

Y9 OPTIONS

KS4 PATHWAYS 2025

Dates For Your Diary:

- **Tuesday 4 February 5:30pm - 6:15pm** - Y9 KS4 Options Information Evening
- **Monday 10 February** - Y9 Parent/ Carer Consultation Evening which will provide an opportunity for you and your child to discuss potential option choices with their current teachers.
- **Tuesday 11 February** - The options form link will be sent to all parents.
- **Friday 28 February** - This is the deadline for submitting the options form.



“ At Swinton Academy,
we will make a difference ”

Letter from our Principal



Swinton Academy

Associate Principal – Chela Wilson BA (Hons) PGCE

Chair of Governors – David Lennox

Executive Principal - Rebecca Hibberd BEd (Hons), MA

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February 2025

Dear Y9 Student, Parents and Carers

KS4 Pathways 2025

At Swinton Academy, our ambition is to offer you a broad and balanced curriculum; one that will allow you to develop your subject knowledge and skills in many different disciplines, as well as developing your personality, preparing you fully for life beyond school. Our hope, then, is that by the time you reach the end of KS4 you have the necessary skills, experiences and qualifications to make informed decisions about the next stage of your academic career.

Due to many subjects being compulsory your option choices are limited, so when making your choice I urge you to select a subject that you enjoy and will excel in. All Y9 students will have the opportunity to discuss their choices with members of staff in school, members of the academy's leadership team or a member of your year team. Here we will be able to advise you if your career aspirations require you to study a particular GCSE course. We are also happy to meet with your parents/carers at this important time.

Along with your parents/carers, we encourage you to read all the information within this booklet. It will help you to understand the recent changes that have taken place linked to study at KS4. It also offers information about the new GCSE grading system.

I know that you have been looking at career options in tutorial time, but should you need any further information then please contact your year team who will only be too happy to organise a careers interview for you. To book a careers appointment, please email nraymond@swintonacademy.org or speak to the year team and we can help to organise this for you.

To help students make the best possible decisions which will increase opportunities in the future, and for you to guide your child, we will offer a range of support throughout the term.

These include:

This options booklet for each student which gives useful information about each subject, what students will learn, how it is assessed and which future careers/pathways it will support.



A Y9 options google classroom – each Y9 student will be signed up to the Y9 option choices classroom. Information within this classroom will be added too throughout the term to include guidance on how to choose options, careers information, labour market research and details on the option process.

Information slides by each head of faculty detailing key GCSE information for their subjects. This will give you and your child a more in depth understanding of each subject, what the course entails, how it is assessed and how the subject can link to post 16 study and careers. They are available from the google classroom.

Y9 monitoring – this was emailed to you on the 13th January 2025. It details your child's progress in each subject, their attitude to learning and subject target grade. This will inform you of the subjects/areas your child is stronger in and the areas for development.

Y9 Consultation Evening – this is a live event and will be held at the academy on Monday 10th February. The evening will give you and your child an opportunity to speak directly to class teachers focusing on progress and option choices.

Y9 assemblies – Our weekly Y9 assembly (held each Friday) will focus on providing students with advice around choosing options – this might include career information, Post 16 information, subject combinations and advice on how to choose the best subjects for you. All Heads of Faculty for options choice subjects will address the Year 9 Cohort over the next 2 weeks, outlining what each subject is about, how it is assessed and how it links to future study and careers.

We wish all our Y9 students the best of luck as they make the important transition into KS4 (Y10 -11).

Yours faithfully

Mrs Chela Wilson

Associate Principal



Introduction

It is an exciting time for Y9 students. We ask that parents/carers and students go through the information contained in this booklet together so you and your child will be able to discuss the courses that will be studied.

Their deadline for returning their pathway forms is Friday, 28th February 2025. These will be distributed via email on Tuesday 11th February 2025 (day after consultation evening). They need to be returned via e-mail to kyuill@swintonacademy.org.

New Style GCSE

In 2020 the Government introduced a programme of GCSE reform, and all KS4 courses offered at Swinton Academy follow the 1-9 format. Key features of the reformed GCSEs are:

- All GCSE exams will be studied in a linear format and be taken in the **Summer of Y11**
- There will be greater emphasis on spelling, punctuation and grammar
- All courses will be more rigorous, demanding and challenging
- There will be tiered exam papers in Mathematics, Science and Modern Foreign Languages
- The grade scale for these new GCSEs now range from **9 to 1**, with 9 being the highest.

There are two main types of qualification, '**GCSE**' and '**Technical**'.

The General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) is a primarily exam-based qualification, which may include some coursework or practical work, depending on the nature of the subject.

Technical qualifications result in a Level 2 qualification, which is equivalent to a 'GCSE'. The final qualification is mainly based on coursework that takes place throughout the course but all Technical courses also feature an examined element.

New GCSE Grading:

New GCSE Grade	Equivalent Traditional Grade
9	A* (Top 3% nationally)
8	A*
7	A
6	Top grade B
5	B/C
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F/G

New Technical Grading:

Old Grade	New Grade
Level 2 Distinction	8
Level 2 Merit	6
Level 2 Pass	4
Level 1 Distinction	3
Level 1 Merit	2
Level 1 Pass	1
Unclassified	0

KS4 Curriculum

KS4 Curriculum

Our KS4 curriculum offers a wide range of subjects which provides you with a variety of academic and vocational courses to choose from. It is important to read about the subjects mentioned in this booklet carefully as it will help you understand what is expected of you next year. **After September of the year you start your GCSEs you will not be able to change courses so please select carefully.**

Core Subjects

There are some subjects that you have to study; these are compulsory subjects:

- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- Science (Combined)
- PE/Sport – 1 hour practical, non-examined.
- Religious Studies
- Geography or History

English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The EBacc is not a qualification in itself. It is a particular group of GCSE subjects looked on favourably by universities. The Baccalaureate subjects are English, Maths, the Sciences (including Computer Science), History or Geography and a Modern Foreign Language. You do not need to have studied all of these subjects to go to university but having your GCSE mix steered towards English Baccalaureate subjects will help to keep your options open.

How to choose

PLEASE CHOOSE SUBJECTS YOU:

Like and ones which excite, motivate and interest you

Feel might help you in the general career area that you are interested in, such as 'working with people' or 'using practical skills'.

Find out exactly what each course involves by reading this booklet

Ask your teachers for advice and support about courses that would be best for you.

Can I change my mind later?

