





Exam Board: AQA

www.aqa.org.uk

Course Code: 8700 English Language, 8702 English Literature

The English Language course places emphasis on reading texts in a wide range of genres and for a wide range of audiences. Texts read are both modern and pre-Twentieth Century; fiction and non-fiction. Speaking and listening is also assessed and reported separately.

English Literature focuses on the study of novels, plays and poetry, both modern and pre-Twentieth Century.

How is the course assessed?

- English Language – 100% Examination;
- English Literature – 100% Examination;
- Students will be assessed more formally with a test each half-term and mock examinations in Years 10 and 11. This will highlight areas that will need to be improved prior to the GCSE examinations in the summer of Year 11.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Read regularly at home;
- Work to the best of your ability, both in class and in your homework;
- Ask for help whenever you need it;
- Check your spellings and learn corrections;
- Use a wide variety of sentence structures and punctuation;
- Remember to paragraph your work;
- Obtain revision guides for the texts we study for the examinations;
- Familiarise yourself with the mark scheme and do as many practice questions as you can.

Career Pathways

- A qualification in English and English Literature can open up a vast array of careers;
- Some possibilities are: Teaching, Journalism, Marketing, Speech Therapy, Media Work, PR and Law.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs J Fleet.



Exam Board: OCR

Course Code: 8300

www.ocr.org.uk

All students follow pathways which are designed to cater for their individual needs and rates of progression. All examinations will be taken at the end of the course, in line with government policy.

All students will study Number, Algebra, Shape and Space (Geometry), Probability, Applying Mathematics (Problem Solving) and Ratio and Proportion.

How is the course assessed?

- Coursework – there is no controlled assessment component in GCSE Mathematics;
- Students are assessed at either Foundation (grades 1 to 5) or Higher (grades 4 to 9);
- Homework is assessed weekly with feedback given in class;
- Students will be assessed more formally with a test as per the calendar and mock examinations in Years 10 and 11. This will highlight areas that will need to be improved prior to the GCSE examinations in the summer of Year 11.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons;
- Complete homework promptly – which can include both written tasks consisting of practice questions, investigation work, or examination-style questions, and online tasks using MathsWatch;
- Ask for help if needed – this will always be provided;
- Revise often, this will be much more effective than trying to revise just before examinations. A revision guide helps, along with the use of MathsWatch online;
- Attend publicised revision sessions which are put on prior to external examinations.

Career Pathways

- A Mathematics qualification can lead to a career in Statistics, Transport, Engineering, Law, Food Technology, Graphics, Computing, Medicine, Teaching, Finance and many others. Many doors will be open to students with a good Mathematics qualification that would otherwise be closed;
- For more information, see www.mathscareers.org.uk.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mr M Thorley.

“Working together to achieve our personal best”



Exam Board: OCR

Course Code: J247 (GCSE Biology A)

www.ocr.org.uk

All students follow pathways which are designed to cater for their individual needs and rates of progression feeding curiosity in Science. All examinations will be taken at the end of the course, in line with government policy.

All students will study cell level systems, scaling up, organism level systems, community level systems, genes, inheritance and selection, global challenges.

How is the course assessed?

- The GCSE is 100% external examination;
- Practicals are integral to the course and knowledge of practical technique is assessed in the written papers;
- Students sit two papers: each paper carries 50% of the final mark for the GCSE;
- Students are entered for Higher tier papers, or Foundation tier papers;
- Homework is set regularly by staff. Students should expect to get a piece of homework per week, taking approximately 1 hour to complete;
- Mini tests occur every 3 – 4 weeks and students are encouraged to reflect and evaluate their progress based on staff feedback.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons;
- Complete homework promptly, asking for help if necessary;
- Revise for the mini topic tests as this will reinforce ideas covered in class. Regular revision is far more effective than trying to 'cram' just before the examination;
- Buy revision guides sold in the school and use them to aid revision and homework;
- Attend revision clinics in the run up to the summer examination.

Career Pathways

- To study A-Level, a level 7+ grade pass is required (plus a level 7 grade in Maths);
- A Science qualification can lead on to a career in: Medicine, Veterinary Work, Teaching, Research, Pharmacy, The Royal Air Force, Optometry, Radiography, Physiotherapy and Town Planning.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mr S Williams.

