



# Year 8

# KS4 Options Guidance

# 2020



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# The Guided Process

Choosing your options for study in Years 9, 10 and 11 provides a major opportunity for you to shape what you learn and study for your GCSEs at Oasis Academy Brislington.

During the next few weeks, you will be making decisions about which courses you will take and study during KS4. You must read the information carefully to help you to understand which options are available to you and to help you and your parents to choose a sensible range of courses.

Alongside the information in this booklet, we encourage you to attend our Year 8 Parents' Evening on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 where you will be able to speak with your child's current teachers about their progress and ask any questions you may have regarding their choice of option subjects.

We also recommend you visit our website before making your final choices. A quick information video is available for many option subjects that provide more information before considering taking specific subjects. The aim of this video is to answer common questions and to give a flavour of what you will learn when taking a specific subject.

We offer a very wide variety of subjects in order to provide the most appropriate courses for you, including those leading to vocational and work-related qualifications. We always try to offer you the courses of your choice, **but we cannot guarantee that all choices will be met** because the number of groups running will depend on whether enough pupils choose a particular subject.

## Key Dates

**Year 8 Parents' Evening - 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (16.00 – 19.00pm)**

**Options Presentations will be held in the ELZ at 16.15, 17.15 and 18.15**

This is an opportunity for you and your parents to hear about the options process and look at completed work, which should give a better understanding of the level of work you, are expected to complete. You will also be able to speak to some of our student ambassadors who will be able to talk to you about their work and what is expected of them.

**Option choices forms will be accepted until Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March and should be deposited in the drop box by reception.**

This is to ensure that no student rushes to make their choices without giving this important decision due attention. This form can be found at the back of the options booklet.

After Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March we will look at choices of subjects made and construct a timetable to allow as many first choices as possible. **Occasionally, it is not possible to offer all the first choice combinations requested.** If this is the case, alternatives will be discussed with you and your parents.

**Option choices will be confirmed with students during the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020.**

# Choosing your courses

When considering your choices, you should already have one eye on the subjects you might want to study after Year 11. Whilst it is the case with some subjects that entry on to post -16 courses is dependent upon having studied that subject at GCSE, this is not always true. Please ensure you follow the five stages below when making your options choices.

## 1 - Information on the courses and qualifications

Please look at this booklet very carefully to seek information about courses you may want to study. Details about each course can be found on pages 10 - 26 and we recommend to read them all.

## 2 - Getting further information

Additional and more detailed information can be found in the following ways:

- Course overviews from staff: Subject teachers or Curriculum Leaders and Subject Coordinators will talk to students about the courses on offer. These will take place in lesson time or during assemblies during the Academy day, or students can go along to see the course leader.
- Information videos from most subject areas on the Academy website.

## 3 - Know yourself

- What are your personal interests? Subjects you like and enjoy most or you are most likely to be successful in.
- What are you good at? Use your last report to help you to recognise your strengths.
- How do you learn best? Every person prefers learning in different ways. Try to choose subjects that suit your learning style.
- Speak to teachers to ask if they think you will enjoy and be suited to a particular course.

## 4 – Discuss your ideas

It is important to make informed decisions and to involve as many people as possible:

Who can help?

### At School

Subject Teachers  
Your Tutor  
Your Student Progress Leader  
Members of staff who know you well  
Older students

### At home

Parents or Carer  
Older siblings or relatives  
Friends who know you well

## 5 – Choose the courses you think may be best for you

Look at the option choice form at the back of this booklet. Rank your choices by order of preference and your top 3.

**Remember this needs to be an informed choice so:**

- Make sure you have a clear idea of the work you are expected to complete in your chosen courses.
- Make sure you know what assessment will be involved in each course (coursework or examinations).
- Choose the courses for yourself; do not be influenced by the choices of your friends or how you feel about a particular teacher (your friends may be in different groups and the teacher may change).
- All the subjects you follow will be studied for three years so do your research to make sure you select what is best for **YOU**.
- Try to choose a sensible, broad and balanced range of courses, which you will enjoy following (ask your Tutors for their advice).

- Unless absolutely committed to a particular career, make choices, which will not limit your further education or career path. Remember that you may change your mind about what you want to do.

**6 - Complete your option choice form and get your parent/ carer to sign it. Return this to the drop box in reception. Courses will be allocated by demand and groups sizes. Please ensure that you have made the most appropriate choices and that your form is returned by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.**

## What does the Academy offer?

**All students** must take the following subjects to the end of Year 11:

ENGLISH (Language & Literature)	MATHEMATICS	SCIENCE
A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (French or German)	A HUMANITY (Geography or History)	PE
RSHE/ Citizenship / Work Related Learning		

### OPTIONS

Students choose two further subjects from the list below ensuring as broad a balance of subjects as possible:

**Art, BTEC PE, BTEC Health and Social Care, BTEC Performance, Business Studies, Computer Science, Construction, Hospitality and Catering, Music, Photography, Religious Studies and Triple Science.**

All students are required to indicate two reserve subjects on the options form they will receive.

