



The Cottesloe School

Key Stage 4 Options Booklet 2021



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A robust and rigorous core curriculum, enriched with additional personalisation that is progressive, deep and knowledge-rich, developing skills to create well-rounded, resilient, confident young adults

Intent

At The Cottesloe School, the focus of 'Prepare, Aspire, Succeed' is to support all our students through their 'Cottesloe Journey', combining learning about and from, the world in which we live. The journey does not expect each student to follow the same path but empowers them to develop aspirations to become an excellent version of themselves, whatever their ability or background. Students gain a sense of fulfilment and success through educational and personal achievement; they achieve their best through the opportunities we offer, as preparation to becoming informed, well-educated, active citizens.

To achieve this, The Cottesloe School has a progressive, deep and knowledge-rich curriculum that is well-planned, sequenced and imaginative, encompassing the widest range of disciplines; Arts, Sciences, Humanities, Technologies, Maths, Literacy, Languages and Sports. With clear milestones and high expectations for all students, our curriculum allows character to develop. This is promoted through healthy relationships and the 6Cs; inspiring curiosity and developing independent thinking. These skills help create well-rounded, resilient, confident young people.

As your son or daughter moves from KS3 into KS4 they will continue to study a set of key subjects largely built around the English Baccalaureate (English, Maths, Science, History or Geography and/or a Language). This is enriched and balanced by core PE and PSHCE, as well as the opportunity to study two or three additional subjects.

In order to best meet the needs of students, there are three pathways that are differentiated in response to each student's level of entry. For example, every academically able student will be challenged to study three Sciences and a Language while those with more modest KS2 grades might study an alternative subject instead of a Language.

Our aim is simple; we want to ensure that your child enjoys a successful learning journey at The Cottesloe School, during which they develop a robust understanding of core academic subjects, whilst also enjoying the opportunity to personalise their experience through additional deep learning in studying their option subjects. Ultimately we want your son or daughter to leave The Cottesloe School as a well-qualified young adult who, through thorough preparation, focussed on challenging aspirations, has achieved success and is ready to move onto the next part of their learning journey.

Implementation

Education at all levels has undergone considerable change and renewal in the last few years. All KS4 qualifications (Level 2) have now been reformed and are more demanding in content than the old 'legacy' qualifications. They have been designed so students take all of their exams at the end of the course (usually Year 11) while non-exam assessment is removed or reduced in the majority of GCSEs and equivalent technical awards such as OCR Cambridge Nationals and Pearson BTECs. In essence, all KS4 qualifications are challenging to better prepare students for further academic or vocational study, or for the workplace through an apprenticeship.

Supporting students to select appropriate options, we have redesigned our KS4 curriculum, with three new pathways that determine the number and style of Level 2 qualifications a student takes at Key Stage 4. Our experience has shown that it is better for some students to attempt fewer Level 2 subjects and be more successful in these, than to attempt many subjects and not meet their potential in all subject areas. The three pathways are Blue, Purple and Green:

- **Blue route** – students will select four subjects taught in five one hour sessions a fortnight, leading to a total of 9/10 GCSEs/Level 2 equivalents by the end of Year 11. Blue route students are likely to achieve the EBacc qualification – they should select both a humanity subject and a language in order to do so.
- **Purple route** – students will select four subjects taught in five one hour sessions a fortnight, leading to a total of 9 GCSEs/Level 2 equivalents such as Technical Awards by the end of Year 11. Purple route students could achieve the EBacc qualification and must select at least one humanity subject and/or a language.
- **Green route** – students will select three subjects and complete 8 GCSEs/Technical Awards. They could achieve the EBacc and must select at least one humanity subject and/or a language. Green route students will also study the Prepare, Aspire, Succeed Leadership curriculum in one option block and achieve a number of Level 1 courses as part of this curriculum.
- Where our pathway system does not suit a student's learning needs, the curriculum can often be adapted to suit. We know that students' success comes from getting 'the right student on the right course'. Please discuss your child's individual needs with Mrs Baldwin (Deputy Headteacher) or Mrs Catling (Head of Year 9).

The Options Information Evening will be held on Thursday 28th January 2021. We look forward to welcoming you; **details of how to join the virtual presentations will be shared separately**. Virtual Parents Evening will take place on Tuesday 2nd February 2021.

Mrs Louise Baldwin
Deputy Headteacher – Curriculum

KS4 Qualification grading structure

- GCSEs are graded 9 to 1, with 9 being the top grade.
- Most Vocational qualifications use Pass/Merit/Distinction/Distinction* grading system. This is directly comparable with the new 9-1 GCSE grading system.

Vocational qualification grading

| Vocational Qualification Grade | 9-1 Grade equivalent |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Level 2 Distinction* | 8.5 |
| Level 2 Distinction | 7 |
| Level 2 Merit | 5.5 |
| Level 2 Pass | 4 |
| Level 1 Distinction | 3 |
| Level 1 Merit | 2 |
| Level 1 Pass | 1.25 |

GCSE qualification grading

| New Grading Structure | Old Grading Structure |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 9 | A* |
| 8 | |
| 7 | A |
| 6 | B |
| 5 | |
| 4 | C |
| 3 | D E F |
| 2 | |
| 1 | |
| U | U |

Next steps

Spend time with your son/daughter and decide, considering all the support and guidance available, which subjects they would like to study, based on the subject choices available to them according to their colour pathway.

Deadline to submit completed online options form:
Wednesday 24th February 2021

Overview of the Key Stage 4 Curriculum

| Subject | Hours a fortnight studied |
|---|---------------------------|
| <i>Compulsory subjects – taken by all students</i> | |
| English Literature and English Language (2 GCSEs) | 8 hours |
| Mathematics | 8 hours |
| Combined Science (2 GCSEs) | 8 hours |
| Core PE | 4 hours |
| PSHCE | 2 hours |

| Blue | Hours | Purple | Hours | Green | Hours |
|--|-------|-----------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| Geography or History | 5 | Geography/History/MFL | 5 | Geography/History/MFL | 5 |
| French or German | 5 | Option 2 | 5 | Prepare, Aspire, Succeed | 5 |
| Option 3 | 5 | Option 3 | 5 | Option 3 | 5 |
| Option 4 | 5 | Option 4 | 5 | Option 4 | 5 |
| Total for any Option pathway + Core curriculum offer = 50 hours | | | | | |

Blue route choices* should include **at least two EBacc subjects** (History or Geography and German or French). Students in Blue route will have the opportunity to achieve 9 or 10 Level 2 qualifications.