The subjects you choose are for the next two years. Therefore, it is very important that the right choice is made at the outset. **It is only in exceptional circumstances that students are permitted to change their courses but not after September of Y10.**



YEAR 10 CORE English Language

Subject Introduction

English Language is one of the two English GCSE qualifications that you will take and is a compulsory course.

In English Language you will read and write a variety of texts, considering the impact of language choices made by each writer, including yourself and your peers. You will explore a range of both fiction and non-fiction texts and be sure to find the style of writing that you enjoy most. There are opportunities for reading aloud, investigating a range of ideas in groups or as a class – you'll even have the opportunity to argue your points through a topical debate! You will develop your analytical skills and creative writing giving you plenty of chances to interpret the world around you through the written and spoken word.

In this subject you will study

- Fiction Reading: a range of genres, short stories and novels
- Fiction Writing: narrative and descriptive writing to unlock your imagination
- Non-fiction Reading: unfolding the real world. Studying a range of media, expanding your understanding of real-life concepts
- Non-fiction Writing: persuasive and argumentative opinion writing about real-life scenarios
- Spoken Language: a presentation/speech on a topic of your choice (this must be completed to be awarded your GCSE qualification)

Useful skills to support learning

- Extended writing
- SPaG
- Reading a variety of texts
- Note-making
- Debating/Discussion
- Empathetic response
- Research skills
- Confidence and creativity
- Creative writing

Examination

100% written examination – Eduqas exam board.

Component 1 (1 hour and 45 minutes): Fiction Reading and Writing

Component 2 (2 hours): Non-fiction Reading and Writing

Career and Post 16 studies

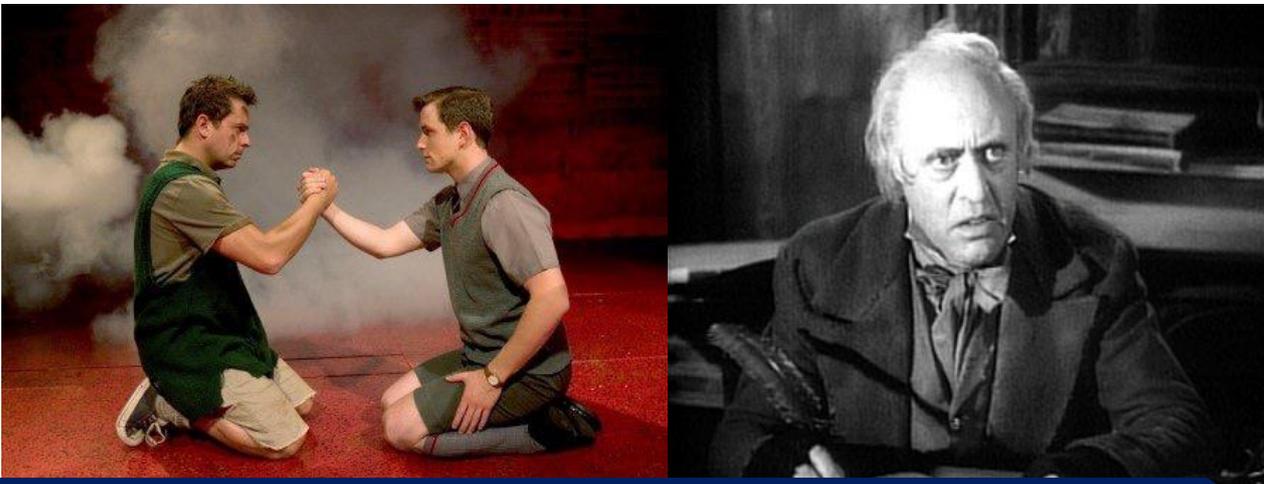
A Levels in English Language and English Literature are obviously supported by this GCSE, as are A Levels or further study in MFL, Film and Media, Business, and Performing Arts.

English qualifications are always useful in any career and help with communication skills, but sectors such as Law, Business, Education, Media, and Public Relations are all areas you could explore more easily with a good GCSE Language grade.

If you do not pass this GCSE course by the end of Year 11, you will be required to study the qualification and re-sit the examination. Pass = grade 4 or above, and the re-sit is with a Post 16 provider, such as Swinton Academy.



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YEAR 10 CORE English Literature

Subject Introduction

English Literature is one of the two English GCSE qualifications that you will take and is a compulsory course.

In English Literature, you will study a variety of different texts and forms of media related to them, explore the backgrounds of writers and poets, and think about how these texts and performances affect you and other readers. There are opportunities for drama-based activities, performing, reading aloud, and debating ideas in groups or as a class, alongside essay writing where you can present your ideas in a formal and creative manner.

In this subject you will study

- Shakespearean drama: 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare.
- 19th century prose: 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens.
- Modern drama: 'Blood Brothers' by Willy Russell
- Poetry Anthology
- Unseen Poetry.

Useful skills to support learning

- Extended writing
- SPaG
- Note-making
- Debating/Discussion
- Empathetic response
- Research skills
- Confidence and creativity

Examination

100% written examination – Eduqas exam board.

Component 1 (2 hours): 'Macbeth' and Poetry

Component 2 (2 hours and 30 minutes): 'Blood Brothers' and 'A Christmas Carol' and Unseen Poetry.

Career and Post 16 studies

A Levels in English Language and English Literature are obviously supported by this GCSE, as are A Levels or further study in MFL, Film and Media, Business, and Performing Arts.

English qualifications are always useful in any career and help with communication skills, but sectors such as Law, Business, Education, Media, and Public Relations are all areas you could explore more easily with a good GCSE Literature grade.



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YEAR 10 CORE Combined Science

Subject Introduction

GCSE study in Combined Science provides the foundations for understanding the physical, living and material world.

Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all students should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science.

Studying Combined science will result in two GCSE grades.

In this subject you will study

Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics. Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology

Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes. The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.

Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and atomic structure. Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism.

Useful skills to support learning

Students will develop knowledge and understanding in science through opportunities for working scientifically completing a minimum of 21 required practicals throughout the GCSE course.

Students will not only develop practical skills but also work as a group, apply mathematical skills, develop their extended writing and explore ethical issues.

Examination

There are six papers for GCSE Combined science at the end of Y11.

Each of the six papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas from a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics (weighting 16.7% per paper).

Each exam is a written paper lasting 1hr 15 minutes.

