

**Everyone Matters  
Everyone Helps  
Everyone Succeeds**



**RAINFORD  
HIGH**

**YEAR 9 - KS4 Curriculum 2024-2026**  
**February 2024**

**Everyone Succeeds**



**Choosing Your Curriculum**

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# Time to be thinking ahead

**Hello—**

**Welcome to the point in your time at Rainford where there is some flexibility about the curriculum you will follow in the future. We know how enjoyable and rewarding it is to approach your exam years and also how different it will be in Years 10 and 11. Use the guidance here to help you, but remember too we are here when you want to talk about the things you will study in the future.**

## **Rationale**

Most students who are about to enter Year 10 will spend another four years in education, or education and training.

That's why it makes sense to think ahead and to plan the next four years as a CONTINUOUS programme which will improve your prospects for a rewarding career and life after school.

**This booklet is part of that planning process.**

The purpose of this booklet is to:

1. Help you make the most appropriate decision based on relevant information and informed reasoning.
2. Provide you with a summary of the courses available, their subject content and methods of assessment. However, do ask further questions, particularly regarding new subjects that can be taken at Key Stage 4.

We hope the information in this booklet and the opportunities to discuss preferences enable you to have a clearer idea of all courses in Years 10 and 11. If, however, you need further guidance please do not hesitate to contact me, your Learning Leader or your subject teachers.

We wish you the best of luck as you commence the next phase of your journey at Rainford High School.

Mr Ian Murphy  
Vice Principal

# Making your decisions

## Making your decisions

In KS4 (Years 10 and 11) all students must continue to follow a set of core subjects. Beyond these, there is some choice, so that your interests and talents can be developed. Details of all subjects are given in this booklet.

## Sensible reasons for choosing the subjects you want to study:

- You enjoy it and it interests you
- You have a talent for it and know you will succeed with it
- The subject is important to you and will help with your future career after Year 11
- To provide balance and variety
- By keeping a balance at this stage, you will not close off future options

## Dos and Don'ts

- Do talk to parents, subject teachers, careers staff - they are all here to help
  - Do read the subject details in this booklet carefully
  - Ensure you attend the Y9 Curriculum Event on Thursday 25th January 2024
  - Ensure you read through the Curriculum presentation, watch the subject videos and read through the booklet which will be made available on the School website
  - Do opt for a balanced of subjects to keep future careers and study possibilities open
  - Enter your choices online by Friday 9th February 2024
  - Do be realistic about your choices and your talents and abilities
- 
- DON'T choose a subject just because your friends have said they are going to choose it. Remember, you are deciding about your future
  - DON'T choose a subject just because you like a particular teacher (or avoid a subject because you dislike a teacher) as you may well have different teachers next year

# Summary of key information

## DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Year 9 Curriculum Assembly</b>	<b>Monday 9th January 2024</b>
<b>Year 9 Curriculum Evening</b>	<b>Thursday 25th January 2024</b>
<b>Deadline for completion of choices</b>	<b>Friday 9th February 2024</b>

## PEOPLE TO CONTACT

<b>Year 9 Learning Leader</b>	<b>Miss S Smith</b> <a href="mailto:s.smith@rainford.org.uk">s.smith@rainford.org.uk</a>
<b>Year 9 Pastoral Manager</b>	<b>Miss C Lawrenson</b> <a href="mailto:c.lawrenson@rainford.org.uk">c.lawrenson@rainford.org.uk</a>
<b>CONNEXIONS Advisor</b>	<b>Mrs Elaine Meredith</b> <a href="mailto:elaine.meredith@careerconnect.org.uk">elaine.meredith@careerconnect.org.uk</a>

## CONTACT DETAILS

<b>School Telephone</b>	<b>01744 885914</b>
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# Choosing my subjects