Purple route choices must include **at least one EBacc subject** but could choose two, like Blue. Students in Purple route will have opportunity to achieve 9 Level 2 qualifications.

Green route choices must include **at least one EBacc subject** but could choose two, like Blue. Students in Green route will have opportunity to achieve 8 qualifications at Level 2.

* For some students in Blue route, they may achieve an additional GCSE in Statistics if they are selected to do so. The decision about this will be taken by the Maths Department.

How is the decision made about the Option pathway?

The decision about the pathway a student will follow at KS4 is based on the KS2 average scaled score they achieved in Year 6 and their current AP performance across KS3.

For a small number of specific students, their colour pathway will differ from their KS2 and KS3 data.

GCSE English Language and English Literature (2 GCSEs)

COMPULSORY FOR ALL

AQA This will be graded 9 - 1

What does the course involve?

Students of all abilities will develop the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts covering the 19th, 20th and 21st century time periods as well as to write clearly, coherently and accurately using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures.

What are the entry requirements?

English Language and Literature are compulsory subjects, and we encourage students to work on both their creative writing and their reading comprehension skills throughout KS3 to prepare them for the rigour of the GCSE. Students should also be familiar with a range of forms of Literature, including: plays, poetry and prose.

How will the students be assessed?

During Year 9, students embark on a programme of study that will gradually introduce them to GCSE in English, as transition from KS3 to KS4. From Year 10, students will be studying units to prepare for their final exams in Year 11.

GCSE English Language is assessed by two exams at the end of Year 11:

Paper 1, **Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing**, examines how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage the interest of readers.

Paper 2, **Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives**, examines how different writers present a similar topic over time.

GCSE English Literature is also assessed by a further two exams at the end of Year 11. Paper 1 sees students answer an essay question on *Macbeth* and *The Sign of the Cross*. In Paper 2, students are examined on their interpretation of modern literature and poetry and will study *An Inspector Calls* as well as a cluster of 'Power and Conflict' poems.

How many exams will students take?

Students take two English Language exams and two English Literature exams at the end of Year 11. Throughout Years 10 and 11 students develop skills and knowledge to prepare them for these terminal exams.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

Students will be awarded a GCSE grade using the 1-9 levels with a 9 being the highest.

What next?

A GCSE in English is viewed as a passport to further study post 16 and beyond. Students are encouraged to take English at sixth form as it has been classified as a 'facilitating subject' by the most eminent universities in the UK. Students have the option to study A Level English Literature and or A Level English Language.

The skills you gain through studying English are marketable in most career areas, including: journalism; writing, editing and publishing; the civil service; education; advertising and marketing; human resources and librarianship.

| GCSE Mathematics | COMPULSORY FOR ALL |
|--|---------------------------|
| <i>Edexcel This will be graded 9 – 1</i> | |
| <p>What does the course involve? Students will study a broad range of mathematical topics from the five key strands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number • Ratio, proportion and rates of change • Algebra • Statistics and Probability • Geometry and Measures <p>The new GCSE has a greater focus on problem solving than the previous specification and there is more of an emphasis on communicating mathematically. Pupils will also be expected to remember key formulae and apply them to a wide range of questions.</p> | |
| <p>What are the entry requirements? This is a compulsory subject that all students will study.</p> | |
| <p>How will the students be assessed? Linear assessment at the end of Year 11 for both higher and foundation tier.</p> | |
| <p>How many exams will students take? Three 90 minute papers, one of which is non-calculator and the other two calculators can be used.</p> | |
| <p>How will each student's final performance be graded? 9 (highest) to 1 Higher tier: grades 9 – 4 Foundation tier: grades 5 – 1</p> | |
| <p>What next? GCSE Mathematics is viewed as a passport to further study post 16 and beyond. Students are encouraged to take Mathematics at Sixth Form as it has been classified as a 'facilitating subject' by the most eminent universities in the UK. Students have the option to study A-Level Mathematics, A-Level Further Mathematics and Level 3 Core Mathematics, depending on GCSE grades.</p> <p>The skills that are gained through the study of mathematics are marketable in most career areas, including Mathematics, Science, Engineering, Medicine, Law, Accountancy, Architecture, ICT, Design, Education, Journalism and Politics to name but a few.</p> | |

GCSE Combined Science (2 GCSEs)

COMPULSORY FOR ALL

AQA *This will be graded 9 – 1*

What does the course involve?

The GCSE in Combined Science should enable students to:

- Develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science, through different types of scientific enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- Develop and learn to apply observational, practical, modelling, enquiry and problem-solving skills in the laboratory, in the field and in other learning environments
- Develop their ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Students cover equal amounts of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students will be expected to remember key formulae and apply them to a range of questions.

Biology:

- Key concepts in biology
- Cells and control, genetics
- Natural selection and genetic modification
- Health, disease and the development of medicines
- Plant structures and their functions
- Animal coordination, control and homeostasis
- Exchange and transport in animals
- Ecosystems and material cycles

Chemistry:

- Key concepts in chemistry
- States of matter and mixtures
- Chemical changes
- Extracting metals and equilibria
- Groups in the periodic table
- Rates of reaction and energy changes
- Fuels and Earth science

Physics:

- Key concepts of physics
- Motion and forces
- Conservation of energy
- Waves
- Light and the electromagnetic spectrum
- Radioactivity
- Energy - Forces doing work
- Forces and their effects
- Electricity and circuits
- Magnetism and the motor effect
- Electromagnetic induction
- Particle model
- Forces and matter

What are the entry requirements?

This is a compulsory subject that all students will study.

How will the students be assessed?

Students will be assessed using examinations only, all of which will be written in Year 11. Practical work is still carried out alongside theory units and will also be examined at the end of Year 11 as skills questions in the final papers. The practical element is built around specific 'required practicals' which the students are expected to have studied.

How many exams will students take?

There are two exams for each subject, biology, chemistry and physics, which means a total of 6 exams. Each exam is 1 hour and 15 minutes long.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

9-9 (highest) to 1-1 Higher tier: grades 9-9 – 4-4 Foundation tier: grades 5-5 – 1-1

What next?

Following a course in science prepares students with skills and knowledge to allow them to take on the challenges of the world and it is a core compulsory subject within schools. Further study in aspects of science is an obvious next step and then onwards to university, but some students may move immediately into apprenticeships or employment.