## Careers related issues when choosing your option subjects

It is always worth bearing in mind that the subjects you study for GCSE could affect your career choices in the future. However, it is most important that your subjects are chosen for the right reasons and the best ones have to be that you really enjoy a subject and are good at it.

If you have a particular career in mind then it is always advisable to check which subjects are required for entry. To choose a subject that has presented difficulties in the past only because it is needed for a particular career is not such a good idea – if you get a low grade then this may not enable you to enter that career, and if the subject plays a large part in the job then it might not be the right path for you anyway. If you are considering higher education, then it is worth remembering that three or four subjects taken at GCSE might have to be studied to A Level for entry to university, meaning you are making choices for four rather than two years of study.

If you have no career ideas at present, that is perfectly normal at this stage. It is important however, to consider what career areas you could be ruling out with your choices and be sure that you are happy about them. Don't forget that there are equal opportunities in all subject choices so do not be swayed by people telling you there are 'boys' or 'girls' subjects.

You will receive advice and information over the coming months on careers related issues through your PSHE programme, including impartial information on all the possible pathways open to you after year 11.

The library is open every day and after school containing a wealth of career related information. There are also some very useful websites to aid your careers research:

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

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/>

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

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

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

[www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors)

Every student will also get the opportunity to have a one to one careers interview with an independent careers adviser either in Year 10 or Year 11..

**For more information please contact Dr I Goldberg (Vice Principal and Careers Lead).**

## Year 8 (for study in Year 9 2020/2021)

### All students will study:

5 lessons of English per week

4 lessons of Maths per week

4 lessons of Science per week

3 lessons of French/ German per week (or intervention) **(OPTION 1)**

1 lesson of Core PE per week

1 lesson of RSHE per week

3 lessons of either Geography or History per week **(OPTION 2)**

2 lessons of your High Value Option 1 per week  
2 lessons of your High Value Option 2 per week } **(OPTION 3)**

### You need to choose:

#### OPTION 1:

Either **French** or **German**

#### OPTION 2:

Either **Geography** or **History**

#### OPTION 3:

You will study TWO of the subjects listed below.

- GCSE Art, Craft & Design
- BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport
- BTEC Health & Social Care
- BTEC Performance
- GCSE Business
- Computer Science
- Construction
- Hospitality & Catering
- GCSE Music
- GCSE Photography
- GCSE Religious Studies
- GCSE Triple Science



# **OPTION 1:**

## **French or German**

**For further information contact: Mrs E Reppold**

**Exam board and course code: AQA GCSE French/ AQA GCSE German**

**Qualification number French 8658/ German 8668**

## What will I study?

Students will study a variety of subjects in French under the five themes of:

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

The qualification is split into four skills units: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Students will follow either the foundation tier (grade 1-5) or the higher tier (grade 4-9). Students will sit an exam in each of the 4 skills.

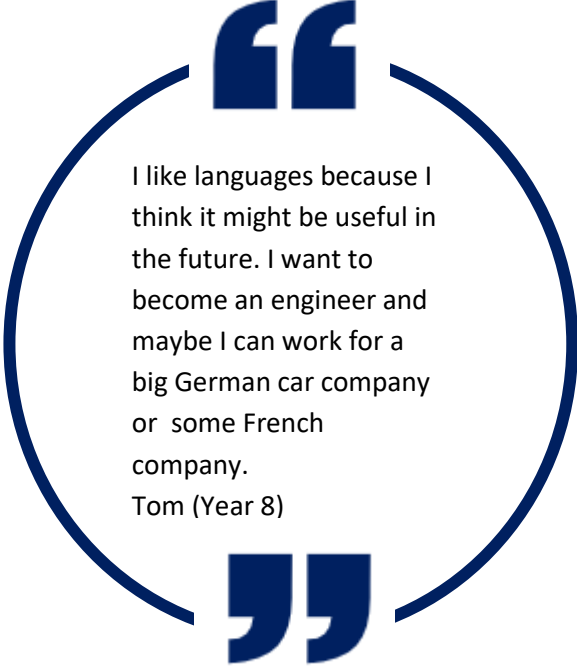
## How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 listening– 25% assessed by a terminal examination paper

Paper 2 Speaking - 25% assessed by a speaking exam of up to either 9 minutes (foundation) and 12 minutes (higher) containing a role play, questions based on a picture stimulus and a conversation.

