



# **KEY STAGE 4 CHOICES 2020 - 2022**

**Your guide to KS4 subjects**

**Pathway A**

## **KEY STAGE 4 SUBJECT CHOICES 2020-2022**

### **Introduction**

At The Hathaway Academy, we are determined to ensure that all our students have a personal pathway to success between the ages of 14 and 16 and beyond. We will offer an appropriate pathway for each student to enable them to reach their full potential and we will direct them towards the pathway most suited to their needs. They will then be able to make their choices as to which subjects they wish to study. Students will be following a learning pathway that will enable them to build on their strengths, interests and career ambitions.

Your son/daughter's programme for the next two years will build on their current attainment and ensure they take the most suitable range of courses to enable them to reach their academic potential. It is vital that you take the time to discuss and evaluate all the choices available and allow your child to make an informed decision which will shape their future.

During the first three years (Key Stage 3) students have followed the National Curriculum. At Key Stage 4 (KS4) there is a smaller compulsory element to the curriculum and more opportunities for student choice. This booklet contains details of the option process and the type and range of subjects available at the Academy. Both parents and students are urged to read it carefully. The Academy will continue to offer a range of qualifications that enables all our learners to access qualifications that are suitable to their needs and have a post 16 progression route. Students should think carefully about these as access to quality training and further employment opportunities will rely upon informed decisions made with their option choices during Year 9.

### **What is meant by the term "Options"?**

Until the end of Year 9, students follow a compulsory curriculum comprising a combination of core and foundation subjects. At Key Stage 4 an element of choice is introduced and students are able to select a range of subjects they wish to study at public examination level. Students will be required to make a selection in option blocks.

### **What qualifications are available?**

At The Hathaway Academy, we offer a range of qualifications at two levels within the National Qualification Framework: Foundation Tier qualifications leading to an award of a GCSE grade(s) between 4 and 1 (or equivalent) or Level 2 qualifications leading to an award of a GCSE grade(s) between 9 and 5 (or equivalent).

There are two types of qualification at both levels. GCSE is the traditional type offered by many subjects, or a qualification which offers a more vocational programme, leading to the award of the equivalent of one GCSE.

Government changes to the exam system and qualifications mean that students will be studying new GCSEs in subjects with a new grading scale of 1 to 9, with 9 being the top grade.

## **Core Curriculum**

Students will follow a core curriculum consisting of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and Certificate in Business Management. They will also make a choice as to whether they study Geography or History.

## **How do I select my Options?**

In addition to the core curriculum, students will be required to make a selection in option blocks. For option 1 students will make a choice between Geography and History. For options 2 and 3 they may choose any combination of subjects from the list which are not duplicates. They must include, in addition to their option choices, 2 reserve choices. These can be a combination of GCSEs or GCSEs and BTEC courses.

Every effort will be made to ensure that as many first choice requests are granted as possible. If courses are under-subscribed they may not run. If courses are over-subscribed appropriate criteria will be applied to fill the places available and this may involve an interview. Unsuccessful applicants will be offered a place on their second choice course, if possible.

Your child needs to complete the options form and hand it in to Student Reception. The completed options form must be returned on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March to student reception, following the options evening on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020; use the evening as an opportunity to ask any questions and finalise the form. The closing date is 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

The Academy will endeavour to meet all requests. However, if it is not possible to provide the subjects requested a meeting will be arranged with the student and, if necessary, the parents, to discuss an alternative selection.

<p><b>COMPLETED OPTIONS FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO STUDENT RECEPTION NO LATER THAN MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020.</b></p>
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# HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR OPTIONS

Choosing your options may seem a daunting task but it is a very exciting step towards your on-going education. Whether the option subjects you take will lead you to your future career path or not, you will have gained a wealth of experience from which to base your future decisions.

You will need to do a little research with your parents/carers before making decisions - think about:

***What motivates and interests you?***

***What makes you work hard?***

***What is your dream job?***



After all, the most successful people choose a career path that involves what they enjoy doing and what they are good at. Have a go at the quiz; tick anything that you enjoy doing or think that you would enjoy doing.

**A**

- ☐ Building things
- ☐ Being active and working outdoors
- ☐ Making and fixing things
- ☐ Using tools and machines
- ☐ Solving problems

**D**

- ☐ Finding out how things work
- ☐ Doing experiments
- ☐ Researching and testing ideas
- ☐ Designing a new computer game
- ☐ Doing calculations

**B**

- ☐ Designing and displaying things
- ☐ Being on television
- ☐ Writing a book
- ☐ Playing in a band
- ☐ Doing a makeover

**E**

- ☐ Organising parties & other social events
- ☐ Buying and selling things
- ☐ Running a business
- ☐ Entering competitions
- ☐ Campaigning for change

**C**

- ☐ Helping people
- ☐ Sorting out arguments
- ☐ Showing people what to do
- ☐ Looking after people
- ☐ Doing voluntary work

**F**

- ☐ Making plans
- ☐ Using a computer and calculator
- ☐ Arranging things over the phone
- ☐ Putting CDs/DVDs into the right order
- ☐ Organising your money

How many ticks did you get in each section? Write your scores in the boxes below. Most people have more than one interest so check out any score of three or over.