“Working together to achieve our personal best”



Exam Board: OCR

Course Code: J248 (GCSE Chemistry A)

www.ocr.org.uk

All students follow pathways which are designed to cater for their individual needs and rates of progression feeding curiosity in Science. All examinations will be taken at the end of the course, in line with government policy.

All students will study particles, elements, compounds and mixtures, chemical reactions, predicting and identifying products, monitoring and controlling chemical reactions and global challenges.

How is the course assessed?

- The GCSE is 100% external examination;
- Practicals are integral to the course and knowledge of practical technique is assessed in the written papers;
- Students sit two papers: each paper carries 50% of the final mark for the GCSE;
- Students are entered for Higher tier papers, or Foundation tier papers;
- Homework is set regularly by staff. Students should expect to get a piece of homework per week, taking approximately 1 hour to complete;
- Mini tests occur every 3 – 4 weeks and students are encouraged to reflect and evaluate their progress based on staff feedback.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons;
- Complete homework promptly, asking for help if necessary;
- Revise for the mini topic tests as this will reinforce ideas covered in class. Regular revision is far more effective than trying to 'cram' just before the examination;
- Buy revision guides sold in the school and use them to aid revision and homework;
- Attend revision clinics in the run up to the summer examination.

Career Pathways

- To study A-Level, a level 7+ grade pass is required (plus a level 7 grade in Maths);
- A Science qualification can lead on to a career in: Medicine, Veterinary Work, Teaching, Research, Pharmacy, The Royal Air Force, Optometry, Radiography, Physiotherapy and Town Planning.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mr S Williams.

“Working together to achieve our personal best”



Exam Board: OCR

Course Code: J249 (GCSE Physics A)

www.ocr.org.uk

All students follow pathways which are designed to cater for their individual needs and rates of progression feeding curiosity in Science. All examinations will be taken at the end of the course, in line with government policy.

All students will study matter, forces, electricity, magnetism and magnetic fields, waves in matter, radioactivity, energy and global challenges.

How is the course assessed?

- Each GCSE is 100% external examination;
- Practicals are integral to the course and knowledge of practical technique is assessed in the written papers;
- Students sit two papers: each paper carries 50% of the final mark for the GCSE;
- Students are entered for Higher tier papers, or Foundation tier papers;
- Homework is set regularly by staff. Students should expect to get a piece of homework per week, taking approximately 1 hour to complete;
- Mini tests occur every 3 – 4 weeks and students are encouraged to reflect and evaluate their progress based on staff feedback.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons;
- Complete homework promptly, asking for help if necessary;
- Revise for the mini topic tests as this will reinforce ideas covered in class. Regular revision is far more effective than trying to 'cram' just before the examination;
- Buy revision guides sold in the school and use them to aid revision and homework;
- Attend revision clinics in the run up to the summer examination.

Career Pathways

- To study A-Level, a level 7+ grade pass is required (plus a level 7 grade in Maths);
- A Science qualification can lead on to a career in: Medicine, Veterinary Work, Teaching, Research, Pharmacy, The Royal Air Force, Optometry, Radiography, Physiotherapy and Town Planning.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mr S Williams.



Exam Board: OCR

Course Code: J250 (Combined Science A)

www.ocr.org.uk

All students follow pathways which are designed to cater for their individual needs and rates of progression feeding curiosity in Science. All examinations will be taken at the end of the course, in line with government policy.

All students will study 6 modules across all three sciences incorporating topics such as cells, inheritance, compounds and mixtures, chemical reactions, matter, radioactivity and global challenges.

How is the course assessed?

- Practical activities are embedded in the course and are a fundamental part of the learning process. Techniques are assessed in the written papers;
- This GCSE is 100% external examination;
- In total, students take 6 written examinations in the summer of Year 11, each worth 16.7%;
- 3 of the examinations will be based on work covered in Year 10 and will be examined as separate science components, Physics, Chemistry and Biology. These combined grades will then be amalgamated to give one GCSE grade;
- The remaining 3 examinations will be based on work covered in Year 11 and will be examined as separate science components, Physics, Chemistry and Biology. These combined grades will then be amalgamated to give the second GCSE grade;
- Students are entered for either Foundation or Higher tiers;
- Homework is set regularly by staff. Students should expect to get 2 pieces of homework per week, each taking approximately 1 hour to complete;
- Mini tests occur every 3-4 weeks and students are encouraged to reflect and evaluate their progress based on staff feedback.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons;
- Complete homework promptly, asking for help if necessary;
- Revise for the mini topic tests as this will reinforce ideas covered in class. Regular revision is far more effective than trying to 'cram' just before the examination;
- Buy revision guides sold in the department and use them to aid revision and homework;
- Attend revision clinics in the run up to the summer examination.

