:

- Rivers and rural fieldwork, UK challenges.
- The changing landscapes in the UK (Rivers and Coasts), weather hazards and climate change, ecosystems, biodiversity and management.

Changing cities, global development, resource management (energy resources).

Pupils will undertake two field trips to contrasting environments to investigate the physical and human world around them. The data and statistics gathered from the field trips will be used to answer examination questions.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

All examinations are at the end of year 11 and assess knowledge and understanding through a range of short and long exam questions.

COMPONENT 1: The Physical Environment: (1hr 30min exam) 37.5% of GCSE

COMPONENT 2: The Human Environment: (1hr 30min exam) 37.5% of GCSE

COMPONENT 3: Geographical Investigations: (1hr 30min exam) 25% of GCSE

Is this qualification for me?

Geography is for everyone. Geographical knowledge and skills are essential for us to understand the activities and patterns of our lives and the lives of others. Being a member of Eco Club supports your option choice for geography.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

Pupils who are successful in this subject are interested in travelling and learning about new places. They are interested in nature and the physical environment. They also need to be engaged and interested in current news topics - locally and internationally.

There is a lot of content to cover at GCSE and depth to each topic, so independent study and good revision strategies are essential. Pupils need to be dedicated and organised to meet the demands of the regular assessments and develop good exam technique.

Geography GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

There are a number of different qualifications at Level 3 (A-Level) including A Level geography, A Level geology and A level environmental sciences. Geography is sought-after by universities, due to it being a broad subject, as it develops a range of qualities and skills that are beneficial to studying at Higher Education institutions.

Therefore, many pupils go to University to study a wide variety of courses including engineering, architecture, medicine, teaching, town planning and sciences e.g. meteorology, hydrology and oceanography. Other routes include careers working for government departments (Environment Agency, DEFRA) and charities dealing with the impact of human and natural disasters.

Geography graduates are the most employable - they have good literacy, numeracy and critical thinking skills and are paid above average salaries, often enjoying rapid progression and promotion to senior roles.

There are also vocational courses which rely on geographical skills, knowledge and understanding such as leisure and tourism and hotel management. Skills that are developed through the study of geography include critical thinking and problem solving. Regardless of your career path, future employment will depend largely on your ability to communicate with colleagues and clients, sharing your expertise to meet their needs and overcome the challenges that you are tasked with.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Cabin crew
- Climate scientist
- Drone pilot
- Environmental consultant
- Estate agent
- Forestry worker
- Hydrologist
- Land/ Town surveyor
- Landscape architect
- Tourist guide
- Transport planner
- Travel agent
- Teacher

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

- Eco-Club.
- Trips and visits as part of the fieldwork activities.



How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

You can talk to Mrs Brennan (Head of Department) or your Geography teacher.

Health & Social Care BTEC

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This subject will appeal to pupils who enjoy learning about the health and social care sector. If you are interested in how life changes and the different life stages, then you will enjoy this course. This course will also cover the social care services available for people and how they can help people but also what obstacles and barriers can prevent people from these services.

What will I learn about?

You will learn about life stages and how these change over time, you will also learn about how life events can affect people and how they adapt to these.

You will learn about the health and social care services, such as primary and secondary services and what they offer to people. You will also learn about different obstacles and barriers and how they can stop people from accessing services they need.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

Component 1: Human Lifespan Development

Pupils will explore different aspects of growth and development and the factors that can affect this across the life stages. They will explore the different events that can impact on individuals' physical, intellectual, emotional and social development and how individuals cope with and are supported through changes caused by life events.

Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values

Learners will explore health and social care services and how they meet the needs of service users. They will also study the skills, attributes and values required when giving care.

Component 3: Health and Wellbeing

Learners will explore the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators, and person-centred approaches to make recommendations to improve an individual's health and wellbeing.

Is this qualification for me?