Paper 3 Reading– 25% assessed by a terminal examination paper

Paper 4 Writing– 25% assessed by a terminal examination paper.



I like languages because I think it might be useful in the future. I want to become an engineer and maybe I can work for a big German car company or some French company.

Tom (Year 8)

## Why study French/ German?

GCSE French/German is part of the EBACC portfolio of qualifications and allows students to develop their linguistic knowledge, understanding and skills, which will help them to take their place in a multilingual global society, as well as allowing them to get ahead in business. A GCSE in French/German will provide students with a suitable base for further study such as AS Level French/German and then subsequently a degree, as well as for practical use of the language. Studying a language is a rewarding experience and helps develop cultural knowledge, communication and grammatical skills. Having a working knowledge of French/German can open up a number of varied job opportunities across many different fields, as well as making travelling easier and more enjoyable.

## **OPTION 2:**

# **Geography or History**

**For further information contact: Mr D Savory**  
**Exam board and course code: AQA 8035**

## **What will I study?**

You will study a wide range of interesting and relevant geographical topics through investigation of the UK and the wider world. You will learn how natural forces shape and change our planet and how man and the environment interact. You will also develop your geographical and fieldwork skills.

### **Subject content:**

#### **Living with the Physical Environment**

##### **The Challenge of Natural Environments**

including tectonic hazards, weather hazards and climate change.

##### **The Living World**

including ecosystems, tropical rainforests and cold environments.

##### **Physical Landscapes of the UK**

including coastal and river landscapes.

#### **Challenges in the Human Environment**

##### **Urban Issues and Challenges**

including urbanization, Bristol, and Rio-de Janeiro.

##### **The Changing Economic World**

including development, Nigeria and the UK economy.

##### **The Challenge of resource management**

including UK food, water and energy resources and global water supply and demand.

## **How will I be assessed?**

Living with the Physical environment – 1 hour  
30 minutes – 35%

Challenges in the Human Environment – 1 hour  
30 minutes – 35%

Geographical applications – 1 hour 15 minutes  
– 30%

## **Why study Geography?**

Geography is one of the Baccalaureate subjects. It is a highly regarded subject by both employers and higher education institutions, and should therefore be seriously considered by any ambitious student. It is valued in many career paths, along with further and higher education courses. These include environmental science, politics and humanities based A levels and degree qualifications.



I like to be able to discuss and debate different topics which affect our world.

Jacob (Year 10)



For further information contact: Mrs K Reed

Exam board and course code: Edexcel: GCSE History

## What will I study?

### **Medicine In Britain & The British Sector of the Western Front (30%)**

In this unit you will study the progression of medicine from the Middle Ages, through the Renaissance, into the Industrial Revolution and up until modern day. There is then a bolt on topic on medicine and injuries in the trenches of WWI, which is entirely source-based.

### **Early Elizabethan England & The American West (40%)**

In this section, students will look at Early Elizabethan Society (1558-1588) covering topics such as Elizabeth's Religious Settlement, her problems with Mary Queen of Scots, war and conflict with Spain and then finally Elizabethan society.

The second half of this paper will look at the American West. The early stage of the course looks at how America was settled. We will look at conflicts between Native Americans and white settlers and the impact of the Civil War. We follow the story through to investigate how the Native Americans' way of life was destroyed over time.

### **Weimar & Nazi Germany (30%)**

This unit will involve us studying the structure of Germany under the Weimar government between 1918-29. Following the Treaty of Versailles we will look at how Hitler rose to power between 1919 - 1933. We will then study Nazi policies and methods of control and the impact of these laws on the population of Germany.

## How will I be assessed?

### **Medicine In Britain & The British Sector of the Western Front (30%)**

Time 1 hour 15 minute exam

### **Early Elizabethan England & The American West (40%)**

Time 1 hour 45 exam

### **Weimar & Nazi Germany (30%)**

Time 1 hour 20 minute exam

## Why study History?

A GCSE qualification in History is highly revered by academic institutions and employers alike. It is a general qualification and, as such, prepares candidates for a wide range of occupations and higher-level courses. The above course allows our students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key individuals, events, societies and issues in both Britain and across the world. Students will actively engage in the process of historical enquiry, organise and communicate their knowledge, use ICT effectively and analyse and evaluate. It will provide them with a basis for their role as responsible and active citizens in society, as well as for the possible further study of History.

“

I didn't know that people shaved chickens and held them against plague boils to try and make themselves get better.

