



# **Carre's Grammar School**

## **Your Guide to Key Stage 4 Subjects and Option Choices**

### **Year 10 Options 2024**

**PLEASE READ THE BOOKLET THOROUGHLY**

**YOU SHOULD COMPLETE  
THE OPTIONS FORM USING MICROSOFT FORMS  
(link sent separately)**

# GCSE OPTIONS HANDBOOK 2023

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## OPTIONS INFORMATION

Choosing the subjects for Year 10 is one of the first big decisions that you have to make in your school life. Some of you will already have a good idea of which subjects you are best at, and which ones you enjoy. Some of you may already have ideas about future careers, but for most students it will take careful thought before choosing what to study. You do not need to decide what you want to do for the rest of your life, but it helps if you have some idea. You can always change your mind later and it is never too late to learn something new. If, later on, you need to study another subject for your career, you can take additional courses. People carry on studying and learning throughout their working lives, to open up new choices and career options.

### What must I take?

We expect students to take GCSEs in English Language, English Literature (two separate GCSEs), Mathematics, a Modern Foreign Language and Science (becomes two or three GCSEs). This reflects the National Curriculum at Key Stage 4. In addition to these you will follow a non-examination course in Physical Education and Ethics & Philosophy (you may also opt to study an examination course in these subject areas). The vast majority of the top universities now require that you have studied a language to GCSE and we view the study of a language as both a vital and valuable part of education.

### Where can I find help?

There are various sources of information that will help you to sort out your ideas and make the right choices for you. Parents, family, form tutor, subject teachers, Careers Advisors, the school's Learning Resource Centre and students who have already studied the courses are all points of reference. In addition, you may like to access a range of advisory websites by clicking on the links section of the school website and highlighting the Careers icon.

### What options should I choose?

This is up to you. You should choose subjects which you **ENJOY** and which you are good at to give you the best chance of success. It is also helpful to consider your own personal strengths and learning preferences. Not every subject that you choose needs to be directly relevant to a job. Some are worth taking for their own sake. Do not be fooled by what appear to be easy options – you will have to work just as hard for any course that you choose. Similarly, it is foolish to discount a subject merely because of a dislike of a teacher or choose one just because your friends are going to do it.

- **In the interests of breadth and balance we do not recommend that any student takes more than one Technology subject.**
- You should also consider the mode of assessment in a subject. For example, some subjects have a larger element of portfolio work/coursework and practical elements which may favour those who find examinations more difficult.

### What is the English Baccalaureate?

Amongst a huge range of initiatives introduced by the government in 2010 is the English Baccalaureate. This is a school-based measure intended to promote aspiration and encourage students to follow a broad traditional academic curriculum; it is not a qualification in itself. To meet the requirements of an EBacc. curriculum students must study all of the following:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science (Double or Triple Award)
- Modern Foreign Language
- Geography or History

If you are keen to meet the requirements of the English Baccalaureate you **must** choose **Geography or History as one of your options.**

**Taking Geography or History is something that we strongly recommend to our students and remember you are able to take both!**

We will make every effort to satisfy your choices, but we are not able to guarantee them. The subjects will be grouped into pools for timetabling purposes and there are always some combinations that are not possible, but we will try to minimise disappointment as far as possible. **If a subject is NOT chosen by enough students, the subject will not run in September!**

### **How will I be expected to work?**

There is a strong emphasis on independent learning. This means that you will have to work outside the classroom. You will be set independent learning tasks for each option subject every week. This will be approximately one hour per subject per week. For many subjects there will be a controlled assessment / coursework component. It is important, therefore, that you adopt good work habits, meet deadlines and do not leave work to the last minute.

### **By when must I have decided?**

The programme is as follows:

Wednesday 24 January	KS4 Options/Curriculum evening 4.30-6pm
Friday 23 February (4pm)	<b>Final</b> deadline completing the options form via Microsoft Forms

### **What now?**

Important though these individual subject choices are, the best way of ensuring that you are able to pursue a chosen career is by achieving the best GCSE results of which you are capable. University Admission tutors and employers are looking ever more closely at GCSE performances. The choices you make at GCSE will affect those you make at A Level! Once you have made your choices you must settle down to ensure that you perform well in all your subjects. We expect you to:

- Meet all work deadlines so staff can assess your progress
- Use your personal time for researching topics more widely and preparing for examinations and assessments
- Take advantage of support lessons where offered and organise your time and resources effectively
- Produce work of the highest quality possible

