

SELLY PARK
GIRLS' SCHOOL

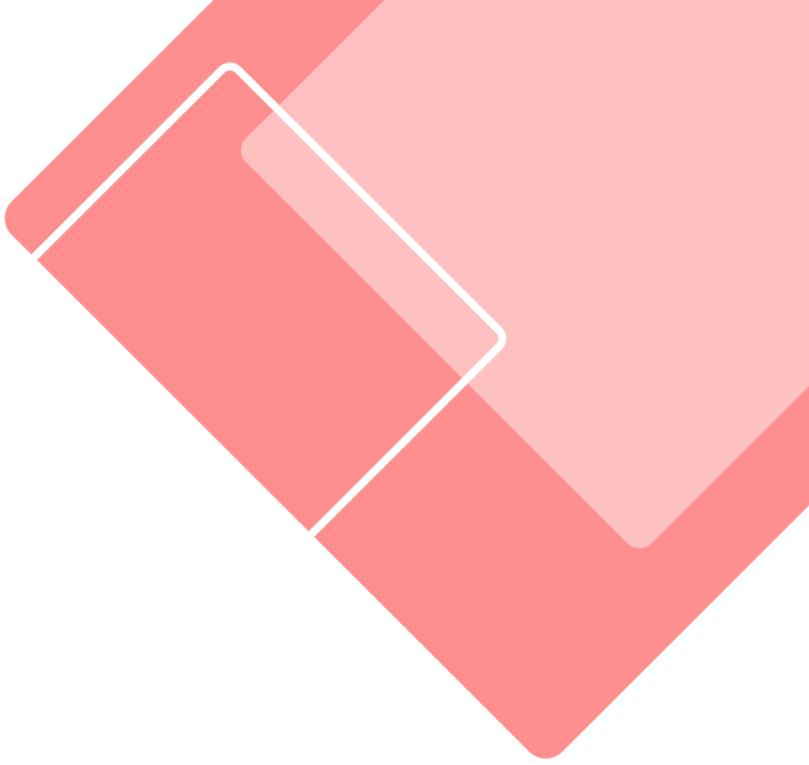


OPTIONS BOOKLET 2024

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Introduction

The information provided in this booklet is designed to give you and your parents and carers the information needed to make an informed decision about what subjects you will be required to study at Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11) as well as those subjects that form part of your options choices.

Although part of the curriculum is compulsory for all students, there is also an element of choice involved. This means that for the first time you can shape aspects of your own learning programme in Key Stage 4 according to your interests, future education and career aspirations.



Education Requirements at Key Stage 4

Key Stage 4 is the name given to the period of education during Years 10 and 11. A range of qualifications are available to ensure that you achieve the best possible grades to match individual levels of ability and aptitude. During key stage 4 most pupils work towards national qualifications - usually GCSEs or BTECs.

The compulsory national curriculum subjects are the 'core' and 'foundation' subjects.

Core subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science

Foundation subjects:

- Computing
- Physical Education
- Citizenship

Schools must also offer at least one subject from each of these areas:

- Arts
- Design and Technology
- Humanities
- Modern Foreign Languages

The English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) was introduced by the Department for Education in 2010. Although the EBacc Award is not a qualification in itself, the award recognises those students who have secured a Grade 4 or better across five core academic subjects – English, Maths, Science, Humanities (either History or Geography) and a Modern Foreign Language. The subjects included are designed to enable all students to have the opportunity to study a broad and balanced academic curriculum.

At Selly Park Girls School, it is our ambition that all pupils will study the EBacc suite of subjects.

The Options Process

Compulsory Subjects Studied and examined at GCSE Level

- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science
- French or Spanish

In addition to the above compulsory subjects, all pupils will also study the following subjects (Not externally assessed at GCSE);

- Physical Education
- PSHE Citizenship
- Religious Studies
- Computing

Options Choices

Before making your option choices we recommend that you understand the requirements of each course by reading the Options Information Booklet below and viewing the videos for each subject. This will ensure you make an informed choice.

In order to provide a broad base for further study and employment pupils must make three choices from the list of subjects below;

Option 1 - History or Geography

Option 2 – Pupils should choose two of the following subjects;

- Religious Studies
- Art
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Music
- Business
- iMedia
- Separate Science
- Health and Social Care
- Physical Education
- Food Technology
- Design and Technology
- Engineering
- Drama

Note:

i) If the numbers on any course are very small, the School reserves the right to withdraw the subject option.

ii) It may not be possible to provide everyone's chosen combination of subjects because of clashes between timetable option blocks. We do make every effort to accommodate all requests, but you will be informed at the earliest possible opportunity, if this is the case.

iii) Please be aware, students should gather all key information from the Options booklet, website and and by speaking to teaching staff and then select their options accordingly. Pupil option choices inform curriculum, resource and school planning and therefore we ask students and parents to be 100% sure of all subject choices. As such, the school reserves the right to refuse changes to option choices once confirmed.

Additional Considerations

Attitude to learning

Your Attitude to learning is vital in all stages of your education, but as you enter into this next stage it becomes even more essential. This means hard work both in school and at home. You can expect an increased amount of homework during these important years to support you in developing independent study skills. Good attendance and punctuality at school is also vital to this success, and this is also something that employers will ask about in reference requests and at interview. As a school we will always comment on these key personal qualities when providing a reference.

Home Learning

Learning at home is an important part in ensuring student progress and we expect all students at Selly Park Girls' School to complete the work that is set. Completing the work and handing it in on time is a valuable and essential part of a successful school experience.

As a guide, in Key Stage 4 you will be expected to complete 30 minutes of homework per subject per 2 weeks this equates to 5 hours 30 minutes a fortnight

During the academic year, students may need to complete more detailed home learning tasks which may take longer. For example, Year 11 students from time to time will be expected to complete detailed exam questions with a view to preparing them for their exams. Students will always have at least 48 hours to complete the task set.

The home learning timetable is available on the school website; [Selly Park Girls' School](#)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & ENGLISH LITERATURE



Exam Boards

AQA GCSE English Literature 8702

AQA GCSE English Language 8700

All pupils study English up to GCSE level at Selly Park. The study of English provides both a practical way to prepare for a range of careers but also a fantastic opportunity to study texts and authors which give us a glimpse into other cultures and experiences.

Assessment - 100% Exam at the end of the courses.

There will be two exams for English Literature and two exams for English Language.

English Literature

Paper 1 (40% of the GCSE) One hour, 45 minutes

You will answer one question on a Shakespeare play and one on a 19th century novel.

