



Beaufort
Co-operative Academy

Part of **our** Co-operative Academies Trust

social **democracy**
responsibility
caring for others
honesty

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

self responsibility
equality **openness**
self help
solidarity **equity**

KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM 2017

This booklet sets out to give both parents and students details of:

- Subjects studied by all students in KS4.
- Optional or pathway subjects available to students in KS4.

There will be an important meeting for parents and students on Thursday 23rd February 2017 where the Key Stage 4 curriculum will be discussed fully. During this evening there will also be an opportunity to talk to subject specialists regarding the courses on offer.

The tutors, subject staff, Head of House and Head of KS4 will work together with you and your son or daughter so that they make the best choices for themselves.

Early in the Summer term the final copy of the subjects form will be sent home for your signature. Remember that this is probably the most important decision that your son or daughter has had to make in school. Please give it the consideration it deserves by reading the booklet, attending the meeting and discussing it fully at home.

Should you at any time wish to discuss any aspect of the subject choices, please do not hesitate to make a personal appointment with your child's Leader of Learning Community or Mr J King (Assistant Principal).

Core Subjects Studied by ALL Students in KS4

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- Religious Education
- Citizenship
- Physical Education

The 'core' subjects studied by all students should give each student a curriculum which is:

Broad and balanced – this gives all students access to a very wide range of knowledge, understanding and skills.

Relevant – both to the changing nature of the society in which our pupils live (impact of science and technology, increased leisure time etc.) and personally relevant to the individual student through profiling, careers guidance and continuous assessment including self-assessment.

Differentiated – by pace and depth to suit the ability and aptitude of the individual.

OTHER ENTITLEMENTS

Academic Tutoring – with the Leader of Learning Community, Deputy Leader of Learning Community or Tutor. This will help each student cope with the demands of their chosen subjects. By the end of Year 11 each student should have built up an individual Learning Plan which recognises all their achievements, including examination successes.

Careers Guidance and support – to help students on an individual basis by personal appointment.

Core SUBJECTS

- **GSCE ENGLISH**
- **GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE**
- **GCSE MATHEMATICS**
- **GCSE SCIENCE**
- **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
- **GCSE CITIZENSHIP STUDIES**
- **GCSE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

GCSE ENGLISH

GCSE English Language and English Literature

Subject Overview:

GCSE English is an exciting course giving students the opportunity to explore a range of texts, develop their writing style and technique and oratory skills.

Assessment

30% Exam - **Unit 1:** Comparing 2 non-fiction texts (assessing reading)

30% Exam - **Unit 2:** Two writing tasks, set in real world context:

1. Transactional
2. Discursive. (assessing writing)

10% Controlled Assessment:

Unit 3: Study of a Different Cultures prose (assessing reading)

10% Controlled Assessment:

Unit 3: Student of a Shakespeare play linked to literary heritage poetry (assessing reading)

20% Controlled Assessment:

Unit 3: Open Writing, two narrative writing tasks;

1. First person
2. Third person (assessing writing)

Unit 4: Spoken Language – Speaking and Listening

Three tasks –

1. Creating and sustaining roles
2. Interacting and responding
3. Communicating and adapting language.

Career Opportunities:

A qualification in GCSE English or GCSE English Language is a pre-requisite for most further and higher education courses.

Entry Requirements:

All students will be entered for either GCSE English or GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. Entry will depend on your given 'pathway' and prior attainment at Key Stage 3.

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

GCSE English Language is an exciting course giving students the opportunity to explore a range of texts from different periods of time, learning how to appreciate how language is used for different contexts, purposes and audiences. As well as this, students will develop both their own creative and analytical writing.

Assessment: This qualification is 100% exam, broken down in to the following units of study:

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing.

- Looks at how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage the interest of readers.
- Written exam 1hour, 45 minutes. 50% of GCSE.

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives.

- Looks at how different writers present a similar topic over time.
- Written exam 1hour, 45 minutes. 50% of GCSE.

