Poltair School Key Stage 4 Curriculum 2023-2024

Contents

An Ambitious Curriculum

All students follow a curriculum at KS4 that is ambitious for them. We want every learner to be highly motivated by the courses that they are studying and have a clear ambition of what post-16 study and employment opportunities their curriculum will lead them to.

Every student is given access to Career Pilot https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/ which is a fantastic place to start for learning about different types of qualifications, the range of further and higher education and entry requirements to various jobs.

Studying the English Baccalaureate

The Government expects most learners to follow a programme of study called the English Baccalaureate, or the EBacc. To gain the full EBacc, students must gain the equivalent of a Grade 5 or above in the following subject areas:

- **English Language and English Literature (core)**
- **Mathematics (core)**
- **Science (core)**
- **a Humanities subject (Geography or History)**
- **a Modern Foreign Language (French or Spanish)**

These subjects give students a breadth of learning across the curriculum and are seen to give students the best opportunities for future study.

Many schools have chosen to reduce their options offer from four options to three options. We feel that it is important that students have a broad and balanced curriculum and have chosen to retain four options to ensure that **students can study a language and a humanities** subject and **can still select two further options.**

Why is studying a language important?

The benefits of **learning languages** are undeniable. People who speak more than one **language** have improved memory, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, enhanced concentration, ability to multitask, and better listening skills. It helps students to become confident communicators, able to speak publicly and promote themselves effectively- important life skills. It helps with understanding other cultures and develops tolerance and understanding. All in all, it not only helps to improve students' performance in all subject areas, it provides many varied future education and employment opportunities, alongside developing rounded individuals.

Why is studying a humanities subject important?

Humanities subjects enable students to **learn about the world** around them and to **understand different cultures and to develop curiosity, creativity and empathy**. It gives an insight to how humans shaped our past and will inform the future. Students are expected to study a minimum of one humanities subject but are welcome to choose both humanities subjects, as many of our students do.

How is time allocated in Key Stage 4?

English	7 x 75 minutes
Mathematics	6 X 75 minutes
Science	8 X 75 minutes
Option A	4 x 75 minutes
Option B	4 x 75 minutes
Option C	4 x 75 minutes
Option D	4 x 75 minutes
PE	2 x 75 minutes
PSHE and RE	1 x 75 minutes

An explanation of qualifications and exam boards

There are a wide variety of qualifications available to students and it is important that you and your child understand the difference between the qualifications so that they can make informed decisions about which style of learning is best for them.

GCSE	General Certificate Secondary Education: GCSEs will be graded 9–1, with grade 5 considered a good pass and grade 9 being the highest.
BTEC	This stands for Business and Technology Council qualification. BTEC qualifications are vocational and include links to industry. We have selected BTEC qualifications that have excellent progression routes to local colleges and links to high levels of employment in Cornwall, nationally and globally.

Every subject follows a specification from a chosen exam board. Exam boards are chosen by subject leaders who consider the subject content and method of assessment to determine what is right for our students. The exam boards are linked on each subject page in this guide but for each of reference, are also listed below. This guide provides a summary of each qualification, but we would encourage you to look at the exam board specification for full details.

	Subject	Exam Board	Link to specification
Core	English Language	AQA	is.gd/englishlanguagepoltair
	English Literature	AQA	is.gd/englishliteraturepoltair
	Mathematics	Edexcel	is.gd/mathematicspoltair
	Separate Sciences	AQA	is.gd/separatesciencespoltair
	Combined Science	AQA	is.gd/combinedsciencepoltair
EBaCC	Computer Science	OCR	is.gd/computersciencepoltair
	Geography	AQA	is.gd/geographypoltair
	History	Pearson Edexcel	is.gd/historypoltair
	Spanish	Pearson Edexcel	is.gd/spanishpoltair
Open	Art and Design	AQA	is.gd/artpoltair
	Creative Media Production	Pearson Edexcel	is.gd/mediapoltair
	Design Technology	AQA	is.gd/dtpoltair
	Health and Social Care	Pearson Edexcel	is.gd/healthandsocialcarepoltair
	Hospitality and Catering	WJEC	is.gd/hospitalityandcateringpoltair
	Music	Pearson Edexcel	is.gd/musicpoltair
	Performing Arts (Acting)	Pearson Edexcel	is.gd/performingartsactingpoltair
	Religious Studies	AQA	https://is.gd/REPoltair
	Sport	Pearson Edexcel	is.gd/sportpoltair

Core Curriculum

(Studied by all students)

GCSE English Language

(Exam Board: AQA https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700)

Overview

English Language is a powerful subject, where we hope our students become lifelong literary explorers who will take delight in reading, writing and thinking. English Language is a subject that fosters creativity - not just in the texts we, and our students read, but also in how we teach our students to respond, think and change in relation to them.

What will you study?

You will develop the skills you need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts spanning the 19th century to the present day. You will also be taught how to write clearly, coherently and accurately using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures. Having read and analysed the linguistic and structural features of a range of text, you will then produce your own fiction and non-fiction texts.
You will also develop the skills required to be a confident and coherent speaker as part of the course NEA, where you will prepare and present a speech on a topic of your choice.

How will you be assessed?

GCSE English Language is assessed through end of course examinations.
You will sit two 1hr and 45 min examinations at the end of Year 11.

