

ENGLISH LANGUAGE GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

At GCSE, English splits into two qualifications - English Literature and English Language. English Language is the study of how writers use language in specific contexts and for specific reasons. It is said that the pen is mightier than the sword and this is completely true! You will also prepare a short presentation on the topic of your choice which will assess your spoken language skills.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

English Language is extremely engaging for those who are interested in how language works and how it can be used to have a particular effect on people. Have you ever persuaded someone to do something for you? Have you ever tried to get out of a tricky situation? Chances are that you used particular language devices in order to do so.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Have a look at the exam board specification for this subject by following the below link: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1 - Fiction and Imaginative Writing - 1 hour 45 minutes; 50% of the qualification

Paper 2 - Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing - 1 hour 45 minutes; 50% of the qualification
Spoken Language
Endorsement (Does not contribute to overall grade)



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

English Language will be extremely helpful in complementing your studies in GCSE English Literature. Both are extremely popular choices at A Level and can lead to further study at university in either English Literature, Linguistics or Foreign Languages. A variety of careers are available that use English Language, including those in advertising and marketing, due to the power language can have when persuading others. Other popular careers using this subject are teaching English as a foreign language, magazine editor, journalist, publisher, and writer.

STUDENT QUOTES

“English has really helped me to understand how to be more imaginative and creative with my writing, which has helped me in lots of different subjects”

"Studying how writers use language in different ways has helped me think about how I use language in daily life when talking to others"



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

HISTORY
LANGUAGES
OR
PERFORMING ARTS

CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE GCSE



ENGLISH LITERATURE GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

At GCSE, English splits into two qualifications - English Literature and English Language. English Literature is the study of a variety of texts and the exploration of the writers who wrote them. You will study a modern novel or play (written after 1914) by a British writer, a selection of fifteen poems written by different poets across history, a Shakespeare play and a novel written in the 19th Century.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

If you enjoy reading, you will enjoy English Literature. Those who also enjoy history and politics will enjoy this subject. If you have a desire to find out about the past or get into the minds of characters in books, or the writers who wrote them, then you will not be disappointed with this subject. You will enjoy English Literature if you like giving your opinion about things and will do extremely well if you are good at this. Literature is all about your own interpretations and so there are no wrong answers as such. There are plenty of opportunities to debate and discuss in English Literature and this often forms part of English Literature lessons.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Have a look at the exam board specification for this subject by following the below link: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>.



Paper 1 - Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel - 1 hour 45 minutes; 40% of the qualification

Paper 2 - Modern Texts and Poetry - 2 hours 15 minutes; 60% of the qualification



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

English Literature often goes hand-in-hand with English Language at A Level and these two are often studied together because of the cross-over between them. Those who study English Literature may go on to enjoy a career in writing, media or journalism, editing, publishing, teaching or lecturing, researching, advertising, PR, marketing and law.

STUDENT QUOTES

"Studying literature is a really interesting experience and really helped me to understand more topics in other subjects in depth, like History"

"I've really enjoyed looking at different texts and learning about the world, different time periods and different people through stories, plays and poems"



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

HISTORY
LANGUAGES
OR
PERFORMING ARTS



MATHEMATICS GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

GCSE Mathematics covers a wide range of basic mathematical knowledge and skills, grouped into six areas: Number; Algebra; Ratio and Proportion; Geometry and Measures; Probability; Statistics. Students will learn how to apply their knowledge to solve real life problems in a variety of contexts. Students will be assessed on their ability to use skills, reason mathematically and solve problems.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

GCSE Mathematics covers a huge variety of both basic mathematical skills as well as more advanced problem solving which can be applied in many areas of day to day life and be an essential aspect of many future careers. Because of this it is a compulsory subject for all students. Many of the topics covered in GCSE Mathematics will appear in other courses that you may be taking so a good understanding is really helpful.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

The course website for higher is <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/mathematics-2015.html>



ASSESSMENT

GCSE Mathematics is 100% Exam-based. It is assessed through 3, 90-minute papers for both Higher and Foundation.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \int_{\mathcal{R}_n} T(x) f(x, \theta) dx = \int_{\mathcal{R}_n} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} T(x) f(x, \theta) dx$$
$$\frac{1}{a} \ln f_{a, \sigma^2}(\xi_1) = \frac{(\xi_1 - a)}{\sigma^2} f_{a, \sigma^2}(\xi_1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(\xi_1 - a)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$$
$$T(x) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x, \theta) dx = M\left(T(\xi) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \ln L(\xi, \theta)\right) \int_{\mathcal{R}_n} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} T(x) f(x, \theta) dx$$

WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

A good understanding of Mathematics is incredibly valuable in adult life. You will need it in almost every career from architecture to hairdressing, nursing to engineering. You will also find that it appears in many aspects of your day to day life from DIY to shopping, cooking to holiday planning and of course keeping your finances in order.