Questions are a mixture of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

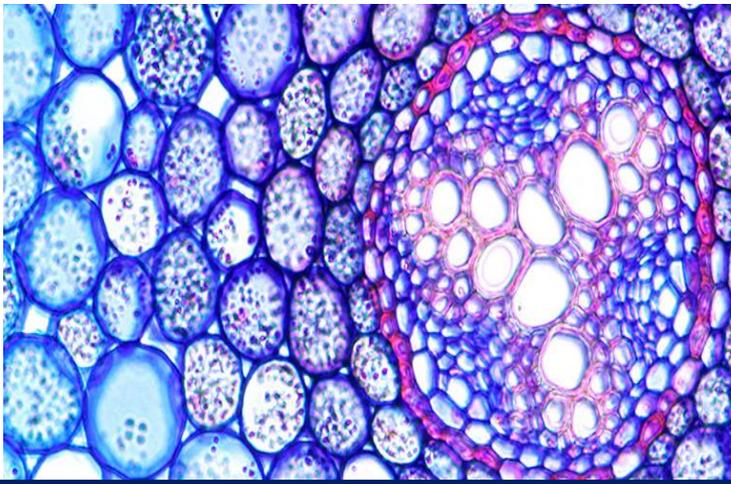
Career and Post 16 studies

Further study at A level, this includes Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Applied science. Astronomer, Technician, Aviation, Chemist, Teacher, Electrician, Film and Video Editor, Food Scientist, Forensic Scientist, Nuclear Technician, Nuclear Power Operator, Occupational Health Specialist, Physicist, Physiotherapist, Pilot, Sound Engineer, Doctor, Nurse, Pharmacist, Dentist, Marine Biologist, Veterinarian, Veterinary Nurse, Optician, Chemical Engineer, an endless list!



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YEAR 10 OPTION

Separate Science:

Biology*

Subject Introduction

GCSE study in Biology provides the foundations for understanding the living world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all students should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science.

Following the separate sciences route provides a firm foundation for A levels and further study in science.

In this subject you will study

Paper 1: Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.

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

Useful skills to support learning

Students will develop knowledge and understanding in Biology through opportunities for working scientifically completing a minimum of 10 required practicals throughout the GCSE Biology course.

Students will not only develop practical skills but also work as a group, apply mathematical skills, develop their extended writing and explore ethical issues.

Examination

There are two papers for GCSE Biology.

Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas (weighting 50% per paper) Each exam is a written paper lasting 1hr 45 minutes.

Questions are a mixture of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

Career and Post 16 studies

Further study at A level, this includes Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Applied science. Microbiologist, Chemist, Teacher, Electrician, Film and Video Editor, Food Tester, Food Scientist, Forensic Scientist, Nuclear Technician, Nuclear Power Operator, Occupational Health Specialist, Physicist, Physiotherapist, Pilot, Ship Captain, Sound Engineer, Doctor, Nurse, Pharmacist, Dentist, Marine Biologist, Veterinarian, Veterinary Nurse, Optician, Chemical Engineer, an endless list!



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**All 3 separate sciences must be taken together. *Your teacher will guide you in making this choice.*



YEAR 10 OPTION

Separate Science: Chemistry*

Subject Introduction

GCSE study in Chemistry provides the foundations for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all students should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science.

Following the separate sciences route provides a firm foundation for A levels and further study in science.

In this subject you will study

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

Paper 2: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using

Useful skills to support learning

Students will develop knowledge and understanding in Chemistry through opportunities for working scientifically completing a minimum of 10 required practicals throughout the GCSE Chemistry course.

Students will not only develop practical skills but also work as a group, apply mathematical skills, develop their

Examination

There are two papers for GCSE Chemistry.

Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas (weighting 50% per paper)

Each exam is a written paper lasting 1hr 45 minutes.

Questions are a mixture of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

Career and Post 16 studies

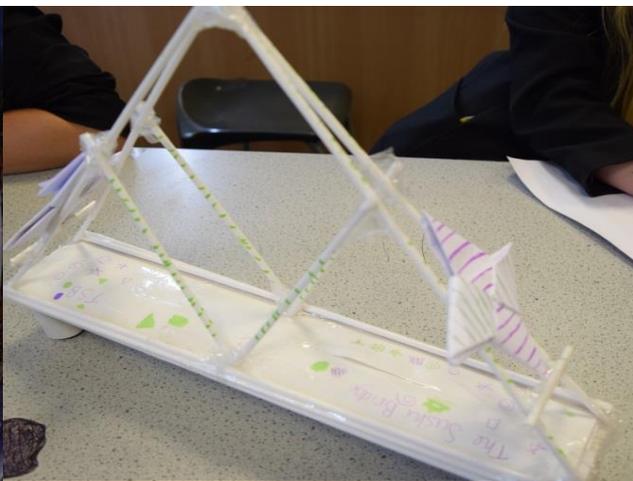
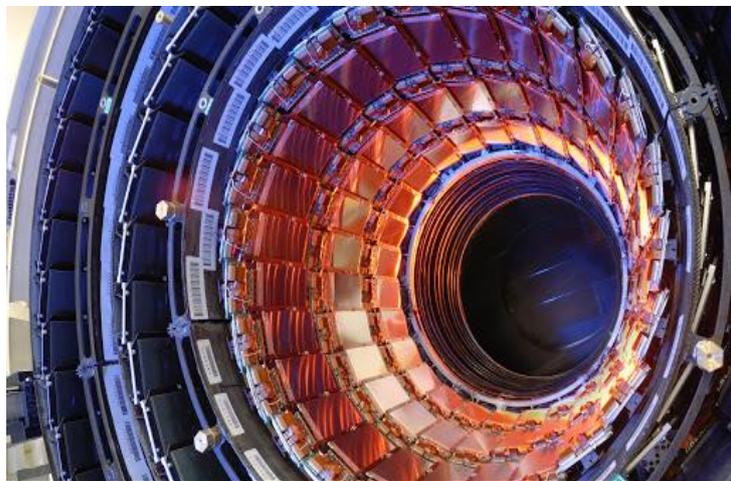
Further study at A level, this includes Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Applied science. Astronomer, Technician, Aviation, Chemist, Teacher, Electrician, Film and Video Editor, Food Tester, Food Scientist, Forensic Scientist, Nuclear Technician, Nuclear Power Operator, Occupational Health Specialist, Physicist, Physiotherapist, Pilot, Ship Captain, Sound Engineer, Doctor, Nurse, Pharmacist, Dentist, Veterinarian, Veterinary Nurse, Optician, Chemical Engineer, Marine Biologist, an endless list!



