



Noel-Baker Academy  
A L.E.A.D. Academy

# Guided Curriculum Choices Booklet 2024



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# LEADING STUDENTS TO A BRIGHT FUTURE



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# Guided Curriculum Choices Booklet 2024

## Who can offer advice?

Any adult can offer advice on the curriculum choices that are coming up. Remember the networks of support that are outside of school as well as older pupils who have already made their choices.

In school, You can speak with any member of the senior leadership team, pastoral team or teaching staff – they will all be able to offer great insights into what choices would be best for year 10 and 11.

However, in the Academy, there are certain members of staff who you may wish to speak with:

Mr R Oliver – Curriculum Choices Lead

Mrs D Perry – Careers Lead

Mrs H Macleod – SENCo



## Important Message

Dear Student,

This year, our Guided Curriculum Choices event is in-person and virtual because of the power this puts directly into your hands that can be watched and re-watched to help you make your decisions.

The transition from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 is an important time in any student's life. For the first time you are being asked to make decisions about some of the subjects which you will study. These decisions will affect the career path which you take in the future as well as the options available post-16 and beyond. At Noel-Baker Academy, we are committed to supporting you to make the best decisions so that you have the most appropriate curriculum moving forwards.

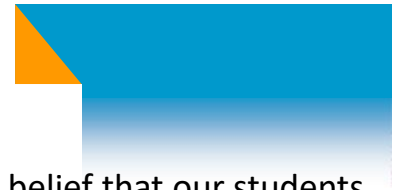
The most important thing is to think about where you want your career path to take you. It is *absolutely fine* not to be sure which path to take, and even if you feel sure now, you may well change your mind in the future. The best advice is always to choose a range of subjects which will keep lots of doors open to you and this is why we are passionate about the pathway system.

Look for subjects you enjoy and can do well in. Once the academic year starts in September it will not be possible for you to change subjects. Listen carefully to the advice you are given and don't be frightened to ask if you are unsure of anything.

We are always here to help.



## OUR VISION



At Noel-Baker Academy, everything we do is underpinned by our belief that our students are **ENTITLED** to the very best breadth and depth of provision.

We are proud of our students and our community and are determined that Noel-Baker Academy will enable its students to be the very best that they can be.

## OUR VALUES

### LEAD

*To show the way; to be first or foremost*

- We are **compassionate, considerate and kind**. We look out for each other and look after those who need our support.
- We **welcome and value all members of our community** – students, parents and staff. We expect all members of our community to work with us to play an active part in our children's education, to support each other to ensure that the highest standards of academic achievement, effort and conduct are met.
- We **encourage** each other, and we **celebrate our successes**.

### EMPOWER

*To give power to; to enable;*

- We are **compassionate, considerate and kind**.
- We teach our students to **take responsibility** for themselves, their actions and decisions; by insisting on excellent behaviour and learning habits that will set them up for life and enable them to fulfil their potential and their aspirations.
- We prepare our students for life beyond school by providing them with **clear boundaries, routines and structures**.
- We know that **factual knowledge is a prerequisite for deep understanding**: that **the more you know, the more you are able to learn and understand**.
- We empower our students to achieve through our unrelenting focus on **hard work, commitment and perseverance**.

### ACHIEVE

*To accomplish; to get or attain by effort;*

- We believe that **all children are entitled to learn "the best that has been thought and said."** Our students are the inheritors of the greatest ideas, written texts and discoveries of the past.
- Our purpose is therefore to provide a **rich education** that will allow them not only to achieve excellent qualifications but also to become thoughtful, educated and well-rounded young adults.

### DRIVE

*To cause and guide progress; to impel forward;*

- We recognise that **success takes hard work**, commitment and perseverance. We also know that with **persistent effort and patience, amazing things can be achieved**.
- We know that students who put in more effort, who **practise**, who revise and who learn more ideas and knowledge are able to develop greater expertise and thereby become more intelligent.





## **KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM**

### **WHAT SUBJECTS ARE COMPULSORY?**

English Language and English Literature, Mathematics, Triple Science and, on pathway A, Spanish are all compulsory subjects and will be entered for these examinations at the end of year 11. Students will study for five lessons a week in English Language and English Literature (two GCSEs), four lessons in Mathematics (one GCSE) and five lessons in Science (to gain at least two GCSEs).

Personal Social Health and Economic studies and Religious Studies are also compulsory and will be delivered during the academic day during daily timetabled lessons. In addition to this, every student will undertake two lessons a week of practical physical education. Whilst these do not result in a formal qualification, they are a core element of the curriculum and allow students to maintain regular physical activity to support their health and wellbeing throughout the two years and to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives, now and in the future to help students stay healthy, safe and prepare them for life and work in modern Britain.

### **THE ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE (EBACC)**

The EBACC is a government-led initiative all schools follow to ensure that young people's options stay open for further study and future careers. It is made up of English, maths, science, a language and either history or geography; subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and opens up lots of doors to employment.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education showed that studying subjects included in the EBACC provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in fulltime education. Equally, it also showed that pupils are much more likely to be successful in employment and employment-centred routes, such as apprenticeships. In addition, Sutton Trust research revealed that studying the EBACC can help improve a young person's performance in English and maths too. The government's ambition is to see 90% of pupils studying the EBACC subject combination at GCSE by 2025.





## STUDYING LANGUAGES

As a central part of the English Baccalaureate, languages are a key skill pupils need for their future. At Noel-Baker Academy, we are passionate about pupils studying languages yet you have heard all the reasons why some people don't learn languages, many of these founded on long-held myths and misconceptions. The truth is, in today's increasingly interconnected and interdependent world, proficiency in other languages is a vital skill that gives you the opportunity to engage with the world in a more immediate and meaningful way—whether in your neighbourhood or thousands of miles away—while better preparing you to compete and succeed in the global economy. This is even more true in a post-COVID world where the use of virtual meetings has risen and allowed more companies to work across borders.