Most colleges and sixth forms require GCSE Mathematics as an entry requirement, as do many jobs and apprenticeships. Studying Mathematics helps you develop great systematic thinking and problem-solving skills as well as resilience and logical reasoning skills. GCSE Mathematics is necessary for continuing to study A Level Science, A Level Psychology, A Level Economics as well as A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

STUDENT QUOTES

"I believe that with Maths we can change the world. It may be hard at first, but you should never give up—I didn't! Together we can make a difference." Angela

"Without Maths, the world wouldn't work. If Pi wasn't endless, the earth would stop spinning. If the earth stops spinning, we would cease to exist!" Emily



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

BUSINESS

GEOGRAPHY

OR iMEDIA?

problems
range use
assessed
areas
apply GCSE
ability
Reason
solve
Measures
life variety
Geometry
wide
Statistics
contexts
learn grouped
knowledge
Students
Mathematics
Number
mathematically
basic
Proportion
Skills
Ratio
Probability
Algebra
Mathematical
six
Mathematics

CORE SUBJECTS

MATHEMATICS GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

You will cover equal amounts of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. In Biology you can expect to learn about the changing environment, cells, DNA, genetics and how living organisms sustain life. Through Chemistry you will gain an understanding of the molecular world around you, studying the structure of the atom, bonding in materials, and energy changes in chemical reactions. Physics will deepen your understanding of fundamental concepts such as forces, electricity and energy; you will investigate electricity generation and gain an understanding of the issues that face energy production in the future.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

If you have an inquisitive mind and want to pursue Science into higher education, Science will equip you for this. It could help you to work in many different areas, such as medicine and working with animals, chemicals or in sport, depending on your interests. Scientists can spend a lot of time gathering evidence or testing out theories before they get a result, so you have to be patient and precise in your work.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/new-science-gcse-specifications>

Biology—2 Exam papers
Chemistry—2 Exam papers
Physics—2 Exam papers.

You must also complete practicals over the GCSE course which are recorded but do not contribute to your overall grade.



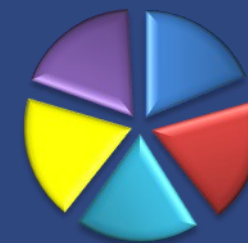
WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Whatever career you are considering, Science GCSE will set you up well for later life. Employers are crying out for candidates with science-based skills. The types of skills you learn studying all three Sciences can be really helpful for all sorts of different careers, like Astronomer, Dentist, Food Science Technician, Forensic Science Technician, Doctor, Nuclear Power Reactor Operator, Occupational Health & Safety Specialist, Aqua-cultural Manager, Climate Change Analyst, Veterinary, Environmental Scientist, Meteorologist and much more.

STUDENT QUOTES

"If you not only really enjoy Science but are planning to take one of them as an A level, this is the perfect subject for you. I personally love Science and really enjoy my class as it is full of like-minded people with similar aspirations to myself." Emily

"Separate Sciences enable you to access as many opportunities as possible within your present and future academic life, as a qualification highly regarded by sixth forms and universities. Science is a limitless subject that is shaping the future." Frances



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

iMEDIA
HEALTH and FITNESS
or GEOGRAPHY



FRENCH GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Students opting to take French for GCSE will study the following topics: identity and culture, local, national, international and global issues, current and future studies and employment. Students will also gain an insight into the culture and way of life that studying a foreign language brings with it. The GCSE builds on prior learning at KS3. It also compliments other subjects where you are required to convey different points of view, such as English and History.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

Students considering going to university would do well to consider taking French at GCSE and they will be more attractive candidates. Students who enjoy problem-solving, discovering how language works and how to apply this to their speaking and writing would get the most out of taking French. Also, those who wish to find out about different ways of life around the world. Furthermore, with college applications, admissions officers see that those who have chosen to take a language as GCSE as students who are hard-working, dedicated and willing to take on a challenge.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658>

Four key skills at Foundation (1-5) or Higher (4-9):

- Listening: 25%
- Speaking: 25%
- Reading: 25%
- Writing: 25%



WHERE CAN IT
TAKE YOU?