Career Opportunities:

A qualification in GCSE English Language is a pre-requisite for most further and higher education courses. Students also have the opportunity to continue their studies as we offer an **English Language A Level**, here in the sixth form.

Entry Requirements:

All students will be entered for GCSE English Language.

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

GCSE English Literature is an interesting course giving students the opportunity to develop their interest in literature. Texts explored include a range of poetry and prose from around the world, ranging from the classics to the contemporary.

Assessment: This qualification is 100% exam, broken down in to the following units of study:

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

- Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on **Romeo and Juliet**. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.
- Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on **The Strange Case of Jekyll and Hyde**. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.
- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 40% of GCSE

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry

- Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on the play **Blood Brothers**.
- Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the **Love and Relationships** cluster.
- Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one **unseen poem** and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.
- Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes 60% of GCSE

Career Opportunities:

A qualification in GCSE English Literature will expose students to a wide range of literature and literary contexts. It will enable students to continue the study of Literature, if they so wish, in both further and higher education.

English Requirements:

All students entered for GCSE English Language will also be entered for GCSE English Literature, as it is a double qualification course.

GCSE MATHEMATICS

Exam Board: EDEXCEL

Subject Review:

At Key Stage 4 students will follow the Edexcel GCSE syllabus.

This will consist of a linear programme which will be examined at the end of Year 11.

There are two entry levels:

- Foundation tier – grades 1 to 4.
- Higher tier – grades 4 to 9.

Assessment:

100% Exam

Career Opportunities:

Examples of possible careers for mathematicians: Engineering, Sciences, Nursing, Medicine, Financial Services, the Actuarial profession, ICT Sector, Teaching etc.

GCSE SCIENCE

Exam Board: AQA

According to recent Government research, from 2017 nearly two-thirds of new jobs will be science-related, which explains why Science is a Core Subject that all students study up to year 11, with many progressing to post-16 qualifications afterwards.

It's all change in science at key stage four with an exciting new curriculum and a new exam board. Students will follow the AQA Trilogy Combined Science course, with two GCSEs being awarded at the end of year eleven.

As a department we are really excited about the change of course; the course will be broken down into modules of Biology, Chemistry and Physics and there is a strong practical element. We feel that students at Beaufort will benefit from the straightforward approach to assessment offered by AQA. The course is suited to learners of all abilities and aspirations, and is an ideal pre-cursor to our A-level and Level 3 BTEC post-16 courses.

Students will study:

Biology

Cell biology

Organisation

Infection and response

Bioenergetics

Homeostasis and response

Inheritance, variation and evolution

Ecology

Chemistry

Atomic structure and the periodic table

Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter

Quantitative chemistry

Chemical changes

Energy changes

The rate and extent of chemical change

Organic chemistry

Chemical analysis

Chemistry of the atmosphere

Using resources

Physics

Forces

Energy

Waves

Electricity

Magnetism and electromagnetism

Particle model of matter

Atomic structure

Assessment:

There are six, 1 hour 15 minute papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Students will either be entered for Higher or Foundation.

CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students continue to take part in Physical Education lessons. During these periods the activities covered try to both complement the foundation course offered in Key Stage 3 and to extend the range of activities offered. These include Badminton, Squash, Weight Training, Aerobics and Water Polo. In addition Football, Basketball, Netball, Hockey, Rugby, Cricket, Athletics, Softball and Tennis can all be available within the programme. The course is designed to ensure that standards of learning, physical development and understanding are maintained.

Throughout the course high levels of participation and effort are required and high standard of dress (School Uniform Kit is a requirement) is expected.

There are also a range of opportunities outside lessons for those who wish to develop their potential in physical activity. It is also hoped that those who possess the ability will represent the School in the wide range of sports which make up this important aspect of the Community life of the school.

Students move away from a more structured programme of study, and opt termly on several different pathways to study. These pathways range from 'competitive sports', 'recreational physical activities', and 'developing fitness' as just a sample. All pathways aim to continue to develop our students' level of fitness and aim to provide them with a broader understanding of the physical activity options post-16, and in the wider world, in the hope that they will maintain positive and active lifestyles in the future."

