

KS4 Options

Subject Information

2025-2027



Wootton
Upper School

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Introduction to Key Stage 4

Key Stage 4 is the two-year period of GCSE study, starting in September of Year 10 and ending with the collection of GCSE results in August of Year 11.

During this time, young people lay the foundations for their future career. The qualifications achieved, and the standard of those, decides where and what pupils can study in Post 16 education, which in turn, decides the pathway they are able to take beyond the school or college gates. It is important that we get it right, which means guiding each and every child into the subjects and courses which will maximise their chance of success.

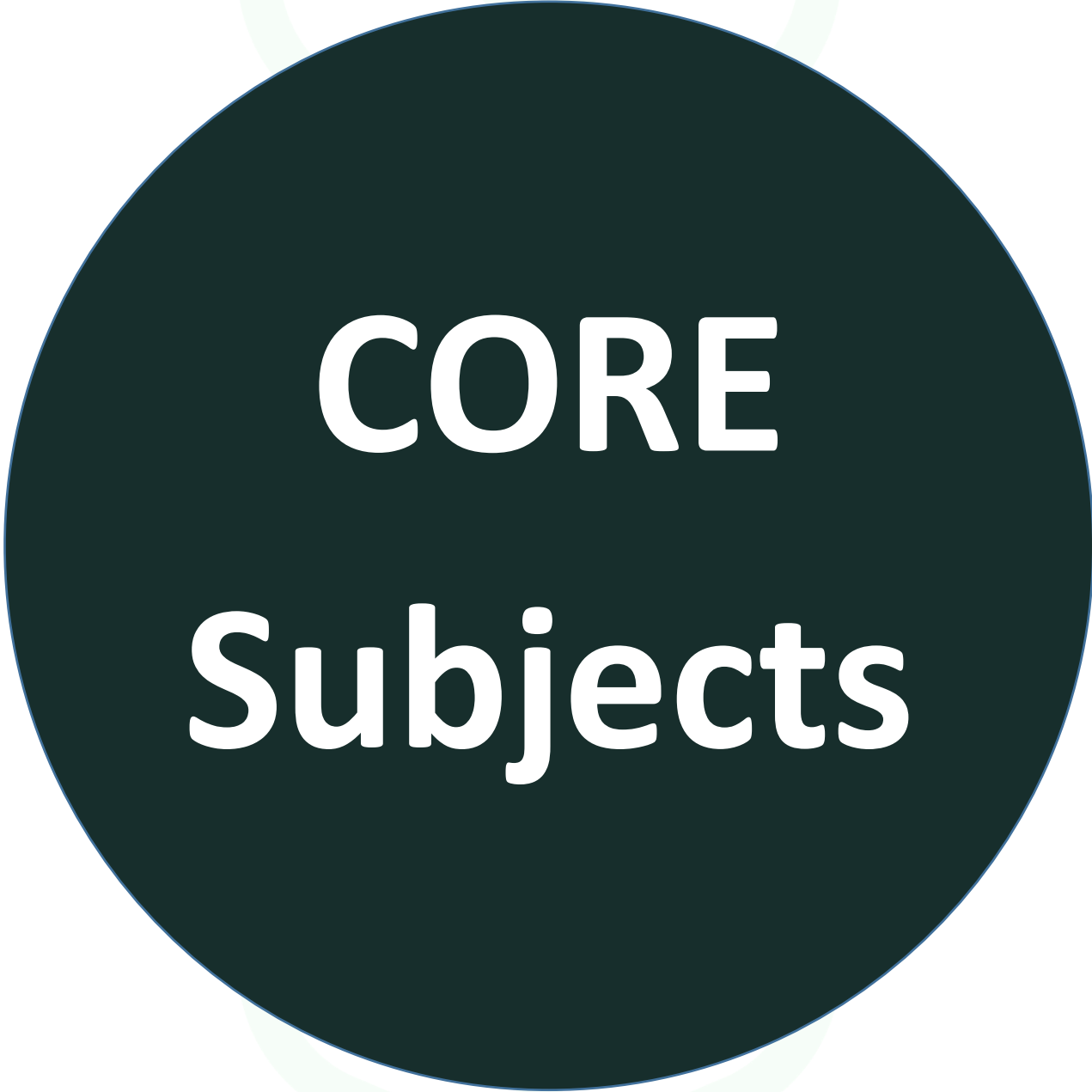
Big picture questions need careful consideration:

- Where and what do they want to study in Post 16?
- Do they want to go to university and if so, what type?
- Do they want to qualify in a trade or a profession?
- Is an apprenticeship possible and appropriate?

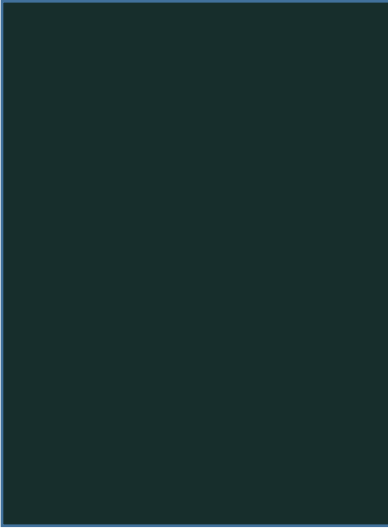
It is important that the decisions made now, have an eye on what comes next and what will be needed later to realise ambitions.

Please read the subject information sheets included here, along with the KS4 Options booklet to help you decide the way forward.


OPTIONS 2025



**CORE
Subjects**



**English Language
English Literature
Mathematics
Combined Science
Core PE
Core Philosophy, Religion & Ethics**



COURSE OVERVIEW

At school, English is divided into two subjects: English Language and English Literature. In English Language you will develop your comprehension skills, learn to analyse language, form and structure and explore texts through critical evaluation and comparison.

PAPER 1

Explorations in creative reading and writing

Students will develop their skills in creative prose writing such as writing to describe and narrate, and imaginative and creative use of language. Students will analyse a text through comprehension style questions.

PAPER 2

Writers viewpoints and perspectives. Reading non-fiction texts, one from the 19th Century and either the 20th or 21st Century.

Writing skills will be developed so students can write for a range of audiences and purposes, adapting style to form and to real-life contexts in, for example, letters, articles, reviews, speeches.

NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT

Students will learn how to plan, write and deliver a speech to their class. They will also be asked questions by the audience following the presentation.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Students will read a wide range of texts and extracts, and use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing.

Students develop their ability to write effectively and coherently using Standard English appropriately; use grammar correctly, punctuate and spell accurately; acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology. Creativity, communication, critical thinking, textual analysis and essay writing are skills which will all be developed and which are needed in the workplace.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

The course is assessed externally by two final examinations in summer 2023 (there is no coursework). The examination papers are un-tiered (so all students take the same papers).

