



Co-op Academy
Leeds

Year 9 Options Booklet 2025 - 2026

Name:

Tutor Group:

CONTENTS

The Options

Page 5 GCSE Geography

Page 7 GCSE History

Page 9 GCSE French

Page 10 GCSE Spanish

Page 11 GCSE Urdu

Page 12 GCSE Design and Technology

Page 14 VCert Level 2 Technical award in Food and Cookery

Page 16 GCSE Art & Design

Page 18 Cambridge Nationals Sports Studies Level 1/2 [1]

Page 20 Business Studies

Page 21 Computer Science

Page 22 GCSE Music

Page 23 GCSE Drama

Page 24 BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 - Health and Social Care

Page 25 Vocational Award - ICT Level 2

Page 26 GCSE Religious Education

Page 28 GCSE Citizenship Studies

INTRODUCTION

You are about to make some very important decisions about the subjects that you will follow for the next two years in school. It is extremely important that you take time and care when reading all the information in this booklet.

There are a number of subjects that will be new to you so be really sure that you know the type of work you will be expected to carry out if you choose one of them. There is a lot of information for you but if you are unsure about any of it please contact the teachers in the subject areas and talk to them about it. Your parents / carers will also be able to give you help and advice about the best choices.

The Key Stage 4 Curriculum.

Your curriculum (timetable) will be made up from two types of subject: Core and Option.

The Core Curriculum.

EVERYONE must study the following subjects for the next two years:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education
- PSHE including Careers and Sex Education

Your Option Choices.

It is essential that you choose as wide a variety of subjects as possible so that you are following a broad, balanced curriculum which will leave your pathways at 16 much more open. We are offering an exciting range of subjects but...

... you also need to be aware that some options may be withdrawn if there are insufficient pupil numbers for that subject.

You will need to select in order of preference a number of subjects from which we will select the courses that you will follow.

There are two main types of courses:

GCSE – These are traditional academic qualifications and a major way that these courses are assessed is through exams at the end of Year 11.

Other Level 2 Qualifications eg BTECs and Vocational Awards - These are vocational courses linked to careers and jobs. The major way in which they are assessed is through coursework but there may also be external examinations as part of the course assessment.

The English Baccalaureate

Students who achieve 5 good grades (grade 5 and above) in the following subject areas will achieve the EBacc:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- History or Geography
- A modern foreign language

Many of you will follow a curriculum which allows you to achieve the EBacc.

Do's and Don't

Do read the booklet carefully

Do talk to your parents and teachers

Do find out as much as you can about the subjects

Don't choose a subject just because your best friend does.

Don't choose a subject just because you like the teacher this year – they may change.

Don't dismiss a subject because you think it's one only boys or girls do. All subject areas are for all pupils.

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The AQA GCSE Geography course offers students a dynamic understanding of the world, exploring physical landscapes, human environments, and global issues like climate change and the global development gap. With a balance of theory and fieldwork, it equips learners with analytical skills to interpret patterns, solve problems, and understand their role in a globalised world. Choosing geography is ideal for developing critical thinking, gaining awareness of pressing environmental and societal challenges, and preparing for careers or further studies in diverse fields such as environmental science, urban planning, and international relations.

KS3 geography has given you the skills and knowledge you need to flourish in GCSE geography. In the summer of year 10, all geographers go on a field trip to the Holderness coast, the fastest eroding coastline in Europe! Throughout this two-year course you will understand how the world works and will be empowered to battle inequality and represent communities often underrepresented in the media.

There are three exams covering all aspects of the diverse and exciting world we live in:

Paper 1- Physical geography.

Including: natural hazards, ecosystems (including tropical rainforests and hot deserts), and UK physical landscapes such as coasts and rivers.

Paper 2- Human geography

Including urban issues and challenges, with a focus on the city of Rio, the changing economic world with a focus on the development of Nigeria, and the management of resources like food, water, and energy.

Paper 3- Geographical skills

Assesses geographical skills and fieldwork, focusing on the application of data analysis, problem-solving, and understanding issues from pre-released material. Including practical, hands-on knowledge you need to do real-life geography, measure and predict coastal erosion, statistics, GPS map skills and conduct surveys.

