



Ernest Bevin Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning



Year 9 Options 2026

“Committed to achievement for all students through appropriate curriculum pathways”

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Letter from the Director of Learning

Dear parents and Carers,

This booklet contains very important information on the curriculum at Key Stage 4, the choices within the options curriculum and details of each subject including what your son will study, how it is assessed, the skills gained and possible career paths

Students in year 9 will know their strengths and weaknesses from reports, assessments and comments from subject staff. It is essential that all this knowledge as well as the booklet is used to complete the option choices. The choices will be made via an Office form. This will go live on the evening of the options Evening 7th May

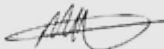
It is essential that every student receives a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum offer at Key Stage 4, to ensure the progress at Key Stage 3 is maintained and that core skills in English, Mathematics and Science are reinforced.

Students should be mindful of the possible progression routes to post 16 education and particularly, to the sixth form at Ernest Bevin Academy. Advice should therefore be sought from tutors, subject staff and members of the sixth form team.

Further advice can be sourced from the website where subject leaders have added videos about their subject. The students will also receive a series of assemblies from the subject leaders as well as a more general assembly from Miss Brown and Mr Heathcote about the options process.

If you have any questions after reading this booklet about the two pathways or the options process, then please email options@ernestbevinacademy.org.uk

Mr M Heathcote



Director of Learning

Year 9 Options Process

Key Dates

Date	Actions
Wednesday 6th May	Options Introduction Assembly
Beginning of Thursday 7th May	Subject Assemblies
Thursday 7th May	Options Evening 6pm
Wednesday 20th May	Options forms returned online
Monday 1st June Onwards	Options interviews with Mr. Heathcote
Friday 19th June	Written confirmation of options
Friday 26th June	Deadline for written appeals to Mr. Heathcote

If you have any questions, you can email options@ernestbevinacademy.org.uk This email will be checked on a daily basis.



The Curriculum at Key Stage 4

The curriculum at Key stage 4 is designed to meet the needs of all students. Certain subjects are known as core subjects and are compulsory and will be studied by all students. The rest are called options and students can choose from a range of academic and vocational subjects

Key Stage 4	Periods a week
English language and English literature	5
Mathematics	5
Science *	5
PE	1
PHSE	Tutor times
Option Subjects	
Geography/ History	3
All option blocks X2	3
Total Lessons	25

The Options

Students with consultation with their parents/ carers and teachers, can choose which subjects they wish to study at Key stage 4. Most of these will be subjects studied at Key stage 3, but others will be new like Business Studies and IT.

A wide number of factors should be taken into consideration, particularly

The level of interest the student has in a subject

The student's aptitude for the subject and the likelihood of achieving a high grade in the examination

The extent to which a subject will be of use to a student's career pathway.

On the 6th May Mr Heathcote will do an assembly taking the year 9 through the options process. Following this from Thursday 7th May will see the start of assemblies for the Year 9 every morning where subject leaders will give 10 minutes talks about their subjects and what the students will study.

In this booklet we have introduced the Key Stage 4 curriculum and a synopsis of each course provided by the course leader. The deadline for making option choices will be Wednesday 20th May. After this date it may be difficult to make changes.

Students will be asked to indicate their first and reserve choices where applicable in each block, since some subjects may become oversubscribed or not run at all because of a lack of uptake of that subject.

Suggested Option Combinations

Few students at 13 or 14 years of age have a clear idea of which career path or higher education course they wish to follow. It is therefore sensible to choose a broad a range of subjects as possible so that a range of options remain for A level and for later university courses. However, some students may already be expressing an interest in certain vocational careers and need to know what subjects are essential.

A well trained and qualified entrant into higher education must follow a broad and balanced programme of study. Factors influencing choices will include academic ability, subject interest, course content, talent (often sporting, linguistic, artistic and creative) and career implications. It is important not to be tempted to choose a subject because a friend has chosen it or to choose a subject solely because you like the teacher

Students should seek guidance from parents/carers and teachers and having listened to and thought seriously about the advice, choose subjects that complement their strengths, interest them and provide a sound basis for future aspirations. Different options will provide you with different skills. For example, History and Geography will increase your knowledge and understanding of people and the environment of the world whilst practical skills and creativity, as well as talent are required for success in art, music and physical education.

Considerations

Choose options that reflect your ability, interest and any relevant career path. Sensible and realistic decisions made now underpin future success.

University places are reliant on outstanding GCSE and A level results. To study a subject at A level at Ernest Bevin Academy you will need a grade 6 in that subject though some subjects the requirement may well be higher. If you ambition does not include applying for university good results in English and Maths at a standard of 9 – 5 grades are still essential to gain access to the best courses at college and for any apprenticeships and employment after this.