Paper One: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing
- Section A - Reading and Responding to Fiction
- Section B - Creative Writing

Paper Two: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives
- Section A - Reading and Responding to Non-Fiction
- Section B - Transactional Writing

NEA Spoken Language presentation – internally assessed by teachers of English.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Written and verbal communication skills.	▪ Interpretive abilities, and an understanding of how language works.	▪ Close analysis skills, and the ability to construct a well-argued case.

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Solicitor ▪ Primary Teacher ▪ Secondary Teacher ▪ Marketing / PR ▪ Corporate Blogger	▪ Doctor ▪ Vet ▪ Journalist / News Reporter ▪ Social Media Manager	▪ Event Planner ▪ English Teaching Abroad ▪ Writer ▪ Editor / Publisher

GCSE English Literature

(Exam Board: AQA
https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702)

Overview

Through our study of English Literature, students will read a rich range of novels, poems, plays, works of history, philosophy, theory and more! Study of Literature from Shakespeare to more contemporary writers enable our students to grow into compassionate adults who are capable of reflecting upon their life's experiences with exceptional empathy and humility.

What will you study?

You will develop the skills you need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of literary texts covering many time periods. The set texts for the exams, include:

- A Shakespeare play;
- A C19th novel;
- A modern drama;
- A selection of poetry from the late C18th all the way to the present day.

In addition, you will read around the set texts, exploring the social and historical context of these works.

How will you be assessed?

GCSE English Literature is assessed through end of course examinations

Paper One: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel (1hr 45 min – 40% of GCSE)

- Section A – Reading Shakespeare
- Extract analysis – then links across the play.
- Section B – Reading 19th-century novel
- Extract analysis – then links across the novel.

Paper Two: Modern texts and poetry (2hrs 15 min – 60% of GCSE)

- Section A – Modern drama text
- Section B – Poetry Anthology comparison
- Section C – Two unseen poems

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Empathy and compassion for others.	▪ Research, analysis and critical skills, with an eye for detail.	▪ Written communication and a creative mind.

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Digital copywriter ▪ Editorial assistant. ▪ English as a foreign language teacher ▪ Advertising ▪ Law ▪ Politics	▪ Magazine journalist ▪ Newspaper journalist ▪ Publishing copy-editor/proof-reader ▪ Arts administrator	▪ Web content manager ▪ Writer ▪ Academic librarian ▪ Primary school teacher

GCSE Mathematics

(Exam Board: AQA
https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300)

Overview

Just as languages provide the building blocks and rules we need to communicate, Mathematics uses its own language, made up of numbers, symbols and formulas, to explore the rules we need to measure or identify essential problems like distance, speed, time, space, change, force and quantities.

Studying mathematics helps us find patterns and structure in our lives. Practically, mathematics helps us put a price on things, create graphics, build websites, build skyscrapers and generally understand how things work or predict how they might change over time and under different conditions.

What will you study?

Numbers: Integers, negative numbers, number properties, decimals, fractions, percentages, indices and standard index form.
Algebra: Use of symbols, equations, sequences, formulae, graphs and proof.
Ratio: Sharing amounts in a ratio, similarity, proportion and rates of change.
Geometry: Area, perimeter and volume, angles, properties of shapes, transformations, constructions, measures, Pythagoras' theorem, trigonometry and vectors.
Probability & Statistics: Probability, Venn diagrams, frequency trees, data collections, statistical measures, representing data, interpreting data.

How will you be assessed?

GCSE Mathematics has a Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) and a Higher tier (grades 4 – 9). Students must take three question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series.

The information in the table below is the same for both Foundation and Higher tiers.

The Subject content section shows the content that is assessed in each tier.

Paper 1: non-calculator	Paper 2: calculator	Paper 3: calculator
What's assessed Content from any part of the specification may be assessed	**What's assessed** Content from any part of the specification may be assessed	**What's assessed** Content from any part of the specification may be assessed
How it's assessed • written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes • 80 marks • non-calculator • 33⅓% of the GCSE Mathematics assessment	**How it's assessed** • written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes • 80 marks • calculator allowed • 33⅓% of the GCSE Mathematics assessment	**How it's assessed** • written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes • 80 marks • calculator allowed • 33⅓% of the GCSE Mathematics assessment
Questions A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.	**Questions** A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.	**Questions** A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Problem Solving	▪ Logical Thinking	▪ Numerical Awareness
▪ Data Analysis	▪ Attention to detail	▪ Teamwork
▪ Communication	▪ Resilience	▪ Presentation

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Actuary	▪ Software Engineer	▪ Engineer
▪ Special Effects Director	▪ Forensic Scientist	▪ Architect
▪ Business Analyst	▪ Astronaut	▪ Speech technology
▪ Cryptanalyst	▪ Technology Analyst	▪ Maths Teacher

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

(Exam Board: AQA https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464)

Overview

Through the study of science, we encourage students to show a curiosity for learning and a desire to know and understand the world in which they live. Through the delivery of knowledge and practical work from Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics, we are able to intrigue learners, inspire them and enable them to become capable of making sense of and improving the world in which they live.

What will you study?