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YEAR 10 OPTION

Separate Science: Physics*

Subject Introduction

GCSE study in Physics provides the foundations for understanding the physical and material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all students should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science.

Following the separate sciences route provides a firm foundation for A levels and further study in science.

In this subject you will study

Paper 1: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter and atomic structure.

Paper 2: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism and Space physics.

Useful skills to support learning

Students will develop knowledge and understanding in Physics through opportunities for working scientifically completing a minimum of 10 required practicals throughout the GCSE Physics course.

Students will not only develop practical skills but also work as a group, apply mathematical skills, develop their extended writing and explore ethical issues.

Examination

There are two papers for GCSE Physics.

Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas (weighting 50% per paper)

Each exam is a written paper lasting 1 hr 45 minutes.

Questions are a mixture of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.

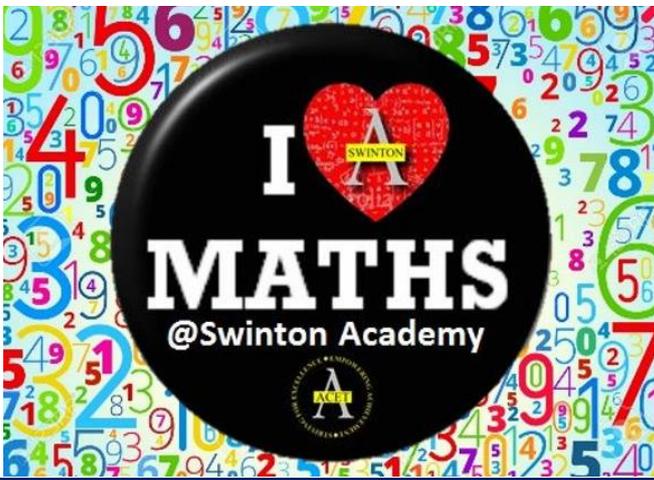
Career and Post 16 studies

Further study at A level, this includes Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Applied science. Astronomer, Technician, Aviation, Chemist, Teacher, Electrician, Film and Video Editor, Food Tester, Food Scientist, Forensic Scientist, Nuclear Technician, Nuclear Power Operator, Occupational Health Specialist, Physicist, Physiotherapist, Pilot, Ship Captain, Sound Engineer, Doctor, Nurse, Pharmacist, Dentist, Veterinarian, Veterinary Nurse, Optician, Chemical Engineer, Marine Biologist, an endless list!



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YEAR 10 CORE Mathematics

Subject Introduction

Mathematics the most essential of subject's to become totally immersed in. Mathematics is a skill that is fully encompassed in everybody's everyday life whether it's adding up your weekly shopping bill or working out your annual tax returns. Mathematics explains the world around us and provides solutions to everyday problems for everyday people every single day.

In this subject you will study

Everyday calculations with integers, decimals, fractions and percentages. Ratio and proportion along with their everyday application. Geometry and constructions in context along with 2D and 3D shapes. Standard index form, indices and their application in the sciences. Algebra, the fundamental base of all mathematics and its use in computers and

Useful skills to support learning

Independent investigation and discussion. There is no better way to support your understanding of the world around you than to question and interrogate the facts. This means using maths and discussing your hypothesis and conclusions with others. The more mathematics you use the better your understanding of the world and the better your chances of being a success in it.

Examination

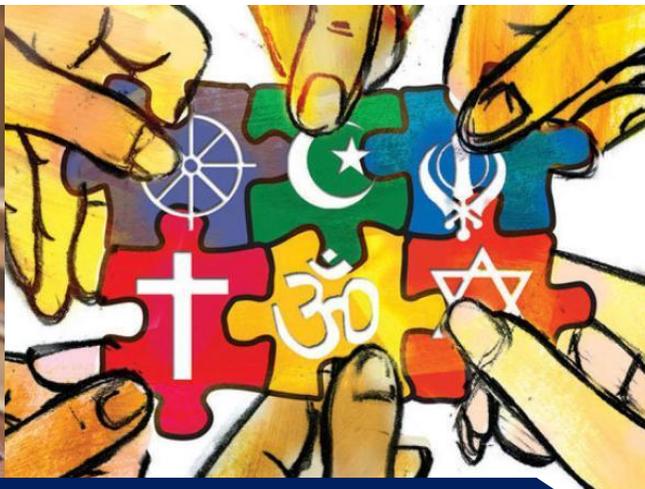
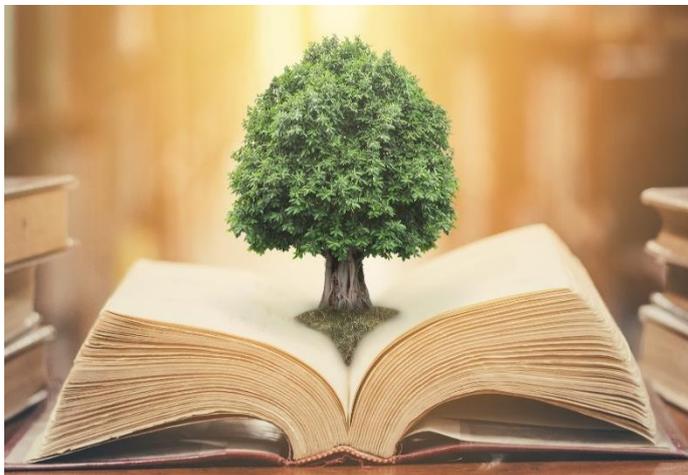
Assessments take place once in each term. The assessment is in the format you will be expected to sit at the end of Y11 and graded accordingly. This informs future learning and facilitates accurate progress mapping for each student. There is also 1 submitted piece of work for each half term which is teacher assessed. The final external exam consists of 3 OCR exam papers set in the summer of Y11.

Career and Post 16 studies

Mathematics at grade 4 or above is now an essential part of the acceptance criteria for all Post 16 education providers. In the work place most employers now insist on a grade 4 and some even a grade 5. Beyond a shadow of a doubt Mathematics is a door opener to both a world of further education and employment, an essential for budding academics and artisans alike.



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YEAR 10 CORE Religious Studies

Subject Introduction

Religious Studies makes a significant contribution to pupils' academic and personal development. It also plays a key role in promoting social cohesion and the virtues of respect and empathy, which are important in our diverse society. GCSE Religious Studies provides a broad understanding of the beliefs and practices of both Christianity and Islam, as well as promoting religious literacy and the contemplation of ultimate questions. Students will be able to reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes whilst considering a range of relevant and contemporary themes and modern-world issues.