PAPER 1

Written paper worth 50% the exam is 1 hour 45 minutes long.

PAPER 2

Written paper worth 50%. The exam is 1 hour 45 minutes long.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

English Language GCSE is a requirement of further study at college, sixth form, apprenticeships and employment. The skills students develop at GCSE provide an excellent foundation for A Level study in a range of subjects and for university courses.

Whichever career path you choose a strong command of English will help you communicate with colleagues and clients in meetings, presentations and everyday discourse. It will also enable you to write to the professional standard required at work, whether that is in the form of emails or reports. Some careers require an advanced understanding of English such as Reporters, Barristers, Politicians and Journalists using clever techniques to persuade us to adopt their point of view. Playwrights, comedians and performers use English creatively to inspire and entertain.

“This subject has really helped me to think critically and to be creative. We have read some interesting books and articles and have had some fascinating discussions in lessons.”

COURSE OVERVIEW

At school, English is divided into two subjects: English Language and English Literature. In English Literature, you will study literary texts such as novels, poetry and plays, exploring how language is used for literary effect as well as the historical, social and cultural context.

Paper One: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

Shakespeare:

Students will study Macbeth.

The 19th-century novel:

Students will study A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens.

Paper Two: Modern Texts and poetry

Modern texts:

Students will study An Inspector Calls by J.B Priestley.

Poetry:

Students will study a collection of poems from an AQA Anthology entitled "Power and Conflict".

Students will also have to answer questions on unseen poetry.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Students will:

- read a wide range of classic literature to develop a good understanding, and make connections across their reading
- read in depth, critically and evaluatively, so that they are able to discuss and explain their understanding and ideas
- develop the habit of reading widely and often
- appreciate the depth and power of the English literary heritage
- Creativity, communication, critical thinking, textual analysis and essay writing are skills which will all be developed and which are needed in the workplace.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

The course is assessed externally by **two final examinations** in summer 2023 (there is no coursework). The examination papers are un-tiered (so all students take the same papers).

PAPER 1

Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel - 40% of the GCSE. The exam is 1 hour 45 minutes long.

PAPER 2

Modern Texts and poetry - 60% of the GCSE. The exam is 2 hours 15 minutes long.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

English GCSE is a requirement of further study at college, sixth form, apprenticeships and employment. The skills students develop at GCSE provide an excellent foundation for A Level study in a range of subjects and for university courses.

Whichever career path you choose a strong command of English will help you communicate with colleagues and clients in meetings, presentations and everyday discourse. It will also enable you to write to the professional standard required at work, whether that is in the form of emails or reports. Some careers require an advanced understanding of English such as Reporters, Barristers, Politicians and Journalists using clever techniques to persuade us to adopt their point of view. Playwrights, comedians and performers use English creatively to inspire and entertain.

"The English Department are so helpful and supportive in their teaching. Studying Literature has helped me to build life skills such as close reading and analytical thought."

COURSE OVERVIEW

Studying maths at GCSE level is compulsory as it is a core subject. You'll develop the skills and knowledge to understand mathematical techniques, methods and concepts.

All students study Mathematics. It is one of the fundamental subjects underpinning all sciences and technology. We want students to see the learning of Mathematics as a lifelong experience, which will help them to approach situations with confidence. We want them to appreciate that Mathematics will be useful outside the classroom and can also be used to help in other GCSEs.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

You will study the following areas:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Statistics and probability
- Using and applying the mathematics contained in the topics above to a range of problems.

Maths is an academically challenging subject where you will develop lots of skills and knowledge. Maths is one of the best subjects to develop your **numeracy**, **analytical**, **research** and **problem-solving** skills. Not only will studying maths help give you the knowledge to tackle scientific, mechanical, coding and abstract problems, it will also help you develop **logic** to tackle everyday issues like **planning** projects, **managing** budgets, **presenting** and **debating** effectively.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **EDEXCEL**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

All students will follow the linear GCSE and complete three written exams at the end of year 11.

Of the 3 papers, one is non – calculator, the other two are calculator with all carrying equal weighting.

Foundation Tier grades 1 - 5 available, Higher Tier grades 4 - 9 available.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

Students who achieve a grade 6 or above can follow Maths A-Level, grade 7 or above Further Maths A-Level and grade 4 or above Core Maths at Kimberley.

Maths is one of a group of subjects known as the 'gang of four', which also includes chemistry, biology and physics. If you know you would like to do a science-related degree, you'll need to pick at least two of these when it comes to choosing your A Levels. New degree apprenticeships in sectors such as accountancy, banking and economics also place high value on this subject. It's not surprising that Maths is the most popular A-level choice.

Students who have studied maths at post 16 and at university have followed a variety of career paths including careers in accounting, medicine, engineering, finance, business, consultancy, games development, psychology, scientific research, computer programming, civil service, design, construction and astrophysics to name a few...



"The Maths department are always there to support whenever you need it."



COURSE OVERVIEW

Pupils will follow 'Combined Science: Trilogy' (double award) over two years. This will lead to two GCSE's. The course has a solid foundation of key scientific theory and practice, with an emphasis on relevant social, ethical and technological issues. Learning is linked to real world contexts that engage and enthuse pupils.

If Separate Sciences are not opted for students will study Combined Science GCSE. Combined Science provides an excellent base for general science understanding and explains concepts and phenomenon that are met in everyday life.

The Combined Science GCSE provides a good foundation for A-level and Level 3 Science courses.

Science is an extremely interesting and enlightening subject which inspires students to understand themselves, the world and the universe they live in.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Students will study Biology, Chemistry & Physics content and develop practical skills in Science investigations. Resilience when challenging concepts are being tackled and the tenacity to keep asking questions are the keys to success. Science is all about making observations, hypotheses and asking how and why.

Excellent literacy and numeracy in scientific contexts are developed to achieve the highest grades. To be able to work safely in the lab and to analyse results and make logical links are also extremely important skills which are extended throughout the course.

Curiosity, critical thinking, organisation, analytical and communication skills are all highly valued by employers. These areas along with the ability to collate and present information will be developed during the course.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

There is no longer a centre assessed coursework element so the GCSE grades will be based on the examination only.

The exams will cover all three sciences.

At the end of year 11 there will be two 1 hour 15-minute exams in each subject specialism of biology, chemistry and physics (6 exams in total)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

Science is an essential requirement for a wide range of careers ranging from medicine, medical services including physiotherapy, dentistry, forensics, and sports science. Science qualifications are also highly valued in health and beauty careers along with engineering, catering, motor vehicle, plumbing and electrical services. The science department has a strong tradition of pupils going on to study science disciplines at sixth form, university and beyond.



"The content is covered in a lot more depth than KS3 and it's really interesting."