<b>A</b>

<b>B</b>

<b>C</b>

<b>D</b>

<b>E</b>

<b>F</b>

# HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR OPTIONS

Look at the subject ideas to help you choose your Key Stage 4 options and Further Education; this will give you a guide towards the subjects in which you are likely to excel.

## **Mostly As**

*You seem to like practical work. Look for options where you can use your practical skills, do something active and work on different types of projects.*

### **Subject ideas:**

Food Technology, Physical Education.

## **Mostly Bs**

*You sound creative. Look for options where you can express yourself and work on new ideas.*

### **Subject ideas:**

Art, Media, Drama, Music, Photography.

## **Mostly Cs**

*You seem to be a sociable person. Look for options where you can work with other people and find out more about how the society works.*

### **Subject ideas:**

Media, Religious Studies, Business Studies, Travel and Tourism.

## **Mostly Ds**

*It seems that you like investigating things. Look for options where you can use your number and thinking skills to find out more about why things are the way they are.*

### **Subject ideas:**

Biology, Chemistry, Geography, History, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics.

## **Mostly Es**

*You sound like an enterprising person. Look for options where you can use your energy, communication, number and thinking skills to test your ideas about how to improve the world.*

### **Subject ideas:**

Business Studies, Information Technology (IT), Modern Foreign Languages.

## **Mostly Fs**

*Being well organised seems important to you. Look for options where you can use your planning, computer skills to find out more about the systems and structures that keep the world working properly.*

### **Subject Ideas:**

Business Studies, History, Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT ALL EMPLOYERS WILL BE LOOKING FOR A GRADE 'C' OR ABOVE IN ENGLISH AND MATHS.**

You will need to bear this in mind when choosing your option subjects to ensure that you have not chosen a subject that you find too difficult as this could affect your English and Maths studies.

# HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR OPTIONS

## Do your research

When you know exactly what your options are, you can research those that interest you. Use the checklist below to make sure that you don't forget anything:

- Read all the options information that the Academy gives you
- Check which subjects are compulsory - the ones you have to do
- Talk to the teachers to see if they think that it is a good idea that you do their course
- Talk to your parents and find out what options they think you should do and why
- Go with your parents to information events
- Look up the careers that interest you in the Careers Resource Centre to find out what subjects, qualifications and grades you will need for these careers
- Speak to the Careers Advisor at the Academy about your options choices and career ideas
- Visit [www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk) for further advice
- Find out what Apprenticeships could offer you at age 16 or older, and what you would need to get one - see [www.apprenticeships.org.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk)
- Access a unique online careers matching and information programme called Kudos. Find out how to access it from your Careers Advisor

Good luck and enjoy this exciting step in your journey towards your dream career.





# Art, Craft and Design GCSE

OCR



What will I be taught?

GCSE Art, Craft and Design is aimed at turning students into accomplished artists. The Art department's aim is to develop students' traditional artistic skills such as painting and drawing and also to develop their ability to think creatively and critically about their artistic practice.

Students will be introduced to a wide range of artistic techniques including mastering acrylic paint and tonal drawings, as well as experimenting with a variety of printing techniques, experimenting with wire, clay and 3D methods of design. Students are encouraged to work in a variety of different mediums and explore the use of computer aided design as well as traditional techniques.

Students will respond critically and creatively to a wide range of contemporary artists, being inspired by their own interests. They are encouraged to work independently with a strong focus on producing work that is personal to them.

We recommend that students have their own watercolour and acrylic paints, and a set of drawing pencils (6B, 4B, 2B, HB, 2H) so they can practise techniques they have learnt in class. We also recommend that students have access to a digital camera so they can create images they can work from in class.



What type of student is best suited to this course?

A student who is passionate about Art, who enjoys thinking creatively and creating work that they can be proud of. A student who is not afraid to make mistakes and take risks with their ideas.

How will I be assessed?

**60% Portfolio and 40% Exam**

Students will work on two projects for their portfolio. They will choose one project and develop this. The exam involves 10 weeks of preparatory work based around a theme given to students by the examining board. Students must conclude this project with a 10 hour final piece completed in exam conditions.

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning will be given every two weeks in the first half term of the course based around developing the skills learnt. It then becomes much more of an independently driven exercise and students are given individualised tasks. Those who obtain the best grades go above and beyond the tasks set and produce their own work inspired by the themes.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

Qualification gained: GCSE Art, Craft and Design.

Students could use this qualification to pursue a career in the creative industries. Careers in the arts include: fine artist, graphic designer, illustrator, web designer, film director, set designer, animator, product designer, Art teacher, visual FX artist.

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

**Books:**

The Art Book published – Phaidon  
BBC Bitesize GCSE Art and Design  
The Twentieth Century Art Book - Phaidon  
Art Now - Taschen  
50 Photographers You Should Know - Prestel  
50 Artists You Should Know - Prestel  
50 British Artists You Should Know - Prestel  
50 Contemporary Artists You Should Know - Prestel  
Creative Paint Workshop for Mixed-Media Artists - Ann Baldwin  
Artists' Journals and Sketchbooks - Lynne Perella  
Extraordinary Sketchbooks - Jane Stobart

**Websites:**

[www.tate.co.uk](http://www.tate.co.uk)  
[www.npg.org.uk](http://www.npg.org.uk)  
[www.saatchigallery.com](http://www.saatchigallery.com)  
[www.thiscollassal.com](http://www.thiscollassal.com)

# NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Business Management

NCFE 14-16 Certs



**14-16**  
**V Certs**

What will I be taught?