Paper 2 (60% of the GCSE) Two hours, 15 minutes

You will answer one question on a modern text, one question comparing two poems from an anthology of poems you will have studied and two questions on previously unseen poems.

English Language

You will be assessed for reading and writing in both exams.

Paper 1 One hour, 45 minutes 50% of GCSE

Paper 2 One hour, 45 minutes 50% of GCSE

Spoken Language

You will also be assessed during the course on your presenting, questioning and answering skills as well as your use of Standard English. The result of this assessment does not count towards the final grade, but you must complete this assessment to be awarded the English Language GCSE.

Mathematics (GCSE)

Mathematics at Selly Park provides a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It encourages students to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards, mathematics and to recognise the importance of mathematics in their own lives and to society.

Exam Board - Edexcel

We aim to enable students to:

- Develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- Acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions
- Comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

Two tiers of entry – Foundation and Higher

Assessments

1 x 1 hour 30 minute paper in June year 11 – non-calculator

1 x 1 hour 30 minute paper in June year 11 – calculator 1

1 x 1 hour 30 minute paper in June year 11 – calculator 2

Students are encouraged to be aware that mathematics can be used to develop models of real situations and that these models may be more or less effective depending on how the situation has been simplified and the assumptions that have been made.

Students are also expected to be able to recall, select and apply mathematical formulae to solve a problems.

Science (GCSE)

All pupils study science at GCSE as it is part of the National Curriculum. Science plays such an important part in our understanding of the world around us and is therefore a key subject to all pupils.

Some of you will want to pursue scientific careers or study science at A-level. All the science courses follow the AQA GCSE 9-1 science specifications.

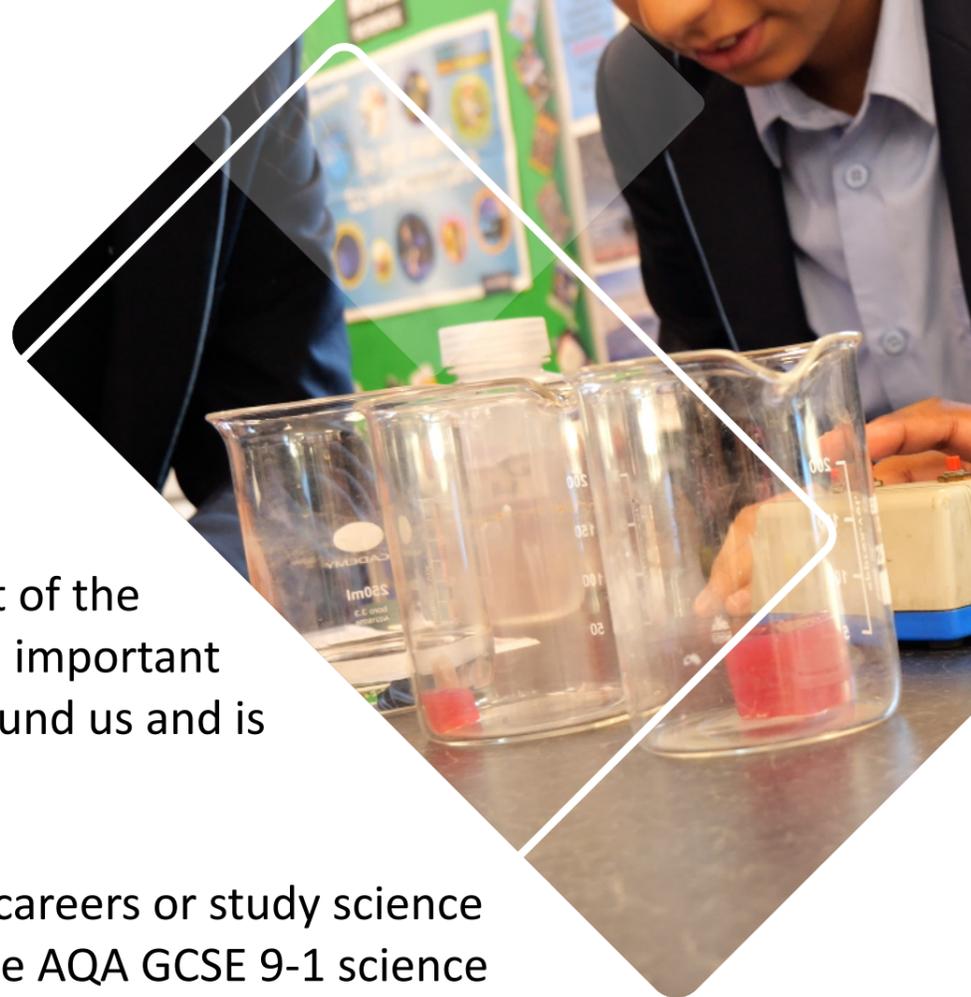
Combined Science - 6 exams, 2 per discipline, 1 hour 15 minutes each, 70 marks each. 21 required practicals will be taught over the 2 year course and these are examined in the terminal examinations.

Separate Science

Biology- 2 exams, 1 hour 45 minutes each, 100 marks each. 10 required practicals will be taught over the 2 year course and these are examined in the terminal examinations.

Chemistry- 2 exams, 1 hour 45 minutes each, 100 marks each. 8 required practicals will be taught over the 2 year course and these are examined in the terminal examinations.

Physics- 2 exams, 1 hour 45 minutes each, 100 marks each. 8 required practicals will be taught over the 2 year course and these are examined in the terminal examinations.



French (GCSE)

French GCSE is a key language element of the Ebacc qualification offered at Selly Park.

You've already studied this language successfully and in depth at Key Stage 3, so you're well prepared to do a GCSE course in this language. You already know a lot of the vocabulary, phonics and grammar you'll need for GCSE. You know how to talk about yourself, your family and friends, your hobbies, where you live, school, holidays, food and drink. You know the basic rules of pronunciation and how to use tenses. You'll build on these topics and skills during your GCSE course, as well as moving on to new topics. We make it easier for you by providing comprehensive learning resources on paper and on line from the very beginning. Learn the words and you can master the language.

Exam Board – Edexcel

100% exam (25% each for listening, speaking, reading and writing)

Thematic contexts:

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

How will I be assessed?

- Exams in April – June of Year 11.
- Foundation or Higher Tier paper in each skill.

Paper 1: Speaking in French. This includes reading aloud, role-play and talking about some of the themes learnt whilst using pictures as a stimulus.

Paper 2: Listening and understanding in French. Answers in English to a series of audio clips in the language. A dictation exercise in which you correctly transcribe words from an audio recording.