NB - Many are under the false impression that they need to take GCSE Economics or GCSE Engineering to study these subjects at A level. This is untrue as good grades in History or Geography will help to reach A level Economics and good science results allow access to Engineering.

GCSEs and Vocational qualifications explained.

GCSEs are the main qualification taken by 14 –16-year-olds. They are highly valued by schools, colleges and employers. The qualification mainly involves studying the theory of a subject combined with some investigative work. Some subjects also involve practical work. Students will be graded from 9 –1 on this qualification.

If a student's wants to learn more about a particular job or area of work, there are some vocational qualifications to choose from, such as BTECs or Cambridge Nationals. These are types of work-related qualifications, designed in collaboration with industry and intend to equip students with the skills and knowledge that employers are looking for. The qualifications offer a mix of theory and practice. They are the equivalent of one GCSE at 9 – 1 and are grade at fail, pass, merit, distinction and distinction

Grading scheme

All GCSEs are scored from 9 the highest grade down to 1. the grading schemes abandoned the A* - G scheme several years ago and replaced it with 9 – 1. This involved moving the good pass threshold to a 5 which is equivalent to a high C or low B. A 4 is rated stilll as a pass, but is referred to as a low pass and is equivalent to a low C

New Grading System (introduced in 2019)	Old Grading System
9	A*
8	
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	
1	
U	G
	U

Option Blocks

Below are the option blocks from which students will make their choices. Students will be asked to indicate their first and reserve preferences from each option block, a reserve choice is required as some subjects may become over-subscribed or cancelled if there is not a high enough uptake.

If a course becomes over-subscribed, students will be allocated their reserve choice. The subject leader will decide on who studies on an oversubscribed course. Unfortunately, if a course is under-subscribed (i.e. too few students choose it as an option), budget restrictions mean that the course may not run and students reserve choices will then be considered.

Students will be given a route to follow (Gold, Blue or Green) to ensure students are choosing subjects that are best suited to them and give them a higher chance of success. This is based upon previous performance, especially the year 9 mid-term exams and data based upon all their time in education as far back as primary school performance.

Option block 1	Option block 2	Optional block 3
GCSE History	GCSE French	GCSE Art & Design
GCSE Geography	BTEC Digital Information Technology	GCSE Computer Science*
	BTEC Sport	GCSE Business Studies
	GCSE Business	CSE Economics*
		BTEC Music
		GCSE PE
		GCSE Religious Education
		GCSE Separate Sciences*

*Acceptance on to these courses is dependent on academic progress to date. We would only accept students in the top two groups for Maths onto these courses or if the ranking data shows they have a particular ability for these subjects. This will be based on the mid term assessments-but will be reviewed at the end of year based on the end of year assessments. Excellent performance here will see any student who was unsuccessful offered a place on these courses if there is sufficient room on the course.

If a course becomes oversubscribed, students will be allocated their reserve second choice. The subject leader will decide who studies an oversubscribed course. Unfortunately, if a course is under subscribed (i.e. too few students choose it as an option), then a course will not run and reserve choices will be considered.

Students will be given a route to follow (gold and green) to ensure students are choosing subjects that are best suited to them and give them a higher chance of success. This is based upon previous performance, especially the Year 9 mid term assessment and data based on all their time in education, going as far back as primary school performance.

Learning Pathways

The option blocks have been designed to allow all students to access a broad, relevant and suitable curriculum offer. Learning pathways are identified within the blocks and should be used as a guide when choosing subject combinations

Gold Route

For students who are on this route, the following subjects should be considered and choices made from these only. Choosing some of these would provide a solid foundation for progression to study A levels and continued education at university.

A reserve subject will only need to be chosen in the Option block

Option block 1	Option block 2	Optional block 3
GCSE History	GCSE French	GCSE Art & Design
GCSE Geography		GCSE Business Studies
		GCSE Computer Science
		GCSE Economics
		BTEC Music
		GCSE PE
		GCSE Religious Education
		GCSE Single Sciences

Green Route

For students who are on this route, the following subjects should be considered and choices made from these only. Choosing some of these would provide a solid foundation for progression to study A levels and continued education at university.

A reserve subject will only need to be chosen in the Option block

Option block 1	Option block 2	Optional block 3
GCSE History	GCSE French	GCSE Art & Design
GCSE Geography	GCSE Business	GCSE Business Studies
	BTEC ICT	GCSE Music Technology
	Cambridge National Sport	BTEC Music
		GCSE PE
		GCSE RE

•Students following this pathway will complete the trilogy Science worth two GCSEs.

GCSE Art & Design

Exam Board: AQA

What you will study:

A personal portfolio of work consisting of two projects or bodies of work.

1. Surfaces: a project that covers all assessment objectives and gives the student a chance to develop observation skills, techniques and processes in various media, and knowledge in contextual studies.
2. A further independent project that develops the skills and knowledge practiced in project 1.