GCSE CITIZENSHIP STUDIES

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

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

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

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

Citizenship studies investigates how the citizen is enabled by society to play a full and active part and how citizens are empowered to effect change within society. Citizenship understanding develops through the knowledge of how a society operates and functions and its underlying values.

The overarching theme of this specification is 'Taking Citizenship Action'. This concept is supported by three content themes: Life in Modern Britain, Rights and Responsibilities and Politics and Participation. The skills, developed and processes used underpin this award.

Students are required to sit two GCSE examinations in this subject, each being 1 hour 45 minutes in duration. There is no coursework content.

Career Opportunities:

Apart from being beneficial at a personal and community level, Citizenship is useful in any working environment whether this be job or professionally based. Careers in education, in law, in the public and private sectors or politics link well.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

In accordance with statutory requirements RE is taught as a core subject in KS4. Students will follow the AQA GCSE Syllabus A.

The course content is as follows:

The study of religion: beliefs, teaching and practices

The beliefs, teaching and practices of:

- Christianity
- Islam

Thematic studies

- Relationship and families;
- Religion and life;
- Religion, peace and conflict;
- Religion, crime and punishments.

For each topic students will be required to understand the various attitudes of the different religions. They will also be actively encouraged to present their own opinions which, in all cases, will be respected. The final exams, similarly, seek to test not only pupils' understanding but also their attitudes to key issues.

Assessment is based on the final exams, which count for 100% of the marks.

Should you have any concerns about the course we would request that you discuss these with the Head of RE.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

- **GCSE ART & DESIGN – FINE ART**
- **GCSE ART & DESIGN - TEXTILES**
- **BTEC FIRST IN BUSINESS**
- **GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION**
- **CIDA**
- **GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE**
- **GCSE DRAMA**
- **GCSE FRENCH**
- **GCSE GEOGRAPHY**
- **HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**
- **GCSE HISTORY**
- **GCSE MEDIA STUDIES**
- **GCSE MUSIC**
- **GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY**
- **GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

MAKING YOUR CHOICE

The choices you are about to make are vitally important to your future and there are certain factors which you must consider before making them.

- DO** Consult with your teachers about subjects.
- DO** Take into consideration the comments on your report, your predicted grades and advice in the letter already sent to you.
- DO** Talk about your options with your parents so that you and they understand why you are making a particular choice.
- DON'T** Choose a subject which you don't like. Generally people do far better if they do subjects that they are interested in.
- DON'T** Choose a subject just so that you can be with friends. You must make the best choice for you!
- DON'T** Choose a subject just because it's new. There are a whole range of new subjects offered in KS4 but make sure you know what you are letting yourself in for before choosing one of them. Ask older students if necessary.
- DO** **TAKE TIME AND TROUBLE, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR FUTURE**

GCSE ART & DESIGN – FINE ART

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

The course consists of two components which is a portfolio of work to be assessed at the end of the course externally. This consists of a theme based unit of work which will show drawing and experimentation leading to a final piece. Students will also follow a series of workshop based lessons developing a wide variety of skills in Art such as printing, painting and mixed media work. Students are to provide evidence of strong drawing skills and written annotation.

The second component is an externally set assignment students will develop preparatory work leading up to an exam which is a 10 hour supervised exam ran over several days.

Assessment:

The portfolio of work is worth 60% of the overall course
The external exam is worth 40 % of the course.

Career Opportunities:

Graphic designer, advertising director, spatial designer, makeup special effects artist, animator, interior designer, sports apparel designer, art critic, typographer, dressmaker embroider, concept designer, fibre artist, logo/branding designer, sign writer, stage designer and the list continues.....

