



**Believe
and
Achieve**

Name:

Tutor Group:

YEAR 8

Options Booklet 2012 / 2014

February 2012

Dear Parents and Year 8 Pupils

Pupils in Year 8 will this term choose which foundation subjects they wish to study in Years 9 and 10. Year 8 pupils will complete their study of the following subjects in July 2012 and will only study them after this date if they have opted to do so.

Foundation subjects:

- Art
- Dance
- Drama
- Music
- French
- History
- Geography
- Design Technology

In the next few weeks pupils will choose TWO subjects to study in Years 9 and 10. Then in Year 11 they will choose TWO additional courses of study.

Key Questions:

Which subjects do Year 8 pupils have to continue to study?

There are a number of subjects which are statutory i.e. compulsory and which pupils must continue to study. These are:

- Maths
- English
- Science
- Information and Communications Technology-ICT
- Religious Education-RE
- Physical Education-PE
- Citizenship Education including Enterprise Education, Sex and Relationships Education, Drugs Education, Careers Education.

Why do pupils have to choose earlier than in previous years?

Evidence suggest that many pupils by the age of 12 or 13 already know which subjects they enjoy and which subjects are their strengths. Pupils tell us that they have already thought about the subjects they no longer wish to study and those that interest them the most. We want to give them the opportunity to make the most of the 5 short years they have at Poltair to maximise their chances of gaining the qualifications they need to have the widest possible choice of courses and training pathways post-16.

How do we decide which are the right subjects for my child?

- The Government has introduced a new certificate called the English Baccalaureate (EBACC). It is recommended that able pupils choose subjects which will qualify them for this new certificate.
- Look at the subjects pupils enjoy and do well.
- Consider the skills and subjects that may be useful in the future. Research shows that most of today's pupils will have up to 5 different career changes through their working life. Some will do jobs that haven't yet been invented!
- Remember that their thinking about their future may change considerably over the next few years.
- Find out exactly what a subject involves - talk to the staff who teach it and to Year 10 students already doing it. This is especially important for new subjects that you may not have even heard of before!
- Find a good balance between subjects.
- Take advice-listen to the talks, ask the teachers, discuss ideas together.

- Some courses will be for pupils who demonstrate a particular aptitude and may be subject to a selection or recommendation process. **In all cases we will guide pupils into the courses which we believe will lead them to the most successful outcomes.**

Some 'Health Warnings' for pupils:

- Some subjects are new – find out about them in detail. Don't choose them just because they are 'different'.
- Don't choose subjects because your friends are doing them - you may not be in the same group as classes will be re-organised in Years 9 and 10.
- Don't choose a subject because you like the teacher - you may have a different teacher next year or the teacher might leave to work elsewhere.

Enjoy the next few weeks and make your decisions based on good advice and information.

QUALIFICATIONS INFORMATION:

GCSE

General Certificate of Secondary Education (levels 1 & 2)
(level 1 is grades D – G and level 2 is grades A*– C)

- a course leading to a general qualification in a subject e.g. Geography.

BTEC

- a course linked to a range of jobs within a sector e.g. Sport and Leisure. The Extended certificate will be to 2 GCSE grades A*-C for the pupil but will only count as 1 GCSE in the 5 A*-C measurement.

OCR National

- a unitised course with practical application to the world of business and commerce which requires a portfolio of evidence rather than a terminal examination.

City and Guilds/NVQ (Level 1)

- Practical courses with less theoretical work which are occupation specific e.g. Building, Hairdressing.

NOCN Step-Up

- A 1 year unitised practical course which provides a suitable preparation for building and engineering courses in Years 10 and 11.

KEY MESSAGE FOR PARENTS:

The years between the ages of 13 and 19 mark a critical phase in young people's lives. It is the period when they build on their earlier learning and prepare for adult life and employment. It is the point at which they are expected to achieve a range of qualifications at Level 2 (such as GCSE A*-C) and at Level 3 (subjects at Advanced level).

Pupils in Year 8 must now remain in education, training or work-based training until at least the age of 18 under the RPA policy (Raising of the Participation Age). Key Stage 4 is the start of this phase of learning in which it is important that they follow the courses which give them the best chance of reaching their full potential as individuals.