In this subject you will study

Paper 1. The Study of Religions

Christianity: beliefs, teachings, and practices

Islam: beliefs, teachings, and practices

Paper 2. Thematic Studies

Relationships and Families

Religion and Life

Peace and Conflict

Crime and Punishment

Useful skills to support learning

- Research, analysis and presentation skills.
- Critical thinking skills and the ability to interpret information, formulate questions and solve problems.
- Ability to think philosophically and evaluate faith and culture.
- Organisational and time management skills.
- Team-working and communication skills.

Examination

- 2 written exams: 1 hour 45 minutes each
- Each worth 50% of GCSE

Career and Post 16 studies

A GCSE in Religious Studies can lead to A Levels in Religious Studies or Philosophy. It can also be useful in careers such as; education, the armed forces, health care, social work, public services, journalism, and the law.



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YEAR 10 OPTION Geography

Subject Introduction

Geography is an extremely interesting and enjoyable subject to study as it is about what is happening in the world today. You will become more aware of the things that will influence your life in the future. Geography is not just about learning about interesting people and exciting places, it also involves getting out of the classroom and experiencing these for yourself; as part of this course you will complete fieldwork in Castleton and at Burbage Brook (river study) in the Peak District.

In Geography you will also develop a wide range of skills such as; maps skills, ICT / GIS (Geographical Information Systems), data presentation, investigation, maths and statistical skills.

A GCSE grade in Geography indicates to employers that you have a wide range of skills and show resilience and adaptability. Geography is a highly regarded subject with colleges, universities and employers, due to the wide range of skills it incorporates.

In this subject you will study

Physical Geography units include:

- **The challenge of natural hazards:** – Volcanoes and Earthquakes, tropical storms, extreme weather in the UK and climate change.
- **Physical landscapes in the UK** - Coastal landscapes and river landscapes
- **The living world:** - Tropical rainforests and cold environments.

Human Geography units include:

- Urban issues and challenges and the Changing Economic World
- The Challenge of resource management

Fieldwork: -

Castleton and Burbage Brook (river).

Useful skills to support learning

- Debating
- Decision making
- Fieldwork
- Critical analysis
- Problem solving
- Investigation
- Interpreting: photos, cartoons. Diagrams and other data.

Examination

There are 3 exams. Paper 1 (Physical) – 1 hour 30 min. Paper 2 (Human) – 1 hour 30 min. Paper 3 (skills) – 1 hour 15 min.

The exam papers will assess your knowledge, understanding and ability to analyse and interpret Geographical

Career and Post 16 studies

Geography develops a wide range of skills. Many students go on to study Geography at A level (which is offered at Swinton) and at university.

Students who study Geography access a wide range of careers such as; Surveyor, Meteorologist – weather forecaster, School teacher, Accountancy, Law, ICT and software development, Armed services and Police.



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YEAR 10 OPTION

History

Subject Introduction

History is a fascinating and engaging subject that allows you to investigate how key historical events and figures have shaped our world today. You will develop a range of skills including written and verbal communication in addition to expanding your vocabulary with a wealth of new key terms and concepts. The skills you develop in History will also support your learning across GCSE subjects.

Studying History also allows you to take part in some exciting field trips. In the past we have visited the battlefields of northern France and Belgium, in addition to visiting places closer to home such as the Thackray Medical Museum in Leeds.

In this subject you will study

- Medicine in Britain, c1000-present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914-18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.
- Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060-88.
- EITHER: Superpower relations or the Cold War, 1941-91.
- OR: The American West c.1835-c1895
- Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39.

Useful skills to support learning

GCSE History allows students to develop a range of skills including:

- Extended writing
- Source evaluation
- Interpretation analysis
- Debating
- Group work

These skills are useful in a wide range of careers.

Examination

At the end of Year 11 you will sit 3 exam papers. Each exam paper lasts between 1 hour 15 minutes and 1 hour 50 minutes. The exam papers will test your knowledge, source skills and interpretation analysis. There is **no** coursework.

Career and Post 16 studies

History is a versatile and academic qualification as it teaches a range of skills which are valued both by universities and employers. Students who have studied History in the past have gone on to become solicitors, teachers, accountants, publishers, doctors, social workers, librarians and journalists amongst many other things!



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YEAR 10 OPTION

Spanish*

Subject Introduction

Why learn a language?

- You will be highly employable, and your language skills can add between 10-15% to your salary.
- Learning one language can help you to learn another more easily in the future.
- It boosts your memory and communication skills.
- You learn about different cultures as well as about the language itself.
- Lessons are varied and interactive.
- You're rewarded with a real sense of achievement.
- You can use it when you travel abroad on holiday or for business.
- You won't turn into one of those adults who say, "I wish I could speak a foreign language!"

In this subject you will study

The GCSE specification will require you to understand and use language across a range of topics, appropriate to your age, interests, and maturity levels. The topics covered include:

- identity and culture
- local, national, international and global areas of interest
- current and future study and employment

Authentic literary texts, such as extracts from poems, letters, short stories, essays, novels or plays from contemporary and historical sources, will be used in teaching. This will enhance your intercultural understanding, promote language learning and develop a range of skills.

Examination

Students will sit exams at the end of Year 11 in the four skill areas of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. Students will be entered at foundation level (with access up to grade 5) or higher (with access from grade 4 - 9) but must sit the same tier for all elements of the exam.

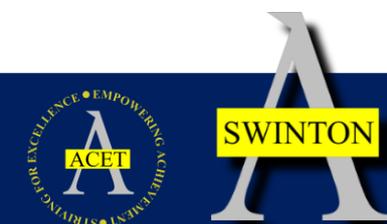
Career and Post 16 studies

Many higher education courses include a language element (e.g. business studies, engineering, IT) and also offer the opportunity to study abroad as part of your degree.

Careers: Many companies are looking for employees who have foreign language qualifications to work in positions both in the UK and abroad. Career sectors which often demand a high level of language skills include translation and interpreting, aviation industry, education, journalism, publishing, tourism, marketing and logistics.