Paper 3: Reading and understanding in French. Answers in English to a series of texts which touch upon the six thematic contexts. Translating a passage from French into English.

Paper 4: Writing in French. Writing tasks set in both formal and informal contexts. Translation task from English in to French.

Spanish (GCSE)

Spanish GCSE is a key language element of the Ebacc qualification offered at Selly Park.

You've already studied this language successfully and in depth at Key Stage 3, so you're well prepared to do a GCSE course in this language. You already know a lot of the vocabulary, phonics and grammar you'll need for GCSE. You know how to talk about yourself, your family and friends, your hobbies, where you live, school, holidays, food and drink. You know the basic rules of pronunciation and how to use tenses. You'll build on these topics and skills during your GCSE course, as well as moving on to new topics. We make it easier for you by providing comprehensive learning resources on paper and on line from the very beginning. Learn the words and you can master the language.

Exam Board – Edexcel

100% exam (25% each for listening, speaking, reading and writing)

Thematic contexts:

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

How will I be assessed?

- Exams in April – June of Year 11.
- Foundation or Higher Tier paper in each skill.

Paper 1: Speaking in Spanish. This includes reading aloud, role-play and talking about some of the themes learnt whilst using pictures as a stimulus.

Paper 2: Listening and understanding in Spanish. Answers in English to a series of audio clips in the language. A dictation exercise in which you correctly transcribe words from an audio recording.

Paper 3: Reading and understanding in Spanish. Answers in English to a series of texts which touch upon the six thematic contexts. Translating a passage from French into English.

Paper 4: Writing in Spanish. Writing tasks set in both formal and informal contexts. Translation task from English in to French.

History (GCSE)

History is a popular and successful option for pupils at GCSE. It is a valuable and exciting subject that is useful for many careers. For example: Lawyer, Solicitor, Reporter, Teacher, Social Worker, Policewoman, Librarian, Researcher and even Television Presenter. History is brilliant for any job that requires you to get on with people and that requires you to think for yourself.

Exam board - AQA GCSE History 8145

Assessment - 100% exam (2 exams)

PAPER 1: UNDERSTANDING THE MODERN WORLD

SECTION A: Germany, 1890-1945

Part one: Germany and the growth of democracy

- Kaiser Wilhelm and the difficulties of ruling Germany.
- The impact of the First World War.
- Weimar democracy: political change and unrest.

Part two: Germany and the Depression

- The impact of the Depression.
- The failure of the Weimar democracy.
- The establishment of Hitler's dictatorship.

Part three: The experiences of Germans under the Nazis

- Economic changes.
- Social policy and practice.
- Control.

SECTION B: Conflict and Tension 1918-1939

Part one: Peace making

- The Armistice.
- The Versailles Settlement.
- The impact of the treaty and wider settlement.

Part two: The League of Nations and international peace

- The League of Nations.
- Diplomacy outside the League.
- The collapse of the League.

Part three: The origins and outbreak of the Second World War

- The development of tension.
- Escalation of tension.
- The outbreak of war.

Paper 2: Shaping the nation

SECTION A: BRITAIN, HEALTH AND THE PEOPLE C1000 TO THE PRESENT DAY

Part one: Medicine stands still

- Medieval medicine
- Medical progress
- Public health in the Middle Ages

Part two: The beginnings of change

- The impact of the Renaissance on Britain
- Dealing with disease
- Prevention of disease

Part three: A revolution in medicine

- The development of Germ Theory and its impact on the treatment of disease in Britain
- A revolution in surgery
- Improvements in public health

Part four: Modern medicine

- Modern treatment of disease
- The impact of war and technology on surgery
- Modern public health

SECTION B: Elizabethan England, c1568-1603

Part one: Elizabeth's court and Parliament

- Elizabeth I and her court
- The difficulties of a female ruler

Part two: Life in Elizabethan times

- A 'Golden Age'
- The poor
- English sailors

Part three: Troubles at home and abroad

- Religious matters
- Mary Queen of Scots
- Conflict with Spain

Part four: The historic environment of Elizabethan England

The study of different historic environments will enrich students' understanding of Elizabethan England.

Geography (GCSE)

Geography will teach you about the Earth's places, people, environments and societies and it will help you to understand the relationships between people and the environment. Not only is Geography a well-respected academic subject, but it is also at the centre of many of the major issues affecting our world today, such as the need to feed the world's rapidly expanding population and managing the impacts of industry on the environment. Geography will enable you to understand these issues more and ensure that our planet meets the needs of future generations.

Exam Board - AQA GCSE Geography (8035)

Unit 1: Living with the Physical Environment (35%)

1) The Challenge of Natural Hazards

You will focus on earthquakes and volcanoes, tropical storms, extreme weather in the UK and climate change.

2) Physical Landscapes in the UK

You will study the power that shapes our planet and, in many ways, challenges human survival. This unit investigates river and coastal landscapes in the UK.

3) The Living World

What are the threats to our tropical rainforests? Why should tropical rainforests be protected? What are the development opportunities and challenges in cold environments? These questions and more will be answered in this unit of work.

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

1) Urban Issues and Challenges

The world's population is now over 7 billion and the majority of these people live in urban areas. You will be investigating the opportunities and challenges of urban growth and discovering how we can make our towns and cities more sustainable.

2) The Changing Economic World

Why are some countries more developed than others? What does the future hold for the economy of the UK? These questions will be answered in this unit of work through the use of case studies.

3) The Challenge of Resource Management

You will investigate the global distribution of food, water and energy resources, with a particular focus on current and future energy supplies, something which has become even more relevant over the past year.

Unit 3: Geographical Applications (30%)

1) Issue Evaluation

Here, you can show your ability to solve problems and think critically, as you will use resources to look at a particular issue facing our modern world.

2) Fieldwork

You will have the opportunity to undertake two geographical enquiries to collect primary data for analysis.

Careers

Geography is a brilliant choice to show potential employers that you have a wide range of skills and understand the world around you. The skills you gain from studying Geography are valid to any employer and possible career paths could include;

- lawyer / solicitor
- finance and accounting
- town planning
- marketing
- local government – policy maker
- environmental manager
- international aid and development
- travel and tourism

Selly Park has a very successful Geography Department. More people are realising the importance of understanding the world around them. Geography is a popular subject at Selly Park. After law and medicine, Geography graduates are more likely to get a job than anybody else. If you believe you are up to the challenge of making a difference in our shared global future and need more information, please do not hesitate to visit the Geography Department.

