



**MAYFIELD GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
GRAVESEND**

# **YEAR 9 OPTIONS**

**2021**

**(for GCSE Examinations: Summer 2023)**



Science



**LANGUAGE  
COLLEGES**

## Contents

Page	
2	Introduction
3	Key dates for the option process
4-5	Year 10/11 Curriculum and Option Choices
6	The English Baccalaureate
7	Examining Groups and Grades
9	GCSE English Language and English Literature
10	GCSE Mathematics
11	GCSE Science Separate/Combined Award
13	Additional Courses Personal Development programme Core PE Religious Education
15	GCSE Art & Design
16	Computer Science and Information Communication Technology:
16-17	GCSE Computer Science
17-18	Cambridge Nationals Creative iMedia
19	GCSE Design and Technology
20	GCSE Drama
21	GCSE Economics
22	GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition
23	GCSE Further Mathematics
24	GCSE Geography
25	GCSE History
26	Modern Languages: GCSE French GCSE German GCSE Mandarin GCSE Spanish
27	GCSE Music
28	GCSE Photography
29	GCSE Physical Education
30	GCSE Psychology
31	GCSE Religion, Philosophy and Ethics
32	GCSE Textiles Design

January 2021

Dear Student,

In September 2021, you will begin your General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) courses which will be examined in Summer 2023. This booklet aims to outline the courses which you will study during Year 10 and 11. Part of the curriculum is compulsory for all students but there is also an element of choice. This allows you to have the opportunity to shape aspects of your own learning according to your personal interests and future education and career aspirations. The following pages will enable you, in discussion with your parents and teachers, to select the subjects you will study during this time and will provide a useful point of reference across the next two years.

The school aims to provide you with a broad, balanced curriculum based on current National Curriculum guidelines and legislation, (see Statement on the English Baccalaureate page 6). This will give you maximum flexibility in your future choices for academic study or career. The choices, which are detailed in the next section, will allow you to study up to ten subjects at full GCSE.

The booklet describes the outline of each course, the work required and the skills gained. Modular GCSEs no longer exist and therefore all GCSEs are assessed via terminal examination. Some subjects feature NEA (non-examination assessment), which can include written, practical and oral work and will be undertaken largely in lesson time under full examination conditions. At the beginning of Year 10, and again at the beginning of Year 11, you will receive notification of NEA requirements, deadlines and methods of study.

Ideas about possible A Level choices and future careers may help you to make your choices but if you do not have firm notions about your future, then a balanced choice of subjects is advised. You should speak to staff regarding your ability in option choice subjects and think carefully about the work load implications. There will be careers information via the Year 9 PSHE programme, tutor time and year group assemblies. Miss Johnson, Careers Leader, is also available for advice if needed. You and your parents will also have an opportunity to speak to subject staff at Parents' Evening.

Carefully study all the information available to you, follow advice from your teachers and parents so that you can make informed choices.

Good luck with your decisions.

Mrs C Kemp  
Deputy Headteacher

## Key Dates

Key dates for the options process:

Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Information about the option process. Students and parents are sent link via email to access SIMS Options Online.
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2021	Deadline: Students must have entered their four preferred subjects and a reserve choice if they so wish by 4pm. SIMS Options Online will then be locked.
January-February 2021	Options preferences will be reviewed and discussed with all students.
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Final Option Form open for online completion.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Deadline: SIMS Options Online will be locked at 4pm preventing any further entries/changes.
June/July 2021	Option confirmation letters are issued

There will be an opportunity to discuss with teaching staff at the Parents' Evening.

Should a student wish to make any changes following the submission of their final Options Form (20/03/20) these should be made formally in writing, signed by the student and parent, from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June-Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June (inclusive) addressed to Mrs Lee, Learning Leader for Year 9. Requests will be considered in strict order of receipt following the formal publication of school examination results on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

## Year 10/11 Curriculum and Option Choices

You must study the core subjects (details on pages 9-11):

- GCSE English
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Science (Triple or Combined)

You all began your Science GCSE studies in September 2020. A decision will be made regarding either Triple Award (three GCSEs) or Combined Award (two GCSEs), following a recommendation from Science teaching staff.

You will also follow additional courses (details on page 13) in:

- Physical Education (Core PE, non-examined)
- Citizenship and Fundamental British Values (delivered via RE and PSHE)
- Religious Education (GCSE Short Course, worth  $\frac{1}{2}$  a GCSE)

All students will complete a Personal Development course, which incorporates Personal, Social, and Health Education (PSHE), Work Related Learning and Careers Education. Details of which can be found on page 13.

All students must choose at this stage **four** option subjects.

### **SIMS Options Online;**

- Students now make their subject preferences and eventually final choices through a system called SIMS Options Online.
- Students must have entered their four preferred subjects and a reserve choice if they so wish by this time. SIMS Options Online will then be locked. *The order in which subjects are ranked influences which combinations the process will prioritise for students so ensure that your top preference is listed as 1 etc.*
- Options preferences will be reviewed and discussed with all students.
- All subjects will be placed by the Options Online process into four Blocks A, B, C and D. *Popular choices will be included in more than one Block.*
- Further information will have been given to you by Mrs Lee and Mr Windle.

We advise that when you make your options choices to ensure that you maintain a broad and balanced curriculum that will keep your options for further study and careers open. Therefore, consider ensuring you have a language option, a Humanities option, an Arts option. You may choose more than one subject from each group, where this is the case, we will discuss your choices with you and the reasons for your decisions as part of the Options process.

i.e. You can choose to study Geography + History.

You can choose to study two languages.

When making your choice, you need to consider carefully:

- what you are good at
- what you are interested in and enjoy
- what you may want to choose to study post-16
- maintaining the breadth of study.

Do not choose an option just because you like your current teacher of that subject, you may have a different teacher next year. Similarly do not choose a subject because your friend is, you may end up in different classes. Clearly, the enjoyment of a subject supports success and high levels of achievement. Miss Johnson, Careers Leader, is available for further guidance for all Year 9 students throughout the year. She can be contacted via e-mail ([JohnsonA@msgg.kent.sch.uk](mailto:JohnsonA@msgg.kent.sch.uk)) or can be found in the Careers Room.

Your choices will be checked and agreed either with Mrs Kemp, Mrs Murfet or Mrs Lee. All students are offered an individual Options meeting where a discussion of your choices will take place. You should bring any concerns to this meeting and thereafter to Mrs Lee.