During Year 10, students will be taught the **knowledge, skills and understanding** of how science works through the study of homeostasis, ecology, biodiversity, bioenergetics, inheritance and evolution, atomic structure, bonding, organic chemistry, quantitative chemistry, chemical and energy changes, types of energy, electricity, matter, atomic structure, forces and magnetism. During Year 11, students will study, rates of reaction, chemical analysis and waves. The course includes 21 required practical investigations.

Students will:

- develop their interest in, and enthusiasm for, science
- develop a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods
- develop their understanding of how science works and its role in society
- acquire scientific skills, knowledge and understanding for progression to further learning.
- learn about careers in science

How will you be assessed?

There are six exam papers, completed at the end of Year 11: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas and is worth 70 marks. Questions consist of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Use of appropriate apparatus and techniques for the observation and measurement of biological and chemical changes and/or processes. ▪ Evaluate data and communicate results.	▪ Application and rearranging of mathematical equations. Conversion of scientific units. How to recognise and handle hazards.	▪ Manipulating and analysing data. Problem solving. Identifying and controlling variables. Use a variety of models. Make predictions and develop scientific explanations.

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Doctor ▪ Research scientist ▪ Dentist ▪ Radiographer ▪ Botanist ▪ Marine biologist	▪ Geologist ▪ Engineer ▪ Nuclear physicist ▪ Frogman ▪ Pharmacist ▪ Nurse	▪ Midwife ▪ Vet ▪ Hairdresser ▪ Astronaut ▪ Laboratory technician ▪ Dietician and nutritionist

GCSE Separate Sciences

(Exam Board: AQA https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse)

Overview

Science underpins our world. By studying Separate Science, learners will develop fundamental scientific ideas as well as promote curiosity about our world and beyond. Students will acquire life-long skills that will enable them to investigate, question, problem solve and critically think across a wide range of applications. The course embeds crucial literacy and numeracy skills through data handling and reciprocal reading of Scientific literature to enable them to be successful, independent learners.

What will you study?

GCSE Biology

During Year 10 students will be taught the **knowledge, skills and understanding** of how science works through the study of organisation, infection and response, ecology, biodiversity and homeostasis. During Year 11, students will study inheritance, evolution and variation.

GCSE Chemistry

During Year 10 students will be taught the **knowledge, skills and understanding** of how science works through the study of atomic structure, bonding, organic chemistry, chemical and energy changes, rates of reaction, quantitative chemistry and using resources. During Year 11, students will study chemical analysis.

GCSE Physics

During Year 10, students will be taught the **knowledge, skills and understanding** of how science works through the study of particle model of matter, electricity and energy, atomic structure and forces. During Year 11, students will study waves, magnetism and space physics.

Each subject includes 8-10 required practical investigations.

How will you be assessed?

There are six exam papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics.

Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas and is worth 100 marks. Questions consist of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

- Use of appropriate apparatus and techniques for the observation and measurement of biological and chemical changes and/or processes.
- Evaluate data and communicate results.
- Application and rearranging of mathematical equations. Conversion of scientific units. How to recognise and handle hazards.
- Manipulating and analysing data. Problem solving. Identifying and controlling variables. Use a variety of models. Make predictions and develop scientific explanations.

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

- Doctor
- Research scientist
- Dentist
- Radiographer
- Botanist
- Marine biologist
- Geologist
- Engineer
- Nuclear physicist
- Frogman
- Pharmacist
- Nurse
- Midwife
- Vet
- Hairdresser
- Astronaut
- Laboratory technician
- Dietician and nutritionist

Core PE

Overview

Core PE uses the passion and power of sport to improve the health benefits of the next generation through an inclusive curriculum that caters for all.

What will you study?

Students will study a broad and balanced physical education curriculum, offering students the opportunity to take part in both team and individual sports. Students will be placed on a pathway and take part in traditional games activities including football, rugby, netball, cricket and rounders. This will also be complemented by other activities including table tennis, basketball, orienteering, fitness, athletics and hockey.

How will you be assessed?

Core PE lessons at KS4 will link to three main areas:

- AF1 – Practical ability
- AF2 – Health and Fitness
- AF3 – Evaluating and Improving.

Students will be assessed in a variety of sports depending on their pathway. Students will also be assessed by Engagement with Learning Grades. With the Core PE curriculum being focused on promoting a healthy active lifestyle, a large focus will be on students' attitudes and effort made in lessons.

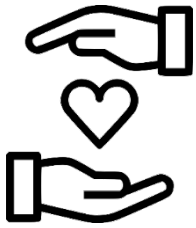
What skills will you gain from this subject?

• Physical Fitness • Sportsmanship	• Communication • Evaluation	• Teamwork • Social Interactions

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ PE Teacher ▪ Fitness Instructor ▪ Personal Trainer	▪ Health Care Worker ▪ Physio Therapist ▪ Sports Therapy	▪ Sports Coach ▪ Referee / official ▪ Leisure Assistant

Personal Development



Overview

Personal Development focuses on preparing you for a happy, healthy adulthood with a focus on the relationship you have with yourself and other people.

What will you study?

Personal Development is a non-examined subject that covers Religious Education, Citizenship, Mental Health, Sex and Relationships, Drugs and Alcohol Awareness and other topics to help prepare you for a happy and healthy adulthood.

The Personal Development Curriculum joins closely with other subjects across the school on a variety of topics, such as being safe online, the dangers of Drugs and Alcohol, and the development and the importance of Democracy. Lessons focus on debate, discussion, reading for understanding, and forming judgements and opinions about important issues.

