

Y9 Options 2023



What is the course about?

Students opting for Art will be introduced to a broad range of creative experiences. They will gain understanding of a wide variety of materials to improve technical ability and develop their own personal response from a given starting point to produce ambitious final pieces. The course aims to encourage individuality and nurture skills that prepare students for a variety of future pathways.



What topics will I study?

Students will look at contextual influences such as artists, cultures and events. Within the Year 10 GCSE, pupils will experience a broad range of approaches giving them the opportunity to be experimental with both ideas and media.

In Year 10 and 11 students continue to build on prior skills with a clear focus on specific artists and themes. The Portfolio Unit culminates in a large scale final outcome. Previous topics covered include Cubism, Pop Art, Graphic Design, Photography, Typography and Portraiture.

What activities will there be?

We have strong links with the Reading University Institute of Education Art Department, giving students the opportunity to visit the department and use the facilities. We also organise collaborative trips with the University that enrich students Art experience.

The Art Department offer a range of after school catch up sessions which students are encouraged to attend. In the past this has proved a successful contributor in helping students realise their potential.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

60% of the Art GCSE is Portfolio. This encapsulates all work completed within class and home learning. The remaining 40% is an Externally Set Task from the exam board completed towards the end of Year 11.

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Art GCSE leads to a range of courses at Further and Higher Education. Previous Emmbrook students have specialised in various disciplines including: Fine Art, Fashion, Architecture, Animation, Illustration and Graphics, Theatre Design and Games, Web and Product Design. Universities, including the Russell Group Institutes, recognise the importance of students undertaking a rounded and diverse curriculum. All Emmbrook students who apply for a Post 16 & 18 Art related course are successful in their application.

Exam board and useful website? AQA Art & Design

Visiting galleries and exploring the websites of The Tate Galleries, The National Gallery, The Royal Academy, Hayward Gallery, Serpentine Gallery, White Cube and the Saatchi Gallery.

What is the course about?

This course gives you an understanding of how businesses and organisations work, as well as what makes them successful. It gives you a basic understanding of all areas of running a business which is useful whether you want to start your own, or be part of an existing firm.

It also teaches some basic economic theory that allows students to understand the news and the world around them.



What topics will I study?

In theme 1 we learn about how to spot business opportunities, how to start the business and then how to make it effective. We also look at how external factors, including Interest rates and inflation could affect the small business.

In theme 2 we learn about how to grow a business and how decision making may change based upon growth. We then look at the various functional areas including marketing, operations, finance and human resources.

What activities will there be?

We include a mix of activities including paired work, videos, advert projects, research tasks, long written answers, multiple choice questions and class discussion, The course has been planned to include a variety of projects that reinforce learning. We recommend podcasts, films and books that will add to your subject knowledge.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

There is no coursework in the Business GCSE course.

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Business GCSE acts as an excellent bridge for a variety of courses Post 16 including Economics and Business A-Levels as well as finance and vocational courses.

An understanding of organisations and how external economic factors affects us is an invaluable life skill.

Examboard and useful website?

Edexcel

<http://tinyurl.com/emmbus9to1>

What is the course about?

Studying elements of the Classical world that helps students understand the literature, history, culture and archaeology of Greek and Roman civilisations. Students will look at a range of sources to help develop their understanding of life in the ancient world and how it has been remembered. Hollywood epics have immortalised characters such as Cleopatra, Caesar and Alexander the Great. This course will help students understand the world that formed these individuals.

**What topics will I study?**

1. Myth and religion – this involves a study of the Gods of Greece and Rome and their role within the world. We will also look at the concept of the ancient hero in looking at the stories of Heracles/Hercules. We will then study the practise of religion, format of temples and the festivals that the ancients were involved in.
2. War and warfare – this will involve a study of Athens, Sparta and Rome. We will look at the armour and weapons of the ancient armies as well as look at key military engagements, such as Thermopylae and Salamis.

What activities will there be?

Lots of interactive learning, exam practice, group work, individual research projects, films and trips. We will visit relevant sites (if the national situation permits), such as The British Museum to take part in workshops with artefacts and a visit to Roman military sites.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework? No coursework

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College):

Students can use Classical Civilisation for a number of different A Levels or degrees including History, Classics, RS, law, government and politics. Classical Civilisation is a well-regarded academic subject that helps develop well rounded students that have an increased understanding of the world they live in. Classical Civilisation would be a useful addition to a university application and can be pursued at A level.

