



King Solomon High School Year 9 GCSE Options Booklet 2021-2022

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Key dates:

Thursday 21st October 2021 – GCSE Options Information Evening

Thursday 3rd March 2022 – Option form opens at 7pm (an online link will be shared)

Thursday 17th March 2022 – Option form closes at 7pm

Wednesday 18th May 2022 – GCSE Options confirmation emailed to parents



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Year 9 Options 2021-2022

Introduction,

Students,

You are about to make some very important choices about the subjects that you are going to study in the next stage of your journey at King Solomon. These subjects will not only be the subjects that you study in the next few years but will form the basis of the choices you make in Year 11 and Year 13.

The choices you make now are very important and you need to take time to think about them, to discuss your choices with your family and your teachers. You need to make sure that you make the right choices for the right reasons. Listen to the advice you are given about what is best for you and don't choose to take subjects just because your friends are. You need to make sure that you are happy with your choices and that you are studying what is best for you, not what other people have decided for you. Remember when you are working hard to achieve your potential, it is easier if you are doing what you enjoy.

Very few of you will know what career path is right for you, now is not the time to make decisions about a future career, now is the time to think about what will give you the widest options in the future and the best qualifications **YOU** can achieve. Read through this booklet, make a note of the courses that sound the best for you - remember to look at the proportion of coursework and exam and think about what suits you. Think about the combination of subjects you want to take and think about what you enjoy. Also think about the possible progression routes that are noted in the booklet. Make a note of any questions you may have and discuss those with your teachers, form tutor and parents.

Pay attention to the deadlines you are given for making your choices. If you miss your deadlines, you may not be able to study what you want. Also think carefully about what subjects you will put as reserve options - you must be prepared to take your reserve choices. The most important thing is that you choose a range of subjects that allow you to move forward to achieve your potential. No qualification is better than another and all the qualifications in this booklet allow you to move on to study at 6th Form and beyond. Most employers and universities are looking for students who have a rounded education that includes the ability to communicate, meet deadlines and work as a team as well as the qualification.

Good luck!
Ms.H.Reece
Headteacher

Options Book

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Core Subjects

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Computer Science / IT
Design and Technology
Drama
Food Preparation &
Nutrition
Geography
History
Music
Media
Physical Education
National Award in Sport
Spanish
Sociology

**'If I am not for myself, who will be for me?
If I am only for myself, what am I?
If not now, then when?'**



What will I study in years 10 & 11?

In September, you will be starting your Key Stage 4 courses. The purpose of this brochure is to explain the Key Stage 4 system to you and your parents and to help you in making the choices that are most appropriate for you.

You will have the option of meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss your choices and ensure you are on an appropriate course to meet your individual needs.

Options structure

The King Solomon High School Core Curriculum: Subject must

be chosen from each of the columns below:

Option A	Option B	Option C
Art	Geography	DT
Computer Science	History	Drama
Enterprise & Marketing	Media	Food & Nutrition
Geography	Music	Geography
History	PE	History
IT	Spanish	Sociology
Spanish	Sport National	Spanish

	CORE	English Language
Course Details:	Examination board:	AQA
	Specification code:	8700

Course Content:	
<p>There will be two separate qualifications: most pupils will be entered for both English Language and English Literature. These courses will enable you to develop your knowledge and skills through the experience of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading fiction text drawn from either the 20th or 21st century, including extracts from novels and short stories while focusing on openings, endings, narrative perspectives and points of view, narrative or descriptive passages, character, atmospheric descriptions and other appropriate narrative and descriptive approaches. • Reading non-fiction and literary non-fiction texts. They will be drawn from the 19th century, and either the 20th or 21st century. Giving the opportunity to consider viewpoints and perspectives over time. Students will access a range of genres. <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read critically across a wide range of different kinds of text. • Writing factually and imaginatively for different purposes and audiences. • Acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology, and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language. 	

Assessment:	<p>All examinations will be taken at the end of the course.</p> <p>Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Writing and Reading – 1 hour 45-minute examination (50% of overall grade)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading a piece of literary fiction and writing a creative composition. <p>Paper 2: Writer’s Viewpoints and Perspectives – 1 hour 45 minute examination (50% of the overall grade)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading a non-fiction text and a literary non-fiction text from different time periods to compare and contrast the treatment of a theme. • Writing about ideas, particularly a given theme. • Speaking and Listening is awarded as a separate grade.
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	English skills and knowledge of the subject is essential in whatever you do after your GCSEs. Students need to achieve at least a grade 4 or they will need to re-sit the qualification whatever pathway they decide. Students will need a good grade English to study English Literature or Language at A-Level.