Lily (Year 11)

”

## **OPTION 3**

**Information about each subject you can CHOOSE is given on the following pages, in alphabetical order. Each subject gives details of the qualification, exam board and an outline of the course.**

For further information contact: Mrs C Toogood

Exam board and course code: AQA GCSE Art, Craft and Design

## What will I study?

There are 4 elements to the course

- Contextual references (the work of artists and designers)
- Refining ideas (experimenting with resources, media, materials, techniques and processes)
- Recording ideas (drawing, sketching, photography, annotating)
- Personal response ('final piece' making connections, demonstrating skill and understanding)

You will develop your observational skills through drawing and have the opportunity to experiment with different materials, skills and processes in drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. You will be able to bring your own creative talents to set projects to make exciting new work.

## How will I be assessed?

60% Coursework – all work undertaken is considered as coursework.

40% Externally set assignment (exam – exam theme chosen in January of Year 11, 10 hour timed assessment at conclusion in controlled conditions).

## Why study Art, Craft and Design?

You can continue to develop skills by taking an 'A' level course in Art where there are specialisms offered such as Fine Art, Graphic Communication or Photography. You can take a Level 3 BTEC course in Art and Design.

Colleges, Post 16 Centres and employers are looking for candidates who are able to show a range of skills and talents. An Art GCSE enables you to show that you are a creative thinker, can manage your time successfully, that you can work collaboratively and independently and that you are a flexible learner able to develop new skills and talents.

“  
People think that art will be easy, but it requires lots of work from a passionate and motivated person, There are lots of careers opportunities in art such as jobs in fashion, design and architecture.  
Sophie (Year 9)  
”

# BTEC LEVEL 1/LEVEL 2 FIRST AWARD IN SPORT

**For further information contact: Mr P Scullion**

**Exam board and course code: Edexcel Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Sport**

**Qualification number 600/4779/3**

## What will I study?

BTEC First in Sport can help you take your first steps towards a career in sport and fitness. You will learn essential skills such as training for personal fitness, encouraging sports participation, and organising and leading events and activities.

Students studying this course will complete the following mandatory units:

Unit 1: Fitness for Sport and Exercise

Unit 2: Practical Performance in Sport

Unit 3: Applying the Principles of Personal Training

Teaching staff will then select one optional unit from any of the following units:

Unit 4: The mind and Sports Performance

Unit 5: Sports Performer in Action

Unit 6: Leadin

“

PE is great as I get to develop as a performer but also learn about lifestyle and ways to analyse sports performances well.  
Charley (Year 10)

”

## \* Please note:

This qualification is currently reviewed by the DFE and therefore is content and how it is being assessed might change. It is currently only approved until 2022. Information regarding its approval will be released in May.

## How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 Fitness for Sport and Exercise is an externally assessed exam. Students will develop their knowledge of the content in lessons and when ready sit a 1hr on line exam. Grading is given as a Level 1 pass, Level 2 pass, Level 2 Merit or Level 2 Distinction depending on the marks achieved. Students are allowed to take the Unit 1 exam a maximum of twice. If a student does not meet the minimum requirement for their ability or is awarded a 'U', they can then only achieve a Level 1 or Level 2 Pass.

Units 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 can all be internally assessed and these are coursework based. Students will complete their coursework in lesson both practically and within the classroom and submit their assignments at specified dates. Following from the submission date if a student is required to make changes/improvements to their work, these can be made and resubmitted before a specified resubmission date.

## Why study Sport?

The BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Sport provides a good foundation for learners in post-16 education, or to entry-level job roles within the sector. Achievement at level 2 provides a suitable foundation for further study within the sector through progression on to other vocational qualifications, such as Pearson BTEC Level 3 qualifications in Sport or Sport and Exercise Sciences. The underpinning knowledge, practical and vocational skills learnt will also enhance and support progression to a relevant competency-based qualification, such as the Pearson Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Sports Development, or the Pearson Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Leisure Management. Successful learners at level 2 may also consider general qualifications at level 3, such as a GCE in Physical Education or Leisure Studies.



# BTEC TECH AWARD IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

For further information contact: Mr P Scullion

Exam board and course code: Pearson BBT22 Level 1 / 2

## What will I study?

You will complete 2 pieces of coursework. Both tasks involve practical investigations.

### Unit 1: Improving the well-being of an individual

The unit involves the following:

Case study of a chosen individual

The use of a range of testing techniques to measure health

The production, implementation and review of a plan to make a lifestyle change that could improve the health and well-being of the chosen individual.

### Unit 2: Promoting healthy living

The unit involves the following:

Research into the aims, types and benefits of health promotion campaigns.

The preparation, production and review of a health campaign.

Working as part of a team.

### Unit 3: Development through the life stages - Exam Unit

This unit involves the following topics:

The stages and patterns of human growth and development.

Expected development at each life stage

Life events

Sources of support/services

Roles of professionals

Factors that influence health and well-being.

