

Archbishop Tenison's Church of England High School

KEY STAGE FOUR



CURRICULUM GUIDE

2022

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction.....	1
Options at Key Stage 4.....	1
What you have to decide	2
Core Subjects	2
Option Subjects	2
Qualification levels	2
Option Blocks and How to choose.....	3
Head of Sixth Form’s Comment.....	4

GCSE OPTIONS

Art.	5
Computer Science	6
Drama.....	7
English Language and English Literature	8
Food Preparation and Nutrition.....	9
French	10
Geography.....	11
German	12
Health and Social Care (BTEC)	13
History	14
Latin	15
Mathematics	16
Music.....	17
Personal Social Development	18
Photography.....	19
Physical Education - <i>GCSE PE</i>	20
Physical Education - <i>Sports Leadership Award</i>	21
Physical Education - <i>Core PE</i>	22
Physical Education – <i>Dance</i>	23
Product Design.....	24
Religious Studies	25
Science	26 & 27
Travel and Tourism.....	28
Notes.....	29 & 30

Introduction

This booklet is split into two sections. The first section explains the option process, what subjects you have to study and what choices you have to make. In the second section there is information about the courses in each subject area written by the Head of Department.

A final preference form will need to be completed via MS Forms by **Friday, 4th March 2022 at the latest.**

Options at Key Stage 4 are a huge responsibility. It is now time to make important decisions with regard to your own learning and plan what you will be doing for the next two years, and beyond.

You are now at an important stage in your education. As you near the end of Key Stage 3, you will have a chance to have a real say in what you study. This is a huge opportunity and in order to help you prepare for Key Stage 4 we are providing several sources of help:

1. **A 'Virtual' Options Information Evening** will be held on **Monday, 7th February**. The purpose of this evening is to give parents, carers and pupils, information about what is available at Key Stage 4. There will then be time to discuss your progress with your parent/carers and subject teachers and the opportunity to ask questions about any aspect of the curriculum on offer.
2. **Year 9 'Virtual Parents Evening 5pm-7.25pm Wednesday, 23rd February**. This will be your final opportunity to discuss option choices with subject teachers.
3. Some pupils may have the opportunity to discuss their choices further with Mrs Gravett, Assistant Headteacher or Mrs Miller (Head of Year 9).
4. Following all the above events and information, pupils will be required to complete the final online MS Option Choice Form. The link to the form will be given to pupils after Parents Evening. Final subject choices must be submitted via this link by **Friday, 4th March 2022**.

You may think you already know what you want to study at Key Stage 4, but it is very important that you listen to all the advice you are given and ask lots of questions before you tell us what you would like to do.

Make sure that you choose courses for the right reason. Do not choose something because a friend is doing it or because you like a particular teacher; there is no guarantee that you will be in the same group as your friend or that you will be taught by the teacher you would like. Think about what you enjoy, what you are good at and what you might need to study in order to follow a particular career.

What you have to DECIDE

At Key Stage 3, Years 7 to 9, you have had very little choice in what you have studied. As you start Key Stage 4, Years 10 and 11, there is more flexibility and personalisation as you have more say in some of the subjects you study and the level at which you study them.

For the next two years your timetable will be made up of the **CORE SUBJECTS** that everybody in the country has to study and the **OPTION SUBJECTS** you have chosen to study. We ask you to choose subjects from set blocks.

Core Subjects

At Key Stage 4, all our pupils at Archbishop Tenison's will study:

GCSE English Language

GCSE English Literature

GCSE Mathematics

GCSE Combined Science (2 GCSEs) or Biology, Chemistry and Physics (3 GCSEs).

PE – GCSE, Sports Leader Award or Core

GCSE Language: French, German or Latin or BTEC Level 1 / 2 Travel and Tourism

Religious Studies: GCSE

Personal Social Development (PSD) which does not lead to a formal qualification.

Option Subjects

	Subject	Head of Department
The Arts	Art and Photography	Miss Wren
	Drama	Ms Forrester
	Music	Mr Potts
Design and Technology	Food Preparation and Nutrition	Mr Taylor
	Product Design	Mr Taylor
Humanities	Geography	Mrs Croker
	History	Miss Philips
	Latin	
Languages	2 nd Language	Miss Sherlock
Specialist Subjects	Computing	Mr Powell and Ms Marvin (Acting Head of Department)
	Health and Social Care	Mr Suleyman
	Physical Education (GCSE PE, Core PE, SLA and GCSE Dance)	Mr Scott

Qualification Grading and Levels

In 2015, the Department for Education introduced numerical grading (9-1) for English and Maths GCSEs. This replaced the A*- G grading. From September 2016, this numerical grading will be applied to all GCSEs. See table below.

New grade	Old grade
9	Top half of A*
8	Bottom half of A*
7	A
6	B
5	Top half of C grade
4	Bottom half of C grade
3	D
2	E
1	Grades F & G
0	U (Ungraded)

GCSEs are Level 2 qualifications and A Levels are Level 3 qualifications. BTECs can be both Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications.

Option Blocks

In order to timetable the whole school, we have to organise the options subjects into three blocks; you will need to choose one subject from each of the blocks A, B and C. We also ask you to write down a reserve subject for each block. Most pupils are able to do all their choices, but we cannot guarantee that and may have to meet with you to look at your reserve choices. It might also be that changes have to be made to the blocks once pupils have made their choices.