## Students in Pathway A

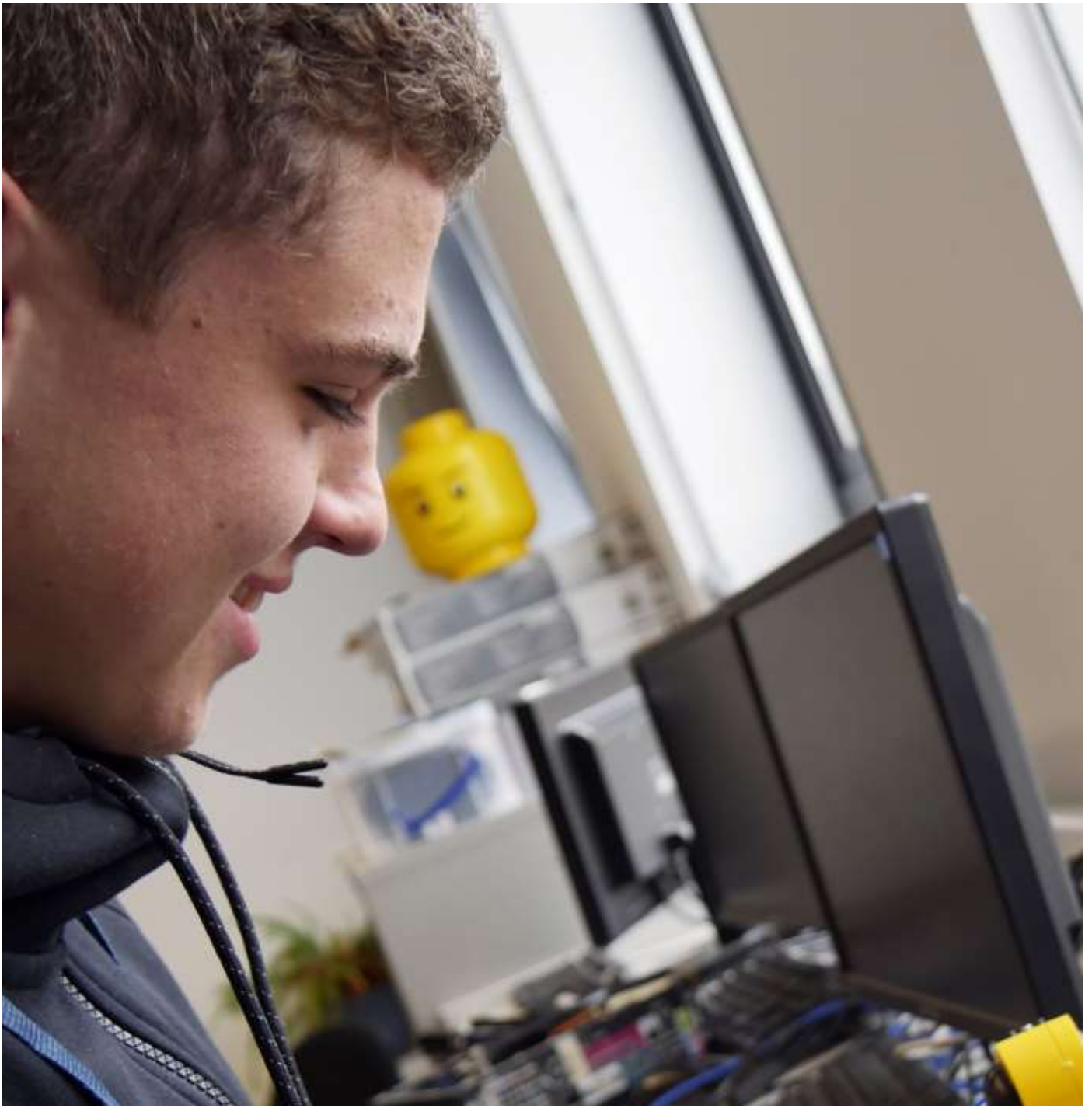
Pathway	Option 1	Option 2
<b>A</b>	Spanish or French	Geography or History
	<b>Option 3 &amp; Option 4 – Any TWO subjects from the list below</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computer Science</li> <li>• Spanish</li> <li>• French</li> <li>• History</li> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• Triple Science</li> <li>• Fine Art GCSE</li> <li>• Photography GCSE</li> <li>• BTEC Award in Music Practice</li> <li>• Cambridge National Certificate in Sports Studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical Education GCSE</li> <li>• Religious Studies GCSE</li> <li>• Textiles GCSE</li> <li>• Product Design GCSE</li> <li>• Graphics GCSE</li> <li>• BTEC Award in Creative Media Production</li> <li>• Cambridge National Level 1 / 2 Child Development</li> <li>• Level 1 / 2 Technical Award in Hospitality and Catering</li> <li>• BTEC Award in Performing Arts</li> </ul>

## Students in Pathway B,C and D

Pathway	Option 1 – ONE from	
<b>B</b>	Spanish, French, History, Geography, Computer Science, Triple Science	
	<b>Option 2, 3, 4 – Any THREE subjects from the list below</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spanish</li> <li>• French</li> <li>• History</li> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• Triple Science</li> <li>• Fine Art GCSE</li> <li>• Computer Science</li> <li>• Photography GCSE</li> <li>• BTEC Award in Music Practice</li> <li>• Cambridge National Certificate in Sports Studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical Education GCSE</li> <li>• Religious Studies GCSE</li> <li>• Textiles GCSE</li> <li>• Product Design GCSE</li> <li>• Graphics GCSE</li> <li>• BTEC Award in Creative Media Production</li> <li>• Cambridge National Level 1 / 2 Child Development</li> <li>• Level 1 / 2 Technical Award in Hospitality and Catering</li> <li>• BTEC Award in Performing Arts</li> </ul>

# My Subject Selection

SUBJECT	GUIDANCE	YOUR CHOICE
Mathematics	Mathematics is part of the compulsory core of subjects and must be taken by all students.	Mathematics
English Language English Literature	English Language and English Literature are part of the compulsory core of subjects and must be taken by all students.	English Language English Literature
Science combined	Combined Science is part of the compulsory core of subjects which must be taken by all students unless they opt for separate science as an option in one of the blocks below. Students will then study Biology, Chemistry and Physics.	
Option choice 1	<b>Pathway A</b> Select either French Or Spanish <b>Pathway B, C &amp; D select one of the following :-</b> Triple Science, Computer Science, Spanish, French, History or Geography Select one of the above	
Option choice 2	<b>Pathway A select either History or Geography</b>  <b>Pathway B, C &amp; D</b> can select any subject from the curriculum booklet.	
Option choice 3	<b>Pathway A, B, C &amp; D</b> can select any subject from the curriculum booklet.	
Option choice 4	<b>Pathway A, B, C &amp; D</b> can select any subject from the curriculum booklet.	