## How will I be assessed?

The two internally assessed units make up 60% of your final grade and the exam make up 40%.

### Why study Sport?

There are lots of courses that follow on from this at local Post-16 centers. You might decide to study A Level Health and Social Care and go on to University. Alternatively, you might go on to college do BTEC or NVQs in nursing or childcare. You could also go straight into work at entry level with an apprenticeship.

There are always lots of opportunities for those with skills in health and social care in sectors such as Hospitals, care homes, nurseries e.



I like finding out about what jobs I could do in the field of care work and what I would it would involve to work as a care worker. I enjoy the course.  
Grace (Year 10)



**For further information contact: Mrs N Pugh**

**Exam board and course code: Pearson 603/0406/6 Level 1 / 2**

## **What will I study?**

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Performing Arts, is for learners who want to acquire technical knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by studying acting, dance or musical theatre as part of their Key Stage 4 learning. The qualification recognises the value of learning skills, knowledge and vocational attributes to complement GCSEs. The qualification will broaden the learners experience and understanding of the varied progression options available to them.

The Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on four areas of equal importance, which cover the:

- development of key skills that prove your aptitude in Performing Arts such as reproducing repertoire or responding to stimuli
- process that underpins effective ways of working in the Performing Arts, such as development of ideas, rehearsal and performance
- attitudes that are considered most important in the Performing Arts, including personal management and communication
- knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as roles, responsibilities, performance disciplines and styles.

This Award complements the learning in GCSE programmes such as GCSE Drama and GCSE Dance by broadening experience and skills participation in different type of performance activities with the opportunity to practically apply your knowledge and skills, through project work such as developing ideas and performing for specific audiences.

## **How will I be assessed?**

The three components in the qualification give learners the opportunity to develop broad knowledge and understanding of the performing arts industry and specialist skills and techniques at Levels 1 and 2. Internal assessment

**Components 1 and 2 are assessed through internal assessment.** Internal assessment for these components has been designed to relate to achievement of application of the conceptual underpinning for the sector through realistic tasks and activities. This style of assessment promotes deep learning through ensuring the connection between knowledge and practice. Synoptic external assessment There is one external assessment, Component 3 that provides the main synoptic assessment for the qualification. **Component 3** builds directly on Components 1 and 2 and enables learning to be brought together and related to a real-life situation. Component 3: Responding to a Brief requires learners to apply performances skills and techniques in response to a brief and stimulus developing group performance workshop for a selected audience.

## **Why study Performing Arts?**

The performing arts are a major part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. Overall, the industry contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy. There are 5,480 businesses and 101,593 people working in the performing arts sector. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will complement GCSE study through providing an opportunity for practical exploration and application alongside conceptual study, leading to strong opportunities to progress post-16.

**For further information contact: Mrs C Toogood**  
**Edexcel Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Business (1BS0)**

## What will I study?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Know and understand business concepts, business terminology, business objectives, the integrated nature of business activity and the impact of business on individuals and wider society.
- Apply knowledge and understanding to contemporary business issues and to different types and sizes of businesses in local, national and global contexts.
- Develop as enterprising individuals with the ability to think commercially and creatively to demonstrate business acumen, and draw on evidence to make informed business decisions and solve business problems.
- Develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.
- Use an enquiring, critical approach to make informed judgements.
- Investigate and analyse real business opportunities and issues to construct well-argued, well-evidenced, balanced and structured arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of business.

Develop and apply quantitative skills relevant to business, including using and interpreting data.

## How will I be assessed?

### **Theme 1: Investigating small business (1BS0/01)**

Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes

Worth 50% of the qualification

#### **Content overview**

- Topic 1.1 Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Topic 1.2 Spotting a business opportunity
- Topic 1.3 Putting a business idea into practice
- Topic 1.4 Making the business effective
- Topic 1.5 Understanding external influences on business

### **Theme 2: Building a business (1BS0/02)**

Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes

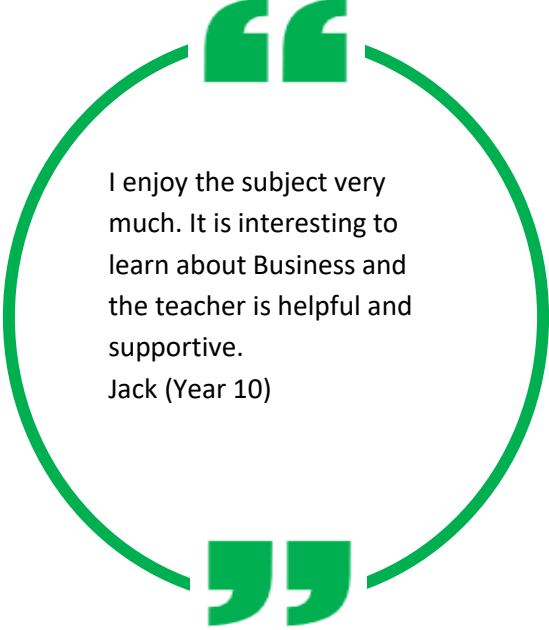
Worth 50% of the qualification

#### **Content overview**

- Topic 2.1 Growing the business
- Topic 2.2 Making marketing decisions
- Topic 2.3 Making operational decisions
- Topic 2.4 Making financial decisions
- Topic 2.5 Making human resource decisions