In Year 10, we study:	In Year 11 we study
▪ People and Protests ▪ Christianity ▪ Staying safe with a focus on healthy and unhealthy relationships. ▪ The world of work ▪ Islam ▪ Politics and the big Questions	▪ Mental Health and Pressure with a focus on revision techniques ▪ Religion and the big life questions: Religion, peace and conflict with a focus on Christianity ▪ Respectful relationships with a focus on safe sexual relationships ▪ Religion and the big life questions: Relationships and Families with a focus on Islam ▪ Being active and happy.

How will you be assessed?

Personal Development is a non-examined subject. Instead, we use a number of different techniques to develop and assess your knowledge and understanding of the subject. These include:

- Debates and discussions
- Reaching and justifying conclusions
- Asking and answering challenging questions to help you to extend and justify ideas
- Arguing from a different point of view from your own
- Reading for understanding and summarising key arguments and points of view

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Debating ▪ Researching a point of view different from your own	▪ Creating questions ▪ Empathy and the importance of supporting others	▪ Justifying conclusions ▪ Structuring an argument and agreeing to disagree

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Solicitor ▪ Researcher ▪ Doctor	▪ Youth Worker ▪ Politician ▪ Teacher	▪ Financial Advisor ▪ Civil Servant ▪ Public Services

EBACC Curriculum

GCSE French

(Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel
https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/french-2016.html)

Overview

Taking French at GCSE offers an invaluable opportunity for students to hone their language skills and become confident French speakers. Over the next two years, you will have the chance to really immerse yourself in both the language and culture of France and French-speaking countries around the world, building on your current knowledge and discovering a wealth of new skills.

All lessons focus on natural and spontaneous language use, enabling students to adapt to a range of scenarios from everyday conversations and holiday exchanges, to writing articles on the global issues that concern you the most.

What will you study?

Throughout years 10 and 11 you will broaden your understanding of French culture and language, consolidating prior learning and covering a wide range of linguistic and grammatical structures to ensure you become confident communicators, who are fully prepared for the GCSE and future French study.

By the end of Year 11, you will have thoroughly explored the 5 key themes included in the GCSE exams- identity and culture; local area, holidays and travel; school; future aspirations, study and work; as well as international and global dimensions.

All lessons focus on building your confidence in using the language for a wide range of purposes incorporating the key skills that you will need when using French abroad, taking the GCSE and in preparing for further study at A-level.

How will you be assessed?

- Paper 1: Listening (Higher or Foundation)
- Paper 2: Speaking (Higher or Foundation)
- Paper 3: Reading (Higher or Foundation)
- Paper 4: Writing (Higher or Foundation)

All the papers are externally set and marked by Edexcel. Each paper is worth 25% of the course.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ French is an integral part of the EBACC route and as such is highly valued by all colleges and universities around the world ▪ You can communicate confidently when travelling abroad	▪ It is also essential if you wish to go on to study the International Baccalaureate at local colleges ▪ You gain a deeper understanding of your own language	▪ Language students develop a greater understanding of other cultures and ways of life ▪ Learning a language always opens doors!

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Broadcast journalist ▪ Translator ▪ Flight Attendant ▪ International aid/development worker ▪ Broadcast journalist	▪ Teacher ▪ Interpreter ▪ Proof-reader ▪ Digital marketing ▪ Political risk analyst ▪ English as a foreign language teacher	▪ Diplomat ▪ Tour Guide ▪ Holiday Rep ▪ Marketing executive ▪ Diplomatic service officer And many more!

GCSE Geography

(Exam Board: AQA
https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035)

Overview

GCSE Geography is a 21st century subject that will provide you with a wide range of knowledge and understanding of the world you live in. Employers recognise the wide range of skills developed in the study of Geography, for example, numeracy, literacy, statistics, geo-politics and environmental issues.

What will you study?

The geography course will give you the chance to explore some of the big questions which affect our world and understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our planet. This course offers students the opportunity to study elements of human and physical geography as well as gaining real life field work experience in urban and natural environments. Students immerse themselves in global issues such as climate change, weather hazards and changing global trade patterns.

How will you be assessed?

This course is graded using the 9-1 marking system and is assessed through 3 examinations which make up 100% of the qualification:

Paper 1: Living with the physical environment - Written exam-1hr 30mins 35% of GCSE
Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment - Written exam-1hr 30mins 35% of GCSE
Paper 3: Geographical applications - Written exam-1hr 30mins 35% of GCSE

What skills will you gain from this subject?

- Map work
- Enquiry
- Numeracy
- Literacy
- Teamwork
- Decision-making
- Statistics
- Graph interpretation
- Creative thinking
- Fieldwork
- ICT
- Cartography

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

- Architect
- Town planner
- Civil engineer
- Armed forces
- Environmental consultant
- Quantity surveyor
- Nature conservation officer
- Political advisor
- Cartographer
- Statistician
- Climatologist
- Team leader
- Travel agent
- Estate agent
- Ecotourism manager
- Scientist
- Farm manager
- Researcher
- Journalist

GCSE History

Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel:
https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html

Overview

History is *literally* the study of everything that has ever happened! At GCSE level, we have picked the absolute highlights, the most interesting parts of world history, for you to study over the next two years.

