



Year 9 GCSE Options Booklet and Curriculum Guide

2025-26



GCSE Options Booklet and Curriculum Guide

In this booklet you will find a range of useful information to help you support your child making their options choices. There is also a notes page at the back of the booklet which will allow you to record ideas and next steps.

Our Aim

Our aim is for all of students to achieve their personal best and to transition successfully from their education at Royds Hall on to a variety of post 16 opportunities and pathways including apprenticeships and College courses. The options process will allow your son/daughter to choose from a range of GCSEs and vocational qualifications enabling them to study the subjects that are required nationally as well as choosing subjects which fulfil their other interests and skill sets too.

Your child does not have to make the option decision on their own; they should use all of the support and guidance available to them. Please encourage them to:

- Think carefully about why they want to choose some subjects in preference to others. Choose subjects because; they enjoy them, they are good at them, and they would potentially like to study them at A Levels and university. (Don't choose the subject because their friend is choosing it or because they like the teacher!)
- Research the careers they are interested in and consider which subjects would help them to achieve this goal. There is a 'Careers Directory' on the school website, which may help.
- Talk to their subject teachers about the subjects that they are interested in studying and find out more about the courses that they will be taking.

Support

We aim to support students through this process by working with them in the following ways:

- Assemblies to guide students through the process of option choices
- Taster sessions of subjects that are new to them
- Options evening for students and parents to attend
- Guidance from members of staff to ensure they are making the best choices for them.

Year 10-11 Curriculum

We strongly believe that one of the core purposes of secondary school is to equip all students with a range of skills which are developed through a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum. These key skills enable Royds Hall students to successfully progress at the age of 16 to a Sixth-form college, a vocational course, or into an apprenticeship or job with training. Therefore, the Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11) curriculum at Royds Hall is designed to provide a rigorous academic core for all students, alongside a range of curriculum options which enable students to specialise in the subjects they enjoy the most.

What are GCSEs?

GCSE stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education. It is highly valued by schools, colleges and employers, therefore vital for any path the students are planning to take post-16. The qualification involves



studying the theory of a subject combined with investigative work. Some subjects also involve practical work. GCSEs are graded at 9 - 1. Some GCSEs on offer are tiered, meaning that the student can be entered at either a Foundation level (grades 1 – 5) or higher level (grades 4 – 9). These subjects include GCSE French, GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Science.

What are Vocational Qualifications?

We offer a wide range of Vocational courses at Royds Hall. These include the BTEC Tech awards, OCR Cambridge Nationals and WJEC Vocational award. Vocational qualifications enable learners to gain knowledge, understanding and skills relating to a specific vocational sector. In addition to developing sector-specific knowledge and understanding, these qualifications also support learners to develop the essential employability skills that are valued by employers, further and higher education. The qualifications offer a mix of theory and practice. They are equivalent to the GCSE qualifications. There are two levels of entry for these qualifications, Level 1 and Level 2 and they are graded at Distinction*, Distinction, Merit and Pass.

What is the English Baccalaureate?

English schools are now required to deliver an English Baccalaureate (EBacc) curriculum to the vast majority of its students. The government believes that schools should offer students a broad range of academic subjects to the age of 16, and the English Baccalaureate promotes this aspiration.

The EBacc is not a qualification in itself. It will recognise students' achievements across a core of selected academic subjects in getting 'good passes' (**standard pass = Grade 4, good pass = Grade 5**) in rigorous GCSEs. The English Baccalaureate will cover achievement in English, Mathematics, Sciences, a Language and a Humanities subject. A student who achieves the English Baccalaureate will, therefore, gain GCSEs at grades 5 and above at Royds Hall in:

- English or English Language and Literature (Double Award)
- Mathematics
- Two Sciences
- A Humanities subject (this must be either History or Geography)
- A Modern Foreign Language
- In addition, students will also choose two options, meaning they achieve two additional qualifications to suit their interests, skills and enthusiasm

The government's policy is that a high proportion of students should study the EBacc subjects (The government's ambition is to see 90% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2025). The prestigious universities will expect students to have completed the EBacc in addition to their A-Level subjects.



Timeline for the Options Process at Royds Hall

Date(s)	Event	Audience
Monday 12 th January 2026	Initial Options Assembly	Students
Tuesday 20 th January 2026 & Wednesday 21 st January 2026	Students select Options Taster Sessions	Students
Thursday 29 th January 2026	Options Evening	Parent/Carer(s) and students
Thursday 5 th February 2026	Options Taster Sessions	Students
Monday 9 th February 2026	Options Online will open	Parent/Carer(s) and students
Friday 27 th February 2026	Deadline for Options Online	Parent/Carer(s) and students

Entry requirements for post-16 study

Post-16 Further Education establishments do not publish their entry criteria so far in advance. Therefore, we have published this year's requirements as a point of reference.

Most qualifications have a difficulty level. The higher the level, the more difficult the qualification is.

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCSE - grades 3, 2, 1 or grades D, E, F, G Level 1 vocational awards Traineeship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCSE - grades 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4 or grades A*, A, B, C Intermediate apprenticeship Level 2 Vocational Qualifications including the Tech award 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A levels T Levels (equivalent to 3 A Levels) Advanced apprenticeship Level 3 Vocational Qualifications

Comparing the old and new GCSE system:

Ofqual

Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

Information to support your understanding of the post-16 entry requirements for local colleges

Greenhead College – Entry Requirements 2025-2026

Greenhead College’s minimum entry requirement for A Levels is **grade 6 in three GCSE subjects**. All students must have achieved a minimum **grade 4 in both GCSE English Language and GCSE Mathematics** – grade 6 and above in these subjects would count towards the minimum entry requirement. Students’ attendance must be 95% or above, with behaviour points taken into consideration.