## **Section 1 – The Core Curriculum**

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Students MUST undertake BOTH English Language and English Literature**

**Course Title:** English Language (Exam Board AQA)

#### **What will I study?**

- Fiction and Non-Fiction texts, including texts from the nineteenth century
- Speaking and listening skills
- Creative writing
- Transactional writing

#### **What skills/qualities are required?**

Successful English Language students are able to:

- ✓ Read, understand, respond to and evaluate a range of non-fiction texts
- ✓ Analyse and interpret a variety of prose with understanding and insight
- ✓ Write with accuracy and clarity for a variety of audiences and purposes
- ✓ Listen carefully and perceptively
- ✓ Speak confidently, with a mature and assured use of vocabulary and grammar, and with the ability to manage listeners' attention through a sophisticated delivery of ideas

#### **How will I learn?**

A variety of teaching methods are used in English. Students participate in class and group discussions, produce presentations and annotate and analyse texts. The use of ICT is an integral part of the learning process.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

There is no coursework. Students are assessed via two examinations at the end of the course. There is an 'unseen' element.

#### **Where could it lead?**

Success in English is essential for entry to virtually all careers. We are part of an increasingly competitive global economy, so the range of skills developed in an English Language GCSE is highly valued by employers, colleges and universities alike. Specific careers that employ English skills include: law, journalism, management consultancy, media, publishing, public relations and teaching – in short, any with a premium on communication.

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

**Course Title:** English Literature (Exam Board Eduqas)

## What will I study?

- A Shakespeare play
- A selection of pre-and post-1914 poetry
- A pre-1914 novel
- A twentieth century play

## What skills/qualities are required?

Successful English Literature students are able to:

- ✓ Analyse and interpret a variety of prose, poetry and drama with understanding and insight
- ✓ Relate texts to historical, social and cultural contexts and literary traditions
- ✓ Write with accuracy and clarity when analysing texts
- ✓ Write clear, accurate and organised notes
- ✓ Listen carefully and perceptively
- ✓ Speak confidently with a mature and assured use of vocabulary and grammar

## How will I learn?

A variety of teaching methods are used. Students participate in class and group discussions, produce presentations and annotate and analyse texts. The use of ICT is an integral part of the learning process.

## How will I be assessed?

There is no coursework. Students are assessed via two examinations at the end of the course.

## Where could it lead?

Success in English is essential for entry to virtually all careers. We are part of an increasingly competitive global economy and so the range of skills developed in an English Literature GCSE are highly valued by employers, colleges and universities alike. Specific careers that employ English skills include: law, journalism, management consultancy, media, publishing, public relations and teaching – in short, any with a premium on communication.

# MATHEMATICS

**Course Title:** AQA Mathematics 8300

## What will I study?

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion, and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability and Statistics

## What skills/qualities are required?

- The ability to work with numbers confidently and accurately.
- The ability to reason mathematically, think logically, developing an argument, justification or proof using mathematical language.
- The ability to learn, fluently recall and apply mathematical concepts, ideas, and techniques.
- The ability to solve problems by applying mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication.

## How will I learn?

You will learn through teacher explanation, modelling and exposition. Lessons are carefully planned and sequenced to support your learning. An emphasis is placed on fluency and recall of subject knowledge, and planned activities and tasks will seek to support your development in recalling fluently facts, concepts, and techniques.

Independent study is supported through Microsoft Teams and with Mathswatch, an online resource.

## How will I be assessed?

Entirely by examination, there are three examination papers. The first paper is a non-calculator paper, and the other two papers allow the use of a calculator. Topic areas Number, Algebra and Ratio account for 65% of the assessment content, Geometry for 20% of the content and Probability and Statistics together account for 15% of the assessed content over these three papers.

## Where could it lead?

Success in mathematics is vital to access many learning and career pathways. A pass at grade 5 or higher is essential for many careers, including professional pathways. Mathematics studied successfully at a higher level is crucial for almost all scientific and technological university courses and careers, including engineering.

## Additional Information

All students will need a scientific calculator, which they must bring to all lessons. Additionally, students should bring a ruler, protractor, and pair of compasses to each lesson.