ASSESSMENT

Exam Board AQA

GRADES 1 – 9

Exam details 3 exams

1. Living with the physical environment 35%
2. Challenges in the human environment 35%
3. Geographical applications 30%.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Geography opens pathways to 6th form options like A-level Geography, Environmental Science, and sociology, leading to degrees in fields such as Geography, Urban Planning, Environmental Management, and Geographical Information Systems (GIS). Careers include roles in sustainability, urban planning, conservation, disaster management, transport, teaching, and sectors like business, government, and international development.

STAFF CONTACT Mrs Eltringham

GCSE HISTORY

COURSE CONTENT

What you will study in GCSE History:

1. Thematic study
 - This helps you see how things have changed or stayed the same over a long period of time.
 - You will learn about three different time periods.
2. Period study
 - This focuses on a big story in history that happened over at least 50 years.
 - You'll learn about important events and issues and how they connect.
3. Two depth studies
 - One about Britain and one about another part of the world.
 - These focus on a shorter time period, helping you understand what life was like and how different things were connected.
 - Each study will be from a different time period.
4. Historic environment study
 - You'll look at a specific place and its link to events in history.
 - This study can link to another part of the course or be studied on its own.

Overall, GCSE History gives you a mix of different types of studies to help you understand history in a balanced way.

The 2 year GCSE Course in History has four very different topics for study which we have carefully picked to make sure our lessons are as interesting as possible.

We will study:

- [AD America, 1920–1973: Opportunity and inequality](#)
- [BC Conflict and tension between East and West, 1945–1972](#)
- [AB Britain: Power and the people: c1170 to the present day](#)
- [BC Elizabethan England, c1568–1603](#)

ASSESSMENT

Exam Board AQA: Grades 1 – 9:

Paper 1: Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes - 50% of GCSE Grade

Paper 2: Written Exam: 1 hour 45 minutes - 50% of GCSE Grade

Section A: Making of America: 5 key questions including a choice of two 18 mark questions

- Section A – six compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B – four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Plus 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar

CAREER PROGRESSION

Studying GCSE History can open the door to many careers. It helps you build skills like critical thinking, problem-solving, and understanding people and events, which are useful in lots of jobs. With History, you could work in law, journalism, teaching, politics, museums, or even roles like detective work or business management. It's also a great choice if you want to study history further at college or university. History shows employers that you can research, analyse information, and communicate clearly, which are skills needed in almost any career.

STAFF CONTACT Mr Houston

GCSE FRENCH

COURSE DESCRIPTION

French GCSE is a 2-year course. You will learn how to communicate effectively in French and also study skills that will allow you to learn other languages more easily in the future. The emphasis of the course is on real-life situations.

We cover the following themes:

1. People & Lifestyle
2. Popular Culture
3. Communication and the world around us

You will also learn about the culture of French speaking countries and have the opportunity to develop your skills in listening, reading, writing, speaking and translation.

ASSESSMENT

Exam Board; AQA

Grades; 1 - 9

Exam details; You will be tested in all 4 skills. Each skill is worth 25% of your final grade. All of the exams will be at the end of the 2 year course.

Listening, Reading and Writing are tested by exams set by AQA.

Speaking is a short test with your teacher in which you will respond to a photo-card stimulus, do a short role-play and answer questions on a topic of your choice.

CAREER PROGRESSION

GCSE French provides an excellent foundation for understanding and communicating in another language, while also developing valuable skills such as communication, problem-solving, and adaptability, all of which are highly sought after by employers. Employers value the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) qualification, of which French is an integral part, as it reflects a broad and balanced education. Studying French prepares students for Further and Higher Education, where language skills and cultural competency are increasingly important. Careers in French include: Translator, Interpreter, Diplomat, International Business Consultant, Tour Guide, Teacher, Travel Industry Professional, and roles in European and international organisations.

***PLEASE NOTE THAT STUDENTS WANTING TO CHOOSE THIS COURSE
SHOULD ALREADY BE STUDYING FRENCH IN YEAR 9***

STAFF CONTACT Ms Wall

GCSE SPANISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Spanish GCSE is a 2-year course. You will learn how to communicate effectively in Spanish and also study skills that will allow you to learn other languages more easily in the future. The emphasis of the course is on real-life situations.