Some subject specific A Level courses have additional requirements such as:

- A Level Biology - Grades 6/6 in GCSE Science AND Grade 5 GCSE Mathematics OR Grade 6 in GCSE Biology, Grade 5 in GCSE Chemistry AND Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics.
- A Level Chemistry - Grades 6/6 in GCSE Science and Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics OR Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry AND Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.
- A Level Physics - Grades 6/6 in GCSE Science AND Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics OR Grade 6 in Physics AND Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics. The course is heavily mathematical and there will be mathematics used in most lessons.
- Computer Science - Grade 6 in GCSE Maths, with some experience of programming preferred. It is strongly recommended that you take A Level Mathematics alongside this subject.



- Further Maths - Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics.
- Statistics - Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.
- Modern Foreign Languages – Grade 6 at GCSE in relevant language.

Greenhead College also offer the following Vocational Courses:

WJEC Level 3 Medical Science – The requirement for this course is Grades 4/4 in GCSE Science OR Grade 4 in GCSE Biology

Music Performance (BTEC)

Other than the College's general entry requirements there are no additional qualifications needed to study BTEC Music other than to be a confident performer with a desire to perform in front of others.

Cambridge Technical Level 3 Health & Social Care Extended Certificate - Other than the College's general entry requirements there are no additional qualifications needed to study the Business Cambridge Technical Level 3 course.

Shelley College – Entry Requirements 2025-26

A student must achieve a minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE, including English and Maths (at least to Level 4) from five different subject areas.

Purely vocational pathways require a minimum of four 9-4 grades at GCSE, including English and Maths (at least to Level 4) from four different subject areas.

Kirklees College – Entry Requirements 2025-2026

Kirklees College offer a huge range of courses and qualifications across many levels catering for all abilities. Students' attendance must be 95% or above, with behaviour points taken into consideration.

Entry level 1 and 2 - These qualifications support students in developing their basic skills in English, Maths and ICT. They typically also involve practical tasters in vocational subjects and life/work skills development. No formal requirements, although students usually enter with English and Maths at grade 1/U.

Entry Level 3 – These qualifications are usually for students with GCSEs below Grade 2 in English and Maths. Entry Level qualifications are offered in Maths and English as well as practical subjects such as Construction, Motor Vehicle, Catering, and Hair and Beauty. They usually take one year to complete.

Level 1 – These are usually for students with GCSEs Grade 2 or above in English and Grade 1 Maths. Level one qualifications provide an introduction to a subject area and are available in a wide range of work-related subjects. They usually take one year to complete, and you would be awarded a pass or fail.

Level 2 – These are usually for students with GCSEs grade 3 or above in English and 2 in Maths. Level 2 qualifications provide a more in-depth look at a wide range of work-related subjects. Students studying a Level 2 qualification will usually be assessed via set course work and assignments, completion of synoptic (practical) tests and usually some form of an exam or on-line assessment. It usually takes one year to complete.



Level 3 – These are usually for students who have achieved 5 GCSEs grade 4 or above in English and 3 in Maths. In very practical subjects, e.g. Hair, Bricklaying, Motor Vehicle, you would only join this level after you have achieved a Level 2 qualification in the subject because of the foundation skills needed for Level Three skills to be developed from. You will usually complete your Level 3 qualification in one year. At this level, you will study both practical and theory of the work-related area you have chosen. This level is equivalent to A Levels. You may need to complete work placement hours as part of your qualification to be successful. This is usually graded Distinction, Merit, or Pass.

Huddersfield New College - Entry Requirements 2025-2026

Alongside your grades meeting the general and subject entry criteria, you must also demonstrate the following. If you do not meet these expectations, Huddersfield New College will not be able to offer you a place.

- Your school or college reference must demonstrate an excellent attendance record (at least 95%) and positive punctuality
- The reference should also demonstrate excellent standards of behaviour and a very positive attitude to learning

Course Pathways	General entry criteria
A Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6 GCSEs at grade 4 or above ○ GCSE English Language and GCSE Maths must be at grade 4 or above.
Applied	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 GCSEs at grade 4 ○ GCSE Maths or GCSE English Language must be grade 4 or above (1 resit permitted) ○ GCSE Maths or GCSE English Language cannot be below grade 3.
Blended Pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above ○ GCSE Maths and GCSE English Language must be grade 4 or above.

The Royds Hall Curriculum Offer for your Child

The Core Curriculum

- English – all students study English Language and English Literature GCSE
- Mathematics – all students study Mathematics GCSE
- Science – all students study either double award Science (leading to 2 GCSEs), or the separate sciences (leading to separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- Personal Development (This covers PSHE, Citizenships, Religious Studies and RSE) – non-examined. Students take a discussion-based approach to key themes from the careers, citizenship, RE and RSE curriculum.
- PE – An opportunity to do physical exercises or sport, which support wellbeing and healthy lifestyle choices.



GCSE English Language

Students will follow the Eduqas GCSE English Language specification; the course includes two externally assessed examinations and a non-exam assessment component.

Throughout the course, students will learn how to read, understand and analyse a range of fiction and non-fiction texts from the 19th to 21st centuries. Some examples of these include extracts from literary prose, letters, journalism, biographies and autobiographies. Students will develop their creative and non-fiction writing; for example, writing narratives, speeches, letters, reviews and reports. In addition, students will have the opportunity to complete some spoken language activities, such as delivering presentations.

Understanding how to use language is important: as we can see when watching a great speech, powerful language has the ability to affect the world and people's lives. Students will develop a wide range of transferable skills that will be invaluable as they move towards further study or employment, for example: literacy, creative and transactional writing skills, evaluation and research skills, analytical skills, presentation and communication skills.

Component 1: 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing	
Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes	40% of qualification
Section A (20%) - Reading	
Understanding of one prose extract (about 60-100 lines) of literature from the 20th century assessed through a range of structured questions	
Section B (20%) – Prose Writing	
One creative writing task selected from a choice of four titles	

Component 2: 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading and Transactional/Persuasive Writing	
Written examination: 2 hours	60% of qualification
Section A (30%) - Reading	
Understanding of two extracts (about 900-1200 words in total) of high-quality non-fiction writing, one from the 19th century, the other from the 21st century, assessed through a range of structured questions	
Section B (30%) –Writing	
Two compulsory transactional/persuasive writing tasks	

Component 3: Spoken Language	
Non-exam assessment	Unweighted
One presentation/speech, including responses to questions and feedback. Achievement in Spoken Language will be reported as part of the qualification, but it will not form part of the final mark and grade.	



