# Wanstead High School 

Education with Character

# Year 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4) <br> Curriculum 2023-2025 Options Booklet <br>  

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As you are aware, we are hoping to change the Options process this year to allow pupils more choice in each block. 204 of you completed the Options Expression of Interest form which will enable us to design blocks that fit the greatest number of choices from pupils. These blocks will be released in mid-March around the time of the voluntary Options afternoon on $15^{\text {th }}$ March (strike day), where you will have a chance to come in between 1-3pm to speak to staff from specific departments. Further information to follow.

We urge pupils to consider the EBacc qualification as this will stand them in very good stead for the future. As you know, we will be interviewing targeted pupils (including disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND) but please do let us know if your child would like a personal interview or if you need any further help with the process.

At this stage, choosing subjects that your child enjoys and is good at is the main thing and most careers can be accessed by choosing a broad and balanced curriculum. It is also however worth looking at the A Level entry requirements on the Sixth Form section of the website as some specialist careers may need a particular GCSE to follow a particular pathway - an example of this is Computer Science A Level where you would need a GCSE in this subject to take the course. Pupils will be using Unifrog in school (see below) to help them with their choices.

I wish you the best of luck with the process, please do contact us if you need any more support. My daughter, as you know, is choosing her options this year so I am with you in spirit.

## All the best

Emma Hillman
Headteacher

# Message from Ms Gullefer - Head of Year 9 

## Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils

As we reach the midpoint of Year 9, we start the process of looking at the changes that take place when pupils finish Year 9 and start Year 10. The most significant change is that pupils will be studying fewer subjects in September 2023, and they will be able to choose some of them. This booklet gives you all the information you need to make those choices. This information is also invaluable throughout Years 10 and 11 since it contains details about each subject - with information about the examination board and assessment requirements.

Alongside this booklet, this term Wanstead will be launching Unifrog, a user-friendly platform that helps pupils make the best option choices, by guiding them through career prospects and finding out their interests and passions. Pupils are able to access Unifrog in their introductory lesson, tutor time sessions and at home.

This process is very important, as we offer a wide range of subjects, including some that were not studied in Key Stage 3. Throughout this academic year our pupils will have opportunities to discuss, reflect and read with the support of tutors about all options possible as well as career focused external trips. It is therefore essential to take time to understand what each course offers, what combinations are possible, and what is most suitable for each pupil as an individual.

Alongside all the tutors, teachers and teaching assistants, I look forward to supporting you all throughout this process and guiding the pupils to make confident and informed decisions in starting their new path into GCSE.

Yours sincerely


[^0]Head of Year 9

## The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

In Years 10 and 11, pupils will spend approximately half their curriculum time studying core curriculum subjects. These are English Language, English Literature, Combined Science, Maths, PSHCE and PE. Some pupils with SEND or other needs, will be guided to take the Support option and we will contact you about this.

The Government has performance measures by which schools and pupils are judged. Three of these are Progress 8, Attainment 8 and the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) . It is anticipated that Colleges, Universities and employers will increasingly look at an individual's performance in these areas. The Attainment and Progress 8 scores takes an average of the 'Best 8' GCSE grades (or equivalent) a pupil achieves. Based on the Government's current position it is believed that the EBacc and 'Best 8' qualifications will become increasingly important. Consequently, you will want to make sure you are well placed to capitalise on these measures.

## English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

Although pupils are not required to take any particular options this year, subjects you should be aware of the English Baccalaureate which is a measure of success when pupils achieve in a combination of subjects. The EBacc is achieved if a pupil gains a minimum of GCSE grade 5 in certain subjects.

## The EBacc is:

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- Science (Combined Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science) Combined Science is on the core curriculum
- Geography or History
- A language

The Ebacc. subjects offered here are: English, Maths, Science (including Computer Science) and Geography and/or History and French or Spanish.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides pupils with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and Maths.

Pupils are advised to take a balanced range to maximise future opportunities. The majority of pupils will take 9 GCSEs.

## Assessment at Key Stage 4 including NEAs and tiers of entry

All optional subjects, with the exception of the current learning support options lead to recognised awards. However, we hope to change the latter and you can read more in the relevant section.

All GCSE courses will be assessed by final examinations in May and June 2025.

## Non-Examined Assessment

Some subjects also have a Non-Examined Assessment (NEA). These are as follows:

| Subject | Qualifi <br> cation | Board | Nature | \% of GCSE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| English <br> Language | GCSE | AQA | Spoken Language - presenting and responding to questions <br> and feedback. | 0\% but it is <br> graded. |
| Media Studies | GCSE | Eduqas | Creating Media - pupils have to produce their own media <br> product over twelve weeks. The exam board will set a brief <br> to which the pupils will then respond. | $30 \%$ |
| Drama | GCSE | AQA | Practical performances and production log. |  |
| Music | GCSE | Edexcel | Practical performances and composition. | $60 \%$ |
| Dance | GCSE | AQA | Practical performance and choreography. | $60 \%$ |
| DT - Resistant <br> Materials | GCSE | AQA | Design and production of a product using resistant materials <br> and a production log. | $50 \%$ |
| DT - Textiles | GCSE | AQA | Design and production of a textile product and a production <br> log. | $50 \%$ |
| Food <br> Preparation and <br> Nutrition | GCSE | AQA | A practical investigation into the function of ingredients and <br> the planning, preparation and production of a menu. | $40 \%$ |
| Physical <br> Education | GCSE | AQA | Practical performance in individual and team sports. |  |
| Art and Design | GCSE | AQA | A portfolio (60\%) of work that is produced over the course of <br> the two years and an externally set assignment in response to <br> a brief set by the exam board using ten consecutive hours of <br> supervised time (40\%). | 100\% |

Non-Examined Assessments take many forms but they have common features regarding how they are undertaken. The work must be independently undertaken and the teacher needs to be able to verify that the work submitted is the work only of your child. Model answers and writing frames cannot be provided and staff cannot give pupils specific feedback on how to improve their work.