The following topics are covered in the course;

1. People & Lifestyle
2. Popular Culture
3. Communication and the world around us

You will also learn about the culture of Spanish speaking countries and have the opportunity to develop your skills in listening, reading, writing, speaking and translation.

ASSESSMENT

Exam Board; AQA

Grades; 1 - 9

Exam details; You will be tested in all 4 skills. Each skill is worth 25% of your final grade. All of the exams will be at the end of the 2 year course.

Listening, Reading and Writing are tested by exams set by AQA.

Speaking is a short test with your teacher in which you will respond to a photo-card stimulus, do a short role-play and answer questions on a topic of your choice.

CAREER PROGRESSION

GCSE Spanish provides an excellent foundation for understanding and communicating in another language, while also developing valuable skills such as communication, problem-solving, and adaptability, all of which are highly sought after by employers. Employers value the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) qualification, of which Spanish is an integral part, as it reflects a broad and balanced education. Studying Spanish prepares students for Further and Higher Education, where language skills and cultural competency are increasingly important. Careers in Spanish include: Translator, Interpreter, Diplomat, International Business Consultant, Tour Guide, Teacher, Travel Industry Professional, and roles in European and international organisations.

***PLEASE NOTE THAT STUDENTS WANTING TO CHOOSE THIS COURSE
SHOULD ALREADY BE STUDYING SPANISH IN YEAR 9***

STAFF CONTACT Mrs Radu & Ms Guerrero

GCSE URDU

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Urdu GCSE is a 2-year course.

You will learn how to communicate effectively in Urdu and the emphasis of the course is on real-life situations.

Over the 2 years, we will cover the following themes;

1. Identity and Culture
2. Local, national, international and global areas of interest
3. Current and future study and employment

You will also learn about the culture of Urdu speaking countries and have the opportunity to develop your skills in listening, reading, writing, speaking and translation.

ASSESSMENT

Exam Board; Edexcel

Grades; 1 - 9

Exam details; You will be tested in all 4 skills. Each skill is worth 25% of your final grade. All of the exams will be at the end of the 2 year course.

Listening, Reading and Writing are tested by exams set by Edexcel.

Speaking is a short test with your teacher in which you will respond to a photo-card stimulus, do a short role-play and answer questions on a topic of your choice.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Urdu is the national language of Pakistan and also spoken in India, as well as being very useful as a community language in the UK. Many employers consider the ability to speak another language an asset. Qualifications in Urdu can lead to many different careers such as marketing and business, public services, government agencies, law, tourism, industry or teaching, as well as the possibilities of working abroad or going on to further study.

Urdu is also an EBACC subject which is essential if you are considering going on to higher education.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT STUDENTS WANTING TO CHOOSE THIS COURSE
SHOULD ALREADY BE STUDYING URDU IN YEAR 9**

STAFF CONTACT Mr Ali

GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

ABOUT THIS QUALIFICATION

Design and Technology is an exciting and creative subject that equips you with the skills to solve real-world problems. The OCR DT GCSE is ideal for students who enjoy designing, making, and understanding how things work. It combines creativity, technical knowledge, and problem-solving to prepare you for further education and future careers in engineering, design, manufacturing, and beyond.

Core Technical Principles

- Materials and Their Properties
- Manufacturing Processes
- Technology and Innovation
- Sustainability and the Environment
- Mechanisms and Electronics

Designing and Making Principles

1. Identifying and Solving Problems
2. Generating and Developing Ideas
3. Design Communication
4. Making Prototypes.
5. Evaluation and Testing

Subject-Specific Knowledge

- Timber-Based Materials
- Metal-Based Materials
- Polymers
- Textiles
- Papers and Boards

ASSESSMENT

1. Written Exam (50%)

- Test your understanding of technical and design principles.
- Answer a mix of multiple-choice, short-answer, and extended-response questions.

2. Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) - Coursework (50%)

- Apply what you've learned in a practical context by tackling a design brief.
- Develop a prototype and supporting portfolio that showcases your research, creativity, and problem-solving skills.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Studying the OCR Design and Technology (DT) GCSE opens up a variety of exciting career paths.

Further Education Options

1. A Levels

- Design and Technology (Product Design, Fashion, or Textiles)
- Engineering
- Art and Design
- Physics (for technical design careers)

2. Vocational Courses

- BTEC Nationals in Engineering, Construction, or Creative Design.
- T Levels in Design, Surveying, and Planning or Digital Production.