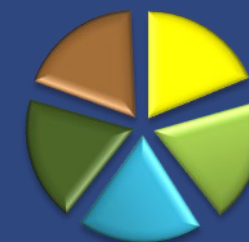
If you have a language, you are more likely to get an interview. 74% of employers want to recruit people with a foreign language, particularly in the light of globalisation. Typically, you will also earn more money: between 8% and 20%. You will have more opportunities to travel with work and French is spoken on all 5 continents. Remember 94% of the world population don't speak English as their first language. French opens the doors to many career opportunities, including business, hospitality, medicine, travel, catering, engineering, marketing, teaching, politics and law. French is both a working language and an official language of the United Nations, the European Union, UNESCO, NATO, the International Olympic Committee, the International Red Cross and international courts. French is the language of the three cities where the EU institutions are headquartered: Strasbourg, Brussels and Luxembourg.



STUDENT QUOTES

"I chose French because I enjoy travelling and different cultures. It can be hard but your friends who chose a language feel the same way as you and soon the things that you may have struggled with will be gone with the help of your teacher. I like how we are able to learn about the similarities between French and English as it helps us with learning a new language. You get to look at the facts about France and politics that you may not have heard about." Suprim

"Doing a language at GCSE, you learn and improve on many skills and it looks great on your application form when applying for college and university."
Jessica



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

HISTORY OR BUSINESS?

varied
communicate
reading
enjoy
young
exciting
language
covering
well
study
interest
future
new
areas
wide
range
ability
topics
people
learning
writing
culture
allow
impressive
employment
current
express
identity
following
develop
interests
speed
themes
global
things
understand
vocabulary
national
opinions
local
feel
learn
confident
talking
practise
country
this
france
also
new

SPANISH GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Students opting to take Spanish for GCSE will study the following topics: Identity and culture, local, national, international and global issues, current and future studies and employment. For each of these topics, students will improve and perfect their reading and listening comprehension in Spanish, extend their vocabulary and knowledge of grammar to write and speak more spontaneously, and translate from Spanish into English and vice versa. Students will also gain an insight into the culture and way of life that studying a foreign language brings with it. It also compliments other subjects where you are required to convey different points of view, such as English and History.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

Someone who likes languages, who is willing to try and take a risk to communicate with others, someone who likes travelling and talking to people from different countries, etc. Any student who works hard on a regular basis can develop good Spanish skills.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/spanish-8698>

ASSESSMENT

There are four key skills that are assessed with an exam in May of Year 11, all of which can be taken at either Foundation (1-5) or Higher (4-9).

Listening: 25%

Speaking: 25%

Reading: 25%

Writing: 25%



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

If you have a language, you are more likely to get an interview. 74% of employers want to recruit people with conversational language skills

Typically you will also earn more money: you can earn between 8% and 20% more than others. You will have more opportunities to travel with work.

Employers say they value the key skills developed by language learners. 'Everyone speaks English' is not true... 94% don't speak English as their first language – that means only 6% of us do!

Spanish opens the doors to many career opportunities, including hospitality, medicine, travel, catering, engineering, marketing, teaching and Law.

STUDENT QUOTES

"Spanish is a very good option for your GCSEs because you improve your confidence and it is always good to know one more language." Zuzanna

"I think choosing Spanish is amazing because you get to see how different things are in comparison to what we are used to in England. You will enjoy it if you take it!" Trecy



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

FRENCH
ENGLISH OR
HISTORY?