What will you study?

We will be studying:

- **Medicine Through Time –** How has medicine changed from medieval times to now? Did people really think sitting by a sewer would stop them getting ill?
- **Elizabethan England** – How successful was England's first long reigning Queen Regnant? How did the Tudors not only take over England, but change the world?
- **American West –** How hard was it to live in America in the 1800s? What happened to the Native Americans? Was what happened to them a 'genocide'?
- **Nazi Germany**- How did Hitler get elected to be leader of Germany? Why did people vote for him?

How will you be assessed?

There are 3 exam papers in History – but don't panic! You will be tested on the skills we have been working on throughout Years 7-9 so all of you will be able to access it. These are the skills:

- **Assessment Objective 1 –** Knowledge -35% of marks
- **Assessment Objective 2 –** Secondary Concepts (Cause and Consequence, Change and Continuity, Significance) - 35% of marks
- **Assessment Objective 3 –** Primary Source Analysis – 15% of marks
- **Assessment Objective 4 –** Historian's Interpretations – 15% of marks

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Analysis ▪ Evaluation ▪ Retention of knowledge	▪ Provenance ▪ Making links between topics ▪ Decision making	▪ Argumentation ▪ Literacy ▪ Dealing with factors and how they influence decisions

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Journalist ▪ Politician ▪ Architect ▪ Lawyer ▪ Police Officer ▪ Teacher	▪ Archaeologist ▪ Lecturer ▪ Museum Officer ▪ Business owner ▪ Writer ▪ Solicitor	▪ Working in finance ▪ Broadcaster ▪ Project Manager

GCSE Spanish

(Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel
https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/spanish-2016.html)

Overview

Taking Spanish at GCSE offers an invaluable opportunity for students to hone their language skills and become confident Spanish speakers. Over the next two years, you will have the chance to really immerse yourself in both the language and culture of Spain and Spanish -speaking countries around the world, building on your current knowledge and discovering a wealth of new skills.

All lessons focus on natural and spontaneous language use, enabling students to adapt to a range of scenarios from everyday conversations and holiday exchanges, to writing articles on the global issues that concern you the most.

What will you study?

Throughout years 10 and 11 you will broaden your understanding of Spanish culture and language, consolidating prior learning and covering a wide range of linguistic and grammatical structures to ensure you become confident communicators, who are fully prepared for the GCSE and future Spanish study.

By the end of Year 11, you will have thoroughly explored the 5 key themes included in the GCSE exams- identity and culture; local area, holidays and travel; school; future aspirations, study and work; as well as international and global dimensions.

All lessons focus on building your confidence in using the language for a wide range of purposes incorporating the key skills that you will need when using Spanish abroad, taking the GCSE and in preparing for further study at A-level.

How will you be assessed?

- Paper 1: Listening (Higher or Foundation)
- Paper 2: Speaking (Higher or Foundation)
- Paper 3: Reading (Higher or Foundation)
- Paper 4: Writing (Higher or Foundation)

All the papers are externally set and marked by Edexcel. Each paper is worth 25% of the course.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

- Spanish is an integral part of the EBACC route and as such is highly valued by all colleges and universities around the world
- You can communicate confidently when travelling abroad
- It is also essential if you wish to go on to study the International Baccalaureate at the colleges of Truro, Callywith or Plymouth
- Learning a language always opens doors!
- Language students develop a greater understanding of other cultures and ways of life
- You gain a deeper understanding of your own language

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

- Broadcast journalist
- Translator
- Flight Attendant
- International aid/development worker
- Broadcast journalist
- Teacher
- Interpreter
- Proof-reader
- Digital marketing
- Political risk analyst
- English as a foreign language teacher
- Diplomat
- Tour Guide
- Holiday Rep
- Marketing executive
- Diplomatic service officer
- And many more!

Options Curriculum

(In alphabetical order)

GCSE Art and Design

(Exam Board: AQA https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206)

Overview

GCSE Art & Design will provide students with the opportunity to explore and generate ideas through research, observation, perception and aspiration. Demonstrating and extending knowledge that reflects greater depth, context and understanding of the world around us. Experimenting with a range of materials, techniques and processes that inform final outcomes. Evaluating and reflecting on their work and the work of others to create independence. Preparing pupils for further education through experience and knowledge.

What will you study?

We will Introduce students to a range of materials and techniques. Exploring how we see and how we learn and developing and enhancing drawing and painting skills. We will then move onto a design brief. The design industry accounts for 80% of all creative jobs in the UK. Students will be introduced to 5 different strands of design (5 main further education courses) Graphics, Fashion, Textiles, Contemporary Crafts & Architecture. They will then explore and develop their own ideas and realise their designs. In year 11 we will focus on individual independent work that will enable the exploration of their ideas and interests.

How will you be assessed?

GCSE Art & Design has two components:

- Component 1 is the coursework folder of work that accounts for 60% of the final grade. This is all the work undertaken in class over the duration of the course.
- Component 2 is the externally set exam which accounts for 40% of the final grade. Pupils will be required to sit a 10-hour exam as part of the externally set exam (component 2).