There is an opportunity to study for an additional option subject, but this will involve attending Twilight lessons; lessons that happen outside the normal timetable day.

Only choose a subject from the Twilight block if you are committed to studying for the additional subject and can attend after school lessons.

How to choose

Before you can choose which subjects to do, you need to have clear and honest answers to these questions:

- **What am I good at?** Should I be looking at mostly academic courses, or the mostly practical subjects or a mixture of both?
- **What subjects do I most enjoy doing** so I would like to learn more about them?
- **What subjects and courses** will be most relevant to my possible career or further education? (see page 6)

You will also need to think about how things fit together. We strongly recommend you think carefully about the introduction of the new English Baccalaureate (EBacc) which involves having studied GCSEs in the five subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, a language and humanity, (Geography or History).

Whatever you choose the keys to success are:

- Hard work and perseverance
- Careful organisation of work files
- Meeting all deadlines for homework and controlled assessments.

In choosing your subjects at KS4 you also need to consider your options for post 16.

MISS AKAHNO, HEAD OF SIXTH FORM WRITES

KEY STAGE 4 TO KEY STAGE 5

Post-16 education is divided into two main pathways:

- **Academic** – where you study academic subjects at A Level. Most pupils study 3 A Levels in both Year 12 and Year 13 but a few will follow 4 A Level courses. At Tenison's you will also choose an AS subject to study in Year 12 or one or two courses as Enrichment.
- **Vocational** - where you study in a broad employment area. You would usually study full-time in a local Sixth Form College or Further Education College. You study for BTEC qualifications at the appropriate level; an Extended Diploma is the equivalent of three Level 3 qualifications and an Extended Certificate which is the equivalent of one Level 3 qualification.

At Archbishop Tenison's we offer both academic and vocational courses. We offer a broad curriculum of academic A Levels and BTEC Level 3 Health Studies.



Subject GCSE ART

Level: GCSE (Level 2)

Exam Board: EDUQAS Welsh Board

Mixed ability: Pupils are taught in mixed ability teaching groups.

What will I learn about?

When you study Art at GCSE you move forward in your art practice. You can work in various scales from small to very large installations. You can use a range of art materials to make your art both in 2D or 3D. As you progress very quickly during Year 10 you will soon be making impressive pieces of artwork showing your growing technical skills in painting, drawing and other media work to feel proud of!



How will I be examined?

Assessment is based on the final exhibition, 60% of the marks being awarded for coursework, and 40% for the timed test piece.

Unit 1: Coursework (60%) Portfolio of work for Controlled Assessment, Year 11 Mock Exam and Controlled Assessment. All the work you make in class and produce for homework goes towards your coursework mark which is 60% of your GCSE mark. There will be set practical tasks with set deadlines - these are Controlled Assessments.

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%). The examination is ten hours in length, and the question paper is given out approximately 80 days prior to the examination, thus enabling the candidates to prepare thoroughly relevant, related preparatory study drawings. You have approximately 10 weeks to prepare for this themed timed piece (Externally Controlled Assessment). You produce a final piece of artwork during the timed Controlled Assessment.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

If you like to be original, think for yourself, and experiment, Art GCSE gives you the opportunity to develop your own ideas but have an understanding of modern painting and our shared cultural heritage.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Potential careers include Fashion or Graphic Design, Styling, Social Work/Therapy, Marketing, Photojournalism, Architecture, Interior Design, Jewellery Making, Animation, Website Design.

Subject: COMPUTER SCIENCE (9-1)

Level: GSCE (Level 2)

Exam Board: OCR www.ocr.org.uk



What is taught:

GCSE in Computer Science is now the fourth Science subject and part of the e-Baccalaureate. The theory exams cover a wide range of topics.

Component 1 focuses on computer systems and includes exciting and relevant topics such as, data representation (binary, hex) system security, Boolean logic, networks, the CPU, computer memory and the legal and ethical implications of using technology.

Component 2 focuses on computational thinking such as decomposition and abstraction, computational logic and programming methods using the Python language. The Programming Project will test your ability to independently problem solve and draw upon your knowledge of the Python language to plan, design, create, test, and evaluate a program to solve a specific problem.

The Units / Papers:

Component 1: Computer Systems

Component 2: Programming and Algorithms

How will I be Examined:

Component 1 (50%): Theory exam - Computer Systems (1.5-hour exam)

Component 2 (50%): Theory exam – Programming and Algorithms (1.5-hour exam)

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

This is a course for people who would like to learn to code and understand the science and theory behind gaming, apps, systems development and computer hardware and software. You must be prepared to tackle complex problems in a logical manner and enjoy mathematical puzzles and research. Whilst very challenging in terms of complexity and breadth of study, it is a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding qualification.

What careers could studying this subject lead to:

Computer Science could also help you get any IT Job, but particularly jobs in multimedia, games design, or software and systems development. There is currently a huge shortage of Computer Scientists and coding is a very sought-after skill worldwide.

Computer Science is a subject many academics, scientists and mathematicians take on just as a hobby. If you know how to apply principles of mathematics to problems and write solutions as code, you could potentially create your very own app in your spare time! GSCE

Subject DRAMA

Level: GCSE (Level 2)

Exam Board: EDEXCEL



Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are taught in mixed ability teaching groups

What will I learn about?