If you like caring for people and taking an interest in everyday life and how services can help people then you will enjoy this course

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

You need to have a good understanding of the health and social care services and also how events can have an impact on everyday life

Health & Social Care BTEC

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

Pupils can go on to study Level 3 Health and Social Care or they can use this qualification and study A Levels in a broad range of subjects relating to the health and social care sectors, for example, they may choose to study psychology or medicine.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Child care
- Psychology
- Nursing
- Social work
- Care worker
- Teaching
- Nutritionist



Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

There will be the opportunity to speak to people within the health and social care sector and also guest speakers will come to school to share their experiences with you. There may also be the opportunity of voluntary work within the community

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Have a look at the NHS careers website and also ask Miss Parkinson in school about the course

History GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

To those pupils that love stories. Stories about injustice, inequality and those people that stood up against that injustice and just said "No."

History appeals to those pupils that love inquiry. Not just when then look at the world and consider why and how these things happened but also with an understanding that the world is complex. That people are complex.

Ultimately history appeals to those pupils who want to go on a journey of discovery. To be transported across the world to the different countries and time periods we study. Yet also on a journey to find out more about themselves. To consider situations and ask what they might have done. To allow the individuals from the past to reflect the truth of the person we will become.

What will I learn about?

Health and the People - 1100- : A thematic study about how health and medicine has changed. The course starts in the medieval period (just after William the Conqueror) and comes right up to the present day (so things like Covid-19 can be included) It includes similar stories to ones that you learn about in Science like Rosalind Franklin with DNA or Edward Jenner and vaccination.

Elizabethan England - 1568-1603: A depth study on the final 35 years of Elizabeth's reign. This course starts when Elizabeth's cousin arrives in England and deals with love, plots against her life, religious tension and how Elizabeth turned the England from being a failing country into the greatest country in the world.

Inequality and Opportunity - 1920-73: A thematic study about the USA during the 20th Century. This unit looks at groups of people, such as African Americans and Women, as they struggled through 20th Century America trying to achieve equality and equal opportunity. Through that journey we study the making of the USA as it is today.

Conflict and Tension in Asia - 1950-73: A depth study about two proxy wars, Korea and Vietnam, during the Cold War. This unit builds on our study at the end of Year 9 and allows pupils to understand the terrible injustices that can happen when countries interfere and invade others.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

100% written examination.

2 written exams. In each exam you are asked to do two of the above modules and have to answer between 8-10 questions. All answers are given in paragraphs. There are no short one or two marks factual recall; it is all written paragraphs.

Is this qualification for me?

To be successful in this qualification you will need to have high levels of literacy skills and be interested in current affairs or the law. It would suit pupils who were interested in groups like the Magistrate's Court Competition or the History Book Club

History GCSE

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

The course has strong links to studies in Science and English. You will need to have good reading skills and an ability to rapidly apply knowledge in different ways as nearly all the 19 questions across the four hours of exam require a different examination technique.

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- A level History
- A Level English Literature
- A Level - Government and Politics
- Degree in History

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Civil Service
- Member of Parliament
- Solicitor
- Journalist
- Genealogist



Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

We have a historic site visit to Kenilworth Castle which will be a compulsory question on your Elizabethan England exam.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to your history teacher or see Mr Bajkowski- Head of History

Hospitality & Catering

Vocational Award

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This subject will appeal to pupils who enjoy practical work alongside theory work. If you like creating new food dishes and trialling new recipes along with developing your practical skills, this will be a good qualification to choose.

What will I learn about?

You will learn about nutrition and how to apply nutrients to make healthy dishes, you will learn about planning recipes. You will develop an understanding on the hospitality industry and how different job roles work within the industry.

You will learn about safety and the different laws which are in place to help maintain safe working environments. You will also learn about different establishments from 5* restaurants to hotels.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

This course will develop your knowledge and understanding of a range of hospitality and catering providers; how they operate and what they have to take into account to be successful.

There is the opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations. You will also develop high level food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

Unit 1 - 'The Hospitality and Catering Industry' which is examined at the end of year 10 (40%).