An independent external project assigned by the exam board.

- An exam paper with a choice of 6 project titles starts issued in January of year 11.
- Approximately 12 weeks to develop the theme of your choice showcasing all the skills you have learnt in component 1.
- A 10-hour period across 2 days to complete an outcome for the exam project.

Assessment

Both component 1 and 2 are assessed by the same four objectives.

AO1: - Contextual analysis and resources.

AO2: - Experimenting with media and processes, refining work as it progresses.

AO3: - Recording observation drawing, written content, and annotation.

AO4: - A personal and meaningful response that realises intentions.

Skills you will gain:

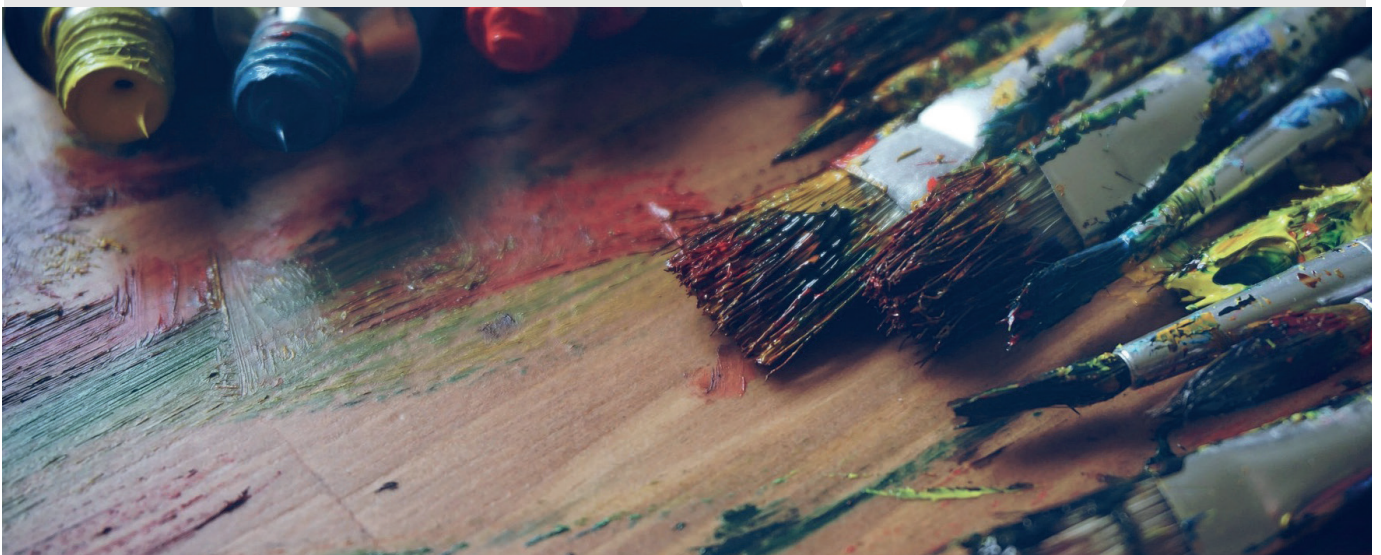
Analysis and evaluation of the work of artists; developing creative processes; developing skills and techniques of a diverse range of art media; developing ideas and experiment with processes to produce an outcome.

Career Paths:

Animation, Architecture, Graphic designer, Digital Graphic designer, Games designer, illustrator, Web designer, Digital film designer.

Please note:

Visits to galleries and museums, workshops with designers and artists.



GCSE Business

Exam Board: EdExcel

What you will study:

Theme 1 - Investigating small business: concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. You will explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business.

Theme 2 - Building a business: examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with an emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance, and human resources. It also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.

Assessment

Theme 1 - Investigating small business: 1 hour 30 min written exam.

Theme 2 - Building a business: 1 hour 30 min written exam.

Both papers will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, and short-answer and extended-writing questions. Questions in Sections B and C will be based on business contexts given in the paper.

Skills you will gain:

The course has been designed to allow you to develop a range of transferable skills cognitive, inter and intrapersonal skills needed in the 21st century. You will also develop problem-solving and decision-making skills relevant to business. In addition you will develop quantitative, extended writing, business development and mathematical skills.

Career Paths:

This course provides a progression pathway to BTEC Nationals Business and complements BTEC Nationals in Information Technology. It provides a stepping stone for those who wish to pursue a career in Business, typically in finance, marketing, human resources, accounting, financial services, sales, product and general management.

Please note:

The above level 3 courses are available at Ernest Bevin Academy.



GCSE Computer Science

Exam Board: OCR

What you will study:

Component 1: Computer systems - central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software, ethical, legal, cultural and environmental issues.

Component 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming - computational thinking - algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators.

Practical programming - design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language.

