

GCSE Option Booklet 2025- 2026



Core Subjects

Maths	Miss Vasey	avasey@horizonoat.co.uk
English	Mrs Gardner	sgardner@horizonoat.co.uk
Science	Mr Llewellyn	tllewellyn@horizonoat.co.uk

Humanities & Modern Foreign Languages

Geography	Miss Duggan	eduggan@horizonoat.co.uk
History	Mr Cork	lcork@horizonoat.co.uk
Spanish	Ms Capper	lcapper@horizonoat.co.uk

KS4 Options Course Leaders

Religious Studies	Mrs Mallard	amallard@horizonoat.co.uk
Drama	Ms Capper	lcapper@horizonoat.co.uk
Sports Science	Mr Butler	cbutler@horizonoat.co.uk
Health & Social Care	Mrs Walters	nwalters1@horizonoat.co.uk
Psychology	Mrs Harris	jcharris@horizonoat.co.uk
Sociology	Mrs Mallard	amallard@horizonoat.co.uk
Photography	Mrs Johnson	kjohnson@horizonoat.co.uk
Creative iMedia	Miss Lowe	jlowe@horizonoat.co.uk
Art	Mrs Johnson	kjohnson@horizonoat.co.uk
Business Studies	Miss Lowe	jlowe@horizonoat.co.uk
Hospitality & Catering	Miss Elson	selson@horizonoat.co.uk
Construction	Mrs Newberry	hnewberry@horizonoat.co.uk
Engineering Design	Miss Elson	selson@horizonoat.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

This Options booklet outlines the structure for Key Stage 4 in Years 10 and 11.

At Ormiston Horizon Academy, a range of options subjects are available, and we aim to provide all students with the opportunity to study a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum. To access a range of qualifications that will support students in engaging with subjects they will enjoy and succeed in, they are encouraged to talk to subject teachers, their personal tutor and our careers advisors to gain a clear understanding of what subject areas they should be considering.

Each student will study **GCSE English Language & English Literature, Mathematics, at least two Sciences and either Geography, History or Spanish.**

In addition, students should then rank their top two subjects in each block with rank 1 being their preferred choice. Wherever possible, students will be allocated their first choice, but where this is not possible second choices are then used.

Once the courses commence in September students will **not** be able to change options, due to group sizes and staffing.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss any issues, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the Year 9 team.

Yours sincerely

N Whiston

Ms Whiston
Vice Principal

The Options Process

Compulsory Subjects

All students will study the following subjects as qualifications:

Mathematics

English Language

English Literature

Science



At KS4 there is also a compulsory curriculum entitlement to continue studying PSHE and Religious Education.

Option blocks

All students must then choose a first and second choice from each option block below.

Student's final options must include at least one subject in red.

Block A	Block B	Block C
<p>Geography</p> <p>History</p> <p>Statistics</p> <p>Hospitality & Catering</p> <p>BTEC Sport</p> <p>Business Studies</p> <p>Creative iMedia</p> <p>BTEC Health & Social Care</p> <p>Drama</p>	<p>Geography</p> <p>History</p> <p>Spanish</p> <p>Construction</p> <p>Hospitality & Catering</p> <p>BTEC Sport</p> <p>Business Studies</p> <p>Creative iMedia</p> <p>Psychology</p> <p>Religious Studies</p>	<p>Geography</p> <p>History</p> <p>Triple Science</p> <p>Art</p> <p>Photography</p> <p>Music</p> <p>BTEC Health & Social Care</p> <p>Sociology</p> <p>Engineering Design</p>

The Options Process

How do I submit my choices?

Use the QR Code below to complete your submission online. Please remember this is not confirmation of your options and first choices are not always possible for everyone.

The deadline for this is **Friday 13th March.**



[Options – Fill in form](#)

How will I know which options are confirmed?

All confirmed options will be emailed to parents and guardians by **Friday 5th June.**

Can I change my options after this point?

Once options have been confirmed any changes must be made or requested before the end of the academic year to Ms Whiston.

It is not always possible to accommodate changes because of class sizes and other contributing factors.

