



Stoke High School - Ormiston Academy

Year 9 Options 2021

Respect Inspire Achieve



Contents

Page 2	Welcome
Page 3	What Happens in Year 10 and 11?
Page 4	After Stoke High School
Page 5	Careers Information
Page 6	Next Steps
Page 7	English Baccalaureate
Page 8	Core Subjects
Page 9-10	English Language
Page 11-12	English Literature
Page 13-14	Mathematics
Page 15	Science GCSEs
Page 16-17	Combined Science
Page 18-19	Triple Science
Page 20	Non-Examination Based Subjects
Page 21-22	Acting
Page 23-24	Art and Design
Page 25-26	Business Studies
Page 27-28	Children's Play, Learning and Development
Page 29-30	Digital Information Technology
Page 31-32	Engineering
Page 33-34	French
Page 35-36	Geography
Page 37-38	Health and Social Care
Page 39-40	History
Page 41-42	Hospitality and Catering
Page 43-44	Music
Page 45-46	Photography
Page 47-48	Sport
Page 49-50	Travel and Tourism

Welcome to Our 2021 Year 9 Options Booklet

Over the next few weeks, you will be making important decisions in your education and begin to plan for your future career. A lot of help, guidance and support will be available to you from your Head of Year, our Careers Advisor, your subject teachers and form tutors. The choices you make now are very important as they will form the basis of your future career options, so take time to ask questions and use the resources available to you.

Stoke High School's core values of 'Respect, Inspire, Achieve' underpin our curriculum and therefore inform the options that we offer to our students. Our KS4 provision builds on the content in KS3, allowing students to specialise and study their chosen subjects in greater depth, preparing for a series of examinations in May/June 2023.

We want to **inspire** students to aim high so they have a huge variety of careers and options available to them. Each subject page, details potential careers so why not research some of these when preparing to choose your options?

We want to support you to **achieve** the best possible outcomes so please take advantage of the support that is being offered to you.

We have already begun to provide guidance, and over the next few weeks we will be supporting you in understanding your own strengths and weaknesses to help you to select courses in which you have a real aptitude as well as interest and enthusiasm.

- Autumn Term PSHE Topic 'What does my future look like?' You have already explored this and visited various careers websites.
- Options Assembly - Thursday 28th January.
- Subject Introductions - All options subjects have spoken to you about what their GCSEs involve.
- This booklet gives a detailed summary of all options subjects along with video guides from each subject leader posted on our website.
- Virtual Parents Meeting - Tuesday 2nd March. This will be a short 20 minute presentation with the opportunity to ask questions.
- Virtual Form Tutor Meeting - Thursday 4th March. This will allow you to discuss your options with your tutor.
- Virtual Parents Evening - Thursday 11th March. This will allow you to speak to your subject teachers.

The final date for making decisions is 19th March.

Remember that you have a great many strengths and skills, play to these and you will achieve a good set of results and enjoy the process too! We look forward to you progressing to year 10 and enjoying the new range of opportunities here at Stoke High School.

Do feel free to contact me personally if you have any questions.

Best wishes,

Claire Welsby
Assistant Principal

After Stoke High School

Young people are required by law to stay in education or education with training until the age of 18, which offers the following options to year 11 leavers:

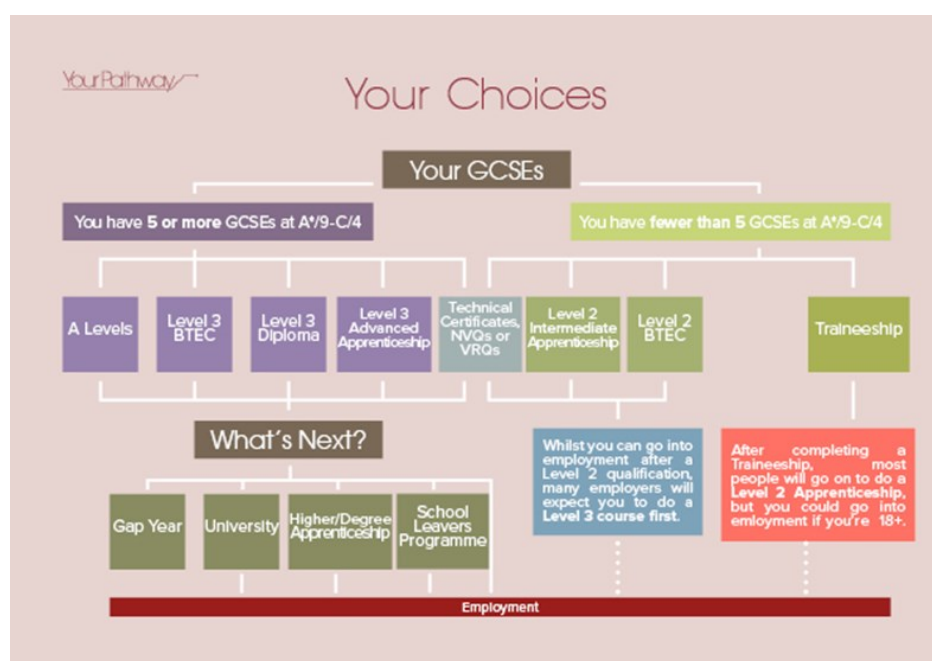
1. Full time education such as sixth form or further education college
2. Work-based learning such as apprenticeship or traineeship

During years 10 and 11, you will have the opportunity to meet representatives from Suffolk One, Suffolk New College and the Apprenticeship Scheme to learn about the provisions available at 16+.

During year 11, you will have the chance to take part in mock interviews, visit Suffolk One and Suffolk New College or sign up for an apprenticeship if this is your aim.

The Academy has an appointed Higher Education Champion, employed by the University of Suffolk, who works in school to support year 9 - 11 students in planning their path to higher education. She is available to answer questions from students and parents to help you make informed decisions about your options after high school and will be undertaking one-to-one interviews with every year 9 student to discuss your GCSE options, career goals and progression routes.

Mrs Toogood, the Careers Advisor, will be available to answer any queries about your options.



What Happens in Year 10 and 11?

The Core Curriculum:

All students in years 10 and 11 will follow a basic “core” of subjects. This consists of English, mathematics and science all taught to GCSE level, along with physical education.

Option Choices:

In addition to the core curriculum, students will choose **four “options”** to study during years 10 and 11, leading to GCSE, BTEC or an equivalent qualification. It is important that the choices made will not restrict the student in years to come in terms of sixth form, college or university entry, or employment and training possibilities.