# Optional Subjects KS4



*Rainford - KS4 Curriculum*



# Art and Design: Fine Art



## What will I learn in Fine Art?

- Experimenting with ideas and materials and being able to develop ideas confidently
- Using your imagination and initiative, becoming confident and inquisitive about the world around you
- Drawing and observing the world around you with a range of materials and techniques
- Researching ideas – often in your own time, you must be motivated to work independently at home
- How to explore artists' works and intentions

## How will I study Fine Art?

- Opportunities to develop observation and drawing skills
- Experiment with a wide range of materials such as:

Acrylic paints and pastels, pen and ink, water colour and pencil, mixed media

- Explore techniques such as:

Lino printing, drypoint, 3D work and collage and photography

- You will look at the work of artists and the methods they use and link this to your own work

## How will I be assessed?

- Portfolio of work created throughout the course – 60%
- End of course exam. Unlimited preparation time and 10 hours of focused study – 40%

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- Ability to record the world around you in a variety of ways including research and literacy skills
- An understanding of how artists develop ideas
- An ability to make a personal response to a number of themes
- An ability to experiment with a variety of media

# Art and Design: Photography



## What will I learn in Photography?

- Experimenting with ideas and processes and being able to develop ideas confidently
- Using your imagination and initiative, encouraging inquisitive minds and independent learning outside of the classroom
- Observing and recording the world around you with a camera. Students must have access to a camera
- Researching ideas – often in your own time, you will be expected to produce photographs outside of the classroom
- How to explore photographers imagery and intentions

## How will I study Photography?

- Opportunities to develop observation and practical photographic skills
- Experiment with a wide range of subject matter such as: **Photomontage**, **Portrait**, **Landscape**, **Studio**, **Macro**
- Develop your skills using industry standard equipment including iMacs, DSLR digital cameras and Adobe Photoshop
- You will look at the work of photographers and the methods they use and link this to your own work

## How will I be assessed?

- Portfolio of work created throughout the course – **60%**
- End of course exam. Unlimited preparation time and 10 hours of focused study – **40%**

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- Ability to record the world around you in a variety of ways including using a camera, research and literacy skills
- An understanding of how photographers develop ideas and use this knowledge to understand how to develop your own work
- An ability to make a personal response to a number of themes
- An ability to experiment with a variety of techniques

# BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice



## What will I learn in the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice?

- To improve your musical performance skills.
- To explore a wide range of musical genres including Pop, Music for Film and Gaming, Music from the Classical tradition, World music, Jazz and Blues.
- How the music industry works and what key skills are needed to succeed in it.
- How to compose and create your music.
- How to use software to help create and produce your music

## How will I study in the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice?

- You will learn in a very practical way on instruments and by using Digital Audio Software.
- You will work both on your own and with others.
- Research and portfolio tasks.

## How will I be assessed?

- A portfolio of short performances and compositions - 30% internally assessed: Exploring Musical Products and Styles.
- A log or blog to show your development as a performer and composer or producer - 30% internally assessed: Music Skills Development.
- A final practical assignment combining all the skills you have developed- 40% externally assessed: Responding to a Commercial Music Brief.

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- It helps to play an instrument or sing but it is not essential.
- You will need to be willing to work independently and be able to work as part of a group.
- You must be willing to practise your chosen instrument outside of the lesson.

# OCR Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in Sports Studies



## Who is this course aimed at?

- This is a two year (GCSE equivalent) course to be followed in Years 10 and 11 that ***involves more practical learning compared to the GCSE PE course***
- Students will have **3 lessons per week** which will be a **mixture of theory and practical** work. You will still have your core PE lesson each week as well
- This is a course that will give you the opportunity to gain specific knowledge, understanding and skills ***relevant to employment within teaching / coaching / sports / leisure industries***

On successfully completing the course there are several options available to you

These include:

- BTEC Sport level 3 - Foundation diploma (Equivalent to 1.5 A levels)
- An occupation in the sport & leisure industry, or teaching/coaching / sports leadership opportunities
- AS/A Level PE

## How will I be assessed?

60% of the course is internally assessed by completing assignments (within TWO units) set by the department. Coursework assignments are set throughout the course and then quality assured by an external moderator. The remaining 40% of the course is externally assessed in the form of a 75 minute written examination (within ONE unit).