Your Careers & FE Pathway

Our Careers Guidance focuses on the specific needs of individual students to promote self-awareness and personal development.

The guidance aims to provide current and relevant information to enable each student to make informed decisions about their future.

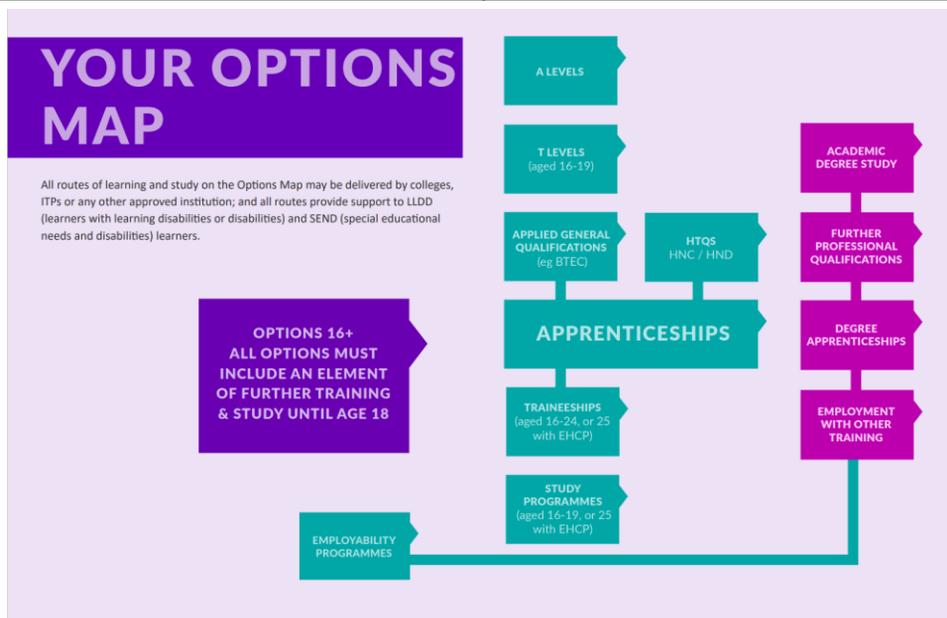
Careers guidance is presented in an impartial manner, confidential and differentiated to suit the requirements of each individual student.

Year 9	
Curriculum Entitlement	Opportunities Available
<p>Subject spotlight: Linking the curriculum to real-world jobs</p> <p>Personal Tutor Sessions; Exam preparation, making confident choices, options process, GCSE links, careers in engineering and exploring the job market based on Labour Market Information</p> <p>Personal Development Days: University visits & Careers challenges</p> <p>Careers Week - subject starters</p>	<p>A range of assemblies, focusing on GCSE options & your future, from different sectors</p> <p>Options taster sessions</p> <p>Options evening</p> <p>Employer encounter visits</p> <p>Group workshops with careers advisors</p> <p>Subject careers workshops in the workplace.</p>

Year 10	
Curriculum Entitlement	Opportunities Available
<p>Subject spotlight: Linking the curriculum to real-world jobs.</p> <p>Personal Tutor Sessions; T-Levels, A-Levels, Apprenticeships, WEX support, careers in maths, finding employment and exploring the job market based on Labour Market Information</p> <p>Unifrog Refresher courses.</p> <p>Preparation Workshops; CVs, interviews, applications & workplace behaviour.</p> <p>Personal Development Days: College Application Workshops, University Visits and Subject Specific Careers Tasters.</p> <p>Careers Week - subject starters</p>	<p>A range of assemblies, focusing on life after OHA, from a range of different sectors.</p> <p>Work Experience Launch – Parent Evening</p> <p>Work Experience – 5-day placement (summer)</p> <p>“Step into 6th Form/College” Taster Day</p> <p>Oxford University</p> <p>Saturday Club – Higher Horizons</p> <p>Employer encounter visits</p> <p>Option specific workshops – Stoke 6th Form/NSCG/NULC</p>

