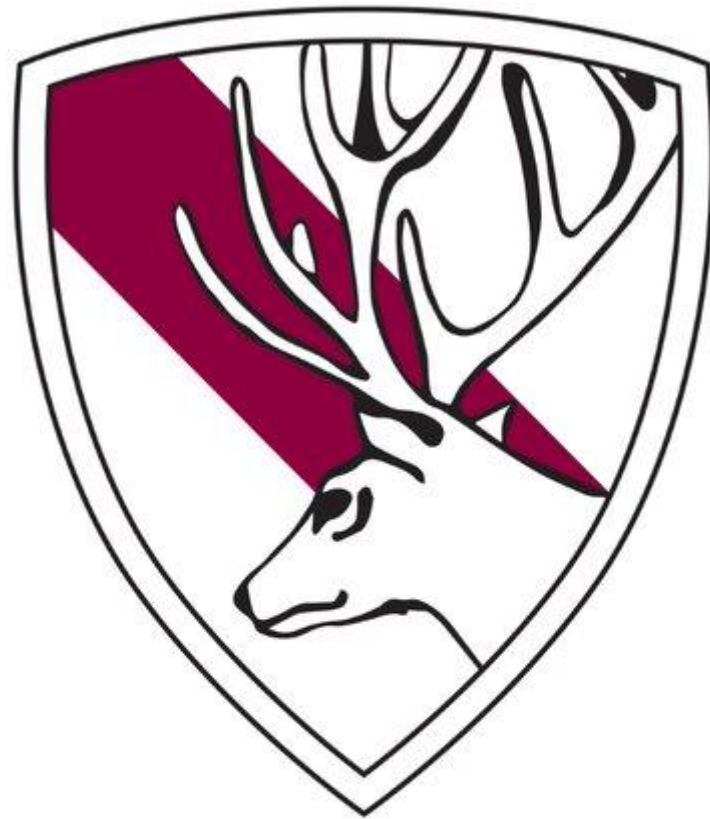


Year 9 Options



The Carlton
Academy

Welcome to the 2024 Options process

Dear Student

This term marks a very important time in your school life. Up until now the subjects you have followed in school have been chosen for you. The Year 9 options process allows you to shape your own learning programme in Years 10 and 11 according to your interests and future education and career aspirations.

A large part of your curriculum will be compulsory: English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Philosophy Religion and Ethics, and Core PE are studied by all students. Some students will also need to make choices from Language and Humanities subjects, however, there is also an element of choice for you to think about other subjects you would like to take. The Options Evening and options booklet are part of the process to help you make sensible and considered decisions.

It is our aim at The Carlton Academy to provide the highest quality education and curriculum so that you make the most progress and can achieve the best exam results possible. Throughout the options process, you will be guided by your House team, teachers and parents. These are the people who know you best and will be able to help advise you on suitable courses. It is important that you select courses that you will enjoy studying, work hard in and ultimately achieve excellent outcomes.

Please think very carefully and talk to your parents and tutor or Head of House before coming to any final decision. Remember, a broad and balanced range of subjects will enable you to be more flexible in your career or education path at age 16 and beyond.

Your choice is important and you should make the most of the opportunities available to you to help you make your decision.

Ms Egwuma
Headteacher

Contents

Curriculum Overview	4
Languages and Humanities	4
Separate Sciences.....	4
Options Subjects.....	5
GCSE English and English Literature.....	6
GCSE Mathematics	7
GCSE PRE.....	8
GCSE Science	9
GCSE French	10
GCSE Spanish	11
GCSE Geography.....	12
GCSE History.....	13
GCSE Art and Design (Fine Art).....	14
GCSE Photography	15
GCSE Art Graphics	16
GCSE Business Studies.....	17
BTEC Digital IT	18
GCSE Computer Science	19
BTEC Creative Media Production	20
GCSE Drama	21
GCSE Music.....	22
NCFE Music Technology.....	23
GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition	24
WJEC Hospitality and Catering.....	25
GCSE Design & Technology – Product Design.....	26
GCSE Design & Technology: Textiles.....	27
WJEC Engineering.....	28
GCSE Physical Education	29
BTEC Tech Award in Sport.....	30
GCSE Sociology.....	31
GCSE Psychology.....	32
NCFE CACHE Child Development	33
Guidance for Choosing Options	34

Curriculum Overview

Every student is already studying GCSE Philosophy Religion and Ethics and will complete the qualification in Year 10.

Every student will study the following subjects in Years 10 to 11:

- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Science course (combined or separate depending on ability)
- FOUR option subjects, as outlined in this booklet

Languages and Humanities

Languages and Humanities are a compulsory option for many students. We believe that a large number of our students should follow an academic curriculum offer of both a language and a humanities subject as part of their options choices.

These subjects are seen as core academic subjects. They are rigorous, high quality qualifications and are increasingly valued in the wider world.

Separate Sciences

Students with an interest in science and continuing studies in the subject will be encouraged to select Separate Sciences GCSE as one of their options in years 10-11. Students will study and complete separate GCSE qualifications in Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

If you are considering studying separate Science, please discuss this with the Science department at Options Evening and they will advise you as to whether the separate or combined pathway would be best for you. It is advised that students have at least a band C or above in science.

Options Subjects

At The Carlton Academy we offer students a wide range of subjects to choose from. A full range of academic and vocational qualifications is listed below

Option Subjects	
GCSE Art Graphics	GCSE Drama
GCSE Fine Art	GCSE Music
GCSE Photography	NCFE Music Technology
GCSE Design and Technology: Resistant Materials	GCSE PE
GCSE Design and Technology: Textiles	BTEC Tech Award in Sport
GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition	GCSE Separate Science
WJEC Hospitality and Catering	GCSE Business Studies
WJEC Engineering	BTEC Digital IT
NCFE CACHE Child Development & Care	GCSE Computer Science
BTEC Creative Media Production	
GCSE Psychology	
GCSE Sociology	

PLEASE NOTE, ONLY OPTIONS CLASSES WITH VIABLE STUDENT NUMBERS WILL BE ABLE TO RUN.