Unit 2 - 'Hospitality and Catering in Action' which is a centre assessed task completed in Year 11 and includes high level practical work which is carried out in both Years 10 and 11 (60%).

Is this qualification for me?

If you enjoy practical work and learning about food then this is for you.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

You need to have a good understanding of how to work with food and how to work in a kitchen. You also need to be prepared because you will be providing your own ingredients.

Hospitality & Catering

Vocational Award

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- Level 3 Hospitality or Catering
- Apprenticeships within the Hospitality and catering industry
- A-Levels

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Chef
- Hospitality work
- Restaurant manager
- Front of house
- Environmental Health Officer



Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

There will be the opportunity to visit hospitality establishments and also food factories such as Warburtons. There will also be food master classes where you can develop high level practical skills.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?
Look at Unifrog for information on careers and also speak to Mrs Redfearn in school

CNAT IT Level 1/2

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This course is great for pupils who love working with technology and want to learn how to use IT tools to solve real-world problems. If you're into things like creating augmented reality experiences, making spreadsheets, or managing data, this course is for you!

It's perfect for pupils who enjoy hands-on learning and want to build useful digital skills that can help with future studies and many different jobs. Whether you're curious about how technology is used in business or everyday life, this course gives you a chance to explore IT in a practical way.

What will I learn about?

You will learn all about the ways technology is used in the world today. You will discover how we interact with computers and digital tools, like touchscreens and voice commands. You will also dive into cybersecurity, where you will learn how to keep information safe from hackers and follow important rules to protect personal and online data. You will work with spreadsheets, where you can plan and organize data to solve real-world problems. Plus, you will explore Augmented Reality (AR), a fun technology that adds digital stuff to the real world, like in games or apps. By the end of the course, you will have a lot of practical IT skills that can help you with future studies or even exciting tech jobs!

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

One examination and two pieces of coursework

Is this qualification for me?

This course could be a great fit for you if you are curious about technology and enjoy using computers to solve problems. If you like working with digital tools, creating things like spreadsheets, and learning how technologies like Augmented Reality (AR) and cyber security, you will enjoy this course.

It's also perfect if you want to learn how to keep data safe and understand how tech is used in the world around you, like in business or everyday life. If you like hands-on learning and want to build digital skills that are useful for future studies or jobs, this qualification is for you!

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

You will need a few key skills to help with this course. First, a good understanding of maths is important because you'll work with spreadsheets and data, where you will need to be comfortable with basic calculations and analysing numbers.

Problem-solving is another crucial skill, as you will be designing solutions to real-world challenges like organising data, creating spreadsheets, and designing user-friendly digital interfaces. When it comes to designing human-computer interfaces, you will need to be creative and think about how people interact with technology, making sure your designs are easy to use and look great.

CNAT IT Level 1/2

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

This course will help you get ready for more studies by giving you a solid understanding of how technology works. You'll learn how to use digital tools, keep information safe (cybersecurity), organise data, and even create cool stuff with Augmented Reality (AR).

These skills are perfect if you want to study more advanced tech subjects like computer science, digital design, or game development. The course will also teach you how to solve problems, think creatively, and work with tech in exciting ways.

So, when you move on to other courses or even start a tech job, you'll feel confident. You can go on and complete course like A Levels , T levels or an apprenticeship in different subjects like computing , graphics design and games development.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Cybersecurity
- Data and analytics
- Teacher
- AR and VR Designer
- UI Developer
- Software Developer
- Game Developer



Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

Careers talks with companies related to the subject.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to Mr Whalley

www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/it-level-1-2-j836

Music BTEC

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

Someone who has a passion for music and enjoys creating, performing and listening to music. Someone who would like to research and learn about different styles of music.

What will I learn about?

You will learn about different styles of music and you will be required to complete practical tasks based around those different styles of music. The styles of music include; Film music, Rock 'n' Roll, minimalism, electronic dance music and baroque music.