TIMETABLE OF EVENTS:

Tuesday 7 February

Monday 13 – Friday 17 February

Tuesday 21 February

Friday 29 February


Talk and presentation in school to all Year 8 pupils

Half Term

Year 8 Curriculum Evening for parents and pupils. Main Hall 6:30-8:30pm

Last day to hand in Options forms to Year 8 tutors.

The National Qualifications Framework

Framework for Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ)	Level	Academic Awards (examples)	Functional and Basic Skills	Specialist Vocational Qualifications	Occupational Qualifications
D (doctoral) Doctorates	8	Specialist awards			
M (masters) Masters degrees, postgraduate certificates and diplomas	7	Level 7 Diploma in Translation		Diploma	
H (honours) Bachelor degrees, graduate certificates and diplomas	6	Level 6 National Diploma in Professional Production Skills		National Diploma	
I (intermediate) Diplomas of higher education, foundation degrees and higher national diplomas	5	Level 5 BTEC Higher National Diploma in 3D Design	Key Skills Level 5	BTEC Foundation Degrees BTEC Higher National Diploma and Certificate	NVQ Level 5
C (certificate) Certificates of higher education	4	Level 4 Certificate in Early Years Practice	Key Skills Level 4	BTEC Higher National	NVQ Level 4
	3	AS & Advanced GCE Level 3 Certificate in Small Animal Care Level 3 NVQ in Aeronautical Engineering	Key Skills Level 3	BTEC National Diploma, Certificate and Award	NVQ Level 3
	2	GCSE (grades A* - C)	Functional Skills Level 2 Adult Basic Skills		NVQ Level 2
	1	GCSE (grades D – G) Level 1 Certificate in Salon Services	Functional Skills Level 1 Adult Basic Skills	OCR National BTEC Diploma BTEC Extended Certificate	NVQ Level 1
		Entry Level Certificates in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior Sports Leader Award • Young First Aider • NOCN Step-Up Programme 	Adult Basic Skills		

COMPULSORY (CORE) SUBJECTS

ENGLISH

This course is compulsory

What will I learn?

WJEC Exam Board

This exam board has been chosen to encourage students to develop a broad and positive approach to English. All students will study one of two GCSE English Pathways:

- English OR
- English Language

What is in the course?

Both pathways' exams consist of:

- Unit 1 – A reading exam – worth 20% which will test through structured questions the reading of two non-fiction texts.
- Unit 2 – A written exam – worth 20% which will test transactions and discursive writing through two equally weighted tasks. Across the two tasks students will be offered opportunities to write for a range of audiences and purposes, adapting style to form and real-life context in, for example, letters, articles, leaflets, reviews etc.

The controlled assessment element of each pathway is different:

English:

Unit 3a –Reading:

1. Shakespeare
2. Prose from a different culture.

Unit 3b - Open writing

Unit 4 – Speaking a listening:

1. Communicating and adapting language
2. Interacting and responding
3. Creating and sustaining roles

English Language

Unit 3a Reading:

Shakespeare or a set text.

Unit 3b Creative writing:

1. One piece of descriptive writing (tasks supplied by exam board)
2. One piece of narrative writing (tasks supplied by exam board)

Unit 4 Using Language plus Studying Spoken Language

1. Communicating and adapting language
2. Interacting and responding
3. Creating and sustaining roles

How will I be assessed?

Both pathways are similarly made up with:

- 60% controlled assessment elements
- 40% examination

Examinations will be held at the end of the two year course.

What will I gain from studying this subject?

GCSE English OR English Language. Pupils will be able to select and adapt speech and writing to different situations and audiences. More able students who have achieved well in GCSE English Language may be able to take a further qualification in GCSE English Literature.

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Mrs Braithwaite

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

This course is compulsory

What will I learn?

You will develop fundamental ICT skills, knowledge and understanding across a wide range of software applications and programs. This will equip you to meet the demands of future employers and/or places of further education. with the necessary skills needed by employers and places of further education.

What is in the course?

The OCR National First Award in ICT will cover 1 compulsory unit:

ICT Skills in Business

Development of fundamental ICT skills in File Management, Word Processing, Spreadsheets, Databases, Desktop Publishing and Internet Searching and emailing.

In addition a further 2 units from a range including

Desk Top Publishing

Plan, develop and create a DTP publication demonstrating appropriate display of text and graphics to enhance a publication

Computer Graphics

Develop their knowledge of different types of graphics that can be used in web pages.