	SUBJECT	
A Modern Foreign Languages	French	EBacc subject
	German	EBacc subject
	Mandarin	EBacc subject
	Spanish	EBacc subject
B Humanities	Geography	EBacc subject
	History	EBacc subject
	Religious Studies	
C	Art & Design	
	Computer Science*	EBacc subject
	Creative iMedia*	
	Design and Technology	
	Drama	
	Economics	
	Food Preparation and Nutrition	
	Further Mathematics	
	Music	
	Photography	
	Physical Education	
	Psychology	
	Textiles Technology	

**\*You may not select both of these courses.**

**Proviso:**

We try to accommodate students' choices but there may be some combinations which are not possible because of staffing or timetable constraints. There may also be some courses which are not finally offered because the number of students opting for them are too few in number. Conversely there may also be courses which are oversubscribed and additional sets cannot be provided. Students will be kept informed of any issues that may arise as the option process develops.

## The English Baccalaureate

- The English Baccalaureate was introduced as a measure of performance in the 2010 performance tables. It is not a qualification in itself. It recognises a student's achievement (9-5) across a core of selected academic subjects – English (Language and Literature), Mathematics, History or Geography, the Sciences and a modern foreign language.
- The subjects included are designed to ensure that all students have the opportunity to study a broad core of subjects, ensuring that opportunities are not closed off to them in terms of future progression.
- The Government believes that schools should offer pupils a broad range of academic subjects to age 16 and the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) promotes this aspiration. The government's ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022 and 90% by 2025.

To pass the English element of the EBacc students need to:

- achieve a strong pass in English Language GCSE and achieve a grade in English Literature GCSE.

To pass the Mathematics element of the Ebacc students need to:

- achieve a strong pass in GCSE Mathematics.

To pass the Science element of the EBacc students need to:

- take 3 single sciences (biology, chemistry, computer science and physics) and to achieve a strong pass in 2 of them
- to take GCSE Combined Science, 2 GCSEs that cover the 3 main sciences.

To pass the full Ebacc students to achieve the above plus:

- achieve a strong pass in History or Geography
- achieve a strong pass in either French, German, Mandarin or Spanish

For students starting Year 10 in 2021 our advice remains, as it has always been, to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum is maintained. We will not be requiring that all students meet the requirements laid out as above for the EBacc. We will, however, be encouraging them carefully to consider doing so.

## Examining Groups and Grades

GCSE courses followed at Mayfield Grammar School are run by these Examining Groups:

University of London Examination and Assessment Council	EDEXCEL
Oxford, Cambridge and RSA Examinations	OCR
Assessment and Qualifications Alliance	AQA
Cambridge International Examinations	CIE

Departments are free to choose courses set by any of these groups and you will therefore sit examinations run by different groups. To ensure fairness and equality GCSE has national specifications for all examinations.

### Grades

The GCSE courses and grading systems have changed. Your daughter will receive her final attainment grade for each subject as a number from 9-1. Subject staff will give clear guidance on the grading system and what it means when she begins her new courses. A strong pass is considered to be grade 5 or above.

For some subjects there are two levels of entry for GCSE, Higher and Foundation. Most of you will be entered at the Higher Level but this decision is not made finally until after the mock examinations in Year 11.

Old grades	New grades
A*	9
A	8
	7
B	6
C	5
	4
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	
U	U



**CORE SUBJECTS:**

**STUDIED BY ALL**

## English Language and English Literature: EDEXCEL

Students will follow a combined course **integrating** English Language and English Literature, leading towards **two separate qualifications**. In addition, there will be a mark awarded for Spoken Language (pass, merit or distinction) reported separately on your daughter's certificate. The Language and Literature course is linear, assessed by external examinations at the end of Year 11.

The programme of study follows naturally from the Year 9 syllabus and is designed to extend and improve skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. At the heart of our approach lies our belief that studying English encourages life-long skills for the real world which will help students in their lives far beyond the examination hall.

Students will study a range of literature including drama and Shakespeare, novels and poetry from the nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Wherever possible, groups will be taken to the theatre to see productions of their set texts.

Students will continue to improve their writing style; they should feel secure in their writing, both in terms of its technical accuracy and its impact, and be confident readers, resilient in the face of texts they have not seen before. They will read and respond to a range of prose, poetry, drama and non-fiction texts that in some way speak to them and their experience, helping them to develop a voice of their own.

Students will purchase their own copies of the set texts, so they can annotate these in preparation for their assessments.

The range of material studied provides an excellent grounding for those students who may wish to study English Literature, the combined English Language and Literature course or Media Studies at Advanced Level.

## Mathematics: EDEXCEL

There are three main themes for the current GCSE syllabus that was first taught from September 2015 and first examined in Summer 2017:-

- (1) Applying Standard Techniques making up around 40% of the marks allocated
- (2) Reasoning, Interpreting and Communicating making up around 30% of the marks allocated
- (3) Solving Non-Routine Problems making up around 30% of the marks allocated

There is no Controlled Assessment element for this GCSE subject, meaning that only the examination papers contribute towards the final grade awarded.

The department continues with the new Edexcel Linear Syllabus A course that has been commenced in Year 9. Most students will be entered for the Higher Tier in June Year 11, for which Grades 9 to 4 can be awarded. However, students on both sides of the year group for whom Higher Tier is deemed not to be a sensible route will be entered for the Foundation Tier papers in June Year 11, for which Grades 5 to 1 can be awarded. These students will sit Foundation Tier papers for the mock examinations in January Year 11 but can choose to sit additional questions from the Higher Tier if they so wish so that we can provide an estimate of what grade they would have achieved. If applicable, students can move up a set so that they can be with students who are completing the Higher Tier papers.

The appropriate set is considered for each student at all times but primarily after the Year 10 and Year 11 mock examinations. However, in order to help with students' final revision, classes may be set again in the final weeks before Home Study begins.