Design and Technology (GCSE)

Learning about Design and Technology will encourage learners to develop design and thinking skills that open up a world of possibility, giving them the tools to create the future. Design and Technology is a subject that brings learning to life, requiring learners to apply their learning to real-life situations. This qualification aims to relate authentic real-world awareness of iterative design practices and strategies used by the creative, engineering and manufacturing industries. Learners will be required to use critical thinking, leading towards invention and design innovation, to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.

Exam Board - AQA

Year 10

Practical lessons -The students will develop a range of practical skills alongside some core Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing (CAD/CAM) skills. Students will also have the opportunity and be encouraged to use the school's laser cutter, computerized embroidery machines and 3D printers, as well as developing their skills with a range of traditional tools and processes. Theory lessons - Using ICT, students will acquire knowledge on design topics in order to apply this in the practical classroom. This is to equip students with the knowledge required for their written examination. Theory topics are focused around materials, processes and manufacturing.

Year 11

The focus of Year 11 is to complete a written design portfolio (Non-Examined Assessment - NEA).

The students will follow the design process to research, design, manufacture and evaluate a product to a brief of their choice.

The design portfolio is worth 50% of a student's final grade and encourages creativity and high-level manufacturing using at least two different materials and manufacturing techniques.

Revision programme for the end of Year 11 –revisiting topics learnt in Year 10 and using past papers to develop an understanding of the subject matter as well as techniques for achieving high marks.

Internal Assessment

NEA 50% - A single design and make activity to be developed from a range of Board set contexts.

Consisting of the development of a made outcome and a concise design folder and/or appropriate ICT evidence.

- These Board Set Contexts will be released in the June of Year 10.
- As part of the evidence submitted, candidates should include photographs of the finished outcome as well as photographs at various stages of making.

Design folder should consist of approximately 20 pages of A3 Paper

External Assessment

Exam 50% – Written Paper (2 hours, 100 marks) This component brings together the learners 'core' and 'in-depth' knowledge and understanding.

- 'Core' knowledge of Design and Technology principles demonstrates learners' broad understanding of principles that all learners should have across the subject.
- 'In-depth' knowledge allows learners to focus more directly on at least one main material category

A minimum of 15% of the paper will assess learners' mathematical skills as applied within a design and technology context

Next steps: GCSE Design and Technology is a specification that offers clear progression from Key Stage 3 through to AS and A Level qualification in Design and Technology as well as a range of other college courses related to design.

Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE)

Developing technological capability in order to be able to design and engineer products

Exam Board - AQA

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition. Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

Food, nutrition and health

Food science

Food safety

Food choice

Food provenance

Year 10

Practical lessons - This year has a strong practical focus. You'll master a variety of technical skills and become proficient in the kitchen. In addition, you'll develop an in-depth knowledge of food science, food safety, food choice, nutrition and health.

Theory lessons - Students will acquire knowledge on food science, safety, choice, nutrition and health in order to apply this in the practical classroom. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical processes as well as the nutritional content of food and drink. This is to equip students with the knowledge required for their written examination.

Year 11

The focus of Year 11 is to complete two written portfolios (Non-Examined Assessment 1&2 - NEA).

Task 1: Written or electronic report (1,500–2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.

Task 2: Written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence. Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included.

Revision programme for the end of Year 11 – revisiting topics learnt in Year 10 and using past papers to develop an understanding of the subject matter as well as techniques for achieving high marks.

Internal Assessment

NEA 50% - What's assessed

Task 1: Food investigation (30 marks)

Students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

Task 2: Food preparation assessment (70 marks)

Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task.

External Assessment

Exam 50% – Written Paper (1 hour 45 minutes, 100 marks)

What's assessed - Theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition from Sections 1 to 5.

Multiple choice questions (20 marks)

Five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks)

Next steps: GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition will equip you to go on to further study. After taking this course, you could embark on AS or A-level study, begin an apprenticeship or perhaps begin employment in the catering or food industries. You'll also have the knowledge and skills to feed yourself (and others) affordably and nutritiously for life.

Engineering (GCSE)

Developing technological capability in order to be able to design and engineer products

The specification sets out the knowledge, understanding and skills required to design and manufacture an engineered product. Students will develop a variety of practical skills through mini projects to prepare them for their final product in Year 11. Throughout Year 10, students will acquire knowledge and practice the practical skills required for their coursework; they will learn how to research, design and make a variety of mini projects that will help enhance their work in Year 11. The theory material delivered covers the requirements of the specification but also prepares the students for further studies after GCSE.

Exam Board - AQA

Year 10

Practical lessons -The students will develop a range of practical skills alongside some core Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing (CAD/CAM) skills. Students will also have the opportunity and be encouraged to use the school's new CNC machinery, laser cutters and 3D printers.

Theory lessons - Using ICT, students will acquire knowledge on engineering topics in order to apply this in the practical classroom. This is to equip students with the knowledge required for their written examination. Theory topics are focused around materials, processes and manufacturing.

Homework – this is set on a regular basis and will be used to support theory lessons.

Year 11

The focus of Year 11 is to complete a written design portfolio (Non-Examined Assessment - NEA). The students will follow the design process to research, design, manufacture and evaluate a product to a brief of their choice. The design portfolio is worth 50% of a student's final grade and encourages creativity and high-level manufacturing using at least two different materials and manufacturing techniques. Revision programme for the end of Year 11 –revisiting topics learned in Year 10 and using past papers to develop an understanding of the subject matter as well as techniques for achieving high marks.

Internal Assessment

50% Controlled assessment task. The students start their coursework in June of Year 10. This project will run until April of Year 11 and will focus on the following areas;