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Problem solving	▪ Independent thinking	▪ Analyses
▪ Creative thinking	▪ Independent working	▪ Contextualisation
▪ Idea development	▪ Communication	▪ Empathy
▪ Time management	▪ Decision making	▪ Cultural understanding
▪ Resilience	▪ Perseverance	▪ Enquiry
▪ Planning skills	▪ Research skills	▪ 3D & modelling

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Fashion Designer	▪ Fashion buyer	▪ Textiles designer
▪ Games Designer	▪ Fashion marketing	▪ Garden Designer
▪ Architect	▪ Milliner	▪ Town Planner
▪ Hairdresser	▪ Cobbler	▪ Furniture Designer
▪ Graphic Designer	▪ Set Design	▪ Advertising
▪ Illustrator	▪ Costume Design	▪ Marketing
▪ Car designer	▪ Hair for stage and Film	▪ Toy Design
▪ Education	▪ Digital Arts	▪ Media Arts
▪ Community Arts	▪ Web Design	▪ CGI Film Animation
▪ Health Arts	▪ Props Designer	
▪ Engineering	▪ Product Design	

GCSE Computer Science

(Exam Board: OCR https://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j277-from-2020/

Overview

Computer Science is part of everything we do. Studying the subject can open the door to many different careers and give you an opportunity to make a positive difference in the world. The course is a mixture of practical programming, which draws on creative and mathematical skills, and the theory and ethics of computers.

What will you study?

- Computer Programming (planning, coding and troubleshooting programs)
- Problem Solving (Simplifying a problem into logical steps)
- How data is encoded on a computer (images, sounds & text)
- How data is stored on different media (DVDs, HDDs, Flash Memory)
- How computers communicate via Networks including the Internet
- Computer system threats and cyber security
- Ethical, Legal and Environmental Concerns

How will you be assessed?

- 2 x Written Exams in Year 11
- Computational Thinking, Algorithms & Programming Exam 50%
- Computer Systems Exam 50%

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Problem-solving, critical thinking and complex analytical skills. Experience of meeting particular end-user requirements. Team working.	▪ Coding skills using Python – an industry recognised coding language. ▪ Resilience through developing and testing applications.	▪ Creativity – the ability to shape the future of how people interact with technology. ▪ Ability to reflect on the impact of technology in society.

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Software Developer ▪ Database Administrator ▪ Computer Network Architect ▪ Aerospace Industries ▪ Systems Engineer ▪ Police Force Digital Crime Officer	▪ Network Manager ▪ Information Systems Manager ▪ Architectural Consultant ▪ Transport Planning ▪ Cyber Crime Lawyer	▪ Web Developer ▪ Computer Programmer ▪ Computer Games developer ▪ Animation Designer ▪ Sound and Lighting Engineer

BTEC Tech Award in Creative Media Production

(Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/creative-media-production-2022.html)

Overview

As technology, creativity, and competition increases on a global scale, in the world of media, IT and design, studying a subject like Creative Media will **equip you with the communication and technology skills needed to succeed in the modern workplace, whether in the media industry or not**.

What will you study?

- Development of key skills in creative media production such as investigating and developing ideas through pre-production, production and post-production of media products.
- Responding to briefs and feedback, planning and generating ideas
- Developing Digital Media production skills, within applications such as Adobe Photoshop, Premiere Pro and After Effects.
- Learning how to effectively develop research skills and stylistic and technical skills

How will you be assessed?

BTEC Creative Media Production is split over three components. Component 1 is for students to develop their knowledge and understanding of the way in which media products are created and how they create meaning. Component 2 focusses on developing Digital Media production skills and component 3 combines the skills learnt over the course to create a media product in response to a brief.

BTEC Creative Media Production is 100% coursework. The first two components are assessed internally, and the third component is assessed externally.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Planning Skills ▪ Research Skills	▪ Time Management ▪ Critical Thinking	▪ Self-Motivation ▪ Digital Skills

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Video Producer/video Editor ▪ Graphic Designer ▪ Advertising ▪ Multimedia Specialist ▪ Researcher	▪ Online/Print Editor ▪ Visual Design Consultant ▪ Press industry ▪ Web Content Manager ▪ Media Planner	▪ Brand Manager ▪ Music Industry ▪ Social Media ▪ Runner broadcasting/film/video ▪ Public Relations Officer

GCSE Design and Technology

(Exam Board: AQA https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/gcse/design-and-technology-8552)

Overview

Design is vital occupation with a growing number of well-paid opportunities locally, nationally, and internationally. The skill of designing will allow you to enter fields that are technical, such as green energy or digital interface design or development of sports equipment. Or fields that want broader creativity such as furniture design, production jewellery design, product design or architecture. The skills you develop in this subject are in massive demand and they will allow you to create a portfolio that shows off your amazing physical, digital and technical capabilities. This qualification will help to prepare you for apprenticeships, A levels and a huge range of degree level qualifications before going on to employment or freelance work.

What will you study?

Students will learn to become a successful designer and manufacturer of unique products using wood, metal and plastics, including mechanisms and electronics. You will learn to use both CAD/CAM and traditional tools to make quality products which meet the needs of specific customers or problems. Pupils may specialise in their own material area once they experience a range of materials and processes which include:

- Using computer aided design and computer aided manufacturing to create and test ideas and concepts.
- Using a range of sketching and technical drawing skills to communicate the details of your design ideas.
- Using a range of hand tools and equipment to mark out and shape components for their own products.