The length and quantity of papers to be sat by students will be as follows:-

Paper 1	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %	1h 30 mins	Non-Calculator
Paper 2	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %	1h 30 mins	Calculator
Paper 3	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %	1h 30 mins	Calculator

### **PLEASE NOTE**

**Further Mathematics is being delivered in a different format as from 2020-21. As such, if you have had any older sister(s) who have completed Further Mathematics because they were in Set X1 or Y1, this may not be the case for those in the same sets for your year group.**

**Please read the page for Further Mathematics for further details.**

## Science: EDEXCEL

Students begin the Science courses in September of Year 9. They will be placed in a Separate Science or Combined Science group in Year 10, following the outcomes of the Year 9 examinations and a review of overall progress made in each Science. Science staff will discuss their recommendations with students and these will be communicated with you by a letter which will be brought home by your daughter.

The aims of these Science courses are to enable students:

- to acquire a body of knowledge and facts in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and an understanding of scientific concepts, principles, themes and patterns;
- to further their appreciation of the practical nature of science, developing experimental skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques;
- to develop an appreciation of the importance of accurate experimental work to scientific method and reporting;
- to develop their ability to form hypotheses and design experiments to test them;
- to sustain and develop an enjoyment of, and interest in, the scientific world;
- to foster an appreciation of the significance of science in wider personal, social, environmental, economic and technological contexts, with a consideration of ethical issues;
- to select, organise and present information clearly and topically, using appropriate scientific terms and conventions;
- to thoroughly prepare for A-Level courses in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

### **Separate Science Awards (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)**

The majority of students at MGSG will follow the Separate Science Awards. Students are awarded grades in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The assessment of investigative skills is integrated within all examination papers through the study of eight core practicals which are incorporated into the course alongside general practical activities. Students will sit six examinations altogether, two in each of the respective Sciences, each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes.

### **Combined Science Award (All 3 Sciences studied)**

Some students at MGSG will follow the Combined Award. This will be based on examination performance. Students are awarded two overall Science grades. These include teaching units from Biology, Chemistry and Physics which comprise approximately two-thirds of the subject content of the single sciences. The assessment of investigative skills is integrated within the written examinations as with the Separate Science Award. Students will sit six examinations altogether, two in each of the respective Sciences, each paper is 1 hour 10 minutes. This award affords students some extra time to consolidate some of the more complex ideas and concepts studied at GCSE level.

Both awards allow students access to A Level Science courses subject to meeting grade entry requirements. There is some flexibility to allow pupils to move from Combined to Separate and from Separate to Combined. If this is appropriate Science staff will contact the pupil and their parents directly. Equally, if you wish to discuss this information further you should speak to your daughter's class teachers in the first instance.

**ADDITIONAL COURSES:**

**STUDIED BY ALL**

## Additional Courses

### Personal Development Course

All students continue to follow a course of personal, social and health education with a team of experienced teachers which consists of one period per fortnight, for the year. The course will include elements of:

- mental and emotional health disorders
- sexual activity and relationships
- substance use and misuse

The course continues into Year 11 with a focus on Citizenship, Ethics, Careers Education and guidance on further education options.

### Physical Education

Physical Education remains a compulsory subject in Years 10 and 11 and all students have two hours of curriculum time dedicated to Physical Education per week. The emphasis is on participation and enjoyment to promote a prolonged interest in sport and physical activity.

Students choose activities from a range of options. They will be able to take on different roles: performer, official, coach, choreographer or organiser and they will learn to evaluate performance and gain a deeper understanding of Health Related Exercise. In addition, all students will complete a first aid unit.

#### Programme of Study

Term 1		Term 2		Term 3	
Netball	Football	Trampolining	Fitness	First Aid	Basketball
Term 4		Term 5		Term 6	
Rowing	Table Tennis	Softball	Tennis	Rounders	Athletics

At Mayfield Grammar there is a strong emphasis on competition, with this in mind all students compete in a number of Inter-House events throughout the year.

### Religious Education (Short Course GCSE – Examination Board AQA)

The compulsory Religious Education programme will include the short course GCSE for which there is an examination which will be taken at the end of Year 11. This will also cover some of the requirements of Citizenship. During Year 10 students are likely to have one lesson per fortnight and then in Year 11 one lesson per week.

The short course GCSE covers the following:

- A study of two religions; we will study Christianity and Judaism. Judaism is a faith that we have not considered before.
- A study of two themes; from a religious and non-religious point of view these themes will be Family and Relationships and War and Peace

For those students who opt to take full course GCSE Religious Studies they will follow a course by the Institute of Financial Services and will gain a Level 2 Certificate in personal finance which is timetabled for them instead of the short course GCSE.

# **OPTION SUBJECTS INFORMATION**

## Art & Design: AQA

The GCSE Art & Design course builds an essential foundation of creative skills and is open to all students who show interest, enthusiasm and commitment for work in any area of Art. Within the Fine Art title students have the opportunity to gain experience in a wide range of media and approaches. This may include sculpture, printmaking, photography, in addition to painting and drawing with a wide variety of materials.

You will be encouraged to work imaginatively and expressively as well as learning the practical and transferable skills of problem-solving, observation, interpretation and presentation.

The course is mainly practical and lasts two years, during which time you are expected to build up a collection of Portfolio work and to complete an Externally Set Assignment. Recording and communication through purposeful drawing and written annotation are integral to the development of both of these components. The Portfolio of work will include three sustained projects on the themes of 'Organics and Mechanics', 'Self-Portraits' and 'A Voice For Change'. Students will follow a personal journey in response to each starting point which will culminate in a final piece or final pieces. Work towards this component is produced throughout the course and represents 60% of your final mark. The Externally Set Assignment paper will offer you a choice of questions/starting points from which you will choose one. You will have a set time frame in which to produce supporting studies and to develop ideas towards a final piece which is created during the ten hour timed assessment. The complete collection of work for the Externally Set Assignment makes up the remaining 40% of your GCSE mark.

During the initial stages of the course you will find that work is quite specific and your teacher will give you direct guidance. As you acquire increased confidence, you will be expected to interpret and research a given theme more independently, using the skills, techniques and processes that you have learnt.

You will study the work of artists, designers and craftspeople from past and contemporary artists as an integral part of each of your projects. Gallery visits in both Years 10 and 11 provide you with the opportunity to research and view real Art works at first hand.

The GCSE Art course opens many opportunities for further study. It is an essential requirement for higher education leading to careers in the following fields: architecture, advertising, teaching creative arts subjects, graphic design, interior design, fashion design, photography and digital imaging, theatre/set design, costume making and jewellery design.



**COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION COMMUNICATION  
TECHNOLOGY**

Computing and ICT are an integral part of our lives and nearly all careers require some level of expertise in these areas. According to the latest Association of Graduate Recruiters survey, information technology posts are among the most numerous graduate jobs. To reflect the diverse nature of this subject there will be a choice of two courses available this year.

- Computer Science GCSE
- Creative iMedia

Students should make their choice of course based on their future career aspirations and interests.

**GCSE Computer Science: OCR J277**

Computer Science has become a very high-profile subject over the last few years. The ability to program computers is a very valuable skill. Computing is of enormous importance to the economy, and the role of Computer Science as a discipline itself and as an 'underpinning' subject across Science and Engineering is growing rapidly. Computer technology continues to advance rapidly and the way that technology is consumed has also been changing at a fast pace over recent years. The growth in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for employers and employees. For example, businesses today require an ever-increasing number of technologically-aware individuals. This is even more so in the gaming, mobile and web related industries and GCSE Computer Science has been designed with this in mind.

Career opportunities	
Creative	Business, Industry, Commerce
Web designer Web developer  Multimedia programmer  Games developer	Business analyst Data analyst Database administrator Information systems manager IT consultant SEO specialist Systems analyst Systems developer

## What will I be studying?

The course is made up of six topic areas:

- Problem solving
- Programming
- Data (how do computers store data such as text, images, sound? How is it kept secure?)
- Computers (How do computers function?)
- Communication and the Internet
- The bigger picture (what impact has computing had on the world?)

## How will I be assessed?

There are two assessments:

- Principles of Computer Science – a written exam (50%)
- Application of Computational thinking – a written exam (50%)

It is a fun and interesting way to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life. In this respect, the course makes excellent preparation for students who wish to study or work in areas that rely on these skills, especially where they are applied to technical problems. These areas include engineering, financial and resource management, science and medicine. Computer Science is academically challenging, which is why it is part of the English Baccalaureate group of subjects. The course is suited to those who are more technically, scientifically or mathematically inclined and provides excellent preparation for study in higher education and employment in the field of Computer Science.

### Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Creative iMedia : OCR J817

Career opportunities	
Creative	Business, Industry, Commerce
Journalist Media Executive Web administrator	Digital Marketing Digital account executive Online ordering executive

This is a GCSE equivalent Level 2 qualification for students who would like to learn about graphical design, web design and animation design and creation. It is significantly NEA based but also has an external written examination.

Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia are media sector-focused web development, graphics and animation, and have IT at their heart. They provide knowledge in a number of key areas in this field from pre-production skills to digital animation and have a motivating, hands-on approach to both teaching and learning. Cambridge Nationals deliver skills across the whole range of learning styles.

Skills for the future	Complementary subjects
Confidence in creatively using digital technology Digital literacy Problem solving in a variety of contexts Communication of ideas and concepts Estimation and accuracy Investigational strategies	English History Geography Art Design and Technology

### What will I learn?

The Cambridge Nationals Certificate in Creative iMedia requires students to complete four units (all units are equally weighted as 25% of the total mark).

#### Pre-production skills (this is the theory written paper)

Planning is an essential part of working in the creative and digital media sector. This unit will enable students to understand pre-production skills and techniques used in the sector, as well as gain the knowledge and skills to create digital media products and explore their application.

It will also develop their understanding of the client brief, time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques that form part of the planning and creation process.

Content includes:

- Understanding the purpose and content of pre-production.
- Being able to plan pre-production.
- Being able to produce and review pre-production documents.

#### Creating digital graphics (NEA)

The aim of this unit is for students to understand the basics of digital graphics editing for the creative and digital media sector. This unit builds on the pre-production skills unit.

Content includes:

- Understanding the purpose and properties of digital graphics and knowing where and how they are used
- Being able to plan the creation of a digital graphic
- Having the knowledge to create new digital graphics, using a range of editing techniques
- Being able to review a digital graphic against a specific brief.

#### Creating a multi-page website (NEA)

Students explore the different properties, purposes and features of multipage websites. They demonstrate their creativity by combining components to create a functional, intuitive and visually pleasing website.

#### Creating a digital sound sequence (NEA)

Students are introduced to the basics of digital sound for the creative and digital media sector. They follow a client brief to plan and create a digital sound using appropriate sound editing and mixing tools, and then review the final product.

### How is it assessed?

Students take one written theory paper for Pre-production skills. The other 3 units are NEAs and are centre assessed and externally moderated.

## Design and Technology: AQA

The new Design and Technology GCSE equips students with the knowledge and skills to be successful in an increasingly technological world. They will look at designing, prototyping and modelling or making of primarily functional and aesthetic products, objects and environments, drawing upon intellectual, creative and practical skills.

### **Areas of study**

Students are encouraged to work in a range of areas Design and Technology and will explore a number of materials and products, such as those listed below:

- Ceramics
- Timber
- Plastics
- Metals
- Products for specific clients; elderly, young adults, children etc.

### **Knowledge and understanding**

Students develop knowledge and understanding using sources that inspire the development of ideas, relevant to three-dimensional design including:

- How sources relate to historical, contemporary, cultural, social, environmental and creative contexts
- How ideas, feelings, forms and purposes can generate responses that address specific needs be these personal or determined by external factors such as the requirements of an individual client's expectations, needs of an intended audience or details of a specific commission.

### **Core technical principles**

Within the context of design and technology, students demonstrate the ability to understand:

- New and emerging technologies
- Energy generation and storage
- Developments in new materials
- Systems approach to designing
- Mechanical devices
- Materials and their working properties

### **Assessment**

#### **Component 1: Non-exam assessment (NEA), 50% of GCSE**

##### **What is assessed?**

A portfolio that will contain a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work undertaken during the course of study. A practical application of core technical principles, specialist technical principles and designing and making principles will be assessed.

#### **Component 2: Examination, 50% of GCSE**

##### **What is assessed?**

An examination where theoretical knowledge is applied from the core concepts explored throughout the course. The written paper is 2 hours long.

**Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study the D&T course at A level.**

## Drama: AQA

Drama GCSE allows students the opportunity to explore drama through written analysis and as a practical art form. Students will describe, create, perform and respond to drama using theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre. They will also develop their understanding of the characteristics of performance texts including genre, structure, language and sub-text. They will explore in written and practical ways, how meaning is interpreted and communicated by focusing on performance conventions and design. Students will explore the importance and influence of social, cultural and historical context and develop their understanding of theatre terminology and the roles and responsibilities of theatre makers. Through the study of drama, students learn to collaborate, think analytically and evaluate effectively. They also develop their confidence and presentation skills. Students must have confident skills in English literature and essay writing as well as a keen interest in the subject. A willingness to actively participate in practical exploration and to discuss and share ideas with others is also needed. Students are expected to attend additional live theatre visits and workshops.