If you are studying a subject that has an NEA component, you need to ensure that you fully commit to the NEA elements just as much as you commit to the ultimate exams. This will mean that you can confidently go into those exams knowing that you already have a proportion of the qualification under your belt. However, if you do not commit to the NEA component, it will affect your grade negatively. You will not be able to get the marks for that section from the ultimate exams even if you get every question in the exams correct.

Similarly, for those courses that have no NEA component, it is important to fully commit to the two years of study because everything rests on those final exams that will happen in the summer of year 11. You will be examined on elements of work from across the two years and as such it is important to ensure that you push yourself toward the higher order understanding from the outset. Suddenly switching on at the end of the two year course will not facilitate success - there will be a mountain to climb.

## Tiers of Entry

There are higher and foundation papers available in Maths, Modern Foreign Languages and the Sciences. In all subjects affected, it is possible to get up to a grade 5 on the foundation paper and no less than a grade 4 on the higher paper. Ultimately the Curriculum Team Leaders will decide which tier of entry your child will sit.

## What are the differences between Combined Science and Triple Science?

- Combined Science leads to a double award GCSE equivalent to two GCSEs. Triple Science leads to three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- There are six exams for both Combined and Triple but in Combined Science the exams last 75 minutes each, whereas in triple they last 105 minutes each.
- The core topics are the same in both Combined Science and Triple Science, but they go into more depth in Triple Science.
- You can do different tiers of entry for Biology, Chemistry and Physics in Triple Science but in Combined Science you do the same tier of entry for all of your exams.


# Core Curriculum 



## Core Curriculum - English Language and Literature

## AQA 8700 and AQA 8702

Pupils will achieve two separate GCSEs in English Language and English Literature.

## English Language

By studying English Language GCSE, pupils are exposed to a wide range of texts from the $19^{\text {th }}, 20^{\text {th }}$ and $21^{\text {st }}$ centuries that include literature and non-fiction texts. Pupils develop their skills in their fluency of reading as well as their critical evaluation, and comparison of different texts. Over the course of the GCSE, pupils will further develop their abilities in the following:

- summarising and synthesising information or ideas from texts
- using knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing
- writing effectively and coherently using Standard English appropriately
- using grammar correctly and punctuate and spell accurately
- acquiring and applying a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology, and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- listening to and understanding spoken language and using spoken Standard English effectively.

There are two exam papers for this GCSE. Paper 1 is "Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing" in which marks are divided equally between reading and writing. There is a mixture of short answer and extended answer questions. Paper 2 is "Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives" in which marks are divided equally between reading and writing. There is a mixture of short answer and extended answer questions.
There is also an NEA in English Language, this is the spoken English component. This will be graded 'Pass', 'Merit' or 'Distinction' but does not count towards the eventual grade rather it stands alone in itself and is recorded in your final outcome.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| Yes but it counts <br> for 0\% | $100 \%$ |

## English Literature

In English Literature there are two exam papers. Paper 1 assesses pupils on their understanding of a Shakespeare text and a $19^{\text {th }}$ Century novel. Pupils are required to write in detail about an extract of each as well as the play/novel as a whole. Our selected texts have been Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol and Shakespeare's Macbeth. This is 40\% of the English Literature GCSE.

In paper 2, pupils will study a modern text and poetry. Pupils will study the modern text DNA by Dennis Kelly and a cluster of poetry on 'Power and Conflict' taken from the AQA anthology. There will be an essay question on the novel and a comparative question on the poetry. Paper 2 will also examine previously unseen poetry and will answer two questions on two poems seen only in the exam itself. This paper accounts for $60 \%$ of the English Literature GCSE.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

English GCSEs are a minimum requirement for the majority of further and higher education courses, and job role specifications, and give pupils the strong foundation they need for success in life. Most post-16 career paths require at least a grade 4 in English Language, with many courses requiring a 5 or $6+$. Universities and colleges hold these qualifications in high regard as they enrich pupils, broadening their horizons so they can become well-rounded citizens. The specification for both English Language and Literature prepare pupils to read critically, develop their own viewpoints and opinions, and communicate with accuracy and fluency, whatever path they wish to take.

Success at GCSE English Language and Literature can lead to pupils taking A Level English Literature or the combined course of Language and Literature, both of which are considered facilitating subjects by universities, or studying it at degree level. Strong English skills are often associated with careers in fields such as publishing, copywriting or journalism, but also apply to a diverse range of sectors such as marketing or Law.

## Core Curriculum - Mathematics

## Edexcel

There are tiers of entry for Mathematics, pupils can achieve up to a grade 5 on the foundation paper and on the higher tier it is not possible to get less than a grade 4. The course is designed to develop pupil confidence and competence with the content identified by standard type.

| Tier | Topic area | Weighting |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Number | $22-28 \%$ |
|  | Algebra | Ratio, Proportion and Rates <br> of change |
|  | Geometry and Measures | $17-22 \%$ |
|  | Statistics \& Probability | $12-18 \%$ |
| Higher | Number | $12-18 \%$ |
|  | Algebra | $12-18 \%$ |
|  | Ratio, Proportion and Rates <br> of change | $17-23 \%$ |
|  | Geometry and Measures | $17-23 \%$ |
|  | Statistics \& Probability | $12-18 \%$ |

All pupils are will be assessed on the above content. Pupils sitting the higher paper will be examined on all of these elements whereas those sitting the foundation paper will be examined on the first five topics.
There are three exam papers that are equally weighted. In two of these exams, pupils are allowed to use their calculators and in one they are not.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

Mathematics is a core requirement and is very important on most employment applications. Specifically, it is also a fundamental requirement for roles in engineering, business, finance, science, and all of the armed services. Games developer, furniture designer, actuary, aerodynamicist, avalanche researcher are just some of the other exciting and rewarding careers you could have if you go on to study Mathematics at college and university - see www.mathscareers.org.uk for further information about opportunities Mathematics can offer.

## Core Curriculum - Combined Science

## AQA - 8464

Pupils who choose Triple Science will study for this qualification during the Core Science time in addition to the Option time.

This is a double award GCSE so it is equivalent to two GCSEs, but it is graded from 1-1 to 9-9. You have to study Biology, Chemistry and Physics for which there are two exam papers each, the scores from each paper are added up and your grade is then awarded. There are higher and foundation papers available for this qualification but you will sit the same tier in Biology, Chemistry and Physics because they all come together in one overall qualification.