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- Ability to plan and organise workload in order to meet deadlines
- A good knowledge of sport and desire to learn about factors that influence sporting participation and *performance*

## Units I will study:

- *Contemporary Issues in Sport (External exam) - 40%*
- *Performance and Leadership in Sports Activities - 40%*
- *Increasing awareness of outdoor and adventurous activities - 20%*

# Child Development



## What will I learn in Child Development?

- Understand reproduction and the roles and responsibilities of parenthood
- Understand antenatal care and preparation for birth
- Understand postnatal checks, postnatal provision and conditions for development
- Understand how to recognise, manage and prevent childhood illnesses
- Understand the physical, intellectual and social developmental norms from one to five years
- Understand the benefits of learning through play
- Be able to plan different play activities for a chosen developmental area with a child from one to five years of age
- Carry out and evaluate different play activities for a chosen developmental area with a child from one to five years of age
- Know and understand about child safety

## How will I study Child Development?

- Unit 1: is a study into the health and well being of the child. (tested through a written exam)
- Unit 2 requires you to understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years. (evidenced through coursework)
- Unit 3 requires you to understand the development of children from birth to 5 years (evidenced through coursework)

## How will I be assessed?

- There are 3 assessed units in the child development course
- Two units are Centre assessed and are the equivalent of 36 hours work
- One unit is in the form of a written paper 1 hour 15 minutes

## What do I need to succeed?

- An interest in the subject
- Good ICT skills
- Access to a young child or baby that you can study would be helpful

# Combined Science—Trilogy



This will provide two GCSE qualifications in Science and will give students a thorough grounding in Biology, Chemistry and Physics allowing progression to study any of the Sciences at A-Level. All Science A-Levels are designed to follow on from Combined Science.

## What will I learn in Science?

- Students will study all three areas of Science; Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The topics will include:

**Biology:** Evolution, Disease, Biodiversity and Genetic engineering

**Chemistry:** Material Science, Rate and extent of chemical change, quantitative Chemistry, Organic and Chemical analysis

**Physics:** Electricity, Dynamics, Nuclear radiation and Kinematics

- How to improve your practical skills to a high level in order to investigate scientific concepts
- How to work as part of a team and as an independent learner in order to solve problems

## How will I study Science?

- All students will study with the help of specialist teachers and they will be engaging in both theory and practical activities for four lessons each week
- Students will learn the concepts in each subject area and will also have regular opportunities to demonstrate their practical skills for each subject throughout the course
- Students will be certified with a double award qualification, this is two GCSE grades

## How will I be assessed?

- The course is assessed 100% exam
- Students will take all external exams at the end of the two year course in Year 11
- There are six papers in total, two Biology papers, two Chemistry papers and two Physics papers
- Each paper is 1 hour 15 mins and includes a variety of questions, including multiple choice, short structured and extended response

# Computer Science



## What will I learn in Computer Science?

- Real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works
- Develop an insight into what goes on “behind the scenes”
- How to develop computer software and games
- Develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills
- Design, develop and test a solution to specific problems

## How will I study Computer Science?

- Throughout year 10 & 11 you will learn about computer systems: Systems architecture, networks, ethical, legal and cultural concerns as well as computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, logic and data representation. This knowledge will then be tested in two examinations at the end of the year
- Theoretical content will be delivered over the two years throughout lessons and assessed via external examination at the end of Year 11.

## How will It be assessed?

- Exam 1 (2hrs) Python Programming – 50% of GCSE
- Exam 2 (1hr45mins) Computer Systems – 50% of GCSE

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- A strong interest in current technologies
- A logical, enquiring and mathematical mind
- Happy to work independently and as part of a team
- Secure knowledge of mathematics
- Some programming knowledge

# BTEC Tech Award in Creative Media Production



## Course Information

A BTEC tech award in Creative Media Production will give you the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge and develop skills in different areas of Media Studies.

You will become familiar with a wide range of media texts and concepts to allow you to critically engage with the media you are surrounded with daily. You will enhance your ability to analyse and evaluate the effects that media texts have on their audience and use those skills to develop a range of your own media products."

The course will also provide an understanding and knowledge of how Media organizations communicate with their audience and how audiences receive, decode and interpret a wide range of media products from television to magazines.

Units range from:

- Component 1—Exploring Media Products—where you will explore media products from a range of platforms and create written report of your findings.
- Component 2—Developing Digital Media Production Skills—where you will develop your creative skills by developing a digital magazine using software such as photoshop.
- Component 3—Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief—where you will create a website.

## Structure and Method of Assessment

Components 1 and 2 are coursework (completed under controlled coursework conditions), Component 3 is a controlled assessment externally marked by the exam board.



# BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts



## What will I learn in BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts?

- The development of key skills that prove an aptitude in Performing Arts, such as reproducing repertoire or responding to stimuli
- The 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.

## How will I study BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts?

- You will learn in a very practical way.
- You will work both on your own and with others.
- Research and log book tasks., as well as performances and presentations

## How will I be assessed?

- Exploring The Performing Arts: You will develop your understanding of the performing arts by examining practitioners' work and the processes used to create performance. 30% internally assessed: .
- Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts: You will develop your performing arts skills and techniques through the reproduction of acting, dance and/or musical theatre repertoire as performers or designers. 30% internally assessed: .
- Responding to a Brief: You will be given the opportunity to work as part of a group to contribute to a workshop performance as either a performer or designer in response to a given brief and stimulus. 40% externally assessed:

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- An enjoyment for Drama and performing Arts
- You will need to be willing to work independently and be able to work as part of a group.