GCSE ART AND DESIGN – TEXTILE DESIGN

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview

Textile design provides students with an exciting opportunity to design and make fashion and interior products or pieces of art with creativity and originality. Students will work with a wide variety of materials and techniques such as, applique, embroidery, printing and garment construction. They will be required to manufacture high quality outcomes using appropriate tools and equipment. The students will have to demonstrate a clear understanding of each assessment objective through sketchbook work, sampling, development and a final response all supported with written annotation.

The course encourages students to research, observe, plan, experiment and design. As well as working practically students will also develop skills in decision making, creativity, and critical analysis through consistent evaluation and personal reflection.

Assessment:

2 Components

Component 1: 60% Portfolio

1. A sustained project in response to a theme, subject or title and must demonstrate the journey from beginning to final outcome.
This would involve:
 - Observational drawing
 - Experimenting with different textile techniques
 - Development of prototype with design proposals
 - Final Outcome
2. A selection of further work:
 - Mini projects
 - Response to a gallery/museum visit
 - Trials and experiments.

Component 2: 40% Practical Exam

1. Exam board will set the assignment
2. Student selects one starting point/title
3. Preparatory work to support the final response available at the start of January.
4. 10 hour practical exam under supervision.

Career Opportunities:

Textile Design is an excellent choice for anyone considering a career in Art and Design – Fashion Design, Textile Design (Print, Weave and Knit), Interior Design, Fashion Marketing, Buyers and Merchandisers.

BTEC FIRST AWARD IN BUSINESS

Exam Board: EDEXCEL

Subject Overview:

The core units cover the essential knowledge and skills required in the business sector. Additional units, cover branding and promotion, customer service, sales, retail business recruitment and career development, and business support systems.

The course provides opportunities for students to develop the communication skills needed for working in the business sector, as they progress through the course. This will be achieved through presentations and in discussions where they have the opportunity to express their opinions.

Students will have the opportunity to develop the key enterprise and financial skills and knowledge necessary to enable them to understand how businesses recognise opportunities, and build on them to succeed.

Students will understand how a business makes and manages its money, and plans for the future.

Assessment:

25% External Assessment

A one hour on-screen test covering 'Finance for Business' (Unit 2). Aspects of finance include costs, profit, break-even analysis and cash-flow.

75% Coursework

Continually assessed work throughout the course covering business structure and organisation, resources, marketing and the economy.

Career Opportunities:

This course could provide a starting point of a route into employment in many of the diverse areas of business, including roles in specialist areas such as marketing, finance, customer service or human resources in large businesses, or a more general role in a small, local business.

GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Exam Board: EDUQAS

Subject Overview:

This course is aimed at students who primarily have a passion for cooking, health and nutrition and may wish to use this qualification within a career in Hospitality, Catering and Management.

The WJEC GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

Areas of study include:

- Food commodities, Principles of nutrition,
- Diet and good health
- The science of food
- Where food comes from
- Cooking and food preparation

Assessment:

50% Written Exam – end of Year 11

Unit 1 - Principles of Food and Nutrition - 1 hour and 30 minutes

Section A: questions based on stimulus materials.

Section B: a range of question types to assess all content related to food and nutrition.

50% Food preparation and Nutrition in Action

Unit 2 - Assessment 1: (15% of total mark).

Food Investigation assessing skills, understanding and scientific principles of food preparation.

Assessment 2: (35% of total mark).

Planning, cooking and presentation of dishes to form a menu.

Career Opportunities:

Catering and hospitality management, food technology, food science, chef, food management production and retail. It offers a valuable preparation for students interested in food based careers and progressing onto further and higher education.

ICT – CIDA QUALIFICATION

Exam Board: EDEXCEL

Subject Overview:

Equivalent to one GCSE

Students who complete the course receive a Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA) this is equivalent to one GCSE.

The course is purely an electronic qualification; therefore no paper work is produced. Students present their work in an electronic e-portfolio (website) after reading an online web resource and independently completing a set number of tasks.

Inspiring and Challenging

CiDA promotes creative use of digital applications. It challenges learners to demonstrate what they know and are able to do when creating real documents, publications and graphics.