Exam board and useful website?

OCR - <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/classical-civilisation-j199-from-2017>

What is the course about?

The computer science GCSE will teach you about Computer Systems covering all the physical parts involved in a computer and Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming which is what you need to be able to write Computer programs and solve problems using computers. You will also learn to program and we offer exposure to Python throughout the two years of study. If you already use a programming language and would like to continue using this then we can discuss.



What topics will I study? The course is split into three main sections:

Computer Systems

This is where you will learn about the physical part of a computer and their networks. The topics include: Computer Systems architecture • Memory • Storage • Wired and wireless networks • Network topologies, protocols and layers • Network security • System software • Moral, social, legal, cultural and environmental concerns

Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

This is where you start to think like a programmer. You will cover: Programming techniques • Translators and facilities of languages • Algorithms • High- and low-level programming • Computational logic • Data representation

The Practical Part

You will write lots of different programs each required to solve a given task. You will learn to solve problems which are quite advanced in nature. You will be required to write sub programs also which, when brought together will solve a bigger task. The department will always look to support any students who has a particular interest in programming especially if they have already been learning in a particular language.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

The course is graded 100% on the final examinations. There is no graded coursework.

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Obviously if you want to become a programmer, work in the IT or Games industry then Computer Science will start you off on this path however it is important to realise that Computer Science underpins Maths, Science, Animation, Web Design, Media and many other career paths which you may be considering. It is a rigorous GCSE which will be viewed favourably by colleges, 6th form centres and employers.

Exam board and useful website?

OCR - <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j277-from-2020/>

Creative Media Production at The Emmbrook is a hands-on course exploring the media sectors of publishing, (newspapers, magazines, books, e-magazines, comics) moving image/audio (TV programmes, films, video shorts, animations, radio broadcasts) and the interactive sector (websites, mobile applications, mobile games, video games, online games).

You will explore these sectors while:

- developing valuable technical skills and techniques in the Adobe Suite, producing a digital media product in response to a brief & reviewing and reflecting on the process and outcome.



The Aims of the course are:

- to learn about the sector and investigate media products across the sub-sectors, develop technical skills and techniques in the chosen discipline(s) of audio/moving image, publishing and interactive. Apply digital skills and techniques by responding to a digital media brief.

Throughout the course you will

Explore the media sub-sectors while: developing valuable technical skills and techniques in the Adobe Suite, producing a digital media product in response to a brief, reviewing and reflecting on the process and outcome.

What activities will there be?

The majority of the course is taught in the practical form and are taken in a computer room, using the computers most lessons. The course starts by exploring the media sub sectors by researching and discussing existing media products. We learn what media language is and how products are creative for a specific audience and purpose. We then look at developing our production skills in the Adobe Suite by producing a range of products for an intended audience. Examples include but not exclusive to:

- Creating a film posters, magazine cover/article
- Photography & image editing
- Filming and audio recording & editing

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

60% of the final mark comes from two components internally assessed. The third component is externally assessed

What about after Key Stage 4?

Students can continue on to further

- vocational and academic study at level 2 and level 3, as well as apprenticeships and traineeships.
- A-Level Media

Exam board and website?

Pearson EdExcel

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/creative-media-production-2022.html>

What is the course about?

Students opting for Design Technology in Year 10 will be introduced to a wide variety of new materials and processes, building on their prior knowledge from KS3. The course aims to encourage individuality and enables students to develop skills across a range of materials. This is a GCSE course with a coursework project and written exam at the end of Year 11.

**What topics will I study?**

Students will look at contextual influences such as; key designers, significant inventions and cultures. Within Year 10 students will engage with all areas of Design Technology through a diverse range of projects. Materials covered include; paper and card, timber, metals, plastics, textiles and electronics.

In Year 10 and 11 students continue to develop their skills and knowledge but are able to specialise in a particular material for example, woodwork or textiles. Students work with a clear focus on specific design movements and themes to design products to specific briefs. The coursework culminates in a final working prototype and a portfolio of research and design.

What activities will there be?

We have strong links with the Reading University Institute of Education Art and Design Technology Departments, giving students the opportunity to visit the department and use the facilities.