What is the GCSE?

This stands for General Certificate of Education and is open to all. GCSE subjects are graded 1 - 9, with 9 being the highest grade. All GCSE subjects are assessed at the end of the course and students are encouraged to select as wide a variety as possible.

What are BTECs?

These are qualifications undertaken in vocational (work related) subjects. They are level 2 qualifications, equivalent to GCSEs, and tend to emphasise coursework to a greater extent than the examination component.



Careers Information

There's no "right" way to choose your GCSE options, but it does help if you think about your future when making your decisions. For example, if you know wholeheartedly that you want to be a doctor, then choosing subjects related to that job (like physics, chemistry and biology) will certainly be useful.

What career do I want to have?

You should also consider whether your chosen career will require you to get more qualifications in the future. For example, in order to become a doctor, you'll also need to have A-levels and then go on to study medicine at university. Although it may seem like a long way away, you might want to consider what qualifications you'll need to get into university, because the subjects you take at GCSE level could have an impact.

Should I keep my GCSE options open?

On the other hand, if you are unsure what career you want in the future (like most students in years 10 and 11), then you should probably aim to keep your options open.

Should I take the same GCSE subjects as my friends?

A lot of students make the mistake of choosing the same subjects as their friends. Although being in the same classes as your friends has its advantages, you should bear in mind that everybody is different, and everyone has subjects that they're better at than others. Just because your friends are taking a certain subject, that doesn't mean that you should take it too.

Should I choose my GCSEs based on my teachers?

Although it can be tempting to choose your subjects based on what teacher you might get, we suggest that you resist. Everyone has their favourite teachers but there's no guarantee of who you'll get for your GCSEs. You should base your decisions on the subject itself rather than the teacher who will be teaching you.

Further Information:

Careers noticeboard in main corridor next to the Learning Support room

Academy website [starting-out.pdf](#) (stokehighoa.co.uk)

BBC Bitesize GCSE Options: Everything you need to know about choosing your GCSE subjects - BBC Bitesize

Academy Contact: Mrs Toogood

Next Steps

You will be asked to select one option and one reserve choice from each of the four option blocks. You must choose history and/or geography.

It is important to gain as much information as possible from a wide range of sources, such as:

- This booklet
- Assemblies
- Parents
- Teachers
- Internet and other sources



- ✓ Choose courses that match your interests, abilities and talents.
- ✓ Choose courses that help prepare you for your chosen career.
- ✗ Choose a subject because you like the teacher.
- ✗ Choose a subject because your friends are choosing it.

Fill in the Options Preference Sheet on Microsoft Forms. Deadline for submission is 19th March.

Once all sheets from your year group are collated, you will have the chance to discuss your choices with us.

The Academy reserves the right to make the final decision on whether a course will run and, on the type of course to be followed by each student.

The great majority of courses will be entirely suitable, and you can be assured that sympathetic consideration will be given to the needs of every student.

The English Baccalaureate

This is not a separate qualification, but a way to recognise where students have gained a grade 5 or better across a core of academic subjects – English, mathematics, science, history or geography, and a language.

It was introduced in 2012 as a way of grouping together several academic qualifications into a single measure.

If students are considering degree-type courses in the future, then it is important that they consider options that would enable them to gain the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). We are obviously unable to predict what universities may require in the future, but some are already requesting that students have a GCSE in a language.

To gain the EBacc, students must gain GCSE grade 5 or better in the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- 2 Sciences – either Combined Science or two from Biology, Chemistry or Physics
- History or Geography
- Language

Subjects which contribute towards the EBacc are identified in this booklet by the following symbol:



If you would like further information about the EBacc please talk to Mrs Welsby or Mrs Toogood.

The Core Subjects

All students must study the following in years 10 and 11:

- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- Science – Biology, Chemistry, Physics
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Personal and Social Development

The information in this handbook gives greater detail about each course. Core subjects are identified in this booklet by the following symbol:



English Language

Students will be following the AQA English Language course, learning how to analyse and produce their own fiction and non-fiction texts. The programme of study is designed to consolidate and build on analytical and creative skills taught in Key Stage 3.

Assessment/Exam Syllabus:

This GCSE is assessed by two examinations in the summer of year 11. All texts are unseen.

Paper 1:	Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing Examination: 1 hour 45 minutes – 50% weighting
Paper 2:	Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives Examination: 1 hour 45 minutes – 50% weighting

Students will receive a GCSE graded 1-9, with 9 being the highest.

Further Study/Careers:

Anyone wanting to study English Post 16 will need to have studied and gained at least a grade 4 at English Language; it is also a pre-requisite for university entrance.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Author
- ⇒ Advertising Executive
- ⇒ Journalist
- ⇒ Social Media Manager
- ⇒ Librarian
- ⇒ Lawyer
- ⇒ Public Relations Specialist
- ⇒ English as a Foreign Language Teacher
- ⇒ Digital Copywriter
- ⇒ Fundraiser

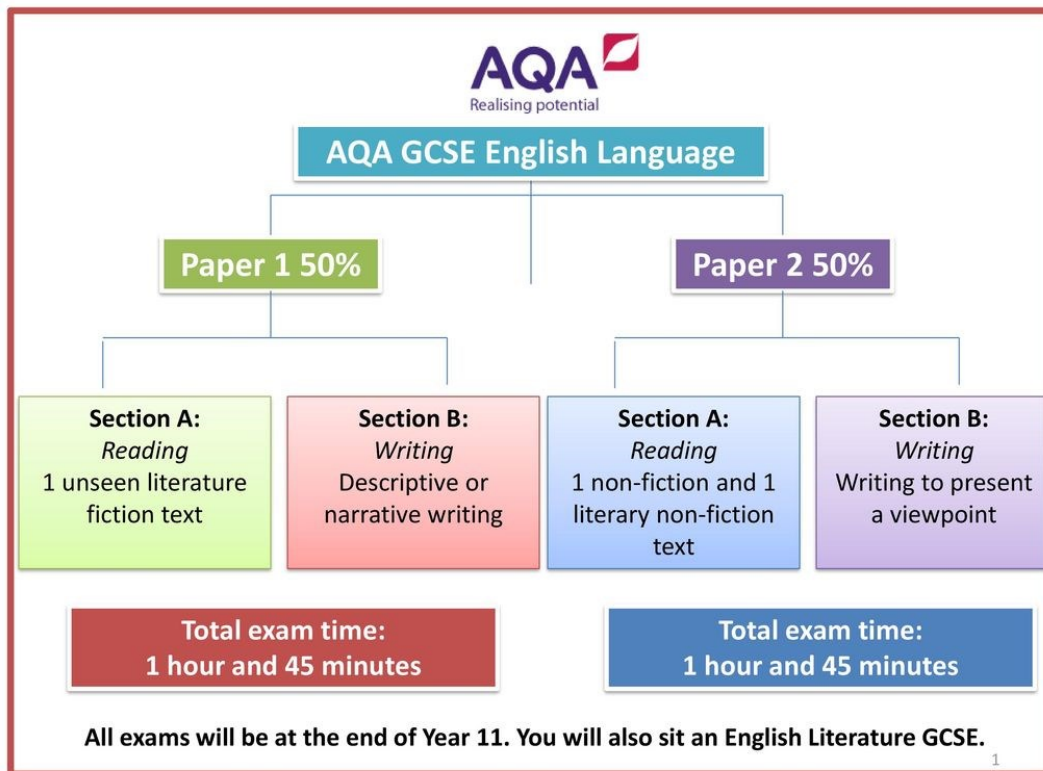
Which Famous People Have Studied English?