Modern and Future-Proofed

CiDA is designed to equip learners with the skills they need to live, learn and earn in the 21st century.

Creative

CiDA enables learners to make the leap from passive consumers to active producers of quality digital content. It develops their ability to organise themselves and their work and encourages them to reflect critically on their own and others' use of ICT.

CiDA is the equivalent of one GCSE and will take up one of your option choices throughout KS4.

Career Information

College courses in Multimedia, Graphic, Design, Communication and Computer Systems, Mathematical Sciences and many more.

Course Content

Unit 1: Developing Web Products

External Assessment: Practical Exam – 25%
Students will use web authoring software (Adobe Dreamweaver) and other software tools (Fireworks and Photoshop) to build and test a web-based product.

Unit 2: Artwork and Imaging or Creative Multimedia

Students will complete a unit of coursework based on either Artwork and Imaging SPB or Creative Multimedia SPB. This unit provides learners with the knowledge and skills they need to design and produce publications for print and screen that are fit for audience and purpose. This will include making plans for the project, collecting and analysing data, presenting achievements and evaluating success.

Career Opportunities:

Careers in retail, communications industries and creative computing such as: graphic design, web design, computer games design and interactive media.

Assessment:

25% External Exam – Unit 1: Developing Web Products

75% Coursework Assessment –

Unit 2: Creative Multimedia or
Unit 3: Artwork and Imaging or
Unit 4: Game Making

Sixth Form Pathway:

The CIDA course provides an excellent route into the Sixth Form where students can opt for either the Level 2 or Level 3 BTEC ICT subjects.

GCSE COMPUTING

Entry Requirement

To be selected for this course you must have an excellent attitude to learning, good grades within ICT. Enjoy mathematical equations and have a problem solving mind. You must also be prepared to accept the challenge and hard work that will be involved in Computing GCSE.

Who chooses Computing?

Students who want to develop and apply their creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of IT in a range of contexts.

About the course

The course provides students with a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. It will give students an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming, which many learners find absorbing.

What theory will you learn?

Fundamentals of Computer Systems

This topic introduces computer systems and provides a foundation for the remaining topics in this unit. Students will learn that the term 'Computer System' does not just mean the desktop at home but can include any system controlled or including a processor.

Computing Hardware

Students will be able to define the term hardware and have an understanding of many different types and how they operate.

Software

Students will be able to define the term software and have an understanding of the types and how they interact with the user and hardware.

Representation of data in computer systems

Students will understand how data is stored on a computer system and the different ways

they can be represented including binary and hexadecimal conversion.

Databases

Students will be able to understand, operate and create databases.

Computer Communications and Networking

Students will learn about the setup and structure of networks and the Internet

Programming

Students will gain an understanding of how programming languages operate and learn how to design and plan solutions using algorithms and flowcharts.

Career Information

Career areas are constantly evolving due to the dynamic world of Computer programming and include areas such as web design, gaming, computer programming and software design.

Course Content

**Component 1
(40%) 2 hour written examination**

Principles of Computer Science

Component 2: (40%) 2 hour written examination

Application of Computational Thinking

Component 3: (20%) Programming Project

GCSE DRAMA

Exam Board: Eduqas

Subject Overview:

Have you ever dreamt of being involved in the world of theatre?

Do you aspire to become a famous Actor or Director?

The study of GCSE Drama cannot only help towards your chosen career path but can also help encourage the following: enthusiasm, confidence, self-esteem, tolerance and empathy.

Students can experience new roles or problems and explore actions and consequences safely and realistically removed from complications/experiences they may have in the real world.

The course offers students:

- The opportunity to devise and perform a play to an audience, thinking about lighting, sound, costume, set, props and make up
- To stage a section from a published play of their choice to an audience
- To consider a play from a directional point of view
- The ability to develop new ways of communicating and understanding others.

If you have a creative mind, enjoy working as part of a team, want to build on your confidence and enjoy all, or any aspects, of the world of theatre, drama is for you.