GCSE English Literature

As well as studying English Language as part of the core curriculum, students will complete a GCSE in English Literature. For GCSE English Literature, we follow the AQA specification.

The AQA English Literature GCSE allows students to study a range of inspiring Literature texts, including Shakespeare's 'Macbeth', Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol', J.B Priestley's play 'An Inspector Calls' and a range of poetry. The course is challenging and engaging, encouraging students to look at contextual issues, such as cultural and historical aspects, through Literature.

This GCSE is assessed through two external examinations.

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel
What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shakespeare plays • The 19th-century novel
How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes • 64 marks • 40% of GCSE
<p>Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.</p> <p>Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.</p>

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry
What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern prose or drama texts • The poetry anthology • Unseen poetry
How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes • 96 marks • 60% of GCSE
<p>Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.</p> <p>Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.</p> <p>Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.</p>



GCSE Mathematics

Mathematics equips students with uniquely powerful ways to describe, analyse and change the world. The GCSE Mathematics course will develop learners’ confidence, fluency and problem-solving skills in the following mathematical areas: Number, Algebra, Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change, Geometry and Measures, Probability and Statistics.

Mathematics requires a great deal of hard work and effort by students in order to be successful. Regular attendance and full involvement in all the tasks and activities provided is essential. Independent learning (IL)

must be completed to a high standard and submitted on time. It must be accurate and well organised. Support will always be available when required. Mistakes are inevitable, but good Mathematicians will learn from their mistakes and be prepared to ‘have a go’ until they get it right.

Mathematical thinking is important for all members of society for use in the workplace, business and finance, and for personal decision-making. Mathematics is fundamental for the economy in providing tools for understanding Science, Engineering, Technology and Business. It is essential in public decision-making and for participation in the knowledge economy.

Subject Details	Skills and Content	Tiers of entry and grades	Assessment method and duration
GCSE Mathematics Edexcel Exam Board Code: 1MA1	A01 – Attainment target is to recall facts and carry out procedures	Foundation Tier Grades 1-5	Paper 1 Non-Calculator 1 hour 30 mins 80 marks
	A02 – Attainment target is to reason, interpret and communicate mathematically		Paper 2 Calculator 1 hour 30 mins 80 marks
	A03 – Attainment target is to solve problems in a mathematical context	Higher Tier Grades 4-9	Paper 3 Calculator 1 hour 30 mins 80 marks
			Paper 1 Non-Calculator 1 hour 30 mins 80 marks
			Paper 2 Calculator 1 hour 30 mins 80 marks
			Paper 3 Calculator 1 hour 30 mins 80 marks



GCSE Science

All GCSE Science courses are assessed through examinations taken at the end of the course. Throughout the course students are required to undertake practical work. There are two pathways. One pathway is **Separate Sciences** which allows each student to achieve three GCSEs - one in Physics, another in Chemistry and the third in Biology. The alternative pathway is known as **Trilogy** which is two science GCSEs and includes content from all three of the Sciences. Entry onto the separate science pathway is decided primarily by the science teachers at Royds Hall, who will consider data and aptitude towards the subject. The separate science course covers all the content of the trilogy course but studies some areas of science in more breadth and depth. Entry on to A Level Science courses is not dependent on students taking the separate science course.

Separate Sciences (AQA Specification)

Subject	Level	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
Biology (Higher or Foundation) GCSE		Paper 1	Examination	50%	1hr 45m
		Paper 2	Examination	50%	1hr 45m
Chemistry (Higher or Foundation) GCSE		Paper 1	Examination	50%	1hr 45m
		Paper 2	Examination	50%	1hr 45m
Physics (Higher or Foundation) GCSE		Paper 1	Examination	50%	1hr 45m
		Paper 2	Examination	50%	1hr 45m

Trilogy Science (AQA Specification)

Subject	Level	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
Biology (Higher or Foundation)		Paper 1	Examination	16.6%	1hr 15m
		Paper 2	Examination	16.6%	1hr 15m
Chemistry (Higher or Foundation)		Paper 1	Examination	16.6%	1hr 15m
		Paper 2	Examination	16.6%	1hr 15m
Physics (Higher or Foundation)		Paper 1	Examination	16.6%	1hr 15m
		Paper 2	Examination	16.6%	1hr 15m



Option Subjects

This list includes the subjects which are available for GCSE options choices to start in September 2026:

- History
- Geography
- Travel & Tourism
- Religious Studies
- French
- Computer Science *
- Creative iMedia
- Business Studies
- Health and Social care
- Child Care
- Sociology
- Sports Studies
- Drama
- Art, craft & Design
- Textiles
- Photography
- D&T
- Hospitality & Catering

Please read through the information on the subjects on the next few pages to help you understand the course.



Edexcel GCSE History

What will be studied?

History at GCSE encompasses a variety of topics from the medieval period to the 21st century. Students will have the chance to build on topics studied during their Key Stage 3 curriculum as well as some entirely new and diverse topics. It will include a mix of both world and British history. Written skills will be tested during this GCSE; there are marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar alongside the disciplinary skills and factual content requirements. These skills will be practiced and developed over the two-year course.

How is the course assessed?

100% examination based

Paper 1	This paper encompasses the Thematic study and historical environment study. The focus for this unit is Medicine in Britain, 1250 – present and Treatment and injuries on the Western Front 1914-1918 during the First World War.	This paper is worth 30% of the GCSE course and will be examined for 1 hour 20 minutes .
Paper 2	This paper is your period study and British depth study. The focus for the British depth study is Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88 and the period study is The American West, c1835–c1895 .	This paper is worth 40% of the GCSE course and will be examined for 1 hour 50 minutes .
Paper 3	The final paper of the GCSE course is your Modern depth study. Focusing on Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39 .	This paper is worth 30% and will be examined for 1 hour and 30 minutes .