Course Title:	CORE	English Literature
Course Details:	Examination board:	AQA
	Specification code:	8702

Course Content:	
<p>There will be two separate qualifications: most pupils will be entered for both English Language and English Literature.</p> <p>This course consists of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The study of Shakespeare - You will study one play from the list of six set texts. • The reading of a 19th-century novel – you will study one novel from the list of seven set texts. • The reading of a Modern text – you will study one from a choice of 12 set texts, which include post-1914 prose fiction and drama. • Poetry Students will study one set of poems taken from the AQA poetry anthology, either Love and relationships or Power and conflict. These Poems will be both past and present. <p>In studying the set texts students should have the opportunity to develop the following skills:</p> <p>Reading comprehension and reading critically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literal and inferential comprehension • Critical reading • Evaluation of a writer’s choice of vocabulary grammatical and structural features • Comparing texts <p>Writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Producing clear and coherent text: writing effectively about literature for a range of purposes • Accurate Standard English: accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar 	

Assessment:	<p>All examinations will be taken at the end of the course and students will sit a common paper.</p> <p>Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes (40% of GCSE). <p>Paper 2: Modern Texts, Poetry and Unseen Poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes (60% of GCSE).
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	Studying English Literature opens up a world of inspiration and creativity, while also developing skills that are essential for today's global environment.

Course Title:	CORE	Mathematics
Course Details:	Examination board:	Pearson Edexcel
	Specification code:	1MA1
Course Content:		

Why study mathematics?

Mathematics is one of the core subjects and is compulsory for all students. A good GCSE grade in mathematics is one of the most essential qualifications that you can have. It is generally required by most employers and is often required for entry to further or higher education. In fact, whatever your plans, a sound knowledge of the subject will always count in your favour. You'll cover everything from the basics, (such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division), through to more complex subjects, such as algebra, trigonometry and vectors.

What you will study

Mathematics is broken down into six strands these are:

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

Each strand contains modules and during the three years, you will visit each strand regularly. For example, the first few modules that we complete are all to do with numbers such as fractions, decimals and percentages. We then move onto another strand and come back to the number strand a few modules later to complete some work on directed numbers etc. The idea in Maths is to continually build on what you know and to keep revisiting strands of the curriculum and adding to your knowledge.

Lessons will focus on building the following GCSE assessment objectives:

- AO1 – Use and apply standard techniques
- AO2 – Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically
- AO3 – Solve problems within Mathematics and other contexts

Your final tier of entry will depend on your success during the course and Year 11 Mock Examination outcome. Foundation level Mathematics will be offered to those students who need practice of the basic concepts of Mathematics to gain confidence and a solid understanding. Higher-level Mathematics will be offered to those who can understand new concepts easily and that are able to apply Mathematics to new situations. You will need to work at a fast pace and show independence in learning.

Assessment:	At GCSE Mathematics we offer two tiers of entry Foundation: Grades U-5 & Higher: Grades U-9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1 - 1 hour 30-minute Non-Calculator • Paper 2 - 1 hour 30-minute Calculator • Paper 3 - 1 hour 30-minute Calculator
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	Mathematics skills are vital for your development and will be essential in whatever you do after your GCSEs. Students need to achieve at least a grade 4 or they will need to re-sit the qualification whatever pathway they decide.

Course Title:	GCSE	Biology, Chemistry and Physics
Course Details:	Examination board:	Pearson Edexcel
	Specification code:	1BI0 1CH0 1PH0

Course Content:

Only selected students who are the most able will do these three sciences separately. Most students will be entered to do combined sciences.

Biology Topics

- Microscopes and scientific drawings
- Enzymes
- Cells and control
- Genetics
- Natural selection and genetic modification
- Health, disease and medicine development
- Plant structures and their functions
- Animal coordination, control & homeostasis
- Exchange and transport in animals
- Ecosystems and material cycles

Chemistry Topics

- Atomic theory
- Quantitative chemistry
- Bonding and structure
- States of matter
- Methods of separating & purifying substance
- Acids
- Electrolytic processes
- Reversible reactions and equilibrium
- Groups 1, 7 and 0
- Rates of reactions
- Fuels

- Dynamic equilibria calculations involving volumes of gases
- Chemical cells and fuel cells
- Qualitative analysis: Tests for ions
- Hydrocarbons
- Polymers
- Alcohols and carboxylic acids
- Bulk and surface properties of matter including nanoparticles

Physics Topics

- Motion
- Conservation of energy
- Waves
- Light and the electromagnetic spectrum
- Particle model
- Static electricity
- Astronomy
- Radioactivity
- Energy – forces doing work
- Forces and their effects

15% of marks in the exams will be devoted to questions about experiments you have done in class. There are 8 core practicals for each subject that are compulsory, these along with other practical work undertaken in class will make up 15% of the marks in the exams. This means practical work is important and students will be expected to keep a record of experiments. Mathematical skills will also be tested in the exam: 10% Biology, 20% Chemistry and 30% Physics.