Most students will be entered for the Higher Tier syllabus (grades 9 to 5). Some students may be entered for the Foundation Tier (grades 5 to 1). The decision of tier of entry, based on teacher consideration and assessment performance, is not made until after the Year 11 mock examinations and all groups in Year 10 follow the same Higher Tier programme of study

# SCIENCE

## Course Title: AQA GCSEs:

- Biology (8461)
- Chemistry (8462)
- Physics (8463)
- Combined Science (8464)

## What will I study?

- We study GCSE (9-1) specifications that were introduced in September 2016.
- In both qualifications students will study key aspects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Separate science leads to three GCSEs, one in each science. Combined science leads to two GCSEs, with the grade decided by a combination of exams sat in all three sciences.
- A detailed breakdown of the subject content can be found on the AQA website (<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science>)

## What skills/qualities are required?

- In addition to the skills of planning, data handling and analysis, students will research topics and evaluate information from a variety of sources.
- While there is no formal coursework, students will study and complete a number of required practical activities. As well as a requirement for GCSE sciences, these activities help develop students' understanding of the discipline of science and are also assessed within the exams.

## How will I learn?

In science lessons, we learn through questioning, group work, class discussions and practical work. Scientific literacy and mathematical skills are developed through research activities and the use of the Science Faculty ICT Suite.

## How will I be assessed?

All assessment is by externally set examinations at the end of Year 11. In Combined Science, there are six examinations, 75 minutes in length, each contributing 16.7% of the final mark. In Separate Sciences, students will sit two examinations in each Science (105 minutes in length), each one worth 50% of the final mark. In all qualifications questions on the required practical activities will feature in the final examinations.

## Where could it lead?

All students will gain a broad knowledge of relevant scientific issues, allowing them to be scientifically literate citizens. In the Sleaford Joint Sixth Form, students are able to go on to study Biology, Chemistry and Physics to A-level, and BTEC Applied Science. The skills and knowledge gained at GCSE also prepare students who wish to take college courses or embark on apprenticeships.

## Additional Information

The Science GCSE is taught as three separate subjects. The teaching of the GCSE sciences starts in Year 9 to give students time to develop their knowledge and understanding, constantly revisiting previous work as it is developed further at later points in the course.



Students will be entered for either the Combined Science or Separate Science qualifications. In Year 9, students start studying towards Separate Science. In Year 10, a small number of students move to the Combined Science pathway, and are taught in a small, well-supported nurture group. Those remaining on the Separate pathway are taught in mixed ability groups. After the Year 11 mocks in Term 2, final decisions are made if other students need to move to the Combined pathway.

# MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

**Course Titles:** GCSE French & German.

## What will I study?

- The three main topic areas are: people and lifestyle, popular culture and communication and the world around us
- Grammatical concepts to develop awareness of sentence structure and, in particular, verbs in past, present and future tenses
- The history, geography and culture of the French/German speaking world

## What skills/qualities are required?

- ✓ The four skills of listening (25%), speaking (25%), reading (25%) and writing in the target language (25%).
- ✓ The emphasis at GCSE is on communication as much as accuracy, so those who are prepared to 'have a go' generally do well and enjoy the subject.

## How will I learn?

We cater for various learning styles, using the following:

- authentic listening and reading materials to develop comprehension skills.
- conversation in pairs, groups and with native speakers (Foreign Language Assistants).
- role-play tasks to carry out transactions or to give and seek information.
- extended writing tasks (usually drafted and improved for later use in speaking tasks).
- rote learning of vocabulary and verb forms.
- use of GCSE mark-schemes to develop awareness of assessment criteria.

## How will I be assessed?

Listening, reading and writing are assessed by means of terminal examinations. Speaking is also assessed by examination, but this will take place within a five-week window in April and May during the second year of the course.

## Where could it lead?

A qualification in languages is an asset for most careers, given that the jobs market is increasingly global. Even where the language is not directly relevant, employers for professional/management careers ask about languages. An increasing number of top universities are now insisting on a language GCSE as a basic entry requirement. Having the ability to get by, when in the target language country, is also very rewarding.

## Additional information

The standard required at GCSE is the same for both languages. All boys in year nine are expected to continue to study one language at GCSE, but they are more than welcome to continue with both and become a dual linguist.

## **Section 2 – The Option subjects**

### **ART AND DESIGN**

**Course Title:**           **OCR Art and Design - FINE ART**

#### **What will I study?**

Under the umbrella of Art and Design students will follow a Fine Art route, participating in various aspects and having access to drawing, painting, mixed media, new media, photography and sculpture/3D work. Students will be required to develop, experiment, record and present:

- Develop ideas through investigations. Use contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and cultural understanding. Investigate and research Art, Craft and Design. Respond to work investigated and show relationship between that and development of own ideas/work.
- Review and refine ideas through experimenting, selecting appropriate resources, materials, techniques and processes, assessing suitability for purpose, demonstrating clear development and modification of work.
- Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions in visual and/or other forms.
- Present a personal, informed and meaningful response, realising intentions.