# English Language



GCSE English Language will be studied in conjunction with GCSE English Literature (dual award)

## What will I learn in English Language?

- How to write accurately and fluently, adapting style and language to audience and purpose
- How to become a critical reader of a range of texts
- Learn how to speak effectively in a range of contexts
- To express yourself creatively and imaginatively

## How will I study English Language?

- You will be encouraged to analyse language and grammar throughout the course
- You will write creatively for a variety of audiences and purposes
- You will participate in a range of speaking and listening activities
- Most study will be done in small groups, pairs or whole-class activities

## How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1: Analysis of one literary text; a choice of descriptive or narrative writing task
- Paper 2: Analysis of one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text; writing to present a view-point

## What skills will I have at the end of the course?

- You will form independent views and challenge what is heard or read on the grounds of reason, evidence or argument
- You will be able to express written work accurately and fluently
- You will participate confidently in a range of speaking and listening activities
- You will understand the conventions of written language, including grammar, spelling and punctuation
- You will read with understanding

# English Literature



GCSE English Literature will be studied in conjunction with GCSE English Language (dual award)

## What will I learn in English Literature?

- How to develop and sustain my ideas on a text
- To form views on themes, characters, settings in novels, plays and poetry
- How to relate texts to their social and historical contexts
- How to analyse and compare language, form and structure

## How will I study English Literature?

- By reading and analysing texts
- By discussing, exploring and comparing texts
- You will participate in a range of speaking and listening activities
- Most study will be done in small groups, pairs or whole-class activities

## How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1: Analysis of one Shakespeare play; analysis of one nineteenth century novel
- Paper 2: Analysis of one modern prose or drama text; analysis of a range of poems from an anthology; comparative analysis of two unseen poems

## What skills will I have at the end of the course?

- You will form independent views, supporting them with textual evidence
- You will analyse impact of style, language, structure and form in poetry and novels
- You will have the ability to relate texts to their social and historical contexts
- You will read with insight

# Geography



## What will I learn in Geography?

- How natural processes help have shaped the world including landscapes in the UK, natural hazards and climate change
- How human activity has shaped the human and physical environment creating opportunities and challenges for people
- Develop a range of transferable skills that are valued by future employers including literacy, numeracy, research and analysis and satellite image interpretation
- Developing their use of Applied Geography to new challenges and issues through the synoptic elements of the course and examined through the issues analysis paper
- Fieldwork techniques and 'route to enquiry' skills to investigate physical and human Geography
- The importance of Geography in understanding the challenges of the 21st Century and the role of sustainability in ensuring the relationship between people and planet

## How will I study Geography?

The GCSE course is split into two halves which cover elements of both Physical and Human Geography.

- Living with the Physical Environment includes following Physical topics: The Challenge of Natural Hazards (tectonic hazards, weather hazards and climate change), Physical Landscapes in the UK (river and coastal environments) and The Living World (tropical rainforest and cold environments)
- Challenges in the Human Environment includes the following Human topics: Urban Issues and Challenges (including urban areas in High Income Countries and Newly Emerging Economies), The Changing Economic World (looking at the UK economy and India) and the Challenge of Resource Management (with a focus on Water)

In addition to this, students will have the opportunity to complete fieldwork in the UK and apply Geographical skills in a practical manner.

## How will I be assessed?

- There are 3 written exams at the end of Year 11:
  - Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment, worth a total **35%** of your final grade
  - Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment, worth a total of **35%** of your final grade
  - Paper 3: Geographical Applications, worth a total of **30%** of your final grade
- There is **no longer** a piece of controlled assessment/coursework

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- Be keen, enthusiastic and enjoy the subject
- Take an active interest in the world around you and keep up-to-date with current events
- Be prepared to work hard and complete a regular homework and/or revision task to develop your academic skills and knowledge
- Be prepared to make synoptic links throughout the course which may include knowledge at KS3 to links to A level as part of a 7 year journey at Rainford

# History



## What will I learn in History?

The new history GCSE course offers a variety of approaches to history through a study of a specific period, a wider world depth study and a study of two aspects of British history. It will allow you the opportunity to question events and to reach your own conclusions about the past. The skills developed will include analysis, questioning, evaluation and forming judgements.

## How will I study History?

The course is divided into four examined topics:

- Understanding the modern world – America 1920-1973—Inequality and opportunity
- Wider world depth studies – here you will study conflict and tension throughout the Twentieth Century focusing on conflict in Asia: 1950-75: Korea and Vietnam
- A thematic study based around British history – Health and the People c1000 to the modern day
- At least one British depth study – this will be on a significant period in British history, we are looking at the reign of Elizabeth c1568-1603. It also includes study of a historical site worth 10% of your GCSE.

## How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed at the end of Year 11 by two exams. Both exams are two hours. The exams contain both short response answers and extended writing, with 3 large essays each worth 10% of the total GCSE.

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

The most important requirement is that you enjoy History!

As the exam is heavily based on extended questions, then you should be able to communicate in a logical and coherent manner.

There is a lot of extended writing in History so an ability to write fluidly and coherently is important. There are several question styles so you need to be adaptable and willing to practice key skills.

Good understanding of source material is also required.

If you have enjoyed Year 9 history, then you should enjoy the GCSE course.