Throughout this course various skills will be developed including communication, application of number, IT, working with others, improving own learning independently and project-based learning.

The following topics will be examined in the order presented:

## **Unit 01: Introduction to Business and Enterprise**

This unit aims to give learners an introduction to business and enterprise. It gives them an introduction to start-up projects and helps them to identify risks and rewards.

## **Unit 02: Marketing for Business and Enterprise**

This unit aims to give learners an insight into market research and different marketing opportunities and techniques.

## **Unit 03: Finance for Business and Enterprise**

This unit aims to provide learners with a basic knowledge and understanding of business finance for a new business or enterprise.

## **Unit 04: Plan, Develop and Participate in a Business or Enterprise Project**

This unit aims to develop a project plan and implement the project. The learner will then go on to evaluate the overall success of the project.

What type of student is best suited to this course?

The NCFE qualification in Business and Enterprise will suit students who can produce a good standard of coursework and get involved in project work.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Coursework based and internally assessed  
Unit 2: Externally assessed (exam)  
Unit 3: Coursework based and internally assessed  
Unit 4: Internally assessed

What will the home learning be like?

Your home learning will consist of different tasks including reinforcing your knowledge and understanding of your classwork by completing home learning worksheets. You will be expected at times to carry out research from a given topic.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

The qualification that you will gain is a Level 2 vocational qualification which is equivalent to a GCSE. This will enable you to progress on to a Level 3 qualification such as:

- NCFE Level 3 Certificate in Principles of Business and Administration
- NCFE Level 3 NVQ Certificate in Business and Administration

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

BBC Bitesize – GCSE Business Studies

Web: [www.ncfe.org.uk](http://www.ncfe.org.uk)

## Level 2 Certificate in Digital I.T.

Pearson



What will I be taught?

The CiDA qualification is ideal for students who want the opportunity to explore and acquire a broad understanding and knowledge of the creative digital industries, and gain the ability to apply that knowledge in practical contexts.

You will learn how to use many different types of computer software such as:

- **Photoshop:** which will help you create computer generated art work by editing and altering images.
- **Dreamweaver:** which is software used to design professional-looking websites.
- **Flash animation:** which will help you create animated designs.

This course is very much project based learning, where you will use your ICT skills to develop artwork and imaging based on a project brief.

What type of student is best suited to this course?

Students who enjoy using computers and are willing to learn how to use new types of software.

Problem solvers. You will be expected to explore how to use different aspects of the computer and learn through trial and error.

How will I be assessed?

CiDA consists of 2 units:  
Unit 1, Developing Web Products, is a mandatory unit which accounts for 25% of the qualification.  
One of the following optional units makes up the remaining 75%:  
Unit 2 - Creative Multimedia  
Unit 3 - Artwork and Imaging  
Unit 4 - Game Making

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning will be weekly and it will be used to support your progress in the completion of your course project. This will include:

- Research tasks
- Completion of project-related tasks.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

You will achieve a Level 2 Certificate in Digital Applications.

After completing a CiDA qualification, you will have the foundation of knowledge and skills you need to progress to further study of computing and IT-related courses at Level 3.

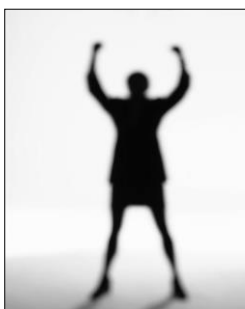
What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/digital-applications-cida-dida/about.html>

# Drama

AQA

What will I be taught?



A GCSE in Drama is an exciting opportunity, and the skills are transferable to many career paths. Students will develop their confidence in personal presentation as well as growing communication skills, working with a range of people and exploring the many forms theatre can take.

The study of drama will include the detailed exploration of acting skills, with focus on movement, vocal work and group-work skills. Additionally, students will learn how to create characters and develop characterisations through the detailed analysis of text and practical exploration. Students will have an opportunity to challenge and understand the social, historical and political contexts of play texts, and begin to develop an understanding of the many elements that make up a piece of theatre.

The first year of study will focus on the development of the skills required. Students will study one of the following plays: Blood Brothers, Hansel and Gretel, 39 Steps, The Crucible, Noughts and Crosses or A Midsummers Night's Dream. Students will produce a full production of this play as this is what they will write about in the written exam. Towards the end of the first year students will focus on a monologue; this will be their first extract for Component 3. The second extract will be from the same play and this will be completed in the second year of study. Students should be prepared to perform alone. Component 2 will be started at the beginning of the second year of study; students will carry out a range of workshops and then use what they have discovered to create their own devised performances.

A GCSE in Drama is not for the faint hearted; it requires dedication and ambition. We want students to develop opinions and their own creative style. We will encourage parents and carers to support our students by being warm audiences to the work they produce. Drama is a unique opportunity for students to showcase exactly what they have created.

What type of student is best suited to this course?

A confident, resilient and positive outlook is vital for the study of Drama. Organisation and drive are also key skills, as note-taking is essential to keep up-to-date with your progress. Being prepared to experiment and try things out are also necessary skills. DO NOT take Drama if you do not like performing; it is key.

How will I be assessed?

The examinations for GCSE Drama are made up of 3 Components. Component 1 is an open book written exam of a play that has been studied practically (40%). Component 2 is a devised practical that is accompanied by a devising log (40%). Component 3 is a practical exploration of texts in practice (20%).