The course is in three parts:

Component 1: (40%) - **Devised Practical Performance**

Candidates will devise a practical performance based on a theme, linked with a practitioner or genre.

Candidates will complete an evaluation on the practical work they completed.

A portfolio of supporting evidence

Component 2: (20%) - **Performance from a text**

Candidates will be assessed on their acting skills in a scene from a published play.

Component 3: (40%) - **Written paper**

Section A - Written paper: 1½ hours

Section B - Live theatre review

Career Opportunities:

Actor, Actors Agent, Artistic Director, Arts Journalist, Backstage Crew, Costume Designer, Director, front of house work, lighting work, Props Manager, Set Designer, Sound Work, Stage Manager.

GCSE FRENCH - AQA

Students may opt to study French to GCSE during Key Stage 4. Studying a modern foreign language at GCSE level and obtaining a Grade 5 or better is essential for entry into some British universities, regardless of the subject to be studied at degree level. Also, there is an increasing demand from employers for potential employees to have some foreign language skills, and the shortage of these skills is recognised by the government. Therefore, having a language GCSE may be of great value.

The course involves practising all four skill areas, listening, reading, speaking and writing, and each of these four skills contributes 25% towards the final grade awarded. Students can aim for Foundation level which offers grades 1-5, or Higher which offers the possibility of achieving up to grade 9.

There are three themes to be studied.

Theme 1: is **Identity and culture** and covers 'Me, my family and friends', 'Technology in everyday life', 'Free-time activities' and 'Customs and festivals in French-speaking countries/communities'.

Theme 2: is **Local, national, international and global areas of interest** and covers 'Home, town, neighbourhood and region', 'Social issues', 'Global issues' and 'Travel and tourism'.

Theme 3: is **Current and future study and employment** and covers 'My studies', 'Life at school/college', 'Education post-16' and 'Jobs, career choices and ambitions'.

We have a long track record of excellent results for GCSE French. In 2016, 96% of students gained a grade A*-C, and in 2015 92% achieved A*-C, and in 2014 100% achieved A*-C. If you choose to continue with French you will need to commit to working hard to maintain these excellent standards.

Please feel free to consult your own language teacher or Mr Gumbrell if you require any help or further guidance.

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Exam Board: Edexcel (B)

Subject Overview:

“Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future” - Michael Palin.

These new specification for Geography is relevant and engaging for the 21st century. It involves the study of Global Issues, as well as those within the UK. It is an enquiry based course, encouraging students to explore issues through questions and linking all of their geographic skills together.

Topics studied on the course include:

- **Hazardous Earth** – Why do volcanoes erupt and earthquakes shake? Why are some countries more vulnerable to weather hazards?
- **Development** - Why are some countries rich, when others are so poor? Which economies are growing the quickest and why?
- **Urbanisation** – Why does the quality of life vary within a megacity? How do megacities grow and improve?
- **UK physical landscapes** – Why is there such a variety of landscapes in the UK? How is nature able to shape the land?
- **UK human landscapes** – Why are places and people changing in the UK? What links does the UK have to the rest of the world?
- **Fieldwork** – we will undertake two fieldtrips to a physical and human environment.
- **Biospheres** – Why are biospheres so important to human wellbeing?
- **Forests** – What are the threats to forests, and how can they be reduced?
- **Energy** – How can we meet the growing demand for energy, without causing damage?

As stated in the list above, there will also be the opportunity to conduct both a physical and human piece of fieldwork during the course. This is a vital part of Geography, and helps to apply learning from the classroom, to a real world situation.

There will also be the opportunity to conduct both a physical and human piece of fieldwork during the course.

Geography is part of our everyday lives, so discover the world around you.

Assessment:

In total, there are three written exams at the end of the course.