This qualification provides a grounding across the sciences through studying the following topics:

|  | Summary of content: |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Biology | Biology Paper $\mathbf{1}$ (1 hr 15 minutes) <br> Cell biology <br> Organisation <br> Infection and response <br> Bioenergetics | Biology Paper $\mathbf{2}$ (1 hr 15 minutes) <br> Homeostasis and response <br> Inheritance, variation and evolution <br> Ecology |
| Chemistry | Chemistry Paper $\mathbf{1}$ (1 hr 15 minutes) <br> Atomic structure and the periodic table <br> Bonding, structure and the properties of <br> matter <br> Quantitative chemistry <br> Chemical changes <br> Energy changes | Chemistry Paper 2 (1 hr 15 minutes) <br> The rate and extent of chemical change <br> Organic chemistry <br> Chemical analysis <br> Chemistry of the atmosphere <br> Using resources |
| Physics | Physics Paper 1 (1 hr 15 minutes) <br> Energy <br> Electricity <br> Particle model of matter <br> Atomic structure | Physics Paper 2 (1 hr 15 minutes) <br> Forces <br> Waves <br> Magnetism and electromagnetism |
| All papers are equally weighted and are made up of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and <br> open response questions. |  |  |

Pupils are also required to demonstrate the following mathematical skills:

- Arithmetic and numerical computation
- Handling data
- Algebra
- Graphs
- Geometry and trigonometry

There are 21 'Required Practicals' that are compulsory for all pupils. The practicals are designed to develop investigative skills and to build and master practical skills. There will be questions in all of the examinations that relate to these practicals, the methods and the findings. $15 \%$ of all of the marks will come from questions relating to these practicals.

## What can this lead to?

Science can lead to numerous careers such as medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, biotechnology and environmental control to name but a few.

## Core Curriculum - PE

## This part of the curriculum is not examined or assessed.

Participating in sport helps pupils to develop both socially and personally. You will work as individuals, groups and teams across a variety of activities. Through sport, we also aim to develop pupils' concepts of fairness and personal and social responsibility.

Finding a sport that you enjoy will help you to maintain a balance between your school work (and eventually your job) and recreation. Life is full of stress and anxiety at every age but it has been scientifically proven that these anxieties can be lessened by physical activity. Stressed pupils are less able to concentrate and focus and this can then cause more stress. Physical activity gives an environment in which you can breathe out such stresses. By exercising and breathing deeply, we provide extra air for our lungs that in turn provide more oxygen to the brain. This makes the brain feel relaxed and stress free.

Several studies also show that regular physical activity will help you to maintain focus when you are working on your examined courses. Pupils who take part in aerobic exercise two or three times per week have a healthier heart as compared to those who don't. Participating in physical activities will also help to improve your sleep and good sleep helps to make you more attentive in your examined courses and less prone to careless mistakes.

There is also evidence that exercise and stretching improve physical balance which decreases the chance of injury in your everyday life. Scientific research reveals that physical activity also helps to build connections between neurons of the brain. Healthy and well-connected neurons help to improve your overall thinking ability. It can also help you to feel happier and healthier because it develops blood circulation in your body and provides more oxygen to the heart and brain.

As such this is compulsory for all pupils and all pupils are expected to fully participate in full PE kit. Pupils not bringing the correct kit, or not participating will then be subject to the school's behaviour policy.

This element of the curriculum is designed to provide balance for the pupils in their physical and mental health. We strive to expose pupils to new activities as well as those they have already practised in Key Stage 3. Skills, tactics, strategies and compositional ideas continue to be worked on but the key focus in this core element is on participation and health.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |

## Core Curriculum - PSHCE and RE

This part of the curriculum is not examined or assessed.
Pupils will cover a range of topics in the Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education curriculum, as well as Religious Education. These topics will be covered in tutor time and assembly and pupils may have one additional lesson per fortnight.

# Curriculum Option Choices 



## What does the subject involve?

Interest, enthusiasm and the ability to think independently are the keys to success for GCSE art pupils. The course is delivered through a series of projects based on set themes. Drawings and studies made from direct observation, or experience usually provide the initial starting point for development of ideas. You will explore visual elements such as line, texture, pattern, shape, form and colour through a variety of media and techniques.

## Unit 1: The Portfolio:

The GCSE Art \& Design course comprises of a portfolio of work undertaken during the course, and can include more than one project, to demonstrate an ability to develop work from initial starting points, or project briefs, to the realisation of intentions and includes evidence of research, development of ideas and meaningful links with the work of other artists, designers and craft-workers.

## Unit 2: External Assessment

A brief will be issued to pupils in January of Year 11. Pupils are required to produce a personal response from one starting point. There will be a ten hour period of sustained focused study in which pupils are then expected to develop their own unaided work informed by their preparatory studies. This is completed under exam conditions in the Spring term of Year 11.

## How is the course assessed?

Unit 1: The portfolio of work from across the two years accounts for $60 \%$ of the total marks.
Unit 2: Response to a set brief completed in 10 hours under supervision. It accounts for $40 \%$ of the total marks.
Both elements are internally marked by art teachers, and then moderated by an external examiner from the examination board. Throughout the course your art teacher will introduce you to concepts and skills, and how to develop your supporting work. Within the course there will be the opportunity for pupils to develop their own ideas and work independently within a given framework. The course requires pupils to study the work of other artists, work and to be able to evaluate their own work and that of other artists.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $60 \%$ | $40 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

Apart from developing new skills within the subject, Art \& Design is a primary vehicle in the development of motor skills, language skills, social skills, decision-making, risk-taking, and inventiveness. Employers and universities regard these highly. The potential this subject can open includes careers in surgery, engineering and advertising, as well as more familiar positions which include architecture, web-design, graphics designer, illustrator, textile designer, jewellery designer, photographer, interior designer, and countless more within the creative industry.

## What does the subject involve?

Computer Science is an E.Bacc. subject. The GCSE Computer Science course gets pupils working with real-world, practical programming techniques that give them a good understanding of what makes technology work.
Studying Computer Science will enable students to solve complex, challenging problems, enabling students to make a positive difference in the world.
Students will complete this course equipped with the logical and computational skills necessary to succeed at A-level, the workplace or beyond. Students will sit two exams and both are worth $50 \%$ of the GCSE grade.

