



Gateacre School



YEAR 9 OPTIONS BOOKLET 2026

A guide to the courses and qualifications available to Year 10 and 11 students.



Principal’s Message	Page 3
List of Course Options	Page 4
Choosing Your Options	Page 5
Careers Advice	Page 6
Separate Sciences	Page 7
Geography	Page 8
History	Page 9
Spanish	Page 10
Latin	Page 11
IT	Page 12
Computer Science	Page 13
Business Enterprise	Page 14
Economics	Page 15
Health & Social Care	Page 16
Sociology	Page 17
Sport	Page 18
PE	Page 19
Art & Design	Page 20
Graphics Design	Page 21
Photography	Page 22
Classical Civilisation	Page 23
Drama	Page 24
Engineering	Page 25
Music	Page 26
Religious Studies	Page 27
Media	Page 28
Gateacre Sixth Form	Page 31



Dear Students, Parents, and Carers,

Welcome to the Year 9 Options Booklet, an essential tool and guide designed to assist you in navigating the important decisions ahead. As the principal of our school, I want to emphasise that the choices you make during this pivotal time will influence your academic journey and future pathways into our Sixth Form and/or beyond.

This booklet serves not only as a resource for understanding the subjects available but also as a tool for reflection on your individual strengths and aspirations. It is crucial that each student takes the time to consider their own academic abilities and interests as they make these decisions. Choosing subjects that align with your strengths and ambitions will empower you to engage more deeply with your studies and lay a solid foundation for your future.

We encourage you to think critically about what excites you and what you envision for your future. These choices should be made for the right reasons, driven by your passions and goals, rather than external pressures or trends. By doing so, you will not only enhance your learning experience but also cultivate the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in your chosen path.

As you explore the options presented in this booklet, remember that your education is a personal journey. We are here to support you every step of the way, and we look forward to seeing you thrive as you embark on this exciting chapter of your academic life.

Ensure you ask as many questions as you need to clarify your understanding, in order to make a truly informed decision about your KS4 offer.

I'm excited for you and excited to take this next step in your educational journey.

We are here with you and for you.

Best wishes,
Mr N Jamil
Principal at Gateacre School





COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

- English Language GCSE Mathematics GCSE
- English Literature GCSE Science GCSE*

*All Students will study combined Science unless *Separate Science* is selected as an option choice.

All students must select at least one of these subjects:

- Geography GCSE Spanish GCSE
- History GCSE Latin GCSE*

*Note that Latin is only available to the students who have previously been studying it since Year 7.

OPEN SUBJECTS

Some of these subjects are offered as 'Pathways'. This means that students choose the overall subject area first, and as part of the options process, we will work with pupils to identify the most appropriate course within that pathway to best suit their strengths, interests, and future plans.

Course	Qualification
Seperate Science	GCSE
Geography	GCSE
History	GCSE
Spanish	GCSE
Latin	GCSE
Computing Pathway	GCSE Computing BTEC IT
Business Pathway	GCSE Economics BTEC Business Enterprise
Social Science Pathway	BTEC Health and Social Care / GCSE Sociology
Sport Pathway	BTEC Sport GCSE Physical Education

Course	Qualification
Art	GCSE (Students cannot study Art and Graphics Design)
Graphic Design	
Photography	GCSE
Classical Civilisation	GCSE
Drama	GCSE
Engineering	BTEC
Music	BTEC
Media	GCSE
Religious Studies	BTEC



You are now at the start of a crucial time of reflection in your school career, thinking about which subjects have captured your interest this year and those you would like to study at a higher level. It is also time to consider a range of new subjects that may appeal to you.

It is essential that the choices you make now are considered and clear. Your teachers will be happy to answer your questions. Listen to their advice, discuss your options, but ultimately ensure that the choices you make are right for you so that you are doing subjects that will give you fulfilment and success whilst you are studying them, as well as providing you with a full range of options in the future.

Ensure that you read this booklet carefully and use what is in it as the basis for discussion with your parents and teachers.

Do choose...

- Subjects you like.
- Subject you have done well in and gained good marks.
- Subjects you feel would help you to be successful in whatever you choose to do after the end of Year 11.

Do not choose...

- Subjects that your friends are choosing (they may not be in your class).
- Subjects that your favourite teacher teaches (you may not be in their class).
- Subjects that you think other people would like you to take.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are my choices?

In addition to your core curriculum subjects, which are mandatory, you will then choose Geography, History or Spanish and then three choices and reserves. Find out more about the subjects on offer inside this booklet. It is important that you enjoy learning, so it is vital that you select a course that you find interesting, that plays to your strengths, and that develops your skills. You should consider carefully how these choices will affect your future at Gateacre School and beyond. Many courses of study will link directly to sixth form courses.

How many choices can I make?

In addition to core subjects, you will choose one subject from Geography or History or Spanish or Latin. You then have to choose 'Open Choices', and you must make reserve choices.

How do I indicate my option choices?

This year, the options process will take place online, via Applicaa.

Read the information contained in this booklet to support you in making your choices. Students will have support in form time to access their Applicaa account and log their choices.

Will I automatically secure a place in my first choice of courses?

Not necessarily, for three reasons:

1. The range of subjects offered now, at the planning stage, may have to be modified because of staffing or other constraints.
2. It may be necessary to limit the number for safety reasons and access to equipment.
3. A student's level of attainment and progression in Year 9 will be considered before confirming final choices.



Gateacre have gained the Quality Award for Careers Guidance.

Careers advice is available to students inside and outside of school. Careers advice is available every day at lunch time A214 from Mrs Boyd (Assistant Principal / Careers Leader).

Access to independent careers advice is provided by Career Connect. Students at Gateacre **receive impartial, independent careers advice** with qualified Careers Advisor, Leanne Morrey, who works in the school each Thursday.

Our Students also have **access to out of hours careers advice** with a dedicated portal and helpline to help them when they are out of school. We also work with the **National Careers Service** and students are shown how to access the National Careers Services facilities so that they can speak to an advisor and gain information on jobs, vacancies and up to date labour market information wherever they are.

Careers Information Advice and Guidance focus events

During year 9, students explore careers, software, and IAG websites to support them in their transition to **Key Stage 4**. Prior to choosing options, our students have the opportunity to spend time focusing **on Future Career Opportunities/paths** in order to help with their choices. Also, students have access to a variety of **software tools to explore the world of work and employment**. Further, students work with other year 9 students and are **supported through the process by their Academic Tutor**.

Students carry out job studies looking at the skills and qualities required and the entry routes into careers of their choice to help them **make informed decisions**. They will also have the opportunity to **work with staff** and other students to look at ways of **making informed decisions about their options**.

Careers Leader: Mrs J Boyd





What does the course offer me?

GCSE Separate Sciences leads to three GCSE qualifications: AQA GCSE Biology, AQA GCSE Chemistry, and AQA GCSE Physics. It provides greater depth and breadth than Combined Science, allowing you to develop strong subject knowledge, analytical thinking, mathematical skills and practical competence.