This course provides a good basis for study at level 3 in the science subjects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics and also the vocational qualifications such as Health and Social Care and Applied Science. Perhaps it will support you onwards to university. Some students may move immediately into science based apprenticeships or employment.

GCSE Art



EXAM BOARD DETAILS AQA: GCSE Art & Design
Endorsement: Fine Art This will be graded 9 – 1

The GCSE qualification offered consists of Unit 1: Portfolio of Work (Coursework), which is divided into themed projects, and Unit 2: Externally Set Task (Exam), which is a themed project set by the exam board.

Year 9 consists of three smaller projects which prepare students for years 10 and 11.

Component 1: Portfolio of Work

By exploring a range of 2D and 3D materials and processes, researching and responding to artists whose work reflects the theme of the project; we aim to refine the basic practical, core skills of every student and allow them to discover and develop their strengths. Each project will be resolved in an informed and personal, independently designed and created artwork.

Component 2: Externally Set Task

Project Theme Set By Exam Board

The format of the exam follows the same structure as the previous projects: gather primary images in response to theme, record observations in a range of materials, research artists who relate to the theme, experiment in their style, develop an individual and creative resolution that responds to the theme. All research, experimentation and development work is done in sketchbooks.

The resolution (final piece) is produced under exam conditions, over ten hours (two school days).

What are the entry requirements?

Enthusiasm and increasing artistic skills is recommended, as is a high level of persistence and resilience to complete the required amount of work for GCSE Art and Design. This subject requires a high level of commitment in completing artwork outside of the lesson that will contribute to the final grade. Students should not pick this subject if they cannot make this commitment. They should have studied Art in Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

There are 4 assessment objectives against which both the coursework and exam are marked:

- AO1: Developing ideas by investigating artists
- AO2: Experimenting with Materials and Techniques
- AO3: Recording Ideas & Observations
- AO4: Realising Intentions and Presenting a Response

Unit 1. Portfolio of Work 60%;

Unit 2: Externally Set Task 40%.

How many exams will students take?

Students will sit exams Years 10 and 11 in preparation for the externally set exam in April/May of Year 11.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

9 (highest) to 1

What next?

Progression onto Level Three qualifications. A number of students have gone on to study at degree level courses such as Graphic Design, Animation, Film Production, Set Design, Interior Design, Costume Design, Fine Art, Architecture, Theatrical Makeup and Computer Game Design.



What does the course involve?

Cambridge National in Enterprise and Marketing gives students the practical skills and applied knowledge they'll need in business. Practical elements build on theoretical knowledge so that students can put their learning into practice while also developing valuable transferable skills.

Unit R064 (exam) By completing this unit, learners will understand the main activities that will need to happen to support a start-up business and what the key factors are to consider when starting up a business. Learners will understand how and why customer segmentation is used and how to target a customer market. They will also develop an understanding of how to attract and retain customers, the techniques to use when developing products and how to investigate what makes a product viable.

Unit R065 (coursework) This unit will provide learners with the skills and knowledge to design a product proposal to meet a business challenge scenario. Learners will be able to identify a customer profile for their own product design, develop market research tools and use these to complete market research for their product. Learners will use their research outcomes to generate product design ideas, assess their strengths and weaknesses and work collaboratively with peers to gain feedback to inform final design decisions. Learners will complete financial calculations to select a pricing strategy and determine whether their proposal is viable.

Unit R066 (coursework) This unit will provide learners with the skills and knowledge to create a brand identity and promotional plan for their product proposal, developed in Unit R065. They will be able to pitch their product proposal to an external audience after completing a practice pitch, and complete a review of both their pitching skills and product proposal, using their learning from this qualification, self-assessment and feedback generated. By completing this unit, learners will know how to use a combination of branding and promotional methods that complement each other and appeal to a specific customer profile. They will gain the crucial skills of professionally pitching to an unknown audience.

What are the entry requirements?

We recommend that learners are working at a grade 2 or above in maths and English in Year 9. They should have studied Business in Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

50% coursework & 50% exam. Students will be assessed in different ways at different times through year 10 & 11. Coursework will be moderated at different times across the two year course and the exam will be sat at the end of Year 11.

How many exams will students take?

One external exam will be sat at the end of Year 11. This is an 80 mark paper allocated 1h30.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

OCR will award a mark from Distinction*- Pass calculated from the score of coursework and exam.

What next?

Learners may progress onto OCR's Level 3 Certificate in Preparing for a Business Venture, OCR's Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in Business, Introductory Certificates in Marketing or A Levels and other vocational courses in related subjects.

GCSE Computer Science



AQA 8525 This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

Computer science is the study of how computers work, are used and instructed and how they impact the real world around us. Computer Scientists will be creators of programs, games and applications that solve real world problems on the hardware of today and, more importantly, tomorrow.

Students will complete two units giving them a wide range of computing skills and knowledge:

Computing Principles:

- How computers work, how they communicate and how they are used. This involves studying the components of a system, why some perform better than others and how they create and store data. We look at the fundamentals of networks and how they can be created and secured. Finally we study the types of software and the way that computers can be put to work in different ways.
- The ethics of computing; how the use of technology affects the world we live in and the people that use it. We look at the impact of laws and regulations to support our use of technology and the way that our use of it is governed. Alongside this we consider how the future use of computers may improve or disadvantage us.

Programming and algorithms:

- Understanding the concept of problem solving and how to break down complex, large tasks into smaller more manageable ones.
- Being able to develop solutions for a range of problems, through planning with algorithms and flow charts to actual computer code.
- Developing solutions using the Python programming language, which is a real world coding environment used by a vast number of employers.

What are the entry requirements?

An interest in technology is essential. Due to the nature of programming and problem solving students should be at level 3 or higher in KS3 maths and/or Science. Some programming experience would be beneficial. Alongside these skills an interest or ability in creative subjects can be a real advantage to computer programmers and problem solvers.

How will the students be assessed?

Assessment is via two exams at the end of the course and via section tests for each key concept.

How many exams will students take?

Two final exams: Paper 1 90 marks, two hours long and worth 50% of the GCSE. Paper 2 90 marks, 1h 45min long and worth 50% of the GCSE.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

Grades 9-1

What next?

Endless opportunities are available for a skilled Computer Scientist. One of the benefits of studying computer science is you will develop skills that are useful in any career. Multinational companies around the world are looking for computer scientists to solve their business problems. This could be anything from how to analyse big data and drive business strategy to using artificial intelligence to map the evolution and spread of COVID-19.