You will learn to develop a number of skills including: performance, public speaking, knowledge of drama and theatre, writing extended coursework, preparing for the written exam, script reading and writing, confidence and communication. You will improvise, perform, work as a group, write up your ideas in your diary, and produce coursework as well as live performance evaluations.

One of the highlights of the course is being able to visit the theatre to analyse drama productions.

How will I be examined/assessed?

Component 1 – Devising (40% of grade)

Pupils will devise an original piece of drama for performance. They will track the devising process in an extended portfolio of written work (2000 words).

Component 2 – Performance from text (20% of grade)

Pupils will perform in a group performance and a monologue from one text.

Component 3 – Theatre Makers in Practice (40%) – 90 min exam

Pupils will study a play in practical workshops, then answer questions on it in the exam. Pupils will see a live performance, write a review and answer an exam question on the performance.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

You need to be:

Enthusiastic, creative, hardworking, literate, keen to perform in front of an audience, imaginative, a team player and ready to put in time outside of lessons, for rehearsals. Please note that you must be confident in writing for the 30% written coursework and 40% written exam.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

As well as being an excellent preparation for a career in the acting profession, Drama is valued by employers in a wide range of professions who need people with good communication and teamwork skills. These careers would include the Media, TV and Radio Journalism, Marketing, Hospitality etc.

Subjects: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE

Level: GCSE (Level 2)

Exam Board: AQA

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are in mixed ability teaching groups

What will I learn about?

GCSE English Language

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Writing and Reading (50%)

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (50%)

GCSE English Literature

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the Nineteenth Century Novel (50%)

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry (50%)

How will I be examined/assessed?

All the assessments will be by external examination with no coursework or controlled assessment. In English Language GCSE there will be a separate Speaking and Listening qualification (Non-Examined Assessment) that will not count towards the GCSE grade but validates the GCSE qualification.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

Both English Language and English Literature are compulsory options for all pupils. We believe that both these qualifications are vital in developing the practical and creative skills required to be successful. English Language and Literature also develop essential communication skills for Sixth Form, apprenticeships, university and life beyond the classroom.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

English is essential to progress into most career paths from Linguistics, Medicine, Business Administration, Curating, Marketing, Journalism/Media, Law, Education, Performing Arts, Health and Social Care, Leisure, Tourism, Civil Service, Archiving, Events Management, Human Resourcing, Copywriting, Politics, Public Relations, Editing, Screen Writing and many, many more.



Subject: FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Level: GCSE

Exam board: AQA 8585



GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is a new exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure pupils develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials.

At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing pupils' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition. This has replaced the Food Technology GCSE course which has been discontinued.

Subject Content – What is covered?

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

- 1. Food, Nutrition and Health** – Macro Nutrients, Micronutrients, Nutritional Needs and Health.
- 2. Food Science** – Cooking of Food, Heat Transfer, Functional and Chemical Properties of Food.
- 3. Food Safety** – Food Spoilage, Contamination and Principles of Food Safety.
- 4. Food Choice** – Factors affecting Food Choice, British and International Cuisines, Sensory Evaluation, Food Labelling and Marketing
- 5. Food Provenance** – Environmental Impact and Sustainability of Food, Food Processing and Production.

Assessments

EXAM: Paper 1: Food preparation and nutrition (50%) Written Exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

The paper will be made up of 20 multiple choice questions worth 20 marks and 5 questions each with a number of sub questions worth 80 marks.

NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT (NEA): Task 1: Food Investigation (15%) Written Report

Pupils' understanding of the; working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Pupils will submit a written report (1,500–2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation which will take the form of scientific investigations.

NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT (NEA): Task 2: Food preparation assessment (35%) Written Portfolio

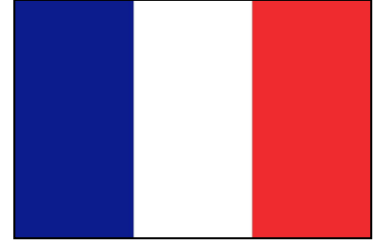
Pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Pupils will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved. Pupils will submit a written portfolio (15 x A4 pages) including photographic evidence.

Which careers can this course lead to?

Studying food preparation and nutrition can lead to exciting and well-paid career options. Consumers are becoming increasingly aware of the importance of good nutrition to promote a healthy lifestyle and provide nutritious meals for their families. This course could lead you into roles such as Food Safety Inspectors, Nutritionists, Dieticians, Quality Managers, Teacher, Food Engineer, Food Scientist, Food Technologist, Food Photographer, Food Stylist, Home Economist, Hotel and Restaurant Manager, Microbiologist, working in food magazines, radio and television, a Chef, Food Product Developer, Buyer (who travels the world sourcing new food products for manufacturers). For more information on food careers please visit [www.http://tastycareers.org.uk](http://tastycareers.org.uk). To discuss your suitability for this course please speak to Mrs Groves.

Subject: FRENCH

Level: GCSE (Level 2)



Exam Board: AQA

Pupils are taught in mixed ability groups and entered for Foundation Tier (grades 1-5) or Higher Tier (grades 4-9) after their mocks in Year 10 and Year 11.

What is taught?

The themes which we cover in the new course are:

Identity and culture; Local, national, international and global areas of interest; Current and future study and employment.