<p><u>What could I study post 16?</u></p> <p>This course will lead onto AS and A2 Level History and a wide variety of university degrees such as Law, Journalism, Teaching and many more.</p>	<p><u>Careers?</u></p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following career paths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Museum or gallery exhibitions officer - Secondary school teacher - Archivist - Archaeologist - Journalist - Lawyer - Civil Service administrator - Editorial assistant - Heritage manager - Politician - Solicitor - Market research analyst
--	---



AQA GCSE Geography

Geography is a focus within the curriculum for understanding and resolving global issues. It is an important link between the natural and social sciences. Through geography we learn to appreciate the diversity of landscapes, people and cultures. Geography requires a range of skills including the ability to write extended answers, interpret sources, recall case studies, complete investigations and show numerical and statistical skills. For this reason, the course is both challenging and accessible for all, providing a broad range of skills to develop and showcase. Students will gain a broader understanding of the world around them, to think about world issues enabling them to find solutions to a variety of challenging problems.

35% of GCSE	Paper One: Living with the Physical Environment	Students will study Natural Hazards (weather, climate change and tectonics), The Living World, Physical Landscapes in the UK (rivers and coasts) and Geographical Skills. Students will be assessed through a written examination of 1 hour 30 minutes.	Knowledge gained would be of use for further studies in courses such as geology, statistics, biology, physics, chemistry, and environmental science.
35% of GCSE	Paper Two: Challenges in the Human Environment	Students will be assessed on the following: Urban Issues and Challenges, The Changing Economic World, The Challenge of Resource Management, Geographical Skills. Students will be assessed through a written examination of 1 hour 30 minutes.	Knowledge gained would be of use for further studies in courses such as sociology, economics, politics, global studies, or environmental management.
30% of GCSE	Paper Three: Geographical Applications	Students will be assessed on the following: Issue Evaluation, Fieldwork, Geographical Skills. Students will be assessed through a written examination of 1 hour 30 minutes.	Evaluation skills and fieldwork skills are developed which compliment a wide range of courses including science, maths, statistics, health and social sciences.

<p><u>What Could I Study post-16?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As geography focuses on both natural and human sciences, it compliments a wide range of post-16 opportunities - A-levels such as Geography, Geology, Politics, Economics and Environmental Science. - BTEC Diploma in courses such as Travel and Tourism, Horticulture, Agriculture, Environmental Health/Consultation 	<p><u>Careers?</u></p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following career paths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape architect • Meteorologist • Quantity surveyor • Geoscientist / geologist • Environmental consultant • Logistics manager • Urban planning • Conservation officer • Hydrologist • Architect • Demographer • Politician
---	---

GCSE French

The new GCSE in French enables students to work towards grades 1 - 5 at foundation level and grades 4 - 9 at higher tier level and covers speaking, reading, writing and listening. It will enable learners to build on the strong foundation they have developed at KS3 and further enhance their knowledge and understanding in the French language, build confidence and fluency and learn more about French culture and French speaking countries.

25%	Reading Translation into English	Students will learn how to tackle a variety of texts and question types and will develop skills in translation sentences and short texts from French into English,	Students are tested in the following topic areas across the 4 exams: Theme 1: People and lifestyle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1: Identity and relationships with others • Topic 2: Healthy living and lifestyle • Topic 3: Education and work Theme 2: Popular culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1: Free-time activities • Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations • Topic 3: Celebrity culture Theme 3: Communication and the world around us <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1: Travel and tourism, including places of interest • Topic 2: Media and technology • Topic 3: The environment and where people live
25%	Listening Dictation	Students will develop confidence and ability to identify key information, answer a variety of question types and develop skills in dictation.	
25%	Writing Translation into French	Students will prepare for describing photos, write texts of varying lengths from 50 to 150 words, undertake grammar exercises and translation a text into French.	
25%	Speaking	Students will build confidence in preparation for speaking which includes a role play, reading a text aloud, a photo card description and a general conversation.	

What could I study post 16?

A level French
 Business French enrichment course with UCAS points
 Language degrees
 Applied languages as a modular option for other degree courses



GCSE Art, Craft and Design

GCSE Art and Design provides students with a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities which explores a range of media and art techniques. During the course students will produce 2-3 projects around themes such as Still Life or Culture and a Mock Exam piece. Students will acquire skills in researching, working independently and evaluating their own progress. They will develop their self-confidence, creativity and visual awareness. This course is ideal for any students who are interested in developing their skills to express themselves in a practical way, or are interested in pursuing a career in creative arts.

Assessment: Using the work you have created during the course, you will need to present a portfolio of your best work for assessment. This will be worth (60%) of your final grade. The remainder of your marks (40%) come from your Externally Assessed Assignment. This is a project set by the examination board. You will create a body of preparatory work - in a sketchbook, before spending 10 hours on a final piece.

Subject & Level	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
Art & Design (Art, Craft & Design) GCSE	Portfolio	Non-exam assessment	60%	N/A
	Externally set assignment	Examination	40%	10hr

<p>What could I study post 16?</p> <p>Fine Art (A Level course) Art & Design (3 A Level equivalent) Art & Design at different levels 3D Design HND Beauty Therapy Art, Design & Media Practise Creative media Digital production Production Arts</p> <p>It could also support accessing courses such as Photography, Design Technology, Textiles, Illustration and 3D Design, Graphics Design and Animation.</p>	<p>Careers?</p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following careers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Artist Art Therapist Designer Illustrator Art & Design Teacher Special effects Make-up Artist Theatre design <p>The list is endless... not just any job linked to Art & Design, but jobs that require attention to detail, problem solving and using your creative flair.</p>
--	--



GCSE Art and Design – Textile Design

Textile design is the creation of designs and products for woven, knitted, stitched, printed or decorative textiles that might have a functional or non-functional purpose. Students will develop knowledge,

understanding and skills relevant to textile design through practical, critical and contextual study that encourages direct engagement with original works and practice.