This pathway is ideal for students who enjoy science and may wish to pursue it at A level and beyond.

What does the course involve?

You will study the full content of each science discipline, including key concepts such as cell biology, ecology and genetics; atomic structure, bonding and chemical reactions; energy, forces, electricity and the structure of the universe. Lessons combine theory, required practical work, problem-solving and data analysis. There is a strong emphasis on applying knowledge to unfamiliar contexts and developing scientific literacy.

Separate Sciences can be more challenging than Combined Science, so an honest discussion with Science Teachers may help you decide whether it is the right choice for you.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Each subject is assessed by two written examination papers at the end of Year 11 (six papers in total). Papers assess knowledge and understanding, application of concepts, practical skills and mathematical skills. There is no coursework, but the required practical activities are examined within the written papers.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Separate Sciences provides an excellent foundation for A levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It supports progression into careers such as medicine, veterinary science, engineering, environmental science, research, data science, teaching and many other STEM-related fields.

SKILLS INVOLVED

Extended Writing
Using Numbers
Short Written Tasks
Using ICT (Not Gaming)
Speaking in front of Others

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Sciences and L3 courses.
Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships.
Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



What does the course offer me?

The GCSE Geography course aims to stimulate students' interest in Geography, develop a sense of place and an appreciation of the environment, and help them to act in an informed and responsible way. Students acquire knowledge and understanding of a range of places, environments and geographical patterns, and develop their understanding of the physical and human processes, including decision-making, which affect their development. You will acquire a range of skills through field, map, and atlas work using IT; graphic and presentational work; and discussion and group work using a number of different resources.

What does the course involve?

PAPER 1: Living with the Physical Environment

Section A: The Challenge of Natural Hazards

Tectonic hazards, tropical storms, extreme weather, and climate change.

Section B: The Living World

Ecosystems, tropical rainforests, and hot desert environments.

Section C: Physical Landscapes of the UK

Coastal landscapes, river landscapes.

PAPER 2: Challenges in the Human Environment

Section A: Urban Issues & Challenges

Patterns of urban growth, cities in the developing & developed world.

Section B: The Changing Economic World

The development gap, development in Nigeria, UK's changing economy.

Section C: The Challenge of Resource Management

Global distribution of resources, UK resource challenges, and energy resources.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

PAPER 1: Living with the Physical Environment; 1 hour 30 minutes worth 37.5% of grade.

PAPER 2: Challenges in the Human Environment; 1 hour 30 minutes worth 37.5% of grade.

PAPER 3: Geographical Applications; 1 hour 30 minutes worth 25% of grade.

PAPER 3: Geographical Applications
Section A - Issue Evaluation
Section B - Fieldwork

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Geography is a multi-disciplinary course that includes science and maths. It can lead to many careers in/as:

- Cartographer
- Development and Global Field
- Marketing
- Travel/Tourism
- Urban Planning
- Data Analyst
- Environmental Scientist
- Ecology/Marine Biologist
- Public Services
- Conservation
- Teaching

SKILLS INVOLVED

Extended Writing

Using Numbers

Short Written Tasks

Speaking in front of Others

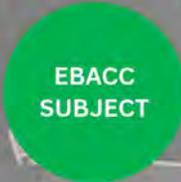
Using ICT (Not Gaming)

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Geography

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships.

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



What does the course offer me?

History will develop a depth of knowledge that links to the modern world. Importantly, it allows students to deepen a range of highly valued skills that support many other areas of study. For example, studying history helps develop:

- A range of communication skills including debate and persuasion.
- The range of communication skills including debate and persuasion.
- The ability to organise and categorise.
- Decision making skills.

Students will have the opportunity to learn in well resourced environment. In recent years, there have been numerous enrichment opportunities. For example, the History Department has conducted trips to destinations linked to topics of study, including the First World War battlefield sites in Belgium and France, the UK Parliament, Krakow and Berlin. Learning is supported by the fact that many students have found the topics to be interesting and relevant.

Some questions raised during the study of History GCSE include:

- Why did Elizabeth I have her cousin murdered?
- How has medicine enabled us to live so much longer than our recent ancestors?
- Why was the USA so divided in the late 20th Century?
- Why did political ideology increase global tensions after World War Two?

What does the course involve?

In History, we work in a variety of ways in order to develop core knowledge and subject skills. These include independent research, oral presentations, debate and discussion, ICT, and the study of filmed events including newsreels, documentaries and feature films.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

PAPER 1: Understanding the modern world
Section A: Period study AB Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and dictatorship.

The development and collapse of democracy and the rise and fall of Nazism
Section B: Wider world depth study.

BD Conflict and tension in Asia, 1950–1975
The causes and events of the Cold War in Asia, including the wars in Korea & Vietnam.

PAPER 2: Shaping the nation

Section A: Thematic study

AA Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the present day. How did medicine and public health develop in Britain over a long period of time?

BC Elizabethan England, c1568–1603 The major events of the last 35 years of Elizabeth I's reign are considered from economic, religious, political, social and cultural standpoints, and arising contemporary and historical controversies.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

History develops many skills such as research, examining evidence and presenting an argument. Therefore, it is useful for many careers such as: Archaeology • Business • Historian • Journalist • Lawyer • Museum Curator • Police • Politician • Researcher • Teaching • Tourism

SKILLS INVOLVED

Extended Writing

Short Written Tasks

Speaking in front of Others

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level History

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeships; Traineeships.

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



What does the course offer me?

Learning a language opens doors to many opportunities, such as travel, work, promotion, and further study. The course we offer gives students the chance to see progress quickly and gain the confidence to communicate effectively in a variety of situations. Successful linguists are good communicators, problem solvers and intelligent thinkers.

What does the course involve?

Topics covered:

- Health Relationships and choices
- Free time and the media
- Holidays
- Home and local area
- Environment
- School and future plans
- Current and future jobs

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are two tiers of entry:

Foundation - grades 1-4

Higher - grades 4-9

All four skills:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

All are assessed by terminal exam at the end of year 11.

Each skill is worth 25% of the final grade.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Employers and businesses seek applicants who can navigate the modern global economy; so Spanish is great for a number of careers, such as: Cabin Crew • Journalist • Immigration Officer • Lawyer • Pilot • Public Services • Travel/Tourism • Teacher • Translator/Interpreter

SKILLS INVOLVED

Extended Writing

Short Written Tasks

Using ICT (Not Gaming)

Speaking in front of Others

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Spanish

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeships; Traineeships.

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



What does the course offer me?

Excellent students should be able to take excellent opportunities. Latin is a rare subject in the UK, but one with an extremely long and distinguished history. It used to be mandatory for anyone wishing to go to University, and is still considered one of the preminent signs of culture.