The units are as follows:

Unit 1: Listening (25%)

Unit 2: Reading (25%)

Unit 3: Speaking (25%)

Unit 4: Writing (25%)

How will I be examined?

All skills will be assessed as a final exam in the summer of Year 11. There will be four separate exams.

Paper 1: Listening. 35 minutes (Foundation Tier) or 45 minutes (Higher Tier).

Paper 2: Speaking. Pupils will attend one session to take place between April and May. The individual time will be scheduled by the school. The exam consists of three parts: a role-play, photo card as well as a general conversation. The exam lasts 7-9 minutes for Foundation Tier or 10-12 minutes for Higher Tier pupils.

Paper 3: Reading. 45 minutes (Foundation Tier) or 1 hour (Higher Tier). This paper also includes a **short translation from French into English**.

Paper 4: Writing. 1 hour (Foundation Tier) or 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier). The paper requires pupils to **write in French** and includes a **translation from English into French**.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

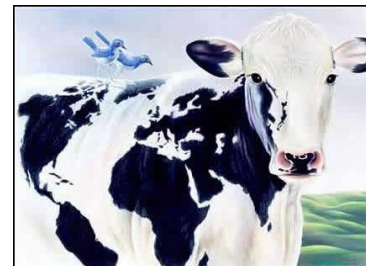
Almost all pupils study a language at GCSE, continuing on from their current language options. If you are already studying French in Year 9, it could be the language for you! It is also possible to continue with French alongside German or Latin. The course builds on topics from KS3, so you will already know a lot of the grammar and vocabulary that come up in KS4.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Some top universities will not even consider an application without a GCSE language, as it is a subject that shows academic rigour. Languages are also incredibly flexible as qualifications: they are often necessary to work abroad, in international business or charitable organisations and in the travel sector. Careers where a language is an advantage include finance, retail, journalism, hospitality, travel and tourism, local government, civil service, law, publishing, diplomacy, import/export, and sales.

Subject GEOGRAPHY

Level: GCSE (Level 2)



Exam Board AQA 8035

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are in mixed ability teaching groups.

What will I learn about?

There are three examinations based on the content below.

Subject Content		
Unit 1 Living with the physical environment	Unit 2 Challenges in the human environment	Unit 3 Geographical applications
1. The challenge of natural hazards	1. Urban issues and challenges	Issue evaluation
2. Physical landscapes of the UK	2. The changing economic world	Fieldwork
3. The living world	3. The challenge of resource management	

How will I be examined/assessed?

There are 3 examination papers

1. Living with the physical environment (35% of GCSE)
2. Challenges in the human environment (35% of GCSE)
3. Geographical applications skills and fieldwork exam (30% of GCSE)

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

“Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future.” Michael Palin. Geography is a relevant and dynamic subject that gives people the knowledge and skills to make sense of a rapidly changing world. As the subject deals with current events, it helps pupils to have a greater understanding of the world they live in. The course itself is academically demanding in nature, in terms of the amount of content it contains and the format of the exam.

Geography is a good choice for you if you are interested in the content you have studied in Years 7-9 and are someone who consistently works hard.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

There are many advantages as Geography is so adaptable, and topical. With regard to GCSEs, it can be combined with other subjects making many career opportunities become possible; for example, combining it with science leads to jobs within the Agricultural or Environmental Industry, whereas taking Geography in combination with History leads to Legal, Political or Archaeological careers. Other careers include: Architecture; Photography; Surveying; Leisure and Tourism; Estate Management; Banking, Town Planning and Journalism to name just a few!

Subject GERMAN

Level: GCSE (Level 2)



Exam Board: AQA

Pupils are taught in mixed ability groups and entered for Foundation Tier (grades 1-5) or Higher Tier (grades 4-9) after their mocks in Year 10 and Year 11.

What is taught?

The themes which we cover in the new course are:

Identity and culture; Local, national, international and global areas of interest; Current and future study and employment.

The units are as follows:

Unit 1: Listening (25%)

Unit 2: Reading (25%)

Unit 3: Speaking (25%)

Unit 4: Writing (25%)

How will I be examined?

All skills will be assessed as a final exam in the summer of Year 11. There will be four separate exams.

Paper 1: Listening. 35 minutes (Foundation Tier) or 45 minutes (Higher Tier).

Paper 2: Speaking. Pupils will attend one session to take place between April and May. The individual time will be scheduled by the school. The exam consists of three parts: a role-play, photo card as well as a general conversation. The exam lasts 7-9 minutes for Foundation Tier or 10-12 minutes for Higher Tier pupils.

Paper 3: Reading. 45 minutes (Foundation Tier) or 1 hour (Higher Tier). This paper also includes a **short translation from German into English**.

Paper 4: Writing. 1 hour (Foundation Tier) or 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier). The paper requires pupils to **write in German** and includes a **translation from English into German**.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

Almost all pupils study a language at GCSE, continuing on from their current language options. If you are already studying German in Year 9, it could be the language for you! It is also possible to continue with German alongside French or Latin. The course builds on topics from KS3, so you will already know a lot of the grammar and vocabulary that come up in KS4.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Some top universities will not even consider an application without a language GCSE, as it is a subject that shows academic rigour. Languages are also incredibly flexible as qualifications: they are often necessary to work abroad, in international business or charitable organisations, and in the travel sector. Careers where a language is an advantage include finance, retail, journalism, hospitality, travel and tourism, local government, civil service, law, publishing, diplomacy, import/export, and sales.