GCSE Dance



AQA This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

Students will develop their dance performance, choreographic and appraisal skills.

Component 1: (60%)

- Performance of 2 set phrases
- Performance of a duo/trio
- Solo or group choreography in response to a stimulus

Component 2: (40%)

- Written exam
 - Section A; choreography and performance skills
 - Section B: analysis of own work
 - Section C: The Dance Anthology including 6 different dance works in contrasting dance styles.

What are the entry requirements?

It would be useful if you take part in regular dance and fitness classes outside of school. Students should have studied Dance in Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

Students will be assessed on their ability to:

- Perform with commitment and confidence as a soloist and in a group
- Choreograph with imagination and originality
- Appraise dance performance, including the Dance Anthology of 6 works

How many exams will students take?

1 written exam and internally marked and external moderated practical exams for choreography and performance.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

The written exam is graded external. Practical work is marked by the teacher and externally moderated by a representative from AQA.

What next?

BTEC Performing Arts or the study or further Dance training at a dance school.

GCSE Design Technology: Product Design



AQA This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

In Design and Technology students combine creative thinking with practical and technological skills to design and make quality products and systems that meet human needs. Our aim is to inspire students to demonstrate their creativity and capability using a range of skills. Students are to think creatively and critically to improve the quality of life by solving problems as individuals or as members of a team. They respond with ideas, products and systems that draw on the local community and wider world to meet the needs of clients or markets.

Students will learn to utilise technologies both digital and traditional when making a range of products (in year 10) to then be able to demonstrate these skills and processes for a final 'design and make' project in year 11. As they do so, students develop confidence and self-esteem in using and applying practical skills.

Equipment required: Students will need to provide or fund materials for the course which is approximately £20 per year. A revision guide, drawing pens and a pack of coloured pencils are essential items for this course.

What are the entry requirements?

Students should have an interest in product design and show a fascination in how things are made and in particular 'why' material choices and manufacturing processes are utilised. Students must be committed to written work, understanding that this is a practical subject that also has 50% theory with a 2 hour exam. Learners must be aware of the health and safety requirements of a workshop and have already demonstrated this through consistent working practices. Students should have studied DT in Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

Examination Requirement: A 2 hour written examination, taken at the end of the course.

Section A—Core technical principles 20 marks

Section B—Specialist technical principles 30 marks

Section C—Designing and making principles 50 marks

Non Examined Assessment (coursework): In Year 11 there is a substantial 'design and make' challenge of 35 hours duration that is a controlled assessment (the majority has to be done at school) and will account for 50% of the grade (100 marks), it is moderated by the exam board. Portfolio criteria for the NEA:

- Identifying & investigating design possibilities
- Producing a design brief and specification
- Generating design ideas (creative ideas)
- Developing design ideas
- Realising design ideas (making a prototype & product)
- Analysing and evaluating (evaluating & testing their product)

How many exams will students take?

One written paper: 2 hours long and worth 100 marks.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

9 (highest) to 1 Higher tier: grades 9 – 4 Foundation tier: grades 5 – 1

What next?

The course leads on to further study in A level Product Design, and could lead to higher education, and jobs in a design related field.

GCSE Drama



AQA This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

Drama engages and encourages students to become confident performers and designers with the skills they need for a bright and successful future. Students learn to collaborate with others, think analytically and evaluate effectively. They gain the confidence to pursue their own ideas, reflect and refine their efforts. Whatever the future holds, students of GCSE Drama emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills, applicable both in further studies and in the workplace.

What are the entry requirements?

Must be able to perform consistently on stage and should have analytical skills in order to evaluate the impact of theatrical skills effectively. Must have strong literacy skills as there are substantial written elements of the course. Students should have studied Drama in Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

The subject content for GCSE Drama is divided into three components:

1. Understanding drama (Preparation for this will be included throughout Year 10) Written Exam at the end of Year 11. (1 hour 45 minutes) 80 Marks (40% of GCSE)

- Section A: multiple choice (4 marks)
- Section B: four questions on a given extract from *The Crucible* (44 marks)
- Section C: one question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production of *The Woman in Black* (32 marks)

2. Devising drama (Will be completed by the end of the summer term in Year 10) Devising Log Book - 2500 words Maximum. 60 Marks (30% of GCSE)

- Split into three sections - Response to a stimulus, Development and collaboration, Analysis and Evaluation. Devised Performance - 20 minutes Maximum. 20 Marks (10% of GCSE)
- A group performance created in response to one or more stimuli given to you by your teacher.

3. Texts in practice (Performance in front of an external examiner in Spring term of Year 11) This year you will have the opportunity to work with different texts and learn extracts for performance. For the final exam, you will need to perform two extracts from a play (Selected by your teacher) 20 Marks each totalling 40 Marks (20% of GCSE)

How many exams will students take?

1 written exam, 1 practical examination, 1 performance, with log book, internally marked and externally moderated.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

9 (highest) to 1

What next?

Past students have gone on to study BTEC Performing Arts. Some may seek careers in the Performing Arts or Drama and Education.

GCSE French



AQA This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

GCSE French is a challenging and rewarding subject to pick at GCSE! As part of the GCSE course, you will study a range of topics relating to the modern world and how the French language plays a part in global society. You will learn how to translate to and from English, boosting your confidence with your own language, as well as being able to engage with written work and visual media aimed at French native speakers. You will also learn how to deal with real-life situations in French – great for holidays or impressing friends and family!

Whilst you will be doing the familiar listening, reading, writing and speaking tasks you are familiar with from lower down the school, the GCSE course will also hone, refine and sharpen your literacy, numeracy, problem-solving, team work, sequencing and verbal reasoning skills.

Some of the topics you will study on the GCSE course will include the lives of young people in modern Francophone society, the pros and cons of mobile phones and social media, the French school system, the world of work, travel and holidays, and social injustices like bullying and racism.

What are the entry requirements?

You must have studied French at secondary school already and should be studying it in Year 9. There is no capacity for a student to switch language from the one they are currently studying in Year 9. The course may be very challenging for students not on at least a Grade 3 by the end of Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

The GCSE course is assessed with an examination in each of the four skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. All exams are equally weighted at 25% each. There is no coursework, but you will sit mock exams in all four skills at certain points in Year 10 and 11. All exams will be externally marked and the final speaking exam will be conducted by the teacher but assessed externally.

How many exams will students take?