This means that if too few students select a subject then we will not be able to have a class in that subject and students who opted for it will be given their reserve choice

Vocational Courses

Each of the vocational courses offered in this booklet is the equivalent of a full GCSE. Features of vocational courses vary but commonly:

- They have a higher weighting on coursework than traditional GCSE subjects
- Coursework is completed across the two years of study rather than at the end
- There is a rigorous online examination that you must pass
- This type of course can be more suitable for students who may prefer project work and coursework to studying for exams

You cannot select the following subject combinations:

- GCSE Food **and** WJEC Hospitality and Catering
- GCSE Fine Art **and** GCSE Art Graphics
- GCSE Design and Technology: Product Design **and** GCSE Design and Technology: Textiles
- GCSE PE **and** BTEC Sport
- GCSE Music **and** NCFE Music Technology

GCSE Mathematics

Compulsory Subject

Mathematics and mathematical skills are vital in all of our everyday lives. The Mathematics GCSE course is designed to develop these skills to allow students to be mathematically functional in the real world. Recent changes to the GCSE have placed an increased emphasis on problem solving both in a mathematical and more general sense.

Students will have four hours per week of Maths lessons with 100% of the examinations at the end of Year 11.

Students will be entered at one of two levels: Higher or Foundation. Both levels allow access to a minimum of Grade 5. The course is examined at the end of Year 11 with one non-calculator and two calculator papers.

All our courses will enable you to:

- Develop further the skills and knowledge you have acquired at Key Stage 3 in Number, Algebra, Shape and Handling Data
- Develop problem solving techniques necessary for progression to further learning that are increasingly important in a wide variety of careers and in everyday life
- Focus on functional uses of Mathematics to encourage you to demonstrate your mathematical skills in a range of contexts apply and transfer skills in ways that are appropriate to different real-life situations
- Enhance the quality of your mathematical written communication

To find out more about Maths please speak to Mr Hope or your Maths teacher.



GCSE PRE

Compulsory Subject- Course studied in Year 9 and 10

Why study Philosophy, Religion and Ethics?

GCSE PRE is a lively course for students to reflect on essential components of what it means to be human and to live in society. Students are encouraged to engage with both religious and non-religious viewpoints to come to their own critical conclusions. PRE is not about expressing a certain view as 'true' but developing a spirit of enquiry from which students can explore a wealth of different world views and form their own opinion on philosophical, religious and ethical matters. The beauty of this subject is that answers are very rarely 'right' or 'wrong' but that students are rewarded for developing skills in arguing, debating and justifying their viewpoints in an academic, respectful and emotionally intelligent way.



Assessment – Edexcel Route B

- Paper 1 - Religion and Ethics (studied from the Christian/non-religious perspective). 50% of final grade.
- Paper 2 – Religion, Peace and Conflict (studies from the Muslim/non-religious perspective). 50% of final grade.

Course Content

Paper 1 Religion and Ethics:

Four topics are studied from a Christian perspective, two of these also from a non-religious perspective. Students will learn about the main Christian beliefs, and also what it is like to live a Christian life. Students will also be studying some of the key moral and ethical topics such as marriage, divorce, abortion and euthanasia.

Paper 2 Religion, Peace and Conflict:

Four topics are studied from a Muslim perspective, two of these also from a non-religious perspective. Students will learn about the main Muslim beliefs, and also what it is like to live a Muslim life. Students will also study current affairs surrounding peace and conflict by learning about things such as war, weapons of mass destruction, crime and the death penalty.

What Next?

This course is excellent preparation for Social Science courses in Philosophy and Ethics, Psychology and Sociology but also develops skills such as logic and ethical awareness integral to Maths, Medicine, Business, Law and Science career pathways.

This course began in Year 9 and will be examined in Year 10. Students do not study PRE in Year 11.

**Contact Mrs Eglin, Head of Humanities,
for more information.**

GCSE Science

Compulsory Subject

Why Study Science?

Science gives us an understanding of the world around us. Everything we know about the world is the result of scientists hypothesising, completing research and experimenting.

All students study science at GCSE level. You can either choose the core route – Combined Science, which will give you 2 GCSEs, or you can opt to do Separate Science as one of your options, which will give you 3 GCSEs – Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Course Content

Both of the science pathways will allow you to:

- Develop the knowledge you have acquired in Key Stage 3 by completing units that are based on Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Develop key skills such as memory and retrieval, data handling, practical science skills and an ability to evaluate information.
- Develop logical thinking skills and problem-solving techniques that will be useful in everyday life and a wide variety of careers.

For Combined Science, students will have 8 hours a fortnight of Science lessons in Year 10, rising to 10 hours a fortnight in Year 11.

For Separate Sciences, students will have 13 hours a fortnight of Science lessons in Year 10, rising to 15 hours a fortnight in Year 11.

Assessment

All GCSE Science courses will be linear in nature, meaning that all examinations will be taken at the end of the course in Year 11.

On both pathways students will sit 6 exam papers: 2 Biology, 2 Chemistry and 2 Physics.

The Combined Science exams are 75 minutes. The Separate Science exams are 105 minutes.

What Next?

Both the Combined and Separate Science courses are good preparation for all A-Level and BTEC Science courses, and are beneficial for a range of future career paths such as engineering, business, journalism and law. The Separate Science pathway is suitable for motivated students who have a keen interest in science, and who wish to develop their understanding to a higher level. It is designed to stretch and challenge our able students by providing them with a greater range and depth of science to prepare them for A level Science study.

The pathways through Science will be decided through the options process and discussion with your Science teachers. It is advised for Separate Sciences you have at least a Band C in assessments in Y9