Career Pathways

- To study A-Level Separate Sciences, a level 7 grade or level 8 grade pass in Combined Science is required (plus a level 7 grade in Maths);
- To study BTEC post-16, two passes at grade 5 in Combined Science GCSEs are required;
- A Science qualification can lead on to a career in: Medicine, Veterinary Work, Teaching, Research, Pharmacy, The Royal Air Force, Optometry, Radiography, Physiotherapy and Town Planning.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mr S Williams.



Exam Board: OCR

Course Code: J170-J176

www.ocr.org.uk

Design and Technology is concerned with visual and tactile forms of expression. It is designed to encourage students to develop an ability to observe, select and interpret with imagination, feeling and understanding. It also helps to understand the language and conventions (rules) of Design and Technology and gain an understanding of the place that Design and Technology has through creating professional outcomes for a purpose.

How is the course assessed?

- 60% portfolio, 40% externally set task;
- In Design and Technology, the Design Portfolio is equal to 60% of your final grade. One unit is the externally set task and this makes up the remaining 40% of your final grade;
- In this subject, your Design Portfolio and externally set task are assessed internally by the staff who teach you. As you develop your practical work, each piece will be regularly marked with a current grade and a commentary will be written outlining what you need to do to improve.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- In the Design classrooms there are examples of Design portfolios graded at a level 5 – 9. If you wish to look at these to get an idea about the standard, amount and type of work you will be doing over the next two years, just ask;
- Work to the best of your ability and experiment with a wide variety of design techniques and processes;
- Be creative and innovative when developing your project theme;
- Make full use of lunchtime and after-school extra support sessions.

Career Pathways

- Graphic Design, Product Design, Transport Design, Fashion Designer, Illustrator, Architect or Design Engineer, Theatre Set or Costume Designer, Furniture Designer, Interior Designer, Editor, Buyer, Art Therapist, Make-up Artist;
- To study Design and Technology at a higher level, i.e. BTEC Design in the Sixth Form, you would need to achieve a level 5 grade or above.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs A Halfpenny.



Exam Board: OCR

Course Code: J171

www.ocr.org.uk

GCSE Art and Design helps students to develop knowledge, skills, and the understanding to enable them to express their creativity and imagination through responses to visual and written stimuli. Fine Art is the practice of creating work that is primarily for aesthetic, intellectual or purely conceptual purposes, rather than requiring a practical function. When studying Fine Art, you can explore the following:

- Drawing
- Installation
- Lens-/Light-based Media
- Mixed-media
- Printing
- Painting
- Sculpture

How is the course assessed?

- 60% portfolio, 40% externally set task;
- In Art and Design; Component 1 is the portfolio and is equal to 60% of your final grade; Component 2 is the externally set task and this makes up the remaining 40% of your final grade;
- In this subject, your portfolio and externally set task are assessed internally by the staff who teach you. As you develop your practical work, each piece will be regularly marked with a current grade and a commentary will be written outlining what you need to do to improve.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- In the Art room there are examples of past portfolios of work graded at a level 5 – 9. If you wish to look at these to get an idea about the standard, amount and type of work you will be doing over the next two years, just ask;
- Work to the best of your ability and experiment with a wide variety of materials, techniques and processes;
- Be creative and innovative when developing your project theme;
- Attend the annual Biddulph High Art and Photography Exhibition that takes place in June;
- Make full use of lunchtime and after-school extra support sessions.

Career Pathways

- Fashion Designer, Illustrator, Architect or Design Engineer, Theatre Set or Costume Designer, Furniture Designer, Interior Designer, Editor, Buyer, Art Therapist, Make-up Artist, Freelance Artist, Surface Pattern Designer;
- To study Art and Design at a higher level, i.e. A Level Art or Photography in the Sixth Form, you would need to achieve a level 5 grade or above.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Miss S Tracey or Mrs C Carroll-Wright.