Assessment

Component 1: consists of short and medium answer questions and one 8-mark extended response question. (1 hour 30 min)

Component 2: Section A - short and medium answer questions and one 8-mark extended response question; Section B - assesses students' practical programming skills and their ability to design, write, test and refine programs. (1 hour 30 min)

Skills you will gain:

This course is relevant to the modern, changing world of computing, it is designed to boost computing skills essential for the 21st century. These include coding, mathematical, analytical, logical and evaluative computational thinking skills.

Career Paths:

The course provides access to A level Computer Science, as well as other STEM subjects that require problem solving and analytical skills. Most jobs require IT skills in the 21st century. Specific industries include data analyst, software architect, network manager, games designer, web development, cyber security and robotics.

Please note:

All students **must** undertake a programming task(s) to develop design, programming, testing and refining skills. Students **will** be assessed on these skills during the written examinations.



What you will study:

Component 1 - Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques. Explore user interface design and development principles. Investigate how to use project planning techniques to manage digital projects. Discover how to develop and review a digital user interface.

Component 2 - Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data. Explore how data impacts on individuals and organisations. Develop a dashboard using data manipulation tools. Draw conclusions and make recommendations on data intelligence.

Component 3 - Effective Digital Working Practices. Explore how modern information technology is evolving. Consider legal and ethical issues in data and information sharing. Understand what cyber security is and how to safeguard against it.

Assessment

Component 1: internally assessed assignment. 30% of the course.

Component 2: internally assessed assignment. 30% of the course.

Component 3: external assessment exam (1 hour 30 min). 40% of the course.

Skills you will gain:

You will develop key-skills for working in the information technology sector such as project planning, virtual ways of working, designing and creating user-interfaces, presenting and interpreting data for decision making. You will learn effective ways of working, planning techniques, iterative design processes, teamwork, cyber-security, as well as legal and ethical codes of conduct.

Career Paths:

This course provides a pathway to BTEC Nationals in Information Technology. It is ideal for learners who want a career in IT and want to get a broad taste of digital skills. It is a stepping stone to careers like IT Project Management, Technical Support and Cyber Security.

Please note:

This is equivalent to 1 GCSE. This course may involve class field trips to IT stores to analyse User Interface designs in technological devices.



GCSE Economics

Exam Board: EdExcel

What you will study:

Paper 1 - How markets work:

1. Economic foundations
2. Resource allocation
3. How prices are determined
4. Production, costs, revenue, and profit
5. Competitive and concentrated markets
6. Market failure

Paper 2 - How the economy works:

7. Introduction to the national economy
8. Government objectives
9. How the government manages the economy
10. International trade and the global economy
11. The role of money and financial markets

Assessment

Paper 1 - How markets work: 1 hour 45 minute written exam covering content 1 -6.

Paper 2 - How the economy works: 1 hour 45 minute written exam covering content 7 -11

Question papers have the following format:

Section A: 10 multiple choice questions followed by a range of calculation, short and extended response questions.

Section B: five questions involving a mix of calculations, short and extended responses.

Skills you will gain:

When you understand how markets and economies work, you will develop an economic awareness to benefit you personally and professionally for years to come.

You will also develop quantitative, critical thinking skills, analytical skills and communication skills

Career Paths:

This course will provide access to level 3 BTEC courses and A level Economics in the sixth form. As a customer focused course it can prepare you for any customer facing role in retail and business. Many students have followed this at university and work in hotels, theme parks and hospitality destinations.

Please note:

A level Economics is available in our sixth form.



GCSE English Language

Exam Board: AQA

What you will study:

Paper 1 – Creative Reading and Writing

Paper 2 – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives - You will learn about many new authors and writing styles. You will develop your learning of language techniques, why writers use them and what effect they have. The course looks at established writers and how they use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage readers. You will consider different viewpoints and perspectives. The choice of genre will include, but is not limited to, high quality journalism, articles, reports, essays, travel writing, accounts, sketches, letters, diaries, autobiography, and biographical passages.

Assessment

You will have two exams at the end of Year 11. There is no coursework, however, you will have to prepare and deliver a 3–5-minute speech. This is the basis for the Speaking and Listening Endorsement. Throughout Year 10 you will be taught the key skills for this. Year 11 consolidates your knowledge and understanding of the various topics.

Paper 1: 1 hour 45 min written exam (50%) Paper 2: 1 hour 45 min written exam (50%)

Skills you will gain:

The skills you will gain from English Language are based in communication, vital for all our futures. You will have a more precise understanding of the world around you and of the language being used, whether in a professional capacity or in understanding textual content from other subjects. You will be able to communicate clearly and effectively your own thoughts and explanations in any given scenario. Every course you take will use the English Language to communicate information.