Assessment:	Each GCSE consists of two written papers. Each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes.
Qualification Achieved:	Three GCSEs.
Progression Routes:	Students who undertake this course will be expected to achieve at least grade 6 in each GCSE. These students should then seriously consider undertaking A Level study in any, or all, of the 3 sciences.

Course Title:	GCSE	Combined Science
Course Details:	Examination board:	Pearson Edexcel
	Specification code:	1SC0

Course Content:

Biology Topics

- Microscopes and scientific drawings
- Enzymes
- 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

Chemistry Topics

- Atomic theory
- Quantitative chemistry
- Bonding and structure
- States of matter
- Methods of separating and purifying substance
- Acids
- Electrolytic processes
- Reversible reactions and equilibrium
- Groups 1, 7 and 0

- Rates of reactions
- Fuels
- Heat energy changes in chemical reactions
- Earth and atmospheric science

Physics Topics

- Motion
- Waves
- Light and the electromagnetic spectrum
- Particle model
- Radioactivity
- Static electricity
- Astronomy
- Energy – forces doing work
- Forces and their effects
- Electricity and circuits

15% of marks in the exams will be devoted to questions about experiments you have done in class. There are 6 core practicals for each subject that are compulsory, these along with other practical work undertaken in class will make up 15% of the marks in the exams. This means practical work is important and students will be expected to keep a record of experiments. 20% of the marks in the exams will be testing mathematical skills.

Assessment:	There will be six written papers, two covering Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics. Each paper is 70minutes.
Qualification Achieved:	Two GCSEs
Progression Routes:	Successful completion of this course will enable students to progress to level 3 / advanced courses in a science in the sixth form.

Course Title:	CORE	Religious Studies
Course Details:	Examination board:	AQA GCSE Religious Studies A
	Specification code:	8062

Course Content:

We are teaching the AQA GCSE syllabus; this affords us an opportunity to study two religions in detail, as well as considering several ethical and philosophical issues from a Jewish perspective, looking at the role of faith in contemporary life. As a Jewish school also welcoming students from other faiths, we are delighted to offer a really engaging GCSE programme.

The Philosophy and Ethics units are divided into four themes and make up 50% of the total course. These are challenging and thought provoking and show how faith can provide a moral and ethical guide for life. The course explores Jewish teachings and views on major issues and allows students a space in which to express their opinions and bring in ideas from their own faith and life experiences. Each topic also contains a comparative faith element.

The in-depth study of our two religions offers the opportunity to explore practices, beliefs and teachings and their basis in sources of wisdom and authority. We offer Judaism as our main faith and Islam as our second faith; each of these two core units make up 25% of the total GCSE mark. Topics in this unit include key beliefs, practices, worship and religious festivals and rites of passage. We are, of course, sensitive to the religious experiences of all students, and aim to structure the classes to allow for this.

The aims of the course include:

- Encouraging reflection on personal values, opinions and attitudes.
- Providing tools to lead constructive lives in the modern world.
- Empowering an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion.
- An exploration of religions and beliefs, intellectual and personal engagement with fundamental questions.
- Enhancing personal, social and cultural development, increasing understanding of different cultures and contributing to social and community cohesion.
- Developing an interest in and enthusiasm for the study of religion and relating it to the wider world.

Assessment:	There are two examined units at the end of the course, each having a written examination (1hour 45 minutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: In- depth study of two religions (50%) • Part 2: Ethical and philosophical themes (50%)
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Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
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Progression Routes:	Successful completion of this course will enable you to study R.E and similar subjects at A Level. It also provides the skills for advanced study in Humanities, English Psychology and Sociology.
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Course Title:	Option	Art & Design (Fine Art)
Course Details:	Examination board:	Pearson Edexcel
	Specification code:	1FA0