## Component 1: Computational thinking and problem solving

This component makes up $50 \%$ of the overall GCSE and involves the study of computational thinking, problem solving, code tracing, problem-solving, programming concepts including the design of effective algorithms and the designing, writing, testing and refining of code.

## How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 90 marks


## Component 2: Computing concepts

This component makes up 50\% of the overall GCSE and covers the topics on: Data representation (Binary, Hexadecimal, Image and Sound), Computer systems, Computer networks, Cyber security, Relational databases and structured query language (SQL), Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society, including issues of privacy.

## How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 90 marks


## How is the course assessed?

There are two exam papers at the end of year 11 and these are made up of a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended answer questions that are designed to assess your practical problem solving and computational thinking skills.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

Studying Computer Science can lead to a great career. World needs technology and Computer Science is the main part of any technology. Opportunities include IT consultancy, cybersecurity consultant, information systems manager, database administrator, multimedia programmer, systems analyst. computer games developer, technical support.

## DANCE GCSE

## AQA 8236

## What does the subject involve?

The GCSE Dance anthology underpins learning across each of the core aims of Dance that are performance, choreography and appreciation. The anthology's diverse works have been selected to broaden the pupils' experience of the wide range of dance choreographed and performed in the United Kingdom today. This anthology consists of six short professional dance works each between 12 and 30 minutes in length. There are interviews with the choreographer or company associates to help pupils explore the background to the dances. Together the six works include:

- Different dance styles and fusions of styles;
- A selection of established and emerging choreographers;
- Different numbers and combinations of dancers;
- A variety of choreographic approaches;
- Different choreographic structures;
- A variety of types of performance environment;
- A variety of aural settings;
- Inclusive dance;
- Dance influenced by other cultures

The study of these works then support you in your own performance and creative pursuits as well as developing your knowledge, understanding and analysis of Dance.

## Component 1: NEA Performance (30\% of the GCSE) and choreography (30\% of the GCSE) Performance

Set phrases through a solo performance AND a duet or trio performance.

- The solo piece must last for approximately 1 minute. Two of the following four set pieces must be selected for this piece - breathe, flux, shift or scoop. Assessment of this piece focuses on your ability to demonstrate application of physical skills and attributes, accurate technical skills and safety, expressive skills and mental skills and attributes during performance.
- The duet or trio piece should last 3-5 minutes and choreography can be supported by your teacher. Each pupil must perform for a mínimum of three minutes. There must be a clear choreographic intent which relates to mood, meaning, ideas, themes and/or style. The two set phrases that have been used in the solo piece cannot be used in the duet or trio.


## Choreography

Pupils must learn how to respond creatively to an externally set stimulus, to choreograph your own complete dance. The created must be either for a solo ( $2-21 / 2$ minutes) or for a group performance ( $3-31 / 2$ minutes). It must include an aural setting, can be in any style or fusion and communicate your own choreographic intention. You do not have to perform this piece but you can if you wish.

## Component 2: Dance appreciation (40\% of the GCSE) examined by a 90 minute written paper. <br> What is assessed?

- Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills
- Critical appreciation of own work
- Critical appreciation of professional works

The questions in the exam are based on your own practice in performance and choreography and the GCSE dance anthology. All of the benefits of physical activity enjoyed in PE are also experienced in Dance.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $60 \%$ | $40 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

Dance is a creative subject which allows pupils to build their confidence and find different ways of expressing themselves. Teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills will be developed throughout the course. These are traits that are sought in many professions across a variety of fields. Possible careers include performer, choreographer, teacher, dance film maker, journalist, culture officer, movement therapist, dance project coordination or administrator. Dance also allows a range of extra-curricular and performance opportunities which looks great on further education applications.

## AQA 8585

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is a course that focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure pupils develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing pupils' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition.

## What does the subject involve?

## Food preparation skills are divided 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.

How is the course assessed?

1) EXAM: Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes (50\%)

The paper will be made up of 20 multiple choice questions and 5 extended questions
2) NON- EXAM ASSESSMENT (NEA): Task 1: Food investigation (15\%)

Pupils will complete a written report including photographic evidence of a practical investigation showing understanding of the scientific or functional properties of ingredients.
3) NON- EXAM ASSESSMENT (NEA): Task 2: Food preparation assessment (35\%)

Pupils will plan, prepare, cook and present a menu of three dishes in three hours. Pupils will submit a written report including photographic evidence.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $50 \%$ | $50 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

Nutrition education provides pupils with the knowledge, skills and motivation to make wise dietary and lifestyle choices as well as developing skills to plan, manage, select, prepare and eat a healthy diet.

Studying nutrition can provide you with a lot of information about the science of food, as well as interpersonal skills that can be extended to other scientific disciplines. Because of its scope, nutrition could appeal to a diverse group of individuals with a variety of abilities and interests. As well as conventional career pathways there are now even more exciting opportunities for pupils to pursue which include food technologist, health improvement practitioner, international aid/development worker, medical sales representative, naturopath and nutritional therapist.

## AQA 8552

## Component 1

The three core areas of Design Technology are common to all three specialisms and these are examined in a 2 hour exam at the end of year 11. These core areas are the core technical principles, the specialist technical principles and the principles of designing and making. You will have to explore at least two designers and two companies in detail. This exam is worth $50 \%$ of the overall GCSE and is made up of multiple choice, short answer and extended responses. At least $15 \%$ of the exam will assess maths and at least $10 \%$ of the exam will assess science skills.