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning will mainly involve the writing up of what has been done in lessons as a log of the work carried out and how they are developing. It will also involve research tasks, learning lines and developing ideas. It may involve writing reviews of work seen in class or as part of an organised trip. Students need to be prepared to attend extra rehearsals outside of timetabled lessons.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

Ex-Drama students from this Academy work in the performing arts industry, as actors, technicians and events co-ordinators, but the majority work in all manner of employment, from teaching, nursing, estate agents, retail, finance, chemists etc.

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

BBC Bitesize: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zbckjxs>

Stage Works: <http://www.stagework.org.uk/stageworks/index.html>

Careers:

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobfamily/Pages/perfartsbroadcastandmedia.aspx>

Get into Theatre: <http://ccskills.org.uk/careers/advice/any/theatre>

Technical theatre: <http://www.theatrecrafts.com/page.php?id=30>



# GCSE English Language and English Literature

AQA



What will I be taught?

Students will follow a combined course which includes English Language and English Literature. This will result in students receiving two GCSEs.

They will follow the AQA Specification for both English Language and English Literature. Both Language and Literature GCSEs are 100% assessed by exam.

GCSE English Language allows students to demonstrate their ability to use English in real-life contexts and uses an investigative and analytical approach to language topics, drawing on personal experience. Students will explore a wide range of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century texts and will analyse them critically. They will also practice writing for different audiences and purposes in preparation for their written exam questions.

GCSE English Literature requires candidates to explore texts from a personal perspective and offers the study of: literature today; literature globally and the literary heritage.

The English Literature course is organised into units which include study of:

- a Shakespeare text
- a pre 19th century text
- a modern play
- an anthology of poems across time with specific focus on the theme of power and conflict
- unseen poetry

It is important to be aware that the GCSE English Literature exams are 'closed book' which means students are not allowed to have copies of the texts in the exams.

Students will also be expected to complete a separate speaking and listening component which will be filmed. They will be directed to speak on a topic of their choice for 4-5 minutes, followed by a 5 minute question and answer session. They will then be awarded a pass, merit or distinction.



What type of student is best suited to this course?

All students will take courses in English Language and English Literature.

How will I be assessed?

Students will sit examinations at the end of the two-year course which will assess their ability in reading and writing and their knowledge of texts (prose, drama and poetry). Speaking and listening skills will be developed and assessed as part of the course and students will be assessed on this separately.

What will the home learning be like?

Throughout the year students will be encouraged to improve the accuracy of their spelling, punctuation and grammar. They will be expected to complete home learning to the best of their ability. **In order to achieve a grade 9, students need to show they have studied independently. Home Learning will reflect and encourage this.**

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

English and communications skills are essential in most careers. English has many transferable skills such as writing, editing, problem solving and critical thinking which many employers value. If you particularly enjoy writing, careers in journalism, advertising and publishing might be of interest.

Most jobs require good standards of spoken and written English.

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

**Texts:**

*AQA Poetry Anthology: Power and Conflict*

*An Inspector Calls* – J B Priestley

*The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* – Robert Louis Stevenson

*Macbeth* - William Shakespeare

*GCSE AQA Unseen Poetry Study*- CGP

*Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar* - CGP

*GCSE Complete Revision and Practice*- CGP

**Websites:**

Mr Bruff's YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff](http://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff)

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)

[www.getrevising.co.uk](http://www.getrevising.co.uk)

[www.sparknotes.com](http://www.sparknotes.com)

[www.englishbiz.co.uk](http://www.englishbiz.co.uk)

[www.shmoop.com](http://www.shmoop.com)

# Food and Nutrition GCSE

EDUQAS

GCSE

wjec  
cbac

WJEC GCSE in  
FOOD AND NUTRITION

APPROVED BY QUALIFICATIONS WALES



What will I be taught?

The specification in Food and Nutrition will enable learners to make connections between theory and practice so that they are able to apply their understanding of food science and nutrition to practical cooking.

The EDUQAS GCSE in Food 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 enables learners to make informed decisions about food and nutrition, allowing them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

By studying food preparation and nutrition learners will be able to:

- Demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a variety of food commodities whilst using different cooking techniques and equipment.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks.
- Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health.
- Understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, and diet and health choices.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food.
- Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

What type of student is best suited to this course?

This specification builds on subject content which is typically taught at Key Stage 3 and provides a suitable foundation for the study of Food and Nutrition at Level 3. It also provides a coherent, satisfying and worthwhile life skills course for learners who do not wish to progress to further study in this subject.

How will I be assessed?

This GCSE course comprises of 3 units:

1. Principles of Food Preparation:  
Written examination – 1 hour and 30 minutes, worth 50%
2. Investigation Assessment 1 – 8 hours, worth 15%
3. Food Preparation Assessment 2 – 12 hours, worth 35%

What will the home learning be like?

Weekly investigatory home learning will be given.

A Food Hygiene Certificate Level 2 will be completed as part of the home learning.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

This specification will help learners make informed decisions about a wide range of career pathways.

This qualification could lead on to a course of further study for students wishing to become a:

chef  
dietary technician  
teacher  
food scientist

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

Text books titled EDUQAS GCSE Food and Nutrition are available to buy from leading bookshops.