Career Paths:

Journalist, writer, pundit, office manager, business director, any management position, lawyer, doctor, politician, education, creative industries, advertising, script writing, copywriting. Any career path you choose will demand high-level communication skills.

Please note:

This course, along with the Literature GCSE, leads directly into an excellent A Level Literature, a truly fascinating study with high-level skills that are applicable in any workplace.



GCSE English Literature

Exam Board: AQA

What you will study:

Paper 1: Shakespeare and 19th Century Literature

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry

You will develop comprehensive written and spoken communication skills, becoming adept at arguing a point, framing a narrative and analysing various levels of meaning. As in the study of algebra and calculus, the study of literature builds thinking skills applicable beyond the subject, including argumentation (logical thinking, citing evidence), interpretation, critical thinking, and writing.

You will study Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, An Inspector Calls and Macbeth. You will also study 15 poems based on the themes of Power and Conflict, or a range of unseen poetry.

The course is taught alongside English Language.

Assessment

You will have two exams at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: 1 hour 45 min written exam (40%) Paper 2: 2 hours 15 min written exam (60%)

Skills you will gain:

One of the most important skills you will learn through literature is how to react to different situations. Reading allows you to experience situations vicariously, and to consider how you would react in someone else's shoes. To compliment the skills in English Language, the Literature course also nurtures empathy and judgement, management skills and insights into the human psyche. Macbeth may have stopped at nothing in his ambition to be King, but is ambition on its own such a bad thing? The Inspector forces us to consider our roles and responsibilities in society, but do we really care for one another?

Career Paths:

As in English Language, there is a plethora of available career paths with high-level communication skills. Journalist, writer, pundit, office manager, business director, any management position, lawyer, doctor, education, creative industries, advertising, script writing, copywriting.

Please note:

There will be opportunities to see performances in and out of school and visits to the National Library and various literary events.



GCSE French

Exam Board: EdExcel

What you will study:

Topics are taught via key skills, grammar and engaging activities to make GCSE language learning useful for your studies and future career, as well as being fun.

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

Assessment

The course is assessed through four examination papers in Year 11.

Paper 1: Speaking 25% - Prep Time: 15 minutes / 7-9 minutes (Foundation Tier), 10-12 minutes (Higher Tier).

Paper 2: Listening 25% - 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 60 minutes (Higher Tier).

Paper 3: Reading 25% - 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier).

Paper 4: Writing 25% - 1 hour 15 (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 20 (Higher Tier).

Skills you will gain:

Studying French will help you develop your communication skills in speaking and writing. You will also have better comprehension of reading, listening and grammar. In addition you will learn a range of skills that you need for other subjects: problem solving, analysing and evaluating critically, using imagination and creativity, working independently and improved literacy skills. Language learning for today's world - the new GCSE qualification is focused on the important ways that languages foster communication, broaden perspectives, introduce new cultures and develop students into global citizens.

Career Paths:

You have many job opportunities with the airlines, import-export companies, and other international businesses. French is also an extremely useful language if you are thinking of working at the United Nations (where French is the second most widely used language). City firms like banks, consultancies, and law firms value French highly.

Please Note:

This is a new GCSE specification with first exams in May 2026.



GCSE Geography

Exam Board: EdExcel B

What you will study:

Paper 1 – Global Geographical issues. Explaining atmospheric and tectonic hazards and assessing their impact. Measuring development, global inequality within an indepth study of India. Looking at how cities change over time including a study of a mega city.

Paper 2- UK Geographical Issues. A study of both coastal and river landscapes. A look at settlement change within the UK including a study of a major UK city. You will conduct two geographical fieldwork investigations; an urban study and a coastal study.

Paper 3- Environmental Issues. A look at the relationship between humans and ecosystems. Understanding the rainforest and taiga, the threats to them and how to protect them. A study of how we can reduce demand for energy resources and how different interest groups feel about this.

Assessment

The course is assessed through three 1 hour 30 min examination papers in Year 11. Paper 1 and paper 2 are worth 37.5% and paper 3 the remaining 25%. Each paper contains a mixture of multi choice, short response, and longer evaluation questions.

Skills you will gain:

Geography is a broad subject drawing on your understanding of science, maths, psychology, history, and English to help explain why the world is like it is. It develops your literacy skills enabling you to express your thoughts and opinions about the world we live in.

Career Paths:

Geography is a popular subject and will help you access several courses available in the sixth form and further education, as many of the skills learnt are useful in many subjects and future employment opportunities. More specific jobs available include engineering, geographical information systems development, environmental project management and consultancy.

Please note:

There are two days of fieldwork; one completed in London and one along the coast of Worthing. All students studying this course **must** attend the fieldwork visits.



GCSE History

Exam Board: EdExcel

What you will study:

Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment:

Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.

Paper 2: Period study and British depth study:

Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88 and Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–9

Paper 3: Modern depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39

Assessment

Paper 1: Written examination: 1 hour and 15 min 30% of the qualification.