3. Apprenticeships

- Gain hands-on experience in areas like engineering, carpentry, manufacturing, or product design.

STAFF CONTACT Miss Wall

VCERT LEVEL 2 TECHNICAL AWARD IN FOOD AND COOKERY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

To be awarded this qualification, learners are required to successfully demonstrate the knowledge and skills to meet the requirements of all 7 mandatory content areas.

1. Health and safety relating to food, nutrition and the cooking environment
2. Food legislation and food provenance
3. Food groups, key nutrients and a balanced diet
4. Factors affecting food choices
5. Food preparation, cooking skills and techniques
6. Recipe amendment, development and evaluation
7. Menu and action planning for completed dishes

Students will learn about the following topics:

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

ASSESSMENT

The qualification has 2 assessments externally-set by NCFE: one non-exam assessment and one written examined assessment.

Assessment breakdown

- 1 hour 30 minutes examined assessment
- 16 hours 30 minutes non-exam assessment
- Non-exam assessment (NEA) Weighting (60%)

Externally-set, internally marked and externally moderated

- Synoptic project Examined assessment (EA) Weighting (40%)

Externally-set and externally marked

Overall qualification grades: L1P, L1M, L1D, L2P, L2M, L2D, L2D*

CAREER PROGRESSION

Learners who achieve at level 1 might consider progression to level 2 qualifications post-16, such as:

- GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition
- study at level 2 in a range of technical routes that have been designed for progression to employment, apprenticeships and further study

Learners who achieve at level 2 might consider progression to level 3 qualifications post-16, such as:

- Level 3 Certificate/Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition
- Level 3 Technical Levels including T Level programmes (this will support progression to employment and higher education)

Career opportunities

Learners could progress into employment or onto an apprenticeship. The understanding and skills gained through this qualification could be useful to progress onto an apprenticeship in the food industry through a variety of occupations that are available within the sector, such as kitchen assistant, catering assistant, chef and sous chef.

STAFF CONTACT Miss Booth

GCSE ART & DESIGN

COURSE DESCRIPTION

During this course you will demonstrate your practical skills, your understanding of sources and your ability to create ideas. You will make appropriate use of the formal elements including colour, line, tone, texture, shape and form, in response to an idea, theme or brief. The use and development of a personal sketchbook will be a crucial part of the course.

You will use a range of media, materials, techniques and processes including:

- Painting & Drawing
- Photography
- Textiles
- Illustration
- Printmaking
- 3D Sculpture
- Clay

Through studying Art and Design you have the opportunity to become more independent, to make creative decisions, to explore, experiment and take creative risks. Studies in Art & Design can lead to a wide variety of careers including fashion design, architecture, film and photography, graphic design or interior design, etc.

All of the work you complete in lesson time counts towards your grade. Good attendance and a passion for drawing and creating is essential to being successful.

ASSESSMENT

Exam Board: EDUQAS
GRADES: 1 - 9

The course is split into two sections:

Portfolio (120 marks) 60% of your overall GCSE grade.

Externally Set Assignment (80 marks) 40% of your overall GCSE grade.

Both sections are assessed against 4 assessment objectives:

AO1: Developing ideas through investigations and critical understanding of sources.

AO2: Refining work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.

AO3: Recording ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions.

AO4: Presenting personal and meaningful responses

CAREER PROGRESSION

Studying Art and Design is beneficial for a lot of creative courses and apprenticeships.

School of Creative Arts at Leeds City College:

PressArt & Design BTEC Diploma Level 1

Technician Level 2 or 3 Apprenticeship

TV and Film BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative Media Practice

Photography BTEC Diploma Level 2

With a grade 4 and above you could go on to study either 'A' Levels. This would help with careers in Graphic Design, Fine Art, Photography, Fashion Design, Printing and Textiles.

STAFF CONTACT Miss Wall

Cambridge Nationals Sport Studies Level 1/2

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Our Cambridge National in Sport Studies will encourage students to think for themselves about the study of sport and the application to real life practical sport, leadership and evaluation of the skills required there. They will study topics affecting sport through the contemporary issues unit, both play and lead sporting activities, as well as having the chance to either explore the world of media in sport

Is there anything else I need to know?