EBACC SUBJECTS

SPANISH GCSE

GEOGRAPHY GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

In Geography a range of topics are studied including: Natural hazards, climate change, ecosystems, cold environments, coastal landscapes, UK river landscapes, urban issues and challenges, the changing economic world, resource management and fieldwork enquiry skills.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

You will enjoy Geography if you are interested in learning about how today's world was shaped and understand the challenges we face in the future. You will examine the Earth's natural resources and the increasing battles between the man-made and natural world. If you have an interest in science and society then you would enjoy this GCSE.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035/subject-content>



Paper 1—35%
Paper 2—35%
Paper 3—30%



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Geography can lead to a wide range of A level and career options because it will give you transferable skills for further education and the workplace. These skills include decision-making, fieldwork enquiry skills, data collection, analysis and evaluation, written communication skills, report writing, data presentation, map skills and numerical and statistical skills. A few examples of careers directly linked to Geography are: commercial/residential surveyor, environmental consultant, geographical information systems officer, planning and development surveyor, town planner or working for oil companies.

STUDENT QUOTES

"I have improved my writing style, and that is helping with other subjects, too." Paige

"You learn more topics and details of how the world is changing than you did in Year 9." - Angela



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

HISTORY

iMEDIA OR

BUSINESS?



HISTORY GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

GCSE History at Reading Girls' School covers 4 main topic areas. History of Medicine, The Norman Conquest, the American West and the Rise of the Nazi Party. Within these units there are thematic, environmental and depth studies. Through studying these units, you will gain a much stronger chronological knowledge about the past, be able to determine the significance of events, examine the usefulness of evidence and evaluate the merits of different historical interpretations and perspectives.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

Students who want a deeper understanding of the world we live in today. Students who are interested in current affairs and the development of society, religions and politics.

The ability to think for yourself and develop your own points of view is vital during the course, especially when weighing up what evidence to use or when examining different historical viewpoints and deciding which you agree with.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<http://origin.qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>

ASSESSMENT

GCSE History is assessed entirely through exams, meaning that there is no controlled assessment.

Paper 1: 30% Medicine
Paper 2: 40% Normans / West
Paper 3: 30% Nazi Germany



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

GCSE History opens up more career paths than you might think. You can carry it on to study at A Level and then at university as a degree.

It can also prove useful in different professions; librarian, lawyer or barrister, architect, conservation, politics, antiques restoration, journalist, criminologist, historian, writer, publishing, tour guide, lecturer, TV or film researcher, genealogy, TV presenter, set designer for the theatre.

History also offers a range of key transferrable skills which are highly valued by employers and within further education.

STUDENT QUOTES

"We believe that History is the epicentre, where knowledge of the past accumulates. Speaking from personal experience, History has helped us tremendously in stimulating our understanding of British cultures and developing our analysis skills – which are applicable to multiple subjects" Anosh

"History helps you think in different perspectives and allows you to become engrossed in the world. It is well regarded, too. It's one of the subjects mentioned by the Russell Group." Halima



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

GEOGRAPHY

PERFORMING ARTS

OR LANGUAGES?



COMPUTER SCIENCE GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

You will gain a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. The course will give you an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming. You will have an opportunity to carry out a practical investigation into a computing issue and engage with computing in the real world. You will also program a solution to a problem based on a real-world context.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

The course provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science. The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this area. So, if you are interested in pursuing a computing-related career, this is a very useful course to study.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Computer>

100% Exam

Paper 1: Principles of computer science (50%)

Paper 2: Application of computational thinking (50%)



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Students who progress to study the subject at A Level or university will have an advantage over their colleagues who are picking up the subject at these levels.

STUDENT QUOTES

"Computing unlocks my potential for loads of careers. I really enjoy the logical thinking that it requires."

"I want to be a engineer when I am older and computing is the course that will help me to get there."



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

SCIENCE
MATHEMATICS
OR BUSINESS?

EBACC SUBJECTS COMPUTER SCIENCE GCSE



WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Students will explore the purpose and role of a business from spotting an opportunity through to the growth of an established business. They also look at the role of marketing and human resources. Students also learn about production processes, quality of goods and services, customer service, and working with suppliers. They look at the role of finance, its sources, costs, profit and loss, cash and cash flow.

They also explore how business responds to external influences, such as ethical and environmental considerations, the economic climate and globalisation, and the interdependent nature of business.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

You will enjoy Business Studies if you are interested in the world you live in and your future. You will have the opportunity to discuss up-to-date issues, current affairs and business concerns and challenges. If you enjoy learning through practical and realistic situations you will be able to develop wide-ranging skills that will enhance your business acumen skills which are highly valued by employers and further education establishments.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Visit the exam board website at [GCSE - Business \(9-1\) - J204 - OCR](#)

ASSESSMENT

There are two examinations.