Paper 2: Written examination: 1 hour and 45 min 40% of the qualification.

Paper 3: Written examination: 1 hour and 20 min 30% of the qualification.

Skills you will gain:

- develop and extend your knowledge and understanding of specified key events, periods and societies in local, British, and wider world history.
- engage in historical enquiry to develop as independent learners and as critical thinkers.
- develop the ability to ask relevant questions about the past, to investigate issues critically and to make valid historical claims by using a range of sources in their historical context.
- develop an awareness of why people, events and developments have been accorded historical significance.
- organise and communicate their historical knowledge and understanding in different ways and reach substantiated conclusions.

Career Paths:

Law, Archaeology and Architecture, Media and Journalism, Conservation and Horticulture, National and Local Government, Civil Service and Diplomatic Service, Charity Work, The Police and Armed Forces.

Please note:

History is an enabling subject that is seen as having many transferable skills for other subjects.



GCSE Mathematics

Exam Board: Edexcel

What you will study:

You will develop confidence, fluency and problem-solving skills in number, algebra, ratio, proportion and rates of change, geometry and measures, probability and statistics.

Within these content headings, you are assessed on the use and application of standard techniques on your ability to reason, interpret and communicate mathematically and on their ability to solve problems within mathematics and other contexts.

Assessment

The qualification consists of three equally weighted written exam papers at either Foundation tier or Higher tier. All three-tiered exam papers are taken at the end of year 11.

Paper 1: A non-calculator exam

Paper 2: A calculator exam

Paper 3: A calculator exam

Each tiered exam paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long and each is worth 80 marks. Each exam paper has a range of question types set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts.

Skills you will gain:

Studying maths helps you to:

- Think clearly.
- Pay attention to detail.
- Manipulate precise and intricate ideas.
- Follow complex reasoning.
- Construct logical arguments and expose illogical ones.

Career Paths:

Almost every single job or career you choose will involve some element of mathematics.

Students can study for a mathematics or related degree at university or secure well-paid careers in accountancy, insurance, statistics, marketing, banking, retail, engineering, education and much more.

Please note:

We offer Additional maths and selected students will be expected to attend additional sessions to support their learning. GCSE Statistics is also offered to selected students.

Web link to maths GCSE course <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/mathematics-2015.html> Students that gain a strong pass in their GCSE mathematics qualification (Grade 7+) would be suitable candidates for mathematics at A level (or grade 8+ for Further Mathematics at A Level).



Exam Board:

What you will study:

Component 1:

Exploring Music Products and Styles. Exploration of the techniques used in the creation of different musical products and investigation of the key features of different musical styles and genres.

Component 2:

Music Skills Development. Development of two musical disciplines through engagement in practical tasks, while documenting their progress and planning for further improvement.

Component 3:

Responding to a Music Brief. Developing and presenting music in response to a given music brief.

Assessment:

Internally Assessed Coursework to an Externally Set Brief:

Exploring Music Products and Styles (30%) - exploration of the techniques used in the creation of different musical products and investigation of the key features of different musical styles and genres.

Music Skills Development (30%) - development of two musical disciplines through engagement in practical tasks, while documenting their progress and planning for further improvement.

Externally Assessed Exam Paper:

Responding to a Music Brief (40%) - developing and presenting music in response to a given music brief.

Who is this qualification for?

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Music Practice is ideal for you if you are a pre-16 student working at level 1 or level 2 and would like to find out more about the music industry. This course offers a practical introduction to life and work in the music industry. The qualification, which is 120 GLH, is the same size and level as a GCSE.

Where will this take me?

Once you have completed the qualification, you will have developed valuable knowledge, practical skills and a wider understanding of the music industry. This qualification will allow you to develop your knowledge and skills through practical and creative application in a vocational context, and by responding creatively to a commercial brief. Since you will be developing skills across a number of disciplines – such as music creation, production and performance – you will have a better understanding of whether the music industry is for you and, if so, which part of it you might want to study further. If you decide to go on to further study of music, the best option for you will depend on the grades you have achieved in this and the other qualifications you have taken, and what you enjoy doing. You could progress to a Level 2 Technical Certificate or to a Level 3 programme, such as A Levels, a T Level or a BTEC National, either on its own or in combination with A levels.



Cambridge National 1/2 Award Physical Education - Sport

Exam Board: Pearson

What you will study:

Unit 1 - Fitness for Sport and Exercise is a core unit which underpins the programme of study for this course. You will learn the fundamentals of how to assess levels of fitness and training principles. This unit is externally assessed through an online exam.

Unit 2 - Practical Sports Performance - This unit introduces you to a variety of different sports and, through participating in different sports, it is expected that you will develop knowledge of the associated rules, regulations, scoring systems, skills, techniques and tactics.

