



Course Choice Information

September 2021



Guide for Course Choices for Year 10

This booklet contains course choice information for students starting Year 10 in September 2021. Here you will find important information about the next stage of your education.

Our aims:

- To ensure that every student achieves the very best qualifications they are capable of
- To prepare every student for their next step in education.

All students study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science (two GCSEs) or Separate Sciences (three GCSEs), Physical Education (PE) and Ethics in year 10 and 11. In addition to these subjects you will choose to study three subjects leading to GCSE or Vocational qualifications equivalent to GCSE over two years.

We allocate students to one of two learning routes:

Route One

You must choose at least one modern foreign language GCSE subject, from:

- French
- Spanish
- Turkish

And you must choose either:

- Geography
- History

You must choose one other subject.

Route Two

You must choose at least one of the following subjects, from:

- French
- Spanish
- Geography
- Turkish
- History

You must choose two other subjects.

Many universities and employers look for students who have achieved the English Baccalaureate. The English Baccalaureate is awarded to students who achieve good GCSE passes in English, Maths, two or more Sciences, History or Geography and a Modern Foreign Language.

Art

Course Teacher(s)	Ms Saunders, Mr Charles
Exam Board	AQA
Fact File	<p>You will develop your skills in, painting, drawing, printing and using photography You will work to a theme to develop your own ideas and explain your idea progression. You will explore and investigate innovative artists and artworks and use these as inspiration for your own practice. You will explore a range of techniques, building on those previously learnt and exploring new techniques such as batik, mono printing, lino printing and wax resist. Students will also discover a range of available 2D and 3D mediums including fabric inks, wax, acrylics, mod roc, armature wire, glass and plaster of Paris.</p>
Assessment	<p>You will create work for two Components of study. Component 1 is a personal portfolio of work worth 60% of the final grade. Component 2 in an externally set assignment worth 40% of the final grade.</p>
Progression Routes	<p>A-Level Art and Design. Foundation courses in Art and Design and University courses in related subjects including all Art specialisms, Design and Architecture related courses.</p> <p>Students will also be able to consider a wide range of careers including architecture, photography, advertising, fashion design, animation, the film industry, theatre, illustration, computer graphics, web design and many more.</p>
Student Voice	<p><i>"I enjoy Art because it is very personal and for me it is an expression of the soul. It is a way to capture a feeling, an emotion, the way a person or thing is at a specific moment in time. It gives me a chance to express my thoughts and feelings. You can let out your creativity when you make or look at Art. It is a great way to vent anger and express love."</i></p>

Business Studies

Course Teacher(s)	Miss Winter
Exam Board	NCFE
Fact File	<p><i>Year 10 Unit 1:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand entrepreneurship, business organisation and the importance of stakeholders• Understand the marketing mix, market research, market types and orientation types• Understand operations management• Understand internal and external influences on business <p><i>Year 11 Unit 2:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand research, resource planning and growth for business and enterprise• Understand human resource requirements for a business start up• Understand sources of enterprise funding and business finance• Understand business and enterprise planning
Assessment	<p>Unit 1 – In year 10 students will complete their Unit 1 exam which consists of an hour and a half paper with a range of multiple choice questions to extended answer questions. This unit accounts for 40% of the overall grade.</p> <p>Unit 2 – This is a controlled assessment whereby students will create their own business plan based on a given business stimulus in 21 hours. Students also have a chance to resubmit this unit, giving them another opportunity to improve their grade. This unit accounts for 60% of the overall grade.</p>
Progression Routes	<p><i>AS/A2 level, AS/A2 Economics, BTEC National Extended Certificate (equivalent to one A Level) or BTEC National Diploma (equivalent to two A Levels), and AS/A2 Financial literacy. You will also be able to consider a wide range of careers in finance, accounting, computing, marketing, management and setting up your own business.</i></p>
Student Voice	<p><i>“GCSE Business Studies is an extremely fascinating subject which gives you a real insight into the working world as well as developing the qualities you need to be successful. What we learn in lessons we can use in everyday life.”</i></p>

Combined Sciences

Subject Leader

Mr Debrah

Exam Board

AQA

Fact File

Biology:

- Cell Biology
- Organisation
- Bioenergetics
- Infection and response
- Homeostasis and response
- Interdependence, Variation and Evolution
- Ecology

Chemistry:

- Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
- Bonding, Structure and the properties of matter
- Quantitative Chemistry
- Chemical Changes
- Energy Diagrams
- The use and extent of chemical change
- Organic Chemistry
- Chemical Analysis
- Chemistry of the Atmosphere

Physics:

- Energy
- Electricity
- Practical model of matter
- Atomic Structure
- Forces
- Waves
- Magnetism and Electromagnetism

Assessment

There will be six exams: two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics. Each exam is 1 hour 15 minutes.

Triple science will have 21 required practicals to be carried out during the course. These will be assessed during the examinations.

Course combinations: Maths, P.E, Geography and Social Sciences.

Combined Sciences continued

Progression Routes

A-Level subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and other Science based courses.

A wide range of science based University degrees. Researcher, Scientist, Medical Doctor, Dentist, Law, Accountancy among others.

Student Voice

“Science has developed my understanding of how the world we live in works.”

Separate Sciences

Subject Leader

Mr Debrah

Exam Board

AQA

Fact File

Biology:

- Cell Biology
- Organisation
- Bioenergetics
- Infection and response
- Homeostasis and response
- Interdependence, Variation and Evolution
- Ecology

Chemistry:

- Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
- Bonding, Structure and the properties of matter
- Quantitative Chemistry
- Chemical Changes
- Energy Diagrams
- The use and extent of chemical change
- Organic Chemistry
- Chemical Analysis
- Chemistry of the Atmosphere

Physics:

- Energy
- Electricity
- Practical model of matter
- Atomic Structure
- Forces
- Waves
- Magnetism and Electromagnetism

Assessment

There will be six exams: two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics. Each exam is 1 hour 45 minutes.

- *Triple science will have 28 required practicals to be carried out during the course. These will be assessed during the examinations.*

Course combinations: Maths, P.E, Geography and Social Sciences.

Separate Sciences continued

Progression Routes

A-Level subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and other Science based courses.

A wide range of science based University degrees. Researcher, Scientist, Medical Doctor, Dentist, Law, Accountancy among others.

Student Voice

“Science has developed my understanding of how the world we live in works.”

Computer Science

Course Teacher(s)	Mr Ahmed, Mr Malungu
Exam Board	OCR
Fact File	<p>The qualification will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills established through the Computer Science elements of the Key Stage 3 programme of study. The content has been designed not only to allow for a solid basis of understanding of computing but to engage learners and get them thinking about real world application.</p> <p>The specification will enable learners to develop computational thinking skills built on a sound base of conceptual learning and understanding.</p>
Assessment	<p>50% of the Total GCSE - Component 1: Computer systems (01) 80 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper (no calculators allowed)</p> <p>50% of the Total GCSE - Component 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (02) 80 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper.</p>
Progression Routes	The specification has been designed to seamlessly transition into Computer Science at A Level.
Student Voice	<p><i>“Computer science is great it has expanded my knowledge with the latest technology.”</i></p> <p><i>“Computing science has taught me how to code using the python language.”</i></p>

Design and Make

Course Teacher(s)	Mr Ambler and Mr Ross
Exam Board	Pearson
Fact File	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The course will develop your skills in design and make.• The course encourages you to take responsibility for your own learning and to develop skills that are essential for the modern-day workplace such as teamwork, working to deadlines presenting information effectively and accurately.• The course develops 2D & 3D design work by developing Design skills through the use of freehand and computer drawing of every day products used in the modern world as well as making 3D products based upon your research & design work showing the influences of designs and designers.• This course encourages you to creatively design and produce practical solutions fit for a modern world.
Assessment	<p>The course is assessed through the completion of 4 units of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to Specialist Pathways in Design: Internally assessed• Communicating ideas in 2D: Internally assessed• Communicating ideas in 3D: Internally assessed• Creative Project in Art & Design: Externally assessed
Progression Routes	<p>This qualification provides a good progression route to more advance qualifications e.g. BTEC Nationals and A level in Product Design.</p> <p>Also it is a good foundation for other college based courses in design and the manufacturing industries.</p>
Student Voice	<p><i>“I wanted to be able to design a variety of products and learning the knowledge and skills to show my ideas to others.”</i></p>