J204/01: Exam unit 1.5 hours x 1 paper
(50%)

J204/02: Exam unit 1.5 hours x 1 paper
(50%)



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

A qualification in Business Studies is a platform to a wide range of future and long-lasting opportunities. The skills developed and studied on the course will support you greatly in future studies or employment. Most learners when completing the course will either study AS/A2 Business Studies or Economics or a work-related course such as a BTEC National Certificate in Business.



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

GEOGRAPHY
HISTORY
OR iMEDIA?

Enterprise course

Dragons work daily businesses Den evaluate opportunities school Human team variety function skills Business awaits contexts modern wide Operations areas organisations involved thinking local presentation basis opportunity analyse investigate introduced date national exploring theories new using Marketing Resource GCSE enhanced Studies Finance individual Entrepreneurship applying many Management also Management

OPEN SUBJECTS

BUSINESS NCFE

"It is an exciting subject that challenges you to think about the business world" Jareen

"I love working with numbers. Business Studies puts them into a real-life context" Monsoon

CREATIVE iMEDA NATIONAL CERT.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

This qualification will help students develop specific and transferable skills such as research, planning, and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts. The qualification's hands-on approach has strong relevance to the way young people use the technology required in creative media. The mandatory units of pre-production and creating digital graphics underpin the qualification and reflect key industry skills. The wide range of optional units cover different media disciplines for example website development, animation and graphic design.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

Students who enjoy the creative side of IT and who are interested in a course that will motivate them, appeal to range of learning styles and allow them to demonstrate their ability and passion through various IT applications.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/creative-imedia-level-1-2-award-certificate-i807-i817/>



Unit 1—External exam 37%

Units 2 & 3—Internally assessed coursework
Optional unit (37%)
Mandatory unit (26%)



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Cambridge Nationals provide a strong base for progression to Further Education, whether it is on to Level 3 Cambridge Technicals or A Levels, apprenticeship or work.

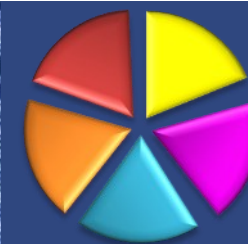
STUDENT QUOTES

"ICT unlocks my potential for loads of careers. I really enjoy the logical thinking that it requires."

Aaliah

"I want to be a engineer when I am older and ICT is the course that will help me to get there."

Jasmine



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

LANGUAGES

MATHEMATICS

OR BUSINESS?

[illegible]

HEALTH AND FITNESS NCFE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The Health and Fitness course is quite different to PE lessons, the course is predominantly theory based. All the assessment is written, either in the form of an exam or coursework. In Unit 1, the exam unit, students will focus on anatomy and physiology including; the skeletal, muscular, respiratory and cardiovascular systems. They will also look at aspects of health and fitness and the effects of exercise on the body. In Unit 2, students will act as a fitness professional and will have to plan a training programme for a client. This will include fitness testing, lifestyle analysis, different training methods and finally designing a 4-week training programme.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

Health and Fitness will appeal to students who really enjoy PE but remember there is a theory aspect. It will also appeal to students who enjoy science and learning about a healthy lifestyle.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<https://www.ncfe.org.uk/schools/subject-areas/health-and-fitness/>

ASSESSMENT

Unit 1—Externally assessed exam 40%
Unit 2—Internally assessed coursework 60%



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Health and Fitness is a good foundation for further study in a number of fields. It can lead directly onto A Level PE or BTEC Sport Level 3 qualifications. It is also useful for study in any of the following areas: nutrition, psychology, and any careers in sports recreation, sports management, sports development, coaching, fitness instructor and teaching. It is also a good base for Biology A Level and careers in medicine as you learn a lot of anatomy and physiology.

STUDENT QUOTES

"H&F is great fun. You learn more to do with bones and muscles, not just physical stuff. You may find it difficult with the theory but trust me you find it easier towards the end with a little bit of hard work and willpower." Chloe

"If you're interested in sports, the scientific side of physical education and the human body, then H&F is a great subject. The course isn't just physical, it includes topics such as bones, muscles and joints." Jasmine



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

HOSPITALITY AND CATERING

GEOGRAPHY

OR

PERFORMING ARTS?