There is also a large focus on improving your skills as a musician individually through performance and composition.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

The course is 100% coursework, therefore there is no written exam at the end of year 11. The course is split into three components, Component 1 (30%) is completed in year 10, Component 2 (30%) is completed in December of year 11 and Component 3 (40%) is completed by the end of year 11.

Is this qualification for me?

This qualification does not have a written exam at the end of year 11 and is 100% coursework which is completed in lessons. Are you prepared to have instrumental lessons through Bolton Music Service? Are you prepared to learn how to perform and create music in different styles? Did you make good progress in KS3 music?

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

If you have shown talent in your key stage 3 music lessons when playing the keyboard and using GarageBand, this course would be a great choice. It is important that you are organised and committed to make sure all your coursework is completed to the highest standard possible.

All of the coursework is completed on a computer, therefore you will need a good understanding of how to use google documents, slides and how to save and download work in your google drive.

Music BTEC

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- BTEC Level 3 Music Technology (same level as A Level)
- BTEC Level 3 Music (same level as A Level)
- A Level Music Technology



Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Composer
- Performer
- Teacher/Tutor
- Sound Engineer
- Recording Studio Manager
- Music Therapist
- DJ
- Music Producer
- Lyricist
- Accompanist
- Agent
- Concert Hall Manager

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

You will have access to the Bolton Music Service instrumental lessons and other extra-curricular music activities which you will be expected to take part in. You will also have access to music trips which include seeing live musical theatre performances, orchestras and more.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to Miss Jones (Head of Music).

www.qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/music-practice-2022.html

Physical Education CORE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This subject will appeal to pupils who have a passion for sport and physical activity. Ideally you will be a person who takes part in sport inside and outside of school consistently and has a love for sports in general. Having a strong interest in how the body works for activity is also essential.

What will I learn about?

The areas you will study are as follows;

- **Applied anatomy and physiology** - Study of the muscles, bones, heart and lungs and how they work during physical activity
- **Movement analysis** - how the body moves in sport
- **Physical training** - Components of fitness, principles of training and preventing injury in sport
- **Health, fitness and well-being in sport**
- **Sport Psychology** - skills, goal setting, mental preparation and types of feedback
- **Socio-cultural influences** - Engagement patterns, commercialisation and ethical/socio cultural issues in sport
- **Use of data** - Interpreting sports data to analyse performance

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

60% is examined by two 1 hour exams in year 11.

40% is examined practically.

Pupils will need to choose three sports (one team sport, one individual sport and one other). Pupils have free choice of over a number of different sports they can be assessed in. Pupils will also have to produce a piece of coursework analysing and Evaluating Performance (AEP)

Is this qualification for me?

You will need to have made good progress at KS3 in PE in a range of sports. You will also need to have shown that you are a committed performer who attends extra curricular activity consistently. Attainments in other subjects such as Science will be considered.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

You will need to be a highly driven, dedicated and determined pupil. You will need to be organised and willing to study theoretically alongside having a genuine passion for sport and PE who is dedicated to improving your own performance in 3 sports

Physical Education CORE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- A level PE
- BTEC Introductory Certificate in Sport
- BTEC first award in sport
- BTEC national diploma in sport



Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Recreational Management
- Teaching
- Physiotherapy
- The Fitness Industry
- Leisure Centre management
- Coaching
- Officiating
- The Armed Forces and Civil Service
- Events management

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

You will be required to attend all extra curricular opportunities related to the 3 sports you have chosen in PE

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to your PE teacher or see Mr Haworth- Head of PE and sport.

Please read the course specification: **OCR GCSE (9-1) Physical Education Specification J587 - Version 1.7 (January 2024)**

CNAT Physical Education

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This subject will appeal to students who have a passion for sport and physical activity. Ideally you will be a person who takes part in sport inside and outside of school consistently.

What will I learn about?