PE - CORE

CORE
Subject

Qualification: Non - exam

COURSE OVERVIEW

Pupils will take part in two core PE lessons over two weeks, leading to the Certificate of Achievement. In Year 10, the programme builds on those activities followed in Year 9. In Year 11, there are opportunities to take part in a variety of activities in preparation for a long and active life after school. Whenever possible, new and different activities are included into the programme.

The key to Core PE is for pupils to enjoy their lessons, make progress on their skills, work hard and develop an understanding of the social, emotional & physical benefits of a healthy active lifestyle.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Pupils will be taught a range of individual and team activities. They will develop existing and new skills through a broad spectrum of sports.

Typical activities to be covered each term:

Autumn	Spring	Summer
Football	OAA	Athletics
Rugby	Badminton	Tennis
Netball	Lacrosse	Rounders
Basketball	Handball	Cricket
Fitness	Table tennis	Softball
Dodgeball	Volleyball	Longball

You will develop your communication skills, social skills, and physical fitness.

PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & ETHICS - CORE

CORE
Subject

Qualification: Non - exam

COURSE OVERVIEW

Pupils will be able to explore issues and beliefs relevant to today's society, reflect on fundamental questions of life and debate ethical questions raised in the modern world.

Crucially, pupils will develop a sense of fairness and religious acceptance, both essential to success in a multicultural community and world. As well as engaging with the beliefs of others, pupils will reflect upon and develop their own values, attitudes and opinions, developing the communication skills and confidence required in further education, apprenticeships and the world of work.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

You will develop good skills in the following:

- Independence of mind and initiative.
- Interpreting, analysing and evaluating information.
- Communication skills.
- Developing or defending different arguments

Topics to be covered will include, but not be limited to:

- Peace and violence
- Human relationships
- Good and evil
- Matters of life and death
- Human rights

OPTIONAL Subjects

3D Design
Art and Design
Computer Science
Creative Media (BTEC)
Dance
Drama
Food
French
Geography

Graphics
History
IT (BTEC)
Music
PE
Philosophy, Religion & Ethics
Separate Science
Spanish
Textile Design

3D DESIGN (Art and Design)

COURSE OVERVIEW

GCSE 3D Design is an art and design subject that focuses on drawing and creatively designing 3D pieces of design work using timbers, metals and plastics, inspired by the work of 3D designers.

This course is suited to students who are creative and committed to producing a portfolio comprising of a range of 3D drawing processes, such as 1, 2, 3-point perspective, orthographic drawing, 3D sketching and rendering alongside CAD drawing. Students will also need to research a wide range of 3D designers and producing a wide range of individual and creative designs inspired by those designers and experimenting with making 3D outcomes using timbers, metals and plastics.

Students are expected to be able to work independently both in and out of lessons over an extended period of time. Students will be encouraged to develop skills in a range of areas including the use of computer aided design and manufacture, modelling ideas as well as extending their key stage 3 knowledge of using timbers, plastic, metal and a range of other materials. Products could be brought to life with the use of traditional, modern and experimental techniques.

There is an expectation that at times you will need to attend after school workshops, where we have the resources available for you to use, as part of the homework.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Component 1 (portfolio): Initially, students will be expected to develop the research, designing, modelling, and making skills in the form of a focused project throughout year 10 and half of year 11. This project allows students to create a wide range of drawing, designing with practical 3D work in the style of a series of designers. This work culminates in designing and creating a final product.

This will develop the skills necessary to cope with component 2 (The exam project) which starts in January of year 11.

In January, in year 11 students will have 1 term to complete an externally set assignment where they will produce a 2nd portfolio of work before the 10-hour practical exam where they will produce their final piece.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Component 1 is to produce a portfolio of work worth 60% of the overall grade. This is aimed at developing and demonstrating your overall learning/skills in 3D drawing and Design.

Component 2 is an Exam project that is worth 40% of the overall grade. This is a practical project that is set by the exam board, enabling students to have a set preparation period followed by 10 hours of supervised time.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

Upon completion students could progress onto a Level 3 course such as A Level Product Design, any A Level or BTEC level 3 art and design subject. This course is also an ideal starting point for further study at degree level or HND/HNC and careers or apprenticeships in: Product/Industrial Design, Architecture and Construction, Art, Textiles, Jewellery, Graphic Design, Theatrical Design, Engineering, Technical Support, Teaching.



“Being able to try out different ideas and develop these through initial drawings to more detailed designs before seeing a finished product is very rewarding.”



ART AND DESIGN

COURSE OVERVIEW

Artists and designers create, invent and design visual compositions using a wide range of materials, including digital tools, paints, pencils, pens, photography, raw materials and fabric.

GCSE in Art and Design builds on Key Stage 3 Art.

You will produce a well organised portfolio of work that will be made up of exploration and development of ideas, photographs, 2D and 3D work.

The topics chosen will be varied and will depend on resources and the needs of the group.

You will develop an understanding of past and contemporary art and will produce your own personal responses to ideas you have explored.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

You will be introduced to a range of media, processes and techniques within Fine Art, such as:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Printmaking
- Ceramics
- Photography
- Mixed Media
- ICT

You will develop your research skills, confidence, independence and resourcefulness. This subject will also develop your critical thinking, project management and attention to detail. These abilities will make you a strong candidate for careers both within and outside of art and design, including marketing, business management and retail.



“Art at Wootton was extremely valuable as it enabled me to expand my artistic skill significantly. Ultimately, with the guidance I received, it has given me the confidence to reach my potential by developing innovative ideas and using adventurous media, which has set me up for A-level art and beyond.”

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Your coursework will be continually assessed throughout the course. For your final submission, you will be required to select the most successful project, including a final response and this will be assessed (60%). You will also produce an Externally Set Assignment which consists of a 10 hour Controlled Test. This will be assessed (40%)

An exhibition of your work will be displayed in school. Students, staff and parents will be invited to the opening evening of the exhibition.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

Success at GCSE Art provides a strong foundation for further study on A Level courses or vocational courses post 16. At Kimberley these currently include Level 3 courses in Art, Graphics, Textiles.

Students with a background in art and design can go into roles in illustration, photography, graphic design, painting, interior design, games, animation, printmaking, gallery curation or education.

Through its practical and theoretical components art and design will teach you how to channel your creative energy in productive ways.

One in eleven UK jobs are now in the creative industries including advertising, digital media, film and animation the list is endless



BUSINESS

COURSE OVERVIEW

Business is an up-to-date and engaging qualification that is relevant to the world of business today. This qualification equips you with the skills and confidence to explore how different business situations affect business decisions. It is a well-rounded introduction to the subject. The qualification will encourage you to make informed choices about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways as well as develop life skills that enable you to become financially and commercially aware.