Latinists will continue to learn vocabulary and the rules of Latin grammar, so that they will be able to translate even quite complex sentences. They will apply that knowledge to genuine two-thousand-year-old texts and visual sources. This means not just knowing what the text means, but analysing how and why the authors wrote it. We go over these texts in class in detail, so a well-prepared student can be extremely confident going into the exam.

To do well in Latin requires a number of skills. The subject can be considered a combination of a Modern Foreign Language (through memorisation and application of vocabulary and grammar), History (evaluating a past culture), English (analysing written texts), and even STEM subjects (due to the rigorous rules-based nature of translating Latin). It therefore demonstrates a wide variety of extremely useful skills for almost any career.

What does the course involve?

You will develop your translation, analytical, and evaluative skills. Year 10 is mainly focused on learning the required vocabulary and grammar. In Year 11, we will spend more time reading through and making notes on the set-text and prescribed material.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

We use the Eduqas exam board. The Latin course is assessed by three written examinations. There is no coursework.

The three modules you will study are:

- **Language:** This involves translation and comprehension of Latin into English, and requires knowledge of the vocabulary and grammar. The exam is 90 minutes long and worth **50% of the GCSE**.
- **Literature and Sources:** This involves analysing a set text of original Literature (some in Latin, some in English). The exam is 75 mins long and worth **30% of the GCSE**.
- **Roman Civilisation:** This involves analysing sources about the lives of the ancient Romans, based on prescribed material. The exam is 60 minutes long and worth **20% of the GCSE**.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

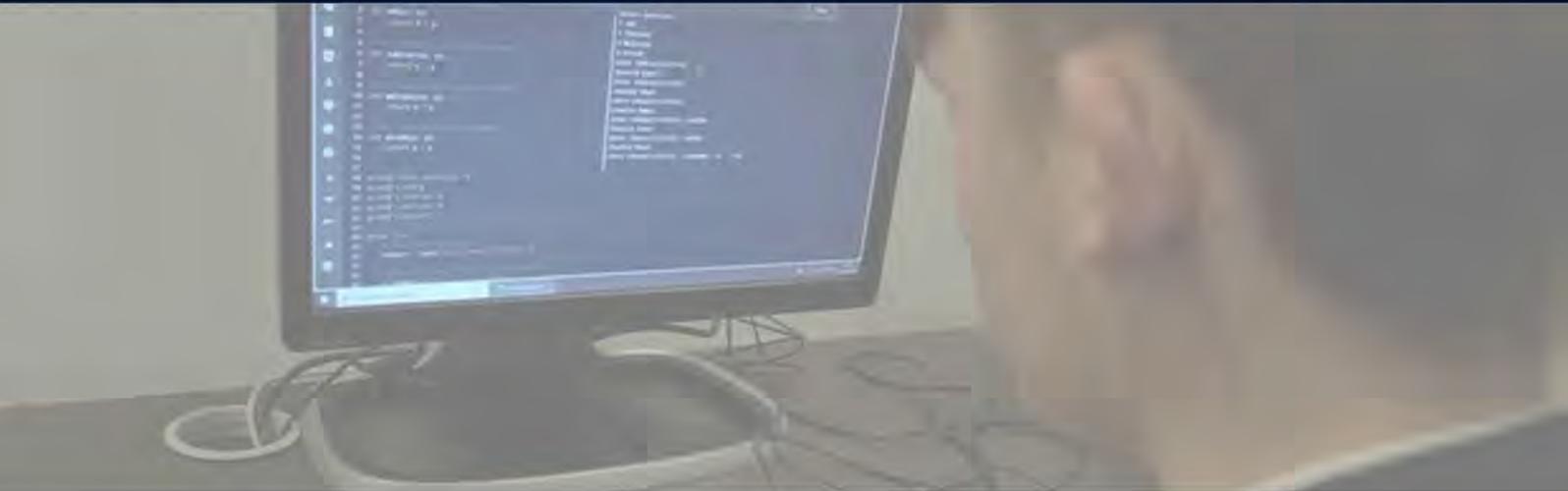
The subject does not lead to any one career in particular, although Law, Politics, and Journalism are some of the most common future pathways. It is a highly sought after subject by some of the top Universities and employers.

SKILLS INVOLVED

- Extended Writing
- Short Written Tasks
- Speaking in front of Others

NEXT STEPS

- Study:** A Level Latin or Classical Civilisation
- Combine work and study:** Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships.
- Work:** Supported Internship; school leaver.



What does the course offer me?

This exciting new qualification will inspire you with confidence to learn and use crucial Computing skills in the world of IT. Some of the topics you will study are:

- Augmented Reality - real world and computer generated content
- Cybersecurity
- Mobile Apps
- Internet of Everything (smart devices e.g. Amazon Alexa)
- Cloud technology ; How 4G/5G and WIFI work
- Types of hacking, DOS, DDOS, Malware, Trojan Horse, Worms and Viruses

What does the course involve?

Ro50: IT in the digital world (written exam)

- Human Computer Interface (HCI), digital communications, digital devices
- Cybersecurity, hacking, viruses, digital and logical security

Ro60: Data manipulation using spreadsheets (coursework)

- Planning and creating the spreadsheet solution
- Testing and reviewing the spreadsheet solution

Ro70: Using Augmented Reality to present information (coursework)

- What is Augmented Reality (AR)
- Planning and creating an Augmented Reality (AR) model prototype
- Testing and reviewing your Augmented Reality (AR) model prototype

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

- **Centre-assessed 60%** - this is marked by your teacher in class and checked by the exam board (Ro60 and Ro70).
- **Exam 40%** - this is a written exam which is externally assessed by the exam board (Ro50).
- This course is equivalent to one GCSE. It is a new, engaging and practical IT course.
- You can work in the IT rooms and the IT pods throughout the 2 years to complete and improve your work/grades.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

The knowledge and skills learned on this course are useful for many careers, such as: CAD Designer • Computer Programmer • Cyber Security Analyst • Data Analyst • Digital Media Analyst • Engineer • Games Developer • Programmer • UX/UI Designer • Software Developer

SKILLS INVOLVED

- Extended Writing
- Using Numbers
- Short Written Tasks
- Using ICT (Not Gaming)

NEXT STEPS

- Study:** A Level / L3 Computing
- Combine work and study:** Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements) ; Apprenticeship; Traineeships
- Work:** Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



What does the course offer me?

- Studying computer science encourages you to develop your understanding and application of the core concepts in computer science.
- You will analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs.
- You need an interest in computing and maths. Above all, however, you need to be highly motivated and willing to put in the work, both in class and at home, to get a good result.

What does the course involve?

Component 01: Computer systems: Introduces you to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

Component 02: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming: You will apply the knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. You will also develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators.

Practical Programming: You will undertake a practical programming task during the course of your study. This will allow you to develop your skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language (Python).

You will be assessed on all these skills during your written examinations.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

2 external written examinations

Paper 1 - Computer Systems.