Further information can be found on [www.eduquas.co.uk](http://www.eduquas.co.uk).

# Geography

AQA

What will I be taught?



This exciting and relevant course studies geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the link between them.

Students will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include climate change, poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use. Students are also encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

Subject content:

- Living with the physical environment
- The challenge of natural hazards
- The living world
- Physical landscapes in the UK
- Challenges in the human environment
- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management
- Geographical applications
- Issue evaluation
- Fieldwork
- Geographical skills

Fieldwork:

Students will be given the opportunity to take part in a field study. The skills developed in this will then be assessed within an external exam at the end of the course.

What type of student is best suited to this course?

You will be inquisitive, analytical, critical, logical and resourceful. You will have a desire to solve problems on both a global and local scale. You want to ask where things are located and why? You care about people and the environment.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Living with the physical environment. Examination 35%  
Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment. Examination 35%  
Paper 3: Geographical applications. Examination 30%

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning is set regularly to complement and further enhance the learning in the classroom. It may be that you are required to do further research at home or you may be expected to complete practice exam questions. Home learning in Geography is carefully planned and varied.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

By successfully completing this course you will gain a Geography GCSE. Geography at GCSE is an acceptable qualification for many jobs. Many careers require a number of examination passes and Geography is always accepted. There are also many careers where the study of Geography can be a distinct advantage, e.g. engineering, armed services, tourism, teaching, astronaut, government and business.

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

Mrs Flack

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/>

<https://rctmoodle.org/pontyhigh/course/view.php?id=38>

# HISTORY

## AQA Specification A



What will I be taught?

The GCSE History content comprises the following elements:

- one period study
- one thematic study
- one wider-world depth study
- one British depth study including the historical environment.

### Component 1: Understanding the Modern World

In Section A you focus on two key developments in a country's history over at least a 50-year period.

In section B you study a wider-world depth study. This focuses on international conflict and tension.

Section A: Period studies - America, 1840–1895: Expansion and consolidation

Section B: Wider world depth studies – Conflict and tension, 1894–1918

### Component 2: Shaping the Nation

In Section A you focus on a thematic study, which looks at key developments in Britain over a long period.

In section B you focus on a British depth study incorporating the study of a specific historical environment.

Section A: Thematic studies - Britain: health and the people.

Section B: British depth studies including the historical environment - Norman England, 1066–c1100 including an investigation about **Pewensey Castle**.



What type of student is best suited to this course?

The first thing that you need is a love of the past and a keen interest in the world and the people in it. History is a literacy based subject so you need to be prepared to write. Extended writing is a requirement for two questions on each examination paper.

How will I be assessed?

Both components have a written exam and are equally weighted.

2 written exams: 1 hour 45 minutes

Each paper has 84 marks (including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar).

What will the home learning be like?

Whenever possible, home learning will allow you to practise core examination skills. There are many different question types in the GCSE examination and although we will be covering these in class it is essential that you practise them at home. Other tasks may involve research, redrafting and improving on class work.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

GCSE History is considered to be a very valuable qualification for all colleges and universities. It shows that a student has good literacy skills, but also proves that they can see many different sides of an argument, interpret evidence and reach a balanced judgement. These skills are essential in many careers, such as journalism, the law, teaching, accounting and media professions.

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

#### **Websites**

<http://www.aqa.org.uk> and search for GCSE History A.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk> has a wealth of useful resources.

<http://www.schoolhistory.co.uk> has a range of revision techniques and games.

#### **Textbooks**

Understanding the Modern World – David Ferriby – Hodder Education – ISBN 9781471862946

Norman England 1066 – 1100 – Helena Clarke – ISBN 9781471863424

Health and the People – Alf Wilkinson – ISBN 9781471864216

British Depth Studies – Tim Williams – ISBN 9781471864216

#### **Revision Guide**

GCSE AQA History - ISBN 9781782946045

GCSE Revision History British - Collins – ISBN 9780008166359

The AQA website will give you a good overview of the course content and there are many past examination papers.

**Mathematics GCSE 1MA1 (9-1)**

Edexcel

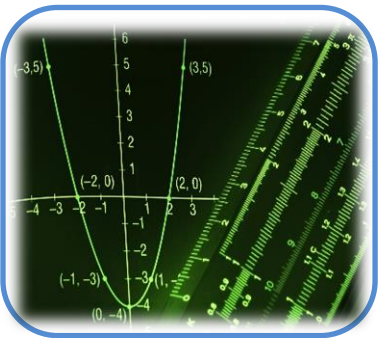
All students continue to study Mathematics in Years 9, 10 and 11. They follow a course leading to a GCSE in Mathematics.

All students will follow a linear course and there is no coursework to complete in this subject.

The topics covered are:

- ❖ Number
- ❖ Algebra
- ❖ Geometry and Measures
- ❖ Probability
- ❖ Statistics
- ❖ Ratio and Proportion

The Academy will provide students with online resources. Students are invited to purchase additional revision guides in addition to access to MathsWatchVLE and MyMaths resources. Students will use ICT and scientific calculators throughout the course. It is expected that students will provide their own mathematical equipment and will bring it to all Mathematics lessons. This should at least include an appropriate scientific calculator, geometry set containing at least an angle measure, a pair of compasses, pencils, pens, pencil sharpener, rubber and a 30cm ruler.



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What type of student is best suited to this course?