English Language & Literature

Subject Leader	Mr Taylor
Exam Board	AQA
Fact File	<p>Students will study for two GCSE's in English – Language and Literature. In English Language students cover the topics of reading and writing fiction and non-fiction in a variety of genres. In English Literature they will study Shakespeare, a pre-20th Century text, modern drama and a variety of poetry</p> <p>Texts that will be explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare• 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens• 'An Inspector Calls' by J.B. Priestley• AQA Poetry Anthology (One Cluster of poems)• Unseen poetry
Assessment	<p>There are four exams in total, two for English Language and two for English Literature.</p> <p>English Language Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing English Language Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives</p> <p>English Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel English Literature Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry</p>
Progression Routes	<p>English develops a variety of communication and thinking skills which are essential in the modern world and in all walks of life. Students may progress onto A' Level, opening up opportunities in the Arts based subjects at University. Graduates in English may progress into fields such as journalism, teaching, advertising, business and communications or the Arts.</p>
Student Voice	<p><i>"I love hearing and exploring new stories."</i> <i>"English lets me express my creative thinking."</i> <i>"English is like painting but you do it with words."</i></p>

French

Course Teacher(s)	Mrs Alaya, Ms Bangui
Exam Board	AQA
Fact File	<p>The topics that are offered for all units cover the broad themes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identity and culture.• Local, national and global areas of interest.• Current and future study and employment.
Assessment	<p>100% External Assessment All Exams will be set and marked by the exam board. There will be :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tiered Paper (Foundation and Higher)- Short translations from and into the target language.- Some target language questions in the reading and listening paper.- Authentic stimuli in the reading and literary texts. <p>One exam paper in each skill area taken at the end of two years of study in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speaking 25%• Writing 25%• Listening 25%• Reading 25%
Progression Routes	<p>Educational progression routes: A level languages or as an option within Vocational A levels. Employment options: Journalism and Media, Law, Business and Marketing, ICT, Sport and Leisure, Travel and Tourism, Customer Service, Teaching and the Civil Service.</p>
Student Voice	<p><i>“Learning a language makes learning another language easier; it opens up your eyes to a world of opportunities at home and abroad and gets you noticed”.</i></p>

Geography

Course Teacher(s)

Miss Sultana

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Physical Geography:

- The Challenge of Natural Hazards
- The Living World
- Physical Landscapes in the UK

Human Geography:

- Urban Issues and Challenges
- The Changing Economic World
- The Challenge of Resource Management

Fieldwork:

- Carry out two geographical enquires

GCSE Specification A Full Course 8035

Three final examinations:

- Physical Geography 35%
- Human Geography 35%
- Geographical Applications 30%

Progression Routes

Students who study GCSE Geography are able to continue their studies to A Level. Popular careers for people with a Geography qualification includes: town or transport planning, surveying, conservation, sustainability, waste and water management, environmental planning, tourism, and weather forecasting.

The army, police, government, research organisations, law, IT and business world also love the practical research and transferable skills that geographers develop.

Student Voice

"I enjoy studying Geography because it gives me a greater understanding of the world and my place within it."

History

Course Teacher(s)	Mr Hasip, Mr Clark
Exam Board	Edexcel
Fact File	<p>Paper 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thematic study and historic environment – 30% <i>Crime and Punishment in Britain c1000-present and Whitechapel c1870-1900: crime, policing and the inner city.</i> <p>Paper 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Period study and British Depth study – 40%• <i>Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88</i>• <i>Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-91</i> <p>Paper 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Modern depth study – 30%• The USA, 1954–75: conflict at home and abroad
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paper 1 – Written examination: 1hr 15 mins, knowledge and source based.• Paper 2 – Written examination: 1hr 45 mins, knowledge and understanding.• Paper 3 – Written examination: 1hr 20 mins, knowledge and source/interpretations based. <p>All Exams to be taken in the Summer Term of the final Year</p>
Progression Routes	<p>Students who study GCSE History are able to continue their studies to AS and A2 Level. Students who achieve this qualification have a variety of career opportunities such as; Law, Journalism, Teaching, Academia, Management, Civil Service</p>
Student Voice	<p><i>“I enjoyed studying history and it has given me many new skills especially analysing information from sources.”</i></p> <p><i>“I studied history because it allows me to find out what has made the world what it is today.”</i></p>