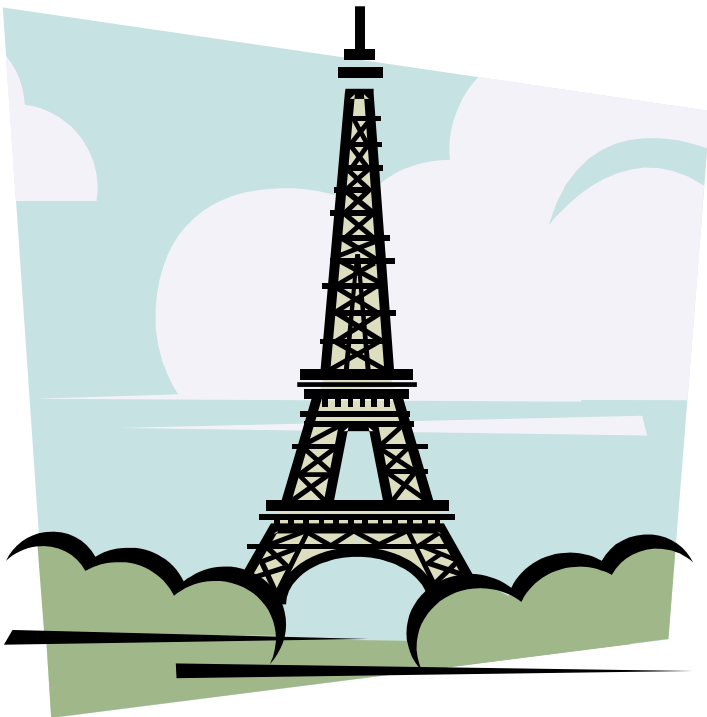
To discuss, please speak to Dr Lissenden-Crook, Head of Science, or your Science teacher.



GCSE French

Why study French?

It may seem that everyone speaks English, but in fact 75% of the world's population doesn't. In many countries, studying a second language is mandatory and a third is offered. By taking a language at GCSE you'll not only have amazing skills but also be able to apply for any job in which a second language is desirable. A language GCSE builds on what you've already learnt in Years 7, 8 and 9 and you probably know more than you think. Language classes are fun and interactive and although you cover things at a slightly quicker pace, you will be surprised about how many things you have learnt will be put into practice from day one.



By taking a language GCSE you don't just learn the language, you are also finding out about other people, countries and cultures.

Speaking another language has other benefits, such as having a better ability to concentrate, solve problems and focus. You can multitask and linguists are associated with having better mental flexibility.

Course Content

- You will develop your communication skills in both writing and speaking
- You will learn to understand authentic written texts and spoken French
- You will cover topics that you will use in your daily interactions in a French-speaking country
- You will learn about cultural aspects of France and other French-speaking countries, including film and music

Assessment

Final exams in Year 11 are taken in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, each worth 25%.

What Next?

This course is good preparation for A Level French, and is beneficial for a range of future career paths such as business, journalism and law.

Contact Mr O'Boyle, Head of French, or your French teacher for more information.

GCSE Spanish

Why study Spanish?

Spanish is the second most spoken language in the world after Mandarin, this means that having this language at GCSE will prove invaluable in all career paths in the future.

Spanish at GCSE will build on the amazing skills you will have already learnt in KS3. Spanish is made fun and interactive through the range of activities that we do with our students. As well as engaging the students in language learning we give them an insight into the culture of both Spain and Spanish speaking countries around the world. We always look for opportunities to take languages outside of the classroom, we do this through our residential trip to Valencia, and in A Level we go to music and theatre shows as well as having a Christmas Spanish meal at a restaurant in town. We also offer cultural lessons and other enriching opportunities where students are able to build on their language knowledge and get to experience the language and culture first hand.

Assessment

Final exams take place in Year 11 in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, each worth 25% of the overall mark.

What Next?

This course naturally leads to A Level Spanish. This course also opens up a range of career paths for students where they will be able to utilise their language and communication skills developed throughout the course. Based on the Valencia trip, you will be exposed to a range of jobs and the

opportunity to meet new people that will inspire your career paths, from a linguistics degree to any job done abroad.



Course Content

- You will develop your communication skills in both writing and speaking
- You will learn to understand authentic written texts and spoken Spanish
- You will cover topics that you will use in your daily interactions when exposed to the language / country.
- You will learn about cultural aspects of Spain and other Spanish speaking countries, including film, festivals, traditions and music.

Contact Miss Delgado, Head of Spanish or your Spanish teacher for more information.

GCSE Geography

Why study Geography?

Geography is a subject that will help you to understand what is happening in the world locally and on a global scale. It is a very broad course, which keeps learning interesting and opens doors to a wide range of possible careers.



Assessment

Assessment is by final exams in Year 11.

Course Content

Physical Geography

- The challenge of natural hazards: Volcanoes, earthquakes, extreme weather, climate change
- The Living World: Ecosystems, The

Amazon rainforest, the Thar desert

- Physical landscapes in the UK: Major uplands, river systems, coastal and river processes and landforms

Human Geography

- Urban issues and challenges: Megacities, Lagos, London, Nottingham, sustainable urban living
- Changing economic world: Global inequalities in development and wealth, employment and regional growth in UK
- Resource management: Resource supply and demand, globally and in the UK, global food security

What Next?

The course gives any student a better understanding of the world and therefore leads well into the further study of any humanity, art or science subject. Of course, it is also the natural precursor to A level geography.

Contact Mr Oldroyd, Head of Geography, or your Geography teacher for more information.

GCSE History

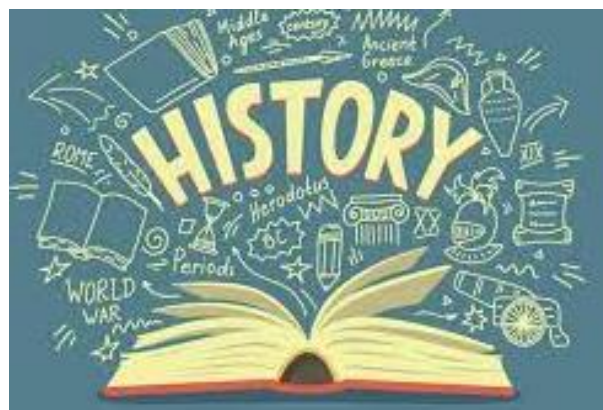
Why study History?

History is an interesting and exciting subject taught by a successful department. Lessons use a wide variety of thinking skills that are transferable to other areas of the curriculum. History is a subject that involves studying evidence, thinking critically and coming to reasoned judgements. If you find people interesting, this is the course for you!

The History course at GCSE is open to anybody who wants to get some understanding of the world we live in. The skills you develop will benefit you in any walk of life. All you need is interest, enthusiasm and the willingness to study hard. This is a subject which requires a large amount of writing and commitment. There are regular knowledge and exam tests throughout the 2 years.

Assessment

This History GCSE is a linear course, so assessment will take place at the end of Year 11. You will have two 2-hour exam papers which are worth 50% of your grade each.