Subject content:

Business activity, marketing and people

Students are introduced to business concepts and issues concerning the activities of a business. They explore the purpose and role of a business from spotting an opportunity through to the growth of an established business. They also look at the role of marketing and human resources.

Operations, finance and influences on business

Take a closer look at the role of operations and finance in business activity. Operations include production processes, quality of goods and services, customer service, and working with suppliers. Finance covers its role, its sources, costs, profit and loss, cash and cash flow.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

You will study a range of topics including business activity, marketing, people, operations, finance, influences on business and the interdependent nature of business.

You will also learn in a practical and engaging way, applying your knowledge and understanding to real business scenarios and looking at a full range of successful business decisions from the past.

You will develop your decision making, critical thinking, commercial awareness, time management and people skills. Even if you don't plan on pursuing a career that strictly business related – these will make you an excellent candidate for many roles from healthcare to engineering.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **OCR**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

The course is assessed externally by two final examinations in summer exam window.

PAPER 1

Business activity, marketing and people - Written paper worth 50% the exam is 1 hour 30 minutes long.

PAPER 2

Operations, finance and influences on business -Written paper worth 50%. The exam is 1 hr 30 minutes long.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

GCSE Business is a good stepping stone for a range of A level or other vocational Level 3 courses. At Kimberley we currently offer A-Level Business, BTEC Business and Economics.

A thorough understanding of business will serve you well for roles in finance, economics, marketing, retail, sales, customer service, management and consultancy. In fact, it is very useful whatever job/career you hope to go into!



“I really enjoyed studying business and found it changed my perspective on everyday life, for example I learnt how enormous businesses and local corner shops differ in the way that they operate. It also helped with my numeracy/ financial skills and the basics of business studies will stay with me for the rest of my life. “



COMPUTER SCIENCE

COURSE OVERVIEW

Whether its millions of lines of code of clever app design, computer scientists are the architects of our online lives. The study of computer science involves how computer systems work, from the physical components (hardware) to the apps and programmes that users interact with (software). You will also learn how to create, update and manipulate computer systems by learning a number of programming languages – the code behind the software we interact with as users.

Computer Science is a practical subject where learners can apply the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to real-world problems. It is an intensely creative subject that involves invention and excitement.

Paper 1 focuses on the practical aspects of Computer Science, demonstrating knowledge and understanding of the key concepts and principles of computer science. It focuses on programming language structures and coding. The content of this paper will be where your programming knowledge and skills will be assessed.

Paper 2 is based on the theoretical aspects of Computer Science, such as networking and communication protocols, encryption and cyber security, ethics and the legal implications of technological development as well as how computers work at a fundamental level, both in terms of hardware and software. It also includes data representation of text, images and sound using binary and hexadecimal.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

The qualification will also provide a good grounding for other subject areas that require computational thinking and analytical skills. If you enjoy programming/ coding, game making and problem solving, or are keen to learn, then this is the course for you.

You need to have a desire to challenge yourself and not get frustrated when it all goes wrong (which it will!). Being good at Maths and being able to think logically and work methodically through a problem are key skills you will require.

You will develop your problem solving, mathematical, data analysis, creativity and logical thinking skills, all of which are valued in the workplace.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Examination and coursework.

Two examinations

PAPER 1

Written paper worth 50% - Computational thinking and problem solving – 1 hour 30 minutes exam.

PAPER 2

Written paper worth 50% - Theoretical knowledge – 1 hour 30 minutes exam.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

After successful completion of this course many students will go on to do an A Level in Computer Science and then onto university to do a related degree course.

A recent report expects 90% of jobs will involve Computer Science/ICT in some form or another. Computer science gives you the technical know-how needed to pursue careers in computer programming, website or app development, video game development and cyber security. But because it hones your logical thinking and problem-solving skills, computer science is useful in a whole range of other careers too. This course will give a good insight into a variety of different jobs that you might be considering, such as careers as a Database Administrator, Systems Analyst, Computer Programmer or Software Developer - just to name a few.



“Computer science is a lot of fun on the coding side, but you need to work hard on the theory side as well.”



CREATIVE MEDIA

COURSE OVERVIEW

Creative Media Production is designed to inspire and enthuse learners who are considering a career in the creative media industries. It will give learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge, and develop skills, across the creative media sectors, e.g. planning and pitching a digital media product, moving images and print design.

Component 1: Exploring Media Products – Learners will develop their understanding of how media products create meaning for their audiences. Learners will examine existing products and explore media production techniques.

Component 2: Developing Digital Media Production Skills – Learners will develop skills and techniques in media production processes by reworking media products from the audio/moving image sector.

Component 3: Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief (External Assessment)

Learners will apply and develop their planning and production skills and techniques to create a media product in response to a client brief

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Students will cover a range of areas:

- Investigation of different media products and their purpose. Explore how media products are created to provide meaning and engage audiences.
- Develop media production skills and techniques. Apply media production skills and techniques.
- Review own progress and development of skills and practice.
- How to deconstruct media products to examine how media production techniques combine to create meaning for an audience through analysis, note taking, talks and practical workshops.
- Genre, narrative, representation and audience interpretation.

Qualification: **BTEC**

Awarding Body: **EDEXCEL**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

There are 3 components to the course:

Component 1:

Exploring Media Products – internal assessment – 30%

Component 2:

Developing Digital Media Production Skills – internal assessment – 30%

Component 3

Create a Media Product – externally assessed - completed in controlled conditions – 40%

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

The creative media sector is a dynamic, growing and rewarding sector. New opportunities are arising continually. The UK's creative industries as a whole are now worth over £84 billion per year to the UK economy. The industry involves a wide range of practical processes, skills and techniques-from broadcast media to increasingly interactive products and platforms. This course will open the doors to further study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC in Media at Kimberley College.



“This is a great opportunity to look at and understand different forms of media that we use every day.”



DANCE

COURSE OVERVIEW

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity, whatever their previous experience in the subject. This course recognises the role of dance in young people's lives and students will study a range of dance styles.

The practical component of the course enables students to study dance by 'doing' and the anthology of six professional works provides a springboard for the development of creative practical tasks.

The study of the anthology develops students' skills in performance and choreography as well as broadening their knowledge and understanding of dance and their ability to critically appraise dances of different styles and cultural influences.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

What will I do?