### **Component 1: Understanding Drama (40% of GCSE)**

There is one written examination of 1 hour 45 mins and this is marked by AQA examiners.

The exam is split into 3 sections:

Section A = Theatre roles and terminology (4 marks)

Section B = Study of a set play text (44 marks)

Section C = Live theatre production (32 marks)

### **Component 2: Devising Drama (40% of GCSE)**

You will devise (i.e. develop from scratch) a performance based on a stimulus given to you. This will be accompanied by a devising log (a written documentation of the devising process and evaluation of your final work). This exam is internally examined and externally moderated by AQA.

Devising log (60 marks)

Devised performance (20 marks)

### **Component 3: Texts in Practice (20% of GCSE)**

You will perform two extracts from a set play text. This can be done as:

- a monologue
- a duologue
- an ensemble

This will be assessed by a visiting examiner.

Performance of Extract 1 (20 marks) & Performance of Extract 2 (20 marks)

## Economics GCSE: OCR

Economics is a challenging and fascinating subject. It is often referred to as a 'real world' subject.

Economics is about people and their economic choices. The new GCSE in Economics shows students that we are all part of the economy and that economics relates to every aspect of our lives - from the decisions of individuals or families to the structures created by governments and producers. It develops their understanding of how economic issues affect choices about resources and markets and vice versa.

### What skills will you learn?

If you choose GCSE Economics, you will gain transferrable skills that will benefit you in your further study and employment:

- By learning how to use economic data from a range of sources, such as tables, charts and graphs, you will acquire the skills to make informed judgements and to communicate in a clear and concise way.
- By learning how to explain and evaluate economic problems and possible solutions, you will acquire a way of thinking as an economist and develop a logical approach to thinking and reasoning.
- You will engage in wider reading and be expected to take part in discussion on a variety of economic topics. This will help you develop your verbal communication skills, as well as develop an appreciation of the wider context in which the subject sits.

### Assessment

OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Economics is a fully linear course and consists of two mandatory components that are externally assessed. There will be two question papers assessing the two components. Each question paper will have 20 multiple choice questions and short case studies with related short and medium response questions as well as the opportunity for extended writing (maximum of 6 marks).

For students starting in September 2021, examinations will take place in the summer of 2023.

Component 1 Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
<b>Introduction to Economics</b> 1.1 Main economic groups and factors of production 1.2 The basic economic problem  <b>The role of markets and money</b> 2.1 The role of markets 2.2 Demand 2.3 Supply 2.4 Price 2.5 Competition 2.6 Production 2.7 The labour market 2.8 The role of money and financial markets	<b>Introduction to Economics (J205/01)*</b> 80 Marks 1 hour 30 minute written paper	50% of total GCSE

Component 2 Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
<b>Economic objectives &amp; the role of government</b> 3.1 Economic growth 3.2 Low unemployment 3.3 Fair distribution of income 3.4 Price stability 3.5 Fiscal policy 3.6 Monetary policy 3.7 Supply side policies 3.8 Limitations of markets  <b>International trade and the global economy</b> 4.1 Importance of international trade 4.2 Balance of payments 4.3 Exchange rates 4.4 Globalisation	<b>National and International Economics (J205/02)*</b> 80 Marks 1 hour 30 minute written paper	50% of total GCSE

## Food Preparation and Nutrition: AQA

This new 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.

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

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

### **Assessments**

#### **Theory Examination Paper: Food preparation and nutrition, 50% of GCSE**

##### **What is assessed?**

Theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition from Sections of the core topics above

##### **How it's assessed**

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 100 marks

#### **Non-Examination Assessment (NEA), 50% of GCSE**

##### **What is assessed?**

**Task 1:** Food investigation (15% of GCSE)

Students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

**Practical investigations are a compulsory element of this NEA task.**

**Task 2:** Food preparation assessment (35% of GCSE)

Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task. Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

##### **How is it assessed?**

- **Task 1:** Written or electronic report (1,500-2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.
- **Task 2:** Written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence. Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included.

**Additional Information:** Students will be completing food practical lessons most weeks and will need to provide their own ingredients. Ingredients for experiments will be provided by the department. We recommend that students buy the student text book so that they can annotate it throughout the year to help them with their progress through the NEAs and the examination. Students will need a set of weighing scales at home to help them prepare ingredients for practical sessions.

**Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study, such as the Level 3 Applied Diploma in Food and Nutrition, or embark on an apprenticeship within the catering or food industries.**

## Further Mathematics: AQA

GCSE Further Mathematics is an option that is available to students who, primarily in their Year 9 examination in May, show a sufficiently good aptitude for Mathematics that warrants them considering a course that goes beyond the scope of the GCSE undertaken by all students. The Mathematics Department will consider all students who indicate that they wish to take this option and determine before the summer holidays begin as to whether or not this will be an appropriate course so that a student's reserve option (or an alternative if necessary) can be added to her timetable for Year 10.

Whilst having studied GCSE Further Mathematics is undoubtedly a benefit for those who wish to pursue AS or A Level Mathematics in the Sixth Form, it is not essential. As such, the course is only designed for those expected to achieve Grades 7, 8 or 9 in GCSE Mathematics and so only Grades 9 to 5 are available, meaning that effectively there is only Higher Tier entry. It offers the opportunity for stretch and challenge that builds on the GCSE Mathematics curriculum, with an emphasis on higher order technical proficiency, rigorous argument and problem solving skills. The course currently being studied is a new specification that was first examined in Summer 2020, although the cancellation of examinations means that no student has yet sat any live papers. However, the main purpose of the revisions made to teaching was to bring the course in line with the new GCSE Mathematics that has been taught to students with all examination boards since September 2015.