Mathematics

Subject Leader

Ms Denli

Exam Board

AQA

Fact File

The subject content of this specification has been organised into broad topic areas and given a reference as follows (This content is common to all exam boards):

- Number references start with N
- Algebra references start with A
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change references start with R
- Geometry and measures references start with G
- Probability references start with P
- Statistics references start with S.

All content can be assessed on any of the three question papers. As such, some questions will draw together elements of maths from different topic areas.

Assessment

GCSE Mathematics has a Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) and a Higher tier (grades 4 – 9). Students must take three question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series.

Paper 1 (non calculator) – written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
80 marks- 33⅓% of the GCSE Mathematics assessment

Paper 2 (calculator paper) – written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
80 marks- 33⅓% of the GCSE Mathematics assessment

Paper 3 (calculator paper) – written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
80 marks-33⅓% of the GCSE Mathematics assessment

Progression Routes

Even if you do an apprenticeship, you will be required to do additional maths qualifications if you don't pass maths with a grade 4.

Grade 6 (you can only get this on the higher paper) is necessary for many universities EVEN if you want to do a subject completely unrelated to maths.

AS/A Level Mathematics will also help you develop skills that will enable you to get into other careers such as Law and Medicine.

Mathematics continued

Progression Routes Continued

Degree choices where A level Mathematics is listed as useful by most universities:

Accountancy	Chemistry
Architecture Biology	Computer Science
Biochemistry	Dentistry
Biomedical Sciences	Dietetics
Business Studies	

Degrees – Geography, Management studies, Nursing and Midwifery Orthoptics Pharmacy Philosophy Physiotherapy, Planning Psychology Surveying, Teacher Training

Student Voice

“Well respected and challenging subject”

“I enjoy problem solving.”

“Maths will help me when I go to university.”

“Maths A level is a facilitating subject.”

“Maths A level is necessary for many careers.”

“Maths is helping to improve my analytical thinking.”

“Maths is a respectable and reputable subject.”

“I enjoy it and it’s one of my best subjects.”

Performing Arts

Course
Teacher(s)
Exam Board

Miss Lewis, Ms Fuller, Ms Dickson, Ms Stachini
Edexcel

Fact File

Students will study a combination of topics, in Music or Drama. As well as seeing as much live theatre as possible! Students take music with also be entitled to weekly instrumental lessons.

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts			
Unit	Core units	Assessment method	GLH
1	Individual Showcase	External	30
2	Preparation, Performance and Production	Internal	30
Optional specialist units			
3	Acting Skills	Internal	60
4	Dance Skills	Internal	60
5	Musical Theatre Skills	Internal	60
6	Music Performance Skills	Internal	60
7	Production Skills for Performance	Internal	60

Assessment

The Individual Showcase unit is set and marked by the exam board. This will be completed under exam conditions within a time situation.

The other units are internally assessed and moderated by examiners.

Progression Routes

AS/A2 Drama and Theatre Studies. Music at Level 3, Specialist Drama, Music Universities or Performing Arts College. Performing Arts also help you develop skills that will enable you to get into other careers such as Law and Medicine.

Student Voice

“Performing Arts is great as it allows you to be yourself!”
“It is the one subject that I can really express myself in”
“Music and Drama give me the freedom to not sit behind a desk to and be creative.”