Students will take four equally weighted exams of 25% each at the end of the two year course in the skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

9 (highest) to 1 Higher tier: grades 9 – 4 Foundation tier: grades 5 – 1

What next?

Do you want a challenge? Do you want to stand out from the crowd? Do you see yourself travelling in the future? Do you want the chance to practice problem-solving skills outside of maths lessons? Do you want to boost your confidence and debating skills? Are you interested in the wider world and the people in it? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, why not take French for GCSE?

And GCSE French is just the beginning! With a language GCSE, you will have a facilitating GCSE that many top universities require students to have as evidence of their critical thinking, literacy and communication skills - even if they aren't studying a language at uni! French speakers earn on average 10% more a year than people without a language GCSE in their first full-time jobs, and French is likely to replace English as the most commonly used language in European business meetings in the near future. Who knows what exciting future a French GCSE could make possible for you...?

GCSE Geography



AQA GCSE GEOGRAPHY (8035)

This will be graded 9 -1

What does the course involve?

This exciting qualification from AQA involves the study of both Human and Physical Geography including Tectonic Hazards and Climate Change, International Development and Urbanisation. There is an emphasis on understanding detailed case studies and examples for each of the six topic areas and a focus on the Geography of the UK.

The course also involves learning valuable geographical skills and fieldwork techniques. All students are required to participate in fieldwork. There will be 2 days fieldwork (at an additional cost) conducted in Year 10 which will then be assessed in Paper 3 in Year 11. This has replaced the coursework element of the previous specification.

What are the entry requirements?

This course involves the application of a wide range of skills including numeracy through data interpretation and map skills plus literacy with expectations of regular extended writing assessments. Students will be supported with all of these skills but should appreciate their value and diversity.

How will the students be assessed?

The course will be assessed by 3 exams at the end of Y11.

- Paper 1 (35%) – Living with the Physical Environment (1hr 30min 88 marks)
- Paper 2 (35%) – Challenges in the Human Environment (1hr 30min 88 marks)
- Paper 3 (30%) – Geographical Applications (1hr 15min 76 marks)

The final third exam will assess skills learnt on the fieldwork in Year 10 and Issue Analysis using a resource booklet released 12 weeks before the exam date.

How many exams will students take?

Three exams at the end of Year 11.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

Students will be given a grade from 9 to 1.

What next?

Employers and higher education institutes respect Geography as it is a subject that develops analytical skills as well as encouraging the student to think about their place in the world. As a humanities subject, geography provides students with the ability to articulate themselves in a concise and informed manner.

GCSE German



AQA *This will be graded 9 – 1*

What does the course involve?

GCSE German is a highly challenging but extremely rewarding subject to pick at GCSE! As part of the GCSE course, you will study a range of topics relating to the modern world and how the German language plays a part in global society. You will learn how to translate to and from English, boosting your confidence with your own language, as well as being able to engage with written work and visual media aimed at German native speakers. You will also learn how to deal with real-life situations in German – great for holidays, online gaming or impressing friends and family!

Whilst you will still be doing the familiar listening, reading, writing and speaking tasks you are familiar with from lower down the school, the GCSE course will also hone, refine and sharpen your literacy, numeracy, problem-solving, team work, sequencing and verbal reasoning skills.

Some of the topics you will study on the GCSE course will include how the German school system is different from the British one, German food and festivals, youth problems and addictions, what makes a good friend, online-bullying and cyber-crime, poverty and charity work, and the environment.

What are the entry requirements?

You must have studied German at secondary school already and should be studying it in Year 9. There is no capacity for a student to switch language from the one they are currently studying in Year 9. The course may be very challenging for students not on at least a Grade 3 by the end of Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

The GCSE course is assessed with an examination in each of the four skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. All exams are equally weighted at 25% each. There is no coursework, but you will sit mock exams in all four skills at certain points in Year 10 and 11. All exams will be externally marked and the final speaking exam will be conducted by the teacher but assessed externally.

How many exams will students take?

Students will take four equally weighted exams of 25% each at the end of the two year course in the skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

9 (highest) to 1 Higher tier: grades 9 – 4 Foundation tier: grades 5 – 1

What next?

Do you want a challenge? Do you want to stand out from the crowd? Do you see yourself travelling in the future? Do you want the chance to practice problem-solving skills outside of maths lessons? Do you want to boost your confidence and debating skills? Are you interested in the wider world and the people in it? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, why not take German for GCSE?

And GCSE German is just the beginning! Once you've finished your GCSE course you will have a facilitating GCSE that many top universities require students to have as evidence of their critical thinking, literacy and communication skills - even if they aren't studying a language at uni! Some of the greatest scientific, technological and engineering developments and discoveries have been made by German companies and teams, and many of them now offer graduate training and apprenticeships to international applicants. Who knows what exciting career a GCSE in German could make possible for you...?

BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care



*Pearson This will be graded Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction **

What does the course involve?

The course is made up of three components:

- Human Lifespan Development
- Health and Social Care Services and Values
- Health and Wellbeing

A variety of teaching and learning methods are used within each component, including case studies, interviews, presentations, observations, role-play and visits. The assessment structure is designed so that students can build on what they learn, and develop their assignment skills as they move through the course.

What are the entry requirements?

Due to the high volume of coursework, a grade 2 in English is required. Students should also have an interest in areas of health and social care such as nursing, midwifery, paramedics and social work.

How will the students be assessed?

Two components are internally assessed by the completion of coursework and one is externally assessed. Both internal and external assessments contribute to student's final grade.

How many exams will students take?

There is one externally assessed exam in February of Year 11.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

Students are graded as either Fail, level 1 pass, merit, distinction, or level 2 pass, merit, distinction, distinction *

What next?

This course provides the opportunity for students to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

Students can use these skills to progress on to the Level 3 BTEC National Diploma in Health and Social course, which we are delivering in sixth form.

GCSE History



Edexcel

This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

Students will study the following areas of the Edexcel Course:

- The reigns of King Richard I and King John, 1189–1216
- Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939
- The American West, c1835–c1895
- Warfare and British society, c1250–present
- London and the Second World War, 1939–45

What are the entry requirements?

Students should have a developing interest in history of the world across a range of eras. This subject requires good literacy skills to the range of source materials students will be expected to read and with the standard of English to effectively communicate responses in exams.

How will the students be assessed?

Throughout the course students will be answering GCSE exam style questions. For their final assessment, students will sit three exams at the end of Year 11.