How will you be assessed?

This GCSE will the opportunity to develop your own ideas in a series of short tasks as well as completing a major design and make project as the NEA assessment.

- **Non-Examination Assessment - 50%** A single coursework task in which students investigate a specific need and come up with a product that solves the problem and is suitable for manufacturing. This will require hand sketching and Computer Aided Design (CAD) skills.
- **Written Assessment - 50%** which will test your knowledge of materials, processes, mechanisms, electronics, smart and modern materials, sustainability and the design process.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Computer Aided design. ▪ 3D drawing ▪ Problem solving ▪ Sketching ▪ Modelmaking	▪ Computer Aided Manufacturing such as laser engraving and 3D Printing ▪ Presentation and communication	▪ Marking out, cutting and shaping a range of materials with hand tools and machines.

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Furniture Design ▪ Industrial Design ▪ 3-Dimensional Design	▪ Yacht/vehicle design ▪ Architecture ▪ Jewellery design	▪ Interior Design ▪ CAD Developer ▪ CAM Technician

WJEC Engineering

(Exam Board: WJEC
https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/engineering-level-1-2/#tab_overview)

Overview

The Engineering qualification will enable you to develop an understanding of how Engineers work and contribute to society and the world. Engineers solve problems by applying their knowledge of materials and processes to make things more efficiently. The sector specific skills taught in this qualification will support you in going on to an apprenticeship or further study at A level and beyond. There is a global shortage of skilled engineers and career prospects are very varied and well paid.

What will you study?

You will be shown a number of different Engineering techniques and processes such as marking out, shaping materials and drawing techniques.
You will also carry out a number of different practical projects that help you develop manufacturing skills using the full range of engineering equipment. Computer Aided Design will be carried out throughout the course so that you learn how to communicate the details of your engineered products.
You will also be taught about the theory of materials and processes so that you are ready to operate in an engineering workplace.

How will you be assessed?

There are three units assessed in the course:
Unit 1 Manufacturing Engineering components 40 % of Marks
You will be given a series of technical drawings of a product and you will plan and manufacture all parts to create a finished, working product.
Unit 2 Designing Engineering components 20**%** of Marks
You will be given an example product that needs some improvements made- you will analyse the products and then use drawing, CAD and modelmaking techniques, to come up with an improved version of your own.
Unit 3 Solving Engineering problems (written paper) 40 **%** of marks

What skills will you gain from this subject?

- Computer Aided Design skills
- Use of a range of tools and equipment
- Theory about material selection
- Theory about industrial manufacturing processes.
- The ability to plan for production and carry out independent making tasks.
- Material selection and testing.

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

- Mechanical engineer
- Structural engineer
- Electrical engineer
- Civil Engineer
- Aerospace engineer
- Architect
- CAD technician
- Industrial designer
- Furniture designer
- Automotive engineer
- Production engineer
- CNC technician
- Project manager
- Manufacturing systems engineer
- Engineering construction
-

WJEC Hospitality and Catering

(Exam Board: WJEC https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering-level-1-2/#tab_overview)

Overview

The hospitality and catering industry is a truly worldwide employment sector with everything from managing luxurious hotels to catering to guests needs on cruise ships. Organising food from local suppliers and planning menus to meet the nutritional needs of the elderly. Wherever your passion takes you, there will be a range of employment in the hospitality industry.
Your own biggest skills may lie in the food preparation aspect and you will have plenty of chances to plan and cook a wide range of sweet and savoury dishes. If your interests lie more in the food provenance and business structure you will be interested to learn about our many local suppliers. You may want to develop your career into hospitality management, in which case looking at job roles and business structures and supply chains will appeal to you. Wherever your ambitions lie the hospitality and catering course will have something for you.

What will you study?

You will have the chance to look at how food preparation and customer service provides employment and career opportunities locally and internationally.
You will learn to cook a wide range of high skilled dishes and develop your ability to provide nutritious food that is also presented to the highest standard.
You will also look at job roles and the way employers and employees work together to create a thriving hospitality sector that ranges from pubs and restaurants to cruise ships, hotels and airlines. You will also develop your personal organisation and leadership skills to help you prepare for possible management of venues and events.

How will you be assessed?

Students are assessed by 3 units;

- Unit 1 – The Hospitality and Catering Industry assessed by a written exam paper- 40% of the qualification.
- Unit 2 – Hospitality and Catering in Action assessed by an in-school project. - 60% of the qualification

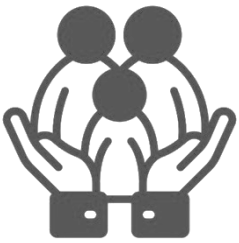
What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Food Hygiene processes ▪ Food preparation techniques. ▪ Nutritional analysis.	▪ Menu planning ▪ Hospitality skills. ▪ Understanding of job roles and responsibilities.	▪ Staffing organisation. ▪ How to deal with suppliers. ▪ Hospitality business organisation

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Nutritionist ▪ Manager of a food business ▪ Restaurant manager ▪ Research chef ▪ Marketing manager	▪ Teacher ▪ Events management ▪ Chef ▪ Food scientist ▪ Food lawyer	▪ Cruise ship caterer ▪ Confectioner ▪ Wedding caterer ▪ Hotel Manager ▪ Supply chain purchasing manager

BTEC Tech Award Health and Social Care



(Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel
https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/health-and-social-care-2022.html)

Overview

Health and Social Care is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK with the demand in the UK for both health and social care employees continuously rising. This Tech Award gives learners the opportunity to develop applied knowledge across various areas such as life stages, life events, support, barriers and obstacles and how these can be overcome along with a person-centred approach. Digging deep into real life situations from imprisonment, bereavement, starting a family, marriage and much more.