50% of the final grade. (1 hour 30 mins)

Paper 2 - Computational thinking, algorithms and programming. 50% of the final grade. (1 hour 30 mins)

1 Non exam assessment

(Programming Project) - Mandatory, but not assessed. The non exam assessment allows the practice of skills which are assessed in the written examinations.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

The knowledge and skills learned on this course are useful for many careers, such as: Computer Programmer • Data Scientist • Data Analyst • Cyber Security Analyst • Software engineer • Games Developer • Software Developer • Software Tester • UX/UI Designer • Database Developer

SKILLS INVOLVED

Extended Writing

Using Numbers

Short Written Tasks

Using ICT (Not Gaming)

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level / L3 Computing and IT

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements) ; Apprenticeship; Traineeships

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



The Business Pathway offers two courses. You will study either BTEC Business Enterprise or GCSE Economics. Details of each course are on the following two pages.

What does the course offer me?

Studying Business Enterprise will allow you to develop a broad range of skills and explore a variety of topics, including: How businesses are run, considering both internal and external influences. Awareness of the opportunities and needs of different markets. The skills to create your own business in the future or study further business-related courses. Develop a skill set that employers consider essential.

What does the course involve?

Component 1 - Exploring Enterprises

Students will gain an understanding of the sector. You will:

- Find out what the business and enterprise sector is all about, what it's like to work in the sector, and what skills are needed to work in this sector.
- You will investigate a local business and find out its aims, size, and the Characteristics of the Entrepreneur who started the Business.
- Carry out and learn about Market Research.
- Look into External Factors that will affect the Enterprise, e.g., Inflation and the Cost of Living Crisis.

Component 2 - Planning and Presenting a Micro Business Idea

Students develop knowledge, skills and best practices. You will:

- Choose an idea and produce a plan.
- Present a plan with a view to gaining investment or a loan to get your enterprise idea started.
- Review the Presentation and make improvements.

Component 3 - Marketing and Finance for Enterprise

Students apply knowledge, skills and best practices in promotion and finance. You will:

- Apply what you have learned to tasks based on real life scenarios.
- Learn about Marketing activities – Target market, Product, Price, Promotion and Place.
- Learn about Financial Documents and Statements – Payment methods, Revenue and Costs, Profit and Loss, Cash flow, Sources of Finance, Budgeting.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Component 1 Coursework:

Focuses on the main skills and practices in Enterprise, what an entrepreneur is and what makes them successful. **30% of the overall mark.**

Component 2 Coursework:

You will write a business plan and pitch & present a business idea - similar to Dragon's Den. **30% of the overall mark.**

Component 3 Exam:

Focuses on skills and practices key to the sector. It takes the form of a written exam. **40% of the overall mark.**

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

This subject develops analytical, presentation and communication skills; problem solving and the ability to think logically and can lead to careers such as: Entrepreneur, Management, Accounting, Marketing, Human Resources.

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Business Studies

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships
Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme

SKILLS INVOLVED

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Extended Writing | Short Written Tasks |
| Using Numbers | Using ICT (Not Gaming) |



What does the course offer me?

When students understand how markets and economies work, they will develop an economic awareness to benefit them personally and professionally for years to come. GCSE Economics develops communication, critical thinking and analytical skills through tasks based on anything from ways to cut the budget deficit, to weighing up the pros and cons of inflation or being part of a free-trade agreement.

What does the course involve?

Students have to complete two core Units.

Micro Economics:

- Introduction to Economics
- The role of markets and money

Macro Economics:

- Economic objectives and the role of government
- International trade and the global economy

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The examination structure is as follows:

- Each unit is assessed through an external exam to be taken at the end of Year 11.
- Both exams are for 1 hour and 30 minutes and have equal weightings.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Economics will equip you for a career in a wide range of industries, as economics underpins more or less any job you might have in the future; from starting work for a large multinational company to working for the Government.

SKILLS INVOLVED

Extended Writing
Using Numbers
Design and Create Projects
Short Written Tasks
Working with my Hands
Using ICT (Not Gaming)

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Economics.
Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements) ; Apprenticeship; Traineeships
Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme



The Social Science Pathway offers two courses. You will study either BTEC Health & Social Care or GCSE Sociology. Details of each course are on the following two pages. To study Sociology, you will need to have performed well in both English and History.

What does the course offer me?

Throughout the course, you will apply health and social care values in everyday situations, developing an understanding of the vital role health and social care plays in society and the importance of treating all individuals fairly and equally. You will build problem-solving skills by identifying challenges, presenting clear solutions, and completing tasks with confidence. You will also develop valuable transferable skills, including communication, teamwork, interpersonal skills, planning and organisation, and effective time management.

What does the course involve?

The course will involve you working individually, in pairs and in groups to research, present and demonstrate a wealth of knowledge about people and their roles and needs in our society.

The areas you will study are:

- Human Lifespan Development - internal assessment
- Health & Social Care Services and Values - Internal assessment
- Health and Wellbeing - External assessment

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Internal Components (60%):

In C1 you will examine how we develop throughout the different life stages from a physical, intellectual, emotional and social perspective as well as how we can be impacted by events in our lives. In C2, you will examine how individuals can be supported by a range of both health and social care services, whilst examining some of the barriers and obstacles people face when accessing health services.

Final examination (40%):

In C3 you will examine how individuals can be impacted by a range of factors as well as interpreting health indicators and published guidelines to suggest ways an individual could improve their health and wellbeing.

SKILLS INVOLVED

- Extended Writing
- Using Numbers
- Design and Create Projects
- Short Written Tasks
- Working with my Hands
- Using ICT (Not Gaming)

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

The knowledge and skills you learn in Health & Social Care can be useful for a number of careers, such as:

- Care Assistant • Counsellor • Dental Nurse • Health Promotion • Nursing • Mental Health Worker • Paramedic • Radiographer • Social Work • Youth Worker

NEXT STEPS

- Study:** BTEC Health & Social Care
- Combine work and study:** Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements) ; Apprenticeship; Traineeships
- Work:** Supported Internship; school leaver scheme



What does the course offer me?

Sociology is one of the most interesting and relevant GCSE subjects, as it is the study of people and the world we live in. A sociologist seeks to explain why people think and act in the way they do.

In sociology, you will develop an understanding of society and how society works. You will be able to understand and reflect on your role in society, and will begin to understand how and why society changes over time, e.g., the changing role of women in the last 30 years.

What does the course involve?

Cultural Transmission: You will study how we learn our culture and develop a sense of identity. You will question whether human behaviour is inherited through our genes or nurtured by our upbringing. You will examine children brought up by animals and analyse identical twin studies. We will also look at how sociologists carry out research.

Families: You will study the importance of the family and how it can shape a child's personality. You will look at how the family has changed over the years, the types of relationships we have, and examine who holds power in the home - do we really have equality between men and women?