We offer a range of after school catch up and revision sessions which students are encouraged to attend, particularly in the lead up to exams.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

50% of the Design Technology GCSE is coursework. This encapsulates all work completed within class and home learning. The remaining 50% of the course is a written exam paper completed at the end of Year 11.

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Design Technology GCSE leads to a range of courses at Further and Higher Education. Careers could include Graphic Designer, Fashion Design, Architect, Web Designer, Games Developer, Mechanical Engineer, Software Programmer. The nature of the skills developed means that Design Technology is a perfect stepping stone for any career with creative, analytical and problem solving attributes.

Exam board and useful website?

Exam board – AQA. <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/gcse/design-and-technology-8552/introduction>

Taking Drama at Emmbrook will teach you how to analyse and stage a scripted performance effectively, techniques for devising your own work, rehearsal techniques and practitioner skills, how to polish work to a very high standard and how to analyse and evaluate live theatre effectively. You will also study a 'Set Text' which will be 'Noughts and Crosses' by Malorie Blackman.

The aim of the course is to give you a wide range of experiences with different types and aspects of drama so that you have a comprehensive understanding of theatre.



Throughout the course you will study:

Year 10

Practitioner Workshops
 Response to Live Theatre
 Set Text – Noughts and Crosses
 Devised Performance Exam

Year 11

Set Text – Noughts and Crosses
 Response to Live Theatre
 Scripted Performance Exam
 Final Exam Preparation

What activities will there be?

The majority of the course is taught in the practical form. Lessons are taken in a studio and you will be asked to work in pairs, small groups and large groups to create a variety of pieces of drama. Alongside the performance work, you will be given chance to experiment with stage design, using the department's wide range of equipment. You will explore the work of theatre companies, directors and practitioners and learn to apply these to your work. You will be taught how to imaginatively write about your performance ideas for a published play as well as how you have created your own, original performance work. You will also be taught how to deconstruct live theatre that we will take you to see!

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

60% of the final mark comes from 2 performance exams – Devised and Scripted

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Drama at Emmbrook is a perfect route into A-level Theatre Studies that we offer in the sixth form. Both our GCSE and A-Level courses are the AQA exam board and so go very well together. However, Drama is a highly sought after subject in both college and the workplace if A-Levels are not for you.

Exam board and website?

AQA (www.aqa.org.uk)

What is the course about?

You will learn to understand, speak and write in French. You will have opportunities to express your opinions, and to learn about life in other countries. The work builds on your achievements so far at Key Stage 3 - in fact you have already covered some Foundation Level GCSE work.

**What topics will I study?**

You will cover some of the Key Stage 3 topics in greater depth, such as Family, School, Free time and Food. The course also features new topics, such as Technology in everyday life, Healthy living, Career choices and Marriage and Partnerships.

What activities will there be?

You will learn to understand spoken and written French across a range of topics. You will write and speak about many of these topics, expressing opinions and using a range of language. Lessons will contain activities in each of the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. You will also develop translation skills.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

All four skills will be tested in examinations at the end of the course. You may enter at Foundation or Higher level.

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

You can study French at A level. The language learning skills you develop will also help you to learn other languages. Languages are important in a wide range of jobs as so many companies and professions operate in a global market.

Examboard and useful website?

AQA <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages>

There are also many other useful websites you can access for language learning.



What is the course about?

Geography helps us to appreciate how places and landscapes are formed, the physical systems that govern our world, how people and environments interact, the consequences that arise from our decisions and the diverse range of cultures and societies that exist. Students will learn this through a range of skills that they will develop from data gathering on fieldwork trips to evaluating the consequences of climate change and analysing recent events from the news.



What topics will I study?

Unit 01: Our Natural World. Topics include global hazards, changing climate, distinctive landscapes and sustaining ecosystems with a fieldtrip to the South Coast to collect data.

Unit 02: People and Society. Topics include urban futures, dynamic development, the UK in the 21st century and resource reliance with a fieldtrip to Windsor to collect data.

Unit 03: Geographical Exploration. This includes both geographical skills and a decision making exercise where students have the opportunity to give their opinion on an issue backed up with evidence from a resource book.

What activities will there be?

Students will learn in a variety of ways including group work activities, presentations, independent research and traditional teaching methods. Also, data collection for both coastal and urban environments through primary and secondary techniques will be undertaken.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

None. The qualification comprises of 3 exams at the end of the course. Students will however be asked questions in their exams about the 2 days of fieldwork that they will undertake.