- Understanding contemporary issues in sport and how they impact on different sporting activities
- Applying your skills as both a performer in two different sporting activities and as a leader in one sporting activity
- How to be a sports leader, through using your initiative to solve problems and making decisions when dealing with rapidly changing conditions and situations
- Understanding the relationship between sport and the media and applying this to real life examples
- How to evaluate and interpret the different ways in which sport is represented by the media

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

20% Sports and the media (written coursework)

40% Contemporary issues in sport (marked by an exam and assessed externally)

40% Performance and leadership in sports activities (coursework and practical performance)

Is this qualification for me?

To be successful in this qualification you will need to have shown good engagement and attainment as KS3 and a love for sport and activity. You will need to be willing to write coursework on sport in the media so a strong interest in sport is essential. You will also be marked for your ability to plan, deliver and evaluate a sports session.

Attendance to extra curricular clubs is essential even if you are not representing the school in teams. Taking part in sport outside of school such as playing for a local club is preferable.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

Having a strong interest in sport through watching and reading and having skills to be able to write about it will help you. You will need to be able to complete research tasks and hand in coursework meeting deadlines which requires a commitment to your study. You will need to be actively taking part in at least two sports and have an interest in sports coaching. You must be able to respond to feedback and have an interest in how sport can be a force for good at local, national and international levels, because of its ability to bring people together.

CNAT Physical Education

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- A level PE
- BTEC Introductory Certificate in Sport
- BTEC first award in sport
- BTEC national diploma in sport



Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Recreational Management
- Leisure Centres
- Coaching
- Officiating
- The Fitness Industry
- The Armed Forces and Civil Service
- Physiotherapy
- Teaching
- Events management

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

You will be required to attend all extra curricular opportunities related to the 2 sports you have chosen in PE. You will need to attend these regularly to build up your knowledge and skills to fulfil the requirements of the course.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Speak to your PE teacher or see Mr Haworth- Head of PE and sport.

Please read the course specification: [OCR Level 1/Level 2 Cambridge National in Sport Studies specification](#)

Statistics GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

If you are passionate about climate change, finance, science, or just like data and facts, Statistics could be for you. It is sometimes known as data science.

What will I learn about?

- Using statistics in the real world such as with populations, the climate, sales figures for businesses etc. There will also be the opportunity to use new types of charts and graphs.
- How statistics is used in subjects such as science, computing, geography, and business.
- Evaluating data that you might encounter in your further studies beyond school.
- Understanding how technology can sort and use large quantities of data to inform decision-making processes in public, commercial and academic sectors.
- Understanding ways that data can be organised, processed and presented, including statistical measures to compare data.

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

The course will be 5 lessons every two weeks. You will sit two 90 minute examinations at the end of year 11. These are equally weighted and a calculator can be used in both.

Is this qualification for me?

GCSE Statistics involves a lot of prediction, probability and data interpretation. These Statistics skills mean that you will be able to make fast, logical decisions under time constraints. If you're particularly adept at looking at puzzle pieces and fitting them all together, you will likely enjoy Statistics.

Statisticians have a good memory for mathematical rules and methods. They also have a flair for numbers and they tend to remember trends. If you pride yourself on the plethora of random facts you can recall at will, Statistics might be the course for you.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

If you are interested, amongst lots of other skills from mathematics, you should already be able to:

- Work interchangeably with terminating decimals and their corresponding fractions
- Confidently calculate ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Understand and use standard mathematical formulae and rearrange simple formulae to change the subject
- Understand and use the general equation of a straight line $y = mx + c$, where m is the gradient and c is the intercept with the y -axis.
- Be able to find the mean and median from a frequency table

Statistics GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

GCSE Statistics is useful for many A Level courses including Maths, Further Maths, Geography, Finance, and the Sciences.

It is also useful for many other vocational courses where being confident with data is important.

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Agriculture
- Computer Science
- Health Science
- Pharmaceutical
- Data analyst
- Data scientist
- Financial risk analyst
- Investment analyst
- Market researcher

Enrichment opportunities related to the study of the qualification?

You can take part in taster days at university and as part of the mathematics department, be involved in competitions between various schools and colleges.

How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

For further information on this course, you should talk to Mr Smith.