Emma Watson, famous as Hermione in the Harry Potter films, studied English at Brown University in the U.S.

Singer/Songwriter **John Legend** studied English Literature at the University of Pennsylvania.

Presenter of University Challenge, **Jeremy Paxman**, studied English at Cambridge University.

American film-makers **Steven Spielberg** and **Martin Scorsese** both hold Bachelor's degrees in English.



Academy Contact:
Mr O'Callaghan or Mr Nijhawan

English Literature

Students will be following the AQA English Literature course which focuses on literary analysis skills. It requires students to study texts from the English Literary Heritage, as well as more modern prose, drama, and poetry.

Assessment/Exam Syllabus:

This GCSE is assessed by two written examinations, all assessments are closed book assessments: meaning that students are not allowed copies of the texts studied during the examination.

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel
Examination: 1 hour 45 minutes – 40% weighting

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry, including unseen poetry
Examination: 2 hours 15 minutes – 60% weighting

Students will receive a GCSE graded 1-9, with 9 being the higher grade.

Future Study/Careers:

Anyone wanting to study English Literature Post 16, will need to have studied and gained at least a grade 4 at GCSE.



**Academy Contact:
Mr O'Callaghan or Mr Nijhawan**

Mathematics

At Stoke High School, we want to develop learners who can not only function mathematically and numerically in the real world but who have no fear of mathematics in whatever guise it comes. We want to develop learners who can appreciate the relevance of mathematics beyond the classroom, so that they are prepared for their life's prospects beyond their GCSEs. In our classrooms we want to create a culture whereby students see themselves as mathematicians - who are engaged, enthused and proud of the rich and varied diet that they receive and from the accomplishments that they achieve.

At Key Stage 4, we follow the Pearson Edexcel scheme of learning. The emphasis in year 11 is on exam preparation and, as such, each class has a bespoke programme based on the analysis of performance data obtained from GCSE practice papers completed by each class in mock exams.

Students will either embark on the higher tier which means the student can achieve a grade 9 or the foundation tier, which means the highest grade they can achieve is a grade 5.

The Pearson Edexcel GCSE papers are split into three papers:

Paper 1: Non-calculator (90 minutes)

Paper 2: Calculator (90minutes)

Paper 3: Calculator (90 minutes)



Each paper is marked out of 80 and, together, they cover a considerable depth of the curriculum content, including number, geometry, probability, algebra, statistics, ratio and proportion.

In year 10, students complete GCSE practice papers at the end of each term and end of year examination in the sport hall. Year 11 complete their first mock examinations usually in November/ December and the second one at the end of January/early February.

For our enrichment, we offer an AQA Additional Maths course which is a course highly valued by further education institutions and is offered by invitation only. We actively promote the use of digital learning platforms such as Hegarty Maths, Maths Genie, and Corbettmaths.

Future Study/Careers:

Anyone wanting to study Mathematics Post 16 will need to have studied and gained at least a grade 4 at Mathematics GCSE; it is also a pre-requisite for university entrance.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Accountant
- ⇒ Actuary
- ⇒ Commodity Broker
- ⇒ Data Analyst
- ⇒ Investment Banker
- ⇒ Statistician
- ⇒ Trader
- ⇒ Software Developer
- ⇒ Cryptographer
- ⇒ Fraud Investigator

Which Famous People Have Studied Mathematics?

Robert Turing studied Maths at King's College, Cambridge University and went on to play a crucial role in the Allied victory in WW2 by cracking the Enigma Code.

Dara O'Briain, host of Mock the Week, has a degree in Maths and Theoretical Physics from University College Dublin.

Rachel Riley, presenter of Countdown, has a Maths degree from University of Oxford.

Author of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, **Lewis Carroll**, studied Maths and later taught the subject at Christchurch College, Oxford.



Academy Contact:
Mr Ateba

Science

All students will either study:

Combined Science – worth two GCSEs

Or

GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics

Further Study/Careers:

Anyone wanting to study Science Post 16 will need to have studied and gained at least grade 4 in Science.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Clinical Biochemist
- ⇒ Environmental Scientist
- ⇒ Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology
- ⇒ Research Scientist
- ⇒ Nanoscientist
- ⇒ Ergonomist
- ⇒ Forensic Scientist
- ⇒ Pharmacist



Which Famous People Have Studied Science?

Sir David Attenborough graduated with a Natural Sciences degree and went on to become famous for presenting wildlife documentaries.

Lisa Kudrow earned a degree in Psychobiology before she rose to fame as Phoebe in Friends.

Brian Cox achieved a First Class Honours degree in Physics at Manchester University.

Brian May, lead guitarist with Queen has a PhD in Astrophysics from Imperial College London.

Former Prime Minister, **Margaret Thatcher**, graduated with a degree in Chemistry from Oxford University and then worked as a Research Scientist before going into politics .

Combined Science

This course identifies the activities and experiences learners will come across in everyday life, and links these to scientific ideas and their implications for society. It provides the opportunity to acquire the scientific skills, knowledge and understanding for life as a citizen.