## Component 2 - NEA

This is a substantial design-and-make task that builds on the understanding of the three core areas of Design Technology. You will produce a proto-type in 30-35 hours of lessons and a portfolio of evidence equivalent to approximately 20 A3 pages in response to a brief provided by the exam board. You will need to:

- Identify and investigate design possibilities;
- Produce a design brief and specification
- Generate design ideas
- Develop design ideas
- Realise design ideas
- Analyse and evaluate the whole design and make process

This work is marked internally and moderated by AQA.
The categories through which the above specialist technical principles are delivered depend on which specialism you choose:

- Graphic Products through polymers or papers and boards
- Textiles through textiles based materials


## How is the course assessed?

| Exam | Non Exam Assessment (NEA) |
| :--- | :--- |
| How it's assessed | How it's assessed |
| - Written exam: 2 hours | $\bullet$ Non-exam assessment (NEA): $30-35$ hours approx. |
| $-50 \%$ of GCSE | $\bullet 50 \%$ of GCSE |
| All pupils (Resistant materials, Graphic Products and |  |
| Textiles) sit the same exam paper. All pupils |  |
| complete section A and C, but in Section B they |  |
| answer the questions associated with either Textiles, |  |
| Graphics or Resistant Materials. | year prior to the submission on the NEA. <br> All pupils make a product whether it be a Graphic product, a <br> Resistant Material product or a Textile product as determined <br> by the specialism which pupils opt for now. |


| NEA\% | Exam \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $50 \%$ | $50 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

Design and Technology is a diverse and multi-functional subject which will support you to build up your creativity, problem solving, planning, and evaluation skills. The subject covers broad topics such as craft skills, textiles, use of tools, graphic communication, computer-aided design and mechanical systems. There's a variety of rich and varied career pathways linked to Design and Technology which include sound engineer, graphic designer, industrial designer, video game designer, landscape designer, robotics, aeronautical engineer and textiles designer, to name but a few.

Pupils cannot choose Textiles and Graphics.

## DRAMA GCSE

AQA 8261

## What does the subject involve?

Drama is a subject that helps pupils to develop confidence and the ability to explain their thoughts using their voices and their bodies. These skills are useful for people who want to act, of course, but in addition you will develop management skills and communication. This subject requires pupils to problem solve in small groups and explore texts through acting using both vocal skills and movement.

## Component 1: Understanding Drama (40\% of the GCSE)

This component is assessed by a 105-minute exam at the end of the course. Section A of the paper is made of 4 marks worth of multiple-choice questions, section B asks four questions on a given extract from
Noughts and Crosses worth 44 marks and section C explores the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production which is worth 32 marks (one question from a choice). The live production is determined by availability in nearby theatres - the 2023 cohort have used a matinee performance of To Kill a Mockingbird for this.

## In this component we explore:

- The characteristics of performance texts and dramatic works;
- The social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts and dramatic works;
- How meaning is interpreted and communicated through performance texts and dramatic works;
- Drama and theatre terminology and how to use it appropriately
- The roles and responsibilities of theatre makers in contemporary profesional practice


## Component 2: Devising Drama (practical) (NEA) (40\% of the GCSE)

This component requires pupils to create and perform their own piece of practical work ( 20 marks) and then analyse and evaluate this work in a 'devising log'. This element is marked internally and moderated by AQA.

## Pupils must develop their ability to:

- Carry out research;
- Develop their own ideas
- Collaborate with others
- Rehearse, refine and amend their work in progress;
- Analyse and evaluate their own process of creating devised drama
- Create and communicate meaning;
- Realise artistic intention in devised drama


## Component 3: Texts in Practice (Practical) (NEA) (20\% of the GCSE)

The performance of two extracts from one play. You can contribute to this as either a performer or a designer. There are 20 marks available per extract. This component is performed in front of an external examiner and marked by them.

## Pupils must develop their ability to:

- Interpret texts
- Create and communicate meaning
- Realise artistic intention in text-based drama

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $60 \%$ | $40 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

Drama is a subject that nurtures creativity, teamwork skills, communication skills, public speaking and problemsolving. These are traits that are sought in many professions across a variety of fields. Whether it is a career in theatre and performance, film and television, teaching and lecturing, journalism, law, or even App and web design. Drama and Performing Arts is a very desired qualification to have.

## GEOGRAPHY GCSE - Ebacc Subject

## EDEXCEL B 1GB0

## What does the subject involve?

Geography incorporates the study of the natural and human world and is the only subject to cross both the sciences and humanities. Pupils will learn about a diverse range of topics covering human, physical, regional and environmental concepts, themes and processes. Throughout the course you will develop the core geographical skills:

- Cartography - atlas and map skills;
- Graphical skills;
- Data and information skills;
- Investigative skills;
- Decision making and problem solving.

There are also mathematical and statistical skills that underpin a lot of the work we do in Geography, in recognition of this you will also be expected to further develop and refine your abilities in:

- Cartographic skills such as using and identifying gradients, contours etc. on o/s maps.
- Graphical skills such as selecting and constructing appropriate graphs as well as interpreting different representations provided in class and the exam.
- Numerical skills such as demonstrating an understanding of area and scale and design of fieldwork data collection and the use of proportion and ratio as well as the ability to draw informed conclusions from data.
- Statistical skills such as using appropriate measures of central tendency, spread and cumulative frequency and describing relationships in bi-variate data.


## Component 1: Global Geographical Issues (37.5\% of the GCSE)

Pupil's study three topics: Hazardous Earth (climatic and tectonic), Development Dynamics and the Challenges of an Urbanising World.

## Component 2: UK Geographical Issues (37.5\% of the GCSE)

Pupils study the UK's evolving coastal and urban landscapes. Within this unit there are two days of fieldwork which is a compulsory requirement of the GCSE, we currently take all pupils to Islington and Walton-on-the-Naze.

## Component 3: People and Environment Issues-Making Geographical Decisions (25\% of the GCSE).

Pupil's study three topics: People and the Biosphere, Forests Under Threat and Consuming Energy Resources.

## How is the course assessed?

There are three exams at the end of year 11. All three last for 90 minutes each, all three are made up of multiplechoice, short and extended writing responses. Further to this in paper 3 for component 3 you will be given an issue in the exam itself on which you need to undertake a decision-making exercise.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## What this can this lead to?

The study of Geography leads to an extensive range of career choices. Throughout the course you will be developing and demonstrating a wide range of skills applicable to the modern working world (including teamwork, decision making, problem solving, data handling and presentation, verbal and written communication, critical thinking). Career choices are limitless but could include: financial management, town planning, insurance assessor, flood management, environmental management, transport planning, teacher/lecturer, researcher, armed services, airport operations, tourism development, logistics planning, local government, civil servant, pressure group official, environmental health officer, etc.