Research, collect, describe and then create a range of graphics to be used on web pages

Creating Video

Review and Analyse Existing Video Clips, Design and Create a Video Clip, Testing of Video Clip.

Multimedia Products

Review existing products, make informed choices then integrate and embed a range of components to produce an interactive, multimedia product.

Technological Innovation & E Commerce

Investigate e-commerce and its affected on society and business. Including understanding legal and moral issues in the digital age.

How will I be assessed?

There is no formal examination for this qualification.

This course will be assessed through 3 different units of coursework completed in class and via extended learning activities. Coursework will be assessed internally and externally moderated.

What will I gain from studying this subject?

You will obtain an OCR National First Award in ICT. This qualification is widely recognised and accepted by employers and further education establishments.

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Mr Dean-Jones

MATHEMATICS

This course is compulsory

What will I learn?	Knowledge, skills and techniques associated with the four main traditional areas of Maths – Number, Algebra, Geometry and Data Handling – as well as the ability to use Maths in real life contexts (also known as Functional Skills).			
What is in the course?	Data Handling Data Collection Statistical Measures Representing Data Probability	Number Integers Decimals Fractions Indices Percentages	Geometry Area and Volume Angles Properties of polygons Coordinates Transformations Constructions Measures Pythagoras' Theorem	Algebra Use of symbols Equations Sequences Trial & Improvement Graphs Proof
How will I be assessed?	An external exam in June of Year 10 consisting of two papers (Paper 1 Non Calculator, Paper 2 Calculator). There is no Maths coursework. The pupils who achieve their target grade will then be given the opportunity to study for an additional Mathematics qualification.			
What will I gain from studying this subject?	GCSE Mathematics provides a solid grounding that will prepare you for the world of work or for further Mathematical studies and which will show employers that you are capable of logical thinking and problem solving.			
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Mrs Kellow			

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Entry level

What will I learn?	PE will follow a choice of activities including games and non-traditional physical activities that will lead to an Entry Level Award.
What is in the course?	All aspects of physical education.
How will I be assessed?	Through practical assessments.
What will I gain from studying this subject?	Entry Level Award in Physical Education
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Mr Marshall

LEVEL 2 BTEC IN SPORT

This course is optional

What will I learn?

Designed to provide a specialist qualification in the Sport and Leisure industry, and allows students to develop the skills, experiences and knowledge in this field.

What is in the course?

The main sections covered will be:

- Practical Sports Performance
- Health and Fitness for Sport
- The Mind and Sports Performance
- Training for Personal Fitness
- Leading Sports Activities
- The Sports Performer in Action

Pupils will take various combinations depending on the pathway of the class.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be completing written assignments as assessments and for the first time this year their practical will count towards the final grade.

What will I gain from studying this subject?

BTEC in Sport – (1,2 or 3 GCSEs equivalents)

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Mr Marshall, Miss Owens, Mrs Crawford, Mr Adams or Mr Foster

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This course is compulsory

What will I learn?

Students study a range of social and moral issues which are looked at from a range of viewpoints including:

- Social
- Christian
- Muslim

What is in the course?

The course has four sections:

- Rights and responsibilities
- Environmental and medical issues
- Peace and conflict
- Crime and punishment

How will I be assessed?

This will be a short course GCSE (Edexcel)

There will be one external exam in the summer of year 10.

What will I gain from studying this subject?

Students will gain awareness of the world they live in and of the people who live in it. They should gain a greater tolerance of differences as well as being given the opportunity to explore and express their own opinions on a wide range of issues. The thinking skills required in this subject are useful and well respected in many A level and further education courses.

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Mrs Golding

SCIENCE

This course is compulsory

What will I learn?

During the two year GCSE Science programme of study pupils will learn all aspects of Science within the three disciplines: Physics, Biology and Chemistry. Emphasis is put on problem solving and working in groups to solve problems during practicals.

What is in the course?