Unit 3 - Applying the Principles of Personal Training enables you to design a physical training programme to meet personal training goals, aspirations and needs. You will learn how to assess current levels of fitness before designing and implementing a training programme.

Unit 5 - The Sports Performer in Action allows you to investigate the changes of the human body systems due to exercise.

Assessment

75% of the course is assessed internally and 25% by an externally marked online examination (1 hour). The exam can be repeated once. Learners who do not achieve a level 2 grade may be awarded a level 1 if appropriate. Grades can be awarded at pass, merit, distinction and distinction*.

Skills you will gain:

You will learn the key skills of teamwork, time management and how to become an effective participator. Additional skills of self-reflection, and communication are also required.

Career Paths:

This course will provide access to the level 3 BTEC Sport course in the sixth form. This can then lead to an apprenticeship or degree course enabling a career within the sports industry or other area.

Please note:

This is equivalent to 1 GCSE. You will be required to bring PE kit and to participate in practical activities which may be recorded as evidence towards assessment.



GCSE Physical Education (PE)

Exam Board: EdExcel

What you will study:

This course entails practical and theoretical assessment. Practical assessment involves you participating in a range of sporting activities where you will develop the skills necessary to improve your own performance. You will need to produce a plan to assess and develop your skills in a chosen sport. You will also need to offer three activities for practical assessment. Development of your skills and techniques for your three chosen sports will happen over the duration of the course to allow the best final grade possible. For theory you will learn about exercise and how the body works to help you exercise. Through training you will also learn how performance can be improved. Key areas of study are: Fitness and body systems; health and performance, psychology, social cultural and movement and analysis.

Assessment

60% of the course is assessed through theory with the remaining 40% for practical assessment. The theory modules will be assessed with end of unit tests and a final exam (1 hour) at the end of Year 11. Practical assessment will be externally moderated to verify the ability levels of the students.

Skills you will gain:

You will learn the key skills of teamwork, time management and how to become an effective participator. Additional skills of self-reflection, and communication are also required to excel on this course.

Career Paths:

This course will provide access to the A Level PE course in the sixth form. This can then lead to an apprenticeship or degree course enabling a career with the sports industry or any other chosen profession.

Please note:

You will be required to bring PE kit and to participate in practical activities which may be recorded as evidence towards assessment.



GCSE Religious Education

Exam Board: AQA

What you will study:

Paper 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices from 2 of the following:

- Buddhism
- Christianity
- Catholic Christianity
- Hinduism
- Islam
- Judaism
- Sikhism

Paper 2: Thematic studies from 4 of the following:

- Theme A: Relationships and families.
- Theme B: Religion and life.
- Theme C: The existence of God and revelation.
- Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict.
- Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.
- Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice.

Assessment

Paper 1: Written exam: 1 hour 45 min - 96 marks, plus 6 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) 50% of GCSE

Paper 2: Written exam: 1 hour 45 min - 96 marks, plus 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) 50% of GCSE

Skills you will gain:

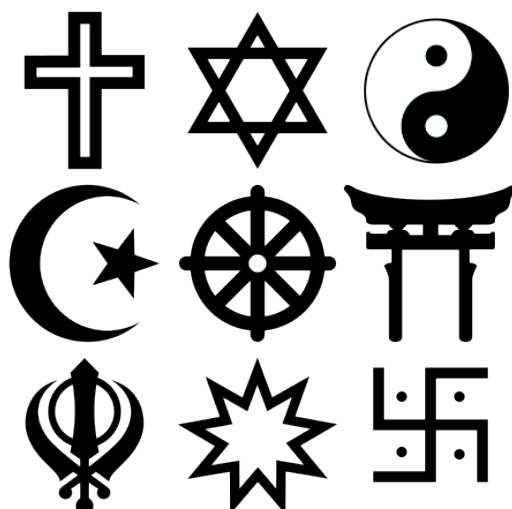
- develop your knowledge and understanding of religions and non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism
- develop your knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs, teachings and sources of wisdom and authority, including through your reading of key religious texts, other texts and scriptures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

Career Paths:

Aid worker, Human resources manager, Librarian, Museum curator, Newspaper journalist, teacher, Religious, Secondary school teacher, Youth and community worker.

Please note:

There will be the chance to attend talks and lectures about religion during the course.



GCSE Separate Science (3 x GCSEs)

Exam Board: AQA

What you will study:

Biology 1: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

Biology 2: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.

Chemistry 1: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes and Energy changes.

Chemistry 2: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.

Physics 1: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.

Physics 2: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism; and Space.

Assessment

Students will get a separate grade for each subject (Biology, Chemistry and Physics). Each subject is assessed through 2 x 1hour 45min examination papers in Year 11. Each paper is worth 50% which is out of 100 marks. Each paper contains a mixture of multiple choice, short response and longer evaluation questions. There will be 6 examination papers in total.