Your Careers & FE Pathway

Year 11	
Curriculum Entitlement	Opportunities Available
<p>Subject spotlight: Linking the curriculum to real-world jobs.</p> <p>PSHE: preparing for work (CVs, interviews and 21st century jobs), phishing, mortgages, loans, insurance, pensions and taxes.</p> <p>Personal Tutor Sessions; Pathways updates and exploring the job market based on Labour Market Information</p> <p>Careers Week – Specific subject starters</p>	<p>A range of assemblies, from Post 16 providers and different careers sectors</p> <p>Y11 conference – Introduction to Y11 with motivational speakers on resilience.</p> <p>1-1 careers guidance – individual personal support.</p> <p>Group visits to Post-16 providers for vulnerable groups.</p> <p>Personal Development Day - Next steps, personal statements, CVs and applications for jobs and colleges/apprenticeships.</p>



Core Subjects

English and Mathematics are core subjects that **all students are required to study** as part of their KS4 entitlement.

These subjects provide essential skills in communication, literacy, numeracy and problem-solving, which are fundamental to success across the curriculum and in everyday life. Achieving a good grade in English and Maths is a key requirement for further education, training and many career pathways. By continuing to study these subjects, students are supported in developing the confidence and skills they need to progress successfully beyond GCSEs.

English Language

English Language is an important GCSE that helps students build confidence in how they read, write and communicate.

The skills developed in this subject support learning in all other areas of the curriculum and are useful well beyond school.

A good grade in English Language is often required for college courses, apprenticeships and many careers. Through studying English, students learn how to understand information, share their ideas clearly and communicate effectively in different situations—skills that are essential for everyday life and future success.

Course Specifications:

Exam Board: AQA

2 written exams

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading

Paper 2: Comparing Viewpoints and Perspectives

English Literature

English Literature encourages students to enjoy reading and explore a wide range of stories, plays and poems from different times and cultures.

Students study key texts including *Macbeth*, *A Christmas Carol*, *An Inspector Calls* and a range of Conflict poetry, helping them to explore important themes such as power, responsibility, justice and relationships.

The course develops imagination, empathy and a deeper understanding of the world around them. English Literature is valued by colleges and employers as a subject that demonstrates creativity, critical thinking and thoughtful analysis.

Course Specifications:

Exam Board: AQA

2 written exams

Paper 1: *Macbeth* & *A Christmas Carol*

Paper 2: *An Inspector Calls*, Conflict & Unseen Poetry

Mathematics

Mathematics is a core GCSE that equips students with essential problem-solving and numeracy skills needed for everyday life and future study. The course helps students develop confidence in working with numbers, data, graphs and equations, as well as logical thinking and reasoning skills. Maths is highly valued by colleges, universities and employers, and a good grade is often required for further education, apprenticeships and many careers. Studying Mathematics supports a wide range of subjects and helps students become confident, independent thinkers who can apply their skills to real-life situations.

Students follow different pathways in Mathematics to ensure the course is suited to their current level of understanding and helps them achieve their best possible outcomes. Depending on ability and progress, students will be entered for either the Foundation Tier or the Higher Tier

Course Specifications

Exam Board: Edexcel

Both maths pathways have the choice of Higher which grades from (9-3) or Foundation which grades from (5-1). They will sit three papers (1 hour 30 mins).

Science

In KS4 all students study Science however they can choose one of two pathways: Combined Science or Triple Science.

Both pathways are highly valued and keep a wide range of future education and career options open; the most suitable choice will depend on a student's interests, strengths and enjoyment of science.

Combined Science

Combined Science leads to two GCSEs and provides a broad, balanced understanding of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with lessons shared across all three subjects.

EBACC Choices



Triple Science

Triple Science leads to three separate GCSEs—one in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics—and allows students to explore each subject in greater depth, with additional curriculum time and a faster pace of learning.

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

- Health care
- Drug development
- Engineering

Further Education

- A-Levels Separate Sciences
- Apprenticeships with science-based companies

Course Specifications

Exam Board: AQA

Both science pathways have the choice of Higher which grades from (9-3) or Foundation which grades from (5-1).