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Geography offers real opportunities for progression. It provides a solid grounding in terms of human and physical geography which overlaps and supports other subjects such as the sciences, business studies, economics and history. Students become confident utilising many formats of information such as digital sources, articles, books and news reports. They also learn to be critical and evaluative; these skills are highly respected and transferable to further education and the workplace.

Exam board and useful website?

OCR B – Geography for Enquiring Minds

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-geography-b-geography-for-enquiring-minds-j384-from-2016/>

Subject:

BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 in Health & Social Care course overview 2022

Optional

What is the course about?

This is a vocationally-related qualification that takes an engaging, practical and inspiring approach to learning and assessment. The BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care provides students with a broad foundation of knowledge required for further study in this field including nursing, social care sectors, community roles such as a youth worker, occupational therapist and many more.



All learners will study three mandatory topics as follows:

- Human Lifespan Development
- Health and Social Care Services and Values
- Health and Well-being

In the first topic, learners will explore different aspects of growth and development and the factors that can affect this across the life stages. They will explore the different events that can impact on individuals physical, intellectual, emotional and social (PIES) development and how individuals cope with and are supported through changes caused by life events.

In the second topic, learner will explore different health and social care services and how they meet the needs of the service users. They will also study the skills, attributes and values required when giving care.

In the third topic, Learners will explore the factors that affect health and well-being, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators, and person-centred approaches to make recommendations to improve an individual's health and well-being.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

60% is two non-exam internal assessment set by the exam board (6 hours each)

40% external assessment set and marked by Pearson, completed under supervised conditions

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

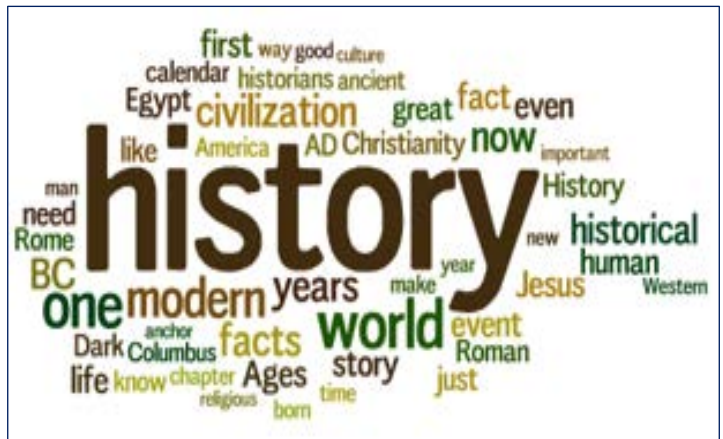
Students who achieve a level 2 in health and social care may choice to study this further to achieve a level 3 which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move onto higher education by studying a degree in the health or social care sector.

Exam board and useful website?

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/health-and-social-care.html>

What is the course about?

History helps us understand the world we live in. We answer 'why' questions in helping unpick the mystery of human actions. Studying elements of history which range from c.1000 to modern times. We study the actions of famous individuals and the lives of ordinary people, working out how and why people have shaped the world.

**What topics will I study?**

1. Crime and Punishment in England c.1000 – Present day. We look at the development of law enforcement and consider questions such as the abolition of capital punishment. We address a number of case studies: witchcraft, the gunpowder plot and the police investigation into Jack the Ripper.
2. Superpower relations and the Cold War and Early Elizabethan England. We study the conflict between the USA and the USSR following the Second World War. We will also look at the key events and characters of Elizabethan England, such as Mary Queen of Scots, Francis Drake and the Spanish Armada
3. Weimar and Nazi Germany. This looks at Germany at the end of WW1 and looking at how Hitler emerged as leader of Germany. We study the experiences of young people, women and minority groups.

What activities will there be?

Lots of interactive learning, exam practice, team work, individual research projects, films, historical documentaries and trips! If the situation improves, trips include a Crime tour of Whitechapel in London centred around Jack the Ripper, a revision workshop on Nazi Germany (with artefacts) at the Imperial War Museum and a trip to Berlin (subject to demand).

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework? No coursework

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College):

Students can use History for a number of different A Levels or degrees. History is a well-regarded academic subject which can open doors to graduate schemes, careers in teaching, law, journalism, government and many more. It teaches you how to write at an extremely high level, research, process information and present information in a variety of different. These transferable skills are very valuable in all areas of work and further education.