Exam Board: AQA

Course Code: 8132

www.aqa.org.uk

The Business Studies course introduces students to issues concerning the setting up and operation of a business. It explores Business in the Real World, Influences on Business, Business Operations, Human Resources, Marketing and Finance.

How is the course assessed?

All examinations will be taken at the end of the course, in line with government policy. The course is split into two examinations. Both will include 'Business in the Real World' and 'Influences on Business' plus:

Paper 1

- Influences on Operations and Human Resources;
- 1 hour 45 minutes;
- 90 marks;
- 50% of GCSE.

Questions

- Section A: multiple choice, 20 marks;
- Section B: one case study with questions, 34 marks approximately;
- Section C: case study with questions, 36 marks approximately.

Paper 2

- Influences of Marketing and Finance on Business Activity;
- 1 hour 45 minutes;
- 90 marks;
- 50% of GCSE.

Questions

- Section A: multiple choice, 20 marks;
- Section B: one case study with questions, 34 marks approximately;
- Section C: case study with questions, 36 marks approximately.

How to be a successful student in this subject

In order to be successful in Business Studies you will need to:

- Work hard;
- Take care of your exercise book, and engagement book and the notes you make in class;
- Revise from class notes and revision guides for all necessary examinations;
- Strive to achieve your personal best;
- Follow the department guidelines.

Career Pathways

Business and Management courses are the most popular subjects studied at university. There are numerous career opportunities where skills and knowledge gained in Business Studies would be relevant. Some examples are Accounting, Management, Finance, Marketing, Human Resources and Retail. The course also encourages you to develop your expertise and entrepreneurial skills if you are considering starting your own business.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs S St Clair, Mr M Scarratt, Miss V Deavall, Mrs G Jones or Mrs P Atkin.



Exam Board: Pearson

Course Code: 600/7043/2

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/digital-information-technology.html>

BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Digital Information Technology (DIT) is for students with a keen interest in ICT. The course is the equivalent to 1 GCSE. The course is aimed at learners who want to acquire technical knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by studying the knowledge, understanding and skills related to data management, data interpretation, data presentation and data protection as part of their Key Stage 4 learning. The course develops key skills that prove learner aptitude in digital information technology, such as project planning, designing and creating user interfaces, creating dashboards to present and interpret data. As well as developing effective ways of working in digital information technology, such as project planning, the iterative design process, cyber security, virtual teams, legal and ethical codes of conduct. The course develops attitudes that are considered most important in digital information technology, including personal management and communication.

How is the course assessed?

- One examination unit Component 3: Effective Digital Working Practices
It is an external examination set and marked by Pearson, completed under supervised conditions. The examination must be completed in 1 hour 30 minutes. 60 marks
- Two Controlled Assessment units. We will complete the following 2 components:
Component 1: Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques
Component 2: Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data

All components must be passed to achieve the Award.

Each component is graded: Level 1 Pass, Level 1 Merit, Level 1 Distinction, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction.

How to be a successful student in this subject

The majority of the assessment is carried out in the form of coursework portfolios. This means work completed on the first day of Year 10 is equally as important as work completed on the last day of Year 11. Therefore, you should:

- Work to the best of your ability in lessons;
- Have good attendance. If you miss lessons, you will be expected to catch up on missed coursework in your own time;
- Attend lunchtime and after-school coursework sessions when required;
- Revise for the examination and use the materials provided.

Career Pathways

- Most industries and careers use ICT on a daily basis. You will be well-equipped to enter the workplace and use ICT confidently as a result of this qualification;
- This course feeds directly into the Level 3 BTEC IT course offered in BH6th Form;
Further study could lead to careers in Business, Digital Design or Computing. For example: Web Development, Game Design, Programming, Business Analysis.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Miss V Deavall, Mrs L Sharrock, Mr J Rawson or Mrs P Atkin.



Exam Board: OCR

Course Code: J277

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j277-from-2020/>

The qualification will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills established through the Computer Science elements of the KS3 programme of study. It will encourage students to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation. It will also allow students to analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs.

Computer science students gain valuable analytical and problem solving skills that can be utilised in multiple subjects and career paths.

How is the course assessed?

There are 2 examination units.

Unit 1 'Computer Systems'

- Written Paper
- 1 Hour 30 minutes
- 80 Marks
- 50% of GCSE

Unit 2 'Computational thinking, algorithms and programming'

- Written Paper
- 1 Hour 30 minutes
- 80 Marks
- 50% of GCSE

Classwork and homework is regularly assessed and feedback provided. Students will undertake classroom assessment through examination questions and end of unit tests as well as sitting mock examinations in Year 10 and Year 11.