Designing – including sketching and CAD

Making – including traditional techniques and CAM

Testing and evaluating the completed prototype

External Assessment

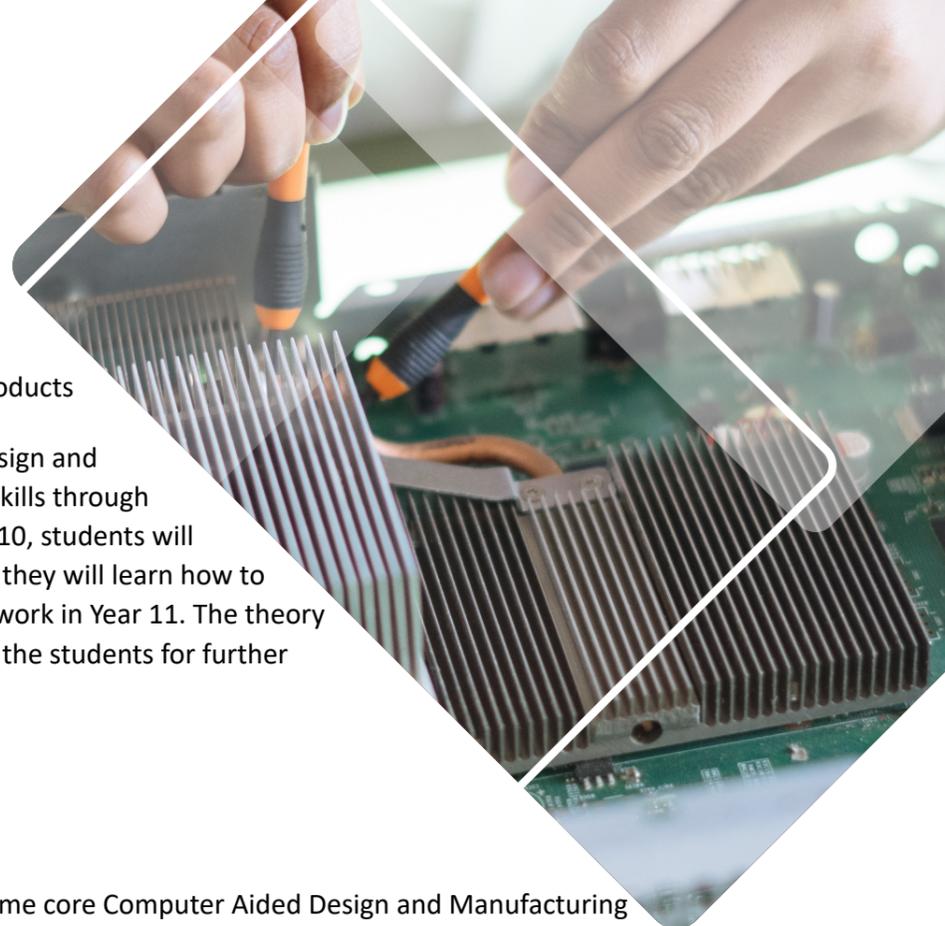
50% written exam at the end of Year 11

Candidates answer all questions starting with a selection of multiple choice, followed by longer questions requiring use of good English, punctuation and grammar.

The two-hour examination is 120 marks and tests all abilities throughout.

Next steps: Students can study the Level 3 Engineering course at BMet college providing they meet entry requirements.

There are also many other Level 1/2/3 college courses or apprenticeships available. Students can then go on to study a wide variety of Design/Engineering-based degree courses at university. Students could combine subjects to aim for a career in engineering, product design and architecture.



Art and Design (GCSE)

The purpose of the GCSE option in Art and Design is to improve the creative and technical skills of its students and prepare them for a career in the creative industries. This is a practical subject, involving comparatively little written work. Instead, you have the opportunity to increase your skills in independent thinking and ideas development, through drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics and other media. An integral part of the course is researching the work of artists, crafts people and designers, past and present.

The department currently offers one subject option at GCSE level – Fine Art – in which pupils will develop their creative, technical and research skills. Through the two year course pupils create a portfolio of work based on a personal response to a given theme. The portfolio is 60% of the final examination mark.

Exam Board - OCR

Unit 1 - Developing ideas

Develop ideas through investigating relevant sources, demonstrating analysis and cultural understanding.

Unit 2 - Refining ideas

Refine ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes.

Unit 3 - Recording ideas

Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions in visual and/or other forms.

Unit 4 - Presenting a final response

Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating analytical and critical understanding, realising intentions and, where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.

The department has excellent facilities such as a digital manipulation suite as well as a ceramics kiln. Students often work with artists and crafts persons, and take inspirational visits to art galleries in Birmingham, Oxford and London. Students also have opportunity to exhibit their work both in school and locally.

The remaining 40% of the marks are allocated to the examination module, which is similar in construction to a controlled assignment, except that the realised final piece is carried out under examination conditions.

The Art & Design GCSE course is rigorous and demanding. It is a useful starting point for further creative study, both at Sixth Form or college level and then leading to Foundation and Degree courses in specialist areas of both Art and Design at University. Many past pupils have gone on to achieve highly in degree courses such as Photography, Jewellery Design and Illustration.

Business (GCSE)

Business is a major part of everyone's life in their roles of citizens, family members and employees/employers of the future. Studying this subject gives students the opportunity to consider the extent to which business activity affects our day to day lives and its impact on society as a whole.

The WJEC Eduqas GCSE in Business introduces learners to the business world, empowering them to develop as commercially minded and enterprising individuals.

Learners will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills, enabling them to use business information critically, to develop arguments, to make justified decisions and to prepare them for further study and career pathways.

Assessment and course structure

Component 1 - Business Dynamics

Written examination: 2 hours

A mix of short answer and structured questions based on stimulus material covering all of the specification content