Subject: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level: BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award

Exam Board: PEARSON EDEXCEL

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are in a mixed ability teaching group



What will I learn about?

This course consists of three components that are individually assessed.

Component 1: Human Lifespan Development – pupils will study how people grow and develop over the course of their life from infancy to old age.

Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values – pupils will develop an understanding of health and social care services and the core care values.

Component 3: Health and Well Being – pupils will study factors that can have a positive or negative influence on an individual's health and well-being.

How will I be examined/assessed?

During Year 10 learners will complete an internal assessed piece of coursework for Components 1 and 2 which is externally verified. During Year 11 learners will be examined on Component 3.

How do I know if I am suited to the course?

The structure and organisation of assessment requires learners to adhere to strict structured deadlines. Pupils will need to be motivated and have a passion for supporting and respecting the needs and preferences of others.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

About 3 million people work in the health and social care sector. Health care roles include doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives and health care assistants, while social care roles include care assistants, occupational therapists, counsellors and administrators. Together they account for nearly one in ten of all paid jobs in the UK. Demand for both health and social care is likely to rise and the demand for people to carry out these roles will increase.

Why should I study BTEC Tech Award Health and Social Care?

The BTEC Tech Award is an introduction to vocational learning. This qualification gives learners the opportunity to build skills that show aptitude for further learning. The Tech Award is different to other BTEC qualifications as it does not explicitly focus on a job role in a defined occupational area. The focus is on building skills and improving options so that pupils can become work ready for an occupation post-16. Studying this sector will complement GCSE study through providing an opportunity for practical application alongside conceptual study.

Subject HISTORY

Level: GCSE (Level 2)

Exam Board EDEXCEL

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are in taught in mixed ability groups



What will I learn about?

The course covers a variety of historical periods and includes the study of British, European and world history. Some topics will be familiar to pupils from history in Years 7-9 such as Henry VIII, so they are able to build on their existing knowledge. Other topics, such as the Cold War and Medicine in Britain offer pupils the chance to discover new periods of history.

How will I be examined/assessed?

Paper 1: Medicine in Britain 1250-present day, with WWI in-depth study (30%)

Paper 2: Henry VIII and his Ministers & The Cold War 1941-1991 (40%)

Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939 (30%)

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

You will need to be interested in learning about historical events and keen to understand the people, events and ideas that have shaped our world. If you have enjoyed studying History in Years 7-9, you will find the GCSE course engaging. The course is demanding in terms of content and exam technique, so you should be prepared to work consistently hard throughout the two years.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

History is an extremely useful subject for a broad range of careers. It is highly respected by employers as a strong academic subject as studying history develops a wide range of transferable skills, such as the ability to create a convincing argument and analyse evidence. In fact, more directors of top UK companies studied History than any other single subject.

Other than business, there are clear links to other professions such as Law, Media, Government, Teaching, Education etc. Past pupils have gone on to study or work in many of the areas above as well as a variety of others. The excellent record of achievement has helped them to go on to A-Level and to the universities of their choice.

Subject: LATIN

Level: GCSE

Exam Board: EDUQAS (WJEC)

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are taught in mixed ability groups



What will I learn about?

You will develop and use your knowledge of vocabulary and grammar in order to read, understand and interpret Latin stories. You will also develop your knowledge of Latin literature and its associated values through the study of original texts. Finally, you will learn about one aspect of Roman society and culture.

How will I be examined/assessed?

Component 1 – Latin Language

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

50% of the qualification

Pupils will translate a passage of Latin prose into English accurately, comprehend a passage of Latin and answer questions in English on it.

Component 2 – Latin Literature and Sources (Themes)

Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes

30% of the qualification

Pupils will demonstrate knowledge of the set texts through translation and comprehension tasks.

Component 3 – Roman Civilisation

Written examination: 1 hour

20% of the qualification

Pupils will demonstrate knowledge of an aspect of Roman civilisation, such as Roman entertainment or religion. This exam is completed in English and does not require translation or comprehension of Latin texts.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

You can study Latin in addition to a modern language and you can use the skills learnt in your modern language to help you with the linguistic elements of the Latin course. There are also links to History with the ancient civilisation part of the course. Therefore, strong grades in these subjects will show an ability to do well in Latin.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Pupils who take Latin can continue further study of A Level in Latin or Classical Civilisation. Learning Latin is challenging, so a degree in Classics is highly respected and can lead to jobs in many areas, including business, journalism and law.

Subject MATHEMATICS

Level: GCSE (Level 2)

Exam Board EDEXCEL



Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are set according to the summer examination at the end of Year 9.

The sets are reviewed and changed throughout the course. There will be regular assessments so that pupils are in the set which gives them the best opportunity of achieving their best grade in their GCSE examination.

What will I learn about?

The areas of mathematics covered by this course are:

- Number
- Algebra
- Proportional reasoning
- Geometry
- Statistics
- Probability
-

Pupils will be taught to:

- Recall knowledge of mathematics
- Select and apply appropriate mathematics in context
- Interpret and analyse problems and generate strategies to solve them

How will I be examined/assessed?