- develop skills, knowledge and understanding of dance as a performer and choreographer
- apply and adapt your skills in performance and choreography
- create dances for a range of purposes and in response to different stimuli
- develop your ability to analyse, evaluate and appreciate dance
- learn to appreciate the contribution of dance to your personal and social health, fitness and wellbeing.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

60% Practical, 40% Written Exam

Performance (30%)

Set Phrases in a Solo Performance
Duet/Trio Performance

Choreography (30%)

Solo or Group Dance

Written Exam (40%)

Questions based on students' own experience as performer and choreographer, and on the GCSE Dance Anthology – a collection of professional dance works in a range of dance styles.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

A GCSE in Dance is excellent preparation for further education courses in dance and performing arts. These include A-level Dance, higher education dance, and professional training. However, studying dance also helps you to develop a range of transferable skills, that are relevant to most careers, such as:

confidence	problem solving
creativity	analysis
evaluation	decision making
presenting ideas	communication
critical thinking	planning
research	time management
leadership	teamwork

“It's my favourite lesson and I enjoy it because it's an hour of doing what I love. I think that people should take it if they enjoy dance or have an interest in it. I didn't expect how involved I'd be with choreography and practical activities and it's actually very interesting to learn about all of the behind the scenes and what goes into a dance piece.”

DRAMA

COURSE OVERVIEW

You should take this course if you enjoy:

- expressing yourself in active and exciting ways
- working in a group
- contributing your ideas and taking on-board those of others
- seeing your creativity come to life
- playing many parts in different imaginary situations
- creating your own drama work
- looking at plays written by other people
- exploring ideas by putting yourself in other people's shoes

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

What will I do?

During the course, you will learn:

- How drama is created, including all the acting and staging skills that are needed to put a piece of drama on to the stage;
- How to create a character and play this character in a performance;
- How to analyse and review professional theatre;
- How to analyse, interpret and perform a script;
- Many highly valued skills including teamwork, communication, leadership and creativity.

“GCSE Drama gave me the confidence I didn't know I had. For me it's not about being an actor, it's about gaining the skills and confidence to be creative, resilient and adaptable.”

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

There are three components:

1. Understanding Drama (written exam - 40%)
2. Devising Drama (Practical & Written – 40%)
3. Texts in Practice (Practical – 20%)

- In **Component 1** you will take a written exam answering questions on a play you have studied and on a piece of live theatre you have been to watch.
- In **Component 2** you will devise your own play and be assessed on your written log book and your performance.
- In **Component 3** you will rehearse and perform two extracts from a script. You are also able to specialise in technical theatre for this component.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

GCSE Drama gives you more than just a grade. Students have told us that they have been able to use the skills learnt in drama in a variety of professions. Recent students have gone on to find employment in arts management, nursing, teaching, writing, retail, criminology, social work, law, as well as the more specialised fields of acting, directing and technical theatre. GCSE Drama could compliment any job where you need excellent communication and problem solving skills, leadership and teamwork, presentation skills, and a creative outlook.

FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

COURSE OVERVIEW

This exciting course will equip learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and also to apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating.

Following this qualification will encourage learners to cook and enable them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life. It will allow the students to understand the huge challenges that we face globally to supply the world with nutritious and safe food

You will need to bring ingredients weekly to support your learning

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

What will I study? – these sections will cross over all components

Section A: Nutrition

Section B: Food Provenance and Food Choice

Section C: Cooking and Food Preparation

Section D: Skills requirements: preparation and cooking technique

These will be assessed in all areas of the course.

Regarding the internally assessed assignments, these will include:

- A scientific food investigation which will assess the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to scientific principles underlying the preparation and cooking of food.
- Prepare, cook and present a menu which assesses the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food. Learners will need to take part in a three hour practical and cook 3 dishes.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **OCR**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Component 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes. 50% of the qualification

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action
Non-examination assessment:

This is made up of two assessments:

Assessment 1: Food Investigation Assessment (15%)

Assessment 2: Food Preparation Assessment (35%)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

This course is designed to equip learners with the practical skills in food and a solid background in nutrition and food science. Upon completion, learners can progress to other level 3 qualifications.

Cooking is a lifelong skill that will always be useful.



"This GCSE has given me skills for life and a greater understanding of nutrition."

"Great environment to learn and have fun and learn valuable skills for later in life."



FRENCH

COURSE OVERVIEW

Modern foreign languages focus on phonics, vocabulary and grammar while developing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Language learning broadens horizons and enables greater global understanding through exposure to the culture, traditions and history of the language being studied.

Students study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based.

Theme 1: People and Lifestyle

Theme 2: Popular Culture

Theme 3: Communication and the world around us.

The course builds on work completed in Year 9. Students will continue to develop the four key skills of reading, listening, writing and speaking and will have the opportunity to work with the French Assistant.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

The course will give you cultural knowledge whilst developing your language skills. By the end of Year 11, you will be able to:

- Follow and understand clear standard speech and written texts across a range of contexts;
- Take part in a short conversation, asking and answering questions, and exchanging opinions;
- Produce clear and coherent extended written work to present facts and express ideas and opinions.

Speaking another language makes you stand out from the crowd and helps you gain many transferable skills such as problem-solving, the ability to work in a team, flexibility and greater awareness of other cultures. You will also develop your communication, critical thinking, independence, resourcefulness and adaptability which are all vital skills for the workplace.



“French can be very interesting and fun to learn when you want to commit to it.”



Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

The assessment is split into 4 papers:

- 25% - Writing examination
- 25% - Speaking examination
- 25% - Listening examination
- 25% - Reading examination

This is a tiered entry subject.

Foundation Tier – Grades 5 - 1

Higher Tier – Grades 9 - 3

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

Languages are one of the EBACC subjects, one of the subjects which provide students with greater opportunities in further education and employment. Languages are considered a subject essential to many degree courses and open up a wider variety of options for future study and work.

Employers are keen on finding candidates with a language qualification at any level and the salary offered can be between 8 to 20% higher, were you to use your language in the workplace. Here are a few examples of careers where languages are needed or useful:

International Law and Government, Management and Marketing, Travel and Tourism, Translation, Engineering, Teaching, Medicine.

Languages are facilitating subjects, according to The Russell Group Universities. These are subjects which can set candidates apart and give them an advantage during the selection process.

Whether you want to develop your communication skills, multi-task effectively, become adept at analysing situations and coming up with solutions, languages can help you build the skill set you need to get ahead.

GEOGRAPHY

COURSE OVERVIEW

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun! It is about both our physical and human environments, including how we adapt to and deal with changes in it.

To succeed in Geography, you need to have a real interest in the world around us and be aware of how, as humans, we are affecting our natural environment.

You will have to think through ideas carefully, use maps accurately and synthesise information from different sources to draw informed conclusions about issues that affect our daily lives.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

The physical environment, including:

- Natural Hazards – including earthquakes, volcanoes and tropical storms, extreme weather and climate change
- Landscapes in the UK – including coasts and river landscapes
- The Living World – including ecosystems such as the hot deserts and those under threat, such as the rainforest

The human environment, including:

- Urban Issues and Challenges – including city growth and sustainability
- The Changing World – including economic development
- Resource Management – including managing energy resources

Geographical Skills, including:

- Evaluating a geographical issue. You will use a variety of sources to explore and write about a current geographical issue
- Fieldwork. Fieldwork, or working outside the classroom is a really important part of geography. It will be a brilliant opportunity to experience some of the things you have learnt about in class, see things differently and of course have fun. You will undertake two geographical enquiries based on field visits within the UK.