Course Content:	
<p>Fine art may be defined as work which is produced as an outcome of students' personal experiences, rather than that which is created exclusively for a practical function or that which is the outcome of a tightly prescribed brief.</p> <p>Work produced for this qualification will demonstrate the use of formal elements and creative skills, and give form to individual thoughts, feelings, observations and ideas. Students will show evidence of trying to extend their own and others' way of seeing the world. They will use the language of the subject sensitively and thoughtfully to support their intentions.</p> <p>In the context of this specification, disciplines will include painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture and alternative media. For this endorsement, students will need to work in at least two of the disciplines for the GCSE.</p> <p>The qualification is made up of two components:</p> <p>Component 1: The personal portfolio submitted for assessment consists of centre-devised assignments, carried out by students in the duration of the course. These activities should include approximately 120 hours of guided learning time.</p> <p>Component 2: The externally set assignment involves students undertaking investigations and development over several months towards the end of the course, leading to a final 10-hour sustained focus period, conducted under formal supervision.</p> <p>Both components will be assessed in an exhibition at the end of the course. Marks given by tutors, based on the work exhibited, are externally moderated.</p> <p>Students who choose Art must be very well motivated and enthusiastic about the subject because of the extended periods of time required for homework and that the course is based heavily upon an on-going assessment of individual project work over two or three years.</p>	

Assessment:	<p>The two components have weightings of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Personal Portfolio in Art and Design supported by sketchbooks/work journals (60%) 2. Externally Set Assignment with supporting/preparatory work (40%)
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	Successful completion of this course will enable you to study art or a related subject at A Level.

Course Title:	Option	Cambridge Nationals – Enterprise and Marketing Level 1/2	
Course Details:	Examination board:	OCR	
	Specification code:	J837	

Course Content:	
<p>This qualification is for students who wish to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in business, enterprise and marketing. Students will learn about the techniques that businesses use to understand their market and develop products, investigate what makes a product viable and understand how businesses attract and retain customers. Students will undertake a series of practical projects and theoretical assessment.</p> <p>The units aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give students an understanding of key aspects of small businesses, including ownership and functional activities. • Develop students’ self-assessment, collaborative working, creativity, numeracy, research and evaluative skills. • Develop the students’ analysis and self-evaluative skills as well as those relating to self-presentation. 	

Assessment:	<p>Unit R067: Enterprise and marketing concepts <i>Assessment Objective:</i> 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. 1 hour 30-minute written examination - 80 marks</p> <p>Unit R068: Design a business proposal <i>Assessment Objective:</i> Identify a customer profile for their own product design, develop market research tools and use these to complete market research for their product Externally assessed assignment - 60 marks</p> <p>Unit R069: Market and pitch a business proposal <i>Assessment Objective:</i> Pitch product proposal to an external audience after completing a practice pitch, complete a review of both pitching skills and product proposal. Externally assessed assignment - 60 marks</p>
Qualification Achieved:	Cambridge National – Level 1 or 2 (Depending on level achieved)
Progression Routes:	Cambridge Nationals provide a strong base for progression to Level 3 Technical Levels in Business Marketing, A Levels Economics, apprenticeship or the workplace.

Course Title:	Option	Computer Science
Course Details:	Examination board:	OCR
	Specification code:	J277

Course Content:	
<p>The Computer Science curriculum at Key Stage 4 is designed to cover a range of topics relating to Systems Architecture, Computational Thinking, Algorithmic Thinking and the discipline of Programming.</p> <p>Over the course of this GCSE students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms and data representation. • Analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs. • Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically. • Understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems. • Understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society. • Apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science. 	

Assessment:	<p>The assessment for the GCSE will be conducted in Year 11:</p> <p>Paper One: Computer Systems (J277/01) Assessment Objective: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key concepts and principles of Computer System. 1 hour 30-minute Exam (No Calculator Allowed) (<i>Out of 80 Marks</i>) 50% of final grade.</p> <p>Paper Two: Computational thinking, Algorithms and Programming (J277/02) Assessment Objective: Apply knowledge and understanding of key concepts and principles of Computational thinking, Algorithms and Programming skills. 1 hour 30-minute Exam (No Calculator Allowed) (<i>Out of 80 Marks</i>) 50% of final grade.</p> <p>Programming Project Assessment Objective: Analyse problems in computational terms; to make reasoned judgements and to design, program, evaluate and refine solutions. 20 hour-controlled assessment but does not count to the overall grade.</p>
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	Success in this course will lead to progression onto A-Level Computer Science.