How to be a successful student in this subject

You should have an interest in Computer Science, programming and problem solving. You will need to:

- Work to the best of your ability in lessons;
- Have good attendance. If you miss lessons, you will be expected to catch up on missed work in your own time;
- Attend after-school revision sessions when required;
- Revise for the examination and use the materials provided.

Career Pathways

Further study could lead to careers in Business, Digital Design or Computing. For example: Web Development, Game Design, Programming and Business Analysis.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Miss V Deavall, Mrs E Moss or Mrs L Sharrock.



Exam Board: AQA

Course Code: 8585

www.aqa.org.uk

The new Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills. The course will ensure students develop an understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. They will also learn about British and international culinary traditions, food security and food safety. At the heart of the qualification is a focus on developing practical cookery skills and a strong understanding of nutrition.

Throughout Years 10 and 11 students will be given the essential skills required for the completion of their non-examination assessments (NEA). There is also an examination which is taken at the end of Year 11.

Some of the topics covered include food safety and hygiene, nutritional modelling and food preservation. Practical elements will involve soups, baking, pastry and cook-chill products to name a few.

How is the course assessed?

Non-examination assessment (NEA) 50%/Exam 50%

- Non-examination assessment is completed throughout Year 11. It is worth 50% of the whole mark and is also broken down into 15% food investigation written assessment and 35% food preparation assessment that includes a 3-hour practical assessment;
- Folder and practical work will be assessed on a regular basis using an easy to follow monitoring system;
- Students will be assessed more formally with a mock examination which is taken partway through Year 11, highlighting areas that will need to be improved prior to the GCSE examination in the summer.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons and bring ingredients in when required;
- Complete all homework promptly;
- Make full use of lunchtime and after-school extra support sessions;
- Revise often – theory work will be taught throughout and revising all year round is proven to be more effective than trying to revise just before examinations are due;
- Plan your time carefully. The most successful students who produce high quality work are usually those who plan their time with care and meet all deadlines set;
- It is vital that any work at school is supported by the necessary study at home.

Career Pathways

- The Public Health Sector, Hospitality and Catering, Retail Management, Dietetics (working with those who require special dietary needs, working with the NHS), Food Scientist (making new products), Packaging Designers (crates, cartons, bottles, and packets) and Chefs etc.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs A Halfpenny.

“Working together to achieve our personal best”



Exam Board: Edexcel B

Course Code: 1GB0

www.edexcel.com/quals/gcse/gcse09/geography

All students opting for Geography GCSE will sit their examinations at the end of the course, in line with government policy. There is no longer a tiered level of entry.

How is the course assessed?

Examination: 100% (3 papers). The examinations include a variety of assessment techniques including multiple choice questions, short open, open response and extended writing.

Component 1: Global Geographical Issues - Hazardous Earth, Development and Challenges of an Urbanising World (worth 37.5%).

Component 2: UK Geographical Issues - Coastal Change and Conflict, River Processes and Pressures and Dynamic UK Cities. Two Fieldwork investigations: one physical and one human based investigation (worth 37.5%).

Component 3: Making Geographical Decisions: Forests Under Threat, Consuming Energy Resources (worth 25%).

There are regular modular internal assessments with detailed feedback on progress. Trial examinations take place in both Year 10 and Year 11.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons.
- Complete homework tasks to a standard in line with or exceeding the target grade. Homework is set regularly and will include tasks consisting of practice examination questions, investigation work for case study production and the construction of revision materials. You will also be expected to revise thoroughly for all class tests and modular examinations;
- Take part in two fieldwork investigations;
- Ask for help and assistance if required. This is always available and can be arranged for lunchtime or after-school when necessary;
- Keep up-to-date with current affairs by watching the news on a regular basis and/or reading a quality newspaper;
- Attend publicised revision sessions prior to the formal examinations.

Career Pathways

Geography is considered a facilitating subject by universities as Geography teaches a combination of transferable skills including problem-solving and critical thinking.

The many careers related to Geographical studies include:

- Business and Finance, Human Resources, Public Relations, Town Planners, Surveyors, Environmental Consultants and Meteorologists.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs R Zacune.