Skills you will gain:

Science provides you with the knowledge and skills needed for our rapidly developing world. The subject combines knowledge from other subjects (such as maths, PE and geography). You will acquire the skills to be able to analyse, evaluate and interpret information which is vital for every profession.

Career Paths:

As well as providing access to A level Biology, Chemistry, Physics and BTEC Applied Science, a good grade will help you access several courses available in the sixth form. The career options are vast. More popular options include Medicine, Dentistry, Optometry, Psychology, Physiotherapy, Engineering, Forensics and Medical Research.

Please note:

This is a demanding course and we strongly recommend purchasing the recommended textbook and/or a revision guide for support during the course. Given both the demands of the course, and that it gives an extra GCSE, students will be expected to attend additional sessions to support their learning.



GCSE Trilogy Science (2 x GCSEs)

Exam Board: AQA

What you will study:

Biology 1: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

Biology 2: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution and Ecology.

Chemistry 1: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes and Energy changes.

Chemistry 2: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere and using resources.

Physics 1: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter and Atomic structure

Physics 2: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism.

Assessment

The course is assessed through 6 x 1 hour 15 min examination papers in Year 11. Each paper is worth 16.7% and is marked out of 70 marks. Each paper contains a mixture of multiple choice, short response and longer evaluation questions.

Skills you will gain:

Science provides you with the knowledge and skills needed for our rapidly developing world. The subject combines knowledge from other subjects such as maths, PE and geography. You will acquire the skills to be able to analyse, evaluate and interpret information which is vital for every profession.

Career Paths:

As well as providing access to A level Biology, Chemistry, Physics and BTEC Applied Science, a good grade will help you access several courses available in the sixth form. The career options are vast, some of the most popular options include Medicine, Dentistry, Optometry, Psychology, Physiotherapy, Engineering, Forensics and Medical Research .

Please note:

We strongly recommend purchasing the recommended textbook and/or a revision guide for support during the course.



KS4 Options Choice Routes

KS4 Options Choice form Gold Route

Please scan or click the link for the Gold Route



[KS4 Gold Route Form](#)

KS4 Options Choice form GreenRoute

Please scan or click the link for the Green Route



[KS4 Green Route Form](#)

KS4 Options Choice Form - Walkthrough

Step 1

Student Details

1. Tutor group *

9 Ambition

9 Perseverance

9 Pioneer

9 Unity

2. Name - (first name followed by surname) *

Enter your answer

Next

Step 2 - List of compulsory subjects

3. All students must follow the compulsory subjects:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE Science
- ELC Physical Education (non-examined)

Back Next

Step 3 - Choose GCSE History or Geography

4. Choice one- You will study one of these. *

All students must study either GCSE History or GCSE Geography. Please mark the box of your choice.

Geography

History

Back Next

Step 4 - Option blocks

Green Route

Please use the options below to choose first, second, and third choices. Please note subject choices not allowed to be picked together: GCSE PE and BTEC Sport

6. Option Block 3 Second Choice (Green route) *

Select your answer

7. Option Block 3 First Choice (Green Route) *

Select your answer

8. Option Block 3 Second Choice (Green Route) *

Art and Design (GCSE)

Business (GCSE)

Music Technology (GCSE)

PE(GCSE)

Religious Education (GCSE)

9. Option Block 3 Third Choice (Green Route) *

Art and Design (GCSE)

Business (GCSE)

Music Technology (BTEC)

PE (GCSE)

Religious Education (GCSE)

5. Option block 2 First Choice (Green route) *

Select your answer

French (GCSE)

Business (GCSE)

Digital Information Technology (BTEC)

Cambridge National Sport (BTEC)

Gold Route

Please use the options below to choose first, second, third and fourth choices, marking your first choice as 1, your second choice as 2, your third choice as 3 and your fourth choice as 4.

5. Option block 3 First Choice (Gold route) *

Select your answer

6. Option Block 3 Second Choice (Gold route) *

Select your answer

7. Option Block 3 Third Choice (Gold Route) *

Select your answer

Back Next

Never give out your password. [Report abuse](#)

Step 5 - Extra language

10. If you read and speak another language then please record it here *

If you read, write, speak and understand another language then please enter the language in the box provided. This will be checked by the Head of Modern Languages.

If you do not read, write, speak and understand another language then please enter 'None' in the box provided.

Enter your answer

Back Next

Step 6 - Confirm

11. Please sign to confirm your choices (type your name clearly) *

STUDENT

Enter your answer

12. Please sign to confirm your choices (type your name clearly) *

PARENT

Finally it is vitally important that parents/ guardians fully approve of these choices. Please ensure the Parent/ Guardian signature box is signed/ marked accordingly.

Enter your answer



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Part of United Learning

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