Students will learn through lots of practical experience and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of sources that inform their creativity. Ideas will be brought to life with a purposeful engagement with visual language, visual concepts, media, materials and the application of a myriad of techniques and working methods.

Assessment: Using the work you have created during the course, you will need to present a portfolio of your best work for assessment. This will be worth (60%) of your final grade. The remainder of your marks (40%) come from your Externally Assessed Assignment. This is a project set by the examination board. You will create a body of preparatory work - in a sketchbook, before spending 10 hours on a final piece.

Subject	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
Art & Design (Textile Design) GCSE	Portfolio	Non-exam assessment	60%	N/A
	Externally set assignment	Examination	40%	10hr

What could I study post 16?	Careers?
Fashion & Textiles (At different levels) Fashion Costume with textiles Design Fine Art (A Level course) Art & Design (3 A Level equivalent) Art & Design at different levels 3D Design HND Art, Design & Media Practise Production Arts It could also support accessing courses such as Photography, Design Technology, 3D Design, Graphics Design.	Careers? This course would be beneficial to the following careers. Textiles Artist Tailor Fashion Designer Textiles Designer Print Maker Costume Design Theatre- stage set design Fashion buyer The list is endless... not just any job linked to Art, Design & Textiles, but jobs that require attention to detail, problem solving and using your creative flair.



OCR GCSE Computer Science * ONLY a small cohort of identified students will take this option *

The GCSE Computer Science qualification has been re-introduced for students to study as a Computing option.

It offers learners the opportunity to build upon their KS3 understanding of the implications of the digital world, develop computational thinking and apply problem solving skills to real world problems. Students also develop their understanding and use of programming languages from KS3 Computing, through the learning of Python code.

The course is relevant to the modern, changing world of computing and it's designed to boost computing skills essential for the 21st century.

Subject	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
OCR GCSE Computer Science	Unit 1 - Computer Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1 Systems architecture • 1.2 Memory and storage • 1.3 Computer networks, connections and protocols • 1.4 Network security • 1.5 Systems software • 1.6 Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology 	Examination	50%	1hr 30 mins
	Unit 2 - Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.1 Algorithms • 2.2 Programming fundamentals • 2.3 Producing robust programs • 2.4 Boolean logic • 2.5 Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments 	Examination	50%	1hr 30 mins

What could I study post 16?	Careers?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A-levels such as Computer Science, Maths, Physics ✓ BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Computing ✓ Apprenticeships such as Computer Programming and Web development, 	<p>This course would be beneficial to the following career paths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Computer Programmer ✓ Games Designer ✓ App Developer ✓ Software Developer ✓ Web Developer ✓ IT Project Manager ✓ IT Technician ✓ Systems Architect ✓ Systems Security Analyst



GCSE Design and Technology

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences of Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing, making, and applying technical and practical expertise. Students will then have an option to specialise in a certain material area.

The GCSE allows students to study core technical principles of technology, as well as designing and making skills. They will learn a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment, including

textiles, paper, board, timber, metal and polymers providing students with an insight into the world of design, engineering and manufacturing industries.

Subject	Level	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
Design & Technology	GCSE	Written Paper	Examination	50%	2hrs
		Non-exam assessment	Non-exam assessment	50%	35hrs - in lesson time

<p>What could I study post 16?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A level Design and Technology, Product Design and Engineering - Further education: Diploma, HNC, Foundation Degree or L 2/3 Apprenticeships in related areas such as Model Making, Graphic Design and Construction. - Degree Course such as BA (Hons) Product Design, Games Development, Web Design and Architecture. 	<p>Careers?</p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following career paths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Architect Design and Technology Teacher Quantity Surveyor Electrician, Engineer Cabinet Maker Plasterer <p>or any job that requires creativity, problem solving, good communication and organisation.</p>
---	---



GCSE Drama

GCSE Drama is a course designed to develop the actor through performance. Students will explore existing performance work and develop a variety of different skills and techniques leading to performing script work and devising a performance piece. It is a highly practical course with a written exam at the end of the course, that will develop confidence, teamwork, creativity and possibly a star of tomorrow!

Students must be prepared to be professional, committed and reliable. If students enjoy challenging themselves and studying in a diverse, practical manner, then they will enjoy this course.

Students will be required to attend rehearsals and take part in School productions, create video or audio recordings, research, presentations, showcases, photographs, and individual performances.

Students will participate in workshops with industry professionals and also be invited on theatre trips to see professional productions outside of school times. Trips and workshops previously attended by students include Wendy & Peter Pan & Wizard of Oz (both at Leeds Playhouse), devising workshop ran by Leeds Playhouse and held in the Royds Hall drama studio, various pantomime productions at the Lawrence Batley Theatre.

Different Components of the course	Outline of what we do in each component	How this might link to further education
Component 1 (40%) – Devising Theatre	Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or a genre, in response to a stimulus set by WJEC. Learners must produce: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a realisation of their piece of devised theatre • a portfolio of supporting evidence • an evaluation of the final performance or design 	Knowledge gained would be used for further studies in Performing Arts, Theatre Studies, Media and Creative Arts. Students will develop their knowledge of various professional roles in Performing Arts such as the actor, director, set/costume/lighting designer. Research and IT skills will be developed.
Component Two (20%) – Performing from a Text	Learners study two extracts from the same performance text chosen by the centre. Learners participate in one performance using sections of text from both extracts	Evaluation skills in reviewing your own work and the work of others
Component Three (40%) – Interpreting Theatre	Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes.	Transferable skills such as problem solving, communication and collaborative skills will be developed.