Combined science: 6 exams (1 hour 15 minutes)

Triple science: 6 exams (1 hour 45 minutes)

EBACC Choices

All students are required to select at least one EBACC subject as part of their final options. The EBACC (English Baccalaureate) is a group of subjects identified by the government as providing a broad and academically rigorous curriculum. This must be chosen from Triple Science, History, Geography, or Spanish.

Selecting an EBACC subject is important because it helps students develop strong academic foundations, keeps a wide range of future education and career pathways open, and supports the skills and knowledge valued by colleges, employers, and universities.

Therefore, when making final subject choices, at least one of the selected options must be an EBACC subject.



Spanish

GCSE Spanish is an engaging and practical subject that helps students develop strong linguistic skills while exploring Spanish speaking cultures. The course covers key topics such as Identity and Culture, School Life, Holiday and Travel, and Future Aspirations, enhancing your speaking, listening, reading, and writing abilities. Studying Spanish opens doors to global opportunities, whether you're interested in travel, business, or communication. With Spanish being the second most spoken language in the world, this GCSE provides valuable skills for the future, making it a great choice for any student eager to broaden their horizons.

Course Specifications: Spanish

Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel

Paper 1: Speaking

Paper 2: Listening and Understanding in Spanish

Paper 3: Reading and Understanding in Spanish

Paper 4: Writing in Spanish



Careers & Further Education

- Air Cabin Crew
- Importing and Exporting
- Logistics and Distribution Manager
- Interpreter
- Journalist
- Marketing Executive
- Sales Executive

Further Education

- A-Level Spanish
- Degree in Modern Foreign Languages/Linguistics
- Any degree with a language e.g. Law with Spanish

EBACC Choices

Geography

Geography is an exciting and relevant GCSE that helps students understand the world around them and how people and places are connected. Students explore real-life case studies from the UK and around the world, looking at important issues such as climate change, poverty, global economic change and the use of natural resources. The course encourages students to think about different viewpoints and their role in society, while developing useful skills like data analysis and problem-solving. Geography is a great choice for students who are curious about the world and want a subject that links well to real life and future opportunities.

History

History is an engaging and thought-provoking GCSE that helps students understand the world we live in today by exploring the past. Students study a range of fascinating topics including Medicine in Britain from c1250 to the present day and Medicine on the Western Front, Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, Superpower relations and the Cold War, and Weimar and Nazi Germany. Through these topics, students develop strong skills in analysing evidence, forming clear arguments and considering different viewpoints. History is a great choice for students who enjoy discussion, debate and understanding how the past has shaped modern society.

Careers & Further Education

Further Education

- A-Level Geography/Geology/Environmental Science
- T-Level in Conservation
- Degree in Geography, Geology, Environmental Science

Career Pathways

- Surveyor
- Urban Planner
- Explorer / Expedition Leader
- Armed Forces (navigation & terrain roles)

Careers & Further Education

Further Education

- A-Level History
- A-Level Law
- A-Level Classical Civilisation
- History Degree

Career Pathways

- Education
- Museums & Heritage
- Media & Journalism
- Government
- Law & Politics

Course Specifications: Geography

Exam Board: AQA

Three written exams

Paper 1: Physical Environment (1 hour 30 mins)

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment (1 hour 30 minutes)

Paper 3: Geographical Applications (1 hour 30 mins)

Students also need to complete two occasions of fieldwork.

Course Specifications: History

Exam Board: Edexcel

Three written exams

Paper 1: Medicine (1 hour 20 mins)

Paper 2: Superpower Relations/Anglo-Saxon and Norman England (1 hour 50 mins)

Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany (1 hour 30 mins)

Art & Photography



Art

GCSE Art and Design provides students with a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities to explore their interests in ways that are both personally relevant and developmental in nature. This two-unit specification enables students to develop their ability to actively engage in the processes of Art and Design – to nurture curiosity and drive creative skills through independent learning and doing, to develop imaginative and intuitive ways of working and develop knowledge and understanding of media, materials and technologies in historical and contemporary contexts, societies and cultures.