# Mathematics



## What will I learn in Mathematics?

You will continue to develop your knowledge of the following areas:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability
- Statistics

## How will I study Mathematics?

- Lots of individual work in lessons, but some work will be completed in pairs or small groups
- Weekly homework will be set to practise the skills learnt in lessons
- By completing lots of past exam questions as the exam approaches
- Use of ICT to support learning, including [www.drfrostmaths.com](http://www.drfrostmaths.com) as well as resources on our Google Classroom.

## How will I be assessed?

- 100% exam
- Linear rather than modular approach
- Three equally weighted exam papers; one non-calculator and the other two calculator
- Students will be entered for the most appropriate tier of entry by their teacher:

Higher Tier, grades 4-9 achievable (3 allowed)  
Foundation Tier, grades 1-5 achievable

# MFL

## French and Spanish



### What will I learn in Modern Foreign Language?

- How to communicate effectively in speech and writing
- How to read fluently and to understand the spoken language
- You will gain an insight into the culture and way of life of the countries where French/Spanish is spoken

### How will I study Modern Foreign Language?

During the two year course, you will develop your knowledge and ability in the four skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. You will study the language in the following areas:

#### Theme 1: Identity and Culture

- Me, my family and friends
- Free-time activities, including technology
- Customs and festivals in French or Spanish-speaking countries

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

- Home, town, neighbourhood and region
- Social and global issues
- Travel and tourism

#### Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

- My studies
- Education Post-16

### How will I be assessed?

The course assessment is linear, with all examinations sat at the end of Year 11. There will be 4 examinations, testing each skill, and each is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade. Foundation Tier (grades 1-5) or Higher Tier (grades 4-9) are available but the same tier must be done for all papers.

- Listening exam: 35 minutes (Foundation), 45 minutes (Higher) to test pupils' understanding and responding to different types of spoken language. Questions will be in English and the target language
- Reading exam: 45 minutes (Foundation), 1 hour (Higher) to test pupils' understanding and responding to written language. Questions will be in English and the target language and there will be a translation into English
- Speaking exam: 7-9 minutes (Foundation), 10-12 minutes (Higher) to test pupils' ability to communicate and interact effectively in speech. The examination will include a role play, a photo card and a general conversation
- Writing exam: 1 hour (Foundation), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher) to test pupils' ability to communicate effectively in writing. The examination will include a structured writing task, an open-ended writing task and translation from English into the target language

### What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- Ability to communicate with others
- Ability to express opinions and ideas
- Ability to understand and use accurately a wide range of vocabulary and structures
- Ability to develop an awareness and understanding of countries where the language is spoken

Choosing to study a GCSE in a language complements every other GCSE subject. It improves students' knowledge of their own language which helps students of English Language and Literature, it boosts creativity for those who study Art, it develops problem-solving skills for those who study Science or Maths and helps create a better understanding of other countries and cultures for those who study History or Geography.

# Physical Education Core



## What will I learn in Physical Education?

- How to further adapt, refine and improve practical performance, critical evaluation and leadership skills developed in Key Stage 3
- Factors that affect sporting performance
- How to effectively develop a range of leadership roles including coach, referee, analyst and competition organiser

## How will I study Physical Education?

- You will have 1 double lesson per week
- You will have the **opportunity to choose your practical activities** from one chosen Pathway of:
  - Team Games
  - Individual Sports (including Dance, Golf, Aerobics and Trampoling)
  - Leadership and Coaching
  - Fitness and Health
- Opportunity is provided to use local sports facilities and coach local primary school pupils
- You will operate as a performer, leader, coach, referee, organiser in your chosen programme of study with a focus on developing you as an independent learner

## How will I be assessed?

- You will be assessed on levels of effort and commitment within chosen activities
- Those students choosing to follow Level 1 or 2 Sports Leadership or National Governing Body awards (Netball Leaders/Rugby Leaders) will be assessed in line with relevant external criteria

## What skills will I have at the end of the course?

- Good level of practical skills in a range of sporting activities
- Good fitness levels
- Confidence to take on a variety of sport related roles both in and out of school
- The ability to critically analyse your own and others' performance
- A higher knowledge and understanding of the benefits of life-long sporting participation



# Physical Education (OCR 1-9)



## What will I learn in Physical Education?

- Theoretical and practical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance
- How the physiological and psychological state affects performance in physical activity and sport
- Develop skills and techniques and select and use tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas
- Develop their ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance in physical activity and sport
- Understand key socio-cultural influences which can affect people's involvement in physical activity and sport

## How will I study Physical Education (60% Theory 40% Practical)

- You will have 3 classroom based theory lessons per week with practical assessments undertaken at various points throughout Years 10 and 11. Theory lessons will be taught in a practical setting where and when possible
- Classwork will be complemented by fortnightly homework
- You will have the opportunity to choose most of your practical activities including the option of an Outdoor Education residential course as part of your practical coursework