**Connect!** - One of the most rewarding aspects of the human experience is our ability to connect with others. Being able to communicate with someone in his or her language is an incredible gift. Bilinguals have the unique opportunity to communicate with a wider range of people in their personal and professional lives.

**Advance Your Career**—Language skills can be a significant competitive advantage that sets you apart from your monolingual (people who only speak one language) peers. They are among the top eight skills required of *all* occupations—no matter your sector or skill level—and the demand for bilingual professionals is rising exponentially. In fact, between 2010 and 2015, the number of U.K. job postings specifically geared toward bilingual candidates *more than doubled*. Employers are seeking professionals who can communicate seamlessly with customers in new and expanding overseas markets, as well as serve and sell to a large foreign-born population here at home.

Remember, it is important to set yourself apart from others and studying languages is a great way to do that.



## STUDYING LANGUAGES

**Feed Your Brain**—The many cognitive benefits of learning languages are undeniable. People who speak more than one language have improved memory, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, enhanced concentration, ability to multitask, and better listening skills. They switch between competing tasks and monitor changes in their environment more easily than monolinguals, as well as display signs of greater creativity and flexibility. If that weren't enough, as we age, being bilingual or multilingual also helps to stave off mental aging and cognitive decline.

**Strengthen Your Decision Making**—Studies show that decisions made in your second language are more reason-driven than those made in your native language. Contrary to popular assumptions, when we deliberate in a second or third language, we actually distance ourselves from the emotional responses and biases deeply associated with our mother tongue. The result? Systematic and clear-headed decisions based on just the facts.

**Boost Your Confidence**—Any language learner can attest to making his or her share of mistakes while discovering a new language—often in front of an audience. It's a necessary part of the learning process! Learning a language means putting yourself out there and moving out of your comfort zone. The upside is the amazing sense of accomplishment you'll feel when conversing with someone in their native language.





# HOW MANY CHOICES CAN I MAKE?

## PATHWAY A

Students following Pathway A will make 2 curriculum choices. Their first option comprises either Geography or History. This is part of the government-led drive to improve access to post-16 and post-18 options—pupils who study the English Baccalaureate are significantly more likely to achieve higher post-16 grades as well as achieving more rounded and well-suited post-18 qualifications. This means that pupils **do not** specialise too early in their lives and therefore they can take longer to establish the direction they want their career pathway to go.

At Noel-Baker we not only agree with and support the government’s drive but believe that a student cannot achieve their potential without knowing the world around them and where they have come from; understanding the knowledge that has proceeded them and the legacy which they have inherited.

## PATHWAY B

Students following Pathway B will make 3 curriculum choices. Their first option comprises either Geography, History or French. Students can use their second option choice to follow the EBACC route in the same way as pathway A.

<b>Pathway A</b>	<b>English Language</b>	<b>English Literature</b>	<b>Maths</b>	<b>Triple Science</b>	<b>History or Geography</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Open Choice</b>
<b>Pathway B</b>	<b>English Language</b>	<b>English Literature</b>	<b>Maths</b>	<b>Triple Science</b>	<b>History or Geography</b>	<b>Open Choice</b>	<b>Open Choice</b>

## NON-PATHWAY-SPECIFIC CHOICES

The other choices for both pathways are comprised of a wide variety of subjects which pupils can choose from including choices not made from Geography, History and French (for pathway B). Some of these, such as Drama and Food, can be chosen to continue studying for years 10 and 11, but some subjects, such as Psychology and Business Studies, have not been studied previously. With all subjects it is important to ask the teachers for their advice and to find out exactly what the course entails to see whether it is the right choice moving forwards.

Please be aware that we reserve the right not to run a subject choice if the numbers are not high enough.



## **THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

The application process will take place online and you will show us which subjects you would prefer, with two reserve subjects. It is an application form because you are applying to join a class and by completing it you are saying that you will apply yourself to the work.

The timetable will be designed to give as many students their choices as possible, but there are limitations:

- Your work in subject areas to date;
- The equipment available;
- The class sizes;
- The level of examination work;

The subjects are arranged in order to satisfy current requirements of the National Curriculum and offer a broad, balanced and sensible package. The final decision about choices of subjects will be made by the academy in the light of student and parent wishes, progress of students and suitability of courses.

You must accept that occasionally, some students will not get all the choices they make. We may need to recommend that you choose another subject rather than the one you have chosen. Parents/carers can always contact the academy should they wish to discuss curriculum choices further.

## **IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Thursday 25th January                      | Students will be told which pathway they are on.  |
| 2. Monday 15th January to Friday 26th January | Students will get the chance to experience what a lesson at key stage 4 looks like in that subject.                         |
| 3. Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January            | Email will be sent to all parents/carers in order to complete which guided curriculum choices will be taken by their child. |
| 4. Friday 9th February                        | Deadline for completion of the online selection process for guided curriculum choices.                                      |



# HOW DO I CHOOSE WHICH SUBJECTS TO TAKE?

Consider the following:

## Your abilities

It is important that you choose subjects at the level with which you will be able to cope. Think about the subjects you are doing at the moment:

- Which are you good at?
- Are there any you find difficult?
- All subjects need certain skills if you are to succeed at them.
- What are your best skills and with which subjects do these fit?

## Your Future Career

When choosing subjects, you need to be aware of the subjects that particular jobs may need, but some people worry too much at this stage about the subjects they choose being relevant to a job. You will probably change your mind about what you wish to do in the next few years. Many of the jobs which exist now were not invented 10 years ago. Having flexibility and a good balanced education is the only way to prepare for them.

## Will I be successful in the subjects I choose?

Year 10 and 11 are difficult, but exciting years. You are moving forward towards your career choices and beginning to refine the subjects you choose to take. In order to be successful, you need to work hard so it is important you make the right choices for you at this vital transition into KS4. Choose carefully spending time considering your subjects.

- Read this booklet describing each course;
- Talk to subject staff about your ability/skill level and if it is an appropriate course for you;
- Talk to subject staff about the course and what it entails;
- Talk to your parents/carer;
- Consider what subjects you enjoy.