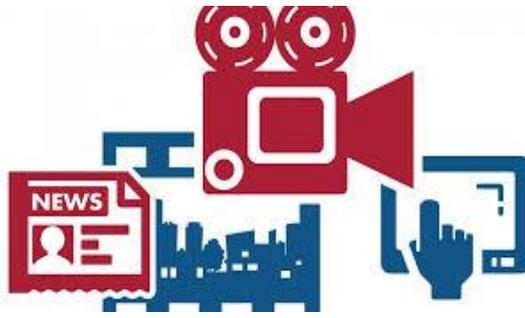
Useful skills to support learning

- Willingness to make oral contributions in lessons
- Good listening skills
- Attention to detail
- Problem-solving
- Teamwork
- Resilience
- Appreciation of other cultures



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**Your teacher will guide you in making this choice.*



YEAR 10 OPTION

Creative iMedia/ Computer Science

Subject Introduction

Cambridge National in Creative iMedia lets students gain knowledge in a number of key areas in the Computing field, from pre-production skills to digital animation to digital graphics, and offers a hands-on approach to learning. The Cambridge National in Creative iMedia will also provide opportunities to develop useful transferable skills such as research, planning, and review, along with developing attributes such as working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively. A vast array of software packages will be used throughout the qualification.

In this subject you will study

The modules offered include:

- Pre-Production Skills
- Creative Digital Graphics
- Interactive Multimedia Products

Useful skills to support learning

- Organisation skills
- Innovative and creative skills
- IT skills although most of these skills are developed through the course
- Attention to detail
- Ability to be flexible and adaptable
- Written skills
- Planning skills
- Strong resilience skills

Assessment.

66% of the qualification is tested by coursework that's set and marked by the class teacher. The coursework involves students to plan and create. The remaining 33% is an external assessment where two sittings can be taken to really maximise the potential of the final grade you could achieve. This involves assessing pre-production materials such as Mind Maps and Mood boards in a 1 hour and 15-minute examination.

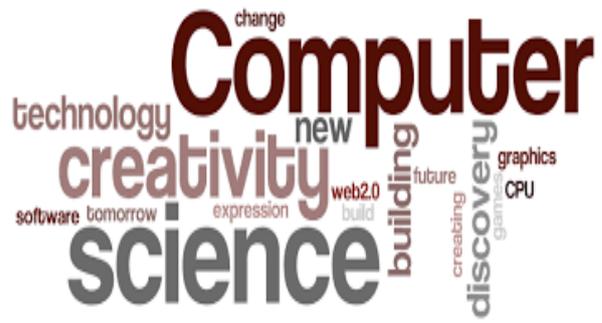
Career and Post 16 studies

Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia is excellent preparation for any student wanting to move onto further education. There are a range of courses students can move onto such as Cambridge Technical Level 3 in IT. Students have gone on to university to study Game Development, Games Design, IT with Business Studies, IT Management and so on.