The Combined Science GCSE is broken down into four main themes:

Working Scientifically:

- Development of scientific thinking
- Experimental skills and strategies
- Analysis and evaluation
- Scientific vocabulary, quantities, units, symbols, and nomenclature

Biology:

- Cell biology
- Health, disease, and the development of medicine
- Coordination and control
- Photosynthesis
- Ecosystems
- Inheritance, variation, and evolution

Chemistry:

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Structure, bonding, and the properties of matter
- Chemical changes
- Energy changes in chemistry
- The rate and extent of chemical changes
- Chemical analysis
- Chemical and allied industries
- Earth and atmospheric science

Physics:

- Energy
- Forces
- Forces and motion
- Waves in matter
- Light and electromagnetic waves
- Electricity
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure

Assessment/Exam Syllabus:

Students will be assessed in examinations at the end of year 11.

Assessments of student's practical skills form at least 15% of the final grade and will be assessed in these final exams.

The exams will be tiered; either Foundation (grades 1-5) or Higher (grades 4-9). GCSE Combined Science provides a distinctive and relevant experience for learners who wish to progress to level 3 qualifications.



Academy Contact:
Mr Parkinson or Mrs Tankard

Triple Science

GCSE Biology/GCSE Chemistry/GCSE Physics

Content:

Students who enjoy science and hope to continue the subject at A level can study Triple Science. Biology, Chemistry and Physics will be studied as three separate GCSEs. This course aims to give students opportunities to:

- Develop their interest and enthusiasm for biology, chemistry and physics
- Develop a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods
- Acquire and apply skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works and its essential role in society
- Acquire scientific skills, knowledge and understanding necessary for progression to further learning

The three separate GCSEs cover the contents of the Combined Science GCSE as outlined previously, along with extra subject-specific material.

The Topics Covered Are:

Biology

- Cell biology
- Organisation
- Infection and response
- Bioenergetics
- Homeostasis
- Inheritance, variation and evolution
- Ecology



Chemistry

- Atomic structure
- Bonding
- Quantitative chemistry
- Chemical changes
- Energy changes
- The rate and extent of chemical change
- Organic chemistry
- Chemical analysis
- Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Using resources

Physics

- Energy
- Electricity
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure
- Forces
- Waves
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Space

Assessment/Exam Syllabus:

Each GCSE is assessed by a written GCSE taken at the end of year 11. Students will take exams in either Foundation tier (grades 1-5) or Higher tier (grades 4-9).



**Academy Contact:
Mr Parkinson or Mrs Tankard**

Non - Examination Based Subjects

At Key Stage 4, we continue to deliver the following non-examination based subjects:

- Religious Education
- Personal and Social Development
- Physical Education

Religious Education and Personal and Social Development

During this course, students will develop the skills to equip themselves for the future.

They will have the opportunity to reflect on their roles within society and debate important ethical issues that they may come across in life.

They are encouraged to be aware of their own self-development to manage their own career paths independently.

The course covers the national requirements of religious education, citizenship, sex and relationship education, drugs education and Information and guidance on careers.



Physical Education

At Key Stage 4 the physical education department endeavours to deliver the most effective programme as outlined under the National Curriculum. This may include a broader range of sports and activities covered in depth, particularly in year 10. Sports offered include: athletics, health and fitness and games (badminton, basketball, tennis, table tennis, softball, football, dodgeball and volleyball).



In year 11, students are offered a more focused choice of activities to participate at a more advanced level. The intention is for the student to call upon skills previously learnt and extend these, not only as a participant but also as an umpire, referee, scorer, organiser and/or leader. Students have the choice to re-visit certain activities during years 10 and 11, dependent upon their interests.

Acting

This BTEC Level 2 Tech Award is a practical and vocational course that is aimed at students with an interest in acting and who would like to extend their natural talents in the performing arts field.



You will learn a range of acting techniques: exploring voice, movement and developing a character, as well as understanding rehearsal skills and preparing for a performance. You will study various performance styles, including the repertoire and influences of key practitioners and playwrights. To support these skills, you will study improvisation and acting skills and show your response to a variety of stimuli. In addition to the acquisition of these specialist skills, you will also learn about working in the wider performing arts industry and the jobs and opportunities available.

The course will interest students who have already been involved in Key Stage 3 drama and taken part in productions either in or out of school.

How is the Course Structured?

The BTEC consists of three specific skills studied over three years which are individually assessed with Pass, Merit and Distinction grades at Level 1 and Level 2.

The course will explore working in the performing arts industry, performing arts production processes, acting skills and techniques, and responding to a performance brief.

How Will I Study?

You will learn through practical performance-based workshops, rehearsals, personal study, performances, and coursework. You will be expected to be capable of developing your own ideas as well as being able to work as part of a team to achieve common goals.

Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Performing Arts.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Actor
- ⇒ Community Arts Worker
- ⇒ Choreographer
- ⇒ Dancer
- ⇒ Drama Therapist
- ⇒ Music Producer
- ⇒ Music Therapist
- ⇒ Theatre Director

Which Famous People Have Studied Performing Arts?

Matt Lucas and **David Walliams** studied Performing Arts at Bristol University before moving into comedy.

The Duchess of Sussex, **Meghan Markle** studied Performing Arts at Northwestern University in Illinois before becoming a successful actress and then becoming UK royalty.

Kit Harrington, who went on to fame in Game of Thrones, studied at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

Denzel Washington The Triple Golden Globe winner received his Bachelors of Arts degree in Drama and Journalism from Fordham University in New York.



Academy Contact:
Mrs Beacham

Art and Design

Your Art and Design GCSE course has been designed to produce well rounded artists and art critiques who can apply their skills to a variety of medias and outcomes. You will have opportunities to create and develop artwork in response to a given theme. This may take the form of painting, drawing, print design, photography, and sculpture.

- You will investigate, experiment, and gather information.
- You will create your work in a range of materials to show that you are adaptable, creative, and skilled.
- You will produce work in your sketchbook showing development of ideas, drawing and research.
- You will draw from primary source and show evidence of this through photography.
- You will be expected to photograph your sources outside of lessons to broaden research opportunities.
- You will produce final pieces to conclude your sketchbook research.
- You are expected to be organised and able to meet deadlines.
- You will be expected to work on your sketchbook outside of the classroom.

You will be assessed in four areas in GCSE Art & Design.

The assessment objectives focus on developing contextual understanding, refine use of media, drawing and recording from observation, and presenting final intentions.

Coursework (60%)

You will produce a portfolio meeting all assessment objects in response to a theme provided by your teacher. Lessons will offer the chance for you to develop and expand your experience with medias and techniques and you will be encouraged to take and celebrate risks.