History is an important subject because it helps us to understand how we come to be as we are today. We analyse a variety of sources and question their reliability and this helps us to be more able to question arguments that are presented in our modern world. It is so important that we learn from the past and that we try not to repeat past wrongs and that indeed we question the information that we are being fed especially in our 24 hour modern-media led world.

## What does the subject involve?

## Paper 1: Thematic Study and the Historic Environment ( $\mathbf{7 5}$ minutes) ( $\mathbf{3 0 \%}$ of the GCSE).

This unit focuses on a study of a theme in British history: Crime and Punishment in Britain, c. 1000 to the Present. You will study key people, events and developments and change and continuity across this period, using a range of case study examples, such as the Gunpowder Plot and the witch hunts of 1645-47. There is also a study of an historic environment linked to the thematic study, examining the relationship between a place and historical events and development; this will focus upon Whitechapel c. 1870 to 1900 . You will use primary sources to study the nature of Whitechapel as an inner-city area of poverty, discontent and crime, the development of policing in the area and the regional and national contexts therein such as the development of the Metropolitan Police Force.

## Paper 2: Period Study and British Depth Study (105 minutes) (40\% of the GCSE)

The period study focuses on a medium time span of at least 50 years. You will study government, society and challenges at home and abroad in Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88. The depth study focuses on a short time span. Pupils will study Super Power Relations and the Cold War, 1941-1991 from its origins at the end of the Second World War to the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe.

## Paper 3: Modern Depth Study ( 80 minutes) (30\% of the GCSE).

The modern depth study also focuses on a short time span: The USA, 1954-1975. Pupils will begin by studying key people events and developments in the Civil Rights Movement, before examining the USA's involvement in the Vietnam War and the reactions thereafter. As part of their study, pupils will analyse primary sources as well as debate historical interpretations.

There are three exams at the end of year 11 these will assess your ability to describe features, analyse causation, making inferences from a source and your ability to make substantiated judgements of sources. You may be provided with sources in the exam itself.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## What this can this lead to?

History is a highly prestigious academic subject that is regarded highly by universities and employers. In particular, it is recognised that pupils who have achieved well in history have developed their extended writing skills, have learned how to use and discern between reliable and unreliable primary and secondary sources and analyse a variety of perspectives. These skills are highly valued in professions such as law, business, journalism, as well as advertising, consultancy and politics. Some notable history graduates include Joe Biden, Diane Abbott, Shakira, Salman Rushdie and Gordon Brown.

## LEARNING SUPPORT OPTION

This option is available for pupil who may need additional literacy and numeracy support in order to access the Key Stage 4 curriculum and for whom functional life skills are a priority.

The option is delivered by our experienced HLTAs, and includes opportunities for pupils to revisit and practice core number skills in maths and essential language skills in English. Pupil will also benefit from the pre reading of key texts from their GCSE English Literature course and a more in-depth exploration of the key themes and characters that appear in them.

The option is adapted to suit the needs of each cohort and may also include the completion of Entry Level qualifications in Maths and English or the Prince's Trust Personal Development and employability qualification.

Mrs Connor will request a meeting with the parent of pupils who we think would be suited to this option.

## Eduqas

## What does the subject involve?

## Component 1: Exploring the Media - 90 minute exam ( $\mathbf{4 0 \%}$ of the GCSE)

This component provides a foundation for analysing media products introducing you to media language and representation through the study of print media forms. You will also begin to explore how media products reflect and are influenced by the social, cultural, historical and political contexts in which they are produced. Whilst there are a number of contexts through which the media will be explored, you must study the following:

- Front cover: Pride Magazine Cover - November 2015
- Front cover: GQ Magazine Cover - July 2016
- Film poster: The Man with the Golden Gun - 1974
- Film poster: Spectre - 2015
- Newspaper front page - The Sun $12^{\text {th }}$ June 2018
- Newspaper front page - The Guardian $12^{\text {th }}$ September 2018
- Print Advertisement - Quality Street - 1956
- Print Advertisement - This Girl Can - 2015

You will also develop your knowledge and understanding of key aspects of media industries including ownership, funding regulation, production, distribution and technology. In addition, you will consider relevant aspects of media audiences, such as targeting and categorization, consumption and use, and theoretical perspectives on audiences. Whilst there are a number of contexts through which these elements will be explored, you must study the following:

- Newspapers: The Sun
- Film: Spectre (2015)
- Radio: The Archers
- Video Games: Fortnite


## Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products - 90-minute exam ( $\mathbf{3 0 \%}$ of the GCSE)

In this component you will build on the introduction to key areas of the theoretical framework provided in component 1. You will gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of media industries and audiences and the relevant social, political and historical contexts of media influences and products. You will explore television and music videos/websites in depth. For television we opt for 'Crime Drama' so we study Luther and The Sweeny; and for music video Bad Blood by Taylor Swift and Intentions Justin Bieber.
Using these options, you will explore:

- Media language;
- Representation;
- Media industries;
- Media Audience.


## Component 3: Creating Media Products - NEA

You will have to produce your own form of media for a particular audience as set by the exam board in March of year 10. Your product will relate to either the television, music, film or magazines.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $30 \%$ | $70 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

As part of a media studies course, you can expect to learn about the media and its influential role on today's society.
You will study the different forms of media from broadcasting to social media and how it has changed over time. You will also look at how different genders, ages and races are represented in the media.
Completing a media studies course will give you skills in script writing, filming, editing, teamwork and planning.
There are lots of job opportunities in the creative and media sector including broadcasting, film, sales, advertising, event management and journalism.

## French or Spanish

A GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language can be a huge advantage in the workplace, as pupils not only learn language skills useful for many careers ranging from fashion to sport, music and technology, but also transferable skills such as communication and working with others. The Russell Group, which represents 24 of the UK's leading universities, reports that its institutions very much value language skills.

## What does the subject involve?

The GCSE courses in French and Spanish offer pupils the opportunity to further develop the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, covering a wide range of topic areas. The courses also provide an insight into the cultures of French and Spanish speaking countries. The languages will be explored through three themes of identity and culture, local, national, international and global areas of interest, and current and future study and employment.