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```
>>>.on("hidden.bs.select", function() {
    setTimeout(function() {
        m.closest(".ub_select_el").ub_filter("closeEvent")
    }, 0), console.log("hidden")
})>>.on("shown.bs.select", function() {
    setTimeout(function() {
        n.addClass("shown")
    }, 1), console.log("shown")
})
})>>.find("select");
```



YEAR 10 OPTION Computing/Imedia

Subject Introduction

GCSE Computer Science is an engaging and practical course that encourages creativity and problem solving. Students learn to develop their understanding and application of the core concepts in computer science. Students also analyse problems and devise creative solutions by designing computer programs.

GCSE Computer Science develops skills that lead to further education and computing careers; however, these skills are relevant to the majority of career pathways and skills that are attractive to employers.

If you've an interest in problem solving, programming, how computers work, this could be for you!

In this subject you will study

- Computer systems and architecture
- Networking
- Security systems
- Ethical and legal issues
- Programming and problem solving
- Computational thinking skills

Useful skills to support learning

- Strong mathematical skills
- Computer programming
- Extended writing skills
- Group work and debate
- Attention to detail

Examination

The qualification is divided into 2 written examinations, both 1 hour and 30 minutes and 50% each towards the final grade. The two examinations are worth 80 marks each. Questions vary from short answer questions to extended writing tasks and writing algorithms.

Career and Post 16 studies

GCSE Computer Science naturally leads onto A Level Computer Science. Several students who have left Swinton Academy went on to university to study Computing at degree level.

Careers in Computing are broad. Examples include: Sports Data Analyst, Software Developer, Database Administrator, Tech reviewer and journalist, Website and App designer, Hardware engineer, Data Security Engineer & Network / Cloud architect.



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YEAR 10 OPTION

Enterprise & Marketing - Business

Subject Introduction

OCR Enterprise & Marketing allows students to select different ideas in business-related scenarios to efficiently setup and run their own business/organisation, developing many skills that can really aid all students frequently throughout their career and future aspects. Within business you will learn about factors which can affect businesses, such as Finance, Marketing and Human Resources aspects. You will look at the functional areas and job roles in businesses, as well as gaining knowledge regarding external factors. The subject explores real life businesses in different dynamic environments; for example, Sony, Nando's, Microsoft and Coca-Cola are some of the many different businesses we assess, monitor and evaluate throughout.

In this subject you will study

- Enterprise and Marketing concepts
- Design a business proposal
- Market and pitch a business proposal

Students will learn about:

- How to advertise, price and raise awareness of products.
- Setup up a business, selling products and setting certain pricing strategies.

Useful skills to support learning

- Innovative and creative skills
- Good attention to detail
- Ability to assess graphs/charts
- Working with numbers
- Basic mathematic skills
- Organisation skills

Examination

The qualification is divided into 3 units, two units assessed by coursework and one unit assessed by an external examination. The two coursework units are both worth 25%, totally 50% of the final grade (both out of 60 marks) while the examination unit is worth 50%, total marks being 80; therefore this is really beneficial for those who are effective at coursework.

Career and Post 16 studies

Many students who have completed the course at Swinton Academy have stayed and successfully completed Business at A Level, thus leading to many individuals going on to study Business at university which is a stunning achievement. Business can lead into careers such as Game Development, becoming a director in many fields, go on to run a successful business themselves. At university, students can study courses such as Business Management, Business & IT, Business and Game Design and many more.



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YEAR 10 OPTION Fine Art/Photography

Subject Introduction

The Fine Art course provides students with the opportunity to express themselves imaginatively and creatively using a range of media including drawing, painting, photography and much more. Students develop skills and ideas to work towards ambitious, personal creations. This course is demanding but very enjoyable and rewarding.

In this subject you will study

Students are given the opportunity to develop and explore a variety of media. Students gradually develop from more teacher led, skills based workshops to independently produced and developed projects in their chosen media. As work progresses a variety of topics are available for students to choose from to ensure they

Useful skills to support learning

A creative flair and interest for the subject is a must! To support the development and sharing of ideas, good discussion and presentation skills are helpful. Students will build on a variety of practical making skills, which are established in KS3. Confidence to try out new media and ideas will support learning and development on this course.

Examination

Students will be examined across 2 components in this course. Component 1, worth 60% of the overall grade, is based on students creating a developed portfolio of work which covers all assessment objectives in the course including artist research and response, recording ideas, experimentation with media and development/creation of ideas.

Component 2 of the course is worth 40% of the overall grade and is an externally set assignment which covers all 4 assessment objectives. The optional themes for this component are set by the exam board. Students have a prep period to create project work followed by 10 hours in order to create a final outcome for the project.

Career and Post 16 studies

Students can go on to study A level Fine Art here with us at Swinton Academy. The course will support any further study into a creative course or course which requires creative thinking, problem solving skills etc. It is great when teamed with a wide variety of other subjects including English, Drama and the Sciences.



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YEAR 10 OPTION

Fine Art/Photography

Subject Introduction

The Photography course provides students with the opportunity to express themselves imaginatively and creatively using a range of media including photography and digital editing. Students develop skills and ideas to work towards ambitious, personal creations. This course is demanding but very enjoyable and rewarding.

In this subject you will study

Students are given the opportunity to develop and explore a variety of media and editing. Students gradually develop from more teacher led, skills-based workshops to independently produced and developed projects in their chosen theme. As work progresses a variety of topics are available for students to choose from to ensure they are able to create work which is interesting and personal to them.

Useful skills to support learning

A creative flair and interest for the subject is a must! To support the development and sharing of ideas, good discussion and presentation skills are helpful. Students will build on a variety of practical making skills, which are established in KS3. Confidence to try out new photography, editing skills and ideas will support learning and

Examination

Students will be examined across 2 components in this course. Component 1, worth 60% of the overall grade, is based on students creating a developed portfolio of work which covers all assessment objectives in the course including artist research and response, recording ideas, experimentation with digital editing and the development/creation of ideas.

Component 2 of the course is worth 40% of the overall grade and is an externally set assignment which covers all 4 assessment objectives. The optional themes for this component are set by the exam board. Students have a prep period to create project work followed by 10 hours in order to create a final outcome for the project.

Career and Post 16 studies

Students can go on to study A level Fine Art and Photography here with us at Swinton Academy. The course will support any further study into a creative course or course which requires creative thinking, problem solving skills etc. It is great when teamed with a wide variety of other subjects including English, Drama and the Sciences.



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YEAR 10 OPTION Construction

Subject Information:

Would you love the opportunity to transform the world around you? Are you looking to learn about new technologies, materials and processes that are involved in construction projects? Do you want to develop a good foundation for a successful career in construction? If so, it's time to – find out more about this exciting qualification today!

In this subject you will study

You will be introduced to the principles of the built environment and have the opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding in identifying, explaining and evaluating different ideas and concepts of the built environment. Explore a range of professional and trade roles. Explore some of the different structures and buildings of the built environment. You will study three construction trade areas of the built environment, including planning, undertaking and evaluating construction tasks.

Examination

You will have one exam for Unit 1 which will be worth 40% of your qualification. The exam will last 1 hour and 30 minutes, it will be made up of short and extended response questions. Unit 3 will be assessed via project work (no exam), which is worth 60% of your qualification. Here you will be asked to prepare and complete three trade-based tasks e.g. creating a simple lighting circuit, building a brick structure and making a wooden planter.

Career and Post 16 studies

The construction industry offers a wide range of exciting opportunities, from tradesperson to leading large scale construction projects, and from an architect to renovator of our historic built environment

Skills you will develop

You will develop a range of skills which are attractive to employers, colleges and universities including:

- Communication
- Critical thinking
- Independent learning
- Research
- Time management.



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YEAR 10 OPTION

Hospitality & Catering

Subject Introduction

WJEC/eduqas Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering enables learners to gain knowledge, understanding and skills relating to the hospitality and catering sector. In addition to development of sector specific knowledge and understanding, this qualification also supports learners to develop the essential employability skills that are valued by employers, further and higher education.

In this qualification, learners will also have the opportunity to develop food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

In this subject you will study