This programme requires you to bring your PE kit each lesson and be fit and healthy to take part in all aspects of the practical elements. It is essential that students understand that although there are large practical elements to the course students are also required to demonstrate their knowledge through coursework assignments

ASSESSMENT

The course involves core units and optional units covering the following topics:

Unit 1: Contemporary issues in sport

Unit 2: Performance and leadership in sports activities

Unit 3: Sport and the media

Grades: Level 1 Pass (1 GCSE equivalent), Level 1 Merit (2), Level 1 Distinction (3)

Level 2 Pass (4), Level 2 Merit (5.5), Level 2 Distinction (7), Level 2 Distinction (8.5).*

Coursework : 60% Exam : 40%

CAREER PROGRESSION

This course is an appropriate gateway to a range of exciting careers and opportunities in the sports industry. Successful completion of the course offers an appropriate foundation for Level 3 Sport Courses such as A-Level Physical Education or BTEC Level 3 in Sport or lead to an apprenticeship within the sector. Candidates who successfully follow this pathway can look towards careers such as PE Teacher, Sports Coach, Fitness Instructor, Dietician, Sports Psychologist, Sports Development Officer, Personal Trainer, Physiotherapist, Sports Injury Specialist, Sports Statistician or Sports Technology.

STAFF CONTACT Mr Rayner

BUSINESS STUDIES

COURSE DESCRIPTION

When studying Business, you will:

- Communicate and explain your ideas
- Think creatively and make decisions
- Work with numbers to solve business problems
- Learn about the world of business through real and relevant local and international brands.

You'll begin by looking at small business from the perspective of an entrepreneur. Why and how do business ideas form? What characterises a successful enterprise? You'll discover how to refine an idea, identify an opportunity, and convert it into a prosperous business. You will learn how to run a successful business, manage your finances, and see how the external environment influences small enterprises and the people who work in them. The next step is to look into business expansion. How can a company grow after its initial set - up stage? You will gain knowledge of important business concepts, problems, and choices that must be made when expanding a business and operating in a global environment.

ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

Exam Board Edexcel GCSE Business 9-1

Grades 1-9

The qualification will be assessed in two equally weighted exams papers.

There is no coursework. It is 100% exam.

CAREER PROGRESSION

You could

- Progress on to A level Business or BTEC Level 3 in Business.
- Go on to training – Modern Apprenticeship.

This is suitable preparation for all careers in particular Business, Administration, Sales, Marketing, Accounting, Insurance and Financial services. Those of you who have aspirations to be Entrepreneurs will find everything you learn in this course very useful.

STAFF CONTACT

Miss Pearson

GCSE Computer Science

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course gives an exciting opportunity for students to investigate how computers work and how they are used, including computer programming and problem solving skills.

Topics include: networks and communication; computer hardware; software; algorithms and programming; and computational logic.

ASSESSMENT

Exam Board - OCR

Grade – 1 - 9

Assessment for the course is divided into two exams of equal weighting.

Students are required to look at theory that is covered over the two exams – this includes the architecture of computers, networking, software, and computational logic.

There is also a requirement for all students to be given the opportunity to carry out practical programming tasks in a higher-level programming language to create solutions to problems. This helps students to develop their critical thinking skills. By the end of the course, students should have a sound knowledge of how computers work, how they connect, and how to create computer programs to solve a particular task.

CAREER PROGRESSION

The course is excellent preparation for anyone wishing to study Computer Science at A Level or who are interested in a career in the IT and Computing industry.

STAFF CONTACT Mr Azam

GCSE Music

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Music is constantly evolving, inspiring creativity and expression in a way that no other subject can. The GCSE is relevant and contemporary and offers your students the chance to study a wide range of musical genres, with more opportunities for practical learning. The GCSE brings theory, listening and composition to life in new and engaging ways, and links to the world around us like never before.

Every student has different learning styles and musical tastes, which is why the GCSE values all music styles, skills and instruments. Broadens your minds and foster a love of all music with a qualification that students of all abilities and backgrounds will enjoy.

ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Understanding music

Section A: Listening – unfamiliar music (68 marks)

Section B: Study pieces (28 marks)

The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes.

This component is worth 40% of GCSE marks (96 marks)

Component 2: Performing music

Performance 1: Solo performance (36 marks)

Performance 2: Ensemble performance (36 marks)

A minimum of four minutes of performance in total is required, of which a minimum of one minute must be the ensemble performance.