There will be regular internal assessments throughout the course. These will be set by the department and will enable pupils' progress to be monitored and reviewed. These assessments will also help the department decide if pupils should be entered for GCSE Higher Tier or Foundation Tier. Mathematics will be externally examined in the summer of Year 11. This will be **three examinations** of which only one will be non-calculator.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

Mathematics is so important to your future success it is a compulsory subject.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Mathematics is vital for a career in Science, Engineering, Finance, Project Management, Data Analysis and Quality Control. Mathematical skills are also vital life skills in the 21st Century.

Subject MUSIC GCSE

Level: GCSE (Level 2)

Exam Board EDUQAS



What is taught:

Traditional Music GCSE with performing, composition and studying set works e.g. Bach

The Units/Papers:

Unit 1: Performance (30%): You will produce a portfolio of at least one solo and one ensemble performance on any instrument or voice, recorded during the course.

Unit 2: Composition (30%): You will compose two pieces, one in response to a brief and one as a free choice.

Unit 3: Listening and appraising exam (40%): You will study a wide selection of set pieces of music throughout the course with two set works chosen by the exam board.

How will I be examined?

Unit 1: Performances in year 11. They will be marked internally.

Unit 2: Both compositions are completed as coursework – one at the end of Year 10, and one in year 11. They will be marked internally.

Unit 3: The written exam contains listening questions based on the following topics:

Musical forms and devices

Music for ensemble

Music for film

Popular music

You will also need to study 2 pieces of music in detail. These are: '*Badinerie*' by J. S. Bach and '*Africa*' by Toto.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

- You must be currently taking instrumental or vocal lessons and be at least Grade 3 standard on your instrument or voice before starting the course.
- You should have a good theoretical understanding of music and be able to read notation fluently.
- You should be interested in listening to and learning about different styles of music across different historical eras.
- You need to be hard-working, creative, musically open-minded and keen to develop your musical skills. You should be passionate about Music and perform regularly outside school and be committed to Music at Tenison's.

In addition to the above:

You will be expected to contribute to the extra-curricular programme at school. This is in order to cultivate your all-round musicianship and expand your musical experience.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

A performing musician

Instrumental teacher

Music administrator

Music therapist

Music copyist

Music journalist

Classroom music teacher

Playing in an orchestra

Performing in a choir

Subject: PSD/LIFE SKILLS

Level: N/A

Exam Board: N/A

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are in mixed ability teaching groups



What will I learn about?

- Various life skills including:
- Managing your own money
- Personal safety in the home and the community
- Healthy Living
- Preparation for work
- Parenting awareness

This subject is compulsory in Year 10 and Year 11 but it is quite unlike other subjects as there is no assessment and little homework. Instead, this subject considers issues linked to personal development, social responsibility and future plans.

Topics include Work Experience, Money Matters and Sexual Awareness. The majority of lessons are based on a seminar style group discussion and there are frequent opportunities taken to bring the whole year group together for a specific purpose e.g. to listen to a visiting speaker.

Subject GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

Level: GCSE (Level 2)

Exam Board: EDUQAS Welsh Board

Mixed ability: Pupils are taught in mixed ability teaching groups.



What will I learn about?

Photography is defined as the practice of creating durable static or moving images by recording light with light-sensitive materials such as photographic film or digitally by means of an image sensor. Pupils undertaking the Photography GCSE are required to demonstrate the knowledge, skills through areas of study relevant to their chosen title.

Areas of study include:

- Documentary photography
- Photojournalism
- Studio photography
- Location photography
- Experimental imagery
- Installation
- Moving image: film, video and animation.

Work is not limited to one area of study.

How will I be examined?

Assessment is based on the final exhibition, 60% of the marks being awarded for coursework, and 40% for the timed test piece.

Unit 1: Coursework (60%) Portfolio of work for Controlled Assessment Year 11 Mock Exam and Controlled Assessment. All the work you make in class and produce for homework goes towards your coursework mark which is 60% of your GCSE mark. There will be set practical tasks with set deadlines - these are Controlled Assessments.

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%). The examination is ten hours in length, and the question paper is given out approximately 80 days prior to the examination, thus enabling the candidates to prepare thoroughly relevant, related preparatory research and shoots. You have approximately 10 weeks to prepare for this themed timed piece (Externally Controlled Assessment). You produce a final creative photographic response during the timed Controlled Assessment.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

To succeed in GCSE Photography, you need to be passionate about image making. Pupils who study GCSE Photography need to be open to exploring current issues around the world and apply them into creating a visual conceptual message. Pupils will also need to be problem solvers as well as creative.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Potential careers include: Freelance Photography, Fashion or Graphic Design, Styling, Marketing, Photojournalism, Animation, Website Design, Cinematographer, Photo Editor, Videographer, Digital Designer.

Subject PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Level: GCSE PE (Level 2)

Exam Board AQA

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

The theory groups are mixed ability. Some practical activities are split by gender, others are mixed.



What will I learn about?

Applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, physical training, sports psychology, diet, health and fitness, social-cultural factors in sports, international competitions, and how school and physical education impacts on sports participation.

A range of physical activities. There are 19 different team activities, 20 individual activities and 2 specialist activities that could be used to assess the pupils.

How will I be examined/assessed?

Two written exams worth 60% of final grade

Practical performance in 3 sporting activities and one piece of coursework – 40%

Each practical activity area is assessed throughout the course. Each practical performance contributes to the final assessment grade. Each pupil will be assessed as a player/performer in at least 3 activities. One team activity, one individual activity and a third in either a team or in an individual activity.