Course Title:	Option	GCSE Design and Technology
Course Details:	Examination board:	AQA
	Specification code:	8552

Course Content:	
<p>GCSE Design and Technology enables students to understand and apply the design processes through which they explore, create and evaluate a range of products. They will be able to use creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real life and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs.</p> <p>Students will concentrate on Resistant Materials, Systems and Control and will learn about graphical presentation. As well as designing and making products, students will learn about emerging technologies, environmental issues, and the wider world of design.</p> <p>The course will enable students to apply their knowledge from other subjects including, maths, science, art and computing.</p>	

Assessment:	<p>The course will be assessed in 2 parts:</p> <p>Non exam assessment 50%</p> <p>Non-exam assessment (NEA): 30–35 hours. 100 marks</p> <p>2 Hour written paper 50%</p> <p>Section A – Core technical principles (20 marks) Section B – Specialist technical principles (30 marks) Section C – Designing and making principles (50 marks)</p>
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	<p>This qualification provides a good foundation for learners in post-16 education, or to entry level job roles within the sector.</p> <p>Achievement at GCSE provides a suitable foundation for further study within the sector through progression on to vocational qualifications at level 3 in Design and Technology, or Engineering.</p>

Course Title:	Option	Digital Media
Course Details:	Examination board:	Pearson / Edexcel
	Specification code:	BTEC

Course Content:	
<p>The Pearson Technical option in Media Studies engages in the in-depth study in new, digital media products, with specialist focus on the print-based and moving image industries. This will be done through the study of media products from a cross section of media forms.</p> <p>The qualification is comprised of compulsory and specialist units, which cover aspects of knowledge, understanding and competency necessary for employment within the sector.</p> <p>Units:</p> <p>01: Exploring Media Products: This unit allows learner to develop their understanding of how media products are created for specific audiences and purposes. They will explore the relationship between genre, narrative and representation in a range of media products.</p> <p>02: Developing Digital Media Production Skills: Learners will develop the knowledge, skills and understanding required to plan a new digital media product. This will be a print-based text, such as a newsletter, magazine or newspaper.</p> <p>03: Create a Product in Response to a Brief: This unit will involve completing a project set, and marked, by Pearson. It is completed under supervised conditions. The set task will be completed in nine hours of supervised sessions in a period timetabled by Pearson.</p> <p>You should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a keen interest in the Media Be able to work within a group Recognise the importance of staying organised and meeting deadlines under pressure Have developed ICT skills 	

Assessment:	<p>01: Internally assessed</p> <p>02: Internally assessed</p> <p>03: Externally assessed by (Pearson)</p>
Qualification Achieved:	Level 1 / 2 BTEC Tech Award in Creative Media Production (equivalent to one GCSE)
Progression Routes:	This course gives a clear link into the A-Level course in 6 th form and then on to University. It will also open routes into training for those who are intending to work in the Media industry.

Course Title:	Option	Drama
Course Details:	Examination board:	EDUQAS
	Specification code:	C690QS

Course Content:	
<p>Did you know that since 2012 more than 9994 students at Russell Group Universities, studying over 250 subjects have an A Level in Drama? They are studying Medicine, Law, History, Geography, Philosophy, Politics, Engineering, Dentistry, English and the Sciences to name a few. GCSE Drama is a gateway to your future if you are interested in any form of leadership. GCSE Drama promotes your enjoyment of drama as performers, devisers, directors and designers. It provides opportunities for you to attend professional and community dramatic performances and to develop your skills as informed and thoughtful audience members. Alongside the development of you as a performer, deviser and director, drama supports your personal growth, leadership ability, self-confidence, ability to communicate, teamwork and analytical skills. You will learn to work collaboratively, develop ideas, express feelings, experiment with technical elements and to reflect on your own performances.</p> <p>Component One: Devised Theatre (40%) - <u>Devised Performance - Completed in Year 10.</u> You will devise a practical performance based on a stimulus, linked with a practitioner or genre. You may choose one of the following options: (i) acting; (ii) lighting design; (iii) sound design; (iv) set design; (v) costume and make-up design.</p> <p><u>Devised Performance Portfolio of Supporting Evidence (900 words Max).</u> - Students keep a record of supporting evidence, compiled during the devising process. It will include: 1. Ideas that have been researched, created and developed in response to the stimulus 2. Ideas from the chosen practitioner/genre have been incorporated in the piece to communicate meaning 3. Ideas have been developed, amended and refined during the development of the devised piece. Once all students have performed, they will be required to complete a 1.5hr evaluation in class.</p> <p>Component Two: Performance from a Text (20%) - Completed in Year 11 Students will be externally assessed on either their acting or a theatre design skill (set, lighting, sound, costume and makeup), in two extracts from a play.</p> <p>Component Three: Interpreting Theatre (40%) - Completed in Year 11 Students will have a written exam based on a set text (DNA) and a live theatre review from a performance we see in London.</p>	

Assessment:	<p>Component One: Devised Theatre (40%) internal assessment, externally moderated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task one – 10% devised performance • Task two – 20% portfolio of supporting evidence • Task three – 10% evaluation <p>Component Two: Performance from a text (20%) external assessment</p> <p>Component Three: Interpreting Theatre (40%) 90-minute written exam, externally assessed</p>
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	Success in this course will lead to progression onto A-Level or BTEC Level 3 in Drama or other Performing Arts subjects.