This component is 30% of GCSE marks (72 marks)

Component 3: Composing music

Composition 1: Composition to a brief (36 marks)

Composition 2: Free composition (36 marks)

A minimum of three minutes of music in total is required.

This component is 30% of GCSE marks (72 marks)

CAREER PROGRESSION

By studying music you will find out more about different forms of music from pop, jazz, contemporary to music for theatre or media. You will learn how to appraise the different types of music as well learn how music has changed over time.

You will develop lots of skills studying this subject from production to performance and composition. You will also gain lots of transferable skills in administration, team work, organisation and planning. Music can lead into careers in performance, education, creative media and computer games.

STAFF CONTACT Ms Clifton

GCSE Drama

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course engages and encourages students to become confident performers and designers with the skills they need for a bright and successful future.

Performance is paramount:

The course builds in as much opportunity as possible for students to do what they like best – participate in performance. You will devise drama, explore texts practically and work on two text-based performances.

You can develop as a:

- Performer
- Designer (lighting, sound, set, costume, puppets)
- Performer and designer

Whichever option you choose, you can be sure to gather many invaluable skills, both theatrical and transferable, to expand your horizons.

ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Understanding drama - Knowledge & understanding of drama & theatre

Study of one set play (Blood Brothers)

Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes

80 marks (40% of GCSE)

Component 2: Devising Drama - Process of creating devised drama

Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer or designer)

Analysis and evaluation of own work

Devising log (60 marks)

Devised performance (20 marks)

80 marks in total (40% of GCSE)

Component 3: Texts in Practise

Performance of two extracts from one play (students may contribute as performer or designer)

Free choice of play but it must contrast with the set play chosen for Component 1

Performance of Extract 1 (20 marks) and Extract 2 (20 marks)

40 marks in total (20% of GCSE)

CAREER PROGRESSION

Studying drama helps you develop as an individual, with a group and also creatively.

You will explore and apply your knowledge of the process of creating and developing drama and theatre and also learn performance skills. Whether you prefer performing or being backstage, drama can develop your confidence, communication and teamwork skills and if you are involved in planning or organising a performance then these skills can be useful in many jobs. The skills you gain from doing drama can lead to careers such as performing arts, media, business, law, advertising, sales, hospitality and tourism.

STAFF CONTACT Ms Clifton

BTEC Tech Award Level 2 in Health and Social Care

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Tech Award gives learners the opportunity to develop applied knowledge in the following areas: • the life stages and key characteristics in the physical, intellectual, emotional and social (PIES) development classifications and the different factors that can affect an individual's growth and development • different life events and how individuals can adapt or be supported through changes caused by life events • health and social care conditions, how they can be managed by the individual and the different health and social care services that are available • the barriers and obstacles an individual may encounter and how these can be overcome • the skills, attributes and values required to give care and how these benefit the individual • how factors can affect an individual's current health and wellbeing • how physiological indicators and an individual's lifestyle choices determine physical health • the use of the person-centred approach • recommendations and actions to improving health and wellbeing and the barriers or obstacles individuals may face when following recommendations and the support available to overcome.

ASSESSMENT

<i>Exam Board</i>	Pearson BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 in Health and Social Care
<i>Grades</i>	Level 1 pass/merit/distinction Level 2 pass/merit/distinction/distinction*
<i>Exam Details</i>	There are two internal assessments worth 60 marks each and one external examination worth 60 marks.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Possible career opportunities include:

Learners who generally achieve at Level 2 across their Key Stage 4 learning might consider progression to:

- A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Health and Social Care, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the health or social care sector.

There are many careers in Health and Social Care that you could pursue, including a paramedic, a nurse, an education mental health practitioner, a family support worker, a midwife, a psychologist and many more.

STAFF CONTACT

Mrs Skelton

WJEC Vocational ICT (Level 2)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

About Creative iMedia

Studying the Vocational Award in ICT will develop knowledge and understanding of the ICT sector which will provide you with opportunities to develop associated practical skills. The first unit "ICT in Society" will allow you to explore the wide range of uses of hardware, application and specialist software. The second unit "ICT in Context" will allow you to broaden your working knowledge of databases, spreadsheets, automated documents and images.