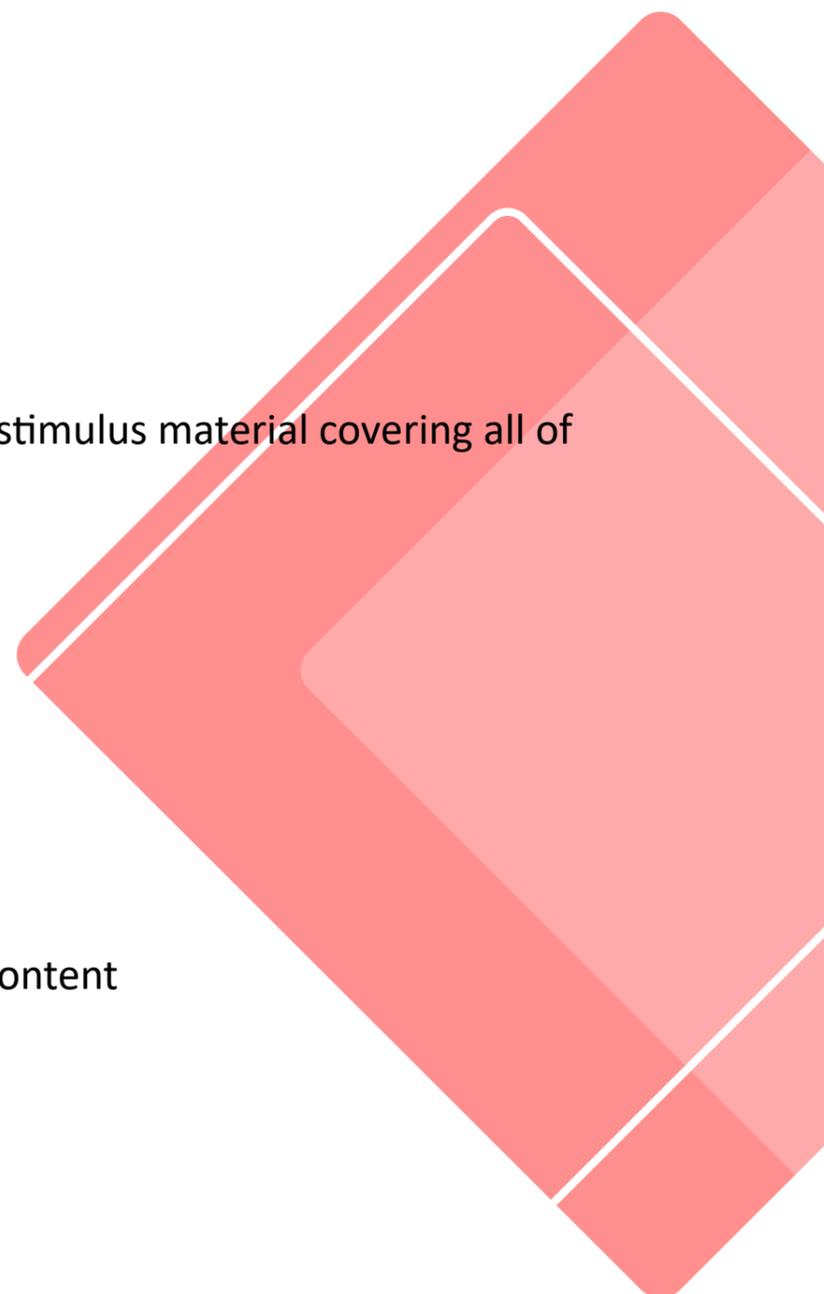
62.5% of qualification

Component 2 - Business Considerations

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

Data response questions covering all of the specification content

37.5% of qualification



Creative iMedia (Cambridge Level 2 Certificate)



Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia are media sector-focused, including film, television, web development, gaming and animation, and have IT at their heart. The Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia will equip learners with a range of creative media skills and provide opportunities to develop, in context, desirable, transferable skills such as research, planning, and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively. Throughout the course learners will enhance a range of skills and will ultimately be creating fit-for-purpose creative media products. The qualification is designed to include a range of units that will allow learners the freedom to explore the areas of creative media that interest them as well as providing good opportunities to enhance their learning in a range of curriculum areas.

Grading

Level 1: Pass - Distinction

Level 2: Pass – Distinction*

Units:

R093: Creative iMedia in the media industry - Practical examination -1 hour and 30 minutes - 40% of the final grade

In this unit you will learn about the media industry, digital media products, how they are planned, and the media codes which are used to convey meaning, create impact and engage audiences. Topics include: The media industry, Factors influencing product design, Pre-production planning and Distribution consideration

R094: Visual identity and digital graphics - Coursework which is internally assessed and externally moderated - 30% of the final grade

In this unit you will learn to how to develop visual identities for clients and use the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics to engage target audiences. Topics include: Develop visual identity, Plan digital graphics for products and Create visual identity and digital graphics.

R097: Interactive digital media - Coursework which is internally assessed and externally moderated - 30% of the final grade

In this unit you will learn how to plan, create and review digital games. Topics include: Plan digital games, Create digital games and Review digital games

Religious Education (GCSE)

The Religious Education course is very popular with the girls at Selly Park Girls' School, and it has a high pass rate.

If you enjoy learning about your religion and the religion of others or are concerned about issues that affect our lives today, then R.E. is just the course for you. The R.E. Department offers a full course which can be studied over two years. There will be no coursework element attached to this course.

Exam Board – OCR Religious Studies (J625) F

Assessment

Unit 1: Beliefs and teachings & practices – 25%

Unit 2: Beliefs and teachings & practices – 25%

Unit 3: Religion, philosophy and ethics in the modern world from a religious perspective – 50%

In Full Course R.E. you will study Christianity and one other major religion of the world. You will find out about people's beliefs regarding various topics such as;

- Nature of God
- Core beliefs
- Teachings
- Practices

Philosophy and ethics which is divided into four themes of study;

- Relationships and families
- The existence of God
- Religion, peace and conflict
- Dialogue within and between religions

Grades will be achieved through three written examinations for Full Course.

How can R.E. help you in the future?

This course is concerned with religious issues and the world we live in and so it is an ideal course to study. It gives you an opportunity to form your own ideas, opinions and arguments. It will also help you to have a greater awareness of people around you in the world of work. R.E. is particularly useful if you wish to be involved in Social Work, Nursing and Teaching.

Sociology (GCSE)

Why study Sociology?

Sociology studies how society works. It will help you to understand how individuals fit into a wider social network and encourage you to question beliefs about society which you may have previously taken for granted. GCSE Sociology helps you to gain knowledge and understanding of key social structures, processes and issues through the study of families, education, crime and deviance and social stratification.

You will develop your analytical, assimilation and communication skills by comparing and contrasting perspectives on a variety of social issues, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements and drawing reasoned conclusions. By studying sociology, you will develop transferable skills including how to;

- investigate facts and make deductions
- develop opinions and new ideas on social issues
- analyse and better understand the social world.

Exam board – AQA GCSE Sociology 8192

Assessment - 100% exam (2 exams)

Paper 1 (50% - 1hour 45 minutes) – The sociology of families and education

Section A: The sociology of families

Section B: The sociology of education

Relevant areas of social theory and methodology

Paper 2 - (50% - 1hour 45 minutes) – The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification

Section A: The sociology of crime and deviance

Section B: The sociology of social stratification

Relevant areas of social theory and methodology

What will you study?

The sociological approach

You will explore what Sociology is. What Society means. What makes a society “successful”. How societies differ around the world. Why societies do not all share the same values and norms. How people are encouraged to fit into society and what happens if they do not. You will explore and compare different viewpoints or perspectives on society including; Functionalist, Marxist and Feminist. How they view society and begin to recognise criticisms of the different viewpoints.

Families

You will explore what a modern family is and alternatives to family. The different types of family, cultural differences and how family has changed over time. Changing roles within the family and the importance of marriage and the impact of divorce. In addition, you will also look into and evaluate contrasting perspectives on the purpose of the family within society and how government policy affects modern families

Education

You will explore the role and importance of education in society. How education has changed over time and the strengths and weaknesses of different types of “education”. You will understand how achievement is measured, recognise patterns of achievement across different social groups and the factors that affect achievement. The aims and impact of government policy on education will also be evaluated.