Final Examination (40%)

A 10-hour timed test. For this timed test you are given a theme which is set by the exam board in January of year 11. You are expected to develop a body of work exploring different media and techniques in consultation with the teacher. The preparation/sketchbook work which you use to produce the outcome will count for most of your total marks. You will sit a 10-hour exam over two days to create a final piece in response to your sketchbook preparation.

Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Art and Design.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Graphic Design
- ⇒ Fashion Design
- ⇒ Gallery Curator
- ⇒ Web and Game Design
- ⇒ Book Illustrator
- ⇒ Fine Artist
- ⇒ Special Effects Make Up Artist
- ⇒ Tattoo Artist
- ⇒ Architectural Illustrator



Which Famous People Have Studied Creative Subjects?

Alan Rickman, famous as the Hogwarts potions teacher, Severus Snape, but actually set up his own design agency before becoming an actor.

Freddie Mercury studied art and graphic design, later becoming the lead singer of Queen, and designing the band's logo.

Peter Capaldi studied at the Glasgow School of Art before pursuing an acting career that has included playing the twelfth Doctor in *Doctor Who*.

Adam Sandler studied Fine Art at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.

Academy Contact:

Miss Roxburgh



Business Studies

Aims of the Course:

The business world shapes daily life, determines our working activity, and makes goods and services available for us to buy. The challenge of working and the income it provides enables us to fulfil our ambitions. Business is often at the cutting edge of change in modern society.

In this course we will cover:

- Business concepts and issues concerning the activities of a business.
- The purpose and role of a business from spotting an opportunity through to the growth of an established business.
- The role of marketing and human resources.
- The role of operations in business activity (production processes, quality of goods and services, customer service, and working with suppliers).
- The role of finance in business activity (sources of finance, costs, profit and loss, cash flow).
- How business responds to external influences, such as ethical and environmental considerations, the economic climate and globalization.
- The interdependent nature of business.

We consider how Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic have impacted on business activity. Our key aims are to understand how businesses work and to analyse how business decisions are made. The course is therefore interesting and highly relevant.

Nature of the Course:

You will study six units: Business Activity; Marketing; People; Operations; Finance; Influences on Business; The Interdependent Nature of Business.

Business Studies is not just a course for people who want to own their own business. Be prepared to learn lots of new vocabulary and to develop your skills of application, analysis, and decision-making. You will be expected to take responsibility for becoming an independent learner, researching how real-life businesses operate.

Assessment:

We follow the OCR Specification (J204). There are two GCSE Business Studies examinations to complete at the end of year 11. Each paper lasts 1 hour 30 minutes, carries 80 marks and accounts for 50% of your GCSE grade.

Paper 1: Business activity, marketing and people

Paper 2: Operations, finance and influences on business

Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Business Studies.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Business Analyst
- ⇒ Accountant
- ⇒ Management Consultant
- ⇒ Actuary
- ⇒ Social Media Manager
- ⇒ Market and Consumer Research Analyst
- ⇒ Insurance Underwriter
- ⇒ Human Resources Manager
- ⇒ Economist



Which Famous People Have Studied Business?

Golfer **Tiger Woods** attended Stanford University to study Economics.

Actor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** earned a degree in Business and International Economics from University of Wisconsin.

Russell Howard started his stand-up career while studying Economics at University of West of England.



Academy Contact:
Miss Lloyd

Child's Play, Learning and Development

The BTEC Level 2 course in Children's Play Learning and Development is a vocational course that anyone wishing to pursue a career in working with children aged 0-8 years of age should take as an option.

Throughout the course you will learn about the different ways that children play, how adults support this play, the milestones of a child's development, the types of development and the different ways that early years nurseries and childcare practitioners work to support children's learning and development.

There are also opportunities to visit early years centres and nurseries to observe children at play, the way learning is structured and how key workers engage with the children in their care.

The course consists of 3 units studied over the 2-year course; each unit is graded Pass, Merit and Distinction.

Unit 1 – External written exam: Patterns of Child Development

Unit 2 – Internally assessed coursework unit: Promoting Children's Development Through Play

Unit 3 – Internally assessed coursework unit: The Principles of Early Years Practice



Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further post 16 courses in Children's Play, Learning and Development.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Early Years Teacher
- ⇒ Play Therapist
- ⇒ Children's Nurse
- ⇒ Children's Nanny
- ⇒ Nursery Worker
- ⇒ Playgroup Worker
- ⇒ Community Nursery Nurse
- ⇒ Creche Worker
- ⇒ Play Worker in Hospital

Which Famous People are Involved in Supporting Children's Play, Learning and Development?

Music producer **Pharell Williams** founded a charity to provide underprivileged children with music education.

Pop superstar **Madonna**, who has two adopted children from Malawi, has set up a charity there to support the country's orphaned children.

Football legend **David Beckham** is a UNICEF Ambassador and founded his own children's charity The Victoria and David Beckham Charitable Trust providing wheelchairs to children in need.

Harry Potter author, **J.K. Rowling** founded a charity to get children out of orphanages through foster care and adoption



Academy Contact:
Mrs Beacham

Digital Information Technology

Aims of the Course:

In year 10, students on the DIT course focus on project planning, designing and creating user interfaces. In year 11, students create dashboards, using Excel functions, to present and interpret data. We also discuss cyber security, virtual teams, legal and ethical codes of conduct, personal management and communication, how different user interfaces meet user needs, and how organisations collect and use data. In this course we will specifically cover:

Component 1 – Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques (30%)

- Explore user interface design and development principles
- Discover how to develop and review a digital user interface
- Investigate how to use project planning techniques to manage a digital project

Component 2 – Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data (30%)

- Explore how data impacts on individuals and organisations
- Develop a dashboard using data manipulation tools
- Draw conclusions and make recommendations on data intelligence

Component 3 - Effective Digital Working Practices (40%) - Examination

- Explore how modern information technology is evolving
- Understand what cyber security is and how to safeguard against it
- Consider legal and ethical issues in data and information sharing
- Students will acquire technical knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts

Assessment:

We follow the Pearson Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Digital Information Technology.

Component 1 - Internally assessed - 30% of final grade

Component 2 - Internally assessed - 30% of final grade

Component 3 - Examination in year 11 - 40% of final grade

Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Digital Information Technology.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Software Engineer
- ⇒ Mobile Application Developer
- ⇒ Video Game Designer
- ⇒ IT Security Specialist
- ⇒ Web Developer
- ⇒ Network Administrator
- ⇒ Database Administrator
- ⇒ Computer Systems Analyst
- ⇒ Computer Network Architect
- ⇒ Computer and Information Research Scientist



Which Famous People Have Studied Digital Information Technology?