Year 10 will sit a written mock paper and take part in a practical moderation day in June. In year 11 pupils will sit two GCSE written papers in May and take part in a practical moderation day in March with an external moderator.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

You must be passionate about sport and either compete, officiate or coach regularly in at least one or more sports outside of school and be committed to school sport.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

A career or an A level/University course in the following areas would be a natural progression: PE, Sports Science, Science, Biology, Human Biology, Physiotherapy, Human Health and Physiology, Health and Social Care, Leisure and Tourism, Health, Physical Activity and Fitness.

This course would also be ideal for those wishing to continue coaching or performing in the future.

Subject PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Level: Sports Leadership Award (Level 1) Pupils that choose to continue their Sports Leaders experience into year 11 would complete the Sports Leaders Level 2 qualification.



Exam Board: SPORTS LEADERS UK

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are taught in mixed ability groups.

What will I learn about (Level 1)?

Unit 1 – Establishing leadership skills

- Know the skills and behaviours needed to lead others
- Be able to use leadership skills and behaviours effectively
- Be able to take on the roles and responsibilities of an official in sport/physical activity
- Know the leadership opportunities available to them

Unit 2 – Plan, assist in leading and review sport/physical activity

- Know how to plan structured and inclusive sport/physical activity
- Be able to assist in leading structured and inclusive sport/physical activity
- Be able to review a sport/physical activity session

Organise a number of sports sessions, ideally in two different sporting or recreational activities for your peer group or lower age group children.

How will I be examined/assessed?

Through observations by the teacher and peers and completing a booklet which guides you through the course.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

You need to be committed to the course. You might want to work with young people as a coach or teacher in the future. You might want to gain an extra qualification but are not suited to the GCSE PE course.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Working with children, coaching sporting activities or Level 2 in Community Leadership.



Please note that there is a cost for completing this recognised qualification. The Level 1 Sports Leadership Award is currently £26.00 in total.

Subject PHYSICAL EDUCATION – CORE PE

This subject is also an additional sports option for pupils who choose to study Sports Leaders Level 1 during Year 10. Level 2 can be accomplished during Year 11.

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are taught in mixed ability groups.

Sporting activities - opportunities to improve core skills and experience different roles in traditional activities and a chance to experience success in new activity areas e.g. Handball, Volleyball, Intercrosse, Gym visits, Paralympic Sports, Badminton, Cardio Tennis and much more! In recent years we have created and offered an Outdoor Adventure and Fitness route way in Year 11.

Pupils' progress in each activity area will be tracked and reported on.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

This course is the alternative to GCSE and Sports Leaders and should be taken if the pupil is interested in participating in a variety of activities without the pressure of written or practical examination.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Participation in a variety of activity areas will encourage pupils to continue an active lifestyle through sport when they leave school.



Subject: DANCE

Level: GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

What is taught and how will I be examined?

GCSE Dance is a two-year course that focuses on three components: Performance, Choreography and Dance Appreciation. Pupils will gain the opportunity to study a range of dance styles whilst developing creative, physical, emotional, and intellectual capacity.

Performance (40%): Pupils must perform a dance solo for approximately **one minute** and in a duet/trio for a minimum of **three** minutes.

Choreography (40%): Pupils must learn how to respond creatively to an externally set stimulus, to choreograph their own complete dance. The dance created must be either a solo dance or a group dance for two to five dancers.

Dance Appreciation (20%): Through written communication and use of appropriate terminology, pupils must be able to critically analyse, interpret and evaluate their own work in performance and choreography and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of professional practice in the six set works in the GCSE Dance Anthology. Dance appreciation is assessed through a written exam of one and a half hours duration.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

If you have previous experience, passion, or interest in dance, this is the course for you!

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

There are many career possibilities when studying GCSE dance, you can become a dancer, choreographer, dance teacher, physiotherapist, P.E Teacher, fitness instructor.



Subject PRODUCT DESIGN

Level: GCSE (Level 2)



Exam Board: Educas (Design Technology: Product Design)

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are in mixed ability teaching groups.

What will I learn about?

Pupils will study a core body of knowledge on woods, metals, plastics, textiles, composites, paper, card and board. The core knowledge will give them an overview of a wide range of materials used in commercial products from graphic design through fashion and industrial product. Pupils will then build in one specific area allowing them to focus on the area they prefer.

This might be a Graphic Product: paper card and board products.

Product Design: innovative products and built environment; or the more Traditional Resistant Material projects.

Pupils should make it clear when selecting if they have a specialist preference.

How will I be examined/assessed?

As with all GCSE subjects, pupils will have to study and prepare for a theory examination which counts for **50%** of the overall GCSE. The remaining **50%** is a Controlled Assessment Task where pupils follow the design process to produce a functioning product in their preferred material area. This is the reformed GCSE using the 9-1 grading.

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

Those who enjoy the design process and wish to develop both creatively and build sound practical knowledge. As in all creative subjects, an eye for detail, and interest in design and a willingness to learn creative skills are the key to success in this subject.

Industrial Design is a key element within the studies allowing for use of computer aided design and manufacture. The subject requires a high level of independent enquiry.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

This new option now allows those with an interest in Graphic Design, Interior Design and Product Design to gain a useful qualification that can be built on with post 16 subjects at A Level, BTEC but also demonstrate strong key skills for apprenticeship routes at 16 or 18.