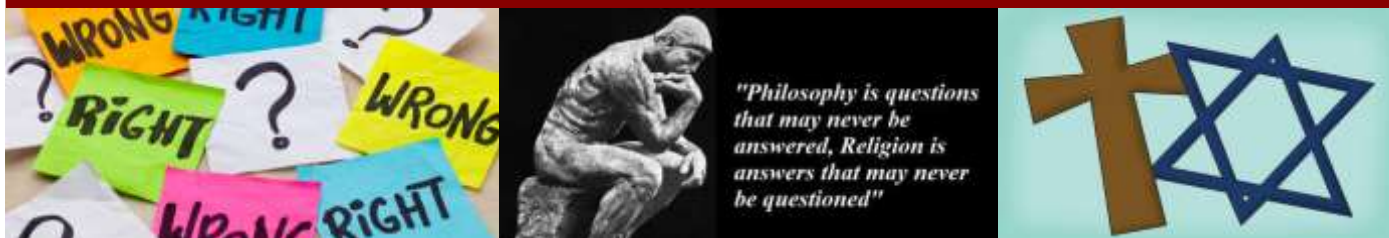
## How will I be assessed (60% Theory 40% Practical)

- Practical performance in 3 activities (1 game, 1 individual sport and 1 choice of either game or individual) worth 30%
- Analysis of Performance in 1 of your 3 chosen activities worth 10%. This includes the planning, performing and evaluating of a 6 week Personal Exercise Programme
- Two x 1 Hour (60 mark) written examinations worth 60%:
  - Paper 1 Applied Anatomy & Physiology / Fitness & Physical Training
  - Paper 2 Socio-Cultural Influences / Sports Psychology / Health, Fitness & Well Being

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- The understanding of the theoretical requirements of the course and that GCSE PE involves as much written work and examinations as other subjects
- High fitness levels and **outstanding practical performance across 3 different sports**
- The ability to critically analyse your own and others' performances
- High levels of literacy and numeracy
- A deep passion for PE and Sport and the desire to constantly improve

# Religious Studies



## What will I learn in RS?

All students follow the AQA Religious Studies specification. There are two units of study which students complete:

### Component One: The study of Religions: Beliefs, Teaching and Practices

Students will complete an in-depth study focused upon the Beliefs, teachings and practices of the religions of [Christianity](#) and [Judaism](#). This will include an exploration of religious festivals, how religious people worship and the nature of God including evil and suffering.

### Component Two: Thematic Studies

Students will explore four different Philosophical and ethical based units. Our chosen themes are:

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

**This includes the study of:** War and Peace, Capital Punishment, Abortion, Equality, Contraception, Sexual Relationships, Marriage, Divorce, Animal Experimentation, Life after death and Terrorism.

## How will I study RS?

Teaching in RS is varied and challenging including class discussions and debates, PowerPoint presentations by teachers and students, group work, research tasks and challenges.

We also have weekly ethical and philosophical discussions and debates exploring case studies/news reports/videos. This is an opportunity to express your opinions and debate current topical matters.

## How will I be assessed?

You will complete two written exams, one for each Unit each lasting 1hour 45 minutes. Both exams are completed at the end of Year 11.

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- You will be involved in discussion and debates some of a sensitive nature therefore an ability to want to discuss your opinions is important. However, you will also learn how to do this in the correct way.
- You will be required to complete extended writing within the exam therefore an ability to complete essay style questions is necessary.
- You do not need to have a religious background to complete this course. All students of all religions and students who do not believe in a religion or God are welcome.

# Technology: Graphic Design



## What will I learn in Graphic Design?

- Building graphic skills by exploring a wide range of materials, techniques and processes to produce samples and test pieces
- Developing creative skills whilst designing a range of alternative outcomes to meet a variety of design briefs
- Presenting and communicating design ideas, intentions and outcomes to a high standard

## How will I study Graphic Design

- How to improve sketching, drawing and presentation skills
- How to identify and experiment with the components of graphic design
- How to work to graphic design briefs - creating, developing, refining and selecting ideas
- How to use colour, imagery and type to design and create logos, surface decoration and digital layouts for a range of products including magazine covers, packaging and advertising
- How to use creative and desktop publishing software to manipulate, edit and present work
- How to annotate and evaluate own art and design work and the work of other practitioners

## How will I be assessed?

- Component 1: Portfolio of evidence completed during Y10/Y11, 60% of the final mark. Internally assessed/externally moderated.
- Component 2: Externally set design brief released in January of Y11. Final outcome completed in 10hrs under exam conditions, 40% of the final mark. internally assessed/externally moderated

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- A genuine interest in graphic design
- Competent sketching, and creative software skills
- A willingness to develop your creative thinking and designing skills
- A willingness to explore a wide range of graphic materials, techniques and processes
- Happy to work independently to a high standard
- Reliable and committed to studying in your own time

# Technology: Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering



## What will I learn in Hospitality and Catering?

This is an exciting course from Eduqas (WJEC) offering a level 1 / 2 qualification in Hospitality and Catering. The course has been designed to support students in schools and colleges who want to learn about this industry, develop their specialist skills and establish a career working in hospitality and catering. Students will develop a range of skills both practical and academic, through applied learning that will be useful in the workplace and for future study.

This subject will help students to gain a solid understanding of the hospitality and catering industries which will help learners to progress and achieve their goals. This qualification has purposeful tasks set in real-world contexts to help students to develop their skills ready for the workplace.