DANCE route

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Performing Arts is an exciting subject that builds on the skills and content learnt in KS3. You will be able to follow the dance route in performing arts and cover a variety of aspects including theatre and group and individual performance.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

Performing Arts is for anyone who is interested in a more creative subject to run alongside their other option choices. For the performers among you there is plenty of opportunity to develop your practical skills and take a leap into the limelight, too!

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/performing-arts.html>



Component 1 - Exploring the performing arts; 30%

Component 2 - Developing skills and techniques in the performing arts; 30%

Component 3 - Performing to a brief; 40%



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Performing Arts is an increasingly popular choice at A-Level and by employers as it develops the key skills that are necessary to any job, namely, public speaking, confidence and teamwork.

STUDENT QUOTES

"Taking Performing Arts has helped me build new friendships and relationships and has helped improve my imagination and creativity" - Nicole

"Performing Arts involves a lot of hard work but it is so worth it because it is extremely interesting and fun. It's really helped to build my confidence, especially when performing in public. It's helped a lot!" - Caitlyn



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

iMEDIA BUSINESS OR LANGUAGES?



DRAMA GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

GCSE Drama is an exciting subject that builds on the skills and content learnt in KS3 Drama. You will learn the necessary processes involved with devising theatrical performances as well as staging existing plays by completing various theatre projects. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to explore the technical aspects of the theatre, including lighting, sound, set and prop design, costume design and hair and make-up.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

GCSE Drama is for anyone who is interested in a more creative subject to run alongside their other option choices. A common misconception is that you have to be really confident to take GCSE Drama - this is not the case! Those of you who wish to develop your technical skills, such as hair and makeup, can focus solely on this for the formally assessed pieces. Of course, for the performers among you there is plenty of opportunity to develop your practical skills and take a leap into the limelight, too!

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Have a look at the exam board specification: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/gcse/drama-8261/specification-at-a-glance> Or ask Ms Connolly for further information.



Component 1 – Written Exam (40%) –
Answering questions on basic theatrical terms, a
set text (Noughts and Crosses) and a piece of live
theatre

Component 2 – Devising Drama (40%) – Creating a performance based on a prompt and writing coursework to evaluate development, progress and performance

Component 3 – Texts in Practise (20%) – Performing or producing two extracts from the same play.



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Drama is an increasingly popular choice at A-Level and by employers as it develops the key skills that are necessary to any job, namely, public speaking, confidence and teamwork. Career options associated with drama are typically, but not limited to, those in the entertainment business including: actor, director, production designer, stage manager, cinematographer, theatre technician, film crew or front of house assistant. Other popular career choices using the skills developed through the subject are those associated with media and advertising, sales and marketing, law, public services, teaching, leadership and management, hospitality and tourism and the retail industries.

"I get to explore things I am interested in and research and apply different styles and ideas—which is

"I have learnt new skills and been able to apply my sewing skills to make costumes for a grade"



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

iMEDIA
BUSINESS
OR LANGUAGES?

subject
explore
creating
review
necessary
design
content
physical
make-up
practices
Additionally
specific
staging
technical
skills
KS3
education
lighting
set
director
devising
time
exciting
involved
design
learnt
Boal
audience
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OPEN SUBJECTS

DRAMA GCSE

MUSIC BTEC

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

BTEC Music builds on the topics you studied during years 7 and 8. This includes performance on instruments, writing songs and producing Music using computers in different styles. You will learn what skills are needed to work in the Music industry, and how to use them by working independently and in groups.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

If you like hands-on and practical work, Music is an excellent option to have. You learn songs on your instrument, take part in interactive workshops and have the opportunity to work in groups to produce performances. If you enjoyed Music in KS3, you'll definitely enjoy it in KS4.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-tec-awards/music-practice/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/btec-tech-award-music-practice-2022-spec.pdf>

ASSESSMENT

Component 1 – Music Products and Styles: 36 Hours (teacher assessed)

Component 2 – Music Skills Development: 36 Hours (teacher assessed)

Component 3 – Responding to a brief: 48 Hours (exam board assessed)



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

There are so many routes that you can take within Music including live performance, live sound, event management, producing, teaching, DJing, and marketing to name a few. These are all routes you'll be able to study in more detail in further education such as 6th form and university. In 2019 the UK Music industry contributed £5.2 billion to our economy, making it the 4th largest Music industry in the world, which means there are plenty of opportunities out there!