There are six main content areas for the revised GCSE syllabus:-

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| (1) Number                                   | (4) Calculus               |
| (2) Algebra                                  | (5) Matrix Transformations |
| (3) Co-ordinate Geometry (2 dimensions only) | (6) Geometry               |

There is no Controlled Assessment element for this GCSE subject, meaning that only the examination papers contribute towards the final grade awarded. Students will still sit both the compulsory Mathematics and the GCSE options Further Mathematics sets of papers at the end of Year 11 with the rest of the year group. The GCSE Further Mathematics papers are as follows:-

Paper 1	50%	1h 45 mins	Non-Calculator
Paper 2	50%	1h 45 mins	Calculator

Questions will take one of two forms:-

- (1) Recall and use knowledge of the prescribed content for routine and multi-step procedure making up around 60% of the marks allocated
- (2) Apply mathematical reasoning, skills and knowledge to solve mathematical problems including rigorous justification and formal proof making up around 40% of the marks allocated



## Geography : EDEXCEL B

Geography is the study of the world around us, and the course aims to provide an interest in our human and physical environments and the way we interact with them. Our planet is forever changing and so the GCSE course makes use of the very latest global news, from dramatic tectonic events and catastrophic flooding, to the effect of government policies on population, urban planning and resource management. Whilst traditional areas of both physical and human geography are covered, there is a particular focus on understanding the relationships and interdependence between the physical and human worlds and the major issues both face into the twenty-first century.

Students in Year 9 currently follow the GCSE course, so are well placed to understand what studying GCSE geography entails. The course utilises the many geographical and general study skills that have been developed in the Lower School and during Year 9, as well as introducing more advanced concepts. The Edexcel GCSE course is split into 3 distinct components all of which are assessed by examination at the end of the course:

- 1. 'Global Geographic Issues' covers global hazards, tectonic processes, climate change, development issues and the challenges of rapid urbanisation. This represents 37.5% of the GCSE.
- 2. 'UK Geographical Issues' covers an overview of the UK's varied physical landscapes, including in depth studies of coastal change and river processes, as well as how the UK's human landscape has been shaped by socio-economic and political processes. In addition this unit includes the fieldwork component of the course with two distinct fieldwork and research investigations looking at both physical and human environments. This also represents 37.5% of the GCSE.
- 3. 'People and Environment Issues – Making Geographical Decisions' covers global ecosystems, energy supply and demand, energy security and the sustainable use and management of different resources. Component 3 draws synoptic links with components 1 and 2, and a comprehensive resource booklet is provided in the exam which students are expected to use and respond to in order to reach the best geographical decision for a given topic. This represents 25% of the GCSE.

Each of the assessments will test the students' ability to effectively use information and apply their understanding and opinions to other situations. Within the examinations there will be short answer questions as well as the opportunity to use and apply case study material to extended answers.

Geography develops many skills for students and provides an effective springboard to A-Level study. Within the course, students will develop:

- Their ability to produce coherent and effective arguments, using evidence to support their ideas.
- Good analytical skills including the use of statistics
- Fieldwork, research and team-building abilities
- A comprehensive understanding of the world around them

Geography is a subject for our times. It is inherently multidisciplinary in a world that increasingly values people who have the skills needed to work across the physical and social sciences (The Guardian 2015). Combining well with both Science and Arts subjects at higher levels, students that pursue an academic path in Geography are amongst the most employable in the UK because of the dynamic skill set used to study the subject (The Guardian, 2010).

## History: AQA (8145)

### **AQA**

The course is made up of four units which are studied over the latter half of Year 9 and into Years 10 and 11.

#### **Year 10:**

- The USA 1920-1973 (continued from Year 9)

This unit focuses on the development of the USA during a turbulent half century of change. It was a period of opportunity and inequality – when some Americans lived the 'American Dream' whilst others grappled with the nightmare of poverty, discrimination and prejudice. The unit also involves the study of the political, economic, social and cultural aspects of these two developments and the role ideas played in bringing about change. It also looks at the role of key individuals and groups in shaping change and the impact the developments had on them.

- International Relations 1918-1939

This unit focuses on how the world struggled to come to terms with the end of the First World War and how the victors attempted to prevent a second. The unit will look at the various outbreaks of conflict during the Second World War and consider their significance in influencing the actions of Adolf Hitler. The unit concludes with a reflection on what the most important reasons for the Second World War were.

#### **Year 11:**

- Britain, Health and the people c1000 – Present day

This unit looks at how medicine and public health developed in Britain over a long period of time and will draw on wider world developments that impacted public health. It considers what factors have driven change throughout history including looking at the significance of new technologies and key individuals in bringing about change. The unit will consider the key characteristics of different eras in British history, by looking at diseases, how people sought to explain them and the different treatments that were used.

- Norman England c1066 - c1100

This depth study looks at the arrival of the Normans in England in 1066 and the establishment of their rule. The main focus will be on major aspects of Norman rule, considered from economic, religious, political, social and cultural standpoints and offers a fantastic opportunity to compare and contrast a very different way of life with the modern day.

There is NO coursework element on either course, the grade is determined by performance in the final exams

**To get the most from the course you should achieve at least a GCSE (9-1) Level 5 at the end of Year 9, along with an effort grade of E3 or E4 in History.**

## Modern Languages: EDEXCEL (French, German, Spanish), AQA (Mandarin)

### French - German - Mandarin - Spanish

We recommend that all students choose at least one Modern Foreign Language, e.g. French, German, Spanish or Mandarin. If you only choose one, you may pick either of the Modern Foreign Languages which you are already studying: choose the one you feel more confident about and the one you enjoy learning the most.

If you enjoy learning languages and perform well in them, you ought to consider the possibility of taking two at GCSE. This is particularly advisable for your CV in the future and to carry on with languages in the Sixth Form. This way you will not restrict your choices too early and will leave open the possibility of studying two languages at A Level, which is desirable for many universities and employers.

The GCSE course follows the Edexcel French/German/Spanish 9-1 syllabuses, Mandarin will follow the AQA 9-1 specification. There will be no coursework element, and generally candidates at this school will be aiming at the grades 9-5.

The following tests form the final examination:

1. Listening
2. Reading and Translation
3. Writing and Translation
4. Speaking

**These topics include:**  
friends, family, when I was younger, interests, socialising, role models; holiday experiences, accommodation, problems abroad, eating out and shopping; school types, subjects, school day, rules and pressures, success, trips; employment, further study, jobs and careers; events and good causes, the environment and natural

Conversation topics are on the following themes:

1. Identity and culture
2. Local area, holiday and travel
3. School
4. Future aspirations, study and work
5. International and global dimensions



The syllabus aims to:

- develop the ability to understand and use the target language effectively for practical communication, as well as for creative purposes
- develop a good understanding of the grammar and of language learning techniques
- convey insights into the culture and civilisation of countries and communities speaking the target language
- encourage positive attitudes to foreign language learning and to speakers of foreign languages
- provide enjoyment and intellectual stimulation develop students' understanding of themselves and their own language and culture
- form a sound base of the skills, language and attitude required for further study, work and leisure.