Course Content

This is an exciting new History GCSE course which covers a wide range of topics allowing us to look at British and World History over a period of 1000 years.

The syllabus includes the following:

Paper 1	Understanding the Modern World <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Germany: Democracy and Dictatorship, 1890-1945- Conflict and Tension in the inter-war years, 1919-39
Paper 2	Shaping the Nation <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Britain: Health and the people, c1000 to the present day- Elizabethan England, c1568-1603

What Next?

Employers know this is a challenging course and therefore view History positively as it helps you to process large amounts of information and build arguments. This course naturally leads to A Level History. History students have gone on to have a range of different careers including in law, journalism and heritage organisations.

Contact Miss Munro, Head of History, or your History teacher for more information.

GCSE Art and Design (Fine Art)

Why study GCSE Fine Art?

A GCSE in Art can show a future employer a different aspect to your skills and personality. You can demonstrate diversity, adaptability and resilience, adding an extra dimension to your CV or Personal Statement. Many employers today are looking for creativity and independence, regardless of the field.



Course Content

This subject conveys the excitement of discovering the visual world and translating it into two and three dimensions. There will be an opportunity to develop artistic skills using a wide variety of different art media

including 3D modelling materials, pottery and digital image manipulation. The course emphasises a personal and analytical approach in everything and will expand your creativity, imagination and independence. What's more, the possibilities for personal expression are endless.

Assessment

- Coursework comprised of two projects, worth 60%
- Externally set exam project with a final response produced under exam conditions, worth 40%

What Next?

Fine Art, New Media, Illustration, Animation, Jeweller, Make-up Artistry, Theatre/ Set design, Games Development, Games Technologies, Fashion, Textiles, Landscape and Interior Design, Art Therapy and much more.

**Contact Miss Dyer-Ince, Head of Art,
or your Art teacher for more
information.**

GCSE Photography

Why study GCSE Photography?

Photography is increasingly popular as a GCSE choice. It encourages the exploration of photography as an artistic medium. It combines well with more traditional subjects, providing an outlet for creativity. Photography can be a useful addition to a student's portfolio of qualifications and can also help to secure admission to Art College or university.



Assessment

- Coursework comprised of two projects, worth 60%
- Externally set exam project with a final response produced under exam conditions, worth 40%

Course Content

This course involves learning numerous techniques with camera handling, taking photographs and building editing skills with image manipulative software. Skills and knowledge will be developed with visual analysis through exploring imaging techniques such as composition, framing, depth of field, shutter speed, lighting, exposure and viewpoints. The course, by its nature, will involve you doing some of the work in your own time and therefore an element of self-motivation is necessary. An analysis of your own work and the work of other photographers is central to the way you will work.

What Next?

Film, Fashion Photographer, Photo Journalism, General Practice Photographer, Medical Photographer, Advertising and Editorial Photographer, Games Development, Games Technologies, Forensics, Cinematographer, Videographer,

**Contact Miss Dyer-Ince, Head of Art,
or your Art teacher for more
information.**

GCSE Art Graphics

Why study GCSE Art Graphics?

A GCSE in Art can show a future employer a different aspect to your skills and personality. You can demonstrate diversity, adaptability and resilience, adding an extra dimension to your CV or Personal Statement. Many employers today are looking for creativity and independence, regardless of the field.

Course Content

Graphic Design is a creative activity focussing on the commercial, promotion-based aspects of Art and Design. It spans the fields of advertising, photography, typography, packaging, book and magazine illustration, posters, information signs and symbols, story boards and computer graphics. You will learn the art of visual communication, combining images and words to convey a message or information. All projects emphasise good presentation of work using a variety of techniques and materials.



Assessment

- Coursework comprised of two projects, worth 60%
- Externally set exam project with a final response produced under exam conditions, worth 40%



What Next?

Graphic Design, Product Design, Web Design, Games Development, Games Technologies, Film, Animation, Architect, Industrial Designer, Toy designer, Music Merchandise Designer.

Contact Miss Dyer-Ince, Head of Art, or your Art teacher for more information.

GCSE Business Studies

Why study GCSE Business Studies?

GCSE Business provides a solid foundation for employment, with students progressing, with further training, to a wide range of careers training such as banking, sales, product management and general management.

Course Content

Theme 1 concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It provides a framework for students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business.

Theme 2 examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance, and human resources. Theme 2 also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.

Assessment

- Theme 1 – Investigating small business. Written Paper (50%) 1hr 45m
- Theme 2 – Building a business. Written Paper (50%) 1hr 45m

What Next?

The skills gained on a GCSE Business course allow you to build commercial awareness and start contributing to your chosen employer quickly and effectively. Industries as diverse as chemicals, utilities, fashion, health, grocery, and construction all require managers with a clear understanding of systems, efficiency, and operational issues. Opportunities exist in management and analytic roles with employers in the private, public, and voluntary sectors.

This course naturally leads on to any Level 3 qualification, ranging from BTEC Business studies, A Level Business or A Level Economics

Please contact Miss Whitmore, Head of Business & IT, for any further information



BTEC Digital IT

Why study IT?

You will explore how technology impacts on the lives of individuals, organisations and society. You will learn about current and emerging technologies and the issues raised by their use. You will gain a range of practical skills and underpin this with an understanding of IT including: IT systems, hardware, software, networks, securing IT systems, data and information and emerging technologies.

Course content and assessment

Component 1—Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques (Coursework)

As digital technologies and organisations continue to evolve, each new development offers exciting ways of completing tasks and interacting with our hardware devices. You will learn different project planning techniques to plan and deliver a project that meets a set of user requirements. You will learn the different design principles that can be used to design effective user interfaces.

Component 2—Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data (Coursework)

In order to make decisions, organisations collect vast amounts of data from a range of different sources. In this component, you will learn the different data manipulation tools that can be used to change the way that data is presented. You will provide clear summaries of the data and present them in a dashboard that will allow organisations to make effective decisions.

Component 3—Effective Digital Working Practices (Exam)

Modern organisations are increasingly reliant on the use of digital systems to complete every day, business-critical tasks. This component will give you an opportunity to explore how the developments in technology over recent years have enabled modern organisations to communicate and collaborate more effectively than ever before. You will explore how developments in technology have led to more inclusive and flexible working environments, and how regulation and ethical and security concerns influence the way in which organisations operate.