Year 10 pupils study the following modules:
(content is subject to change – awaiting accreditation from Ofqual)

Chemistry – outline of content:
The fundamental ideas in chemistry
Limestone and building materials
Metals and their uses
Crude oil and fuels
Other useful substances from crude oil
Plant oils and their uses
Changes in the Earth and its atmosphere

Biology – outline of content:
Keeping healthy
The use and abuse of drugs
Interdependence and adaptation
Energy and biomass in food chains
Waste materials from plants and animals
Genetic variation and its control
Evolution

Physics – outline of content:
The transfer of energy by heating processes and the factors that affect the rate at which that energy is transferred
Energy and efficiency
The usefulness of electrical appliances
Methods we use to generate electricity
The use of waves for communication and to provide evidence that the universe is expanding

Year 11 pupils study the following modules:
(content is subject to change – awaiting accreditation from Ofqual)

Additional Chemistry – outline of content:
Structure and bonding
How structure influences the properties and uses of substances
Atomic structure, analysis and quantitative chemistry
Rates of reaction
Exothermic and endothermic reactions
Acids, bases and salts
Electrolysis

Additional Biology – outline of content:
Cells and simple cell transport
Tissues, organs and organ systems
Photosynthesis
Organisms and their environment
Proteins – their functions and uses
Aerobic and anaerobic respiration
Cell division and inheritance
Speciation

Additional Physics – outline of content:
Forces and their effects
The kinetic energy of objects speeding up or slowing down
Currents in electrical circuits
Using mains electricity safely and the power of electrical appliances
What happens when radioactive substances decay, and the uses and dangers of their emissions
Nuclear fission and nuclear fusion

How will I be assessed?

Year 10
75% 3 written papers (25% per paper)
25% coursework

Year 11
75% 3 written papers (25% per paper)
25% coursework

What will I gain from studying this subject?

Two Separate GCSEs in Science
1. AQA GCSE Science Award in Year 10
2. AQA GCSE Additional Science Award in Year 11

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Mr Riley or Mrs Gaukroger

SEPARATE SCIENCES

This course is compulsory

What will I learn?

Separate sciences in GCSE Chemistry, Biology and Physics are offered to our most able scientists during the years 9-11.

The class is taught in normal timetabled science sessions and this is not an option subject. This is why the course begins in year 9.

Pupils are selected on ability, aptitude and attainment in science at the end of year 8.

What is in the course?

Pupils will study 2 units for each of Chemistry, Biology and Physics from the GCSE Science programme of study and then an additional 3rd unit for each discipline which extends pupils' understanding of key principles and applications in Chemistry, Biology and Physics.

How will I be assessed?

Chemistry:	three exams	(25% per paper)	25% Coursework
Biology:	three exams	(25% per paper)	25% Coursework
Physics:	three exams	(25% per paper)	25% Coursework

N.B. these may be subject to the changes in Government Policy concerning terminal examinations.

What will I gain from studying this subject?

Three separate GCSEs in Chemistry, Biology and Physics.

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Mr Riley or Mrs Gaukroger

CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

The programme which pupils followed in Years 7 and 8 continues for all pupils at KS4 and includes a wide variety of issues including:

- Drugs education
- Sex and Relationship Education
- Careers Education Guidance
- Financial Capability and Economic Awareness
- Political Literacy
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Personal Safety

The course is not formally assessed and students are encouraged to become involved in discussion of a wide range of topics which become increasingly relevant to them as they prepare to join the adult world.

For further information see Mrs Golding or Mr Lake

CAREERS INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

This course is compulsory

What will I learn?

Initially pupils concentrate on learning about themselves and will conduct a number of self awareness exercises eventually gaining a greater knowledge of their strengths, weaknesses, qualities and potential.

Later they will learn about the various opportunities in the world of work and in further learning.

What is in the course?

As well as having knowledge of equal opportunities, all pupils have access to the latest computer software and the internet. Furthermore every pupil is entitled to receive impartial individual guidance to help them in their career management and planning.

The main components of IAG are delivered in collaboration with Careers South West and our partners from the world of work and education.

What will I gain from studying this subject?

As well as knowledge of themselves and the World of Work pupils will also develop skills and attitudes which will help them in their future career path, for example:- decision making and time management skills as well as self-reliance and responsibility to self and others.

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Mr Lake

PERSONAL ADVISER

Careers South West provides a service offering information, advice, guidance and personal development opportunities to all young people between the ages of 13-19. Young people can have support from a Personal Adviser who is based within schools and colleges.

Support may vary from giving careers advice, offering advice on the range of personal development opportunities, or supporting a young person with multiple problems. Personal Advisers encourage young people to stay in learning by supporting them through challenging situations and working on any barriers that may affect their learning.