#### **What skills/qualities are required?**

Any student opting for GCSE Art and Design should be, first and foremost, creative, imaginative and passionate about art! It is also very important that individuals are just that – individual!

- ✓ A very independent approach will be required to get the best out of the course and its possibilities.
- ✓ Students will need to be self-motivated as the course requires a great deal of independent work to be carried out if higher grades are to be achieved.
- ✓ Potential candidates must be aware that coursework is ongoing from the start of Year 10 to the second term of Year 11. The exam takes place in March/April of Year 11; for that reason time management is crucial.
- ✓ A consistent approach, and therefore a very genuine interest in Art, is fundamental.

Please note that whilst good basic observational drawing skills are of course helpful and a great starting point – they are second to, and nothing without, the above qualities.

#### **How will I learn?**

- Students will learn via demonstration/tuition followed by regular practice and constant participation in practical activities.
- Learning from others, outside of the classroom, is also important which is why the study of contemporary/practicing artists is beneficial.
- Students should seek out opportunities to observe/work with artists other than their teacher to broaden their experiences as much as possible.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

Controlled Coursework makes up 60% of GCSE grade.

A second portfolio based on set titles and concluded in a 10 hour Practical Exam in Year 11 makes up 40% of final GCSE grade.

All marking is carried out internally. An external moderation takes place at the end of the course to assess a 'sample'.

**Where could it lead?**

GCSE Art and Design can be followed by A Level Art studies, or by full-time Art studies should a candidate be confident that Art and Design is the direction they wish to pursue. Beyond this, successful students will be able to pursue anything from the creative design industries (i.e. Graphic Design, 3D Design, Architecture, Fashion/Textile Design, Illustration, Animation, Web Design, Theatre/Set Design) to Gallery Worker, Art Therapist, Teacher, etc to the more ambitious direction of 'Freelance Artist'. Job opportunities would be available for any students bold enough to pursue freelance work as 'Artist in Residence' within various settings from galleries and schools/youth groups to hospitals/care centres, in addition to simply producing and selling own work.

**Additional Information**

GCSE Art and Design ends in April of Year 11! This, along with the fact it is a 100% practical subject, means that it requires a substantial time commitment to ensure success.

# BUSINESS

**Course Title** Edexcel Business

## What will I study?

- All aspects of the workings of a business, plus those factors or events outside a business that have an impact upon it, such as the economy and the role of organisations such as the government
- Investigate types of businesses, business structures, marketing, finance, organising people, operations management and economics eg interest rates, exchange rates and unemployment
- Finding out how to think like an economist and learn how the economy functions, the government's role in the economy and its impact on business. You will also examine what causes businesses to fail and how businesses grow. You will study many issues within the world of business such as globalisation and ethics

## What skills/qualities are required?

- ✓ A keen sense of enquiry and enthusiasm is essential to your success in this subject. You are already part of the business world as young consumers, so you can bring your own experience to this course
- ✓ You will be shown how to analyse and evaluate business decisions
- ✓ In addition you will be asked to keep up to date on current business and economic affairs, both analysing and evaluating

## How will I learn?

You will compile a portfolio of written work on the different business aspects of the course. This will include investigations, exemplar exercises and case studies based on real businesses. Particular attention will be paid to any current national or local business events. There will be regular assessments based on utilising GCSE questions and current economic data.

## How will I be assessed?

There will be two formal examinations (making up 100% of the final grade) which assess learning of the four modules.

## Where could it lead?

In an increasingly complex and inter-dependent world, a knowledge of the practices and processes of business activity is an important part of the 'survival kit' of any citizen.

A course in business will provide a student with an extensive knowledge of the workings of businesses and the business world. Knowledge and understanding in both these areas are essential to a successful career in whatever field you wish to pursue. In a world that is now ever-changing and complex it is an essential course that will equip students with skills for life.

As well as its relevance to the preparation for a career and citizenship, this GCSE course provides a valuable groundwork for the Economics or Business A Level courses found in the Sixth Form.

# ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY

**Course Title:** GCSE Religious Studies (Full Course) AQA (Spec A)

## What will I study?

Four themes from the following religious, philosophical and ethical studies:

- Religion and relationships
- Religion and life
- The existence of God and revelation
- Religion, peace and conflict
- Religion, crime and punishment
- Religion, human rights and social justice

Students are also required to have knowledge and understanding of the beliefs, teachings and practices of two world religions – Christianity and Islam.

## What skills/qualities are required?

The ability to:

- ✓ Recall, select, organise and deploy knowledge of the specification content
- ✓ Describe, analyse and explain the relevance of a religion or religions
- ✓ Evaluate different responses to religious and moral issues, using relevant evidence and argument
- ✓ Present relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear

## How will I learn?

You will learn through reading, gathering and selecting relevant information, discussions, analysing and evaluating religious and non-religious approaches to moral and religious questions and issues.

## How will I be assessed?

Through **two** written examinations (100% of the marks).

## Where could it lead?

This is an examination which is open both to those who have a religious faith and those who have none and is highly valued by employers due to the transferable skills it develops. Careers related to this subject are very varied. These include civil service, local government, personnel work, teaching, journalism, health service, medicine, law, psychology, probation service, social work, police force (forensic), armed forces, advertising, and public relations.

# GEOGRAPHY

**Course Title:** AQA Geography

## What will I study?

- Physical Geography: Volcanoes and Earthquakes, Tropical Storms, UK Extreme Weather, Climate Change, Physical Landscapes: Rivers and Glaciation, Ecosystems, Tropical Rainforests and Cold Environments
- Human Geography: Population Growth, Urban Areas, Urban Growth, Urban Change in the UK, Economic Development and Resource Management: Food/Water/Energy
- Geographical Skills: Cartographic (map) Skills, Graphical Skills, Numerical Skills and Statistical Skills
- There will be at least two opportunities for fieldwork, investigating subjects from Physical and Human Geography

## What skills/qualities are required?

- ✓ Effective communication through group discussion and written work
- ✓ Numeracy skills through collection, analysis and interpretation of geographical data, graphs and diagrams
- ✓ Ability to interpret spatial patterns such as those shown on maps
- ✓ An enquiring mind – to question the world around you and seek valid answers

## How will I learn?

You will learn through discussion, geographical enquiry, research from textbooks and the internet, fieldwork, data collection and analysis, the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) software, geographical TV programmes and fieldwork out of school.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through three examinations. One examination is a 'Geographical Applications' paper where students answer questions on given resources and geographical fieldwork. This paper is worth 30% of the final grade. The other two examinations (worth 35% of the final grade each) are content-based, Physical and Human Geography papers based on the themes outlined above. There is no requirement for Controlled Assessment (coursework) in this qualification.

## Where could it lead?

Geographical skills are transferable and highly sought after in the workplace. Geography graduates are among the most successful at gaining employment straight after a degree in the subject. The ability to collect, analyse and interpret data, to identify questions for research and write reports are essential for a huge number of careers. The use and interrogation of information technology such as GIS is becoming increasingly common in a number of career areas, and the relevance of environmental issues such as climate change are fields in which geographers can demonstrate their expertise. Specific career areas relate to education, media, town planning, law, business and industry, engineering, tourism and environmental work.

# HISTORY

**Course Title:** GCSE History B (SHP) – Course Number: J411

## What will I study?

This is an exciting and innovative course that was first introduced in September 2016. Students will cover:

- History from different eras: Medieval, Early Modern and Modern
- A blend of short depth studies of individual countries (eg. National Socialism in Germany, The USA, 1789-1900, British History 1065-1087), as well as a longer thematic study about the development of Crime and Punishment in Britain from c.1250 to the modern day
- A mixture of British and World History: a key theme of the course is centred around invasion and conquest
- A field work study about the development of Roman Lincoln which will examine historical change over time.

## What skills/qualities are required?

- ✓ Curiosity about the past and how it relates to the present.
- ✓ Understanding how people tick: what motivates them and what they think and feel.
- ✓ The ability to gather and select information from historical research.
- ✓ Analysing and evaluating evidence through reading and interpretation of sources.
- ✓ Effective communication skills through written and oral work.
- ✓ The ability to see and explain more than one point of view.

## How will I learn?

You will learn through a variety of different teaching methods including role play, group work, reading and analysing source material, written work, constructing timelines, evaluating visual evidence (including film and DVD) and trips. You will have the opportunity to utilise your ICT skills and there will be lots of opportunities for discussions and debate.