Pupils will understand and be able to provide information and opinions based on the following topics: health, relationships, free time, media, holidays, home and local area, environment, work and education. They will learn to read quite extensively, e.g. public notices, advertisements, brochures, guides, letters, newspaper and magazine articles, emails and websites. They will also have the opportunity to watch TV and films, use a range of websites and listen to songs etc.

In both the Reading and the Listening exams pupils will be tested on their ability to identify key points and to extract specific information.
Throughout the course pupils will be specifically prepared for the skills tested by the GCSE examination where the emphasis is on communication in French or Spanish. Dictionary and self-study skills are further developed.

## How is the course assessed?

The four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing each count for $25 \%$ of the GCSE in both French and Spanish.
There is a Foundation tier and a Higher tier - pupils must take all four papers in the same tier.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

**There are higher and foundation papers available in all of the language exams. You will sit the same tier in each component.**

## What can this lead to?

Studying a modern foreign language can lead to many different careers that directly require the use of languages such as translating, interpreting and teaching, but can also open the door to an array of career paths such as journalism, international aid/ development work, marketing, sales and logistics.

## MUSIC GCSE

## Edexcel 1MU0

## What does the subject involve?

Through following the GCSE Music course pupils will develop their skills in three areas of musicianship: performing, composing and appraising.

## Component 1: Performance (NEA) (30\% of the overall GCSE)

Throughout the course pupils will develop their performance skills and will learn to perform a number of solo and ensemble pieces of their choice on an instrument or voice. You will submit the best solo performance and the best ensemble performance at the end of the course. Each of these must last for at least one minute with a combined duration of at least four minutes. The two performances must be different pieces of music and you have to demonstrate your ability to:

- make use of musical elements, techniques and resources to interpret and communicate musical ideas with technical control and expression;
- perform music with control, making expressive use of phrasing and dynamics appropriate to the style and mood of the music.

Performances are recorded in school.

## Component 2: Composition (NEA) (30\% of the overall GCSE)

This builds on the composition skills developed during Key Stage 3. Each pupil will first create a range of different ideas before choosing the strongest of these to develop into a full composition during year 10. In year 11 pupils will choose one of four briefs set by the exam board and create a composition in response to this. These four briefs relate to the four areas of study below. The two compositions combined need to last at least 3 minutes. Pupils will use software that they are already familiar with from key stage 3 to realise their musical ideas.

## Component 3: Appraising Music (105-minute final exam) (40\% of the overall GCSE)

There are four areas of study:

- Instrumental Music 1700-1820
- Vocal Music
- Music for stage and screen
- Fusions

Pupils will study two set works for each of these areas of study. This listening examination will feature six questions on these pieces in Section A. There will also be a melody/rhythm completion exercise and a question on an unfamiliar piece that relates to one of these areas of study. In Section B pupils will also be provided with another unfamiliar musical extract and will be asked to compare this to one of the set works.

All of the skills required for the listening examination are taught and developed during the course.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $60 \%$ | $40 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

The UK has the third biggest music industry in the world. There are huge employment opportunities in areas such as performance, composition, live sound, arts administration, education and artist management to name but a few. However, music is also a hugely worthwhile choice for pupils with ambitions in other areas as it develops transferable skills such as creativity, performance skills and analytical skills, all of which are valued highly by employers.

## AQA 8582

## Component 1: The Human Body and Movement in Physical Activity and Sport

Paper 1 assesses:

| $\bullet$ Applied anatomy and physiology | $\bullet$ Physical training |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\bullet$ Movement analysis | $\bullet$ Use of data |

This is assessed through a written exam lasting 75 minutes. There will be a mixture of multiple-choice questions, short answers questions and extended answer questions. This exam paper makes up $30 \%$ of the final grade.

## Component 2: Socio-cultural Influences and Well-being in Physical Activity and Sport

Paper 2 assesses:

| $\bullet$ Sports psychology | $\bullet$ Health, fitness and well-being |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\bullet$ Socio-cultural influences | $\bullet$ Use of data |

This is assessed through a written exam lasting 75 minutes. There will be a mixture of multiple-choice questions, short answers questions and extended answer questions. This exam paper makes up $30 \%$ of the final grade.

## Component 3: The NEA Practical Performance in Physical Activity and Sport (NEA)

## The N.E.A. assesses:

100 marks in total:
This assesses your practical performance in three physical activities in the role of player/performer. You then have to complete a written analysis and evaluation [to bring about an improvement] in one of these activities.

In the practical element pupils will be assessed in progressive drills (10 marks) and full context (15 marks) of each practical activity ( 75 marks).

There are then a further 25 marks available for your analysis and evaluation of the performance [to bring about improvement] in one of the activities.

This makes up $40 \%$ of GCSE and is assessed by both teacher assessment and an external moderator from the exam board.

Pupils performing in sport(s) outside of school can use this as evidence to support the assessment of the practical NEA.

## What can this lead to?

- An indepth understanding of the how the body allows for effective movment, introduction to sports psychology and the importance of mainintaing a healthy active lifestyle.
- Move onto any advanced course including Physical Education (A Level PE)
- Move onto vocational courses (BTECs and T Levels) applying knowledge learnt from GCSE PE
- Pursue employment opportunities where your skills will be particularly valued, for example the sport and leisure industry (personal training, coaching, nututrion), travel, tourism, and teaching (primary and secondary).

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $40 \%$ | $60 \%$ |

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE

## AQA 8062

## What does the subject involve?

Religious Studies provides an opportunity for pupils to learn how religious and philosophical thought underpins a lot of our culture in the United Kingdom. Religious Studies helps pupils to develop an understanding of their own values and beliefs, gaining a greater sense of their own identity and learn how to respect the rights and responsibilities of others. The subject will enable pupils to think independently, to understand why different people think different things and to develop the ability to spot flaws in arguments.

## How is the course assessed?

In this course, pupils will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Judaism and four contemporary themes (see below):

## Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs,

 teachings and practices (50\%)
## What's assessed?