Education: You will examine why we have an education system and evaluate how successful and fair the education system has been. You will examine the impact of setting and labelling in school. You will also look at patterns of educational achievement (e.g. why do richer people do better than the poor and why do girls outperform boys in exams?).

Inequality: Sociologists study inequality in society - its causes and consequences. You will study the way societies are divided by money, power and status. You will also examine forms of social difference in Britain (such as social class, gender, ethnicity and age) and how they can impact a person's chances to do well in life.

Crime & Deviance: Sociologists investigate the causes of crime and deviance. You will study who commits a crime and why. You will also study how the government and the police try to reduce the level of crime, how accurate official statistics on crime are and what factors affect your chances of becoming a victim of crime.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are **two exams**. Both exams last one hour and thirty minutes. There is **no coursework**.

Unit 1 Exam (50%): 1 hour, 45 minutes

- Cultural Transmission
- Families Education
- Research Methods

Unit 2 Exam (50%): 1 hour, 45 minutes

- Inequality
- Crime and Deviance
- Research Methods

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

You will develop a range of skills, including critical thinking. This can lead to many careers, such as: Charities Administrator • Civil Servant • HR Officer • Journalist • • Lawyer • Marketing • Politician • Police Officer • Teacher • Solicitor • Youth Worker

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Sociology

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements) ; Apprenticeship; Traineeships

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme

SKILLS INVOLVED

Using Numbers

Short Written Tasks

Using ICT (Not Gaming)

Extended Writing

Speaking in front of Others



What does the course offer me?

The Pearson BTEC Sport Award is a practical and engaging qualification designed for students who enjoy taking part in sport while also understanding the science behind performance. The course develops leadership, teamwork and analytical skills through a mixture of practical performance, coursework and an external exam. Students learn how to improve sporting performance, plan and deliver training programmes, and apply knowledge of fitness and training principles in real life sporting situations. This qualification provides a strong pathway to further study in sport and supports progression into a wide range of sport-related careers.

What does the course involve?

- Preparing and leading sports sessions
- Developing practical performance and identifying areas for improvement
- Understanding how to plan and deliver training programmes
- Analysing performance and identifying areas for improvement.
- Participation in solo sports, team sports and physical activities

We will advise students on the appropriate PE course if they select this option.

SKILLS INVOLVED

- Extended Writing
- Short Written Tasks
- Performing Activities
- Using ICT (Not Gaming)
- Physical Activity

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level/BTEc PE
Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements) ; Apprenticeship; Traineeships
Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

BTEC Sport is a combination of practical assessment, written examination and coursework.

The BTEC is broken into 3 components. 60% of the course is coursework and the remaining 40% is an external exam.

Coursework:

Component 1

Preparing Participants to take part in sport and physical activity.

Component 2

Taking part and improving other participants' sporting performance.

External exam:

Component 3

Developing fitness to improve other participants' performance.

FUTURE CAREERS

OPPORTUNITIES

This can lead to careers as a:

- Armed Forces
- Fitness Instructor
- Outdoor Pursuits Instructor
- PE Teacher
- Physical Therapist
- Personal Trainer
- Public Services
- Sports Coach
- Sports Journalist
- Sports Retail Manager
- Leisure Centre Manager
- Sporting Industry



What does the course offer me?

GCSE PE develops both practical sporting ability and theoretical knowledge. Students gain a strong understanding of anatomy, physiology, training methods and the factors that affect participation in sport. The course builds discipline, resilience, teamwork and analytical skills, making it suitable for students considering further study in sport or science-based subjects.

Please note: We will be advising students as to the appropriate PE course for them if they select this option.

What does the course involve?

Practical Performance: Performance in three sports (team and individual activities)

Anatomy & Physiology - The skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular and respiratory systems

Physical Training - Components of fitness, principles of training and injury prevention

Health, Fitness and Wellbeing - Physical, emotional and social health

Socio-cultural Influences - Participation, media, sponsorship and ethics in sport

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

60% Written Exams

- Paper 1: The Human Body and Movement in Physical Activity and Sport
- Paper 2: Socio-cultural Influences and Wellbeing in Physical Activity and Sport

40% Non-Exam Assessment (NEA)

- 30% Practical performance (3 sports)
- 10% Written analysis and evaluation of performance

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

This can lead to careers as a: Armed Forces • Fitness Instructor • Outdoor Pursuits Instructor • PE Teacher • Physical Therapist • Personal Trainer • Public Services • Sports Coach • Sports Journalist • Sports Retail Manager • Leisure Centre Manager • Sporting Industry

SKILLS INVOLVED

- Extended Writing
- Short Written Tasks
- Performing Activities
- Using ICT (Not Gaming)
- Physical Activity

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level/BTEc PE

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements) ; Apprenticeship; Traineeships

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



Ask us about our results!

What does the course offer me?

Is art something you enjoy? Do you like practical activities that let you show off your individuality? If so, you would be choosing the right option in Art. Art as an option is fantastic because it allows you to express yourself creatively. It gives you the chance to experiment with new media, learn and develop new skills and produce personal responses along the way. Ultimately, Art provides you with a creative outlet.

What does the course involve?

The course runs over two years and is comprised of three projects. During lessons, students are actively encouraged to explore a wide range of materials, techniques and processes which include clay, textiles, drawing, painting, printing, mixed media, digital and many more. Throughout the GCSE art course, students will develop confidence and independence by exploring and developing their art skills, creating a personal portfolio which showcases their artwork and completed projects.

Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to respond to a subject, theme or task in a creative and personal way, preparing them for the externally set which forms the third and final project. Art is an irreplaceable way of understanding and expressing the world!

Please note that you cannot study Art & Design and Graphics

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The course has two components:

Coursework (60%)

This is broken into 2 main projects:

Project 1: Sweets and Treats

Project 2: Personal Response Exam
(Externally Set Assignment)

'Seen' exam (40%)

Students respond to an exam question set prior to the exam at least six-eight weeks before. The exam is then completed over 2 days and takes 10 hours to complete.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

This can lead to careers as:

- Artist • Teacher • Curator • Art • Fashion Designer • Clothing/Textile Technologist • Colour Technologist • Interior and Spatial Designer

SKILLS INVOLVED

- Design and Create Projects
- Short Written Tasks
- Working with my Hands
- Using ICT (Not Gaming)

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Art

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



Ask us about our results!

What does the course offer me?

Do you consider yourself an “ideas” person? Do you like working towards a brief? Do you want to use your artistic skills in a business and industry environment? If so, opting for GCSE Graphic Design would be a perfect fit for you. Graphic Design allows you to use all of your creative thinking, artwork and personal ideas to produce amazing, professional work that meets the needs of a client. Graphic Design could be a stepping stone to many different career pathways. This option would fit perfectly with GCSE Photography.

What does the course involve?