Crime and deviance

You will explore what crime and deviance are and what impact they have upon society. How crime and deviance differ across nations, cultures and historical times and why. You will understand different types of crime and punishment, the criminal justice system and its strengths and flaws. Investigating crime, patterns in offending and patterns in punishment of key groups will allow you to explore the factors that affect crime and punishment and evaluate the impact of government actions to reduce crime.

Social stratification

You will explore the structure of power in society, divisions and what determines an individual or groups position within society. Exploring factors that affect power and wealth and the causes, impact and government actions to address poverty and welfare. You will evaluate factors affecting individuals’ and group’s life chances in society. This topic also links to earlier topics as family background, education and crime and deviance and all affect position within society.

What can this qualification lead to afterwards?

Students who have studied sociology will have a better understanding of why people think or act the way they do, making them ideal for any jobs that involve interacting with members of the public, such as teaching, social work, counselling or policing. The critical thinking, analytical and communication skills you develop will also help those interested in a career in law, business or journalism.



Music

Do you have a passion for performance? Are you a budding musician? If so, it's time to uncover your potential – find out more about this exciting qualification today!

Exam Board - WJEC

This qualification is made of up of 3 units:

Unit 1 - Performing

You will learn the skills and techniques needed to produce a successful performance of an existing work, such as a piece of music. This unit can be completed through any of the following disciplines: Music and Music Technology.

Unit 2: Creating

You will learn how to create and refine your own original work in performing arts, such as composing music. This unit can be completed through any one of the following disciplines;

Composition, Composition using technology and Sound design.

Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice

You will learn about areas of the performing arts industry that need to be considered when responding to a commission, and will consider these when coming up with and pitching your own idea.

How will I be Assessed?

You will be assessed through project work. For Units 1 and 2 you will undertake projects (not exams) in response to briefs. The project for each Unit will take 10 hours and be worth 30% of your qualification. For each one you will be given a scenario and will need to undertake a number of tasks. In Unit 3 you will undertake another project (no exam) in response to a brief, which will take 20 hours and be worth 40% of your qualification. You will be given a scenario and will need to undertake a number of tasks.

What skills will I develop?

You will develop a range of skills which are attractive to employers, colleges and universities including; Communication, Confidence, Learning independently, Organisation, Problem solving, Research, Self-discipline, Stamina, Taking on responsibility and Time management.

Careers with performing arts

The performing arts industry offers you a wide range of exciting opportunities which includes:

Arts administrator
Community arts worker
Composer
Lighting / Sound technician
Musician
Musical Theatre Performer
Classroom Teacher
Instrumental teacher
Session Artist
Performer
Artist Management
Musicologist
Producer
Sound Engineer



Psychology (GCSE)

Have you ever found yourself wondering;

- How did you develop?
- How does your memory work?
- How would Psychological problems affect you?
- How does your brain affect you?
- How do other people affect you?

If you answered yes to any of the following questions then Psychology could be the subject for you.

Want to gain another Science at GCSE? Thinking of working with children? Already thinking of Psychology at AS/A Level? Thinking of Sciences at University?

Psychology complements the study of Biology, Childcare and other Social Sciences, as well as the study of personal development including Citizenship and Religious Education. It can be applied widely to support and extend the study of many other subjects.

Exam Board: Edexcel

Assessment: 100% Exam

Paper 1 is worth 55% and consists of the following topics:

- Topic 1: Development – How did you develop?
- Topic 2: Memory – How does your memory work?
- Topic 3: Psychological problems – How would psychological problems affect you?
- Topic 4: The brain and neuro-psychology – How does your brain affect you?
- Topic 5: Social influence – How do others affect you?

Assessment overview

- This is a written examination in which all questions must be answered.
- The paper consists of six sections. The first five sections each cover one of the topics listed above. These sections will include multiple-choice, short-open and open-response questions.
- The sixth section will contain two extended open-response questions. These questions will focus on debates within psychology and the interrelationships between the core areas of psychology.

Paper 2 is worth 45% and consists of the following topics:

- Topics 6 to 10 are optional; students must study two of them.
- Topic 6: Criminal psychology – Why do people become criminals?
- Topic 7: The self – What makes you who you are?
- Topic 8: Perception – How do you interpret the world around you?
- Topic 9: Sleep and dreaming – Why do you need to sleep and dream?
- Topic 10: Language, thought and communication – How do you communicate with others?
- Topic 11: Research methods – How do you carry out psychological research? -Compulsory

Assessment overview

Section A (Topic 11): Research methods – How do you carry out psychological research?

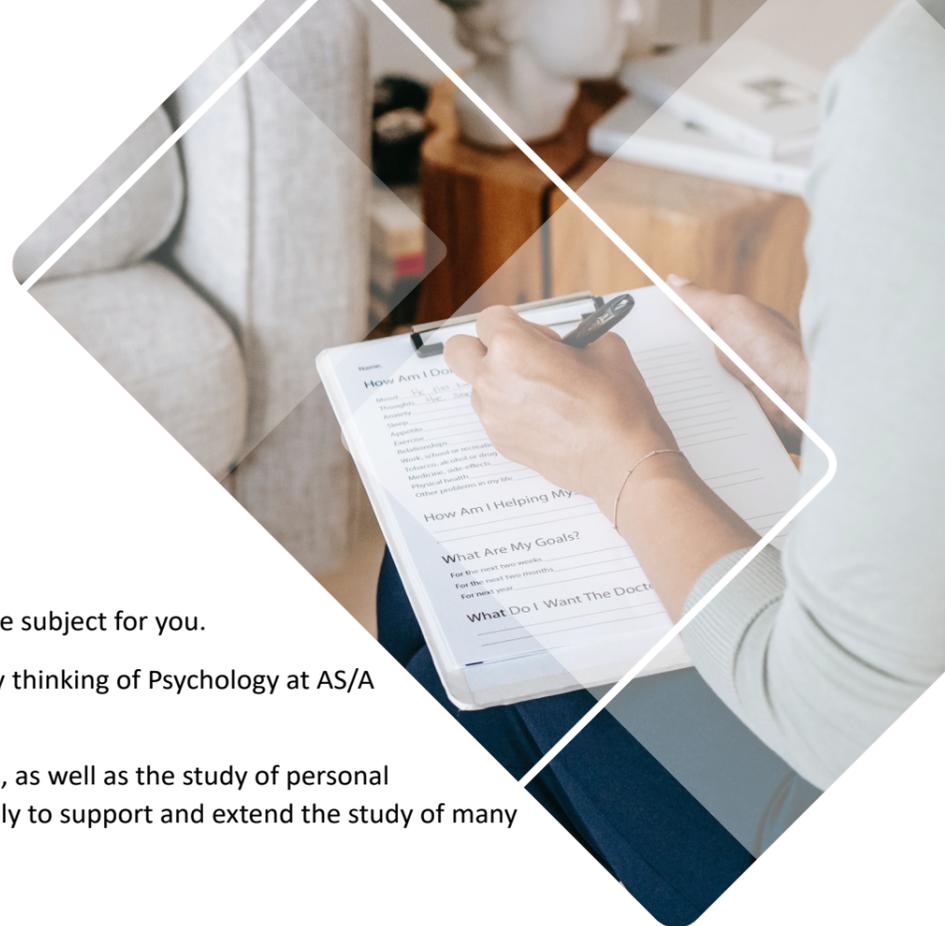
This section will focus primarily on Topic 11: Research methods – How do you carry out psychological research?, although it can draw on material from Topics 1 to 5 from Paper 1.