Exam Board: AQA

Course Code: GCSE History (8145)

www.AQA.org.uk

The GCSE History content comprises the following elements:

- A Period Study: America 1920-73 Opportunity and Inequality
- A Wider World Depth Study: Conflict and Tension between East and West 1945-72 (The Cold War)
- A Thematic Study: Britain: Health of the People c.1000 to present day
- A British Depth Study: Elizabethan England c.1568-1603

British History will form a minimum of 40% of the assessed content over the full course.

How is the course assessed?

Each paper is divided into two sections; each section is worth 25% of the entire course.

- Paper One: One written examination of 2 hours, 84 marks available and is worth 50% of the entire course.
 - Section A: Period Study: America 1920 – 1973 Opportunity and Inequality;
 - Section B: Wider World Depth Study: Conflict and Tension between East and West 1945-72 (The Cold War).
- Paper Two: One written examination of 2 hours, 84 marks available and is worth 50% of the entire course.
 - Section A: Thematic Study: Britain: Health of the People c.1000 to present day;
 - Section B: British Depth Study: Elizabethan England c.1568-1603.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons;
- Complete homework promptly – each week you will be asked to complete 2 pieces of homework;
- Attend extra support sessions when invited;
- Ask for help if needed – this will always be provided;
- Attend revision sessions;
- To achieve a good grade in History, you will need to have a genuine interest in this subject area.

You will need to be motivated, hardworking and well-disciplined. You should also be willing to take on board all advice and recommendations for improvement. You will also be required to extend the work completed in lessons by undertaking independent study at home.

Career Pathways

- You will need to gain at least a level 6 grade at GCSE level in order to apply for a place to study A-Level, plus a level 6 grade in English Language;
- Whatever job you may think of doing, you will need to follow a balanced GCSE course which involves some study of how people have interacted with one another. An employer, noting that you have a GCSE in History might well be aware that you understand what makes people tick, what motivates them, what they think and feel.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs N Ireland.



Exam Board: AQA

Course Code: 8668

www.aqa.org.uk

All students follow the AQA GCSE course in German in order to develop the ability to communicate effectively in German through the spoken and written word, using a range of vocabulary and structures to develop knowledge and understanding of countries and communities where German is spoken.

How is the course assessed?

Examination = 100%

- There are 4 exam papers: Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing worth 25% each;
- Students are assessed at either Foundation (grades 1 to 5) or Higher (grades 5-9);
- Homework is assessed weekly and students will get feedback from their teacher in class. Students will be assessed more formally at the end of every topic on the work covered to date. There is a mock examination part way through Year 11 and this will highlight areas that will need to be improved prior to the GCSE examinations in the summer of Year 11 and determine examination entry.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Work to the best of your ability in all lessons;
- Complete homework promptly: homework is set once per week and can include written tasks, examination-style questions and online tasks using Quizlet;
- Ask for help if needed, this will always be provided;
- Keep on top of vocabulary learning, little and often is the best approach;
- Revise often, this will be much more effective than trying to revise just before examinations;
- Attended publicised revision sessions which are held prior to formal examinations.

Career Pathways

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|-------------------------------|--|
| • International Banking | • Public Relations |
| • Travel and Tourism Industry | • Export/Import Business |
| • Civil Servant | • Cabin Crew |
| • Teaching | • Armed Forces |
| • Interpreting | • Hospitality Industry (Hotels and Catering) |
| • Translation | • IT Sector |

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs E Batzios.



Exam Board: AQA

Course Code: 8271

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/8271>

Students will prepare for an examination which will take place in the Summer of Year 11. The examination will test students' knowledge of music theory and technical language.

Coursework involves solo and ensemble performances and two compositions.

How is the course assessed?

- 40% Examination: Understanding Music;
- 30% Performing Music (internally assessed, externally moderated);
- 30% Composing Music (internally assessed, externally moderated).

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Practise regularly, at least 20 minutes a day. Even 10 minutes a day is better than an hour every now and then;
- Take part in as many extra-curricular activities as you can;
- Listen to a wide range of music;
- Complete your composition work on time.

Career Pathways

- Performing, composing, recording, technology, teaching, copyright and law, music management, music therapy.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mr D Windsor.



Exam Board: AQA

Course Code: 8582

www.aqa.org.uk/8582

The course covers a range of theoretical principles associated with physical activity and a complete and comprehensive programme of physical activities.