**Please remember these important points when choosing your subjects: -**

**Do** choose subjects that you enjoy and/or have the skills required to be successful;

**Do** choose subjects that match your learning style;

**Do** choose the level that suits your progress so far;

**Do not** choose a subject because it is what your friends are doing;

**Do not** choose a subject because you like the teacher.





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# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

The study of English Language is invaluable for your future, no matter what you are aiming for. A good command of the spoken and written word is not only attractive to potential colleges, 6<sup>th</sup> forms and employers but fundamental in your daily life. Whatever you end up doing, English Language is a 'must have' subject for college, university, work and life!

**Curriculum Leader: Mr Jared Linekar**

**Exam Board: AQA**

**Compulsory: Yes**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

All students study English Language in Year 10 and 11. Two 'Language Mini-Units' sit alongside each of the Literature GCSE set texts, drawing on key themes and exploring these in a range of fiction and non-fiction sources. In Year 10, students will get to grips with real issues such as poverty, social responsibility and attitudes to war, as well as dipping into some fascinating extracts that take students on a journey discovering different people and places, customs and traditions. In Year 11, students question the presentation of the supernatural in real and literary texts before finally moving on to study texts of crime and consequence. Creative and transactional writing is woven into each of the mini-units to encourage students to find their own 'voice' in their writing.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

This qualification will be assessed through two written examinations at the end of Year 11, and an in-class spoken Language assessment, all of which are compulsory. All texts in this examination will be unseen. Importantly, all examinations for English Language and English Literature are un-tiered, which means students are not limited to a 'foundation tier' exam; there is no limit to the grade students can achieve.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	Section A: four questions about an unseen text written in the 20th or 21st century. Section B: one question from a choice of two that ask you to write creatively from a given stimulus.	1 hour 45 mins.	June 2026	50
Paper 2: Writers' View-points and Perspectives	Section A: four questions about two unseen texts written in different eras, including the 19 <sup>th</sup> century. Section B: write a specified non-fiction text from your own perspective on a given subject.	1 hour 45 mins.	June 2026	50

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Sports Journalist, Lawyer, Film Director, Public Relations Executive, Fashion Journalist, Author, Newsreader, Politician, Actor, Architect, Creative Director, Scriptwriter, Teacher, Customer Service, Retail and many, many more!



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# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

The study of English Literature demonstrates, perhaps more than any subject, a student's academic potential. It is often considered to be the more difficult of the two English GCSEs which makes it attractive to potential colleges, 6<sup>th</sup> forms and universities who may want to know if you have the academic ability for the courses you have chosen. More than this, though, is the way in which studying Literature widens a young person's world view and allows them opportunities to explore attitudes, emotions and philosophical concepts, while helping to shape their own identities.

**Curriculum Leader: Mr Jared Linekar**

**Exam Board: AQA**

**Compulsory: Yes**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

All students study English Literature in Year 10 and 11. At the beginning of Year 10, students will read, annotate and analyse Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' before moving onto the modern play 'An Inspector Calls' by J.B. Priestley. Finally, students study Power and Conflict poetry. In Year 11, students cover William Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' while retrieving previous knowledge from the texts studied in Year 10. Further opportunities for revision and the study of unseen poetry are built into the curriculum throughout KS4.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

This qualification will be assessed through two written examinations at the end of Year 11. Although all questions are unseen, students will have studied each of the texts they will be assessed on with the exception of 'unseen poetry'. Importantly, English Literature is un-tiered, which means that there is no limit to the grade students can achieve.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Paper 1: Shakespeare and 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Novel	Section A: one question where students analyse an extract from Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. Section B: one question where students analyse an extract from Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'.	1 hour 45 mins.	June 2026	40
Paper 2: Modern Text and Poetry	Section A: one essay question from a choice of two on Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls'. Section B: one comparative question about two poems from the anthology. Section C: two questions on unseen poetry.	2 hours 15 mins.	June 2026	60

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Sports Journalist, Lawyer, Film Director, Public Relations Executive, Fashion Journalist, Author, Newsreader, Politician, Actor, Architect, Creative Director, Scriptwriter, Teacher, Customer Service, Retail and many, many more!

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# MATHEMATICS

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Mathematics is a core subject to fully engage with society and the world. While there are clear links to the financial industries and engineering, any of us that need to budget, to calculate interest payments, or to look behind the data we're being given will find mathematics useful. In the modern world, it's vital that we equip ourselves with the knowledge to reason effectively, and mathematics is the subject of abstract proof and logic.

**Curriculum Leader: Miss N Brown**

**Exam Board: Edexcel**

**Compulsory: Yes**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

In the GCSE maths course you will expand your understanding of the four main areas of mathematics: Number; Algebra; Geometry; and Statistics. You will focus heavily on multiplicative reasoning and applying the knowledge that you have learned across multiple contexts. For example, interpreting statistical data and information and drawing conclusions from the different ways data can be manipulated. All students will learn all content in Foundation tier, with decisions around progressing to the Higher tier made throughout the duration of the course.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Your teachers will assess you through the qualification with a mixture of low-stakes tests, quick quizzes and recaps to help you succeed and stay on track. Grades are allocated on the basis of the three exams at the end of the course. Paper 1 is non-calculator, while papers 2 and 3 are both calculator papers. The exam board assesses with exams across three assessment objectives.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
AO1	Procedural Fluency	Examination Papers 1, 2 and 3.	May/June 2026 To be announced	50% Foundation 40% Higher
AO2	Reasoning	Examination Papers 1, 2 and 3.	May/June 2026 To be announced	25% Foundation 30% Higher
AO3	Problem solving	Examination Papers 1, 2 and 3.	May/June 2026 To be announced	25% Foundation 30% Higher

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

A robust mathematical qualification opens doors throughout every sector of the economy. Specifically, mathematics is a key component of the STEM sector (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and the subject is also essential for jobs in medicine, as well as fields such as psychology or architecture.