Paper 1: **Global Geographical Issues**

Paper 2: **UK Geographical Issues**

Paper 3: **People and Environmental Issues – Making Geographical Decisions.**

Career Opportunities:

Geography is an excellent opportunity for you to have an understanding of our modern world and is applicable to many jobs and professions, including working for charities or development agencies to help people, landscape design, tourism, journalism, teaching, advertising, geology, volcanology, meteorology. Never have geographic issues been so important to our planet: climate change, global warming, migration, renewable energy, redevelopment to name but a few.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

The qualification covers a range of specialist topics through completion of units, which provide a wide range of information such as 'Promoting Health and Wellbeing' and ways of monitoring a person's health.

All students will have the opportunity to experience the vocational elements of the course through talks from visiting speakers, and develop practical skills, such as demonstrating health and social care values that will help prepare students for the world of work.

The course provides opportunities for students to develop the communication skills needed for working in the Health & Social Care sector, as they progress through the course. This will be achieved through presentations and in discussions where they have the opportunity to express their opinions. You will also have the opportunity for the planning and preparation of a small-scale health promotion campaign for a selected health care need e.g. anti-smoking.

Unit 1: **Improving the well-being of an individual**

Unit 2: **Promoting healthy living**

Unit 3: **Development through the life stages**

Assessment:

Health and Social Care is a two year course during which you are required to produce both coursework portfolios and to complete an exam (40% exam, 60% coursework).

Career Opportunities:

This course will provide learners with a solid understanding of health and social care that will help them to make choices about their future study options and career choices. They will leave the course having developed a wide range of practical skills some of which are particularly helpful for a career in one of the Health and Social Care sectors such as taking health measurements, identifying and planning improvements to health and well-being and working with clients

HISTORY

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

GCSE history is divided into four areas and taught across the 3 years of study with 2 exams taken in the summer of the final year.

Germany, 1890-1945. - This period of study focuses on the development of Germany during a turbulent half century. It was a period of democracy and dictatorship - the development and collapse of the Weimar Republic and the rise and fall of Nazism.

Conflict and tension in Asia, 1950-1975. - This unit will look at the development of the Cold War in Asia and why conflict occurred in Korea and Vietnam. This study also considers the role of key individuals such as Richard Nixon.

Britain: Health and the People. - This thematic study will enable students to gain an understanding of how public health and medicine developed in Britain over a long period of time.

Norman England 1066-c1100. - This unit allows students to study in depth the arrival of the Normans and how they consolidated their control. It will also focus on life under the Normans and how they changed and influenced the English Church.

Assessment:

Paper 1: Understanding the Modern World

- Section A: Germany 1890-1945; Democracy & Dictatorship. Six compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B: Conflict & Tension in Asia; 1950-1975. Four compulsory questions (40 marks)

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

Total marks 84 (including four marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology).

50% of GCSE.

Paper 2: Shaping the Nation

Section A: Britain: Health and the People. Five compulsory questions (40 marks)

Section B: Norman England, 1066-c1100. Four compulsory questions (40 marks)

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

Total marks 84 (including four marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology).

50% of GCSE.

Career Opportunities:

A GCSE in History demonstrates the ability to think analytically and identify the causes for change and the impact they have had. History is an academic discipline which requires the ability to read and write analytically and is highly regarded by employers and universities. A good history qualification would be particularly beneficial to careers in Politics, Journalism, Education, Media and Business.

GCSE MEDIA STUDIES

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

During the course students will study the three media platforms: print, broadcast and e-media. They will be able to use their talents in each area to produce work that is of a professional standard, recreating scenes from famous films, television shows and music videos, as well as developing their own artistic creations. Texts that have been studied are: the advertising industry, the promotion of bands and artistes, magazine production, the production of movie trailers, radio broadcasts and gaming.

Students look at the ways the star power of celebrities are shaped and developed, how movie trailers, video games and adverts are produced as well as how media is used to influence the way we think about the world. It is a fascinating subject that is limitless in its scope.

Students will learn about the four key media concepts; language, institution, audience and representation - they will begin to appreciate just how powerful and influential the media world is. There really is something for everyone!

There are no formal qualifications required. It has a significant practical element. Ability to manage long-term coursework projects and written evaluations are required.