The specification offers a unique opportunity for students to develop their knowledge and extend their skills within hospitality and catering in a vocational context. It is a suitable qualification for those who want a broad background in this area and for those who wish to progress to further education. It will also offer valuable preparation for those entering the world of work.

## How will I study Hospitality and Catering?

- Hospitality in catering in context, you will investigate and learn how the hospitality service operates, learn about the environment in which operators work and visit local hotels to help visualise the services offered
- Investigate food hygiene, including completing a basic food hygiene qualification
- Principles of nutrition, diet and good health. You will be looking at the role of the main nutrients in the diet, their sources, function and deficiency disease
- Cooking and food preparation
- Initiative to develop recipes and evaluate their success

## How will I be assessed?

### Eduqas WJEC Hospitality & Catering Level 1/2

**Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry** - External assessment; Written examination 80 minutes. **40% of qualification.**

**Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action** - Internal assessment, External modification; Non-Examination Assessment. Research, prepare, cook and present dishes. 12 hours (including 4 hour practical assessment) **60% of qualification.**

## Beyond Technical Award

Successful completion of this qualification could support entry to qualifications that develop specific skills for work in hospitality and catering such as:

- WJEC Level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition
- Level 3 Diploma in Hospitality and Tourism Management (VRQ)
- Level 3 Certificate in Hospitality and Catering Principles (professional cookery)

This course can also lead to careers in Environmental Health, Childcare, Dietician and Nutrition, Food Industry Nutritionist and New Product Development.

# Technology: Product Design



## What will I learn in Product Design

- How to design and make a range of real products from wood and plastics
- How CAD/CAM can be used to help you produce quality products
- How to improve your practical skills to a high level in order to make quality products?
- Learn how working as part of a team to produce a product or design can help you solve problems

## How will I study Product Design?

- In Year 10 you will manufacture a range of practical projects
- After this, you will undertake an extended project that showcases your practical skills whilst manufacturing a product accompanied by a portfolio of evidence
- Other projects will be used to develop your ability to design and solve problems and improve your CAD/CAM drawing skills
- Theoretical content will be delivered through a number of assignments

## How will I be assessed?

- NEA (coursework) 50%
- Written examination, 50% of overall qualification

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- A love of making is essential!
- The ability to produce design proposals for a specific person or market
- You must be able to enjoy working with tools within the workshop safely
- You must enjoy designing and manufacturing products
- A desire to manufacture products to a high standard
- Happy to work independently and as part of a team
- An interest in how the subject works in the 'real world'

# Technology: Textiles



## What will I learn in Textiles?

- How to be creative in designing and making a range of products from a variety of materials to meet a design brief
- How to produce creative products using state of the art technologies such as CAD/CAM, digital printing and laser cutting facilities
- The ways in which meanings, ideas and intentions relevant to textile design can be communicated

## How will I study Textiles?

- Y10: You will complete several internally set design briefs which include research, design and make tasks. The final outcomes could include: textiles art, fashion design and illustration, printed and dyed textiles, soft furnishings and textiles for interiors, costume design, stitched or embellished textiles
- Along with learning practical and design skills, you will learn to analyse and evaluate art and design work from a range of practitioners
- Y11: you will continue completing the none examined assessment (NEA) work from Y10 before starting an externally set design brief which is released in January

## How will I be assessed?

- Component 1 is completed during Y10 and Y11 and is worth 60% of the final mark. It is internally assessed and then externally moderated
- Component 2 is an externally set design brief released in January of Y11. The final piece must be completed in 10hrs under exam conditions. It is worth 40% of the final mark. It is internally assessed and then externally moderated

## What skills do I need to succeed on this course?

- Enjoy being creative and making products
- You will be able to use the full range of tools and techniques within the textiles room safely, independently and with skill
- Happy to work independently to a high standard
- Reliable and committed to studying in your own time

# Triple Science

## Biology, Chemistry & Physics



This will provide three GCSE qualifications in Science and will allow the opportunity for students to develop a greater breadth of knowledge and understanding in each of the Science disciplines.

This course will require a passion for science and is suitable for anyone who is considering studying science at A Level or a STEM career.

### What will I learn in Triple Award Science?

- In addition to the topics studied in double award, students will explore further scientific ideas including Astrophysics, Analytical Chemistry, Human Biology and Homeostasis. This will give students an increased breadth of knowledge in Science
- How to improve your practical skills to a high level in order to investigate scientific concepts
- How to work as part of a team and as an independent learner in order to solve problems

### How will I study Triple Award Science?

- All students will study each subject area with the help of specialist teachers, engaging in both theory and practical activities for seven lessons each week
- Each individual student will be certified with GCSE in

**Biology:** Evolution, Disease, Biodiversity and Genetic engineering

**Chemistry:** Material Science, Rate and extent of chemical change, quantitative Chemistry, Organic and Chemical analysis

**Physics:** Electricity, Dynamics, Nuclear radiation and Kinematics

### How will I be assessed?

- The course is assessed 100% exam
- Students will take all external exams at the end of the two year course in Year 11
- There are six papers in total, two Biology papers, two Chemistry papers and two Physics papers
- Each paper is 1 hour 45 mins and includes a variety of questions, including multiple choice, short structured and extended response

# Notes

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