There are numerous post-16 pathways that involve the study of mathematics, from multiple A Level qualifications to the practical focus of Core Maths. Similarly, mathematics is highly valued by employers for students that will be seeking competitive apprenticeships at all levels.



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# TRIPLE SCIENCE

## Why is Science important and why do I study it?

Through science we can understand how and why the world changes and continues to change around us and the impacts our choices have on the world in which we live. Through building up a body of key knowledge and concepts, you will be able to recognise the power of rational explanation using evidence and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. You will understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

**Curriculum Leader: Mrs R Brown**

**Exam Board: AQA**

**Compulsory: Yes**

## Qualifications you achieve:

**GCSE Biology**

**GCSE Chemistry**

**GCSE Physics**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

**Biology:** Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation, Evolution and Ecology.

**Chemistry:** Energy changes, Quantitative Chemistry, Rates and extent of chemical change, Organic chemistry, Chemical analysis, Using resources and Chemistry of the atmosphere.

**Physics:** Particle model, Atomic structure, Forces, Waves, Electromagnetism and Space

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

You will complete formative and synoptic assessments throughout Year 10 and Year 11. You will also complete one mock exam at the end of Year 10 and then another two mock exams in Year 11.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Chemistry	Paper 1 and Paper 2 Exams	1h 45 Exam	Paper 1- May 2026	50%
		100 marks	Paper 2 – June 2026	50%
Biology	Paper 1 and Paper 2 Exams	1h 45 Exam	Paper 1 – May 2026	50%
		100 marks	Paper 2 – June 2026	50%
Physics	Paper 1 and Paper 2 Exams	1h 45 Exam	Paper 1 – May 2026	50%
		100 marks	Paper 2 – June 2026	50%

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Gaining GCSEs in Science will open a world of job opportunities to you. Here is a list of some of the jobs which you could pursue that are linked to science;

Beekeeper, Marine Biologist, Ornithologist, Paramedic, Nurse, Doctor, Dentist, Personal Trainer, Nuclear Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Wing designer, Mineral's technology apprentice, Tree Surgeon, Pharmacist, Aerospace Engineer, Vet, Editor, Physiotherapist, Farmer, Formula 1 Engineer, Biomedical Scientists, Solar Panel Manager, Chemical Engineer, Pharmacologist, Ecologist





# GEOGRAPHY

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

**Curriculum Leader: Miss Johnson**  
**Exam Board: AQA**  
**Compulsory: EBACC option**

Our world is ever changing, and Geography provides the knowledge to help you interpret and prepare for the future. Geography will give you an understanding of major global issues, many of which are driving workplace opportunities. These include global trade and industry, environmental responsibility and the management of resources. As a result, you will understand the impact choice has on our globe.

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

Students will study three papers. Topics within these units include:

1. The Challenge of Natural Hazards (earthquakes and hurricanes, UK weather hazards and climate change), Physical Landscapes in the UK (rivers and coasts) and the Living World (rainforests/hot deserts),
2. Urban Issues and Challenges (Nigeria and London), the Changing Economic world (Nigeria and London) and the Challenge of Resource management (water and UK resources)
3. Researching a Geographical issue and both familiar (Rivers and Regeneration in Derby) and unfamiliar fieldwork.. All students will go for two days fieldwork during their course.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

- Assessment – the course is 100% exam based and includes three papers.
- Each sub unit will have an end of unit test. Each test will include prior learning as well as the current topic being studied. You will have mock exams, exam questions in lessons and retrieval quizzes.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Paper 1	Living with the Physical environment	1 hour 30 minutes	May 2026	35
Paper 2	Challenges in the Human environment	1 hour 30 minutes	June 2026	35
Paper 3	Geographical applications and skills	1 hour 30 minutes	June 2026	33

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

GCSE Geography could be a stepping stone onto A-Level Geography, or getting onto an apprenticeship. Geography graduates from university are consistently rated as extremely employable due to transferable skills and knowledge

A sample of career paths include: diplomat, political analyst, economic development professional, GIS specialist, utilities manager, coastal management, civil engineering, planning, pollution analyst, disaster manager and environmental consultant.



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# HISTORY

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

**Curriculum Leader: Mr C Walker**

**Exam Board: AQA**

**Compulsory: EBACC option**

Have you enjoyed the subject at KS3 and are keen to learn more through a more detailed examination of different themes? Through studying GCSE History, you will be able to answer key questions such as; why do wars happen?; why do people migrate?; how has the past shaped current events?

Covering a range of topics History helps to develop students' understanding and skills of society and culture through looking at the past and seeing the impact on the present.

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

There are four key topics that are studied in GCSE History that continues and develops the topics covered at KS3 -

- one period study: Germany 1890-1945 Democracy to Dictatorship
- one thematic study: Migration, empires and the people c.790 to the present day
- one wider world depth study: Conflict and Tension 1918-1939
- one British depth study including the historic environment: Norman England c.1066-c.1100

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

This qualification will be assessed through two written examinations at the end of year 11, both of which are compulsory. There are two preparatory mock exams and in class assessments.

There is a historic environment topic focus in the Norman England c.1066-c.1100 Depth Study which changes each year.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Paper 1: Understanding the modern world	Section A: The Period Study— Germany 1890-1945 Democracy and Dictatorship Section B: Wider Depth Studies— Conflict and Tension 1918-1939	2 hours	June 2026	50
Paper 2: Shaping the Nation	Section A: Thematic Study—Migration, empires and the people c.790 to the present day Section B: Depth Study— Norman England 1066-1100	2 hours	June 2026	50

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

- Entry onto an A level history course.
- You could use your knowledge and skills to enter the world of work.
- Employers value history as a qualification because of its academic nature

### Possible careers include -

Journalism, Law, Business, Politics, Archaeology, Marketing, Museum Curation and Teaching.



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# SPANISH

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

French is spoken by over 300 million people worldwide, opening up employment opportunities in business, politics and development, across Europe, Africa and the Americas.