The course is run over 2 years and is comprised of a minimum of three projects. We complete two projects, which are marked as coursework; these allow students to learn the basics of a wide variety of skills within Graphic Design, including: Advertising, Logo Design, Multi-media, Interactive Design and Typography. Within the second project and the exam project, we then encourage students to build on these skills and enhance their portfolio with illustration and layout design.

Students are given set briefs to respond to as they would in industry for a client; however, students are encouraged to make this work personal and bring their own creative flair and ideas. As part of the course, students will have the opportunity to partake in trips to gather research for the set briefs they are responding to.

Why not pick an option where you are not only completing a GCSE qualification, but you are also building practical skills which can be used in industry and a portfolio of work to showcase your skills, ready for employment.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Coursework 60%

This is broken into 2 main projects:

Project 1: “Music Festivals”

Project 2: “Magazines”

Exam 40%

The exam is 10 hours and normally runs over 2 days. The exam generally takes place on computers, but it would suit the skill set of the individual student. The exam paper is given at least six weeks prior to the exam, to allow the students to complete prep work in the lead up to their exam.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

This subject teaches you to communicate, work as a team and develop your graphic communication. It can lead to many careers, such as: Graphic Designer • Packaging Designer • Illustrator • Advertising • Video Games Development • Concept/Prop Design • Animator • Interior Designer

Please note that you cannot study Art & Design and Graphics

SKILLS INVOLVED

- Short Written Tasks
- Design and Create Projects
- Working with my Hands
- Using ICT (Not Gaming)

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Graphic Design.

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); TLevels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver.



Ask us about our results!

What does the course offer me?

Do you love showing off your individuality? Do you like using new technology and media to create artwork? Do you love telling stories in a visual way? If so, opting for GCSE Photography would be a perfect fit for you. Photography is so much more than taking photos; it is about independent work, your own ideas and working to deadlines. Photography unlocks a variety of doors in the creative job sector.

What does the course involve?

The course is run over 2 years and students will complete a minimum of three projects. We complete two projects which are marked towards coursework. Within these projects, we give students opportunities to experiment with digital and light-based photography processes. At the school, we have access to digital SLR cameras and even a darkroom! Our second project and our exam project give students the opportunity to develop their skills and progress into a chosen specialism, for example, photo-journalism, landscape photography, editorial photography and moving image. Students will have a range of stimulus materials to respond to and the course provides opportunities for each student to recognise and develop their own creative ability and to appreciate the relevance of Photography to everyday life and the wider environment. As part of the photography course, students can expect to partake in a variety of trips to various locations to obtain the best photographs possible. Practical skills and creative flair go hand-in-hand with this option, which is a perfect fit for you if you are creative, expressive and have lots of your own ideas. This option would fit perfectly with GCSE Art or GCSE Graphic Design.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Coursework 60%

This is broken into 2 main projects:

Project 1: "Portraiture"

Project 2: "Texture"

Exam 40%

The exam is 10 hours and normally runs over 2 days. The exam generally takes place on computers, but would suit the skill set of the individual student.

The exam paper is given at least six weeks prior to the exam, to allow the students to complete prep work in the lead up to their exam.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

You develop a mixture of creative and technical skills in this subject and it can lead to careers such as: Commercial Photographer

- Graphic Designer
- Freelance Photographer
- Magazine Features Editor

SKILLS INVOLVED

- Short Written Tasks
- Design and Create Projects
- Working with my Hands
- Using ICT (Not Gaming)

NEXT STEPS

- Study:** A Level /BTEc Photography
- Combine work and study:** Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); TLevels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships
- Work:** Supported Internship; school leaver.



What does the course offer me?

The ancient Mediterranean world is a fascinating and sometimes alien place. But many people don't understand how much of it still influences our own world today. In this GCSE you will be introduced to some new aspects of the past - such as the Bronze Age settlements of ancient Greece. You will also continue exploring how the ancient Greeks and Romans worshipped and told stories about their gods and heroes. This subject is for you if you would like to improve your historical knowledge and enjoy looking at a wide variety of both written and visual material.

The course would suit a student who takes an interest in ancient history and influential literature. You will be required to write essays and memorise key information, so you need to make sure your skill set or interests match that. The material is stimulating and memorable, and many students enjoy reading about the adventures of Odysseus, appreciating the beautiful frescos of Mycenae, and analysing the sculptures of the Parthenon.

What does the course involve?

You will develop your analytical and evaluative skills. By studying a wide range of evidence (including literature, archaeological remains, and visual arts), you will learn to draw conclusions about the lives of people who were sometimes similar to, and sometimes very different from, ourselves.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

We use the OCR exam board. The Classical Civilisation course is assessed by two written examinations. Each exam is 90 minutes long and worth 50% of the GCSE.

There is no coursework.

The two modules you will study are:

- The Homeric World: Study of the
- Mycenaean Bronze Age and Odyssey of Homer.
- Myth and Religion: Study of how the Ancient Greeks and Romans worshipped and told stories about their gods.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

The subject does not lead to any one career in particular, although Law, Politics, and Journalism are some of the most common future pathways. However, Classicists are highly adaptable because they have learned to analyse, evaluate, and articulate their thoughts. It is a highly sought after subject by some of the top Universities/ employers.

SKILLS INVOLVED

- Extended Writing
- Short Written Tasks
- Speaking in front of Others

NEXT STEPS

- Study:** A Level Classical Civilisation
- Combine work and study:** Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships
- Work:** Supported Internship; school leaver.



What does the course offer me?

In our state-of-the-art theatre, you will be taught how to:

- Express yourself in an active and exciting way
- Work in a group
- Contribute your ideas and take on board those of others
- Explore ideas by putting yourself in other people's shoes
- Play many parts in different imaginary situations
- Create your own drama work
- Study plays written by other people

GCSE Drama encourages students to develop critical thinking skills and become effective and independent learners. With the focus on working imaginatively, collaborating creatively and communicating effectively, GCSE Drama provides a solid foundation for further their academic studies as well as vocational opportunities.

What does the course involve?

You will create and develop characters, explore fascinating themes and topics, devise your own plays and explore the importance of backstage roles. You will learn how drama is created from an actor, director and designer perspective. You will learn how to create a character and put it into a performance. You will learn many skills that are very important in all walks of life and how to develop confidence and present yourself in public. The department runs several theatre and residential trips a year and regularly invites professional actors and theatre companies to come and work with our GCSE students. There is also the opportunity to participate in showcase events, backstage events, school productions and theatre in education projects.

SKILLS INVOLVED

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Design & Create Projects | Using ICT (Not Gaming) |
| Short Written Tasks | Speaking in front of others |
| Extended Writing | Performing Activities |

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Component 1: Understanding Drama (40% of GCSE): Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre, **1hr 45 min exam**

Component 2 (40% of GCSE): Process of creating devised drama; **performance of devised drama** (students may contribute as a performer or a designer); complete an analysis of their own work. The resultant performance is marked by our teachers and moderated by the AQA.