What Next?

The Digital IT Technical award will prepare you for the times ahead, whether that be further education or work. We live in an ever-changing world where IT is continuously changing and, in many circumstances, can be unpredictable.



Please contact Miss Whitemore, Head of Business & IT, for any further information

GCSE Computer Science

Why study Computer Science?

Computer Science is a very practical subject using the knowledge and skills you learn in the classroom on real-world problems. It also calls on you to be inventive. This exciting GCSE gives you an excellent opportunity to investigate how computers work and how they're used, and to develop computer programming and problem-solving skills. You'll do some fascinating in-depth research and practical work such as investigations into JavaScript, encryption and assembly language programming.

Course content

- Valuable thinking and programming skills
- An understanding of problem solving and creating logical and efficient solutions
- Ability to write solutions to problems for other people to understand
- A good grounding in mainstream computing theory and understanding

Assessment

COMPUTER SYSTEMS COMPONENT

- How processors work
- Investigate computer memory and storage
- Explore modern network layouts and how they function
- Build skills in cyber security
- Investigate how software is used within computer systems
- Stretch wider comprehension of how computers and computing affect ethical, legal, cultural and environmental issues
- Produce programs through diagrams

COMPUTATIONAL THINKING, ALGORITHMS

- Build a firm foundation in programming techniques
- Thoroughly test programs and make them resistant to misuse
- Explore Boolean algebra (AND, OR, NOT)
- Understand how we store data within computers in binary form

You will also take part in practical programming which is assessed through the two examinations that you will complete.

What Next?

The GCSE (9-1) Computer Science is effective preparation for a range of qualifications including:

- AS Level Computer Science
- A Level Computer Science
- A vocational qualification that offers an alternative to A Levels for students aged 16+

Computer Science opens doors to your future. It also provides a good grounding for other subject areas that require problem solving and analytical skills.



Please contact Mr Dickinson, Head of Computer Science, for any further information

BTEC Creative Media Production

Why study Creative Media Production?

This course would suit you if you are the kind of person who is not only interested in consuming media, but knowing how and why it is made. If you are interested in what film, television, print and digital media tells us about the world we live in and how it impacts upon us and our society, this is the course for you. We look at the sociological, political and historical contexts of media across three sectors – print, audio/moving image and interactive/participatory.

Course Content

Component 1: Exploring the Media

In this section, a whole range of media forms are considered. You will analyse media language, interrogate how audiences are appealed to and explore representations in the media, all underpinned by relevant theory. You will also develop knowledge and understanding of key aspects of media industries and study media audiences, considering aspects such as how they are targeted and how they respond to media texts.

Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products

This section will allow you to explore media texts in more detail by experimenting with media production techniques using industry models and software packages.

Component 3 Creating Media Products

You will create an individual media product for an intended audience in response to a

choice of briefs set by the exam board, applying knowledge and understanding of media language, audience and representation.



Assessment

- One externally assessed practical exam at the end of the course and two internally assessed coursework-style components.
- One externally assessed examination component worth 40%.
- Two internally assessed components worth 30% apiece.

What Next?

The Creative Media course will prepare you for life in our modern media world. It will equip you for areas of study and employment in IT, Business, Sociology and other creative areas like English, Art, Graphic Design, Photography and Film.

Please contact Ms Hughes, Head of Media, for more information.

GCSE Drama

Why study GCSE Drama?

In a changing world where the jobs of tomorrow do not exist today, creative thinking is a skill that many future employers value and even look for. GCSE Drama builds on those making and performance skills that have been developed through KS3 and here the students explore a variety of scripts and various themes in a largely practical way. You will improve your communication skills, develop your understanding of yourself and know how live theatre performance engages an audience and teaches us about the world in which we live.

Course Content.

You will spend much of your time practically exploring a range of modern theatre texts and making critical judgements around interpretation. Small and large group tasks will be used to gain a working understanding of a range of plays and improvisational skills will be developed and assessed at points too. Live theatre will be seen and you will make judgements about the success of the designers and actors in contributing to the telling of the story.

Assessment:

- Component 1. 40% Devising Performance and 2,000 word written portfolio coursework.
- Component 2. 20% Performance of two pre-2,000 scripted texts

- Component 3. 40% Written exam where students interpret and evaluate a section of a studied play and review a previously seen live performance



What Next?

The GCSE Drama course naturally leads to the A Level Drama and Theatre Studies option in the Sixth form and university or further academic and vocational options are available from here. With a developed appreciation of theatre and improved analytical skills any GCSE Drama student will be in a great position to rise to the demands of Post 16 English.

Contact Mr Harris, Head of Performing Arts, for more information.

GCSE Music

Why study GCSE Music?

GCSE Music is an exciting, practical course where you will have the opportunity to further develop your skills of performing and composing through areas of study.

Whether you aspire to be a singing superstar, play in a band with your mates, or compose music for the silver screen, this course caters for you.

Studying music is not only for students who wish to pursue a life in the music industry, it is a creative and challenging subject which is recognised to prepare individuals for further study and a wide range of careers.

The most important requirement for taking music is a passion for the subject and a commitment to practice an instrument or singing regularly. In addition, it helps if you can read music. You should be at a reasonable standard on an instrument or at singing - this is not an opportunity to learn from scratch.



Course Content

Music aims to develop musical skill, knowledge and understanding through Listening, Performing and Composing.

You will study music from the Western Classical tradition, both old and new, as well as music from around the world and pop culture. You will learn to recognise different instruments, say specific things about the way in which they are used and about structures and techniques that are used to compose the music they play. You will have set works to study which are set by the exam board, one of these will be from the classical era and the second will be of your choice.

Assessment

- Performing and Composing Controlled Assessment, worth 60%
- Listening test, externally assessed, worth 40%

What Next?

This course naturally leads to A Level Music in the Sixth Form. It is an excellent choice for any student that is interested in continuing with performing arts or music technology also.