As a language, communication is a vital skill to be able to succeed in French. Students will also need initiative and resilience, to be able to answer reading and listening questions by working out meaning where they might not understand every single word.

**Curriculum Leader: Mr Linekar**

**Exam Board: AQA**

**Compulsory: EBACC option**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

The content of the GCSE falls into three themes: Identity and Culture; Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest; and Current and Future Study and Employment.

In Theme 2 (Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest), students will learn about contemporary social issues that affect people in France and French-speaking countries, such as poverty and homelessness, as well as global issues such as environmental concerns.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

GCSE French is assessed via four exams, which cover each of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. These four exams each contribute 25% to the overall GCSE grade.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Paper 1	Listening	Foundation: 35 mins Higher: 45 mins	June 2026	25
Paper 2	Speaking	Foundation: 7-9 mins Higher: 10-12 mins	May 2026	25
Paper 3	Reading	Foundation: 45 mins Higher: 1 hour	June 2026	25
Paper 4	Writing	Foundation: 1 hour Higher: 1 hour 15 mins	June 2026	25

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Studying languages can lead you to a number of traditional language-based careers, such as a translator, interpreter or diplomat. However, for many people having an additional language is an asset which helps them to succeed in a career less immediately associated with languages, and these can range from marketing to journalism, from intelligence to international development.

As well as university study, languages can be beneficial for a number of career roles in the tourism sector. France is the most popular tourist destination in the world, and local colleges offer a range of courses in travel and tourism, some of which are based at East Midlands Airport.







# FOOD TECHNOLOGY

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition. This course is perfect for anyone who has a love for cooking and trying new foods. Students who choose this course should also want to learn about the nutritional side of food.

**Curriculum Leader: Miss Barron**  
**Exam Board: AQA**  
**Compulsory: No**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

Throughout the 2 years you will study the following 5 core topics:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

There are three assessments for Food Technology. The non-exam assessments are internally assessed and are completed in controlled conditions during lesson time during Year 11, this involves producing a portfolio of work and will include a practical exam. At the end of Year 11 students will complete a written exam which is externally assessed.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
<b>Paper 1</b>	Written exam	1 hour 45 minutes	June 2026	50%
<b>Non- exam assessment</b>	Food investigation	10 hours	September 2025	15%
<b>Non-exam assessment</b>	Food preparation assessment	20 hours	November 2025	35%

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

There are a variety of different job opportunities linked to Food Technology such as a chef, catering manager, dietician, nutritionist and Food Technology teacher.





# BUSINESS STUDIES

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

GCSE Business studies is a course which will suit students who have a keen interest in the world of business. If you have an awareness of current affairs, enjoy problem solving and decision-making, or are thinking of working for yourself in the future, then this is the course for you.

**Curriculum Leader: Mr Ricketts**  
**Exam Board: OCR**  
**Compulsory: No**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

- The role of business enterprise and entrepreneurship and the different forms of business ownership
- The role of Marketing, including the marketing mix and market research
- The role of Human Resources, including communication in business, recruitment and selection, training and development and motivation
- The impact of the legal environment of businesses, including employment law and consumer law
- Production and quality assurance
- The role of the finance function, including sources of finance and how to complete and use key financial documents
- The impact of the external environment on business - ethical, environmental, economic and globalisation

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

This course is 100% examination. There are two written exams at the end of the course. The exams will consist of a mix of data response (multiple-choice), short answer and longer case-study based questions.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Paper 1	Business activity, marketing and people.	1 hour 30 minutes Exam	June 2026	50
Paper 2	Operations, finance and influences on business.	1 hour 30 minutes Exam	June 2026	50

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

The good thing about Business is that it keeps your options open, both for further study and for your chosen career. Progression pathways include studying A-levels and other level 3 courses in Business, gaining apprenticeships, becoming an entrepreneur or becoming self-employed.

There are a huge range of job possibilities open to you, such as retail, trades, administration, manufacturing, accountancy, banking, education, health care, logistics, advertising and marketing to name a few. This course will help provide you with the knowledge and skills to set up and run your own business.





# 3D DESIGN

**Curriculum Leader: Mr D Pender**  
**Exam Board: Edexcel**  
**Compulsory: No**

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Our 3D Design curriculum is concerned with the designing, prototyping, modelling and making of functional and aesthetic products. Pupils engage with appropriate processes, materials and construction techniques, using maquettes, models and working drawings to help take their initial drawings through to realisation. Pupils learn to select and apply a range of materials and processes to create 3D work. They understand how to recycle materials and are taught about the value of sustainability and ethical and ecologically sound lifestyles.

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

- Drawing from first hand and second hand sources using a range of mark-making techniques
- Experimentation with a wide range of 3D materials and techniques, including clay, cardboard, Modroc and wire
- Development of planning and construction skills with an emphasis upon use of materials and an understanding of structure
- The study of key themes in design, for example, portraiture and architecture, exploring these themes within the contexts of culture, history and contemporary practice

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Two folders are created throughout the course, a coursework folder and an examination folder. The coursework folder is developed throughout year 10 and one term of year 11 and constitutes 60% of the overall grade. The examination folder is started in the Spring term of year 11 and follows a theme given by the examination board, the folder constitutes 40% of the final grade and culminates in a ten hour practical examination. Both folders contain investigation of the 3D work by established designers and development work produced by the student. Students must also produce written work exploring the theme, analysing designers/3D work and explain their personal response to the project.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Component 1: Personal Portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop and explore ideas</li> <li>• research primary and contextual sources</li> <li>• experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes</li> <li>• present personal response(s)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students' work must comprise supporting studies and personal response(s)</li> <li>• Students' work must show evidence of all four Assessment Objectives</li> <li>• All work is internally set and is internally marked using the assessment grid provided by the exam board and internally standardised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All marks must be submitted before moderation</li> <li>• First assessment is in May/June</li> </ul>	<b>60%</b>
Component 2: Externally Set Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop and explore ideas</li> <li>• research primary and contextual sources</li> <li>• experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes</li> <li>• present personal response(s)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ESA paper will be released on 2 January each year and may be given to students as soon as it is released.</li> <li>• A 10-hour sustained focus period under examination conditions will take place in April or May</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All marks must be submitted before moderation</li> <li>• First assessment is in May/June</li> </ul>	<b>40%</b>

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Design and technology can set you up for a career in a wide variety of industries such as fashion, engineering, architecture, product design, graphic design, interior design, 3D design, construction information technology, and education. Popular careers for people with design and technology qualifications include fashion designer, product designer, architect, software engineer, civil engineer, carpenter and chef.