Course Title:	Option	Food Preparation and Nutrition
Course Details:	Examination board:	EDUQAS
	Specification code:	C560

Course Content:	
<p>GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials.</p> <p>At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing student’s practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition. Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food, nutrition and health • Food science • Food safety • Food choice • Food provenance <p>The course equips students with an array of culinary techniques, as well as knowledge of nutrition, food traditions and kitchen safety that will open their eyes to a world of career opportunities and giving them the confidence to cook with ingredients from across the globe.</p> <p>Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study or embark on an apprenticeship or full-time career in the catering or food industries.</p>	

Assessment:	<p>Written exam: Food Preparation and Nutrition. A 1 hour 15-minute exam worth 50% of the total GCSE.</p> <p>Controlled Assessment: Task 1 Food investigation – 1500 – 2000-word report = 15% Task 2 Food preparation assessment – portfolio of evidence = 35%</p>
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study or embark on an apprenticeship or full-time career in the catering or food industries.

Course Title:	Option	Geography
Course Details:	Examination board:	Pearson Edexcel
	Specification code:	Syllabus B: 1GB0

Course Content:	
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Geography: You would be lost without it.

This is a modular course comprising of three 'Components'. It focuses on the study of places, landforms, people, issues and conflicts in the world today.

Component 1: Geographical Issues (37.5%)

- Topic 1: Hazardous Earth
- Topic 2: Development dynamics
- Topic 3: Challenges of an urbanising world

Component 2: UK Geographical Issues (37.5%)

- Topic 4: The UK's evolving physical landscape – including sub-topics: Coastal change and conflict and River processes and pressures.
- Topic 5: The UK's evolving human landscape – including a case study - Dynamic UK Cities.
- Topic 6: Geographical investigations – including one physical fieldwork investigation and one human fieldwork investigation linked to Topics 4 and 5.

Component 3: People and Environmental Issues (25%)

- Topic 7: People and the biosphere
- Topic 8: Forests under threat
- Topic 9: Consuming energy resources

Why study Geography at GCSE?

- It enhances your knowledge of the world by bridging social sciences and the earth sciences.
- It raises awareness of the environment and develops problem solving skills.
- You will learn to communicate effectively through written, oral and ICT media.

Assessment:	<p>Final exams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components 1 and 2 are assessed in separate 1 hour and 30 min examinations worth 94 marks each. There is a variation in the question styles ranging from multiple choice answers to extended writing answers worth 8 marks. • Component 3 is assessed in a 1 hour and 30-minute exam, worth 64 marks. There is again a mixture of short and long answer questions but there is a greater onus on extended writing in this paper.
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	The successful completion of this course will enable you to progress onto A Level Geography in the sixth form. It is also a good basis to the study of all post 16 Humanities subjects and Economics.

Course Title:	Option	History
Course Details:	Examination board:	Edexcel
	Specification code:	1HI0

Course Content:	
<p>History.... Why study it? History aims to engage learners in historical enquiry to develop as independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers. History helps students develop communication, analytical and evaluative skills helping them to build their capacity to make substantiated judgements. History also helps students to understand the significance of major historical events and their context in world affairs.</p> <p>Unit 1(30%) – Thematic study and historic environment The thematic study looks at Crime and Punishment in Britain c1000-the present day including changing definitions of crime and the nature of law enforcement and punishment The environment study focuses particularly on Whitechapel, the challenges of immigration for law enforcement, investigative policing techniques for example Jack the Ripper and the development of CID.</p> <p>Unit 2 (40%) – Period study and British depth study The British Depth Study focuses on Early Elizabethan England 1558-88 and looks at three separate elements of Elizabethan rule. The Period study will focus on Superpower relations and the Cold War 1941-91.</p> <p>Unit 3 (30%) – Modern Depth Study – USA: Conflict at Home and Abroad, 1941-91 The Modern Depth Study focuses on the development of the civil rights movement, protest, progress and radicalism, the US involvement in the Vietnam War, and reactions to US involvement.</p>	

Assessment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1 – written examination, 1 hour and 15 minutes • Paper 2 – written examination – 1 hour and 45 minutes • Paper 3 – written examination – 1 hour and 20 minutes.
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	Success in GCSE History enables progression to A Level History as well as other academic A-Levels before studying a wide range of degrees including History, Law and Finance.