Exam board and useful website?

Edexcel: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>



What is the course about?

Students opting for Hospitality & Catering will be introduced to a wide range of knowledge and skills required within the catering industry.

They will gain the skills and techniques that mirror industry practice. As well as the ability to plan, prepare and cook an extensive variety of dishes.



What topics will I study?

This course will enable learners to gain knowledge, understanding and skills relating to this specific vocational sector.

Unit 1: Hospitality and catering industry:

Focuses on different types of providers, legislation, food safety and the roles and responsibilities within the sector.

Unit 2: Hospitality and catering in action:

This encompasses practical skills for planning, preparing, cooking and presenting.

What activities will there be?

Students will explore a broad range of topics based around Hospitality & Catering. This will focus on careers in the food industry and understanding the range of opportunities available. The emphasis of this course is on developing a range of practical skills, and students can expect to complete practical lessons regularly.

The Art and Design Department have strong links with Blue Apple, a local catering business who has worked with our students giving them the opportunity to visit and use the facilities. We also organise demonstrations and guest speakers in school from professionals to enrich our students' experience.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

The course offered is broadly equivalent to a GCSE grade 4-9. By the end of Year 11 students will complete level 1 & 2 of the vocational award.

Unit 1 40% Hospitality and catering industry

Unit 2 60% Hospitality and catering in action

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

After completing Level 2 Hospitality and Catering students have the opportunity to progress in other qualifications relevant to working in the sector, such as Food Science & Nutrition, Hospitality & Catering, Professional Cooking or Hospitality & Tourism Management. They can also go onto apprenticeships in industry.

Exam board and useful website?

WJEC Hospitality and Catering Level 1&2 Award

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering/hospitality-and-catering-level-1-2-award.html>

What is the course about?

This is a vocationally-related qualification that takes an engaging, practical and inspiring approach to learning and assessment. The Cambridge Nationals in Business and Enterprise provides students with a broad foundation of knowledge required for further study in business including the different types of business, career planning (including recruitment) and the role of enterprise in business



All learners will study three mandatory topics as follows:

- Enterprise and marketing concepts
- Design a business proposal
- Market and pitch a business proposal

The first topic underpins the wider learning in this qualification. Learners will develop essential knowledge and understanding of enterprise and marketing concepts, which can be applied to the other units within the qualification. Through the first topic learners will understand the main activities that will need to happen to support a start-up business, and what the key factors are to consider when starting up a business.

In the second topic, learners will develop the skills to design a business proposal to meet a specific business challenge. They will identify a customer profile for a specific product, complete market research to generate product design ideas, and use financial calculations to propose a pricing strategy and determine the viability of their product proposal. The knowledge and skills developed by completing this unit will assist learners in the third topic of this qualification.

In the third topic, learners will develop the skills to create a brand identity and promotional plan for their specific business product proposal developed in the second topic. They will develop pitching skills in order to pitch their business proposal to an external audience. Finally, they will review their pitching skills and business proposal using their learning, self-assessment and feedback gathered. The knowledge and skills developed by completing this topic

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

Coursework will account for 50% of the final grade in this qualification.

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Students who want to progress onto other related study, such as qualifications in Business

Exam board and useful website?

OCR - <https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/338513-specification.pdf>

Media is about mass communication. The media create products designed to **entertain** and **inform**. Whenever you are watching television, streaming films, scrolling through social media or listening to podcasts, you are consuming media. On the GCSE course, you will analyse how media products like TV programmes and music videos use **images, sounds, and language** to create meaning. You will learn about **media industries** and how media products are made. You will explore the concept of **audience**, asking why we are no longer considered passive consumers *of*, but active participants *in* media. Finally, you will consider the role of the media in shaping **representations** of people and issues, and ask how these influence our own identities and values. You will also learn to create your own media products.



What will be studied?

A range of media forms, such as: Television; Online Media; Advertising and Marketing; Film Marketing; Magazines; Newspapers; Social and Participatory Media; Music Video; Radio; Video Games

What activities will there be?

While 70% of the course is examined through written assessment, which requires you to develop analytical skills, there is a significant practical element where you have the opportunity to create music videos, magazines, television sequences, advertisements and more. In your practical work, you'll be able to apply what you've learned about the media in the production of your own media products.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

Assessment will consist of a mixture of examinations and non-examined assessment.