STUDENT QUOTES

'Music helps me to push myself to learn how to do something I can't yet do, but love'. 'I also learn how to express myself the way pictures and words can't.' Nour

'Music helps me to gain an understanding of how the music I listen to and play is produced'. 'It helps me strive towards my ambition of becoming a film composer' Hlami



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

HISTORY
DRAMA
OR ART?



OPEN SUBJECTS

MUSIC BTEC



ART & DESIGN—TEXTILES GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

In Textiles, students will have the opportunity to develop practical skills through experimentation with new textile techniques and processes. Students will design and make an item or items of their own choice for a portfolio of techniques and designers. Throughout the course, students will demonstrate their own interpretation of a subject area in the form of a practical project.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

You will enjoy the subject if you have a real interest in fashion, art and making products. You will need to have high standards when completing practical tasks, the ability to produce imaginative and creative design ideas, the ability to carry out research and work independently and to show initiative, patience and determination. Literacy and ICT skills are essential.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/art-and-design-gcse/#tab_overview



ASSESSMENT

40% Exam

60% Controlled Assessment



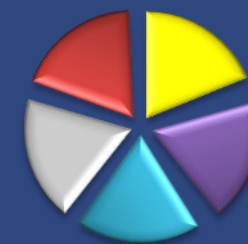
WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Possible career routes can lead to the study of fashion and design leading to Higher Education or working in a textile or retail-related company in industry.

STUDENT QUOTES

"Textiles is one of my favourite subject choices. We went on an amazing trip to the Clothes Show and the Victoria and Albert Museum. At first I wasn't sure if it was the right subject, but as I kept going I found it really fun. I love Textiles because I am able to design anything that I like." Tanya

"Textiles is an extremely creative subject which allows you to express your interests and opinions. It involves a lot of coursework but is very rewarding. It's important to have a passion for it, as if you do, it is extremely fun, interesting and exciting." Caitlyn



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

FOOD,
ART
OR MEDIA?



OPEN SUBJECTS

TEXTILES GCSE

FOOD TECHNOLOGY GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The WJEC Eduqas GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

Those students who are curious in nature and want to investigate the scientific side of cooking, love to cook, want to know how to produce wonderful meals for entertaining people or are looking to work in a restaurant as a chef. In addition, the subject will help you to understand how to produce healthy meals, and will appeal if you like to be active and busy or are a competitive-minded or artistic student.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/food-preparation-and-nutrition/>

ASSESSMENT

Exam—50%

Practical—50%

(includes coursework, scientific experiment and cooking)



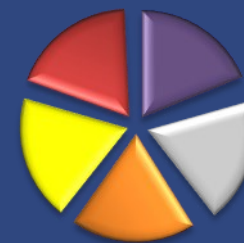
WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Food Technology can open many doors and lead to many professions in the catering business, nursery education, health and nutritionist, hotel manager, event management, teacher, lecturer, entrepreneur and food scientist.

STUDENT QUOTES

"I have become more aware of what I am eating in a restaurant, and started to recreate what I have tried there at home" Alyssa

"I have trained myself to be organised. I am more open to different food and to trying them out". Aishah



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

**TEXTILES
BUSINESS**



OPEN SUBJECTS FOOD TECHNOLOGY GCSE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GCSE

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Covering a range of the major world religions, ethical themes and textual studies the RE course is very diverse.

Questions of belief values and meaning, purpose and truth are explored to develop students' own attitudes towards religious issues.

Students will gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the base of our culture developing analytical and critical thinking skills.

WHO WOULD ENJOY IT?

If you enjoy studying society, laws or charity and have an interest in religion and supporting others then this GCSE will interest you.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

More information can be found at <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062/introduction>



100% exam.

Paper 1 and 2 both 50%



WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Religious Education can lead to A Level RE and will support A Levels such as sociology, psychology, Law and History. It gives you a good understanding of the world in which we live.

STUDENT QUOTES

'This course allows you to learn more about how a society and community works in order to achieve particular aims. It gives you a wide knowledge

'Exploring different religions helps you to understand the diverse world around you that we live in and helps us to become citizens of tomorrow.'



Skills Wheel

INTERESTED IN THIS?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT

GEOGRAPHY
HISTORY
OR DRAMA?