What could I study post 16? ◦A Level Theatre Studies	Careers? This course would be beneficial to the following careers.
--	--



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦A Level Performing Arts ◦BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts ◦BTEC Level 3 Music Theatre <p>It could also support accessing courses such as English Language, English Literature, Film Studies, Media, Music, Dance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performer • Director • Producer • Presenter • Barrister • Teacher • Writer • Youth worker
--	--

GCSE Photography

GCSE Photography provides students with a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities which explores a range of photomanipulation techniques. During the course students will produce 2-3 projects around themes such as Shape, Architecture & Identity. Students will acquire skills in researching, working independently and evaluating their own progress. They will develop their self-confidence, creativity and visual awareness. This course is ideal for any students who are interested in developing their skills to express themselves in a practical way or are interested in pursuing a career in Photography or Design.

Assessment: Using the work you have created during the course, you will need to present a portfolio of your best work for assessment. This will be worth (60%) of your final grade. The remainder of your marks (40%) come from your Externally Assessed Assignment. This is a project set by the examination board. You will create a body of preparatory work - in a sketchbook, before spending 10 hours on a final piece.

Subject	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
GCSE Art & Design Photography	Portfolio	Non-exam assessment	60%	N/A
	Externally set assignment	Examination	40%	10hr

<p>What could I study post 16?</p> <p>Photography- At different levels Art & Design- At different levels Art, Design & Media Practice Fashion Production Arts</p> <p>It could also support accessing courses such as Art& Design, Design Technology, Creative media, Graphics Design and Performing Arts.</p>	<p>Careers?</p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following careers.</p> <p>Photographer (In all areas) -Weddings, Products, Homes, Cars etc. Teacher Videographer Photographer mentor Creative designer Web designer</p> <p>The list is endless... not just any job linked to Photography, but jobs that require attention to detail, problem solving and using your creative flair.</p>
--	--



BTEC Tech Award in Travel and Tourism (Levels 1 and 2)

Travel and Tourism allows students to use the knowledge and skills from their GCSE's and key stage 3 learning, giving students opportunity to apply their academic knowledge and skills to everyday and work contexts. The course focuses on three components: the aims of travel and tourism including how different organisations work and different types of travel and tourism; how organisations use market research to identify travel and tourism trends, customer needs and preferences regarding planning a holiday; and factors that may influence global tourism. This Tech award builds upon key stage 3 Geography knowledge and also complements GCSE Geography.

How is the course assessed?

<u>Component</u>	<u>Type of assessment</u>	<u>Percentage of final grade</u>
Component 1: Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations	Internal assessment	33.3%
Component 2: Customer needs in Travel and Tourism	Internal Assessment	33.3%
Component 3: Influences on Global Travel and Tourism	External assessment (2 hours)	33.3%

<p>What could I study Post-16?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of A-levels • BTEC Level 3 National in Travel and Tourism • Apprenticeships in travel consultancy • Aviation and Travel level 3 • Aviation Management and Operations with Pilot Studies 	<p>Careers?</p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following career paths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel representative • Cabin Crew • Resort manager • Events Management • Business Management
---	---



AQA GCSE Religious Studies

AQA Religious Studies GCSE covers the study of Christianity and Islam where students will discuss the beliefs and teachings, as well as the practices of each faith. In addition to this, students will study four ethical topics – Religion and Families, Religion and Life, Religion and Human Rights, and Religion and Crime. In these topics we look at issues such as abortion, euthanasia, animal rights, drug abuse, and many more contemporary issues. Students will be challenged with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards religious issues. Students will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. They will develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. All of these skills will help prepare them for further study.

50% Examination	Paper One: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices	Students will gain knowledge of the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam. Students will be assessed through a written examination of 1 hour 45 minutes.	Knowledge gained would be of use for further studies in Ethics, Philosophy and Humanities based subjects.
50% Examination	Paper Two: Thematic Studies	Students will explore four key themes: Religion and Families, Religion and Life, Religion and Human Rights, and Religion and Crime. Students will be assessed through a written examination of 1 hour 45 minutes.	Evaluation skills are developed, which would be of use in further studies in a number of areas.

<p><u>What Could I study post-16</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RS naturally supports further study in humanities subjects and subjects such as psychology, sociology, law and politics. - A-levels such as Religious Studies, Sociology, Philosophy, Ethics provide a more in-depth exploration of the issues. - RS is directly relevant to other areas of study that deal with morals and ethics, such as Health and Social Care and Biology. - RS develops respect, communication and debate skills which is widely respected in many different areas of study. 	<p><u>Careers?</u></p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following career paths and an understanding of people with different faiths is an important characteristic for many roles.</p> <p>Teacher Social Worker Civil Servant Counsellor Public Services (police, army, fire service) Law and legal services Journalism Any job involving dealing with people and customers</p>
---	---



GCSE Sociology

Sociology is an in-depth analysis of the interactions between individuals and groups in society. Students have the opportunity to examine concepts that they can apply to real life, such as developing skills in debating. The topics include:

- Family - Looking at why families are important and if we need families to be the best people we can be
- Education - Looking at why education is important, who does the best in education and why some are left out and don't succeed
- Stratification - Looking at who has power and why others have to struggle in life
- Crime and deviance - Looking at why some groups turn to crime and the effect that crime has on society.

Although not necessary to complete an A level in Sociology the course will benefit students by giving them a solid foundation of knowledge.

Subject	Level	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
Sociology GCSE		Component 1: Understanding Social Processes	Examination	50%	1hr 45m
		Component 2: Understanding Social Structures	Examination	50%	1hr 45m

What could I study post 16?	Careers?
<p>After securing a good GCSE grade in sociology you will have the option to continue with the subject at A-Level. The most obvious higher education path would be to study a degree in sociology but due to the diversity of the subject you are able to choose a vast array of courses, to name just a few: psychology, media studies, criminology, history, geography, social work, English, law, politics and journalism.</p>	<p>The nature of Sociology makes the subject an ideal choice for a range of careers and higher education option. Sociology has become a central part of specialist training courses for professions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching • Nursing • Police • Social work • Journalism • Counselling

OCR Cambridge National Technical Award in Child Development and Care

The Technical Award in Child Development and Care provides students with the opportunity to gain a vocational qualification that gives a basic introduction to the childcare industries. It includes the knowledge and understanding of child development and well-being necessary for working with children in a variety of settings. It is aimed at a range of students who wish to be introduced to childcare and development of children aged 0-5 years.