Subject RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Level: GCSE (Level 2)

Exam Board EDEXCEL

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are in mixed ability teaching groups



What will I learn about?

The study of Christianity

- Beliefs and Teachings
- Practices
- Sources of Wisdom and Authority
- Forms of Expression and Ways of Life

Islam

- Beliefs and Teachings
- Practices

Textual Studies (St. Mark's Gospel)

- The Nature of Discipleship
- The Identity of Jesus

How will I be examined/assessed?

Summer Year 11, three external exams

The Study of Christianity – 50% of the qualification, 4 questions in 1 hour 45 minutes

Islam – 25% of the qualification, 2 questions in 50 minutes

Textual Studies - 25% of the qualification, 2 questions in 50 minutes

How do I know if I am suited to this course?

It is a legal requirement that all pupils should study RS. However, pupils find GCSE RS enjoyable and rewarding, it is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious issues. It is about you, your beliefs, learning about other people's beliefs, the nature of the society you live in and the big issues in life which generate debate.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Many pupils go on to study Religious Studies at A Level. These pupils have then gone on to study a wide range of subjects including Medicine, Law, Economics, Speech and Physiotherapy, Teaching, Theology and Philosophy. Studying RS shows potential employers that you are able to analyse and evaluate different points of view and are aware of the people and society that you live in.

Subject SCIENCE

Level: GCSE (Level 2)

Exam Board: PEARSON/EDEXCEL.

Is the course taught in sets or mixed ability?

Pupils are set according to their end of Key Stage 3 attainment.

The 5 sets in Y10 and 11 follow these curriculum pathways:

Set 1 - Triple Science (3 GCSEs)

Sets 2, 3 and 4 - Combined Science (2 GCSEs) at Higher or Foundation tier

Set 5 - Initially Entry Level Science with possible transfer to Combined Science GCSE Foundation tier.



Important note: One of three curriculum pathways will be recommended by the department for each pupil.

1. Entry Level Certificate (pre-GCSE) – for those who find science very challenging.
2. GCSE Combined Science- at Foundation or Higher tier depending on aptitude / attainment / career aspiration.
3. Triple Science (GCSE Biology + Chemistry + Physics) - at Higher tier for pupils of aptitude / attainment / career aspiration.

What will I learn about?

The starting point for almost all pupils at KS4 is GCSE Combined Science which comprises Biology, Chemistry and Physics in equal proportions. This course is worth 2 full GCSEs and hence is awarded a double grade, e.g. grade 56 is half way between a grade 5 and a grade 6. A selection of the units covered are listed below showing the huge range of topics. Based on assessment at the end of Year 9 or early in Year 10 about 30 pupils are invited to progress towards "Triple Science", that is, separate GCSE's in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Biology topics include:

Topic 1 – Overarching concepts in Biology

Topic 2 – Cells and control

Topic 3 – Genetics

Topic 9 – Ecosystems and material cycles

Chemistry:

Topic 2 – States of matter

Topic 3 – Methods of separating and purifying substances

Topic 4 – Acids

Topic 16 – Earth and atmospheric science

Physics:

Topic 1 – Overarching concepts in Physics: motion, forces and conservation of energy

Topic 2 – Waves

Topic 3 – Light and the electromagnetic spectrum

Topic 9 – Electricity and circuits

How will I be examined/assessed?

It's a linear qualification; all exams must be taken at the end of the course.

Assessment of practical skills

GCSE is 100% externally assessed (no coursework). Knowledge, understanding and skills are gained from doing the Core Practicals and will be assessed in the final exam.

This element makes up 15% of marks in exam papers.

E.g. investigate the rate of respiration in living organisms; investigate the preparation of pure, dry, hydrated copper sulphate crystals starting from copper oxide; Investigate the suitability of equipment to measure the speed/frequency/wavelength of a wave in a solid and a fluid.

Assessment of mathematical skills

Makes up 10% of marks in exam papers in Biology, 20% in Chemistry and 30% in Physics. Foundation papers will test Key Stage 3 Maths skills. Higher papers will test KS4 Level 1 Maths skills.

Entry Level has no exams but has ongoing internal assessments.

GCSE Biology/Chemistry/Physics each comprise 2 exams each of length 1hr 10 minutes.

Combined Science comprises 6 exams (2 Biology, 2 Chemistry, 2 Physics) each of length 1hr 10 minutes.

How do I know which pathway is best for me?

About 75% of pupils nationally gain Combined Science at grades 9-1. Grade 7 or upwards is likely to allow very successful progression to an A-level in Science. About 25% of pupils nationally study for the Triple Science course and at Tenison's we are broadly in line with this. Pupils following the Triple Science course will obtain 3 separate GCSEs (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) at the end of Year 11. A very few pupils work towards Entry Level Science only.

What careers could studying this subject lead to?

Many of our pupils may continue to study Science at A Level and university leading to a wide range of careers, e.g. Medicine, Physiotherapy, Forensic Science, Pharmaceutical Industry, Engineering (Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Chemical), Sports Science, Marine Biology, Astronomy, Food and Nutrition, Cosmetics and very many more. GCSEs in Science can also form an excellent starting point for Apprenticeships for Electricians, Plumbing, and Car Mechanics. Practical uses linked with other subjects maybe in Weather Forecasting, Meteorology, Architecture, Archaeology, Surveying. The possibilities are endless!