Photography

In GCSE Photography, students develop confidence, creativity and technical skill as they learn to see and interpret the world through a lens. They explore the work of inspiring photographers and visual artists, using research and observation to shape their own ideas and personal style. Throughout the 2 unit course, students experiment with a range of shooting techniques, lighting, composition and digital editing processes, developing their work from initial concepts through to refined photographic outcomes. They learn to reflect critically, respond to feedback & continually improve, presenting their images in imaginative & professional ways.

Careers & Further Education

Further Education

A level Art or related field; (textiles/fashion /3d design/photography/graphic communication/design and technology

Career Pathways

- Art Director
- Product designer
- Architect
- Art Therapist
- Interior designer

Course Specifications: GCSE Fine Art Exam Board: AQA

Unit 1: Portfolio of Work (coursework) 60% . This comprises of a foundation project and a sustained project from Sept Y10 to Autumn Y11)

Unit2: Externally Set Task (Exam project) 40%. This is a 12 week independent project from Jan Y11 to Easter Y11 ending in a 10 hour exam over two school days.

Careers & Further Education

Further Education

A Level Photography or related field; film studies, art and design, media studies, graphic communication.

Career Pathways

- Forensic photographer
- Digital content creator
- Photojournalist
- Graphic Designer

Course Specifications: GCSE Photography Exam Board: AQA

Unit 1: Portfolio of Work (coursework) 60% . This comprises of a foundation project and a sustained project from Sept Y10 to Autumn Y11)

Unit2: Externally Set Task (Exam project) 40%. This is a 12 week independent project from Jan Y11 to Easter Y11 ending in a 10 hour exam over two school days.

BTEC Sport

BTEC Sport

BTEC Sport is a vocational course for students who enjoy PE and sport, combining practical and classroom-based lessons. It prepares students for further study or careers in coaching, fitness, and the sports industry, while developing knowledge of fitness, anatomy and physiology, and different types of sport. Students also learn to plan and lead sessions, improve performance, and build key skills such as teamwork, leadership, communication, and confidence through regular practical participation.

Course Specifications

Exam Board: Pearson

Coursework 1: Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity - 30%

Coursework 2: Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance - 30%

Exam: Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

PE Teacher
Sports Coach
Physiotherapist
Sports Development Officer
Sports Journalist
Personal Training
Sports Massage Therapist
Dietician/Nutritionist

Further Education

BTEC Level 3 in Sport
BTEC Level 3 in Sport, Fitness & Personal Training
BTEC Level 3 in Sport and Exercise Science
BTEC Level 3 in Sport Coaching & Development
A Level PE



Business Studies

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

Human resources
Marketing consultant
Finance
Accountancy
Owning your own business

Further Education

A-Level business
BTEC level 3 in business
Apprenticeship in accountancy

Business Studies

Business is a GCSE subject for students that not only want to know more about the world of business but also gain important life skills along the way. Students start off learning the fundamentals about how businesses work and how they start out, looking at content like spotting an opportunity and external influences where students explore many current issues such as inflation, the economy and exchange rates. In theme 2 students look at how big businesses stay successful with units on marketing, finance and human resources, giving them a great mix of skills that will be useful no matter what path they choose to take.

Course Specifications

Exam Board: Edexcel

Paper 1: Investigating small businesses (1 hour 45 min written exam)

Paper 2: Building a business (1 hour 45 min written exam)

Engineering Design

Engineering Design

This vocational qualification will enable you to learn about the process of engineering design and understand how it can be used to design effective solutions for a given design brief.

You will develop the ability to communicate your design ideas through the use of sketches and engineering drawings and computer aided design. You will also be able to evaluate the design of a product, through the disassembly of existing products or the use of modelling for new designs

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

Careers in Engineering include Design Engineer, CAD Technician, Product designer.

Further Education

A level, T Level or apprenticeships in Engineering design or manufacture

Course Specifications

Exam Board: OCR

Unit 1 Written exam - 80-minute exam (40%)

Unit 2 (coursework) Re-design a product

Unit 3 (coursework) Designing for a customer (Totals 60%)



Course Specifications

Exam Board: Eduqas

Unit 1 – Written exam – 80 marks 40% of the grade

Unit 3 – NEA – 120 marks 60% of the grade

Construction

Construction

The course focuses on the development of underpinning knowledge of the Construction industry. You will gain an understanding of the essential aspects of the industry covering principal topics of health and safety and sustainability along with an insight into trades such as painting and decorating, brickwork, plumbing and electrics.