**Contact Mrs Moroziuk, Head of Music,
for more information.**

NCFE Music Technology

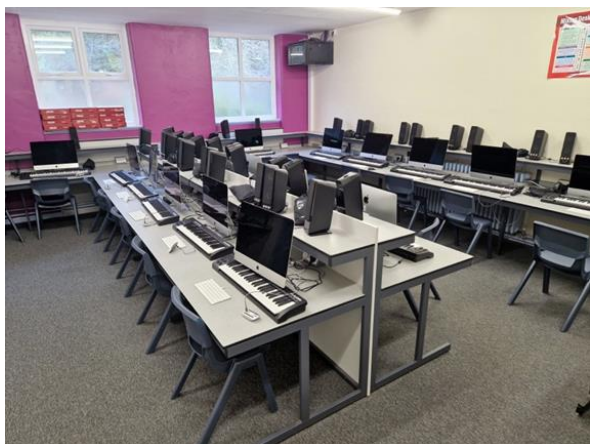
Why study Music Technology?

Not every music lover has had the opportunity or desire to learn an instrument. L1/L2 Music Technology gives students the opportunity to create, record and produce music without the restraint of having to perform on an instrument.

We boast top of the range, industry standard software and hardware in our newly created Tech Suite, which is comparable to functioning music production studios.

Studying Music Technology is not only for students who wish to pursue a life in the music industry, it is a creative and challenging subject which is recognised to prepare individuals for further study and a wide range of careers.

The most important requirement for taking Music Technology is a passion for Music, a good understanding of modern technology and a keen ear. There is no requirement to be able to play an instrument, however it is advantageous if you do/did.



About this qualification

The Level 1/2 Technical Award in Music Technology is designed for learners who

want an introduction to music technology that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the music industry or progress onto further study.

How is the qualification structured?

To be awarded this qualification, learners are required to successfully demonstrate the knowledge and skills to meet the requirements of all 5 mandatory content areas.

How is it assessed?

The qualification has 2 assessments externally-set by the exam board: one none-exam assessment and one written examined assessment.

What Next?

Learners who achieve at level 1 might consider progression to level 2 qualifications such as GCSE Music or study at level 2 in a range of technical routes designed for progression to employment, apprenticeships and further study.

Learners who achieve at level 2 might consider progression to level 3 technical qualifications or A levels.

Contact Mrs Moroziuk, Head of Music, for more information.

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

Why study GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition provides students with an understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food ingredients. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

Course Content

Food preparation knowledge and skills are integrated into five core topics:

- 1. Food, nutrition and health** – Macro Nutrients, Micro Nutrients, Nutritional Needs and Health
- 2. Food science** – Cooking of food, Heat Transfer and the Functional and Chemical Properties of Food
- 3. Food safety** – Food Spoilage, Contamination and the Principles of Food Safety
- 4. Food choice** – Factors affecting Food Choice, British and International Cuisines, Sensory Evaluation, Food Labelling and Marketing
- 5. Food provenance** – Environmental Impact and Sustainability of Food, Food Processing and Production

Assessment

- Exam: Paper 1: Food preparation and nutrition (50%) written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Non- Exam Assessment: Task 1: Food investigation (15%) Written report

- Non-Exam Assessment: Task 2: Food preparation assessment (35%) Written portfolio with practical examination

What Next?

This qualification can lead you to A Levels or the Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition qualification.

Studying food preparation and nutrition can lead to exciting and well-paid career options. Consumers are becoming increasingly reliant on the food industry to develop solutions for their nutritional needs. This course could lead you into roles such as a Chef, Food Product Developer, Buyer, Food Safety Inspectors, Nutritionists, Quality Managers, Teacher, Food Engineer, Food Scientist, Food Technologist, Food Stylist, Home Economist, Dieticians, Food Photographer, Microbiologist, Hotel and Restaurant Manager, working in food magazines, radio and television – for more information on food careers please visit [www. http://tastycareers.org.uk/](http://tastycareers.org.uk/)



Contact Mr Mears, Head of DT, or your class teacher, for more information.

WJEC Hospitality and Catering

Why study Hospitality & Catering?

This qualification is intended for learners who wish to learn about food preparation in a commercial environment.

You will make a range of food products and develop skills related to commercial food preparation including food hygiene, food presentation and consideration of production in quantity.

You will apply technical and practical expertise to ensure that food meets customer needs and preferences and is appropriate for a given occasion, gaining an understanding of catering and an awareness of related career paths.

The qualification provides learners with a broad appreciation of work in the hospitality and catering sector and wider opportunities for progression into further education, employment or training.

This approach also enables learners to learn in such a way that they develop:

- Skills required for independent learning and development
- A range of generic and transferable skills
- The ability to solve problems
- The skills of project-based research, development and presentation



- The fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals, in a professional environment

Course Content

Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action

The course teaches the knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering providers; how they operate and what they have to consider to be successful. You learn about nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations. Learners will also have the opportunity to develop some food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

Through the two units, learners will gain an overview of the hospitality and catering industry and the type of job roles that may be available.

Assessment

- Unit 1 - written exam - 1hr 20 mins - 40% of the grade
- Unit 2 - Controlled assessment - 12 hours - 60% of the grade

What's next?

This qualification is equivalent to a GCSE and can lead you to A levels or the Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition qualification.

Contact Mr Mears, Head of DT, or your class teacher, for more information.

GCSE Design & Technology – Product Design

Why study GCSE Design & Technology?

The course seeks to prepare you to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world and be aware of, and learn from, wider influences on design and technology including historical, social/cultural, environmental and economic factors.

The GCSE in Design and Technology will enable you to understand and apply interactive design processes through which you will explore, create and evaluate a range of outcomes. This course will enable you to use creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering your own and others' needs, wants and values.



This qualification will also provide opportunities for you to apply knowledge from other disciplines, including mathematics, science, art and design, computing and the humanities.

Assessment

- 50% of assessment is through written examination
- 50% is through a written portfolio

Course Content

- Real-world contexts, representing contemporary issues and concerns
- Focus on needs, wants and values of individuals and groups, leading students to address problems and/or opportunities
- Critical evaluation of new and emerging technologies
- Developments in modern and smart materials, composite materials and technical textiles
- How electronic systems provide functionality to products and processes
- The use of programmable components
- Types and properties of the following materials: Including paper and board, timber, metals, plastics and textiles

What Next?

This course naturally leads to A Level Product design or other Level 3 qualifications.

Contact Mr Mears, Head of DT, or your class teacher, for more information.

GCSE Design & Technology: Textiles

Why study GCSE Textiles?