## Music: EDEXCEL

The GCSE Music course extends the work covered in Year 9. It is a particularly good GCSE for those of you having instrumental or vocal tuition as the work you do with your instrumental or vocal teacher is directly integrated into your class work and counts towards the performing assessment. If you do not have tuition on an instrument or singing lessons, you can take GCSE Music as long as you play or sing regularly and are prepared to spend time practising at home. In addition, you need to have achieved a good grade in your Year 9 class work. You will draw on music you have performed to gain ideas to use in your composing work. The course aims to develop skills, knowledge and understanding in the areas of performing, composing and listening through the study of a wide range of musical styles covering music from the past to the present including classical music, pop music and world music.

### **Performing – Controlled assessment – 30%**

The GCSE course encourages you to perform music of your own choosing and in any style, as a soloist and also in a group. To take this course, you must be able to offer at least one instrument/or voice. Performances may take place in the classroom, in school music groups or outside school. Some of these will be recorded and marked by your teacher and a selection consisting of a minimum of four minutes worth of performance will be submitted for final assessment. You will gain further group performance experience by taking part regularly in a school extra-curricular music group.

### **Composing – Controlled assessment – 30%**

You have been introduced to creating music of your own in class and this is developed on the GCSE course, as you will work towards composing two pieces for final submission. One will be composed to a brief set by Edexcel, the other will be a free choice of style. Prior to beginning your final pieces, you will compose a number of shorter pieces in a variety of styles and your skills as a composer will greatly develop. You will learn to use music software on the computers to aid your composition work.

### **Listening and appraising – examination – 40%**

You have already listened to a variety of music in class and these skills will be developed as you study some set pieces of vocal and instrumental music taken from the classical eras, popular styles, musical theatre and world music. You will sit a listening paper lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes with questions on your prescribed set works, requiring short answers and one extended piece of writing.

### **What other skills will I develop?**

As well as covering Music at GCSE level, you will develop Key Skills in Communication and ICT which will be useful in whatever you do afterwards.

### **What can I do after I've completed the course?**

If you enjoy the GCSE Music course then you can consider A Level Music, which follows on very well from GCSE.

Your listening skills will enhance the aural perception needed in language examinations. Your performing skills will give you confidence in playing to an audience – useful if you intend to pursue, for example, drama or a future career involving presenting to an audience.

## Photography: AQA

The GCSE Photography course builds an essential foundation of creative skills and is open to all students who show interest, enthusiasm and commitment for work in any area of lens based art. Within the Photography title students have the opportunity to gain experience in a wide range of media and approaches. This may include contemporary photo collaging, using photographic film, digital methods of development and production of static or moving images.

You will be encouraged to work imaginatively and expressively as well as learning the practical and transferable skills of observation, interpretation and presentation of experimental imagery.

The course is mainly practical and lasts two years, during which time you are expected to build up a collection of Portfolio work and to complete an Externally Set Assignment. Recording and communication through purposeful photography based creations and written annotation are integral to the development of both of these components. You will learn how to use relevant sources to inspire and develop your own ideas relevant to photography: including how sources relate to historical, contemporary, social, cultural and issues-based contexts. You will also learn how ideas, themes, subjects and feelings can inspire creative responses through an individual's distinctive view of the world. The Portfolio of coursework will include three sustained projects on the themes of 'Identity and the human condition', 'Local landscape' and 'A Voice For Change'. Students will follow a personal journey in response to each starting point which will culminate in a final outcome(s). Work towards this component is produced throughout the course and represents 60% of your final mark. The Externally Set Assignment paper will offer you a choice of questions/starting points from which you will choose one. You will have a set time frame in which to produce supporting studies and to develop ideas towards a final piece(s) which is created during the ten hour timed assessment. The complete collection of work for the Externally Set Assignment makes up the remaining 40% of your GCSE mark.

During the initial stages of the course you will find that work is quite specific and your teacher will give you direct guidance along with what artists and photographers to study in order to inform your work. As you acquire increased confidence, you will be expected to interpret and research a given theme more independently, using the skills, techniques and processes that you have learnt.

You will study the work of past, but mainly contemporary artists, photographers and craftspeople, as an integral part of each of your projects. Gallery/exhibition visits in both Years 10 and 11 provide you with the opportunity to research and view real Art works at first hand.

The GCSE Photography course opens many opportunities for further study within the creative arts and media routes. It is an essential requirement for higher education leading to careers in the following fields: Photography, artistry, film directing, press photographer, architecture, advertising, teaching creative arts subjects, graphic design, interior design, fashion photography, scientific and medical photography – for the police, sports or wildlife.

## GCSE Physical Education: AQA

In addition to the core Physical Education (PE) programme taken by all students there is also the option to take GCSE PE. Students opting for this route will take lessons in GCSE PE timetabled in addition to the core PE programme.

### Course Overview?"



### 2 Units

**Practical Sport and Analysis of Performance (40%)**

**Theory Exam (60%)**

### Is this the right course for you?

- Do you play 2 or more sports?
- Are you passionate about sport?
- Do you want to develop leadership skills in sport?
- Are you good at exams and prepared to work hard over two years?

### How the course works – practical and theory

**Practical** – You select 3 activities and are graded in each one (skills and full context). Students can be assessed as a player/performer in one team activity, one individual activity and a third in either team or in an individual activity. Students can be assessed in any activity listed by the exam board.

**Analysis of Performance** – You select a sport to analyse and sit an oral examination. You will be assessed on your analysis and evaluation of a performance and how to bring about improvement in one activity.

**Theory exam** – Covers a range of topics from Anatomy and Physiology, to Socio-cultural influences. You sit 2 exams at the end of the two year course (1 hour 15minutes for each one) and this is worth 60% of your overall grade. The exam consists of multiple choice, short answer and extended answer questions.

**Progression** – Follow GCSE PE to A-level PE here at Mayfield Grammar School.

There are also many other progression routes due to the nature of the GCSE PE course, which covers a wide range of areas including Social Sciences, Psychology and Human Biology so it prepares students to study a wide variety of subjects at post 16 level.