Personal Advisers work closely with staff and will liaise with other agencies that may be involved. They can also arrange access to specialist help and work with families and carers. Young people can access the Personal Adviser through a referral process set up within the school or by referring themselves.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

BUSINESS AND COMMERCE

OCR National Award in Business *This course is optional*

What will I learn?	<p>You will learn how businesses function and effectively communicate. This will provide you with a valuable insight into being successful in the workplace.</p> <p>You will gain more advanced ICT skills across a wide range of software applications and many opportunities will be offered to develop skills in creativity, reflective learning, effective participation, independent enquiry, team work and self management.</p>
What is in the course?	<p>The OCR National Award in Business will cover 3 key areas:</p> <p>(1) Investigating Business Ownership, Objectives, Organisation Structure, Stakeholders, Business Statistics, Competitor Analysis and Location.</p> <p>(2) Communication in Business Business Documentation, Research, Leaflet Production and Presentations.</p> <p>(3) Promotion in Business Barriers to Effective Promotion, Promotional Methods, Targeting, SWOT/PEST Analysis, Promotional Campaigns and Legal/Ethical Constraints.</p>
How will I be assessed?	<p>There is no formal examination for this qualification.</p> <p>This course will be assessed through 3 different units of coursework completed in class and via extended learning activities. Coursework will be assessed internally and externally moderated.</p>
What will I gain from studying this subject?	<p>You will obtain an OCR National Award in Business. This qualification is widely recognised and accepted by employers and further education establishments.</p>
Who should I see if I have further questions?	<p>Mr Dean-Jones</p>

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

ART

This course is optional

What will I learn?	Pupils will have the opportunity to work in design specialisms such as graphics, fashion, contemporary crafts, 3D, textiles and sculpture as well as the traditional elements of observational drawing and critical studies. They will experience a wide range of materials, techniques and processes that allow them to enhance and develop existing skills and abilities.
What is in the course?	Pupils will produce three pieces of coursework over the duration of the course. They will work in a sketchbook and use this to investigate and research artists, art movements, materials, ideas and outcomes.
How will I be assessed?	Coursework (60%) 10 hour practical examination (40%)
What will I gain from studying this subject?	The opportunity to explore ideas, use your creativity and problem solving skills. This course can lead you towards studying Art in Further Education.
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Mrs M Whitbread-Aburatat

DANCE

This course is optional

What will I learn?	This course will enable you to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of dance as a choreographer, performer and critic through: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applying and adapting a wide range of skills and techniques effectively in performing and choreographing dance, including the ability to improve• Creating dance for a range of purposes and in response to different stimuli• Developing the ability to analyse, evaluate and appreciate dance. It is essential that pupils are willing to perform.
What is in the course?	The course is made up of 4 units: Unit 1: Critical Appreciation of Dance - Written Paper Unit 2: Set Dance = Practical Examination – Solo Performance Unit 3: Performance in a duo/group dance - Controlled Assessment Unit 4: Choreography - Task 1: Solo Composition Task 2: Choreography – solo/duo/group
How will I be assessed?	Unit 1 and 2 will be assessed externally Units 3 and 4 will be filmed and internally assessed by Mrs Hulbert
What will I gain from studying this subject?	The study of dance as an art form contributes to students' aesthetic and social development. As a physical activity it promotes fitness and well-being. As performers, students develop confidence and self-esteem. They develop self and body awareness as well as sensitivity to others and team-working skills. As choreographers, students employ the skills of problem-solving and creativity. In directing others, students develop their interpersonal and communication skills. As critics, students make informed decisions about the dances they see. Viewing professional dances fulfils students' cultural entitlement and broadens their artistic experience.
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Mrs Hulbert

DRAMA AND THEATRE ARTS

This course is optional

What will I learn?

This course is for the pupil who loves acting, using lighting and sound, and enjoys performing and working in a group situation. Pupils will develop their practical expertise in improvisation, devised theatre, scripted work, dance/drama, theatre in education.

Drama is an exciting, creative and challenging course and has been designed to help candidates meet those challenges.

What is in the course?