## How will I be assessed?

All courses will be assessed by examination at the end of Year 11. There will no longer be any coursework or controlled assessment requirements.

Exam questions will test various different skills and will be a mixture of interpretation questions, source questions, short-answer questions and the more traditional essay question.

## Where could it lead?

History is a subject that is highly valued by employers because of the broad range of skills it develops. Careers that employ Historical skills include the police, law, journalism, media, accountancy, local government, management, tourism, conservation work, town planning, museums, galleries, archives and teaching.



# MUSIC

**Course Title:** Edexcel GCSE Music 1MU0

## What will I study?

The course is based on four areas of study:

- Instrumental Music 1700-1820
- Vocal Music
- Music for Stage and Screen
- Fusions

## What skills/qualities are required?

- ✓ **Performing skills:** both as a soloist and as part of an ensemble. The GCSE course encourages you to perform music of your own choosing in any style. To take this course you must be committed to developing your skills on an instrument or voice
- ✓ **Composing skills:** you will have to compose two pieces of music. One will be to a brief set by Edexcel, the other will be a free composition of your own choice
- ✓ **Appraising skills:** you will develop your listening and appraising skills as you study some set pieces taken from the areas of study

## How will I learn?

You will learn through listening to and studying certain pieces of music, performing and experimenting with compositional techniques.

## How will I be assessed?

30% performing: you will need to record one solo and one ensemble performance.

30% composing: you will need to compose two pieces (in controlled conditions).

40% listening and appraising: in a 105 minute exam paper you will be asked questions about the pieces of music that you have studied and unfamiliar but related pieces of music.

## Where could it lead?

A qualification in Music represents diverse talents that are highly sought after by employers: creativity, problem-solving, listening skills, logic, presentation skills, commitment and perseverance. GCSE Music is an important qualification to those wanting to work in the music industry and media, in careers such as radio producers, music retailers, publishers, music therapists, performers, recording engineers, composers and event organisers. Even if you do not wish to follow a career in Music it is a highly-regarded qualification that recognises your diverse talents; it can lead to participation in the community through the development of a life-long interest in Music and it will support instrumental lessons at higher levels.

# SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**Course Title:** GCSE Physical Education (AQA)

**What will I study?**

**Written Paper 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport**

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis
- Physical training
- Use of data

**How will I be assessed?**

30% of total marks

1 hour 15 minutes

78 marks

Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions

**Written Paper 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport**

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

**How will I be assessed?**

30% of total marks

1 hour 15 minutes

78 marks

Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions

**Practical performance in physical activity and sport**

- One assessment must be in a team sport or activity, one assessment must be in an individual sport or activity and a third can be from either an individual or team sport or activity
- Activities can only be chosen from the list below:

Team activities			Individual activities		
Association football	Badminton	Basketball	Amateur boxing	Athletics	Badminton
Canoeing	Cricket	Dance	Canoeing	Cycling	Dance
Gaelic football	Handball	Hockey	Diving	Golf	Gymnastics
Hurling	Lacrosse	Netball	Equestrian	Kayaking	Rock climbing
Rowing	Rugby League	Rugby Union	Rowing	Sculling	Skiing
Squash	Table tennis	Tennis	Snowboarding	Squash	Swimming
Volleyball			Table tennis	Tennis	Trampolining
Specialist team activities			Specialist individual activities		
Blind cricket	Goal ball	Powerchair football	Boccia	Polybat	
Table cricket	Wheelchair basketball	Wheelchair rugby			

### **How will I be assessed?**

40% of total marks  
100 marks  
Internally assessed  
Externally moderated

### **What skills/qualities are required?**

- ✓ Effective communication through group discussion and written work
- ✓ Numeracy skills through collection, analysis and interpretation of health and fitness data
- ✓ Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- ✓ Practical sports ability via individual performance.

***It is strongly advised that only people with a strong sporting background pursue GCSE PE. Weak practical performers will not be able to access the higher grades now that the list of practical activities has been reduced and students can no longer be assessed as a coach or official.***

### **How will I learn?**

One lesson per week in the classroom learning about the theory topics

Three lessons (per two-week rotation) of practical based activity working towards your practical assessments

### **How will I be assessed?**

60% Exams (two written papers)  
40% Practical assessments

### **Where could it lead?**

The skills and qualities that you will develop during the course are transferable, and highly sought in Higher Education and the workplace.