This is a core subject which is compulsory.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will be in the form of three 1 hour 30 minute papers at the end of Year 11. Each paper is worth 80 marks. There are two tiers: Foundation and Higher.

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning is usually set as two pieces per week. Home learning tasks can be: completing an exercise, doing a past test paper, solving a range of problems, personal revision or research, depending on the topic being taught. Students will also have access to online website Pearson ActiveLearn to complete tasks and revision.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

Students will obtain a GCSE in Mathematics. They would be able to go on to study A Level Mathematics or the 'Use of Mathematics' course. Career opportunities are available in all job sectors including: environmental, science and engineering, health, sports and the traditional banking and finance. Advice on how to use a Maths qualification is available at [www.mathscareers.org.uk](http://www.mathscareers.org.uk).

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

**Useful Resources/Websites:**

[www.pearsonactivelearn.com](http://www.pearsonactivelearn.com)

[www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)

[www.mathswatchvle.com](http://www.mathswatchvle.com)

[www.corbettmaths.com](http://www.corbettmaths.com)

[www.misbsresources.com](http://www.misbsresources.com)

Revision guide and workbook for Edexcel

# Media Studies

AQA



GCSE Media Studies is a more in-depth look into the media. Our students will explore three different areas of the media in order to complete their GCSE coursework and exams to a high standard: audio-visual, print and online forms.

During the course students will learn about each topic by analysing pictures and videos, planning new ideas of their own before creating practical work. There are also two written examinations to complete at the end of Year 11. Students also have a coursework assignment to complete.

Students have the opportunity to use computer programmes along with video and sound equipment to help them bring their media world to life.

### Written Analysis

Students learn about the theory behind media. They analyse the media world around them using video clips, sound bites and the web too! Students use what they learn to talk in detail about music videos, a variety of films and advertising campaigns.

### Planning Ideas

Throughout the course students will plan and develop their own ideas. Drawn designs and storyboards will help them create music videos, film posters and a filmed TV advert.

### Production

Students have the opportunity to make posters and video pieces using camera or sound equipment along with the latest image manipulation programmes such as Photoshop. They will learn how to create professional and realistic designs that look like they belong in the real world!

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## Written Analysis

## Planning Ideas

## Production

25

What type of student is best suited to this course?

To succeed in Media Studies you will need a curious mind which questions everything you see and hear in the real world. Written skills are important for some of the course along with the ability to be creative. You must be willing to draw and use media technology.

How will I be assessed?

The GCSE course is 30% coursework in the form of a non-exam assessment. The work includes a statement and creating media product for an intended audience. The summer exam accounts for the remaining 70% of the qualification.

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning in GCSE Media Studies takes the form of a series of worksheets based around the current topic. The tasks you will be asked to do could be either written or drawn.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

You will gain one GCSE qualification which could be used to pursue a media based qualification at college or in a future media job role.

Media-related careers include: animation, photography, web-based design, gaming programmer, roles in TV such as advertising, camera and sound as well as film jobs, plus many more!

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

- [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com) – details on all film including cast, trivia and plot information
- [www.nmauk.co.uk](http://www.nmauk.co.uk) – newspaper and magazine resources
- GCSE Media Studies - editors: Clark, Harvey - Longman, 2002
- The Media Student's Book(third edition) - Branston/Stafford, Routledge, 2002
- Studying the Media - O'Sullivan/Dutton/Rayner, Arnold 1998
- Media Studies for GCSE - Wall/Walker, Collins 1997
- GCSE Media Studies - Bowker, Hodder 1999
- Media Studies, an Introduction - Dutton/Mundy, Longman 1995
- Media Research Techniques - Berger, Sage 1998
- A Dictionary of Communication and Media Studies, Arnold 1997

# GCSE Photography

OCR

What will I be taught?



GCSE Photography is aimed at turning students into accomplished photographers. The Art department's aim is to develop students' ability to take an excellent photograph, to enable them to use Adobe Photoshop and to think creatively and analytically about photography.

Students will be introduced to the basics of photography including how to compose a photograph, the use of lighting and different camera functions. They will gain a better knowledge and understanding of how to use Adobe Photoshop.

Students will respond critically and creatively to a wide range of photographers. They will be encouraged to work independently with a strong focus on producing work that is personal to them.

We recommend that students have their own digital cameras and if they have access to Adobe Photoshop that would enable them to progress even faster.

What type of student is best suited to this course?

A student who is passionate about photography, who enjoys thinking creatively and creating work that they can be proud of. A student who is not afraid to make mistakes and take risks with their ideas.

How will I be assessed?

**Course Assessment:** 60% portfolio 40% exam. Students will work on two projects for their portfolio; they will choose one and develop this as their portfolio. The exam involves 10 weeks of preparatory work based around a theme given to students by the exam board. Students must conclude this project with a 10 hour exam which is an overview of their work.

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning will be given every two weeks in the first half term of the course based around developing the initial skills learnt. It then becomes much more of an independently driven exercise and students are given individualised tasks. Those who obtain the best grades go above and beyond these tasks and produce their own work inspired by the themes. One hour a week is the recommended time to be spent on Home learning.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

Qualification gained: GCSE Photography.

Students could use this qualification to pursue a career in the creative industries. Careers in the arts include: photographer, fine artist, graphic designer, illustrator, web designer, film director, set designer, animator, product designer, Art teacher, visual FX artist.