ASSESSMENT

Unit 1 "ICT in Society" (Completed in Year 2)

40% exam completed

Unit 2 "ICT in Context" (Completed in Year 1)

60% coursework completed

Mandatory units

Units "ICT in Society" and "ICT In Context" are both mandatory and there are not optional units

Grades

Level 1 - L1 Distinction*, L1 Distinction, L1 Merit, L1 Pass, Fail/Unclassified

Level 2 - L2 Distinction*, L2 Distinction, L2 Merit, L2 Pass

CAREER PROGRESSION

There is currently a huge demand for a skilled and digitally literate workforce. This course is designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge employers want. ICT is crucial and needed in industry. It plays an increasing role in society, and is shaping how we look at and view the world around us. Having a qualification in Vocational ICT would be a strong first step into a career where the opportunities are ever evolving as apprenticeships, in employment, or further study at university or college.

Possible progression routes for further study include:

- A Level - Computer Science (Level 3)
- BTEC National Level 3 - Computing
- Apprenticeship - Digital Pathway (Level 3)
- Cambridge technicals - Information Technology and Digital Media (Level 3)
- T-Level - Digital Production Design and Development or Media Broadcast and Production (Level 3)

STAFF CONTACT : Mr Popplewell

GCSE Religious Education

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- develop their knowledge and understanding of religions and non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism
- develop their knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs, teachings, and sources of wisdom and authority, including through their reading of key religious texts, other texts, and scriptures of the religions they are studying
- develop their ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of the subject
- engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth, and their influence on human life
- reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in the light of what they have learnt and will contribute to their preparation for adult life in a pluralistic society and global community

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Area of Study 1 – Islam-Religion and Ethics Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 102 marks

Content overview- Students must study all four content sections based on Islam

- Beliefs
- Marriage and the Family
- Living the Religious Life
- Matters of Life and Death

Paper 2: Area of Study 2 – Christianity- Religion, Peace and Conflict Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 102 marks

Content overview - Students must study all four content sections based on Christianity

- Beliefs
- Crime and Punishment
- Living the Religious Life
- Peace and Conflict

CAREER PROGRESSION

Religious Education (RE) is a fantastic subject to study because it develops essential transferable skills highly valued in many different careers. Studying RE teaches you to look at complex issues from multiple viewpoints, promoting critical thinking and analysis. You'll improve your ability to conduct research, articulate clear arguments, and engage in respectful, sophisticated debate and dialogue. These skills are vital in fields like Law, Journalism, Politics, Teaching, Social Work, Civil Service, and International Relations, where understanding diverse perspectives and communicating effectively is key to success. RE helps you become an open-minded, thoughtful, and culturally aware individual, making you an excellent candidate for any role that involves working with people from various backgrounds.

STAFF CONTACT Mrs Kaur

GCSE Citizenship Studies

COURSE DESCRIPTION

GCSE Citizenship Studies has the power to motivate and enable young people to become thoughtful, active citizens.

Students gain a deeper knowledge of democracy, government and law, and develop skills to create sustained and reasoned arguments, present various viewpoints and plan practical citizenship actions to benefit society.

They will also gain the ability to recognise bias, critically evaluate argument, weigh evidence and look for alternative interpretations and sources of evidence, all of which are essential skills valued by higher education and employers.

ASSESSMENT

We will be taking the AQA GCSE Citizenship Studies specification.

Paper 1: Active Citizenship and Politics and Participation

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Section A: Active citizenship questions: questions on the citizenship action of others and questions on the students taking citizenship action investigation (40 marks)
- Section B: Politics and participation question (40 marks)
- Question types: multiple-choice, short answer, source-based questions, extended answer

Paper 2: Life in Modern Britain and Rights and Responsibilities

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Section A: Life in modern Britain questions (40 marks)
- Section B: Rights and responsibilities questions (40 marks)
- Question types: multiple-choice, short answer, source-based questions, extended answer

CAREER PROGRESSION

Citizenship Studies can prepare students for A-Levels such as History, Politics and Sociology.

The student investigation element ensures students will demonstrate student's independent and research skills which are highly sought after by employers and colleges.

Potential career paths linked to Citizenship Studies include journalism, charity sector, civil service, education and public sector routes.

STAFF CONTACT Mr Dodd