Course Title:	Option	Cambridge National - Information Technologies Level 1/2
Course Details:	Examination board:	OCR
	Specification code:	J276

Course Content:	
<p>Designed to fit into the curriculum and to offer the same size, rigour and performance points as GCSEs, the Cambridge National in Information Technologies will give students the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creatively develop meaningful information for distribution • Skills in collecting, manipulating/processing and storing data • Project initiation, planning and review • Awareness of the importance of legal, moral, ethical and security factors <p>This qualification will raise your students' confidence in using Information Technology and in digital literacy as well as develop transferable skills, standing them in good stead for structuring and monitoring their future projects, in work or continued study.</p>	

Assessment:	<p>The assessment for the Cambridge National will be conducted during Year's 10 and 11:</p> <p>Unit R012 - Understanding tools, techniques, methods and processes for technological solutions</p> <p>Written exam - 1 hour 45 minutes</p> <p>Understand the tools and techniques that can be used to initiate and plan solutions. Understand how data and information can be collected, stored and used. Understand the factors to be considered when collecting and processing data and storing data/information. Understand the different methods of processing data and presenting information.</p> <p>Unit R013 – Developing technological solutions</p> <p>Practical Project - 20 Hours</p> <p>To be able to initiate and plan a solution to meet an identified need. To be able to import and manipulate data to develop a solution to meet an identified need. To be able to select and present information in the development of the solution to meet an identified need.</p>
Qualification Achieved:	Cambridge National – Level 1 or 2 (Depending on level achieved).
Progression Routes:	Successful completion of the Cambridge National IT course will allow students to progress onto the Cambridge Technical course in 6 th form.

Course Title:	Option	Music
Course Details:	Examination board:	EDUQAS / WJEC
	Specification code:	C660QS

Course Content:	
<p>GCSE Music is about developing your command over the world’s most powerful and universal language. Music is used for everything, from pure enjoyment, to films, to advertising, to video games. GCSE music allows you to enjoy the experiences of performing in a band or an ensemble, developing yourself as a musician, writing and composing your own songs and understanding how and why famous pieces of music were created. Being involved in music at this level is not only great fun socially, but develops your teamwork, analytical, listening, empathy and communication skills.</p> <p>Course requirements: This course will require you to take vocal or instrumental lessons weekly or regularly attending lunch time clubs and to practise your instrument for at least 15 minutes, 5 days a week. You should already be having regular vocal or instrumental lessons in Year 8.</p> <p>Component One: Performing (30%)- 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.</p> <p>Component Two: Composing (30%)- Two compositions, one of which must be in response to a brief set by WJEC. 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 the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken. The second composition is a free composition for which learners set their own brief.</p> <p>Component Three: Appraising (40%) - This component is assessed via a listening examination. 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 Two of the eight questions are based on extracts set by WJEC.</p>	

Assessment:	<p>Component One: Performing (30%) internally assessed, externally moderated. Total duration of performances: 4-6 minutes.</p> <p>Component Two: Composing (30%) internally assessed, externally moderated. Total duration of compositions: 3-6 minutes.</p> <p>Component Three: Appraising (40%) written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes.</p>
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	GCSE Music will show employers you have a wide range of interests and skills, as well as demonstrating that you have shown dedication and commitment to learning a musical instrument and to studying music. GCSE Music can also help with confidence and performance skills needed in situations such as job interviews.

Course Title:	Option	Physical Education
Course Details:	Examination board:	OCR
	Specification code:	J587

Course Content:	
<p>What is Physical Education? Physical Education is the practical study of physical activities together with the theory of Human Biology, health, fitness, training and analysis.</p> <p>What is in the course? The course is split into two areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 40% of your mark will be achieved by studying three practical activities. In each of these activities you will develop your individual skill, understanding of tactics, ability to coach and officiate and enhance your ability to analyse performance. 2. The other 60% will be achieved by studying the workings of the human body, for example how the muscles, bones and heart work. In addition, you will understand the importance of health, diet and fitness, learn to construct a training programme, as well as be able to identify and deal with various sporting injuries. <p>What skills would be useful? It would help you if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are an all-round sports person <u>or</u> have a good knowledge of sport e.g. Refereeing or Leadership. • Show a commitment to a range of sports clubs both in and out of school. • Are interested in Human Biology. • Are always keen and enthusiastic to participate in all physical activities. • Can work well in a team. • Have a good understanding and knowledge at KS3. 	