Philosophy and Ethics

Course Teacher(s)	Ms Robertson, Mr Iberi
Exam Board	AQA
Fact File	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The course encourages students to explore the beliefs of two world religions (Christianity and Islam) and also looks at how religion affects how people make decisions about important issues.• You will look at essential questions of life: Why are we here? Is there a God? Does religion explain the world better than science? How do we explain evil and suffering? <p>This course encourages you to compare, contrast and defend your own views against others, whilst showing a deep understanding of, and empathy with, opposing views on war, violence, marriage, relationships, medical ethics and the environment.</p>
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two 1 hour 45 minute exams (carrying 50% each) <p>The course requires a good deal of reading and writing and will reward good literacy skills including spelling, grammar and punctuation.</p> <p>Beliefs, teaching and practices of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Islam✓ Christianity <p>Influence of Religion on Modern World:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Theme A: Relationships and families.✓ Theme B: Religion and life.✓ Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict.✓ Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.
Progression Routes	This is a great subject to take alongside other humanities like History, Geography, Sociology or Psychology. A Level Religious Studies is a highly-valued subject – especially for students who wish to progress to Theology, Politics or Law at University.
Student Voice	<i>“It’s great to understand more about other people’s beliefs and develop my own understanding of religion”.</i>

Spanish

Course Teacher(s)	Ms Ocampo, Ms Silva Ruiz
Exam Board	AQA
Fact File	<p>The topics that are offered for all units cover the broad themes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identity and culture.• Local, national and global areas of interest.• Current and future study and employment.
Assessment	<p>100% External Assessment All Exams will be set and marked by the exam board. There will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tiered Paper (Foundation and Higher)- Short translations from and into the target language.- Some target language questions in the reading and listening paper.- Authentic stimuli in the reading and literary texts. <p>One exam paper in each skill area taken at the end of two years of study in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speaking 25%• Writing 25%• Listening 25%• Reading 25%
Progression Routes	<p>Educational progression routes: A level languages or as an option within Vocational A levels. Employment options: Journalism and Media, Law, Business and Marketing, ICT, Sport and Leisure, Travel and Tourism, Customer Service, Teaching and the Civil Service.</p>
Student Voice	<p><i>“Learning one language makes learning another language easier; it opens up your eyes to a world of opportunities at home and abroad and gets you noticed”.</i></p>

Sport

Subject Leader	Ms Dempster
Exam Board	Pearson
Fact File	<p>Students cover topics on Fitness for Sport, Practical Sports Performance, Training Programming and Sports Coaching.</p> <p>Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Different physical attributes for particular athletes.- Skills and Techniques needed for specific sports.- How to plan and lead coaching sessions.- How to plan, manage and monitor fitness programmes.- How to officiate games and tournaments.
Assessment	<p>There are four controlled units to this course.</p> <p>Unit 1: Fitness for Sport- Online Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Principles and methods of training- Fitness testing and Health <p>Unit 2: Practical Sports Performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Skills and Techniques used in sport.- Practical ability in selected sports. <p>Unit 3: Applying Principles of Training and Programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Planning fitness plans- Assessing fitness <p>Unit 4: Leading Sports Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Planning and delivering coaching sessions- Attributes of successful sports leaders
Progression Routes	Personal Trainer, Fitness or Sports Coach, Physiotherapy, PE Teacher, Sports Scientist
Student Voice	<i>“Sport is great as it allows me to show my practical skills as well as academic.”</i>

Turkish

Course Teacher(s)	Ms Koray
Exam Board	Edexcel
Fact File	<p>The topics that are offered for all units cover the broad themes of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identity and culture2. Local area, holiday, travel3. School4. Future aspirations, study and work5. International and global dimension
Assessment	<p>100% External Assessment All Exams will be set and marked by the exam board. There will be :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tiered Paper (Foundation and Higher)- Short translations from and into the target language.- Some target language questions in the reading and listening paper.- Authentic stimuli in the reading and literary texts. <p>One exam paper in each skill area taken at the end of two years of study in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speaking 25%• Writing 25%• Listening 25%• Reading 25%
Progression Routes	<p>Educational progression routes: A level languages or as an option within Vocational A levels. Employment options: Journalism and Media, Law, Business and Marketing, ICT, Sport and Leisure, Travel and Tourism, Customer Service, Teaching and the Civil Service.</p>
Student Voice	<p><i>“Learning one language makes learning another language easier; it opens up your eyes to a world of opportunities at home and abroad and gets you noticed”.</i></p>



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