Year 10 – Develop | Curriculum Overview

Building expertise and taking responsibility

Students develop deeper subject expertise as they begin their GCSE and vocational qualifications. They build independence, resilience and self-discipline, taking greater ownership of their learning while continuing to explore ideas and opportunities.

What will students learn in Year 10?

English Language	• Analyse unseen fiction, exploring meaning, language, structure and writers' methods. • Develop imaginative narrative and descriptive writing with ambitious vocabulary, accuracy and varied sentences for Language Paper 1. • Compare non-fiction viewpoints, write persuasive opinions and prepare a spoken presentation.	**English Literature**	• Study An Inspector Calls, exploring power, exploitation, social responsibility and political ideas. • Explore A Christmas Carol, focusing on redemption, inequality, generosity and Victorian context. • Compare Power and Conflict poetry, analysing language, form, context and writers' messages.
Mathematics	• Develop algebra through quadratic and simultaneous equations, inequalities, sequences and graphs. • Apply trigonometry, circle theorems, similarity, constructions, area and volume. • Interpret statistical diagrams, probability trees, Venn diagrams, proportion and compound measures.	**Combined Science**	• Explore plant biology, biodiversity, homeostasis, inheritance, variation and evolution. • Investigate atomic structure, energy, particle models, magnetism and forces. • Study bonding, organic and quantitative chemistry, energy changes and rates of reaction.
Physics	• Investigate the particle model and its applications to solids, liquids and gases. • Explore energy stores and transfers, atomic structure and radiation. • Analyse forces and their applications in engineering and everyday life.	**Biology**	• Explore plant transport, photosynthesis and ecological relationships. • Study nervous and hormonal coordination, including reproduction and fertility.
Chemistry	• Investigate periodic trends, bonding, materials and chemical energy changes. • Develop quantitative chemistry skills and explore organic compounds. • Examine reaction rates, reversible reactions and ways to optimise yields.	**Geography**	• Evaluate sustainable management of changing landscapes and rural communities. • Explore urbanisation in London and Mumbai and the causes and effects of weather and climate. • Investigate coastal processes, hazards and management through geographical enquiry.

History	• Study medicine through time, from medieval beliefs and the Black Death to Renaissance and modern advances. • Investigate medicine in First World War trenches and develop historical source analysis. • Explore Weimar Germany, Hitler's rise, Nazi dictatorship and life under Nazi rule.	**Sociology**	• Explore key sociological perspectives, including Functionalism, Feminism, Marxism and Interactionism. • Develop research-methods skills and evaluate sociological evidence. • Investigate family structures, roles, education and patterns of achievement.
Religious Studies	• Explore Christian beliefs about God, salvation, creation and life after death, alongside worship and practice. • Study Islamic beliefs, the Five Pillars and religious celebrations. • Consider religious and ethical perspectives on relationships, marriage and family life.	**Spanish**	• Strengthen communication through transactional language, role play and past experiences. • Apply present, past and future tenses accurately across familiar topics. • Discuss friendships, leisure, social media, gaming, music and film through GCSE listening, speaking, reading and writing.
Computer Science	• Develop Python algorithms using selection, iteration, lists, strings and subroutines. • Explore CPU architecture, digital representation and computer performance. • Investigate networks, software, databases, Boolean logic, security, laws and ethics.	**Media Studies**	• Apply media language and theoretical frameworks to advertising, marketing and video games. • Analyse magazines, film, television drama and radio products and their audiences. • Plan and begin creating an original media production for the non-exam assessment.
Art	• Experiment with media, techniques, processes and artistic styles. • Explore portraiture, identity and artists including Basquiat, Close, Kahlo, Moore and Matisse. • Develop personal outcomes and begin preparatory research for coursework.	**Core PE**	• Develop fitness, tactical awareness, sport-specific skills and confidence in competitive situations. • Explore different roles and responsibilities through pathway sports such as athletics, football, netball, rugby and fitness.
PSHE / LIFE	• Explore drugs, alcohol, online safety, respectful communication and the risks of radicalisation. • Develop understanding of consent, safeguarding, unhealthy relationships and exploitation. • Prepare for adult life through careers, employability, income, taxation and financial decisions.	**BTEC Sport**	• Explore participation opportunities, barriers, equipment and technological developments in sport. • Investigate components of fitness, officiating and practical methods to improve sporting performance.

BTEC Music	• Explore music products, genres and styles, from the 1950s to world music, jazz and classical music. • Refine performance, composition, rehearsal and music industry skills through practical workshops. • Prepare portfolios and practical demonstrations for assessed components.	**WJEC Hospitality & Catering**	Develop practical cooking skills, mastering food preparation techniques, safe equipment use, hygiene and effective time management. Plan, prepare and present dishes, applying knowledge of nutrition, dietary requirements, menu planning and customer needs. Refine practical skills through independent cooking, mock assessments and evaluation, building confidence and preparing for the Unit 2 practical examination.
WJEC Engineering	• Develop orthographic and isometric drawing, CAD/CAM and workshop skills. • Explore materials, joining methods, machining and testing processes.	**BTEC Performing Arts**	• Investigate professional repertoire, practitioners, creative intentions and production roles. • Develop physical, vocal and interpretative performance skills through rehearsal, feedback and performance.
BTEC Health & Social Care	• Explore physical, intellectual, emotional and social development across life stages and life events. • Investigate health and social care services and the skills, attributes and values needed to support service users.	**BTEC Enterprise**	• Investigate enterprises, their markets and factors influencing business success. • Develop a micro-enterprise idea, business plan and pitch, then evaluate the outcome.