- Component 1: Exploring the Media - Written examination: 1hour 30mins, 40% of assessment
- Component 2: Understanding Media Forms - Written examination: 1hour 30mins, 30% of assessment
- Component 3: Creating Media Products - Non-exam assessment (coursework) 30% of assessment

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers, Sixth Form & College)

During the GCSE Media Studies course you will develop and practise a range of skills which will equip you for progression to A Level study. They will also help in other areas such as English, Humanities and Social Sciences. Over one hundred universities offer courses in Media in the UK. An A Level qualification in Media Studies, informed by study at GCSE level, helps you to move towards these courses, as well as to those in a range of other areas. If university is not for you, there is a huge array of career opportunities in the media; it is an industry that is growing very quickly. If you are interested in the idea of a career in TV and film production, advertising, journalism, interactive media, and digital marketing, technical production, special effects, web design and post-production, then studying Media at GCSE level is a great place to start. There has never been a better time to become a student of the media.

Exam board: WJEC/Eduqas

What is the course about?

You will learn about a wide-range of musical styles and genres through a mixture of listening and practical activities – composing and performing.

As well as studying specific topics, you will have the freedom to develop your own musical interests, particularly when composing and performing, using appropriate music technology. This course brings theory, listening and composition to life and links strongly to the world around us. It will allow you to broaden your mind and foster a love of all music – for all abilities and backgrounds.



What topics will I study?

1. Understanding music: Western classical tradition 1650-present (specific works/composers/styles/genres); Popular music; Traditional music. A combination of questions which involve listening to unfamiliar music as well as questions relating to the study of set works.
(Assessment – Listening Exam – 1 hour 30 minutes)
2. Performing music – two performances must be given and recorded (one solo and one ensemble). There is also a Music Technology option for these performances, in addition to those using instruments or voice.
3. Composing music – two compositions (one to a brief and the other a free choice).

What activities will there be?

A combination of activities which integrate the key skills of listening, performing and composing, and help you to develop your all-round musical understanding and theoretical knowledge. Much practical music-making alongside the study of particular topics and set works. There is a lot of scope for you to develop your music-making in ways that suit you as an individual, and that particularly interest you as a musician.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

60% Coursework – two performances (30%) and two compositions (30%).

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Any Music or Performing Arts further/higher education courses – Music, Music Technology and Sound Engineering. Careers – education (teaching) and the broader music industry, including theatre, video game and film industries, TV and radio. The course develops a range of transferable skills valuable in all areas of work and further education.

Exam board and useful website?

AQA Music (8271) www.aqa.org.uk



What is the course about?

GCSE PE helps students develop and maintain performance in physical activities, as well as understand the benefits to health, fitness and well-being. Students develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance. This will include understanding how the physiological and psychological state affects performance in physical activity and sport.



What topics will I study?

Component 1: The human body and movement in physical activity and sport includes topics on Applied anatomy and physiology, Movement analysis, Physical training and Use of data.

Component 2: Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical education and sport includes topics on Sports psychology, Socio-cultural influences, Health, fitness and well-being and Use of data.

Component 3: Practical performance in Physical Education and Sport focusses on helping students to perform effectively in different physical activities. Students are assessed on their practical skills and techniques as well as their ability to select and use tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas. They will also develop the ability to analyse and evaluate in order to improve performance as evidenced through coursework.

Further information can be found on a separate sheet entitled "Assessment At A Glance".

What activities will there be?

Students will learn through a combination of theory and practical lessons, taking account of the 60% / 40% weighting of the new qualification, respectively. Where suitable, some of the theory content will be delivered through practical sessions but students recognise that theory lessons will be taught and home learning tasks will be set on a weekly basis. Students will therefore need to have a genuine interest in studying the theory behind the subject and those factors which are important in leading an active, healthy lifestyle.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

40% (internally assessed, externally moderated). Students are assessed as player/performer in three different activities chosen from those set out in the specification (one team, one individual and one either/or). Each activity is marked out of 25, 10 marks for skills and 15 marks for performance in the full context of the activity (30% of grade). The verbal or written piece of coursework (non-examined assessment) will make up 10% of your final grade. You will be taught how to analyse and assess practical performance in a range of sports/activities before apply these skills to one activity of your choice. You will analyse and evaluate either your own performance or that of another

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

A good grade at GCSE will help you move on to any AS, Advanced GCE or Advanced VCE course. Alternatively, you may wish to consider a more vocational course such as Level 3 BTEC Sport. Employment opportunities where your skills will be particularly valued include the sport and leisure industry, travel and tourism, coaching and teaching. Or you may wish to follow this course for its' own sake because you enjoy physical activity and wish to learn more about improving your own and others performance and leading a healthy, active lifestyle.