Component 3 (20% of GCSE):

Performance of two extracts from one scripted play (students may contribute as a performer or a designer) marked by AQA.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

The skills you gain from drama can lead to careers in:

- Performing Art
- Media
- Business
- Law
- Sales
- Hospitality and Tourism

Specific Jobs include:

- Actor
- Singer
- Producer
- Director
- Choreographer
- Stage Manager
- Lighting Technician
- Theatre Manager
- Arts Marketer
- Presenter
- Teacher

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Drama; L3 Performing Arts.

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs);

T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships.

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



What does the course offer me?

“As engineers, we were going to be in a position to change the world – not just study it.” - Henry Petroski

Do you ever look around your home and think of handy products that could improve people’s lives, or get amazed by amazing feats of engineering all around you? Are you creative and want to start building the skills you will need for a successful career in the industry? Engineering is a large and growing sector of employment in the UK, with almost half a million people currently working as engineers in the UK, and millions more worldwide. It is an interesting and well-paid job with opportunities worldwide across a wide range of disciplines.

What does the course involve?

Unit 1: Manufacturing engineering products

- Interpret different types of engineering information to plan how to manufacture engineering products
- Develop knowledge, understanding and skills in using a range of engineering tools and equipment to manufacture and test a final product

Unit 2: Designing engineering products

- Explore how engineered products are adapted and improved over time and apply your knowledge to adapt a product you will have manufactured in Unit 1.

Unit 3: Solving engineering problems

- You will learn about a range of considerations that impact on engineering design and how modern engineering impacts on everyday life.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

You will be assessed by a **mixture of exams and project work.**

Unit 1 will involve producing a manufacturing product that is worth 40%. This product will need to be developed over 20 hours.

Unit 2 is assessed through project work that is worth 20%. Here you will apply your problem-solving skills to answer a brief and produce a solution. You will produce this solution over 10 hours.

Unit 3 will involve 1 exam that lasts for 1 hour 30 minutes. This is worth 40% and is made up of multiple choice questions and short and extended answers.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

There is a wide range of opportunities within the field of engineering, for example: • Aerospace Engineer • Biomedical Engineer • Civil/Structural Engineer • Computer Engineer • Environmental Engineer • Mechanical Engineer • Product Engineer

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level /level 3 Engineering; A Level/Level 3 Design Technology;

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships.

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.

SKILLS INVOLVED

Extended Writing

Using Numbers

Design & Create Projects

Short Written Tasks

Working with my Hands

Using ICT (Not Gaming)



What does the course offer me?

GCSE Music is suitable for all students with a love of and interest in music. Free instrumental lessons are provided in order to support students in the practical, performance-based elements of the course. The Department boasts some of the best facilities in the city and has a history of high achievement.

What does the course involve?

GCSE Music (OCR) focuses on the three key areas of Listening, Composing and Performing.

Students will explore a wide range of musical styles and genres, including Popular music, Brazilian Samba, the concerto and film music. They will also compose and record their own pieces and improve their performance skills both as a soloist and as part of a group.

It must be stressed that the principal qualifications for success in this subject are enthusiasm and hard work. It is not necessary to have started learning an instrument before starting the course and whilst the school cannot provide instruments, free lessons with a peripatetic specialist are provided. It should also be noted that voice is regarded as an instrument, though you **do not** have to sing as part of the course. The GCSE course allows students to pursue their own musical interests, be it a particular instrument, a love of certain genre or musical style or an interest in composition using music ICT and all GCSE students are actively encouraged to participate fully in this lively department and to take advantage of the many opportunities available.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Performing 30%: students select and record two pieces; one solo and one group performance. These may be recorded at any time during the course.

Composin 30%: students compose two pieces; one piece of descriptive music using Music ICT and the other in a style or genre of their choice.

Listening exam 40%: 1 hour 30 minute listening exam covering a wide range of music. Students listen to musical excerpts and answer questions in a booklet.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

GCSE Music can lead to many careers such as:

- Band Manager • Classroom Teaching •
- Composer • Event Manager • Instrumental
- Teacher • Music Performer • Musician • Musical
- Historian • Music Journalist • Music Therapist
- Sound/Light Technician • Sound Engineer •
- Teacher

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Music; BTEC Music Technology.
Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships.

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.

SKILLS INVOLVED

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Using Numbers | Working with my Hands |
| Design & Create Projects | Performing Activities |
| Short Written Tasks | Using ICT (Not Gaming) |



What does the course offer me?

If you are naturally curious and a little argumentative, then this course should suit you, as it gives an opportunity to examine subjects which affect us all in a little more depth with discussions, research and a chance to evaluate the influence of sacred texts on our understanding. **The course encourages you to consider an issue from many sides and understand the beliefs and experiences that lie behind people's opinions.**

A qualification in Religious Studies is a good foundation, particularly if you are looking to work within healthcare, law or the media. It helps you develop the ability to consider a range of ideas and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of your conclusions.

What does the course involve?

The course is based around two units, which explore religious beliefs and practices and then apply them to **ethical and philosophical themes**. You will build an awareness of cultural and personal perspectives while discussing the ethics of issues such as: **Peace & Conflict, the Existence of God, and Religion & Life**. Each topic will provide a valuable insight into **the core beliefs and practices** of Islam and Christianity and it's also a good opportunity to address common misconceptions about world religions.

SKILLS INVOLVED

Extended Writing

Short Written Tasks

Performing Activities

Using ICT (Not Gaming)

Speaking in front of Others

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Examination (100%) (2 x 1h45)

You will sit two papers:

- Religious Beliefs, Teachings & Practices (Islam & Christianity)
- Thematic Studies

There is no coursework in this subject.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