All students study Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Movement Analysis, Physical Training, Sports Psychology, Socio-Cultural Influences, Health, Fitness and Well-Being and how to interpret the use of data. Students will also work on a range of physical activities and will be assessed on three (students may be assessed in an activity they do outside school, however, this must be on the exam board list of assessment activities).

How is the course assessed?

- Theory (60%): Two examination papers (2 x 1.15 hours) in the summer of Year 11;
- Practical (30%): Students are assessed in three different practical activities: A Team activity, Individual activity and either an additional Team or Individual activity;
- Internal assessment with external moderation (10%): The performance analysis assessment will require students to analyse and evaluate a sports performance in detail. They will be required to identify strengths and weaknesses in the performance where they will then produce an overall action plan to bring about improvement in the weaknesses recognized;
- Homework will be set on a weekly basis and students will be expected to spend a lot of their own time improving their physical activities.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- You need to spend as much time on your theory work as your practical activities;
- You also need to work hard on your weaker practical areas so that they don't have a negative impact on your overall grade. You will therefore need to be proficient in more than one practical activity.

Career Pathways

- This course acts as an introduction to A-Level Physical Education or Level 3 BTEC Sport. Many Universities are accepting A-Level Physical Education as a Science subject when applying for courses such as Physiotherapy and Occupational Health. The course is also beneficial to those seeking employment in the Leisure, Sports Coaching and Sports Injury industry.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mr C Swift.



Students will have the opportunity to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of religion by exploring the importance and impact of beliefs, teaching, sources and practices. They will also be able to express their own personal responses on issues such as identity, belonging, values and commitments.

This is a non-examined compulsory course:

- The course focusses on the study of two major world religions: Christianity and Islam;
- Students will study topics such as:
 - Crime and Punishment;
 - Peace and Conflict;
 - War;
 - Other ethical issues like euthanasia and infertility treatments.
- Internal assessment: progress is monitored through the course by class work;
- We would also advise that students keep up-to-date with current affairs by watching the news and reading quality newspapers.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- To achieve in Religious Studies, you will need to have a genuine interest in this subject area;
- You will need to be motivated, hard-working and well disciplined;
- You should also be willing to take on board all advice and recommendations for improvement;
- You will also be required to extend the work completed in lessons by undertaking independent study at home.

Career Pathways

- The value of Religious Studies is immeasurable. Identification, investigation and response to fundamental questions of life raised by religion and human experience are all seen by employers as positive in helping employees to work side by side and shows the ability to demonstrate organisational skills;
- There are a variety of jobs which value Religious Studies. These range from Veterinary Surgeon to Accountancy. All jobs utilise the ability to employ logic and an understanding of others' ideals and presentation of empathetic responses.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs J Horton-Smart.



www.edexcel.com

The Prince's Trust 'Personal Development and Employability Skills Achieve Programme' offers young people the chance to gain a nationally recognised qualification. The modules delivered in this course provide students with the education and life skills that are needed for their future progress. The flexibility of the course allows units to be tailored to the student ensuring success for all abilities, this includes Entry 3, Level One or Two.

Why The Prince's Trust Programme?

- Develop their own personal growth and engagement in, and through, learning;
- Engage in learning that is relevant to them and support their development of personal skills and attributes that are essential for working life and employment.

How is the course assessed?

- Activities are internally set by the school to meet the course requirements;
- The student's evidence is collated into a portfolio;
- The students are assessed internally at the school whilst they engage in activities;
- The centre undertakes internal quality assurance;
- A further sample of the student's portfolio is then externally moderated by the Prince's Trust.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- Step out of your comfort zone and try new activities;
- Work to the best of your ability;
- Work collaboratively and respectfully with other students, staff and members of the public;
- Be able to listen and follow instructions.

Career Pathways

- Achieving this qualification allows students to take part in the schools Work Skills programme delivered in our Sixth Form. This programme enables the students to further expand their personal development and employability skills.
- Students will be developing their knowledge of the career choices open to them, therefore, enabling them to choose an appropriate career pathway.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Ms A Perry or Miss A Goodwin.

"Working together to achieve our personal best"



Exam Board: Edexcel Pearson

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/health-and-social-care.html>

BTEC Tech qualifications in Health and Social Care are specialist qualifications that introduce students to aspects of employment within the Health and Social Care Sector. They are equivalent to 1 GCSE and will consist of 120 guided learning hours.