# MEDIA STUDIES

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

GCSE Media Studies, you are embarking on a journey that will broaden your understanding and appreciation of the media. You will learn why the media is essential in society, culture and politics, and how it shapes our perceptions of the world. Towards the end of the course, you will have the opportunity to apply your newly acquired academic knowledge and showcase your creativity by producing your media content. Take the first step towards becoming a media-savvy individual and sign up for GCSE Media Studies today!

**Curriculum Leader: Miss Phipps**

**Exam Board: Eduqas**

**Compulsory: No**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

The course will focus on four main areas: media language, representations, industries, and audiences. We will explore these theoretical ideas through nine different media forms, namely TV, film, music videos, and social media. Media language refers to how the media communicates meaning, while media representations examine how the media portrays events, issues, individuals, and social groups. We will study media industries and analyze how production, distribution, and circulation processes affect media forms and platforms. Furthermore, we will investigate media audiences, how the media targets different audiences, and how members of audiences become producers themselves.

In the TV section, you will study one contemporary and one historic television product in-depth, such as Luther and The Sweeney. For promoting media, you will analyse media products like film, advertising, marketing, and video games, including Fortnite. In the Music section, you will look at one in-depth study covering magazines like GQ and Vogue, music videos of artists like Lizzo, Justin Bieber, and TLC, and radio like BBC Radio 1. For News, you will consider one in-depth study covering online, social, and participatory media, including newspapers like The Guardian and The Sun.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Component 1	Exploring the Media	1 hour 30 minutes Exam	June 2026	40
Component 2	Understanding Media Forms and Products	1 hour 30 minutes Exam	June 2026	30
Component 3	Creating Media	Coursework	June 2026	30

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Engaging in Media Studies can open up various career options for you. Some potential paths include roles in journalism, filmmaking, advertising, public relations, digital media production, social media management, content creation, broadcasting, and even media analysis. Additionally, you may explore opportunities in fields like marketing, graphic design, event planning, and communication strategy. The skills developed in Media Studies are versatile, allowing you to pursue a dynamic range of professions in the ever-evolving media landscape.





# ART AND DESIGN

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, art and design is a great choice. The skills you gain make it a great complement to other subjects. Art and design is a way of seeing things and making sense of the world around you. It can help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

**Curriculum Leader:** Mr D Pender

**Exam Board:** Edexcel

**Compulsory:** No

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

- Drawing from first hand and second hand sources using a range of materials.
- Experimentation with a with a range of various media and techniques.
- Development of painting skills with an emphasis upon use of materials with the aim of producing artwork to a high standard.
- The study of key themes in Art, for example, portraiture and landscape a exploring these themes within the contexts of culture, history and contemporary practice.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Two folders are created throughout the course, a coursework folder and an examination folder.

The coursework folder is developed throughout year 10 and one term of year 11 and constitutes 60% of the overall grade.

The examination folder is started in the Spring term of year 11 and follows a theme given by the examination board, the folder constitutes 40% of the final grade and culminates in a ten hour practical examination.

Both folders contain investigation of the artwork by established artists and artwork produced by the student. Students must also produce written work exploring the theme, analysing artists/artwork and explaining their personal response to the project.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Component 1: Personal Portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop and explore ideas</li> <li>• research primary and contextual sources</li> <li>• experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes</li> <li>• present personal response(s)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students' work must comprise supporting studies and personal response(s)</li> <li>• Students' work must show evidence of all four Assessment Objectives</li> <li>• All work is internally set and is internally marked using the assessment grid provided by the exam board and internally standardised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All marks must be submitted before moderation</li> <li>• First assessment is in May/June</li> </ul>	<b>60%</b>
Component 2: Externally Set Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop and explore ideas</li> <li>• research primary and contextual sources</li> <li>• experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes</li> <li>• present personal response(s)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ESA paper will be released on 2 January each year and may be given to students as soon as it is released.</li> <li>• A 10-hour sustained focus period under examination conditions will take place in April or May</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All marks must be submitted before moderation</li> <li>• First assessment is in May/June</li> </ul>	<b>40%</b>

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

You can continue your art and design studies at AS and A-level, where the same titles are available. You'll also be able to choose areas of study to specialise in within a particular title. If you don't want to take your art and design studies any further, the transferable skills you gain will still be valuable. You'll develop problem solving, creative thinking, investigation, research, communication and teamwork skills, and gain the ability to develop, refine and present ideas. Employers and universities regard all of these highly.





# DRAMA

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

The World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report predicts creativity, innovation and ideation will be key skills for the workforce of the future. When business leaders across the world were surveyed, they voted Creativity as the most important workplace capability to help their businesses survive and grow.

This means that the study of creative subjects, like Drama, is becoming even more important and relevant to young people to give you the chance to succeed – whatever your ambitions.

This is for anyone who has a passion for performing and is always looking to learn and develop their knowledge and skills.

**Curriculum Leader: Mrs K Sibson**

**Exam Board: Eduqas**

**Compulsory: No**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

In GCSE Drama you will be learning how to create, perform and analyse theatre. You will also be able work collaboratively to generate, develop and communicate ideas, all of which will develop your emotional intelligence.

Your practical skills will be refined and will demonstrate creativity, reflection and resilience, as well as developing confidence and strong presentation skills. Your written skills, both analytical and creative, as well as your ability to self-reflect, will be developed through a range of tasks.