## Why study Business?

Pupils can go on to study Business Studies at AS or A-Level and Level 3 BTEC Business.



I enjoy the subject very much. It is interesting to learn about Business and the teacher is helpful and supportive.  
Jack (Year 10)

**For further information contact: Mrs C Toogood**

**Exam board and course code: OCR Computer Science QN 601/8355/X.**

## What will I study?

- Students will gain the skills to enable them to understand how to design and build apps, investigate how algorithms help create computer codes and the importance of cyber security and the ethical impacts of digital technology. This qualification is linear which means that students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course.

### Subject Content:

1. Fundamentals of algorithms
2. Programming
3. Fundamentals of data representation
4. Computer systems
5. Fundamentals of computer networks
6. Fundamentals of cyber security
7. Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society, including issues of privacy
8. Aspects of software development

**This course is suitable for students working at grade 6 or beyond in Maths.**

## How will I be assessed?

### Assessments:

#### **50% of GCSE Paper 1 – J277/01: Computer systems (exam 1.5 hrs)**

This component will assess:

- 1.1 Systems architecture
- 1.2 Memory and storage
- 1.3 Computer networks, connections and protocols
- 1.4 Network security
- 1.5 Systems software
- 1.6 Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental

#### **50% of GCSE Paper 2 – J277/02:**

#### **Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (exam 1.5 hrs)**

This component will assess:

- 2.1 Algorithms
- 2.2 Programming fundamentals
- 2.3 Producing robust programs
- 2.4 Boolean logic
- 2.5 Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments

## Why study Computer Science?

The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this field. The course is also an excellent preparation if you want to study or work in areas that rely on the skills you will develop, especially where they are applied to technical problems. These areas include engineering, financial and resource management, science and medicine.



**For further information contact: Mrs C Toogood**

**Exam board and course code: WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award**

## What will I study?

There are many places where construction takes place and it is a growing sector with a skills shortage. A construction site will have many trades and professionals working cooperatively and safely to ensure that the project is completed safely, efficiently and on-time. Learners investigate site safety, key skills for three different trades and plan construction management tasks when following this course.

They will practice refurbishment of decorations on walls and ceilings, practice rewiring electrical systems and undertake one other skill on this course.

- They will also complete an assessment to plan a complete construction project and budget for the costs of such a project.

## How will I be assessed?

The course assessment consists:


[1] Safety and Security in Construction; an examination that assesses their knowledge of this core construction topic.

[2] Practical Construction Skills; three trades are explored, practiced and developed, students record keep their progress for assessment purposes.

[3] Planning Construction Projects; students are given a real-world situation and they must project-manage the task and produce a folio showing this planning.

## Why study Construction?

This course allows students to develop a range of skills that could be very useful for training or an apprenticeship after they have complete year 11 in any of the Construction or allied trades or professions. It may also be appropriate for those who wish to explore Construction or Architecture at Level 3/4.



This is a great course. We have been on a construction site and had people come in working with us. They also talked about their careers.

Jack (Year 9)

\* Please note:

This qualification is currently reviewed by the DFE and therefore its content and how it is being assessed might change. It is currently only approved until 2022. Information regarding its approval will be released in May.

# HOSPITALITY & CATERING (SPECIFICATION A)

For further information contact: Mr J Advani

Exam Board and course code: WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Hospitality & Catering (Specification A)

## What will I study?

Unit One: The Hospitality and Catering Industry

Students will learn about all aspects of the Hospitality & Catering industry. They will acquire knowledge of the different types of establishments and job roles within catering. Students will gain an insight into the operations of both the front of house and kitchen staff.

Unit Two: Hospitality and Catering in Action

Students will be able to apply their understanding of how to safely prepare, cook and present a range of nutritional dishes. Student will draw on their learning of unit one by running their very own catering event. This will give them the opportunity to display their leadership skills as well as be a team player.

## How will I be assessed?

The course is made up of two units:

Unit one is a paper/onscreen assessment. This counts as 40% towards the final grade.

Unit two is a piece of controlled assessment. This counts as 60% towards the final grade.