What will you study?

Health and Social Care aims to develop an understanding of the health and social care sectors. It is a practical, work-related course that will allow students to get to know the core care values, develop valuable skills, and explore potential careers.

Component 1- Human Lifespan Development (30%) – explore different aspects of growth and development and the factors that can affect this across the life stages. They will explore the different events that can impact on individuals' physical, intellectual, emotional and social development and how they can cope and be supported through changes.

(Two internally assessed assignments)

Component 2- Health and Social Care services and values (30%) – explore health and social care services and how they meet the needs of service users. They will also study the skills, attributes and values required when giving care.

(Two internally assessed assignments)

Component 3- Health & wellbeing (40%) – explore the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators, person centred approaches to make recommendations to improve an individuals' health and wellbeing plan.
(Externally Assessed Exam)

ow will you be assessed?

- The course is assessed 60% through coursework and 40% through external examination. The final grade will be from a Level 1 Pass through to Level 2 Distinction*
- You will be assessed through evidence that you produce to meet individual unit criteria which will be in the form of written reports, case studies, role plays, demonstrating skills, making health and wellbeing improvement plans.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Independence	▪ Empathy	▪ Organisational know how

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Nursing ▪ Social Worker ▪ Personal Trainer	▪ Midwifery ▪ Occupational therapist ▪ General Practitioner	▪ Counsellor ▪ Youth Worker ▪ Paramedic

BTEC Tech Award Performing Arts

(Acting Pathway)

(Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/performing-arts-2022.html)

Overview

The BTEC Tech Performing Arts course is an exciting, practical course for students who enjoy performing and would like to develop their communication and social skills.
The skills developed throughout the course are integral to roles across the creative industry, including film and TV, theatre, games and advertising.

What will you study?

Students will have a taste of what it is like to be a professional theatre practitioner working in the performing arts industry.

- They will explore a wide range of theatre styles, creative intentions and purposes.
- They will investigate how practitioners create and influence what's performed and discover performance roles, skills, techniques and processes.
- They will also develop their performance skills through performing a range of scripted plays and devised pieces of theatre.

How will you be assessed?

While the course is very practical and focuses on practical performance skills, written work is combined with it. This will include workshops, portfolios, presentations, and skills audits. Practical work will include taking part in acting workshops, as well as group performances in response to a brief.

- **Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts Industry** (30% assessed internally)

You will study 3 styles of theatre and produce a portfolio of evidence to show your understanding of the genre, the creative intentions and creative processes within one play.

- **Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in Performing Arts** (30% assessed internally)

You will rehearse an extract from a published play and perform it to a live audience. You will also produce a portfolio of evidence to show your understanding of the creative process as well as develop your ability to evaluate a performance.

- **Component 3: Performing a Brief** (40% assessed externally)

You will devise your own piece of theatre in repose to a brief. You will produce a written log that shows your understanding of the style, influences and skills and techniques within the piece and your ability to reflect on the work you have devised.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Improve your acting skills ▪ Develop language and communication skills	▪ Speak clearly and with expression to an audience ▪ Improve your self esteem ▪	▪ Improve your confidence ▪ Develop your creative thinking skills

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Actor ▪ Playwright ▪ Director	▪ Theatre/Film Critic ▪ Stage Manager ▪ Backstage Crew	▪ Producer ▪ Events Manager ▪ Youth & Community Worker

BTEC Tech Award Sport

(Exam Board: Pearson Edxecel
https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/sport-2022.html)

Overview

This course provides an engaging and relevant introduction to the world of sport. It incorporates important aspects of the industry, focusing on investigating provisions in sport, planning and delivery of sport drills and fitness for sport including fitness testing.
The course is aimed at everyone who wants to find out more about the sport industry. You will study three mandatory components covering and underpinning knowledge and skills required for the sports sector

What will you study?

- **Component 1 –** Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity **(30% of overall grade) (Coursework)**
- **Component 2 –** Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance **(30% of overall grade) (coursework)**
- **Component 3 -** Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity **(40% of overall grade) (online exam)**

The delivery of this course will be through a mixture of practical and classroom-based episodes.

How will you be assessed?

Each unit is graded at Level 1 Pass, Merit and Distinction and at Level 2 Pass, Merit and Distinction. The overall qualification grade gained can be a Level 2 Distinction * if high grades are achieved in all units.

What skills will you gain from this subject?

▪ Independence ▪ Confidence	▪ Leadership ▪ Teamwork	▪ Organisation ▪ Co-operation

Examples of careers that make use of the skills and knowledge learned

▪ Sports Psychologist ▪ Athletic Trainer ▪ Physical Therapist	▪ Sporting Event Planner ▪ Sports Massage Therapist ▪ Fitness Instructor	▪ Sports Nutritionist ▪ Physical Therapy Assistant ▪ PE teacher