Practitioners: Stanislavski, Brecht, Frantic Assembly

Set Text: Macbeth by William Shakespeare

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Assessment is both internal by subject teachers which is then externally moderated by an examiner also externally marked by an examiner.

Component 1 – internally marked, externally moderated.

Component 2 – externally marked by a visiting examiner.

Component 3 – Written exam externally marked.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
Component 1	Devising Theatre	A portfolio of supporting evidence based on the rehearsal process A performance lasting between 5-16 minutes An evaluation of the final performance or design.	December of Year 11	40
Component 2	Performing from a text	A performance lasting between 5-14 mins using sections of a play text.	April of Year 11	20
Component 3	Interpreting Theatre	1 hour 30 min exam. Section A – set text Section B – Live Theatre Review	Summer of Year 11	40

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

There are many routes Drama can take you from becoming a professional performer, teaching, working in theatre but also journalism, public relations, becoming a drama therapist.

Drama equips you with many transferable skills that are valued in all professions.







## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Religious Studies is a multi-disciplinary subject, which means that it links to other subjects. However, it is unique as it gives an opportunity to develop your knowledge and understanding of religion, philosophy and ethics. Some of the topics studied will be relevant to your own lives, either now or in the future. It is academically rigorous and requires a high level of written skills, such as referencing and evaluation.

RS promotes personal development skills that are useful beyond GCSE. Being able to express an opinion, listen to others and form logical arguments are transferable skills.

**Curriculum Leader: Mrs Whitaker**

**Exam Board: AQA**

**Compulsory: No**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

You will study **two** world religions, Christianity and Islam. You will learn about key beliefs, worship, lifestyles and festivals within these two religions.

The course will also include the study of **four** philosophical and ethical themes:

- Theme A – Relationships and families
- Theme B – Religion and life
- Theme D – Religion, peace and conflict
- Theme E – Religion, crime and punishment

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

The course is 100% examination and there will be **two** examination papers. Each paper is worth 50% of the final grade. 96 marks are awarded for each paper, plus 6 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG). Each unit will have an end of unit assessment. You will have mock exams, exam questions and quizzes to assess your learning.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
<b>Component 1</b>	The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices	1 hour 45 minutes	June 2026	50%
<b>Component 2</b>	Thematic Studies: philosophy and ethics	1 hour 45 minutes	June 2026	50%

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

GCSE Religious Studies could be a stepping stone onto A-level RS, as well as University courses of any kind. A sample of career paths include: Law ( e.g. a Lawyer, Judge, Court Clerk, Court reporter ); Public services (e.g. Police, Armed Forces, Local government, Civil servant); Education (e.g. Primary or Secondary teachers, Lecturer, School psychologist, Careers advisor); Health and Social care (e.g. Doctor, Nurse, Midwife, Social worker, Counsellor); Journalism (e.g. Editor, Copy writer, Reporter, Photographer, Writer); Tourism (e.g. Travel advisor, Tourist information officer, Hotel manager, Holiday rep).





# FURTHER MATHEMATICS

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

The Level 2 Further Maths Certificate is a qualification for students who are expected to achieve **grades 6+** in their mathematics GCSE and are likely to progress to study A Level Mathematics and/or A Level Further Mathematics. This qualification expands on the pure mathematics elements of the GCSE, while introducing pupils to more advanced concepts of historical significance in the development of maths.

**Curriculum Leader: Miss N Brown**

**Exam Board: AQA**

**Compulsory: No**

**Due to the nature of studying further mathematics, only students who are expected to achieve a grade 6 or higher in maths will be considered.**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

The further maths certificate has some overlap with the subject content of mathematics GCSE. The key difference in further mathematics is the focus on linking the areas of mathematics in more complex ways. There are six subject components to the qualification: Number; Algebra; Geometry; Coordinate Geometry in 2 Dimensions; Matrix Transformations; and Calculus. Matrices and calculus are not encountered in the GCSE Mathematics specifications and offer new mathematical concepts to learn about, with applications to computer science and data coding in the case of matrices, and in analysing complex rates of change in the case of calculus.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

Your teachers will assess you through the qualification with a mixture of low-stakes tests, quick quizzes and recaps to help you succeed and stay on track. There are two exams at the end of the course. Paper 1 is non-calculator, while paper 2 is a calculator paper. The Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics is untiered, but pupils will still be given a grade from 5-9. The exam board assesses with exams across two assessment objectives.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
AO1	Procedural Fluency	Examination Papers 1 and 2	May/June 2026 To be announced	60%
AO2	Reasoning and Application	Examination Papers 1 and 2	May/June 2026 To be announced	40%

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

There are numerous post-16 pathways that involve the study of mathematics, and while this qualification is aimed at those undertaking A Level and university study, it would be highly advantageous to students applying for higher level apprenticeships in the STEM sector, such as Rolls-Royce.

Similarly, those looking to explore further qualifications in computer science or physics will find that the Further Mathematics curriculum will set them up with some of the underlying concepts that have powered developments in those fields.





## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Sport science is important because it will develop knowledge, understanding and practical skills that can be used in the physical activity, health and exercise sector. You should choose sports science if you want a further career in sport. This course will have a limited number of practical lessons, most lessons are classroom based. This course includes many pieces of coursework, you must be prepared to meet deadlines, attend intervention and act quickly on feedback. You should also be playing at least 1 sport outside of school as a sound knowledge of sports is needed to apply your work.

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

Students will learn how to treat sporting injuries. You also learn about principles of training, complete a personal exercise programme and perform fitness tests. Students will also learn about nutrition, how nutrients need to be adapted and plan a nutrition programme to improve sports performance.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

There are 3 components. One exam, three are assessed through extended writing coursework.

Unit	Unit Name	Assessment Type	Date	%
R181	Applying principles of training.	Coursework	Y10, Sept - Feb	40
R183	Nutrition and sports performance.	Coursework	Y10, Feb - July	20
R180	Reducing sports injuries and dealing with medical conditions.	Exam	Year 11	40

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

A variety of job opportunities in the sport and leisure industries E.g. Personal trainer, physiotherapist, sports nutritionist, PE teacher.