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

Construction could include architecture, civil engineering, quantity surveying, building surveying, project management.

Further Education

Apprenticeships in many Construction trades, T Levels in building services, full time college places in trades.

Health & Social Care (HSC)

Health and Social Care

Health and Social Care is a growing sector focused on supporting people's health, wellbeing and independence. The BTEC Tech Award gives students practical insight into how people develop, the challenges they may face, and how care professionals provide support. Learners explore human development, health conditions, care values, and ways to improve health and wellbeing. This course builds real-world knowledge and prepares students for a wide range of future careers in both health and social care.

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

- Midwifery
- Doctors/Nurses
- Paramedic
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Social Worker
- Pharmacist

Further Education

Level 3 BTEC National in Health & Social Level 3
T-Levels in Health, Healthcare Science, or Education & Childcare
Apprenticeships (Healthcare Support Worker, Adult Care)

Course Specifications

Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)

Coursework 1: Human Development - 30%

Coursework 2: HSC Services and Values- 30%

Exam: Health & Wellbeing (2hr) – 40%

Drama

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

- Drama therapist
- Actor
- Stage Manager
- Theatre Technician

Further Education

A Level: Theatre Studies, BTEC Performing Arts
Degree: Musical Theatre, Acting, Costume Design

Drama

AQA Drama is an exciting, creative course where you explore performance, storytelling, and the power of live theatre. You'll develop confidence, teamwork, and your own artistic voice as you devise original pieces and bring scripts to life on stage. The course blends practical performance with theory to enable you to understand all aspects of the performance world, allowing students to appreciate what is needed to communicate meaning through Drama. Whether you want a future in the industry or simply build valuable life skills, Drama is a fantastic choice.

Course Specifications

Exam Board: AQA

1. Understanding drama
2. Devising drama
3. Texts in practice



Religious Studies

Religious Studies

Religious Studies helps students explore the beliefs, teachings, and practices of major world religions, while also examining important ethical and philosophical questions. Students are encouraged to think critically, discuss different viewpoints respectfully, and develop an understanding of beliefs in a diverse society. The course covers religious beliefs, worship, festivals, and how religion influences everyday life, as well as moral teachings. Students also study key ethical themes such as relationships and families, peace and conflict, religion and life, and human rights and social justice, developing strong skills in reasoning, debate, and evaluation.

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

- Law and Criminology
- Journalism
- Teaching
- Social Work
- Politics and Public Services
- Counselling

Further Education:

A levels
Health & Social Care / Child Development
Law or Criminology
Sociology

Course Specifications:

Exam Board: AQA Route A

Students explore **two religions** in depth; Christianity and Islam

Exam Paper 1 – Religions (1 hour 45 minutes)

Exam Paper 2 – Thematic Studies (1 hour 45 minutes)

Sociology

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

- Social Work
- Teaching
- Youth Work
- Journalism
- Public Services
- Human Resources
- Psychology and Counselling

Further Education

Sociology opens doors to careers in:
•Policing and Criminology

Sociology

Sociology is the study of society and how people live and interact within it. Students explore how families, schools, and communities are organised, why inequalities exist, and how social structures influence behaviour and life chances. The course encourages critical thinking, discussion, and the ability to analyse real-world issues. Topics include education, families, crime and deviance, and social stratification, alongside research methods that help students understand how sociologists investigate society.

Course Specifications:

Exam Board: AQA

Paper 1: Education, Families & Research Methods (1hour 45 minutes)

Paper 2: Crime & Deviance, Social Stratification & Research Methods (1hour 45 minutes)

Hospitality & Catering

Hospitality & Catering

This vocational course is designed to encourage students to be able to develop and make a range of food products, using a variety of ingredients and techniques. Students will be enthused and challenged by the range of practical activities covered during the course. Students will look at areas of the Hospitality sector, safety and hygiene practices for Food products. They will also be taught about Food nutrition and peoples dietary needs.