Components include: 1. Human Lifespan Development, 2. Health and Social Care Services Values, 3. Health and Wellbeing.

How is the course assessed?

- Components 1 and 2 are internally assessed and externally moderated;
- Each component will have an overall grade awarded at Pass, Merit or Distinction Level;
- Component 3 is externally assessed and is a synoptic unit drawing together all the prior knowledge of Health and Social Care.

How to be a successful student in this subject

Most of the work is completed within lesson time with additional support provided if the students require further assistance.

Students are encouraged to complete wider reading on certain topic areas and are also expected to be aware of current issues within the care industry, for example, the increase of cases of Sepsis or MRSA.

Students are also encouraged to gain some experience within the health and Social Care sector and this is made possible through the work experience weeks in Year 10.

To gain a Pass, Merit or Distinction you need:

- To show a good level of commitment to your studies;
- To work independently;
- To be able to use your ICT skills in research and presentation;
- To be able to learn through the use of visual, oral and written forms of communication;
- If you want to continue to study BTEC Health & Social Care Post-16 you must get a Merit or Distinction.

Career Pathways

- With further training or study, students go on to careers in Nursing, Social Work, Radiography, Residential Management, Physiotherapy and many other occupations.
- If students choose to enter employment rather than further education they may be able to obtain positions in the following areas:
 - Registered Care Homes;
 - Hospitals and Primary Care Trusts;
 - Nursing Homes;
 - Health Centres;
 - Or any other Health Care setting.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Miss H Bowden.



Exam Board: RSL

Course Code: 603/0406/6

www.edexcel.com

The Level 2 Certificate in Creative and Performing Arts provides learners skills, knowledge and understanding within the sphere of the creative and performing arts industries. The course is designed to offer practical learning with the flexibility to specialise in different styles and genres of Dance. Students will be given vocational scenarios that reflect the current practice in the industry and be given opportunities to perform at local theatres and events.

How is the course assessed?

The qualification is 50% externally assessed (*core unit* Live Performance) and 50% internally assessed (*optional unit* Dance Ensemble). The externally assessed core unit includes timed assessment under controlled conditions based on assignments set and marked by RSL. The other optional unit is internally assessed against the specification criteria which is set and marked by staff at Biddulph High School. The course is graded at Pass, Merit or Distinction level and learners must pass both the core unit and optional unit to be awarded the Certificate.

How to be a successful student in this subject

- You need a keen interest in Dance and must be confident to perform in front of others. You do not need to have past experience but a commitment to the course is essential;
- On occasions you may be expected to attend rehearsals outside of curriculum time to prepare for performances;
- The capacity to work well in a team situation, and be able to respond positively to feedback.

Career Pathways

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

- A-Levels as preparation for entry into higher education in a range of subjects;
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as the RSL Dance Tech Level 3 Creative and Performing Arts, which prepares students to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the performing arts of production arts areas.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs K Ford.



Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Code: 600/4779/3

www.edexcel.com

This is for students with a keen interest in sport and outdoor adventurous activities. The course is the equivalent of 1 GCSE.

All students study: Fitness for Sport and Exercise, Practical Sports Performance, The Sports Performer in Action, Leading Sports Activities.

How is the course assessed?

- 75% Coursework and 25% via an external examination;
- 3 coursework units are internally assessed and then moderated by the examination board;
- 1 unit is externally assessed via an external examination;
- Each unit will have an overall grade awarded at Pass, Merit or Distinction Level.

How to be a successful student in this subject

Most of the work is completed within curriculum time. However, if students want to research topics outside of school, this will always be encouraged.

To gain a Merit or Distinction you need:

- To show a good level of commitment to your studies;
- To work independently;
- To be able to use your ICT skills in research and presentation;
- To be able to learn through the use of visual, oral and written forms of communication;
- If you want to continue post-16 to study BTEC Sport, you must get a Merit or Distinction.

Career Pathways

- This course acts as an introduction to Level 3 BTEC in Sport studied in Year 12/Year 13 which leads on to the many sports degrees on offer at universities;
- The course is also beneficial to those seeking employment in the Leisure, Sports Coaching and Sports Injury industry.

Contact

If you have any queries, please contact Mr C Swift.