# MUSIC

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

If you enjoy music that is a good starting for wanting to study it further. If you would like to expand your skills in playing an instrument, writing your own music, being in a band and develop your wider musical understanding then GCSE music is for you.

Playing Music has been scientifically proven to improve thinking and memory skills, improve abilities in other subjects and it improves your wellbeing!

Professionally speaking, the Music GCSE will help you gain a lot of transferable skills, from independent learning (you've got to be disciplined about practising your instrument) to performance and presentation skills, which are highly-prized in almost any career. You'll also get the opportunity to express yourself creatively. Many universities and employers view creative subjects as an asset, as you'll likely learn adaptability, communication and emotional intelligence

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

There are 3 units in GCSE Music; Performance, Composition and Listening. For the performance unit you will develop your skills on your chosen musical instrument as part of a group and as a soloist. This could be on guitar, piano, violin or vocals or if you would like to go down a music technology route you can use computer software to recreate your favourite song.

For composition you explore your musical creativity and compose two pieces of music, one free choice and one from a brief (eg: music for film)

For Listening we study different genres of music, gaining an understanding of key musical terminology and musical features that enable you to articulate what you're hearing in a piece of music. Genres include Western Classical music, film and video game music, Musical, Traditional and Fusion and Rock music

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

The course is 60% practical controlled assessment and 40% listening exam.

Performance 30% internally marked and moderated by exam board

Composition 30% internally marked and moderated by exam board

Listening 40% exam that is externally marked by the exam board.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
<b>Performing Music</b>	One solo and one group performance	Controlled assessment in lessons	May 2026	30%
<b>Composing music</b>	One free composition and one composition from a brief	Controlled assessment in lessons	May 2026	30%
<b>Listening and Appraising</b>	Two questions on set pieces and 8 questions on unfamiliar music from genres studied	Listening Exam 1 hr 30 mins	June 2026	40%

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Musician, booking agent, artist manager, composer, sound engineer, producer, music therapist, teacher to name a few. However music is a subject that sets you apart from others because it shows you are driven and focused by learning an instrument, that you have creativity and that you have great listening skills. These are certainly skills that will help you in your careers and interest potential employers.

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LEAD



EMPOWER



ACHIEVE



DRIVE



# PSYCHOLOGY

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Psychology gives you the opportunity to build your knowledge and understanding of human behaviour. Through studying the different Psychological Perspectives, you will have a broad insight into the explanations of how and why we act, feel and behave in the way we do.

Psychology promotes transferable skills to be able to analyse and evaluate theories and apply knowledge and be able to give logical arguments for and against different psychological concepts.

**Curriculum Leader: Mrs MacLeod**

**Exam Board: AQA**

**Compulsory: No**

**Due to the nature of studying Psychology, only students who are expected to achieve a grade 5 or higher in Science will be considered.**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

**You will study eight topics over the two years and learn about different Psychological Perspectives throughout the course.**

During the course you will study:

- Memory
- Perception
- Development
- Research Methods
- Social influence
- Language, thought and communication
- Brain and neuropsychology
- Psychological problems

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

The course is 100% examination and there will be two examination papers. Each paper is worth 50% of the final grade and 100 marks are awarded for each paper. Each unit will have an end of unit assessment. Throughout the 2 years, you will be assessed with end of unit assessments, mock exams, and exam questions.

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
<b>Component 1</b>	Cognition and Behaviour	1 hour and 45 minutes	June 2026	50%
<b>Component 2</b>	Social Context and Behaviour	1 hour and 45 minutes	June 2026	50%

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

Psychology can lead into many different careers pathways, as it gives you a greater insight about the people around you. There are many different Psychology career pathways such as Educational, Clinical, Forensic, Occupational and Health Psychology, Counselling, Human Resources, Health and Social Care. With studying the different topic areas in Psychology, it helps you understand why others around you may behave and think in the way they do.





# PHOTOGRAPHY

## Why is this subject important and who should study it?

Photography is defined here as the practice of producing images using light-sensitive materials such as photographic film, or digital methods of development and production to create static or moving images.

It gives pupils a chance to explore different ways of self-expression through digital media and exploring a wide variety of different contexts.

**Curriculum Leader: Mr Pender**

**Exam Board: EdExcel**

**Compulsory: No**

## What will I study during years 10 and 11?

In Component 1 and Component 2 students are required to work in **one or more** area(s) of photography such as portraiture, location photography, studio photography, experimental imagery, installation, documentary photography, photo-journalism, moving image: film, video and animation and fashion photography.

They may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas. This would entail showing:

- how sources relate to historical, contemporary, social, cultural and issues-based contexts and external considerations such as those associated with the cultural industries and client-oriented requirements
- how ideas, themes, subjects and feelings can inspire creative responses informed by different styles, genres and aesthetic considerations and/or an individual's distinctive view of the world.

The ways in which meanings, ideas and intentions relevant to photography can be communicated include the use of figurative and non-figurative forms, image manipulation, close up, and imaginative interpretation visual and tactile elements such as colour, line, form, tone, texture, shape, pattern, composition, scale, sequence, surface and contrast.

## How will I be assessed by my teachers and the exam board?

The assessment is split into two parts as detailed below:

Module	Elements	Assessment	Date	%
<b>Component 1</b>	Portfolio	No time limit	June 2026	60%
<b>Component 2</b>	Externally set assignment	Preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time	June 2026	40%

## What career choices can I make later in life linked to this subject?

You can continue your photography studies at AS and A-level, where the same titles are available. You'll also be able to choose areas of study to specialise in within a particular area. If you don't want to take your photography studies any further, the transferable skills you gain will still be valuable. You'll develop problem solving, creative thinking, investigation, research, communication and teamwork skills, and gain the ability to develop, refine and present ideas. Employers and universities regard all of these highly.