The course comprises of two key units of study. Unit 1 The Hospitality and Catering Industry and Unit 2 Hospitality and Catering in Action.

Whilst working towards to completion of both units, students will be given the opportunity to research, plan, prepare and develop their own dishes. Students will develop their practical making and presentation skills and will be challenged to create restaurant quality food. Students will study functional elements of the Hospitality and Catering industry including health and safety, job roles, food nutrition and much more.

Examination

Assessment for this course is covered across 2 units. This comprises of a practical assessment which gives students the opportunity to research, plan and make dishes for a Hospitality and Catering scenario. Students will also sit a 90 min theory exam which covers a wide range of elements of the Hospitality and Catering industry.

Career and Post 16 studies

This course could lead onto further study including;
WJEC Level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition (certificate and diploma)
Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Advanced Professional Cookery
Level 3 Advanced Diploma in Food Preparation and Cookery Supervision

Useful skills to support learning

Although practical making skills are an asset on this course, successful students will also be able to apply their time management and problem solving skills to practical and theoretical scenarios.

The qualification has been designed to build on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired at Key Stage 3, particularly skills related to literacy, numeracy, creativity, problem solving and enterprise. Organisation skills are a must as students will research and provide ingredients for their own practical lessons.



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YEAR 10 OPTION

Drama

Subject Introduction

You must enjoy working with a group and giving your ideas. 40% is performance and acting so, you must have confidence to perform in front of peers and an examiner. You must have a focused and positive attitude, so others want to work with you. You must be prepared to do the written element of the course, be organised to meet the deadlines so you don't fall behind and get swamped. You should have good attendance, so you don't let others down due to the group nature of the course. It is important you are motivated and can work independently managing your own group work. You must want to see live theatre. You should enjoy giving peers feedback and commenting on the work of others. Be prepared to rehearse in your own time especially when preparing for the group performance exam. If you can do this, then we look forward to seeing you!

In this subject you will study

As well as essential performance skills, you will study a play and explore through performance, the decisions that playwrights, directors, actors and other theatrical professionals make. You will learn to write about this through analysis and evaluation.

You will learn to act in different theatrical styles, perform your devised and scripted pieces to audiences; both in lessons and after school. You'll learn much about the theatre & watch & evaluate inspiring theatre productions!

Useful skills to support learning

GCSE Drama is not just about acting. The course inevitably covers all sorts of transferable skills that will be useful throughout life: communication, presentation/public speaking, group/team and leadership skills, problem solving, time management, initiative and the ability to work to a deadline and get it right first time (there are no re-runs!) You will be asked to improvise on a number of occasions so you will develop the ability to think on your feet that will help you develop the skills to take the initiative in any situation.

Examination

Component 1- An open book written exam of 1 hour & 45 minutes – 40% Component 2- A devised drama performance with coursework analysing and evaluating students' choices of stimuli and the planning, rehearsing and performance of the piece. - 40%. This component will be marked by your teacher and moderated by an AQA examiner. Component 3- A performance of two extracts from one play -20%. This component will be marked by an external AQA examiner.

Career and Post 16 studies

Studying Drama is relevant to people who are interested in culture, social issues and careers. It will boost your confidence so will help you in any job that requires public speaking or entails communication skills. As well as career choices that require empathy, drama encourages critical thinking skills, which are useful in careers in management, law, and teaching, nursing as well of course - if you want a job in the entertainment industry, in front of an audience or behind the scenes!



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YEAR 10 OPTION

GCSE Music

Subject Introduction

GCSE Music aims to develop performing, composing and appraising skills. It will encourage you to broaden your musical experience, develop imagination and foster creativity. Studies include music from across a diverse range of styles and genres, including the use of music technology.

In this subject you will study

Component 1: Performing

30% of the GCSE

A minimum of two pieces, one of which must be an ensemble performance of at least one minute duration. The other piece(s) may be either solo and/or ensemble. One of the pieces performed must link to an area of study of the learner's choice.

Component 2: Composing

30% of the GCSE

Two compositions, one of which must be in response to a brief set by EDUQAS. Learners will choose one brief from a choice of four, each one linked to a different area of study. The briefs will be released during the first week of September in year 11. The second composition is a free composition for which learners set their own brief.

Examination - component 3

Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes (approximately)

60% of the GCSE

This component is assessed via a listening examination. It is a paper with eight questions in total, two on each of the four areas of study:

Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble

Area of study 3: Film Music

Area of study 4: Popular Music

Career and Post 16 studies

There are a vast array of career choices available within the music and entertainment industry, from performing to production, radio and live sound, it an ever-growing sector. In regard to Post 16 the GCSE progresses to KS5, where pupils may wish to continue their musical journey and begin to focus on a more specific area that caters to their particular interests and occupational intentions.



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health
and social
care

YEAR 10 OPTION Health & Social Care

Subject Introduction

This level two Cambridge National course aims for students to develop their knowledge, understanding and practical skills that would be used within the health and social care sector.

In this subject you will study

Three Units:

1. R031 Principles of care in health and social care – This unit will be assessed by an exam. Students will learn about key topic areas that are important when caring for and protecting people within health and social care.
2. R033 Supporting individuals through life events – This unit will be assessed by set assignment. In this unit you will learn about growth and development through life stages.
3. R035 Health promotion campaigns – This unit will be assessed by set assignment. In this unit you will research health promotion campaigns and learn about their benefit to society.

Useful skills to support learning

Reading of information, understanding and interpreting and being able to summarise relevant information.
Applying knowledge and understanding to health and social care settings.
Working independently using the internet to complete further research to enhance learning and understanding.
Demonstrating key skills on work experience within a health and social care setting.

Examination

The grading system is for vocational subjects: Distinction *, Distinction, Merit, Pass, Distinction L1 Merit L1 Pass L1

Career and Post 16 studies

After completing this qualification many students' progress onto post 16 and study Cambridge Technical Health and Social Care level 3. Career pathways have included students moving onto Higher Education and Degrees in within the health and social care setting. Typical careers this can lead to are social worker, primary teacher, secondary teacher, nurse, paramedic, probation officer and nursery nurse.



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YEAR 10 OPTION **OCR Cambridge National in Sports Studies**

Subject Introduction

This Sports Studies course will develop knowledge, understanding and practical skills that can be used in the Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and the Health sector. As well as studying the theory side of Physical Education, you get to demonstrate and develop your own practical abilities.

In this subject you will study

3 units:

- R184 Contemporary issues in sport (exam)
- R185 Performance and leadership in sports activities (coursework) – Performing in 2 sports and Coaching in 1 sport
- R187 Increasing awareness of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities – Investigation different OAA and participating in 1 activity

Useful skills to support learning

- A Genuine interest in sport
- performing at school level or outside club level in Sport
- Knowledge and understanding of sports
- Be able to work as a team and show leadership skills

Examination

Examination Total 3 Units:

2 coursework worth 60% and 1 exam worth 40%

2 units are assessed by coursework completed in lesson time. 1 unit is a formal exam.

The grading system is for vocational subjects: Distinction *, Distinction, Merit, Pass, Distinction L1 Merit L1 Pass L1

Career and Post 16 studies

Career and Post 16 studies Student can progress on to study Level 3 sport qualifications such as A Level PE, OCR Cambridge Technicals L3 or BTEC. These in turn open a pathway to Higher Education and Degrees in Sport. Typical sporting careers this can lead to are Sports Therapist, Physiotherapy, Personal trainer, Nutrition Coach, Sports Coach, PE teacher.



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YEAR 10 CORE Physical Education

Subject Introduction

In Year 10 Core PE we support students to make informed decisions about the Sporting Pathways they can take to lead healthy and active lifestyles beyond school. Students will be given the opportunity to select the sports that most interest them.

In this subject you will study

Invasion Games

- Football
- Netball
- Rugby
- Handball
- Dodgeball

Net and Wall

- Badminton
- Tennis

Health and Fitness

- Boxercise
- Fitness Circuits

Outdoor Adventurous Activities

- Orienteering
- Problem Solving

Dance

Useful skills to support learning

- Leadership
- Character
- Knowledge of a range of different activities
- Understanding how to lead an active lifestyle
- Understand the importance of a balanced diet
- Where to access sport locally
- Links to sports clubs

No Examination in the subject

Career and Post 16 studies

- Physiotherapy
- Sports scientist
- Journalist
- OCR Cambridge Technical in Sport and Physical Activity
- OCR Cambridge Technical in Health and Social Care
- Sports Coach



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