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

**Books:**

The Art Book published – Phaidon  
BBC Bitesize GCSE Art and Design  
The Twentieth Century Art Book - Phaidon  
Art Now - Taschen  
50 Photographers You Should Know - Prestel  
50 Artists You Should Know - Prestel  
50 British Artists You Should Know - Prestel  
50 Contemporary Artists You Should Know - Prestel  
Creative Paint Workshop for Mixed-Media Artists - Ann Baldwin  
Artists' Journals and Sketchbooks - Lynne Perella  
Extraordinary Sketchbooks - Jane Stobart

**Websites:**

[www.tate.co.uk](http://www.tate.co.uk)  
[www.npg.org.uk](http://www.npg.org.uk)  
[www.saatchigallery.com](http://www.saatchigallery.com)  
[www.thiscollassal.com](http://www.thiscollassal.com)

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## AQA 'A'



One God - different understanding



Students will consider different beliefs and attitudes to religious and non-religious issues in contemporary British society. They will discuss and be aware that religious traditions of Great Britain are, in the main, Christian, and that religious traditions in Great Britain are diverse. They include Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism, as well as other religious and non-religious beliefs such as atheism and humanism. This knowledge may be applied throughout the assessment of the subject content, particularly in questions requiring evaluation of attitudes.

### Component 1:

#### The Study of Religions; beliefs, teachings and practises

Students study the influence of the beliefs, teachings and practices studied on individuals, communities and societies. Common and divergent views within each religion studied in the way beliefs and teachings are understood and expressed should be included throughout. Students will study **Christianity and 1 other religion** in depth:

- Buddhism
- Islam
- Judaism
- Hinduism
- Sikhism

*If a student practises an alternative religion that would be their second choice.*

### Component 2

Students will consider different religious, philosophical and ethical arguments and their impact and influence in the modern world. They should be aware of different perspectives on the issues studied, within and/or between religions, as well as non-religious views.

Students will study **four** religious, philosophical and ethical themes:

- Relationships and families.
- Religion, peace and conflict.
- Religion, crime and punishment.
- Religion, human rights and social justice.

What type of student is best suited to this course?

If you:

- are inquisitive and like a challenge
- are open-minded
- are tolerant of other people's beliefs
- are a good communicator
- are a team player
- practise a religion
- are interested in religion and God
- have good literacy skills.

How will I be assessed?

**Paper 1**

**1 hr 45 mins**

Students answer a common structure of two five-part questions of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 marks plus one 12-mark question from **2** religions.

**Paper 2**

**1 hr 45 mins**

Students answer a common structure of one five-part question of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 marks from 4 out of 6 themes studied.

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning will be set based on a range of projects and research topics.

Examination questions will also feature throughout the course as key.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

A Religious Studies qualification shows any employer that you have an understanding and tolerance of other people's beliefs and opinions. This is a key skill that will be useful in any career you choose. It is particularly helpful in the following:

- Public services including the police, military and rescue service
- Education
- Childcare

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

**Websites**

General Research: BBC website Religion and Ethics

[www.aqa.org.uk/ReligiousStudies](http://www.aqa.org.uk/ReligiousStudies)

[www.request.org.uk](http://www.request.org.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/rs](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/rs)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics>

**Textbooks**

AQA GCSE (9-1) Religious Studies Specification A Lesley Parry Hodder

ISBN-13: 9781471866852

AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Christianity Cynthia Bartlett (series editor), Oxford University Press ISBN-13: 978-0-19-837033-8

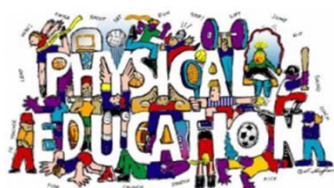
AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Islam Cynthia Bartlett (series editor), Oxford University Press ISBN-13: 978-0-19-837034-5



## Physical Education - Core

This subject will not be examined

What will I be taught?



During core PE students will take part in a variety of different sports and will cover the following:

- Skills
- Tactics
- Rules, regulations and scoring systems
- Officiating
- Coaching



What type of student is best suited to this course?

How will I be assessed?

Formal assessment of core PE does not take place; however, the following are closely monitored:

- Engagement in learning
- Participation
- Fitness
- Progress of skills
- Behaviour

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning will not be set.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

You will not gain a qualification in core PE.

The skills you gain in core PE will help with enrichment courses such as games at college.

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

[www.topendsports.com](http://www.topendsports.com)

[www.brianmac.co.uk](http://www.brianmac.co.uk)

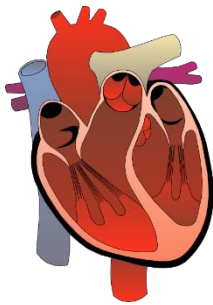
[www.bbc.co.uk/sport](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport)

[www.thefa.com/](http://www.thefa.com/)

[www.rfu.com/](http://www.rfu.com/)

# GCSE Physical Education

Edexcel



What will I be taught?

Students will study the following units during the course:

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis
- Physical training
- Using data
- Health, fitness and well-being
- Sport Psychology
- Socio-cultural influences in sport
- Use of data
- Practical sport

What type of student is best suited to this course?

GCSE Physical Education is suitable for students that are good at practical sport and have a keen interest in sport and exercise. Students need to be aware that this course does have a heavy theory content, so it is not just playing sport.