Course Specifications:

Exam Board: Eduqas

Exam arrangements

Unit 1 – Written exam – 80 marks 40% of the grade

Unit 2 – NEA – 120 marks 60% of the grade

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

Chef, nutritionist, dietician or a job in the hospitality and catering sector.

Further Education

L3 Hospitality and Catering or Patisserie, Hospitality management or an apprenticeships in both areas



Creative iMedia

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

A range of careers in film, television, web development, gaming and animation

Further Education

Level 3 courses in media and IT.

Course Specifications:

Exam Board: OCR

One written exam - 1 hour 30 mins worth 40% of the final grade

Two coursework pieces worth 60% of the grade

R094 - Visual identity and digital graphics

R097 - Interactive digital media

Creative iMedia

The Creative iMedia qualification equips students with the wide range of knowledge and skills needed to work in the creative digital media sector.

They start at pre-production and develop their skills through practical assignments as they create final multimedia products.

This course include computer based coursework components followed by a written exam.

Statistics

Statistics

GCSE Statistics is designed to prepare students for careers in business, data analysis and finance by teaching skills and techniques designed to analyse data and form conclusions around real world data and ideals.

While taking skills from GCSE Maths, GCSE Statistics is a separate qualification with a small proportion of the content crossing over with the maths curriculum, most of the content is unique and focused on a deeper and more broad understanding of topics of statistical analysis, probability, and data analysis techniques.

This is also ideal for students wanting to study mathematics as a higher level.

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

- Data analysis
- Business
- Finance
- Market research
- Actuary-style career

Further Education

A-level
mathematics
A-level statistics
Higher education in
similar subjects

Course Specifications:

Exam Board: Edexcel

2 written exam papers – 1 hour 30 minutes each,
50% each, calculators allowed for both papers

Music

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

- Live Music Performer
- Music Producer/
Sound Engineer
- Music Software Developer

Further Education

A Level/BTEC Level 3
Music. Degree:
Music

BTEC Music

Pearson BTEC Music offers an excellent opportunity to develop your strengths as a musician through a range of practical tasks that prepare you for work in the music industry. These activities are supported by theoretical study, exploring different genres, learning how to compose in specific styles, and analysing music by breaking it down into key elements such as harmony, tonality, melody, rhythm, tempo, metre, timbre, instrumentation and structure. Students will also showcase their abilities as live performers, create remixes and compositions in a digital audio workstation, and reflect on their progress across three components.

Course Specifications: BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award

Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel

Exam arrangements:

Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles

Component 2: Music Skills Development

Component 3: Responding to a Commercial Music Brief

Psychology

Psychology

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and how it influences behaviour. It encourages students to gain an understanding of what makes us who we are, by providing insights into why we think, feel, and act the way we do. This knowledge allows us to address many of the issues in society today.

This exam-based qualification introduces students to the fundamentals of Psychology by critically evaluating relevant research and theories. It challenges you to improve your communication skills, independent thinking, and critical analysis to form conclusions based on research evidence. Students will gain a sound knowledge of scientific research, data analysis, ethical considerations, evaluation, and the design of research.

With the increasing prominence of mental health and related issues, Psychology has never been more relevant.

Careers & Further Education

Career Pathways

- Clinical Psychology
- Forensics
- Counselling
- Teaching
- Healthcare
- Social Work
- Public services.

Further Education

Psychology
Sociology
Global Studies
Forensics,
Criminology
Law

Course Specifications:

Exam Board: AQA

2 written exam papers- 1 hour 45 minutes, each

Paper 1= 50% total mark

Paper 2= 50% total mark

Still not sure?

Don't worry if you're still not sure which options you want to choose there are lots of people and resources available to help.

One platform you can access is Unifrog online – this will allow you to look at possible career routes you might be interested in and identify which options can help you with that.

If you need any more help please talk to Mrs Milne, Miss Haynes or Ms Whiston at school and we can spend more time looking in detail at what you would like to do.