Pupils will perform to a variety of audiences, for example children, adults and primary schools. **It is essential that pupils are willing to perform.** Pupils will have the opportunity to attend the theatre to view a wide range of performances. This will assist them in their own devised pieces as well as prepare them for their written examination. The written paper is based on live theatre productions, practical work completed during the course and the study of a scripted play. Pupils must be prepared to rehearse during break-times and after school at times.

How will I be assessed?

Practical Coursework (60%)

Written Examination (40%)

There is no written coursework required for this subject.

What will I gain from studying this subject?

The opportunity to develop interactive and leadership skills, the ability to be a creative thinker and speaking and listening skills.

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Mrs Bond

MUSIC

This course is optional

What will I learn?

Music is an exciting course that offers opportunities to explore various different musical styles creatively. **It is essential that pupils are willing to perform.**

Pupils will learn to listen to and appraise music, develop their performance skills and learn to compose their own music in a variety of styles. GCSE music students are expected to learn an instrument or study voice; these lessons are provided by the school and are an important part of the course. Performance and active music making is an integral part of the course, so it is vital that pupils develop the confidence to perform by themselves and as part of ensembles.

What is in the course?

Pupils will study various elements of music through three strands of learning; The Western Classical Tradition; Popular Music from the 20th and 21st centuries and World Music.

They will learn through performance, composition and listening work, and should expect to commit some time outside of classroom lessons to practising their chosen instrument or singing.

How will I be assessed?

Listening to and Appraising Music (1 hour Written Examination)	20%
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Composing and Appraising Music (one Composition and Evaluation)	20%
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Performing Music (one solo and one ensemble performance)	40%
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Composing Music (one composition)	20%
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What will I gain from studying this subject?

A GCSE through enjoying and benefiting from performing, composing and listening to music.

An understanding of the historical and cultural context of music.

Opportunities to develop self confidence, creativity, thinking, problem solving skills, listening, communication and teamwork skills.

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Ms Oram or Mr Hatt

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Catering

This course is optional

What will I learn?

This course in GCSE Catering is relatively new to Poltair School. If you enjoy cooking and want to be able to make delicious meals and prepare yourself for adult life, this course could be for you. Alternatively if you are interested in a career in catering and hope to do a catering course at College when you leave school, then this course is also right for you.

What is in the course?

Learn about cooking healthy, nutritious meals, plan menus, look at the cost of preparing meals, learn a lot of different cooking techniques including breads, pastry, biscuits, cakes, sauces, savoury dishes and desserts. Also plan how to make meals in quantity.

A work experience placement in the hospitality or catering industries would be beneficial.

How will I be assessed?

The examination will consist of:
A theory paper at end of course 40%
Two practical assessments 60%

What will I gain from studying this subject?

GCSE Catering

Who should I see if I have further questions?

For further information see Miss Partis

Food – Home Cooking

This course is optional

What will I learn?

This course can provide students with a Level 1 Food Hygiene certificate which is a basic requirement for anyone working in the Food industry. You will develop an understanding of key issues to ensure food is prepared and served in a way which ensures it is safe to eat, free from bacteria and minimum risk of food poisoning. This is a useful qualification if you wish to work in the catering industry.

The Home cooking award gives a very practical focus on skills to prepare a range of dishes for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

What is in the course?

Practical skills will include dishes using eggs, breakfasts, packed lunches simple soups, salads, basic bread making, puddings, barbecue foods, and main meals.

Theory lessons to cover the basic food hygiene knowledge and understanding.

How will I be assessed?

Basic Hygiene Certificate One theory exam approx 1hr multiple choice answer paper.

Award in Home Cooking Practical based assessment with supporting written recipes, time plan, costings etc.

What will I gain from studying this subject?

BTEC Level 1 Award in Home Cooking and Food Hygiene Certificate Level 1

This is a 1 year course which may provide a stepping stone to GCSE Catering. Alternatively it can be taken as a 1 year course for those aiming to move to College in Year 10 for a level 1 course in building, engineering, hairdressing or childcare.

Who should I see if I have further questions?