Exam board and useful website?

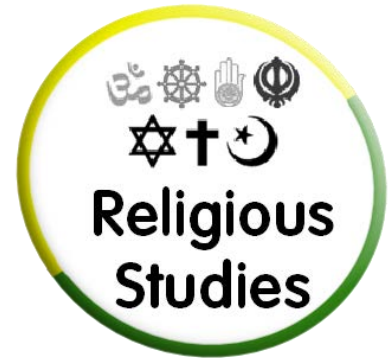
AQA Physical Education (Specification 8582)

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/>

Subject: Religious Studies

What is the course about?

GCSE Religious studies entail the study of the core religious beliefs, teaching and practices of two of the world religions. It also enables students to consider philosophical questions and ethical dilemmas which relate to modern life in Britain. The course challenges students with questions about belief, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling them to develop their own attitudes towards religious issues.



What topics will I study?

The course will involve the following topics:

- Key beliefs, teachings & practices of Christianity & Islam
- Worship, Festivals & Duties in Christianity & Islam
- Religious, Philosophical & Ethical Issues such as Peace & conflict, Capital Punishment and Abortion

What activities will there be?

The course will be delivered using a variety of teaching methods. Students will predominantly engage in written work and class discussions. Other activities will involve pair and group work, research tasks, project work and debates.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

Full Course GCSE Religious Studies is 100% exam based.

It will entail 2 exams to be sat at the end of Year 11. One exam is on Christianity and Islam, the other is on the 4 'Themes'

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Students will develop analytical & critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas and research skills. As a result of this, this course enables students to develop skills that are crucial for many subjects including Philosophy & Ethics, History, Geography, Sociology & English. It is also looked at positively in many career paths due to its understanding of a range of cultures, faith as well as the skills developed including the Armed Forces, Law, Teaching and public services

Examboard and useful website?

Exam Board: AQA Religious Studies Specification A

Website for GCSE specification: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062>



What is the course about?

Students opting for Three-dimensional Design in will be introduced to a broad range of processes and materials, focused around functional design and sculpture. The course aims to encourage individuality and nurture skills that prepare students for a variety of future pathways. This subject bridges Art & Design Technology, with the advantage of no written exam at the end of the course.

You cannot opt for both Fine Art and 3D Design, however, you can take 3D Design and DT.



What topics will I study?

Students will look at contextual influences such as three-dimensional artists, design movements, makers, cultures and the design process. Pupils will experience a broad range of approaches giving them the opportunity to be experimental with both ideas and materials. Previous topics have included; Cubism, Pop Art, natural and mechanical forms and Food.

In Year 10 and 11 students will consolidate skills gained and begin to develop a comprehensive portfolio demonstrating a wide variety of approaches to three-dimensional design.

What activities will there be?

We have strong links with the Reading University Institute of Education Art Department, giving students the opportunity to visit the DT and Art departments and use the facilities. We also organise collaborative trips with the University that enrich students' creative experience.

The Art & Design Department offer a range of after school catch up sessions which students are encouraged to attend. In the past this has proved a successful contributor in helping students realise their potential.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

60% of the Three-Dimensional Design GCSE is coursework. This encapsulates all work completed within class and home learning. The remaining 40% is an Externally Set Task from the exam board completed towards the end of

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Three-dimensional Design GCSE leads to a range of courses at Further and Higher Education, these include; Fashion design, Architecture, Product Design, Sculpture, Theatre, Film and Television, Design and Games, Animation and Web Design.

Exam board and useful website?

AQA Three-dimensional Design Visiting galleries and exploring the websites of local sculpture parks, The Design Museum, The Tate Galleries, The National Gallery, The Royal Academy, Hayward Gallery, Serpentine Gallery, White Cube and the Saatchi Gallery.