### **Additional Information**

GCSE PE is the ideal preparation for A Level PE and for any sport-related vocational qualification. It is the perfect starting point for any student interested in a career in the Sport and Leisure Industry.

## **Design and Technology – (*Electronics and Systems*)**

**Course Title:** Design and Technology (Edexcel)

### **What will I study?**

- You will learn a core body of knowledge of the subject and understand its wide-ranging impact.
- You will learn the production processes and terms associated with electronics and systems.
- You will understand the basic principles of electronic components and realise they are part of a system.
- You will use computers to simulate circuits and use CAD-CAM to develop and refine ideas.

### **What skills/qualities are required?**

- ✓ You will have an aptitude in using graphics based packages on the computer.
- ✓ You will need to be creative and flexible in your approach to work.
- ✓ You will need to develop an independent style of learning and be self-motivated.

### **How will I learn?**

You will learn by completing focused practical tasks using real world electronic circuits and computer simulations. Design and make assignments will be fundamental to the delivery of the course and will prepare you for the coursework element which will start at the end of Year 10.

### **How will I be assessed?**

50% - Examination

50% - Non-Examined Assessment (coursework)

### **Where could it lead?**

Students will have the opportunity to develop their skills at A Level. Natural career progression into Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, Electronic Engineering, IT, Product Design and Design Engineering.

**Students cannot choose more than one Design and Technology pathway, but may elect to take Engineering alongside Design and Technology.**

## **Design and Technology – (*Graphic Products*)**

**Course Title:** Design and Technology (Edexcel)

### **What will I study?**

- You will learn a core body of knowledge of the subject and understand its wide-ranging impact.
- You will investigate the use of modelling materials associated with Graphic Products and their impact on society, products and industry.
- You will understand the basic principles of graphic design and the packaging industries.
- You will use computers to develop and refine ideas and present information in a clear and concise manner.

### **What skills/qualities are required?**

- ✓ You will have an aptitude in using graphics based packages on the computer.
- ✓ You will need to be creative and flexible in your approach to work.
- ✓ You will need to develop an independent style of learning and be self-motivated.

### **How will I learn?**

You will learn through completing focused practical tasks using traditional modelling methods and CAD-CAM. Design and make assignments will be fundamental to the delivery of the course and will prepare you for the coursework element which will start at the end of Year 10.

### **How will I be assessed?**

50% - Examination

50% - Non-Examined Assessment (coursework)

### **Where could it lead?**

Students may choose to move into the creative industries. Career possibilities could be Graphic Design, Packaging Design, Advertising, Architecture, Web Design.

**Students cannot choose more than one Design and Technology pathway, but may elect to take Engineering alongside Design and Technology.**

## **Design and Technology – (*Resistant Materials*)**

**Course Title:** Design and Technology (Edexcel)

### **What will I study?**

- You will learn a core body of knowledge of the subject and understand its wide-ranging impact.
- You will learn about timbers, metals and polymers and how they can be used in products.
- You will investigate the use and development of a variety of products and their impact on society.
- You will understand the basic principles of industrial processes.
- You will use CAD-CAM to develop and refine ideas.

### **What skills/qualities are required?**

- ✓ You will have an aptitude in using graphics based packages on the computer.
- ✓ You will need to be creative and flexible in your approach to work.
- ✓ You will need to develop an independent style of learning and be self-motivated.

### **How will I learn?**

You will learn through completing focused practical tasks using timbers, metals and polymers as well as CAD-CAM. Design and make assignments will be fundamental to the delivery of the course and will prepare you for the coursework element which will start at the end of Year 10.

### **How will I be assessed?**

50% - Examination

50% - Non-Examined Assessment (coursework)

### **Where could it lead?**

Students may move into fields with practical outcomes such as Product Design, Mechanical Engineering, Architecture, Structural Engineering, Building Industry (Management, Quantity Surveyor and Estimator), Joinery and Civil Engineering.

**Students cannot choose more than one Design and Technology pathway, but may elect to take Engineering alongside Design and Technology.**

## Cambridge National in ENGINEERING

**Course Title:** Level 2 Cambridge National in Engineering (OCR)

The Engineering National Qualification will give you the right skills to start a career in Engineering, or go on to university, college or other training.

Engineers work in health, entertainment, transport, construction, robotics, conservation, design, communications, disaster relief, in fact pretty much everywhere. Engineering offers a great choice in careers in all employment sectors.