Founder of Facebook, **Mark Zuckerberg**, studied Computer Science at Harvard University.

Actor **Liam Neeson** studied Computer Science and Physics at Queen's University, Belfast.

Larry Page and Sergey Brin, who are co-founders of the biggest and most successful search engine in the world, Google, met at Stanford University where they were both studying Computer Science at PhD level.

Academy Contact:
Miss Lloyd



Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Engineering.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Aerospace Engineer
- ⇒ Medical Engineer
- ⇒ Software Engineer
- ⇒ Nuclear Engineer
- ⇒ Environmental Engineer
- ⇒ Automotive Engineer
- ⇒ Civil Engineer

Which Famous People Have Studied Engineering?

Elon Musk who founded SpaceX and Tesla.

Jeff Bezos who founded Amazon achieved an Electrical Engineering degree at Princeton.

Rowan Atkinson, famous for playing Mr Bean, has a Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering from Queens's College, Oxford.

Neil Armstrong, the first person to set foot on the Moon, gained a Masters Degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Southern California.

Super Model **Cindy Crawford** has a degree in Chemical Engineering from Northwestern University, Illinois.

Academy Contact:

Miss Curtis



French

In years 10 and 11 languages become even more interesting. Lessons will move at a faster pace and class sizes will be smaller. This allows you to have more personal attention from your teacher. You will study French in more detail, building up your confidence in using the language.

Assessment/ Exam Syllabus: Pearson GCSE

You will study various sub-topics under the contexts of identity and culture, local area, holiday and travel, school, future aspirations study and work, and the international and global dimensions. All four skills – listening, reading, writing, and speaking- are tested in an end of course exam in year 11.

Further Study/Careers:

We cannot stress enough the usefulness of a foreign language in your lives. French is one of the very few languages spoken all over the world and is ranked the sixth most widely spoken language.

Employers value the confidence and communication skills demonstrated by language learners, and the opportunities to use languages in the working world are both endless and exciting.

Aside from the opportunities for your career, your travelling experiences will be much more rewarding, and you will learn about and get to know different people and cultures all over the world.



Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in modern foreign languages and contributes to the EBacc qualification which can support university applications.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Fashion Buyer
- ⇒ Airline Pilots and Cabin Crew
- ⇒ Journalist/Foreign Correspondent
- ⇒ Charity Worker
- ⇒ In-game Translator
- ⇒ Telecommunications
- ⇒ Transport and Logistics
- ⇒ Intelligence and Law Enforcement

Which Famous People Have Studied Languages?

Marathon runner **Paula Radcliffe** completed a degree in French, German and Economics.

Coldplay frontman **Chris Martin** has a degree in Languages (Greek and Latin).

Illusionist **Derren Brown** studied German at University of Bristol.

Olympic Gold Medal athlete, **Christine Ohuruogu**, has a degree in Linguistics from University College London.

Many celebrities are fluent in several languages including actors **Bradley Cooper** and **Will Smith**, singer **Rita Ora**, tennis player **Novak Djokovic**, Match of the Day Presenter **Gary Lineker** and Football Manager **Jose Mourinho**.

"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart" Nelson Mandela



Academy Contact:
Mrs Howe

Geography

Geography provides the opportunity for students to understand more about the world, the challenges it faces and their place within it. The course deepens understanding of geographical processes and the impact of change and of complex people-environment interactions.

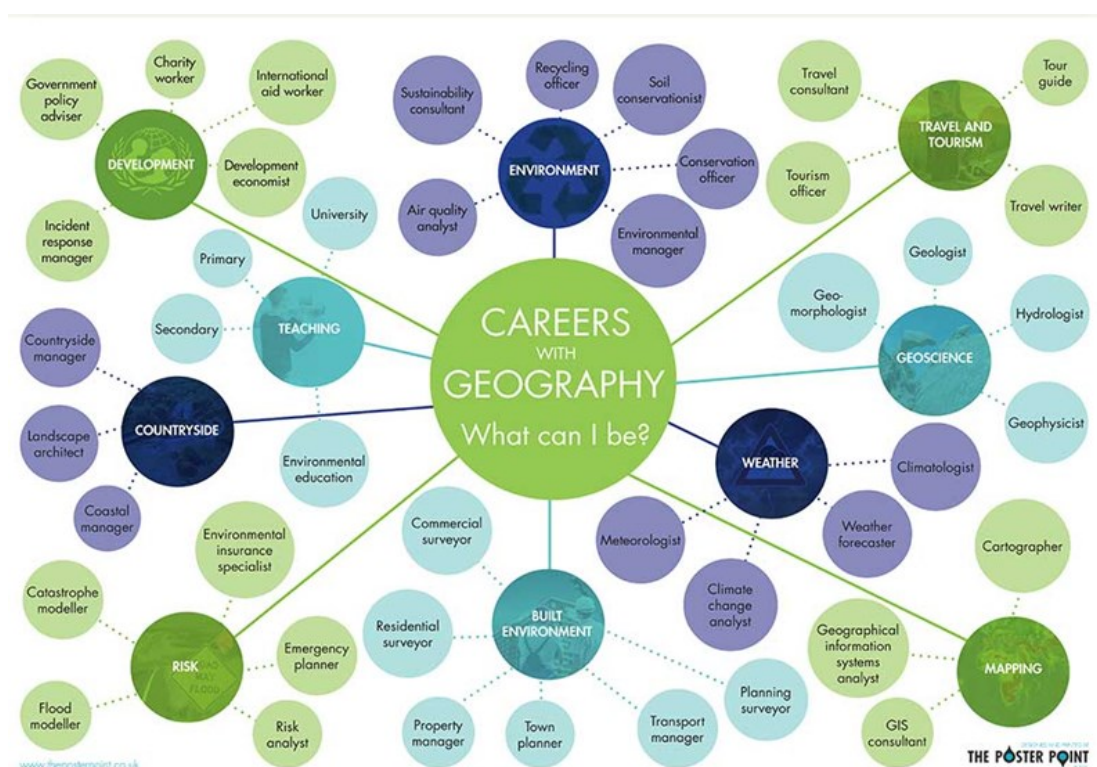
It highlights the links between places and environments at different scales and develops students' competence in using a wide range of geographical investigative skills. Geography enables young people to become globally and environmentally informed and thoughtful, enquiring citizens.

GCSE Geography requires students to extend their Locational Knowledge and to show competence in maps, fieldwork and geographical skills. Students will study local, national, and international concepts surrounding different economies, environments, and ecosystems.