You will develop data analysis, critical thinking, IT, research and teamwork skills through your study of this subject, all of which are highly valued in the workplace.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

You will sit three exams:

Paper 1:

Physical Geography (90 minutes, 35% of the GCSE)

Paper 2:

Human Geography (90 minutes, 35% of the GCSE)

Paper 3:

Geographical Issues and Fieldwork: (75 minutes, 30% of the GCSE)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

The GCSE deals with important and topical world issues. As such, it is a good grounding for a wide range of subjects at post 16, including, of course, A Level Geography. Geography students go into careers using both their geographical and practical skills developed during the course.

Geography students develop an in-depth knowledge of how both human and physical environments work. This makes them excellent candidates for careers in local government, travel, tourism, the environment and climate change. Other sectors where this subject knowledge is useful are international aid and development, logistics, sustainability and economic development.

Geography students have also used the subject to go on to study accountancy, medicine, law, computer science and many more.



“A very enjoyable insight into learning how the world works.”



GRAPHICS

COURSE OVERVIEW

The course consists of two components.

Component 1 is to produce a portfolio that is made up of 2 projects where pupils will learn a range of hand-rendered and computer-generated design work.

The first of the two projects will teach students about designing creative compositions using typography and imagery. Pupils will learn extensively how to use Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop to edit and create their own typography and arrange lettering and imagery to create eye-catching graphics.

The second project will be about creating graphic design and illustration inspired by stories and will involve a trip The Warner Brothers Studio where pupils will take photographs.

Component 2 is an Exam project that is worth 40% of the overall grade.

Pupils will get their final exam paper in January in Year 11. They will have four months to develop a portfolio of work in response to a choice of seven different projects on the exam paper. In May, the pupils will sit a two-day (10 hours) practical exam. This exam will be in a graphics classroom where they will produce a final piece of design work based on their four months' preparatory work.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Pupils will learn how to draw using a range of hand and digital media, create typography, edit photography and produce graphic design using industry standard programs such as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

Throughout the projects, students will develop their skills taking and editing photographs using Photoshop and creating hand-rendered and digital drawings in response to a story and learn how to arrange their illustrations and photographs with typography to create a range of creative designs.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Component 1 is to produce a portfolio of work worth 60% of the overall grade. This is made up of 2 projects that are aimed at developing and demonstrating your drawing and design skills using a range of digital and hand rendered media.

Component 2 is an Exam project that is worth 40% of the overall grade. This is a practical project that is set in January of year 11 by the exam board.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

Graphic Communication is a very open subject and can lead on to numerous creative careers. The skills you will learn during GCSE Graphics will develop your creative thinking, designing, drawing as well as learning a range of technical skills. These skills can be developed in the future study of: Fine art, Graphic Design, Illustration, Animation, Web design, Advertising, Architecture, Engineering, Fashion and textiles, Games design, Journalism, Media, Film making, Product design, Software design and Technical editing.

On successful completion of the course, you may decide to do Graphic Design A-Level or BTEC at level 3.



“You have the freedom to create what you want within a section and get good advice from an experienced teacher.”



HISTORY

COURSE OVERVIEW

The following topics will be studied:

- Thematic study and historic environment: Medicine in Britain, c1250–present *and* The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.
- British depth study: Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88.
- Period study: Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91
- Modern depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39

This will be done by:

- Investigating key events, people, changes and issues.
- Using a variety of sources, including IT, written and visual sources, artefacts, music and oral accounts.
- Considering a variety of perspectives, e.g. political, social, economic and cultural.
- Studying events from a national and international viewpoint.
- Looking at key features and characteristics of the periods, societies, situations specified, and the social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity of the societies.
- Trips and residential visits – World War One battlefields in France/Belgium, an English heritage site.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

You will learn:

- how to analyse historical evidence
- how to create and evidence an argument
- historically impacting events and periods across the world and the effect they had on people and places

Being able to find, process and present huge amounts of information means historians have excellent critical thinking and analytical skills. Your communication and research skills, both of which are valued by employers.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **EDEXCEL**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

You will sit three exams:

Paper 1:

Thematic study and historic environment (Medicine Through Time), 30% of the GCSE

Paper 2:

Period study and British depth study (Elizabeth I & Cold War), 40% of the GCSE)

Paper 3:

Modern depth study (Weimar and Nazi Germany), 30% of the GCSE)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

The history course is excellent preparation for a specific A Level in History, but also for other subjects at A level such as the Social Sciences.

Historians are able to apply their abilities, as well as knowledge of historical periods and events to roles in publishing, museums and libraries, research and education. The skills and expertise gained also come in handy for plenty of other roles from law and investment banking, to marketing and retail.



“I love learning about new topics. History is so interesting and it helps me with English too.”



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COURSE OVERVIEW

You will learn about information technology and its application to the real world.

Component 1 - Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques

Learners will develop their understanding of what makes an effective user interface and how to effectively manage a project. They will use this understanding to plan, design and create a user interface.

Component 2 - Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data

Learners will understand the characteristics of data and information and how they help organisations in decision making. They will use data manipulation methods to create a dashboard to present and draw conclusions from information.

Component 3 - Effective Digital Working Practices

Learners will explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications associated with their use. This looks at modern technologies, cyber security and the legal impact of systems.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

This is for learners interested in taking a hands-on course alongside their GCSEs that will offer them an insight into what it is like to work the Digital sector. Digital skills span all industries, and almost all jobs in the UK today require employees to have a good level of digital literacy, putting it increasingly on a par with English and maths skills

This gives you the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment.

The main focus includes areas which cover the following:

- Development of key skills such as project planning, designing and creating user interfaces, creating dashboards to present and interpret data.
- Effective ways of working in digital information technology, such as project planning, the design process, cyber security, virtual teams, legal and ethical codes of conduct.
- Attitudes that are considered most important in digital information technology, including personal management and communication.

Qualification: **BTEC**

Awarding Body: **EDEXCEL**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Examination and coursework.

Components 1 and 2 (30% each) are assessed internally through a brief (set by the exam board) that is carried out in controlled conditions in class.

Component 3 (40%) is assessed by an external written exam

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

Digital skills span all industries; almost all jobs in the UK today require employees to have a good level of digital literacy. The UK has positioned itself to be the 'digital capital of Europe' as it continues to invest billions every year in digital skills and commerce. ICT as a subject opens many doors whether it be in industry or further education.