Assessment:	<p>The Theory of Physical Education (60%) This unit is externally assessed. There are 2 examinations, both 60 minutes in length and include multiple-choice, short-answer, and longer-answer questions.</p> <p>Performance in Physical Education (40%) This unit is internally assessed, under controlled conditions.</p>
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	GCSE P.E. is seen as an extremely valuable examination subject by all employers, as well as by colleges and universities and will allow you to take A-Level PE in the 6 th form.

Course Title:	Option	Cambridge National in Sports Studies
Course Details:	Examination board:	OCR
	Specification code:	J829

Course Content:	
<p>What is CNAT SPORT STUDIES?</p> <p>If you are passionate for sport, coaching and exercise then this is the course for you. This qualification explores the barriers in sport, media in sport, methods of coaching & exercise. You will take part in sport/coaching on a daily basis and learn how to analyse your own and others' performance.</p> <p>This course is the equivalent of 1 GCSE qualification. This means you get 6 hours of lesson time over two weeks.</p> <p>What is in the course?</p> <p>The qualification centres on assessment in several units which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contemporary issues in sport • Performance and leadership in sports activities • Sport and the media <p>What skills would be useful?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you enjoy sports • Prefer doing coursework to exams • Be able to work well within a group • Recognise the importance of staying organised • Keen to participate in all physical activities • Maintain high levels of effort and behaviour • Be able to undertake research tasks independently 	

Assessment:	<p>Coursework (60%)</p> <p>The majority of the units in this qualification are assessed through coursework and internal assessments including written work and practical performances in sports and coaching.</p> <p>Written Exam (40%)</p> <p>There is one written examination, including multiple-choice, short-answer, and longer answer questions.</p>
Qualification Achieved:	Cambridge National Award 1/Level 2 First Certificate
Progression Routes:	It will give you knowledge of sport, exercise and coaching. Sport is seen as an extremely valuable qualification by employers, as well as by colleges and sixth forms.

Course Title:	Option	Spanish
Course Details:	Examination board:	Edexcel
	Specification code:	1SP01

Course Content:	
<p>In this three-year GCSE course, you will build on the language skills that you have been learning over the past two years and develop these at a GCSE level in Spanish.</p> <p>By the end of the course, you will be able to communicate and understand effectively in Spanish. You will also have come into contact with the culture of the country in more depth. Above all, you will have taken the first crucial steps to acquiring a skill that many people now consider a pre-requisite for employment.</p> <p>Each unit of work has a distinct theme to it. Questions across all four language skills are set in common contexts, addressing a range of relevant contemporary and cultural themes. They are organised into five themes, each broken down into topics and sub-topics. The five themes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identity and culture • Local area, holiday, travel • School • Future aspirations, study and work • International and global dimension. 	

Assessment:	<p>The Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9-1) in Spanish consists of four externally examined papers based on the following skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.</p> <p>Students must complete their speaking assessment in April/May and all other assessments in May/June in any single year (Year 11).</p> <p>100% End of course examination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 Listening examination 25% • Unit 2 Reading examination 25% • Unit 3 Speaking examination 25% • Unit 4 Writing examination 25%
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	<p>The course is intended to offer opportunities for progression onto A Level study in modern foreign languages.</p> <p>Most good universities will ask for a languages GCSE as an entry requirement.</p>

Course Title:	Option	Sociology
Course Details:	Examination board:	AQA
	Specification code:	8192

Course Content:
<p>GCSE Sociology helps students to gain knowledge and understanding of key social structures, processes and issues through the study of families, education, crime and deviance and social stratification.</p> <p>Students will develop their analytical, assimilation and communication skills by comparing and contrasting perspectives on a variety of social issues, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements and drawing reasoned conclusions.</p> <p>By studying sociology, students will develop transferable skills including how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate facts and make deductions • develop opinions and new ideas on social issues • analyse and better understand the social world. <p>Paper 1 (50%)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sociology of families • The sociology of education • Relevant areas of social theory and methodology <p>Paper 2 (50%)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sociology of crime and deviance • The sociology of social stratification • Relevant areas of social theory and methodology

Assessment:	<p>Final exams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Paper – 1 hour 45 minutes: 100 marks – 50% • Written Paper – 1 hour 45 minutes: 100 marks – 50% <p>Each paper consists of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two multiple choice questions followed by a range of short and extended responses.
Qualification Achieved:	GCSE
Progression Routes:	The successful completion of this course will enable you to progress onto A Level Sociology in the sixth form. It is also a good basis to the study Psychology and Politics at A-Level.