- Paper 1 is on Warfare Through Time. This is a part source based paper and a part knowledge recall paper. This is worth 30% of your final grade. The exam is 1hr 15 mins long.
- Paper 2 is on The American West and Richard and John. This is a recall paper and is worth 40% of your final grade. The exam is 1hr 45 mins long.
- Paper 3 is on Weimar and Nazi Germany. This is a source paper worth 30% of your final grade. The exam is 1hr 20 mins long.

How many exams will students take?

For their final assessment, students will sit three exams at the end of Year 11.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

Students will be graded upon the new 9 -1 grading system.

What next?

As with a Humanities subjects, History provides you with some key skills that will help you in whichever career you choose to pursue, such as the ability to:

- Select and deploy key information
- Critically analyse opposing arguments
- Debate concisely and clearly
- Plan independently
- Problem solve
- Research

- Evaluate primary and secondary sources and historical interpretations.

After studying GCSE you can go onto study History and then onto further education. Employers love a student with GCSE, A Level or a degree in History!

Level 2 Award in Hospitality and Catering



WJEC

*This will be graded Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction **

What does the course involve?

Level 1-2 Award in Hospitality and Catering qualification is designed for learners who have an interest in food and cookery. It will provide learners with experience of using different cooking techniques and methods to enable them to use these within further education or apprenticeships. It will give them a basic understanding of the skills required for a career in food.

What are the entry requirements?

A grade 2 in English is required as the course requires a substantial amount of written work following the completion of practical elements. There is a large emphasis on practical skills and therefore students should have a developed interest in cooking at home and have regular opportunities to use the kitchen and equipment at home to develop their skills further.

How will the students be assessed?

The course consists of 2 units.

Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry will be externally assessed.

Learners apply their learning by considering all aspects of the vocational sector. They should acquire knowledge of all aspects of the industry and be able to propose new hospitality and catering provision for specific locations. Learners will be able to use their learning of different types of establishment and job roles to determine the best option. They will then apply their learning in relation to front of house and kitchen operations to determine how the proposed hospitality and catering provision will operate efficiently, legally and financially viable whilst meeting the needs of their potential market. This unit provides a broad introduction to the vocational sector in a way that is purposeful and develops a range of transferable skills.

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action is internally assessed

Learners apply their learning to safely prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes. They will draw on their learning of different types of provision and kitchen and front of house operations in Unit 1, as well as personal safety in their preparations. The content is relevant not only to employees within food production, but also those with a responsibility for food safety in the industry, nutritionists and managers and owners. This extends the learners appreciation of the whole vocational area beyond the kitchen environment.

How many exams will students take?

Students will sit one exam externally marked.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

Students final grade takes into consideration the overall final marks awarded for Unit 2 theory and practical work combined with the results of the written Unit 1 exam.

What next?

These courses offer opportunities for progression through a variety of routes in further education, training or employment, as well as developing important life skills. Students may wish to go on to study/work within the catering, hospitality or food technology sector.

Level 2 Information Technologies



OCR This will be graded - L1 Pass – L2 Distinction *

What does the course involve?

The students will learn the process of collecting data and communication of data and storing of data/information happens all around us. It can be seen in all walks of life, from a wearable fitness tracker recording how many steps you have taken, your mobile phone provider recording your usage to create your bill or an online retailer being able to target you with specific promotions based on your purchase history.

Employers see skills in IT as essential. Students studying IT will be confident users of computer software and will gain experience in developing solutions to support business using these tools, giving you an excellent opportunity to go onwards and study IT at Level 3.

What are the entry requirements?

Students should be working at a grade 2 or above in Computer Science in Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

There are two unit assessments

R012 – This is an internal marked and externally assessed coursework (50% Weighting)

R013 – This is an external exam – Duration - 1 hour and 45 minutes (50% Weighting)

How many exams will students take?

1

How will each student's final performance be graded?

L2 D* - The highest grade available equivalent to an 8.5

L1 P – the lowest grade (1)

What next?

This course will support students to move onto a Level 3 IT qualification, as the topics they will learn at KS4 are the fundamental basics they need in order to succeed at Level 3 IT.

Level 2 Creative iMedia (Creative IT)



OCR This will be graded - L1 Pass – L2 Distinction *

What does the course involve?

Creative iMedia allows students to develop skills in multimedia production. Computers have expanded the ability to create and produce incredible work to entertain, promote products and build amazing virtual environments. Students studying this course will begin to explore how elements of media can be created and presented.

As a vocational course there is an emphasis on creating a product. This will give students a chance to explore pre-production, creation and post production steps of a project. The course consists of a set exam and three coursework units. The coursework will involve creating digital graphics, developing multimedia products and designing a digital game. Coursework will be divided into one unit in year 1, along with the exam and two units in year 2.

RO81 - Pre Production Skills - Exam

RO82 - Creating Digital Graphics - Coursework

RO87 - Creating multimedia products

RO91 - Developing a game concept

What are the entry requirements?

Students have developed an interest in IT applications. They also need an understanding of how IT impacts organisations and society as a whole. Students must enjoy the creative aspects of IT e.g. Photoshop, creating interactive PowerPoint documents.

How will the students be assessed?

Students will complete four units, each weighing 25% of the total qualification. There is one written exam and three coursework units.

How many exams will students take?

1

How will each student's final performance be graded?

L2 Distinction* - The highest grade equivalent to an 8.5

L1 P – the lowest grade (1)

What next?

L3 digital media courses & L3 IT courses as the topics they will learn at KS4 are the fundamental basics they need in order to succeed at Level 3 IT.

GCSE Music



Edexcel This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

The Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Music qualification has been designed to give all students the opportunity to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills of music in performing, composing and appraising.

Unit 1: Performing Music 30% of the total mark comprising one solo performance and one ensemble performance.

Unit 2: Composing Music 30% of the total mark comprising two compositions from different musical genres.

Unit 3: Music – Listening and appraising – A written paper based on the set works 40% of the total mark.

The listening paper includes the anthology with 4 Areas of Study with 2 set works in each

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

What are the entry requirements?

GCSE Music requires students to be competent musicians; it involves note reading and dictation skills and therefore **students opting for GCSE Music should already play an instrument and have instrumental/vocal lessons, completing graded examinations, or be working at an equivalent level.** Students should have a desire to perform and to develop performance skills.

How will the students be assessed?

Performances and compositions will be completed in controlled conditions under staff supervision. Listening and appraising will be assessed by external exam.

How many exams will students take?

1 listening exam. Performance and composition controlled assessments are internally marked and externally moderated.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

GCSE 1-9.