Assessment/Exam Syllabus: Eduqas GCSE

The specification includes a fieldwork component, which will be assessed in the final exams. Students will be awarded a GCSE graded 1 – 9.

Further Study/Careers:



Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Geography and contributes to the EBacc qualification which can support university applications.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Cartographer
- ⇒ Landscape Architect
- ⇒ Environmental Consultant
- ⇒ Wildlife Enforcement Officer
- ⇒ Urban Planner
- ⇒ Tour Guide
- ⇒ Geological Technician
- ⇒ Surveyor

Which Famous People Have Studied Geography?

Basketball star **Michael Jordan** graduated with a degree in Geography from the University of Carolina.

Prince William studied Geography at St Andrews University.

Mother Theresa taught Geography at covenant schools in India.

Comedian and Actor **Hugh Dennis** has a Geography degree from St John's College, Cambridge.



**Academy Contact:
Mr Moxon / Mrs Huggins**

Health and Social Care

This BTEC level 2 course in Health and Social Care is suitable for anyone wishing to pursue a career in the health and social care sectors; this includes care homes, hospitals, specialist practices and support networks.

Throughout the course you will develop knowledge and understanding of the various types of care practices, how to recognise health indicators and create care plans, whilst understanding the different types of development that affect individuals throughout the life stages and factors that influence health and development.

There may also be the opportunity to engage with health and social care practitioners to develop a wider understanding of how the topics studied work within the industry.

The course is split into 3 units studied over the 2 years; each unit is graded individually as a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Component 1 - Internally assessed coursework: Human Lifespan Development

Component 2 – Internally assessed coursework: Health and Social Care Services and Values

Component 3 - Externally assessed written exam: Health and Wellbeing



Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Health and Social Care.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Social Worker
- ⇒ Care Worker
- ⇒ Child Protection Officer
- ⇒ Clinical Psychologist
- ⇒ Cognitive Behavioural Therapist
- ⇒ Counsellor
- ⇒ Occupational Therapist
- ⇒ Nurse
- ⇒ Midwife
- ⇒ Probation Officer
- ⇒ Youth Worker

Which Famous People Have Studied Health & Social Care?

Before becoming a critically acclaimed actor, **Samuel L. Jackson** majored in Social Work at Atlanta's Morehouse College.

Michelle Obama majored in Sociology at Princeton University before she became First Lady of The United States.

Olympian **Jessica Ennis Hall** graduated with a degree in Psychology from the University of Sheffield.

Jo Brand was a qualified Psychiatric Nurse before starting her career in comedy.

Academy Contact:

Mrs Beacham



History

The study of History at GCSE will inspire students to develop their understanding of the people, periods and events studied and enable them to think critically, weigh evidence, make informed decisions and develop perspective and judgement. This, in turn, will prepare them for a role as informed, thoughtful, and active citizens. The discipline of History, and a knowledge and understanding of the past will also provide them with a basis for wider learning and study and help them understand their own identity and significant aspects of the world in which they live and

GCSE History will include:

- Crime and Punishment c1000 to present day, focusing on Whitechapel 1870-1900
- The Cold War, 1941-91
- Elizabethan England, 1558- 88
- Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39

British history will form a minimum of 50% of the assessed content over the full course.

Assessment/Exams Syllabus:

The history specification will assess knowledge and skills at the end of year 11, with students being awarded a grade 9 - 1.



Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in History and contributes to the EBacc qualification which can support university applications.

Notable careers:

- ⇒ Historian
- ⇒ Archivist
- ⇒ Archaeologist
- ⇒ Conservationist
- ⇒ Film Production Assistant
- ⇒ Researcher
- ⇒ Tour Guide
- ⇒ Heritage Manager

Which Famous People Have Studied History?

J.K. Rowling, author of the Harry Potter series, has a B.A. in Classics from Exeter University.

Sacha Baron Cohen, aka Ali G, earned a degree in History from Christ's College, Cambridge.

Presenter **Jonathan Ross** has a degree in Modern European History.

Prince Charles holds a degree in Archaeology, Anthropology and History from Cambridge University.

Comedian **Al Murray**, famous for the Pub Landlord character, has a Modern History degree from Oxford University.



Academy Contact:

Miss Iles

Hospitality and Catering

The Level 2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering provides a core depth of knowledge and a range of specialist skills that will support your progression to further learning and employment in the catering industry.

It gives you:

- Knowledge and understanding of the Hospitality and Catering industry
- The ability to plan, prepare and cook exciting dishes
- The practical skills required by the Catering industry

Assessment/Exams Syllabus:

The course comprises two units; one being externally assessed by a written examination.



Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further post 16 courses in Professional Cookery.

Notable careers:

- ⇒ Professional chef
- ⇒ Food scientist
- ⇒ Restaurant manager
- ⇒ Wedding planner
- ⇒ Sommelier
- ⇒ Event manager
- ⇒ Barista
- ⇒ Front of house manager
- ⇒ Microbrewer
- ⇒ Food technologist

What famous people have studied Hospitality and Catering?

Celebrity Chef, **Jamie Oliver** studied Hospitality and Catering at Westminster Catering College.

Gordon Ramsey studied Hotel Management at North Oxfordshire Technical College.

Many celebrities, such as **Channing Tatum**, **Robert De Niro** and **Jay-Z** are successful restaurant owners.



Academy Contact:

Miss Dookhee

Music

BTEC Tech award in Music Practice provides students with an understanding of the Music industry as well as learning and developing performance and compositional skills. Much of the course focuses on performing and composing, as well as developing in other areas such as music promotion and event management. Therefore, it is essential that students learn to play a musical instrument with an appropriate instrumental teacher. We have brilliant visiting instrumental music teachers who can support you with your instrumental practice. Students will be expected to take part in projects from a performer, composer or producer's point of view. You will gain an understanding of various genres of music and develop analysis and evaluation skills.

Assessment/Exam Syllabus:

The course is made up of three different units studied over two years:

Unit 1 - Music Makers – Exploring the music industry (30%)

Unit 2 - Developing Music Skills (performing, composing, producing) (30%)

Unit 3 - Responding to a Musical Brief (40%)

Unit 3 is assessed externally in the form of a two-hour written report, taken in in the summer of year 11. The remaining units are all coursework based and will be assessed based on weekly practical work and a portfolio produced during the two years.



Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Music Performance and Production and Music Technology.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Musician/Performer
- ⇒ Songwriter/Composer
- ⇒ Music Therapist
- ⇒ Music Journalist
- ⇒ Sound Technician
- ⇒ Recording Engineer
- ⇒ Tour Manager
- ⇒ Radio Producer
- ⇒ DJ
- ⇒ Blogger

Which Famous People Have Studied Music?

Adele, Amy Winehouse and Jessie J are all graduates of The Brit School, a British Performing Arts school located in South London.

Bill Clinton, the 42nd President of the United States studied Music at the Institute of Art, Music and Science in California.

Lady Gaga studied Music at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.



Academy Contact:

Mrs Davies

Photography

This course is classed as an Art course that has many technical features; macro photography, 2 & 3 point lighting, black and white images, studio photography, some basic animation, colour manipulation and photographic editing skills, that allow the creative juices to flow. This course allows you to plan and play with light, looking at various techniques that can impact the way photographs are seen and used in industry.

Students will be using DSLR and various formats of cameras: mobile phone and pin hole camera to explore photographic elements to manipulate and understand images and become proficient in their use.

This course is broken down into two units:

- Unit 1 is an internally assessed unit at 50% of the final mark
- Unit 2 is an externally set unit at 50% of the final mark

Students need to learn how to manipulate and adjust images to create stories. They will look at the development of colour and see how colour is used with light. This course also looks at the science of photography and the dynamic range of technical skills and analytical skill that photographers use.

Students will be expected to use their own cameras (DSLRs or compact cameras or phone cameras) to take images every week and upload to their own spaces. This course has a 60% written element and a 40% photographic element. It has four main objectives: Refine, Develop, Present and Record which are all outlined within the unit portfolios.

Students will have to produce three final pieces per unit for an exhibition in the summer.



Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Photography.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Film Set Photographer
- ⇒ Forensic Photographer
- ⇒ Portrait & Wedding Photographer
- ⇒ Sports Photographer
- ⇒ Insurance Claims Photographer
- ⇒ Fashion Photographer
- ⇒ Photojournalist
- ⇒ Nature, Wildlife and Travel Photographer
- ⇒ Television Camera Operator
- ⇒ Film/Video Editor

Which Famous People Have Links to Photography?

Rock Singer and star of The Hunger Games, **Lennie Kravitz**, exhibits and sells his photographic work.

Chris Packham, best known by BBC viewers for presenting The Really Wild Show and Springwatch is an award-winning Wildlife Photographer.

Canadian singer/songwriter **Bryan Adams** is also a professional photographer, covering advertising campaigns, magazine shoots and photographing the Queen for her official Jubilee portrait.



Academy Contact:
Mrs Dookhee

Sport

This BTEC has been designed to provide an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of Sport. It has been developed to:

- Encourage personal development through practical participation and performance in a range of sports and exercise activities
- Give students a wider understanding and appreciation of health-related fitness, sports, and exercise through a selection of optional specialist units
- Encourage students to develop their people communication, planning and team working skills

Assessment/Exams Syllabus:

Core Units:

- Fitness for Sport and Exercise
- Practical Sports Performance

Specialist Units:

- Applying the Principles of Personal Training
- Leading Sports Activities

Each unit contributes 25% to the overall grade – Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*.

Unit 1 is externally assessed using an onscreen test – Pearson sets and marks the test. The assessment must be taken by the learner under examination.

The other units will be internally assessed by modules completed over the two-year course and, wherever possible, will be assessed in a practical environment.

Additional Information:

This course gives students the opportunity to develop a range of personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in the working life.



Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Sports.

Notable careers:

- ⇒ Exercise Physiologist
- ⇒ Sports Dietitian
- ⇒ Sports Journalist
- ⇒ Sports Agent
- ⇒ Sports Photographer
- ⇒ Sports Psychologist
- ⇒ Professional Sports Person
- ⇒ Sports Official

Which Famous People Have Studied Sports?

Edwin Der Sar, Manchester United Goalkeeper, has an International Master of Sport Management degree.

Olympic Gold Medallist, **Victoria Pendleton**, achieved a BSc in Sport and Exercise Science at University of Northumbria.

Olympic Rower and World Number 1, **Heather Stanning**, has a degree in Sports Technology from Bath University.



Academy Contact:

Mrs Lockett

Travel and Tourism

This BTEC qualification provides an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of travel and tourism giving you the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. You will explore some of the key areas within the sector, including accommodation, tourism development and promotion, transport, and visitor attractions. You will investigate the importance of the travel and tourism sector to the UK and investigate different types of customer and UK destinations. You can also study international travel and tourism. You will develop key skills, such as research, report drafting and writing skills, and project management.

It offers students the opportunity to gain the broad knowledge needed to adapt to the ever-changing roles needed to survive in the global economy. Throughout the course, students will use problem solving, communication, ICT, literacy, and numeracy skills. The units offered look at UK and world-wide tourism as well as the role of customer service within the industry. By completing this course students will gain an understanding of the travel and tourism sector to support progression into further study or junior roles within the sector.

Assessment/Exams:

There are four modules, each worth 25% of the final grade:

Unit 1 – Written exam – The UK Travel and Tourism Sector

Unit 2 – Controlled assessment – UK Travel and Tourism Destinations

Unit 3 – Controlled assessment – The Travel and Tourism Customer Experience

Unit 4 – Controlled assessment – International Travel and Tourism Destinations



Travel and Tourism

Further Study/Careers:

Taking this course will enable students to undertake further Post 16 courses in Travel & Tourism.

Notable Careers:

- ⇒ Travel Agent
- ⇒ Tourist Guide
- ⇒ Resort Representative
- ⇒ Port Operative
- ⇒ Interpreter
- ⇒ Hotel Receptionist
- ⇒ Heritage Officer
- ⇒ Cruise Ship Steward
- ⇒ Airline Cabin Crew
- ⇒ Travel Writer

Which Famous People Have Links to Travel & Tourism?

Lionel Messi of FC Barcelona is the face of Turkish Airlines and Qatar Airways and is currently the most influential travel celebrity. His “selfie shootout” for Turkish Air was the most-watched travel video on YouTube.

Chris Hemsworth, as Thor, is the face of the Australian Tourist Board, encouraging travellers to plan their next trip to the “Land Down Under”.

Singer **Rihanna**, who is from Barbados, is Tourism Ambassador for this Caribbean island.

Actors **Robin Williams, Michelle Pfeiffer and Kevin Costner** all worked in the tourism industry at U.S. Disney Resorts before making the break into acting.



Academy Contact:
Miss Iles