How will I be assessed?

**Component:**

**1. Fitness & Body Systems**

Assessed by a 1 hr 45 written exam

**2. Health & Performance**

Assessed by a 1 hr 45 written exam

**3. Practical performance**

Assessed by three practical sport assessments

**4. Personal Exercise Programme**

Assessed through coursework

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning will involve research related to the unit being studied, exam questions and revision.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

The qualification that you receive for this course is a GCSE. Depending on the grade you receive you would be able to go on to college to study either A levels or a BTEC Sport course.

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

[www.topendsports.com](http://www.topendsports.com)

[www.brianmac.co.uk](http://www.brianmac.co.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/sport](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport)

[www.thefa.com/](http://www.thefa.com/)

[www.rfu.com/](http://www.rfu.com/)

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/gcse/pe](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/gcse/pe)

# Double Science GCSE (Combined Science Trilogy)

AQA

What will I be taught?



**In this course you will study:**

## **Biology**

Cellular biology and organisation where you will have the opportunity to look at cells under the microscope. You will also study infection and the body's response to foreign particles. The module covers bioenergetics, homeostasis and genetics. Ecology forms a big part of the module where you will learn about the impact of humans on the environment.

## **Chemistry**

You will study the structure of the atom and the evolution of the periodic table. You will have the opportunity to study properties of matter and the energy changes that occur in various chemical reactions. The module includes organic chemistry, chemical analysis of unknown substances and chemistry of the environment.

## **Physics**

You will study various forces and their effects. You will experiment on car safety features and the effect of resistance on current. You will also study energy, waves and electricity. The module includes further practical work on magnets and electromagnets.

What type of student is best suited to this course?

This course is suited to students who wish to pursue A-level Biology, Chemistry or Physics. Students who follow this course need to be able to effectively research topics and analyse information to help them draw important scientific conclusions. Students also need to be able to evaluate information as the course focuses heavily on exams.

How will I be assessed?

Over the two years you will study the Combined Science Trilogy course. At the end of Year 11 you will sit your exams. These will consist of 2 Biology papers, 2 Chemistry papers and 2 Physics papers. Each paper consists of multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response questions. Each paper makes up 16.7% of the GCSE.

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning will focus on the use of workbooks and online study tasks to cement students' understanding of the content. Home learning will also include research skills and interpreting long answer questions in order to build student confidence in exam technique.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

In this course you will achieve 2 GCSE Science grades.

A qualification in Combined Science Trilogy allows you to consider any of the following careers:

Formula One mechanic, snowboard design, stage lighting design, fighter pilot, cosmetic industry, jewellery production, medicine and paramedic.

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

#### BOOKS:

1. Biology For You
2. Chemistry For You
3. Physics For You
4. AQA Science by Nelson Thornes

#### WEBSITES:

1. <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science>
2. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/science/>
3. <http://www.docbrown.info/page10/page10.htm>

# Statistics GCSE (9-1) 1ST0

Edexcel

What will I be taught?



GCSE Statistics allows you the opportunity to apply your understanding of data to solve problems and analyse outcomes.

The skills and knowledge acquired will be relevant and transferable to other subjects. Students are introduced to the skills of statistical enquiry, and practise the underpinning statistical calculations and interpretation using real world data and authentic contexts. The course will include case studies and practical tasks. Many A Level courses will require your skills as an independent learner and you will be helped to become a critical and reflective thinker.

The course content is divided into the following aspects:

- Analysing a problem and planning an appropriate strategy.
- Describing and using appropriate methods to communicate efficiently.
- Understanding how technology has enabled the collection, visualisation and analysis of large quantities of data to inform decision-making processes in public, commercial and academic sectors, including how technology can be used to generate diagrams and visualisations to represent data.
- Processing and analysing evidence to draw conclusions and reflect on the outcomes.
- Considering the impact of chance on outcomes.

What type of student is best suited to this course?

Students with a keen interest in Mathematics will be suited to this course. Students who enjoy investigating data and who want to further explore mathematics in real life scenarios will benefit from this course.

How will I be assessed?

**Paper 1 (\*Paper code: 1ST0/1F and 1ST0/1H)**

Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes - 50% of the qualification  
80 marks

**Paper 2 (\*Paper code: 1ST0/2F and 1ST0/2H)**

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes - 50% of the qualification  
80 marks

What will the home learning be like?

Home learning will be set once a week for an hour. Home learning tasks can be: completing an exercise, doing a past test paper, solving a range of problems, personal revision or research, depending on the topic being taught. Students will also have access to on-line website Pearson Active Learn to complete tasks and for revision.

What qualification will I gain?

What could I do with this qualification?

Students will obtain a GCSE in Statistics. Career opportunities are available in all job sectors including: environmental, science and engineering, health, sports and the traditional banking and finance. Advice on how to use a Maths qualification is available at [www.mathscareers.org.uk](http://www.mathscareers.org.uk).

What websites, books and other resources will help with my learning?

**Useful Resources/Websites:**

Edexcel GCSE Statistics

CGP Statistics Revision Guide

Revision Booklet Statistics for Dummies

[www.mathswatchVLE.com](http://www.mathswatchVLE.com)

[www.mymaths.com](http://www.mymaths.com)

[www.corbettmaths.com](http://www.corbettmaths.com)