There are also PE specific career pathways which the course compliments including Physiotherapy, Sports Psychology, Teaching, Coaching, Nutrition, Sports Science, and Sports Development.

## Psychology GCSE: AQA

Psychology is fascinating social science, that focuses on the study of the brain and behaviour.

### What skills will you learn?

If you choose GCSE Psychology, you will gain transferrable skills that will benefit you in your further study and employment:

- By learning how to handle data (both qualitative and quantitative), and how to analyse data using descriptive statistic.
- You will learn to evaluate psychological research, developing an understanding of both methodological issues and ethical concerns.
- You will develop an understanding of how to design and conduct research, ranging from surveys to experiments.
- Finally, you will engage in wider reading and be expected to take part in discussion on a variety of psychological topics. This will help you develop your verbal communication skills, as well as develop an appreciation of the wider context in which the subject sits.

### Assessment

AQA's GCSE Psychology is a fully linear course and consists of two mandatory components that are externally assessed. There will be two question papers assessing the two components. Each question paper will have a range of multiple choice, short answer, and extended writing responses (essays)

For students starting in September 2021, examinations will take place in the summer of 2023.

Paper 1: Cognition and behaviour
<b>What's assessed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Memory</li><li>• Perception</li><li>• Development</li><li>• Research methods</li></ul> <p>Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.</p>
<b>How it's assessed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes</li><li>• 100 marks</li><li>• 50% of GCSE</li></ul>
<b>Questions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Section A: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)</li><li>• Section B: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)</li><li>• Section C: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)</li><li>• Section D: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)</li></ul>

Paper 2: Social context and behaviour
<b>What's assessed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Social influence</li><li>• Language, thought and communication</li><li>• Brain and neuropsychology</li><li>• Psychological problems</li></ul> <p>Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.</p>
<b>How it's assessed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes</li><li>• 100 marks</li><li>• 50% of GCSE</li></ul>
<b>Questions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Section A: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)</li><li>• Section B: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)</li><li>• Section C: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)</li><li>• Section D: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (25 marks)</li></ul>

## Religious Studies GCSE – Religion, Philosophy and Ethics: AQA

This is an opportunity to explore different areas of Religious Education. We will be looking at Ethics which is the study of morality, what is right and wrong. This will include issues around what is evil and whether or not people should be punished for wrong actions. We will ask questions about human rights and wealth and poverty. Philosophy is the study of wisdom and ideas. It teaches logical thinking and how to argue a case. Within this part of the course we will explore the nature and revelations of God, whether or not there is a God and the relationship between scientific ideas and religion.

We will also be looking at the teachings and practices of two religions, Buddhism and Christianity.

Course content includes:

### Unit One

#### **Buddhism**

- Beliefs and teachings (The Dharma) including: The Three Marks of Existence, the Four Noble Truths, and the Eightfold Path.
- Practices including: worship and festivals.
- Buddhist ethics including: the moral precepts and metta, the principle of loving kindness.

#### Part Two

#### **Christianity**

- Beliefs and teachings including: The nature of God, Jesus and salvation and atonement.
- Practices including: Worship and festivals, the sacraments and evangelism.
- The work of the Church including: a development agency, mission and persecution.

### Unit Two

#### **Philosophy and Ethics**

- Religion and life including: the origin of the universe, human life and issues around animal rights, abortion and euthanasia.
- The existence of God and revelation which includes: the design and first cause arguments, the nature of revelation and enlightenment.
- Religion, Crime and Punishment which includes: a study of good and evil, mental health issues, retribution, deterrence and the concept of forgiveness.
- Human Rights and social justice which includes: the concept of equality, freedom, sexism, racism and treatment of the poor, refugees and people trafficking.

The course will be assessed by two examinations at the end of two years of study. Each examination will last 1 hour 45 minutes. There is no coursework.

Religious Studies will teach you the skills and fill in the background knowledge that you will find useful in further studies in any subject area. The units chosen will help develop your thinking skills as well as your writing skills. Logical argument and structure are important in most study areas and this subject can help you develop good practice that you will find invaluable. Religious knowledge can help you with the study of English Literature, Art, Music and History through direct knowledge of beliefs and religious thinking. The options chosen will also help in approaches to Science. In addition we will continue to develop your skills in evaluation, empathy, enquiry, reflection and questioning.

Religious Studies can lead to further studies in Religion, Ethics and Philosophy, Anthropology, Archaeology, History, English, Art and Music, as well as medicine and other areas of Science. It can prove useful for many careers that involve people and it is generally useful because we now live in a multi-faith country that faces constant change and development in thought and technology which we must learn to adapt to. Ethics help you to explore these challenges and develop a way of facing the changes to come.



## Textiles Design: AQA

Textiles Design is the creation of artefacts and products in woven, knitted, stitched, printed or decorative textiles that might have a functional or non-functional purpose.

### **Areas of study**

Students are encouraged to work in a range of areas within textile design, such as those listed below:

- Art textiles
- Fashion design and illustration
- Costume design
- Constructed textiles
- Printed and dyed textiles
- Surface pattern
- Stitched and or embellished textiles
- Soft furnishings and/or textiles for interiors
- Digital textiles
- Installed textiles.

### **Knowledge and understanding**

Students develop knowledge and understanding using sources that inspire the development of ideas, relevant to textile design including:

- How sources relate to cultural, social, historical, contemporary, environmental and creative contexts which might be determined or influenced by functional or non-functional considerations
- How ideas, feelings, forms and purposes can generate responses that address personal needs or meet external requirements, such as client expectations and any associated constraints.

### **Skills**

Within the context of textile design, students demonstrate the ability to:

- Use textile design techniques and processes, appropriate to students' personal intentions, for example weaving, felting, stitching, appliqué, construction and printing methods.
- Use media and materials, as appropriate to students' personal intentions, for example inks, yarns, threads, fibres, fabrics, textile materials and digital imagery.

### **Assessment**

#### **Component 1: Portfolio, 60% of GCSE**

##### **What is assessed?**

A portfolio that will contain a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work undertaken during the course of study.

#### **Component 2: Externally set assignment, 40% of GCSE**

##### **What is assessed?**

A student responds to a chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper, where they get a preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time.

**Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study this at A level.**