It will contain question types that include calculations, multiple-choice, short-open and open-response questions, and one extended open-response question.

Sections B to F: Optional topics

Each of these sections covers one of the optional Topics 6 to 10. These sections will include multiple-choice, short-open and open-response questions, and one extended open-response question.

Calculators may be used in the examination.



BTEC Health and Social Care

Care values are at the heart of this course. It allows students to apply their learning to a real life scenarios linked to the Health and Social Care Sector. The students are assessed through a variety of practical and written tasks.

Students are provided with the skills and confidence to take the next steps into either a workplace or advanced level courses. Some of the career paths linked to this subject are nursing, social work and working with children or the elderly.

Exam Board - Pearson

Units taught in BTEC

Component 1: Human Lifespan Development - Internally Assessed

You will;

- learn about how people grow and develop throughout their lives
- consider how factors such as lifestyle choices, relationships and lifestyle events affect your growth and development.
- consider how people cope with different life events

Component 2: Health and Social Services and Care Values - Internally Assessed

You will learn about the range of services and professions as well as how the care values and care staff behaviours impact on service users in health and social care settings.

Component 3: Health and well-being - External Synoptic

You will;

- assess an individual's health and wellbeing and use this to analyse how choices and situations affect good health.
- need knowledge about a variety of health conditions and how to improve these as well as positive life style choices for the best possible health and well-being

How does the grading work?

The BTEC Level 2 Tech Award is equivalent to a GCSE.

Students achieve a grade for each component, which are allocated points. At the end of the course, the final grade is calculated by adding the points from each component and matching them against the qualification grade point threshold.



Physical Education (GCSE)

Exam Board - OCR

ASSESSMENT

2 x 1 hour exams taken at the end of Year 11 (60%)

Practical performance (3 sports) (30%)

Analysis and evaluation of performance (AEP) 10%

Units taught in GCSE

Component 1: Physical factors affecting performance

- Applied anatomy & physiology
- Physical training

Component 2: Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology

- Socio-cultural influences
- Sports psychology
- Health, fitness and well-being

Component 3: Practical performance

- Performance in 3 x practical activities
- Demonstrate effective performance, tactics or techniques.

Analysis and evaluation of performance

- Analyses and evaluate their own or a peers performance and produce an action plan

This course is aimed at pupils who are:-

interested in studying all aspects of sport

physically active

organised and can work both individually and in groups.

Methods of Assessment

Written assignments

Observation

Peer assessment

Self evaluation

External assessment

Oral presentations

Witness Statements

Video footage



BTEC Sport

EXAM BOARD - Pearson BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 in Sport

ASSESSMENT – Pupils can achieve a Level 2 Distinction*, Level 2 Distinction, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Pass, Level 1 Distinction, Level 1 Merit or a Level 1 Pass. The BTEC Tech Award in Sport contain two forms of assessment;

- Internal assessment (teacher led assessment PSA's)
- External assessment (Written exam) The exam will include short answer questions and extended questions

Units taught in BTEC

Component 1: Preparing Participants to take part in sport and Physical Activity

INTERNALLY ASSESSED

Component 2:

Taking part and improving other participants sporting performance

INTERNALLY ASSESSED

Component 3:

Developing fitness to improve other participants performance in sport and physical activity

EXTERNAL SYNOPTIC

This course is aimed at pupils who are:-

- interested in studying all aspects of sport
- physically active
- organised and can work both individually and in groups.

Methods of Assessment

Written assignments

Observation

Peer assessment

Self evaluation

External assessment

Oral presentations

Witness Statements

Video footage

Drama (GCSE)

Do you have a passion for performance? Are you a budding actor? Do you want to discover more about the fantastic roles behind the scenes – from costume design and make-up, to set design and lighting? If so, it's time to uncover your potential – find out more about this exciting qualification today!

EXAM BOARD - AQA

The Qualification is made up of 3 components:

Component 1: Understanding Drama (40%)

A written paper split into 3 sections: Stage craft, exploration of a set text and live theatre review.

For this component you will explore the different approaches you can take to a text, exploring this practically before writing your ideas for a given scene in the exam. You will also have the opportunity to see a range of live theatre which you will review in the exam.

Component 2: Devising Drama (40%)

For this component you will devise and perform a brand-new piece of Drama inspired by a range of stimulus you will explore practically in lessons. A log book will be kept to record and reflect upon the process. This can be completed in a number of different ways.

You can be assessed in one of the following roles for this component; actor, lighting designer, sound designer, costume and make-up designer, set designer.

Component 3: Texts in Practice (20%)

For this component you will be given two extracts from one play. You will be expected to learn and perform these extracts in front of a visiting examiner. You can be assessed in one of the following roles for this component; actor, lighting designer, sound designer, costume and make-up designer, set designer.

5 reasons to choose DRAMA

- 1) Albert Einstein said 'Imagination is more important than knowledge'. Without imagination knowledge cannot develop to reach its potential.
- 2) Many of the top 10 universities in the UK have stated that they like their law and medicine students to have studied Drama as it highlights their creativity.
- 3) Employers recognise Drama students to have more confidence, are able to take the lead and can think creatively around any problem.
- 4) Drama gives you the chance to reflect on the world around you and to understand it better.
- 5) Drama develops your thinking skills; it pushes you to see outside the box.