50% Examination	Health and well-being for Child Development	All students will learn the essential knowledge and understanding for child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, care, and conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety.	Knowledge gained would be of use for further studies in PSHE, Biology and other child development qualifications
25% Controlled Assessment	Understanding the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years	Students will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all these needs. They will also gain knowledge of nutrition and hygiene practices and will be given the opportunity to evaluate dietary choices.	Evaluation skills are developed, which would be of use in further studies in a number of areas.
25% Controlled Assessment	Understanding the development of a child from birth to five years *Child Study*	Students will gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five. Students will research, plan and carry out activities with children and make observations of their development.	Researching, planning, observing and evaluating skills are developed and are useful transferable skills.

<p>What could I study post 16?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses such as Health & Social Care and Child development and care • A levels such as Sociology, Biology, and Psychology • BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate/Diploma in Health and Social Care • Apprenticeships such as Early years Childcare and Education. 	<p>Careers?</p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following career paths:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Teacher Nursery Nurse Nurse Midwife Social Worker</p>
--	---

OCR Cambridge National in Creative iMedia

The Cambridge National in Creative iMedia is an excellent practical introduction to life and work in the digital media industry, students can explore the sector while developing technical skills and techniques, producing a digital media product in response to a brief, reviewing and reflecting on the process and outcome. The UK lacks skilled people in the rapidly growing digital media industry, making this an excellent first step into this career.

The mixture of units gives students an excellent taste of the range of job prospects available while also equipping them with transferrable technical skills for the world of work.

Subject	Level	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
Cambridge National in Creative iMedia	L1 or 2	R093 – Creative iMedia in the Media Industry	Examination	40%	1hr 15m
		R094 – Visual Identity & Digital Graphics	Non-exam assessment	30%	N/A
		R097 – Interactive Digital Media	Non-exam assessment	30%	N/A

What could I study post 16?	Careers?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A-levels such as Computer Science, Film Studies, Media Studies, Drama ✓ BTEC Level 3 Creative Media, Information Technology, Film studies, Performing Arts ✓ Apprenticeships such as Web development, Film Production. 	<p>This course would be beneficial to the following career paths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Audio engineering ✓ Cinematographer ✓ Web design ✓ Games design ✓ Digital artist ✓ Animation designer ✓ Product designer

OCR Cambridge National Award in Health and Social Care Levels 1/ Level 2

The OCR Cambridge National Award in Health and social care provides students with the opportunity to gain a vocational qualification that gives a broad introduction to health and social care settings. This course provides an investigation into the relevant knowledge and skills needed to work the diverse fields of health and social care.

How the course is assessed

The OCR Cambridge National will have a written exam worth 40% and portfolio units worth 60%. The course is graded Level 1/2 PASS, MERIT, DISTINCTION or DISTINCTION * and the marks for all 3 units are added together to decide your final grade. Unit 3 is assessed by an external written examination and accounts for 40% of the final marks. The other 2 units are assessed through a controlled assessment assignment that match the assessment criteria for the unit. Students have to achieve in all 3 units to pass the course.

The qualification will cover:



- Supporting Individuals through life events
- Creative and Therapeutic activities
- Principles of care in Health and Social Care settings (external exam)

Please note: due to the nature of this course being continually assessed we cannot allow any late starters onto the course.

40% Examination	External Assessment	This exam will be 1 hour 15 minutes. The exam will focus on examining key aspects of working in a Health and Social care setting. Students will learn about the ways of supporting service users rights and using effective communication skills so that they can provide person-centred care. Students will also learn about ways of valuing diversity and providing equal opportunities.
30% Controlled Assessment	Supporting Individuals through life events	Students will examine all the changes that can occur within an individual's life from a physical, intellectual, emotional and social perspective. Students will consider what factors can have an impact on an individual's life for better or for worse. Students will also research how individuals can be supported by service providers and practitioners. <i>Please note students are required to interview an individual about two life events that have happened and create a report on this.</i>
30% Controlled Assessment	Creative and Therapeutic activities	Students will learn about the different types of creative and therapeutic activities that are available, and the different needs these activities address. Students will learn the many benefits of creative and therapeutic activities and students will have the opportunity to carry out a creative activity suitable for a person in a health and social care setting.

<p><u>What could I study Post-16?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Courses such as Health and Social Care and Child Development and Care - A levels such as Sociology, Biology and Psychology - BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certification/Diploma in Health and Social Care 	<p><u>Careers?</u></p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following career paths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health Worker - Outreach Worker - Occupational Therapist - Social Worker
--	---

OCR Cambridge Nationals – Sport Studies

Within the Sports Studies qualification, students will develop their own performance and how to effectively lead others as well as gain knowledge about the national sports context. This qualification is accessible for all learners.

The qualification will also help students to develop learning and skills that can be used in other life and work situations, such as: Completing research, working with others, evaluating and making recommendations to help improve performance, Creating and delivering presentations, writing reports, leadership skills, healthy living and lifestyle skills

Subject	Level	Units	Exam/NEA	Marks	Duration
Sport Studies Cambridge National Certificate	L 1 and 2	Contemporary issues in sport In this unit, students will learn about a range of topical and contemporary issues in sport, relating to; participation levels and barriers, promotion of values and ethical behaviour, the role of high-profile sporting events, the role of national governing bodies and how technology is used within sport.	Exam	70	1 hour 15 mins
		Performance and leadership in sports activities In this unit, students will learn how to develop their skills as both a performer, in two different sporting activities, and as a leader in one activity. As a leader they will have the opportunity to plan, deliver and review safe and effective sporting activity sessions. They also have the opportunity to develop a range of transferable skills. Students will work both independently and as part of a team, including communicating with team mates as well as being in front of an audience when	Controlled Assessment	80	N/A

		they perform. They will perform under pressure, both as a participant and as a leader, and will use their initiative to solve problems and make decisions. They will also deal with rapidly changing conditions and situations			
		<p>Developing knowledge and skills in outdoor activities</p> <p>In this unit, students will learn how to find out information about what opportunities there are in their local area, as well as nationally in the UK, for all different types of activities. They will learn how you can benefit from and enjoy activities safely by finding out what equipment, clothing, facilities and technology you need, as well as completing planning to help keep them safe.</p>	Controlled Assessment	40	N/A

Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering (Levels 1 and 2 are available)

The award in Hospitality and Catering is for students who want to learn about the Hospitality and Catering sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers or further study. The hospitality and catering sector includes all businesses that provide food, beverages, and/or accommodation services. This includes restaurants, hotels, pubs and bars. It also includes airlines, tourist attractions, hospitals and sports venues; businesses where hospitality and catering is not their primary service but is increasingly important to their success.

According to the British Hospitality Association, hospitality and catering is Britain's fourth largest industry and accounts for around 10% of the total workforce.

As well as the structure of the hospitality sector, you will learn about; food safety, nutrition, meal planning and will cook using a wide variety of food preparation skills.

For the internal controlled assessment you will need to plan, cook and serve a variety of nutritional dishes, in a safe and hygienic manner, that are suitable for different situations and customer needs and requirements.

Subject	Level	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
Hospitality and Catering	L1/2 Award	Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry	Examination	40%	1hr 30m



WJEC		Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action	Non-exam assessment	60%	N/A
------	--	--	------------------------	-----	-----

<p>What could I study post 16?</p> <p>Level 3 Hospitality and Catering HND Hospitality Management Apprenticeships in the Hotel and Catering Industries</p> <p>Degree courses such as BA (Hons) Hospitality Business Management, Events Management.</p>	<p>Careers?</p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following careers.</p> <p>Chef Cake Decorator Waiting Staff Barista Butcher Baker Catering Manager Air Cabin Crew</p>
---	--

<p>What could I study post 16?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦A Level Theatre Studies ◦A Level Performing Arts ◦BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts ◦BTEC Level 3 Music Theatre <p>It could also support accessing courses such as English Language, English Literature, Film Studies, Media, Music, Dance.</p>	<p>Careers?</p> <p>This course would be beneficial to the following careers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performer • Director • Producer • Presenter • Barrister • Teacher • Writer • Youth worker
--	--

OCR GCSE Business

The OCR GCSE Business course introduces students to the world of business and enterprise. It helps learners understand how businesses are set up, how they operate, and how they make decisions in real-world contexts. Students develop valuable skills in problem-solving, analysis, communication and decision-making, while exploring how businesses respond to customers, competition, finance and external influences.

Subject	Units	Exam/NEA	Percentage	Duration
OCR GCSE Business	<p>Unit 1: Business Activity, Marketing and People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose and objectives of businesses 	Examination	50%	1hr 30 mins

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of business ownership and stakeholders • Marketing methods, market research and the marketing mix • How businesses identify and meet customer needs • Human resources, recruitment, motivation and training • How businesses use technology and operate ethically 			
	<p>Unit 2: Operations, Finance and Influences on Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production methods and quality management • The role of suppliers and supply chains • Business finance, including costs, revenue and profit • Cash flow and budgeting • Sources of finance and financial decision-making • External influences such as economic conditions, legislation, globalisation and the environment 	Examination	50%	1hr 30 mins

<p>What could I study post 16?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A Level Business ✓ A Level Economics ✓ BTEC or vocational courses in Business, Enterprise, Marketing or Finance ✓ Apprenticeships in business, retail, finance or management 	<p>Careers?</p> <p>The skills developed in GCSE Business are highly transferable and support careers such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Business owner or entrepreneur ✓ Marketing or sales executive ✓ Accountant or finance officer ✓ Human resources officer ✓ Operations or project manager ✓ Retail, hospitality or management roles
---	---



Options Pathways

All students are placed into one of four coloured pathways. This is based on their attainment during baseline tests at the start of Year 7 (given that this cohort did not sit KS2 SATs, due to Covid 19), and current attainment in school. These pathways support the decision making regarding the combination of subjects which students can choose.

Pathway	Explanation
RED	EBacc pathway with triple Science
PURPLE	EBacc pathway with combined Science
YELLOW	1 x Humanity with 3 other open choices (a more flexible option route that allows for the choice of vocational and traditional GCSE course.
GREEN	A route that allows for vocational and traditional GCSE choices at level 1 and 2.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the school do if too many students opt for one subject?

We are usually able to fulfil all option requests. In the rare situation that the first choices result in a subject being oversubscribed, then we will do everything we can to find a solution. This will involve liaising with both student and parent/carers.

What do you do if too few students opt for one subject?

If demand for a particular subject is too small, it may not be possible to offer that subject. Should this situation arise, we will liaise closely with students and parents/carers.

Can all the choice combinations be timetabled?

In some cases, it may not be possible to timetable certain choice combinations. Should this situation arise, individual interviews will take place with students who have chosen subject combinations. Students and their parent/carer(s) will be kept informed at all times.

Do students have to follow a course at GCSE to be able to take it at College?

It is generally required and advisable for students to have studied the subjects that they choose for A level at GCSE, where possible. However, in many circumstances students of a suitable aptitude may be accepted for post-16 courses at College, even if they have not covered the GCSE course at Key Stage 4. For more information, please check the entry requirements of the college your child would like to attend.

What will happen if students change their mind about their option choices?

For most students we would hope when choosing their option, they will make informed and appropriate choices that they remain happy with. However, a smaller number of students may change their mind and wish to change option courses before the new timetable has started. Whilst this is generally not advisable, it



may be a possibility if the timetable allows and if there is space in the subject they wish to switch to. The opportunity to move after the start of the courses is much more complex and may not be possible. It will also be more difficult, as the student would need to catch up on any work missed since the start of the course.

NOTES PAGE