Textiles is a course that studies a range of practical and theoretical elements. The course is designed to allow pupils to generate creative ideas and modify technical techniques within a practical environment. There is an emphasis on how to consider sustainable design and the environmental impact of the practical choices made. Pupils are encouraged to study both modern and traditional Textile and Fashion works from designers such as Vivienne Westwood, Stella Jean, Kate Jenkins & Carolyn Saxby.

Course Content?

Pupils will undertake a variety of contemporary and traditional aspects of designing and making. Working to set briefs they will modify and develop their ideas innovatively.

Throughout the course students will explore textiles creatively developing their inner style in preparation for their Controlled Assessment period.

Assessment?

Design Portfolio: 50% - the Controlled Assessment is completed in Year 11. A choice of design briefs are set by the Exam Board, allowing pupils the opportunity to select one specific design brief theme. Pupils can make products that vary from clothing and accessories to homeware. Terminal Examination: 50% - there will be one written

exam in the summer term of Year 11. The written exam features a broad range of questions that are set by the Exam Board. The paper is split into many sections.

Note: There will be core knowledge of other material areas covered in this qualification so there will be a need to learn about timbers, plastics and metals but the specialist knowledge will be Textiles.

What next?

Either Design and Technology 3D Design or any level 3 Textiles qualification.

Possible careers:

- Clothing/textile technologist
- Colour technologist
- Illustrator
- Interior and spatial designer
- Fashion designer
- Printmaker
- Textile designer
- Furniture designer
- Further education teacher
- Graphic designer
- Higher education lecturer
- Product designer
- Retail buyer
- Secondary school teacher
- Stylist
- Visual merchandiser

Contact Mr Mears, Head of DT, or your class teacher, for more information.

WJEC Engineering

Why Engineering?

Engineering is a fascinating and ever-evolving subject. There are many specialities to choose from according to your interests, as well as a huge range of jobs available. As an engineer, you can make your mark on the world in a positive and enduring way.

Course Content

Engineering is a driving force in the UK's economy, accounting for 21.4% (£1.2 trillion) of the UK's £5.7 trillion turnover in 2018

However, there is a considerable shortage of appropriately skilled workers in the engineering sector. One of the reasons for this is due to a lack of awareness among young people of the educational routes into engineering occupations.

The Vocational Award in Engineering has been designed to support learners in schools and colleges who want to learn about this vocational sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers or further study.

Subject content

Unit 1 provides learners with the opportunity to interpret different types of engineering information in order to plan how to manufacture engineering products. Learners will develop knowledge, understanding and skills in using a range of engineering tools and equipment in order to manufacture and test an end product.

Unit 2 allows learners to explore how an engineered product is adapted and improved over time, and it offers learners the opportunity to apply their knowledge

and understanding to adapt an existing component, element or part of the engineering outcome that they manufactured for Unit 1.

Unit 3 introduces learners to a range of considerations that impact on engineering design and how modern engineering has had an impact on modern day life at home, work and in society in general.

Skills you will learn

- The fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals, in a professional environment;
- The ability to apply learning in vocational contexts.

Assessment

The WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Engineering is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessment.

Unit	Title	Assessment	GLH
1	Manufacturing engineering products	Internal	48
2	Designing engineering products	Internal	24
3	Solving engineering problems	External	48

What Next?

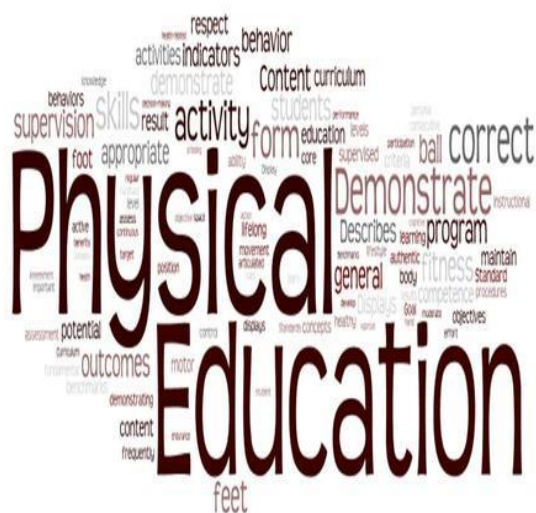
- L3 in Engineering
- A Level in Design & Technology
- Principle Learning Level 3 in Engineering
- Apprenticeships in Engineering

Contact Mr Mears, Head of DT, or your class teacher, for more information.

GCSE Physical Education

Why study GCSE PE?

GCSE PE is a practical subject aimed to improve your knowledge, skills and understanding of a range of physical activities. You should have an interest in PE and sport and enjoy being active. You will have the opportunity to become increasingly effective in your performance in different types of physical activities and roles, such as player/participant, leader and official.



Course Content

In Year 10 students will be introduced to the key theoretical concepts involved in GCSE in Physical Education.

Students progress throughout the course with on-going practical assessments which contribute towards the selection of their

final three sport scores alongside theoretical studies.

The externally assessed examination will take place towards the end of the course in Year 11. The theory content is broken down into two sections: socio-cultural and physiological reasons for participation.

There is an expectation that all students attend after school sports clubs or out of school sports clubs to improve practical ability. You must be able to perform at a good level and commit to two years of sports development in order to complete this course successfully.

Assessment

- 60 % examination
- 30 % practical assessment
- 10 % coursework

What Next?

This course naturally leads to A Level PE or BTEC Level 3 Sport courses in the Sixth Form.

Contact Mr Lockwood, Head of PE, or your PE teacher for more information.

BTEC Tech Award in Sport

Why study BTEC Sport?

This Tech Award is for learners interested in taking a hands-on course alongside their GCSEs that will offer them an insight into what it is like to work in the sports sector, giving them a broad introduction that keeps all of their options open and allows them to make an informed decision about their future learning and career.

The coursework components are task-based and largely practical, allowing learners to demonstrate their skills and ability – and their understanding of the theoretical content – in a way that suits them.



Course content

Component 1: Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity.

Component 2: Taking Part and Improving Other Participants' Sporting Performance.

Component 3: Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants' Performance in Sport and Physical Activity.

Assessment

- Component 1: Coursework, 30% of final grade
- Component 2: Coursework, 30% of final grade
- Component 3: External written exam, sat in Year 11, 40% of final grade

What next?