Assessment:

Unit 1: Investigating the Media 40%

Exam topic – **Television dramas** (2018)

Unit 2: Understanding the Media 60%

Assignment 1: **Print Magazines** - create a magazine cover after researching existing magazines.

Assignment 2 : **Promotion of Music** - explore how artists are represented and promoted before designing an original artist.

Assignment 3 : **Moving Image** - research existing film campaigns before creating a trailer for a film from a chosen genre.

Career Opportunities:

The UK is a global leader in the creative industries, and it's an area that's booming in Britain, with employment in the creative industries at twice the rate of other areas of employment.

Qualifications in Media Studies would provide anyone with a platform to step into the creative industries, leading to careers in music, ICT, journalism, advertising, film making and more.

GCSE Media Studies offers an engaging and rewarding route into what is seen as the fastest growing and arguably most important industries in the UK for today and the future.

GCSE MUSIC

Exam Board: Eduqas

Subject Overview:

The GCSE Music course is ideal for those who are excited about all aspects of Music, especially Performing, Composing and Listening. You will get to Specialise in the instrument or voice of your choice and experience more freedom to develop your skills and musicality. You will learn to use a variety of up to date music software to enable you to write music yourself. GCSE Music allows you to broaden your musical knowledge to exciting new styles of music and leads you through a fascinating journey of Music for Stage and Screen, Musical Structure, Welsh Music and Music Evolution.

Assessment:

Component 1: Performing 30%

A minimum of two pieces one of which must be an ensemble. The other piece may be a solo and/or ensemble.

Component 2: Composing 30%

Two compositions, one of which must be in response to a brief set by examining board. Second composition learners set own brief.

Component 3: Written exam 40% 1 hour 30 minutes
Eight questions in total. Two on each of four areas studied

Area study 1 - **Musical Forms and Devices**

Area study 2 - **Music for Ensemble**

Area study 3 - **Film Music**

Area study 4 - **Popular Music**

Career Opportunities:

GCSE Music can lead on to an A Level or Degree course in Music, Music Technology, Performing Arts, Theatre Studies, Teaching, Music Management, Marketing, Music Journalism, Music Therapy, DJing, Film Composing, IT, Recording, Sound Engineering, Song Writing, Event Management and Performing.

GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

During the course you will develop your 'creative eye' and learn how to compose successful imagery. You will also learn how to present your imagery in different ways.

You will learn about different photographic genres e.g. Architecture, wildlife, portrait and fashion. You will use traditional and digital methods to produce your work.

The course involves several day trips and you will be required to provide your own digital camera.

Assessment:

Photography is a two year course during which you are required to produce work for a coursework portfolio (60% of the overall grade) and an exam (40%).

Career Opportunities:

Students who study photography often choose to develop their skills further at A-Level and then go on to become photographers, illustrators and graphic designers. It is relevant for careers in media, ICT (games design and so on) and other creative industry jobs.

GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Overview:

GCSE Physical Education provides students with the knowledge and understanding of how to live a healthy and active lifestyle, enabling them to make informed choices about their own physical development. Students can choose from a variety of roles and activities in which to participate in physical activity. They will be examined in three sports at the end of the course, students must only consider the course therefore if they enjoy practical PE and have achieved positive grades in the subject. In order to improve their practical grades over the course GCSE students will be expected to regularly attend extra-curricular and represent the academy. The GCSE students are expected to be role models for the rest of the year in PE.

Students study seven units in theory lessons for the exams which include applied anatomy and physiology, sports psychology and movement analysis. Students should consider their current performance in Science and English as a guide to how they may perform in the theory element. Students will take two exams at the end of the course which make up 60% of the overall grade. The remaining 40% is the practical exam and analysis of performance. The exams will consist of short and long answer questions based on the units covered. Students studying GCSE PE can move on to A Level Physical Education or BTEC Sports Studies in the 6th form.

My notes

Remember to choose 3 subjects, one in each section on your choice sheet and return the form to your tutor by **Friday 10th March 2017**