This qualification provides a broad and solid foundation for further study of various aspects of creative computing, such as graphic design, web design, computer games design and interactive media. It supports progress to further study, including:

Level 3 BTEC in Information Technology, GCE in Media: Communication and Production, Level 3 BTEC in Creative Media Production and Level 3 Principal Learning in Creative and Media.



"This gives me really useful skills which I can use in the real world."



MUSIC

COURSE OVERVIEW

The course allows you to enjoy music through performing, composing, listening and appraising. You will study music from four contrasting Areas of Study.

The Areas of Study are:

- Forms and Devices
- Music for Ensemble (chamber music, musical theatre, and Jazz)
- Film Music
- Pop/Rock (including fusion)

This qualification supports pupils in forming personal and meaningful relationships with music through the development of musical knowledge, understanding and skills including performing, composing and appraising. The qualification encourages pupils to engage critically and creatively with a wide range of music and musical contexts, develop an understanding of the place of music in different cultures and contexts, and reflect on how music is used in the expression of personal and collective identities.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Performing is possible on any instrument including keyboard, guitar and voice. Solos and ensemble performances can be on different instruments. Performances will be recorded throughout the course to help prepare for the final performance which will take place during March of Year 11. All pupils will receive free instrumental or vocal lessons in school.

Compositions are written throughout the course and are based on the areas of study. Compositions will be recorded, although the composer does not need to record his/her own composition. Pupils will then select one free composition and one composition from a set brief for their final submission. The use of music software is actively encouraged for this part of the course.

Studying music can give you a great mix of social, technical and business skills. Not to mention discipline, composure under pressure, time management, communication, team and individual working ability - all gained from practice and performing. You might also learn technical skills through using computers, equipment and software to create and record music.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **Eduqas**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Performance (at least one song, with the total being at least 4 minutes - 30%)

Composing - You will need to do two compositions in different styles - 30%

Appraising - a written exam at the end of the course that is based on the Areas of Study and broader theoretical elements of music - 40%

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

Music encourages sensitivity, creativity, aural perception and imagination. These are applicable not only to music, but to all areas of life and work.

Music graduates have a wide range of career options available to them both inside and outside the industry, including: performer, teacher, administrator, songwriter, conductor, composer, recording engineer, manager, promoter, or music publisher. The range of roles can seem quite endless! There are also more jobs than ever in music business related areas, such as: careers in digital marketing, social media, PR, technology, label services, ticketing and merchandising. It is also common to find music graduates in consultancy, finance, banking, music therapy and legal jobs.



“Music is fun, but the theory is also an important part so make sure that you focus on the practical and theory aspects.”



PE (GCSE)

COURSE OVERVIEW

You will follow blocks of work in a variation of activities. In Year 11, you will be required to specialise in your three strongest activities, one of which must be a team sport and the other an individual sport. (There are a large number of activities to choose from).

The course does not include Dance, Swimming or Outdoor & Adventure Activities. However, those who also do GCSE Dance may select this as one of their three practical activities for assessment. Those who are good swimmers or take part in outdoor activities such as skiing, kayaking, expeditions or climbing, etc, can choose these for assessment also.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Fitness and Body Systems

- Topic 1: Applied anatomy and physiology
- Topic 2: Movement analysis
- Topic 3: Physical training
- Topic 4: Use of data

Health and Performance

- Topic 1: Health, fitness and well-being
- Topic 2: Sport psychology
- Topic 3: Socio-cultural influences
- Topic 4: Use of data

Practical Performance

Personal Exercise Programme

Additional information:

If you wish to be assessed in an activity, which is not one of the activities listed but is included in the syllabus, this will be possible if assessment procedures can be arranged.

Students will have a balance of theory and practical lessons over each fortnightly cycle.

It is essential that you attend extra-curricular clubs and practices to complement the work done in lessons and to achieve higher levels of performance and understanding.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **EDEXCEL**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Exam 1 – Fitness and Body Systems (80 marks, 36% of overall grade)

Exam 2: Health and Performance (60 marks, 24% of overall grade)

Practical Performance (30% of overall grade)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

This course provides the foundation for a wide range of courses and careers, including Level 3 courses in Sport and Physical Education.

Students with an interest in this field can take BTEC Sport Level 3 at Kimberley College. Science (biology in particular) is a subject which supports and complements further study or employment within sport.

Careers you could consider include sports journalism, PE teacher, physiotherapist, official, sports coach, sports development, fitness instructor and personal trainer.



“I find the course suits me as I get to showcase some of my practical skills and use these as part of my assessment.”



PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & ETHICS

COURSE OVERVIEW

The course is split into two sections:

Component 1: The studies of religious beliefs, teachings and practices

The two religions we study are Christianity and Islam. We will discuss challenging questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, to enable students to develop their own attitudes towards religious issues. Students will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture.

Component 2: The study of four religious philosophical and ethical themes

The themes we will be studying will be:

- Theme 1 – Religion and Life
Big questions include: Is it right to have an abortion? Should we experiment on animals? Is it right to help someone die (euthanasia)?
- Theme 2 - Religion, Peace and Conflict
Big questions include: Is war inevitable? What are weapons of mass destruction and how do they threaten world security? What is terrorism and what is its impact in the 21st century?
- Theme 3 - Religion, Crime and Punishment
Big questions include: What are the reasons for crime being committed? What are the ethical arguments for punishment – including the death penalty?
- Theme 4 – Religion, human rights and social justice
Big questions include: What is prejudice and discrimination? The history of racism and the current world picture? What are human rights and why are they important?

These themes will be taught from a Christian and Muslim perspective contrasted with other world religious and nonreligious beliefs (Islamic, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist and Humanist views will be considered).

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

To achieve the GCSE, you will need good skills in the following:

- Independence of mind and initiative.
- Interpreting, analysing and evaluating information.
- Critical thinking skills.
- Communication skills.
- Developing or defending different arguments.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

You will sit two exams:

Paper 1:

The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices (1 hour and 45 minutes, 50% of the GCSE)

Paper 2:

Thematic studies

(1 hour and 45 minutes, 50% of the GCSE)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

An education in RS would prepare pupils for a range of careers and professions including the medical profession, the legal profession, the teaching profession, social services, the armed forces, politics, working for a charity, the travel industry and many, many more. It is a highly relevant course which will prepare pupils for life beyond school in the 21st Century.



“I love learning about different beliefs and cultures and gaining a more rounded view on society. This will be very useful with the increasing diversity there is in the world. It also teaches you how to formulate an opinion, argue a point and contribute meaningfully to discussions.

Furthermore, the subject gives you a good breadth of knowledge which can be applied to other subjects.”