Miss Partis

DT Workshop Skills and Practices

This course is optional

What will I learn?	This course is intended for pupils who enjoy learning new skills through practical activities and who are prepared to work individually and as part of a team on set tasks.
What is in the course?	The course is accredited by NOCN as part of the Step-Up programme. It is split into separate units such as use of carpentry hand tools, health and safety, preparation for production skills and various skills building units. Each unit is a mix of hands on activity followed by evidence gathering and recording of the progress made. Plan – do – review is a feature of this course.
How will I be assessed?	The course is assessed at entry level or level 1 through credits towards an award, certificate or diploma.
What will I gain from studying this subject?	NOCN Step up Programme – a suitable first step for those aiming for employment in manual skills based industries. This is a 1 year course for those aiming to move to College in Year 10 for a level 1 course in building or engineering.
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Mr Axe

PRODUCT DESIGN – Design and Make it

This course is optional

What will I learn?	To become a successful designer and manufacturer of unique products using wood, metal and plastics. You will learn to use up to date equipment to make quality products and show how they fit into a competitive market.
What is in the course? <i>Wood, Metal and Plastics</i>	This subject is ideal for those pupils who enjoy designing products and practical work. Pupils will develop their practical skills in a range of materials developing products that satisfy a human or commercial need. They will gain valuable skills in drawing styles and will need to understand how products are designed and manufactured. Pupils will make full use of computer systems to design products and cut materials with computer machinery. Pupils who enjoy designing and making 3 dimensional objects will love this course.
What is in the course? <i>Electronic Systems and Control</i>	Pupils will make full use of computer systems to design circuits and CAD/CAM to manufacture their ideas. Students who enjoy building electronic circuits could go on to develop more advanced electronic systems in order to solve real life problems and then evaluate their success.
How will I be assessed?	Controlled assessment 60% Written examination 40%
What will I gain from studying this subject?	A GCSE which will help you to become more independent in a practical subject. You will be given the opportunity to input your own ideas on short tasks as well as detailed design outcomes.
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Mr King

PRODUCT DESIGN: Graphics

This course is optional

What will I learn?	To become a successful designer using a variety of graphical tools and media to produce unique products. You will learn to use computer graphics to display ideas and organise reports to show ideas effectively.
What is in the course?	This course develops pupils' skills in a variety of drawing and graphic techniques. Pupils will learn model-making skills in order to produce a wide range of artefacts, such as tablet PC's or new communication devices. They will focus on computers on at least one task, using CAD/CAM to produce high quality logos and signs for a successful company. The ability to plan and design to a high standard is essential. Pupils will be given more choices to develop their own ideas from exam board set tasks, which will end in one piece of work amounting to 60% of the GCSE.
How will I be assessed?	Controlled task 60% Written examination 40%
What will I gain from studying this subject?	GCSE DT – A comprehensive folder showing ideas and development of your own concepts and a finished prototype. Students will need to be confident, independent and enjoy drawing and making with a range of media. If you are interested in a career in industrial design, manufacturing, architecture, advertising or graphic design this creative course could be for you.
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Mr King

HUMANITIES

GEOGRAPHY - *This course is optional*

What will I learn?	The course investigates places at all scales, from the personal to the global. Students carry out coastal fieldwork as part of their GCSE.
What is in the course?	<p>This exciting GCSE course offers a flexible approach to assessment meaning that students can take the exam when they are ready. Units will be available for assessment in January and June and will give the opportunity for students to track their progress over the course.</p> <p>You will study three themes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Managing Places in the 21st Century – Coastal development and landforms• Hostile World – Natural Hazards• Investigating the Shrinking World – Local and Global Tourism
How will I be assessed?	Qualification: GCSE Geography Assessment: 25% controlled assessment comprising two pieces, one to be a coastal fieldwork study 75% written exam (three separate exams)
What will I gain from studying this subject?	GCSE Geography will inspire and challenge students to view the world from a range of viewpoints. Geography links well with many other subjects and makes use of digital technology at every opportunity. Through gaining a rich understanding of human and physical processes, recognising patterns and questioning differences in development, pupils broaden their appreciation of our 'ever shrinking' world.
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Miss Hughes

History – Modern World - *This course is optional*

What will I learn?	Studying Modern World History pupils learn about International Relations in the 20 th Century.
What is in the course?	<p>Pupils will study</p> <p>Unit 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• origins of the First World War, peacemaking and the League of Nations• origins of the Second World War <p>Unit 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• USA 1919-29• Hitler's Germany 1929-39• The Depression and the New Deal 1929-41
How will I be assessed?	Qualification: GCSE Modern World History Unit 1: International Relations: Conflict and Peace in the 20 th Century Written Paper: 37.5% of total marks Unit 2: 20 th Century Depth Studies Written Paper: 37.5% of total marks Unit 3: Historical Enquiry – British History Controlled assessment focussed on British History in the 20 th century: The British people in War or Britain at War 25% of the total marks
What will I gain from studying this subject?	Pupils will develop an understanding of people's actions and beliefs, gaining experience in making written reports and handling different types of evidence. The course will provide an essential insight into the modern world.
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Miss Venn