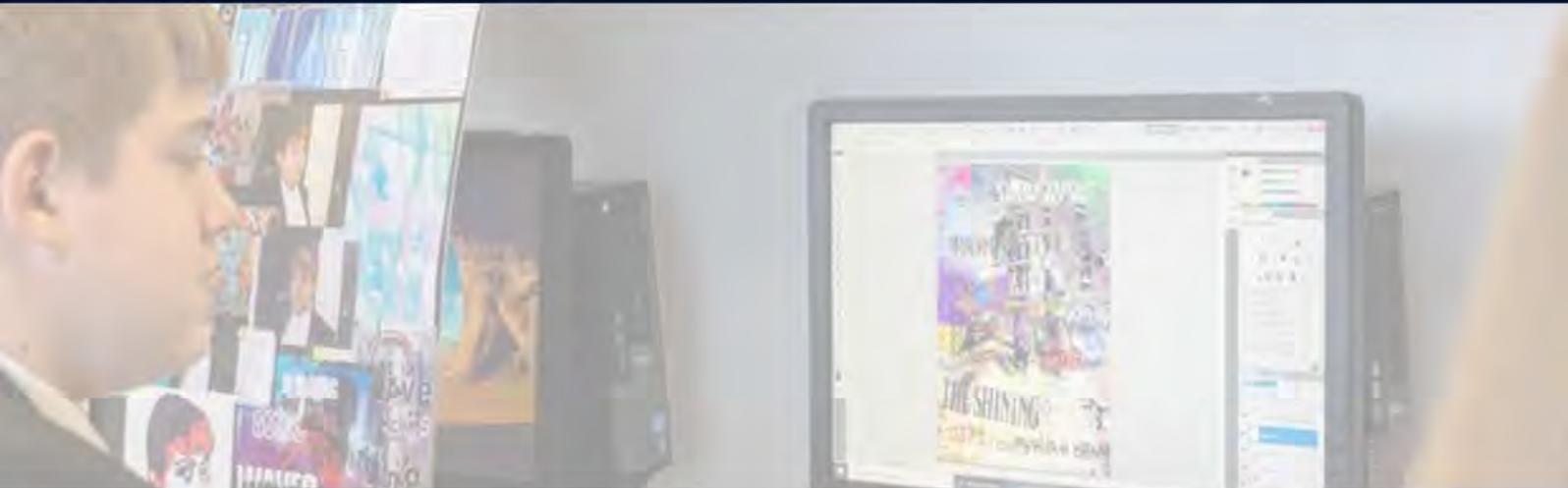
RS deepens your knowledge of the world around you and can lead to careers such as: Activist • Author • Charity Coordinator • Entrepreneur • Human Rights Advocate • Lawyer • Human Resources • Social Worker • Teaching • Youth Worker

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level Philosophy.

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements); Apprenticeship; Traineeships.

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



What does the course offer me?

Media Studies makes learning interesting, challenging, creative and fun. It develops skills of enquiry, critical thinking and decision making through consideration of issues that are relevant, real and important for understanding the world they experience.

It also offers an appreciation and critical understanding of the media and its role in daily lives, whilst promoting the development of practical skills, through opportunities for personal engagement and creativity. The course promotes the use of ICT and software such as Adobe Photoshop.

What does the course involve?

As well as producing written examinations of media products, students will also be given the opportunity to develop their own projects, creating film and graphic products. A variety of topics are covered through the course, including music, television, drama, advertising and gaming. As well as examining these topics, production skills using photography, Photoshop and special effects production are introduced and developed through each student's projects for controlled assessment.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Component 1: Exploring the Media: Here you analyse media language and representation and media industries and audiences. 1hr 30 mins exam. 40% of final grade.

Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products: This assesses all areas of media in relation to television and music. 1hr 30 mins exam. 30% of final grade.

Component 3: Creating Media Products: An individual media production for an intended audience in response to a choice of briefs set by EDUCAS. 30% of final grade.

FUTURE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Media Studies will equip you for a wide range of jobs in media, cultural and creative industries, including: Advertising Media Buyer • Broadcaster • Copywriter • Media Researcher • Presenter • Journalist • Social Media Manager • Writer

SKILLS INVOLVED

Extended Writing

Design & Create Projects

Short Written Tasks

Using ICT (Not Gaming)

NEXT STEPS

Study: A Level / BTEC Media Studies

Combine work and study: Vocational & Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs, VTQs); T Levels (industry placements) ; Apprenticeship; Traineeships

Work: Supported Internship; school leaver scheme.



GATEACRE SCHOOL

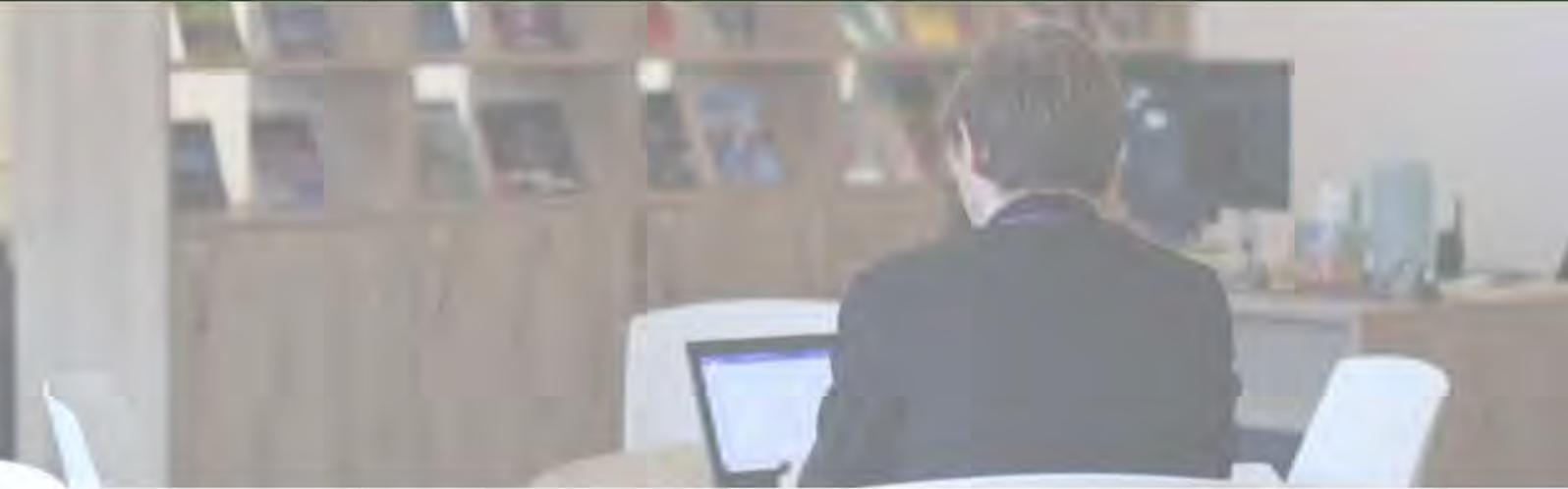
SIXTH FORM

WHERE STUDENTS BOLDLY GO



GATEACRE SIXTH FORM

WHERE STUDENTS BOLDLY GO



Although Sixth Form may seem distant during Year 9, it is never too early to start preparing for your future.

Our Sixth Form creates an inspiring, supportive, and ambitious learning environment where every student is encouraged to strive for excellence and reach their fullest potential.

We are committed to helping students set and achieve high aspirations, whether that be gaining entry to top universities, securing competitive apprenticeships, or launching successful careers. Through personalised academic support, career guidance, and a focus on personal development, we empower our students to take ownership of their futures and leave us with a clear and ambitious destination that aligns with their passions and goals. At Gateacre Sixth Form, success is not just academic achievement - it's about developing the skills, confidence, and mindset to thrive in whatever challenges lie ahead.

Why Gateacre Sixth Form?

- Expert Teaching
- Wide Range of Courses
- Engaging Extracurricular Activities
- Pathway to University and Careers
- Personalised Support
- High Achievers Programme



Scan to view our Sixth Form Prospectus





Gateacre School