What next?

You can continue to study BTEC Performing Arts.

GCSE Religious Studies: Philosophy & Applied Ethics



AQA Religious Studies Specification A This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

The GCSE specification in Religious Studies will look in depth at two world religions – Christianity and Judaism. These religions will be taught in unison with the focus being on critical comparison and thematic learning.

The topics are broken down into two Components, the first concerns the Beliefs, Teachings and Practices of both Judaism and Christianity and will look at the philosophical background that these two world religions have on God and what makes up the 'core' of their faith.

The second Component will explore thematic issues where students will study four themes and consider how a Jew and a Christian might react in each case. The themes include:

Theme A: Relationships and families,

Theme B: Religion and life,

Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict

Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.

Students will approach this from a critical position, looking at the arguments presented by both those in support of faith and those who challenge it (evil, science and modern society).

By completing this course students will have a much richer understanding of the varieties and complexities in faith and will be able to demonstrate the skills of comparison, empathy and critical examination.

What are the entry requirements?

Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics is a literacy based subject and students taking the course will need to be able to structure their arguments clearly and write in timed conditions. As a result, it is recommended that students will be most successful if they are working at a grade of a 3 or above in their English and Humanities subjects in Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics will be examined through terminal exams at the end of Year 11. There is no coursework element in the GCSE. Students will be graded on the new scale of 1-9.

How many exams will students take?

This GCSE is split into 2 exams. Component 1 is assessed in a single 1 hour 45 minute exam paper. Component 2 is also assessed in a single 1 hour and 45 minute exam paper. Questions are broken down into 1, 2, 4, 5, and 12 mark questions which will allow for the full range of responses.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

9 (highest) to 1 (lowest)

What next?

Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics will equip students with the skills of analysis, empathy, evaluation and critical thinking. This will be of value to any subject but is particularly beneficial for students looking to study English, History, Law, Sociology, Psychology at A-level (as well as Philosophy and Ethics). Philosophy and Ethics can be beneficial for a wide range of careers and has been respected at university for many years. In particular, Philosophy and Ethics can help with journalism, law, politics, health and social care, publishing and more.

GCSE Physical Education



Edexcel This will be graded 9 – U

What does the course involve?

Students will receive a well-rounded and full introduction to the world of Physical Education, sport and sport science by developing an understanding of how the mind and body works in relation to performance in physical activity.

The GCSE course is split into 4 different components:

Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems where students will learn about the different body systems, movement analysis and aspects of physical training.

Component 2: Health and Performance where students will learn about Social-cultural influence on health and performance and how sport influences our body and mind through sports psychology.

Component 3: Practical Performance where students will participate in a range of different sports and activities.

Component 4: Personal Exercise Programme (PEP) Coursework where students will develop and implement their own fitness programme designed to improve aspects of their health and fitness goals.

What are the entry requirements?

The GCSE has been designed to build on and embed the physical development and skills learned in Key Stage 3, encouraging learners to become more competent, confident and expert in their techniques, and apply them across different sports and physical activities whilst deepening their knowledge of content studied previously.

Due to the practical nature of this course, **it is recommended that students participate in at least one sport to a good standard outside of school** and have a keen interest in a variety of other sports and activities.

How will the students be assessed?

Students are assessed through 2 external exams, their practical performance across 3 different sports, and their theoretical understanding and application by producing a piece of course work.

Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems is a written examination of 1 hour and 45 minutes and is worth 36% of the student's overall grade.

Component 2: Health and Performance is a written examination of 1 hour and 15 minutes and is worth 24% of the student's overall grade.

Component 3: Practical Performance is an internally assessed aspect where students are evaluated practically in person or via video across 3 different sports. These have to be 1 team sport, 1 individual sport and 1 choice. This component is internally marked and worth 30% of the student's overall grade.

Component 4: Personal Exercise Programme (PEP) is internally assessed course work and is worth 10% of the student's overall grade.

How many exams will students take?

There are two exams as part of the GCSE Physical Education course which are taken in June of Year 11.

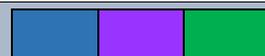
How will each student's final performance be graded?

Students are graded using the 9-1 grading structure.

What next?

The Edexcel GCSE in Physical Education provides a strong base for progression to Further Education, whether it is on Level 3 BTEC or A Levels Physical Education. These can lead onto courses at college or University relating to sports coaching, sports science, physiotherapy, psychology, medicine or teaching and education to name a few. It can also lead onto an apprenticeship or work in any sports related industry, for example fitness instructors, personal trainers and coaching

Level 1 Prepare, Aspire, Succeed Leadership



Various exam boards This will be graded at Level 1

What does the course involve?

The PAS (Prepare, Aspire, Succeed) Leadership programme develops students' social, interpersonal, teamwork, resilience, confidence and self-awareness skills through leadership based activities and learning.

Students will use these key skills to complete accredited leadership awards through a number of different awarding bodies, for example the Princes Trust Achieve Programme which can lead to a Level 1 qualification in Personal Development and Employability. These qualifications will support students in their academic studies as well as being recognised awards to be added to their CVs to demonstrate their range of skills for college and future employers.

The PAS course will involve working on and delivering a number of school and community based projects, as well as engaging the local community and businesses in enterprising projects that contribute to the completion of the leadership awards. Students will also be actively encouraged to take part in some voluntary work within a local community organisation to demonstrate their developing leadership skills. This volunteering can count towards the Duke of Edinburgh's Award which all PAS students are encouraged to undertake, if they have not done so already.

The course will include opportunities to work with guest speakers from various backgrounds to motivate and inspire students further. The course will also provide time and space for students to work with key members of staff at The Cottesloe School to support understanding of their own academic progress and the next steps to ensuring success.

What are the entry requirements?

The Cottesloe School has identified students that will be successful on this course via KS2 and KS3 data and progress. Students will be invited to take this course via the Green Option form.

How will the students be assessed?

Students will be assessed through portfolio evidence and teacher based competency assessments.

How many exams will students take?

Dependent upon the qualifications taken, some courses may have short online or written tests.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

This will be graded L1 Pass to L1 Distinction.

What next?

Upon successful completion of PAS alongside Level 2 qualifications, students will be able to apply for Level 3 qualifications either at TCS or other KS5 providers. Achieving these qualifications at Level 1 will strengthen any post-16 application, whatever path a student chooses.