PE AND SPORT

LEVEL 2 BTEC IN SPORT

This course is optional

What will I learn?	Designed to provide a specialist qualification in the Sport and Leisure industry, and allows students to develop the skills, experiences and knowledge in this field. Pupils who have been guided into Btec PE in their core lessons may be entitled to gain a higher award by additionally studying the subject in options.
What is in the course?	The main sections covered will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practical Sports Performance• Health and Fitness for Sport• The Mind and Sports Performance• Training for Personal Fitness• Leading Sports Activities• The Sports Performer in Action <p>Pupils will take various combinations depending on the pathway of the class.</p>
How will I be assessed?	Students will be completing written assignments as assessments and for the first time this year their practical will count towards the final grade.
What will I gain from studying this subject?	BTEC in Sport – (1,2 or 3 GCSEs equivalent)
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Mr Marshall, Miss Owens, Mrs Crawford, Mr Adams or Mr Foster

PRINCES TRUST XL

This course is optional

What will I learn?	Personal and Interpersonal Skills, Social and Team skills as well as competencies in citizenship, community and employment.
What is in the course?	XL isn't like school lessons, it is informal and practical – you will have a say in what activities the group participates in.
How will I be assessed?	You will build a portfolio of evidence throughout the year which will then be moderated.
What will I gain from studying this subject?	Increased confidence and self esteem. Opportunity to obtain qualifications at Award and Certificate level throughout the year.
Who should I see if I have further questions?	Mrs Harvey or Mr Watkinson

KEY STAGE 3 OPTION CHOICES 2012-2014 – YOUR COPY TO KEEP

Name of Student _____ Tutor Group 8 _____

Option A			Option B		
Art	GCSE		Art	GCSE	
Business Studies	OCR National		Dance	GCSE	
			French	GCSE	
Catering	GCSE		Geography	GCSE	
Drama	GCSE		Music	GCSE	
DT Workshop Skills	NOCN Step Up Level 1		PE	Level 2 Btec	
Geography	GCSE		Princes Trust XL	Foundation Cert	
History	GCSE		Product Design	GCSE	
Home Cooking (1 year course)	Level 1 Btec		a. Electronics Systems & Control		
Product Design (Graphics)	GCSE		b. Design and Make It		
			Travel and Tourism	Level 2 Btec	

Choose one option in each column and mark with a 1. Choose a reserve option in each column and mark with an 'R'. Your reserve option will be given if your first choice is not available.

Subjects in **BOLD** count towards the English Baccalaureate which certifies 5 GCSE passes at grade C and above in all of English, Maths, Science, a Modern Foreign Language and Geography or History.

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KEY STAGE 3 OPTION CHOICES 2012-2014 (Return to Form Tutors by Wednesday 29 February 2012)

Name of Student _____ Tutor Group 8 _____

Option A			Option B		
Art	GCSE		Art	GCSE	
Business Studies	OCR National		Dance	GCSE	
			French	GCSE	
Catering	GCSE		Geography	GCSE	
Drama	GCSE		Music	GCSE	
DT Workshop Skills	NOCN Step Up Level 1		PE	Level 2 Btec	
Geography	GCSE		Princes Trust XL	Foundation Cert	
History	GCSE		Product Design	GCSE	
Home Cooking (1 year course)	Level 1 Btec		a. Electronics Systems & Control		
Product Design (Graphics)	GCSE		b. Design and Make It		
			Travel and Tourism	Level 2 Btec	

Choose one option in each column and mark with a 1. Choose a reserve option in each column and mark with an 'R'. Your reserve option will be given if your first choice is not available.

Subjects in **BOLD** count towards the English Baccalaureate which certifies 5 GCSE passes at grade C and above in all of English, Maths, Science, a Modern Foreign Language and Geography or History.

Signature of Student _____ Signature of Parent/Carer _____ Date _____

Tutor signature _____