Sociology GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

Someone who:

- Is interested in how people are organised
- Is interested how they interact in families, through education, crime and social structures
- Wants to know how and why inequalities arise.

What will I learn about?

Throughout the course, you will expect to learn about different aspects of sociology and consider different views, research, arguments and perspectives.

You will need to question:

- Why society is organised the way it is if this is based on agreed values or an a system of inequality
- Power, authority and discrimination

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

There are two papers both worth 50% of the course

- **Paper 1:** Families, Education, Theory and Research
- **Paper 2:** Crime & Deviance, Social Stratification, Social Theory and Research

Is this qualification for me?

To be successful in this subject you need to be interested in the study of people, society, how people interact and what happens when social structures break down. You should have an enquiring mind, be interested in research, ethics and be able to consider case studies as well as considering how the law helps society function.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

An interest in:

- Questioning why things are as they are
- Challenging why society is organised in the way it is, does it work for everyone?
- Research and ethics and be able to consider different peoples points of view
- Being analytical
- Being able to explain your point of view

Sociology GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

Many people who succeed at GCSE Sociology go on study:

- A Level Sociology
- A Level Law
- A Level Criminology
- A Level Psychology
- A Level Anthropology
- BTEC - Applied Law

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Solicitor/Barrister
- Criminal Justice
- Probation Services
- Police/Forensics
- Psychologist
- Journalist/Media
- Research Analyst
- Education
- Government



How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology or speak to Mrs McGinty

Urdu GCSE

Who will this subject/qualification appeal to?

This subject will appeal to pupils who have a passion for language learning and knowing more about the world around them. It is for pupils who already poses a reasonable level of Urdu and have the desire to build on this so they can confidently converse with people both orally and in writing.

What will I learn about?

Pupils following the Urdu GCSE course learn about the following themes and topics:

- Health
- Relationships and family
- Leisure
- Holidays
- Environment
- Work and Education

What is the structure of the course and assessments?

Each exams is worth 25% of your overall grade.

Foundation tier (Grades 1-5)

- **Listening exam** – 35 minutes
- **Speaking exam** – 30 minutes
- **Reading exam** – 45 minutes
- **Writing exam** – 60 minutes

Higher tier (Grades 4-9)

- **Listening exam** – 45 minutes
- **Speaking exam** – 30 minutes
- **Reading exam** – 60 minutes
- **Writing exam** – 75 minutes

Is this qualification for me?

To be successful in this qualification, you will need to be comfortable working in two or three tenses and be able to read, write, speak and understand spoken Urdu.

You will have shown an excellent attitude to learning and progress in your study of French at KS3. Ideally you should have a love of learning languages and a real interest in developing your Urdu knowledge further.

What knowledge, skills and experiences do I need to succeed?

Pupils need to have the ability to write a short paragraph in Urdu and be able to translate a short text from Urdu into English and vice versa in at least two tenses.

Pupils also need to be able to verbally answer some simple questions on a familiar topic in Urdu. You will be required to pass a competency assessment to evaluate your ability to read and write in Urdu. It is expected that your ability in these skills in Urdu will be at least as good as your ability in French. Pupils will need to have good literacy and problem solving skills as well as a good memory.

Urdu GCSE

How will this qualification prepare me for further study?

- Degree in Urdu or Urdu with another subject e.g. Business, TEFL, Economics, Accounting.

The study of a modern foreign language will broaden your horizons, develop cultural knowledge and understanding and foster transferable skills such as confidence, communication, problem solving and creativity. All of these skills are useful in a wide variety of further education courses..

Which careers will this qualification be useful for?

- Business
- Marketing
- Teaching
- Translator
- International Administration
- Interpreter
- Public relations
- Diplomatic service
- Government
- Advertising
- Publishing



How can I find more information about the study of this subject?

Please visit the AQA website for further information:

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/urdu/gcse/urdu-8648/specification

Speak to Miss S Ara or see Miss C Jackson – Head of Modern Foreign Languages



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