### What will I study?

- Principles of engineering design (R038)
- Communicating designs (R039)
- Design evaluation and modelling (R040)

### What skills are required?

- o You will need to be numerate and have a creative mind
- o You will be interested in developing your existing CAD-CAM skills
- o You will like solving practical problems through the use of tools and equipment

### How will I learn?

You will learn by engaging in each of the discrete modules. It is very much a “learn by doing” course. Kinaesthetic investigation is as relevant as academic enquiry in completing this course.

### How will I be assessed?

Through the completion of 2 internally assessed units (R039 and R040) each worth 30% of the final grade. R038 is an examined unit which will be completed at the end of the course which accounts for 40% of the final grade.

### Where could it lead?

The whole idea behind the course is to give you an insight into the varied world of an Engineering career. With this course you could start an Engineering apprenticeship at 16 or move onto additional study at either college or Sixth Form.

A career in Engineering could lead you into many and varied job opportunities, with the whole world needing Engineering and Engineered products.

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

**Course Title:** Computer Science (OCR J277)

## What will I study?

- You will develop your understanding of current and emerging technologies, understanding of how they work and apply this knowledge and understanding in a range of contexts
- You will acquire and apply a knowledge, some technical skills and an understanding of the use of algorithms in computer programs to solve problems using programming
- You will use knowledge and understanding of computer technology to become independent and discerning users of computer technology developing the ability to make informed decisions about its use, and be aware of the implications of different technologies
- You will acquire and apply creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of Computer Science in a range of contexts
- You will develop computer programs to solve problems
- You will evaluate the effectiveness of computer programs/solutions and the impact of and issues related to the use of computer technology in society

The course will give learners a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Learners will no doubt be familiar with the use of computers and other related technology from their other subjects and elsewhere. However, the course will give them an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming, which many learners find absorbing.

## What skills are required?

- A logical approach to problem solving and mathematics
- The ability to develop programming skills both in-class and independently

## Where could it lead?

The course provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science. Technology has and will continue to become an important aspect of both our personal and professional and as a result, companies are looking increasingly to those with qualifications and skillsets within this area. Learners who have taken a GCSE in Computer Science and who then progress to study the subject at A Level or university will have an advantage over their colleagues who are picking up the subject at these levels.

## Additional Information

In today's fast-paced tech-driven world, diving into the realm of computer science opens up a world of exciting possibilities and innovation. It's not just about coding; it's about understanding the nuts and bolts of technology that shape our daily lives. Computer science isn't just a skill; it's a way of thinking that equips you to tackle real-world problems with creativity and adaptability. Whether you're keen on crafting the next big software or delving into the mysteries of artificial intelligence, studying computer science locks opportunities in the real world in a range of different subjects.

Computer science and Information Technology (IT) are related fields but differ in their focus and scope. Computer science is more theoretical and emphasizes the study of algorithms, programming languages, and the underlying principles of computing. It delves into the intricacies of software and system design, artificial intelligence, and the mathematical foundations of computation. On the other hand, Information Technology, often referred to as IT, focuses on the practical application of computer systems to address real-world problems.

The Computer Science section was written by Artificial Intelligence with human assistance – could you tell?



## Key Stage 4 Y10 Options List

Using the Microsoft Forms link that will be sent to all parents, rank your subject choices 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and reserve. ***(The reserve choice may be used if for any reason subject clashes occur)***

***NB use this paper version to help you***

- ..... Art and Design – Fine Art
- ..... Business
- ..... Ethics & Philosophy
- ..... French *(as a second Modern Foreign Language)*
- ..... German *(as a second Modern Foreign Language)*
- ..... Geography
- ..... History
- ..... Music
- ..... Physical Education (GCSE)
- ..... Design and Technology: (Electronics & Systems)  
*(cannot be done with Graphics and/or Resistant Materials)*
- ..... Design and Technology: (Graphic Products)  
*(cannot be done with Electronics and/or Resistant Materials)*
- ..... Design and Technology: (Resistant Materials)  
*(cannot be done with Graphics and/or Resistant Materials)*
- ..... Engineering (Cambridge National)
- ..... Computer Science

Although we will do our very best to accommodate your choices, there can be no guarantee that any particular course will run, or that any particular combination of courses will be possible.

**The deadline for returning this form via Microsoft Forms is 4pm FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2023.**

**The electronic link will be sent to all parents in the next few days.**

Any choices returned after this date will only be accommodated where spaces happen to be available.