## Christianity:

- The nature of God;
- Jesus Christ and salvation;
- Worship and festivals;
- The role of the church in the local and worldwide community

Islam:

- The nature of God;
- The holy books
- Five Pillars of Sunni Islam and the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam
- Duties and festivals.


## How is it assessed?

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
48 marks per religion: There will be two fivepart questions made up of $1,2,4,5$ and 12 marks.

96 marks (plus 6 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar)

Component 2: Thematic Studies (50\%)

## What's assessed?

## Religion and life

Pupils study religious teachings and consider religious, ethical and philosophical arguments relating to the origins and value of the universe and the origins and value of human life through a focus on abortion, animal experimentation and euthanasia.

## The Existence of God and Revelation

Pupils study religious teachings and consider religious, ethical and philosophical arguments relating to philosophical arguments for and against the existence of God and the nature of the divine and the revelation.

## Religion, peace and conflict

Pupils study religious teachings and consider religious, ethical and philosophical arguments relating to religion, violence, terrorism and war and religion and belief in $21^{\text {st }}$ century conflict.

## Religion, crime and punishment

Pupils study religious teachings and consider religious, ethical and philosophical arguments relating to corporal punishment, the death penalty and forgiveness.

## How is it assessed?

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes made up of 96 marks (plus 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar). 12 marks per theme: There will be four five-part questions made up of $1,2,4$, 5 and 12 marks.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| $0 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

Studying Religious studies helps you to develop many of the important skills needed in everyday life. Religious studies can be a useful subject for a wide range of jobs, especially those that require you to work with the public, or involve helping people, such as, law, education, business, social work, medicine, administration and the media.

Sociology is the study of people in society and why we behave the way we do. Everyone is part of society. Society has helped to shape who you are and how you experience life - but how much do you understand about it? Sociology broadens your mind and enables you to see the world in a new and interesting way.

## Component 1: Families

- Functions of families
- Family forms
- Conjugal role relationships
- Changing relationships with families
- Criticisms of families
- Divorce


## Component 2: Education

- Roles and function of education
- The relationship between education and capitalism
- Educational achievement
- Processes within schools


## Component 3: Crime and Deviance

- The social construction of Crime and Deviance
- Social control
- Criminal and deviant behaviour
- Media and Crime
- Data on crime


## Component 4: Social stratification

- Functionalist theory of stratification
- Socio-economic class
- Life chances
- Poverty as a social issue
- Power and authority
- Power relationships

How is the course assessed?
You will sit two 1h 45 m written exams at the end of Year 11. Paper one examines the family and education with Research methods, paper 2 examines crime and deviance and social stratification, with research methods.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| 0 | $100 \%$ |

## What can this lead to?

Studying Sociology helps you to develop many of the important skills needed in everyday life. It will also help you to better understand the society, in which you live, increase your communication skills, analytical skills as well as presentation skills. The subject is useful for a large range of careers including journalism, the legal profession, police force, human resources, work in the social services, local government work, market research and education.

## TRIPLE SCIENCE

## AQA Biology 8461, Chemistry 8462 and Physics 8463

## What does the subject involve?

All pupils have to take at least combined Science (Double award - equivalent to two GCSEs), but selecting this option will mean that pupils will achieve three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are both higher and foundation tiers of entry and you can be entered for different tiers between the Sciences. For example, if you were weaker in Biology than Physics and Chemistry, you could sit the foundation tier in Biology exams and the higher tier in the Chemistry and Physics exams.

|  | Summary of content: |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Biology <br> GCSE | Biology Paper 1 (1 hr 45 minutes) <br> Cell biology <br> Organisation <br> Infection and response <br> Bioenergetics | Biology Paper 2 (1 hr 45 minutes) <br> Homeostasis and response <br> Inheritance, variation and evolution <br> Ecology |
| Chemistry <br> GCSE | Chemistry Paper 1 (1 hr 45 minutes) <br> Atomic structure and the periodic table <br> Bonding, structure and the properties of <br> matter <br> Quantitative chemistry <br> Chemical changes <br> Energy changes | Chemistry Paper $\mathbf{2}$ (1 hr 45 minutes) <br> The rate and extent of chemical change <br> Organic chemistry <br> Chemical analysis <br> Chemistry of the atmosphere <br> Using resources |
| Physics <br> GCSE | Physics Paper 1 (1 hr 45 minutes) <br> Energy <br> Electricity <br> Particle model of matter <br> Atomic structure | Physics Paper 2 (1 hr 45 minutes) <br> Forces <br> Waves |
| Magnetism and electromagnetism |  |  |

You will see that the topics are the same as those in Combined Science, doing separate GCSEs in the three elements means that you go into some of these topics in more detail thus helping you to understand the bigger picture and the wider science at hand.

Pupils are also required to demonstrate the following mathematical skills:

- Arithmetic and numerical computation
- Handling data
- Algebra
- Graphs
- Geometry and trigonometry

There are 10 'Required Practicals' that are compulsory for all pupils for each of the sciences ( 30 in total). The practicals are designed to develop investigative skills and to build and master practical skills. There will be questions in all of the examinations that relate to these practical's, the methods and the findings. $15 \%$ of all of the marks will come from questions relating to these practicals.

| NEA \% | Examined \% |
| :--- | :--- |
| 0\% <br> (Although the 10 'Required Practicals' will <br> form the basis of at least 15\% of the <br> examined questions). | $100 \%$ |

There are higher and foundation papers available in all of the science exams.

## What can this lead to?

Triple Science is an excellent platform to prepare students to study A Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It brings a lot of scientific theory and thinking together and a good set of GCSE grades demonstrates that a student can apply themselves in problem solving, practical skills and scientific writing; these qualities are highly prized by universities and in today's competitive job market. Science is a highly valued subject that nurtures the development of transferable skills essential for the work place. Science provides a foundation for many science-related and unrelated careers such as: doctor, vet, physiotherapist, chemist, beautician, plumber, nurse, architect, surveyor, engineer, farmer, sports trainer, lawyer, journalist, computer games developer, marine biologist and electrician, to name but a few. A strong knowledge of at least one of the sciences will be highly desirable if not essential.


[^0]:    Ruby Gullefer