Successful completion of this course opens up progression to A Levels or the study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Sport in the Sixth Form.

Contact Mr Lockwood, Head of PE, or your PE teacher for more information.

GCSE Sociology

Why study GCSE Sociology?

Sociology is all around us—everyone can relate to it!

In GCSE Sociology, you will develop a wide range of knowledge about society and how sociologists' study and understand its structures, processes and issues. Sociology is exciting, interesting and relevant to everyone's lives!

Course Content

In this course you will cover different topics and learn about the sociology of:

- Key concepts and cultural transmission
- Families
- Education
- Sociological research methods
- Social differentiation and stratification
- Crime and deviance
- Applied methods of social enquiry

For Sociology, you will need good English skills as the course requires you to write essays in the exams.

Assessment

- This course is assessed 100% by exams
- You will sit two exams at the end of Year 11
- Each exam will last 1 hour 45 mins and are each worth 50%

What next?

This course is good preparation for A Level Sociology and is beneficial for a range of future career paths such as law, social work, criminology, teaching among many others!

Contact Miss Armitage or Miss Carlin for more information.



GCSE Psychology

Why study GCSE Psychology?

Are you interested in how the mind works? Do you question why people behave the way they do? Do you like Science? If so, then GCSE Psychology may be for you!

Course Content

Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour. You will need good Science and Maths skills, as Psychology is very scientific and is based largely on research methods. In each of the above modules you will learn about key studies that have been conducted into that area, as well as how this research can be applied to everyday life.

In this qualification, you will learn about:

- Memory
- Development
- Research methods
- Perception
- Social influence
- Language, thought and communication
- Brain and neuropsychology
- Psychological problems

Don't expect to be able to read people's

minds or body language by doing GCSE Psychology! You will gain a better understanding of human behaviour by learning about what psychologists have found by doing their research.

Assessment

This course is assessed 100% by exams.

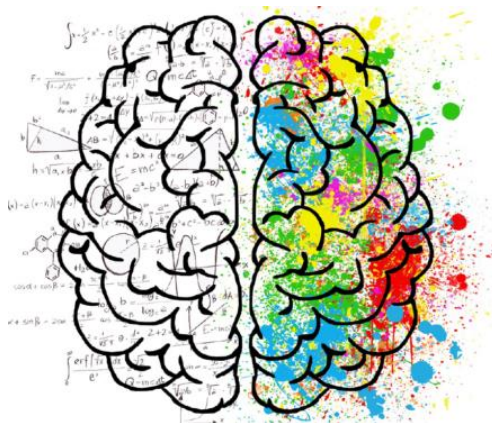
In Year 11 you will sit two exams.

- Each exam lasts 1 hour 45 minutes and are worth 50% each.
- You will be expected to write extended essays in the exam
- At least 10% of the course will test mathematical ability
- At least 20% of the course will test knowledge on research methods (Science knowledge)

What next?

This course is good preparation for A Level Psychology and is beneficial for a range of future career paths such as therapy, teaching, research, law, as well as health and social care.

Please contact Miss Carlin if you need any more information.



NCFE CACHE Child Development

Why study CACHE Child Development?

Are you interested in the development of children? Do you see yourself working with children in the future? If so, this course will provide you with the skills and knowledge to do so successfully.

Course Content

In this course, you will develop an understanding of child development and well-being necessary for working with children in a variety of settings. It is aimed at a range of learners who wish to be introduced to childcare and development of children aged 0-5 years. In this course, you will also learn about different learning styles and how they can assist you in developing your ability to study.

This qualification will enable you to develop transferable knowledge and study skills that will support progress including:

- A basic introduction into working with children in a variety of settings
- An understanding of roles and responsibilities when working in a setting
- An introduction to the influences that affect holistic development
- An introduction to everyday care routines and the types of activities that can support the development of children

Assessment

The course consists of three components including one externally examined unit and one controlled coursework assessment units internally assessed and

externally moderated.

Both assessments are taken in the final year of study.

Year 1: Teaching of content

Component 1: An introduction to working with children aged 0-5 and development and well-being of children aged 0-5 years

Year 2: Assessment of content

Component 2: Controlled coursework assessment. Internal/External assessment (50%)

Component 3: Childcare and development 0-5 years – Externally assessed written exam assessed by multiple choice, short and long answer questions (50%)



What Next?

This course leads nicely onto the Level 3 CACHE Health and Social Care course that we offer in the Sixth Form and is ideal if you are thinking about a future career in working with children or in the Health and Social care sector.

Please contact Mrs Anderson if you need any more information.

Guidance for Choosing Options

Do:

- ✓ Read the Options booklet carefully. It is full of useful information to help guide your decisions
- ✓ Visit department areas throughout the Options Evening to discuss with teachers and find out more information about each course
- ✓ Spend some time discussing your choices with your parent
- ✓ Choose subjects that you are interested in - you will be studying them for the next two years
- ✓ Think about what skills you have and the subjects you are currently doing the best in
- ✓ Select a broad choice of subjects - don't make your choices too similar. A BROAD and BALANCED curriculum is best and will give you the best opportunities in the future
- ✓ Ask for advice if you need it - House staff, teaching staff and SLT are available all evening
- ✓ Consider what you may wish to study after your GCSEs. Some A levels, particularly the more academic subjects will require you to have a GCSE in the subject

Don't:

- ✗ Pick subjects just because your friends are choosing them - there is no guarantee you would end up in the same class
- ✗ Don't pick subjects because you like the teacher - or equally because you dislike your current teacher

Once you have made your decision, you need to complete the Sims Online Options form. Information on how to do this will be sent to you separately on Classcharts. You will need your school email address for the Sims Online Options form.

You must select Four choices in total and a reserve choice.

Reserve Choices

When designing the timetable, some combinations may prove difficult or not possible to meet. It is, therefore, essential that you indicate one reserve choice alongside your option choices. You must be happy to study this course as it may be used in place of one of your top 4 choices.

PLEASE NOTE, ONLY OPTIONS CLASSES WITH VIABLE STUDENT NUMBERS WILL BE ABLE TO RUN.

If your choices cannot be met, you will be consulted about changing them.

The deadline for submission of Sims Online Options form

29 March 2024