## Why study Hospitality and Catering?

Students will have the opportunity to discuss career routes into the industry with the City of Bristol College during the careers fair. There is also the opportunity to discuss careers with an industry expert during year 11 as part of your controlled assessment. Oasis Academy Brislington work in conjunction with a 'Chef in residence'. This will enable students to gain work experience within our industrial catering kitchen. Students can discuss their controlled assessment & plan their own catering events with our very own industry expert.

“

This course prepares you for the real world. You learn about healthy living and do a lot of practical work. Last year we catered at the achievement evening. That was quite hard but really rewarding.

Joe (Year11)

”

**For further information contact: Miss E Barnes**  
**Exam board and course code: Edexcel Music**

## What will I study?

Our Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Music qualification enables students to engage in content through the context of four Areas of Study and Set Works. Each Area of Study contains two Set Works. These Areas of Study support the teaching of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language through specific pieces of music, across the different Areas of Study. They show real examples of how key musical content is used within specific pieces of music. This allows students to learn in-depth about how to appraise music.



## How will I be assessed?

### Component Overview

Assessment Component 1: **Performing 30%**

**2 performances** Solo - minimum 1 piece

Ensemble - minimum 1 piece

(total minimum of 4 minutes across the solo and ensemble pieces) = **Total of 60 marks**

Assessment Component 2: **Composing 30%**

**2 compositions** 1 to set brief – minimum 1 minute

1 free composition – minimum 1 minute

Together

(total minimum of 3 minutes) = Total of 60marks

Assessment Component 3: **Appraising 40%**

Exam 4 Areas of Study with 2 Set Works each:

- Instrumental Music 1700–1820
- Vocal Music
- Music for Stage and Screen
- Fusions

Exam 1hr 45mins Total of 80 marks

## Why study Music?

Students choosing to study music for their GCSE would be at an advantage if they play an instrument already or sing.

Students who have opted for a music GCSE will be tested before their music option choice is confirmed.

For Further Information Contact: Miss S Pamby

Exam Board and Course Code: WJEC Eduqas

## What will I study?

The GCSE challenges learners to develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes, providing the opportunity to engage with questions of belief, purpose and truth. It enables students to understand the diverse views of society, and understand contemporary ethical and philosophical issues.

It allows students to develop a deep understanding of religious and non-religious beliefs and teachings, such as atheism and humanism. Enabling them to construct well-argued, well informed, balanced and structured written arguments, all fantastic skills that will prepare the students for any AS/A-Level and help them to lead constructive adult lives in the modern world.

**The GCSE has 3 components:**

**Component 1: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World:**

**Theme 1: Relationships** – *characteristics of relationships, marriage and family life, issues of relationships in 21<sup>st</sup> century e.g. same sex relationships and gender roles.*

**Theme 2: Life after Death** – *religious and non-religious beliefs about the nature of life and death, origins and value of human life e.g. attitudes to abortion and euthanasia.*

**Theme 3: Good and Evil** – *origins of good and evil, crime and punishment.*

**Theme 4: Human Rights** – *human rights, social justice, wealth & poverty, racial prejudice and discrimination*

## How will I be assessed?

The course is 100% exam.

There are three papers:

**Component 1: Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World:**

Weighting 50%

**Component 2: Study of Christianity**

Weighting 25%

**Component 3: Study of Islam**

Weighting 25%

## Why Study Religious Studies?

- Improve philosophical thinking skills and the ability to think outside of the box.
- Understand ethical issues such as medical ethics and religious extremism.
- Highly thought of by employers due to the excellent written skills required and the ability to create a balanced argument.
- It also shows awareness of a tolerant and understanding attitude which would be desirable to any employer.

*The GCSE complements many other subjects such as Art, Philosophy, English, History, Science and psychology.*

I love learning about different views and discussing different opinions. It is a great subject if you like to debate about all sorts of interesting things.

Jake (Year 8)



**For further information contact: Mrs C Toogood**

**Exam board and course code: AQA GCSE Art and Design: Photography**

## What will I study?

There are 4 elements to the course

- Contextual references (the work of artists and photographers)
- Refining ideas (experimenting with techniques and processes, editing, using Photoshop)
- Recording ideas (photography, composition, annotating)
- Personal response ('final piece' making connections, demonstrating skill and understanding)

You will develop your observational skills through taking still or moving images and have the opportunity to experiment with different techniques, skills and processes in composition, exposure and editing. You will be able to bring your own creative talents to set projects to make exciting new work. There is a drawing requirement in both the coursework and externally assessed units and you will have to annotate and evaluate your work in pieces of extended writing.