GCSE Separate Sciences (3 GCSEs)

Edexcel This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

This course is similar in content to the previous GCSE triple Science but with added depth of knowledge. Students will be expected to remember key formulae and apply them to a range of questions.

The GCSE in Combined Science should enable students to:

- Develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science, through different types of scientific enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- Develop and learn to apply observational, practical, modelling, enquiry and problem-solving skills in the laboratory, in the field and in other learning environments
- Develop their ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

What are the entry requirements?

Students must achieve a 3+ in both maths and science in their most recent AP in Year 9.

How will the students be assessed?

Students will be assessed using examinations only, all of which will be written in Year 11. Practical work is still carried alongside theory units and will also be examined at the end of Year 11 as skills questions in the final papers.

How many exams will students take?

There are two exams for each subject, biology, chemistry and physics which means a total of 6 exams. Each exam is 1 hour and 45 minutes long.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

9 (highest) to 1 Higher tier: grades 9 – 4 Foundation tier: grades 5 – 1

What next?

Following a course in science prepares students with skills and knowledge to allow them to take on the challenges of the world and it is a core compulsory subject within schools. Further study in aspects of science is an obvious next step and then onwards to university, but some students may move immediately into apprenticeships or employment.

Cambridge National Certificate in Sport Studies



OCR This will be graded F-D*

What does the course involve?

This is a vocational qualification that aims to develop the students' own performance and how to effectively lead others as well as gain knowledge about the national sports context. This is excellent preparation for roles such as sport development or sport leadership.

Students will produce a portfolio of evidence to support their assessment across a broad range of sport studies disciplines.

The course aims to produce well rounded and technically accurate sport students who are able to apply their theoretical knowledge to real life, sporting situations and leadership opportunities.

The students will complete the following 2 units:

- Contemporary Issues in Sport (exam)
- Developing Sports Skills (practical content)

Students must then complete 2 of the following units:

- Sports leadership
- Sports and the media
- Working in the sports industry
- Developing knowledge and skills in outdoor activities

(NB- The units that the students will complete is down to the discretion of the Head of PE).

What are the entry requirements?

Due to the high volume of coursework students need to have a grade 2 in English and Maths.

There is also a large practical element within the course and therefore students are recommended to have a keen interest in sport and participate regularly in at least one sport.

How will the students be assessed?

Students will be assessed through a variety of methods. Each student will produce a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate that they have met the learning objectives.

The portfolio will include:

- Word processed document
- Research tasks
- PowerPoint presentations
- Practical workshops
- Video evidence
- Teacher/observer witness statements

Students will also sit a 1-hour external assessment (Contemporary studies).

How many exams will students take?

There is only 1 exam for the CNAT Sports studies course.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

Students are graded as either, Fail, Level 1 pass, merit, distinction, or a level 2 pass, merit, distinction or distinction *

What next?

Cambridge Nationals provide a strong base for progression to Further Education as well as vocational qualification for example health and social care, child care or public services. These can lead onto courses at college of University relating to sports coaching, sports science, or teaching and education to name a few. It can also lead onto an apprenticeship or work in any sports or leadership related field.

GCSE Statistics

INVITATION
ONLY

Edexcel This will be graded 9 – 1

What does the course involve?

This course involves supplementing your studies in Maths by having the opportunity to achieve a GCSE in Statistics. By following this course students will be able to deepen their knowledge and further develop the mathematical skills required for handling, presenting and interpreting statistics and Probability.

What are the entry requirements?

This opportunity is available for students in the top 2 sets in each half of the year. This may be extended if timetabling and groupings allow.

How will the students be assessed?

The students are assessed in exams at the end of the course. This is usually taken at the end of Year 10.

How many exams will students take?

Students will take two 1.5 hour exams at the end of the course.

How will each student's final performance be graded?

Students can be entered at either Foundation level, grades 5 to 1 or at Higher level grades 9 to 4 (3).

What next?

This course is designed to support students who are intending to stay on into the 6th form to study A level qualifications. It also provides a strong foundation for students intending on studying A level Maths.



Department
for Education

HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE THE BEST GCSE CHOICES

You and your child may currently be considering, with advice from their school, what GCSE subjects they should take next year.

The Department for Education recommends these core subjects, which make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), and help keep options for young people open:

- **English language and English literature**
- **Maths**
- **Science**
Combined science or 3 single sciences from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Computer science
- **History or Geography**
- **A language**
Ancient or modern



WHAT IS THE EBACC?

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right – it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

EBACC FUTURE PROOFS YOUR CHILD'S PROSPECTS

While your child may not have decided on their future career path yet, choosing the EBacc at GCSE gives them access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.

If they are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain's most prestigious universities.

The research found that students studying EBacc subjects for GCSE, were more likely to stay in education after 16.

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies,
August 2017

LANGUAGES GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE A COMPETITIVE EDGE

Languages are an important part of EBacc. Studying a foreign language can be extremely rewarding and exciting. They provide an insight into other cultures and can open the door to travel and employment opportunities. They can also broaden pupils' horizons, helping them flourish in new environments.

If your child finds languages difficult, don't forget that they will have been studying them for much less time than their other subjects and, while it can be a challenge, learning a language will greatly enhance their future opportunities.

What's more, we know that employers value languages, as they are increasingly important to make sure we can compete in the global market. Because of this, languages are increasingly becoming a requirement for many graduate schemes, such as those offered by Lidl.

"Having language skills under your belt will help make you stand out from the crowd, whether you're applying for an entry level position, a management role or an internal transfer."

Steve Cassidy, Senior Vice President & Managing Director, UK & Ireland, Hilton

The Russell Group has named languages as subjects that open doors to more degrees at universities.

(The Russell Group is a group of 24 universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement)

"Young people skilled in the languages of Europe, China and other key markets around the world, can look forward to exciting and rewarding careers."

Dr Adam Marshall, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce

WHAT ABOUT ARTS AND MUSIC?

While arts and music are not included in the EBacc, every child should still experience a high-quality arts and cultural education throughout their time at school as part of a balanced curriculum. If your child can take 9 GCSEs, they will have either 1 or 2 further options and can choose subjects based on their wider interests like art or music as well as others such as physical education or technology.

Schools where more pupils select the EBacc at GCSE maintain the number of pupils that select arts.

Trends in arts subjects in schools with increased EBacc entry July 2017



Further Information

Search EBacc on GOV.UK for more information.

You should also get in touch with your child's school directly — they will be able to tell you about their specific GCSE and EBacc offer and explain all of your child's options.