SEPARATE SCIENCES

COURSE OVERVIEW

Separate science is an opportunity to study the sciences in more depth. This will be an excellent starting point for A-level sciences (although not essential).

This course is offered to students who have achieved a good level 5 across the 3 sciences or by teacher recommendation in other circumstances. You must be committed to work hard for 2 years and be prepared to work outside the classroom.

For all 3 sciences you will study everything from the trilogy content with extra science added to enthuse and stretch our most-able learners.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

The broad knowledge of Biology, Chemistry and Physics develops a deep understanding of everything from Atoms, the world around us and the Universe.

Resilience when challenging concepts are being tackled and tenacity to keep asking questions and to make sure you find the answers are absolutely the keys to success.

Excellent literacy and numeracy are developed in scientific contexts to communicate evidence and conclusions clearly. To be able to work safely in the lab and to analyse results and make logical links are also extremely important skills for learning science which are developed across the two years.

Curiosity, critical thinking, organisation, analytical and communication skills are all highly valued by employers. These areas along with the ability to collate and present information will be developed during the course.



“Separate science is an amazing opportunity to go further in depth into some very interesting areas of study. We all really enjoy it and find the extra content challenges us but also helps us really understand the topics.”



Qualification:

Biology: GCSE

Chemistry: GCSE

Physics: GCSE

Awarding Body: AQA

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Examinations:

- All assessment towards your GCSE grades are through terminal exams.
- 6 exam papers in total for the three sciences, 1 hr 45 minutes each.
- Exam papers will have questions on both theoretical and practical work.
- You will be awarded a grade for each of the 3 sciences. These could all be different grades, so any particular strengths can be seen.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

You will be able to study A-Level Biology, Chemistry or Physics at Kimberley. The ‘gang of four’, includes Maths, chemistry, biology and physics. If you know you would like to do a science-related degree, you’ll need to pick at least two of these when it comes to choosing your A Levels.

Biology – a key subject for careers in healthcare and medicine as well as jobs involving plants, animals and the natural world. Food scientists, horticulturalists, and environmental activist also use biological knowledge in their work.

Chemistry – a key subject for working in the NHS and labs, to technology companies and business.

Physics – a really useful subject for the majority of STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) careers

SPANISH

COURSE OVERVIEW

Modern foreign languages focus on phonics, vocabulary and grammar while developing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Language learning broadens horizons and enables greater global understanding through exposure to the culture, traditions and history of the language being studied.

Students study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based.

Theme 1: People and Lifestyle

Theme 2: Popular Culture

Theme 3: Communication and the world around us.

The course builds on work completed in Year 9. Students will continue to develop the four key skills of reading, listening, writing and speaking and will have the opportunity to work with the French Assistant.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

The course will give you cultural knowledge whilst developing your language skills. By the end of Year 11, you will be able to:

- Follow and understand clear standard speech and written texts across a range of contexts;
- Take part in a short conversation, asking and answering questions, and exchanging opinions;
- Produce clear and coherent extended written work to present facts and express ideas and opinions.

Speaking another language makes you stand out from the crowd and helps you gain many transferable skills such as problem-solving, the ability to work in a team, flexibility and greater awareness of other cultures. You will also develop your communication, critical thinking, independence, resourcefulness and adaptability which are all vital skills for the workplace.

“Spanish is a lot of fun as it is a cool language but it can be very difficult at times so you have to commit to it and really try your hardest. It is very rewarding though and will be worth it in the end.”

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

The assessment is split into 4 papers:

- 25% - Writing examination
- 25% - Speaking examination
- 25% - Listening examination
- 25% - Reading examination

This is a tiered entry subject.

Foundation Tier – Grades 5 - 1

Higher Tier – Grades 9 - 3

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

Languages are one of the EBACC subjects, one of the subjects which provide students with greater opportunities in further education and employment. Languages are considered a subject essential to many degree courses and open up a wider variety of options for future study and work.

Employers are keen on finding candidates with a language qualification at any level and the salary offered can be between 8 to 20% higher, were you to use your language in the workplace. Here are a few examples of careers where languages are needed or useful:

International Law and Government, Management and Marketing, Travel and Tourism, Translation, Engineering, Teaching, Medicine.

Languages are facilitating subjects, according to The Russell Group Universities. These are subjects which can set candidates apart and give them an advantage during the selection process.

Whether you want to develop your communication skills, multi-task effectively, become adept at analysing situations and coming up with solutions, languages can help you build the skill set you need to get ahead.

TEXTILE DESIGN

COURSE OVERVIEW

Textile Design is a creative course that will inspire all budding designers. You can demonstrate your creative passion through a full range of techniques and ideas inspired by artists, textile and fashion designers. You will be working with an arrangement of different disciplines embracing both contemporary and traditional technologies.

In Year 10 you will be developing your skills in research; exploring the work of artists, designers and traditional cultural techniques to help shape your ideas. You will learn how to develop your illustrations and how to translate these into textile pieces for fashion, accessories or interior textiles. You will be encouraged to experiment with many embellishment and construction skills. In Year 11 you be developing and completing your final practical piece and then will move onto a new project, the theme of which is set by the exam board.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

Unit 1: (60% of grade) - Personal Portfolio in Textiles/Fashion Design – You will produce one substantial portfolio of work for a given theme plus additional pieces of work; these projects could be either Fashion based or surface Textiles. In the projects you will research around the theme, undertake experiments trialling various techniques, refine and develop your ideas and then produce a final piece for fashion, accessories or interiors.

Unit Two: (40% of grade) Practical examination. Externally Set Assignment in Art Textiles and Fashion. The externally set assignment represents the culmination of the GCSE course in Year 11. The aim is to encourage students to take increasing responsibility for their work and to work more independently. The exam will consist of 10 hours under supervision to produce a personalised response.

You will develop your research skills, confidence, independence and resourcefulness. This subject will also develop your critical thinking, project management and attention to detail. These abilities will make you a strong candidate for careers both within and outside of textiles/fashion/design, including marketing, business management and retail.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

60% Component 1 (continuous coursework), 40% Component 2 (with a 10-hour practical exam)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

This course prepares students to move onto A-Level Textiles at Kimberley College.

Through the practical and theoretical components textile design and at A level the technology side, the courses will teach you how to channel your creative energy in productive ways.

After A level studies past students have progressed to higher education courses in Fashion Buying, Fashion/Textile/Costume/Product design, Clothing/Textiles Technology, Interior Design and Fashion Marketing. Many of our students have progressed to study Textiles/Fashion design and/or business related courses at University.



'I enjoy textiles because I like the freedom, we are given to create whatever we wish around a certain theme with guidance from our teachers. I also find it a very fun subject as it is less based around tests and more coursework driven'.