## How will I be assessed?

60% Coursework – all work is considered as coursework

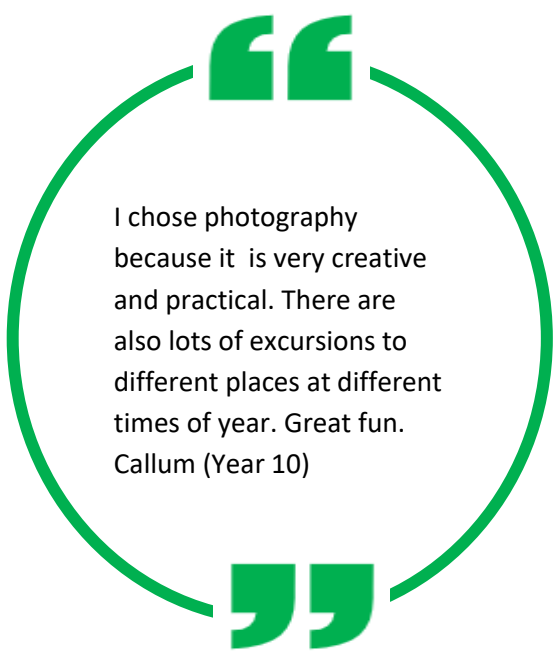
40% Externally set task (exam – exam theme chosen in January of Year 11, 10 hour timed assessment at conclusion in controlled conditions)

**You will be expected to develop independent Photography skills taking Photographs outside of the academy day as homework tasks**

## Why Study Photography?

You can continue to develop skills by taking an A' level course in Art where there are specialisms offered such as Fine Art, Graphic Communication or Photography. You can take a Level 3 BTEC course in Art and Design.

Colleges, Post 16 Centers and employers are looking for candidates who are able to show a range of skills and talents. A Photography GCSE enables you to show that you are a creative thinker, can manage your time successfully, that you can work collaboratively and independently and that you are a flexible learner able to develop new skills and talents.



I chose photography because it is very creative and practical. There are also lots of excursions to different places at different times of year. Great fun.  
Callum (Year 10)

**For further information contact: Mrs J Mercer**

**Exam board and course code: AQA**

**Biology 8461**

**Chemistry 8462**

**Physics 8463**

**What will I study?**

The Triple Science pathway is good preparation for those students who wish to study science to a higher level. The extended units are designed to be a bridge between the GCSE and the A level and so will prepare you well for A levels in the three Sciences. You will be best suited to follow the Triple Science pathway if you are likely to study at least two pure A levels in science subjects, and also have been working at a current forecast grade of 7 or above.

The course consists of all of the content included in the Combined Science course, but with additional content in each area of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This often involves more demanding aspects of concepts that will stimulate the minds of students who enjoy the challenges of science.

**How will I be assessed?**

There are six exams that are 1 hour and 45 minutes in length, two in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students will receive separate grades for the three subjects, each one being awarded on the combined mark of the two exams.

**Why Study Triple Science?**

Triple Science will enable students to access the pure Science A levels, and this could lead on to the many and varied degree courses available in scientific disciplines.

”

I love Science. I do want to study science for A-Levels as I would like to do something science related in the future.  
Sam (Year 10)

“

# Options Choice Form for 2020 – 2023

This form must be returned by **9am Monday 23<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**ALL STUDENTS STUDY THE CORE OPTIONS: Mathematics, English Language/Literature, Double Science, A Modern Foreign Language (French/German), Geography / History, PE, RSHE/ CEIAG**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Form: \_\_\_\_\_

My choices of subjects to study are as follows:

**Option 1: Modern Foreign Language: Tick only one of:**

French	
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German	
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**Option 2: Humanity: Tick only one of:**

Geography	
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History	
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**Option 3: Enter ONE (1) and a reserve choice (2) in Option A and ONE (1) and a reserve choice (2) in Option B.**

Options	Subjects	Add 1 for first choice 2 for second choice in both options A and B
Option A	Art	
	Triple Science	
	Construction	
	Hospitality and Catering	
	BTEC Tech Award Health and Social care	
	BTEC Sport	
	Religious Study	
Option B	Art	
	Business	
	Computer Science	
	Music	
	BTEC Sport	
	BTEC Tech Award Performing Arts	
	Photography	
	Religious Study	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

(Student)

(Parent/ Carer)

(Date)

# Implications for Post-16 Subject Choices

When considering choices for GCSE courses, students should already have one eye on the subjects they may wish to study after Year 11.

Whilst it is the case with some subjects that entry on to post-16 courses is dependent upon having studied that subject for GCSE, this is not always true.

This may be relevant if students are struggling to narrow their choice of GCSE subjects down at this stage. It would be advisable for students to discuss their situation with the teachers of the relevant subjects indicated in this booklet.