



**Beaufort**  
**Co-operative Academy**

Part of **our** Co-operative Academies Trust

**social democracy**  
**responsibility**  
caring for others  
**honesty**

# Key Stage 4 Curriculum

**self responsibility**  
**equality**      **openness**  
**self help**  
**solidarity**      **equity**

# KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM 2016

This booklet sets out to give both parents and students details of:

Subjects studied by all students in KS4.  
Optional subjects available to students in KS4.

There will be an important meeting for parents and students on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016 where the Key Stage 4 curriculum will be discussed fully. During this evening there will also be an opportunity to talk to subject specialists regarding the courses on offer.

The tutors, subject staff, Head of House and Head of KS4 will work together with you and your son or daughter so that they make the best choices for themselves.

Early in the Summer term the final copy of the subjects form will be sent home for your signature. Remember that this is probably the most important decision that your son or daughter has had to make in school. Please give it the consideration it deserves by reading the booklet, attending the meeting and discussing it fully at home.

**Should you at any time wish to discuss any aspect of the subject choices, please do not hesitate to make a personal appointment with your child's Leader of Learning Community or Mrs Marsden-Green (Assistant Principal).**



# Core Subjects

## Studied by ALL Students in KS4

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- Religious Education
- Citizenship
- Physical Education

The 'core' subjects studied by all students should give each student a curriculum which is:

**Broad and balanced** – this enlarged core introduces all students to a very wide range of knowledge, understanding and skills. The 'old' system of options often meant that some pupils studied a much narrower range of subjects and specialised too early.

**Relevant** – both to the changing nature of the society in which our pupils live (impact of science and technology, increased leisure time etc) and personally relevant to the individual student through profiling, careers guidance and continuous assessment including self-assessment.

**Differentiated** – by pace and depth to suit the ability and aptitude of the individual.

## OTHER ENTITLEMENTS

**Academic Tutoring** – with the Leader of Learning Community, Deputy Leader of Learning Community or Tutor. This will help each student cope with the demands of their chosen subjects. By the end of Year 11 each student should have built up an individual Learning Plan which recognises all their achievements, including examination successes.

**Careers Guidance and support from a School Based Careers Officer** – to help students on an individual basis by personal appointment.

## Core Subjects

- GCSE English language & English Literature
- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Science
- GCSE Citizenship Studies
- GCSE Religious Education
- Physical Education



# GCSE ENGLISH

## GCSE English Language and English Literature

### Exam Board

WJEC

### Subject Overview

GCSE English is an exciting course giving students the opportunity to explore a range of texts, develop their writing style and technique and oratory skills.

### Assessment

**30% Exam-Unit 1:** Comparing 2 non-fiction texts (assessing reading)

**30% Exam-Unit 2:** Two writing tasks, set in real world context:

- Transactional
- Discursive. (assessing writing)

**10% Controlled Assessment:**

**Unit 3:** Study of a Different Cultures prose (assessing reading)

**10% Controlled Assessment:**

**Unit 3:** Student of a Shakespeare play linked to literary heritage poetry (assessing reading)

**20% Controlled Assessment:**

**Unit 3:** Open Writing, two narrative writing tasks;

- First person
- Third person (assessing writing)

**Unit 4:** Spoken Language – Speaking and Listening: Three tasks –

- Creating and sustaining roles
- Interacting and responding
- Communicating and adapting language.

### Career Opportunities

A qualification in GCSE English or GCSE English Language is a pre-requisite for most further and higher education courses.

### Entry Requirements

All students will be entered for either GCSE English or GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. Entry will depend on your given 'pathway' and prior attainment at Key Stage 3.



# GCSE ENGLISH

## Language

### Exam Board

#### AQA

### Subject Overview

GCSE English Language is an exciting course giving students the opportunity to explore a range of texts from different periods of time, learning how to appreciate how language is used for different contexts, purposes and audiences. As well as this, students will develop both their own creative and analytical writing.

### Assessment

**This qualification is 100% exam, broken down in to the following units of study:**

#### **Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing.**

Looks at how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage the interest of readers.

- Written exam 1 hour, 45 minutes.
- 50% of GCSE.

#### **Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives.**

Looks at how different writers present a similar topic over time.

- Written exam 1 hour, 45 minutes.
- 50% of GCSE.

### Career Opportunities

A qualification in GCSE English Language is a pre-requisite for most further and higher education courses. Students also have the opportunity to continue their studies as we offer an **English Language A Level**, here in the sixth form.

### Entry Requirements

**All students** will be entered for GCSE English Language.



# GCSE ENGLISH

## Literature

### Exam Board

#### AQA

### Subject Overview

GCSE English Literature is an interesting course giving students the opportunity to develop their interest in literature. Texts explored include a range of poetry and prose from around the world, ranging from the classics to the contemporary.

### Assessment

This qualification is 100% exam, broken down in to the following units of study:

#### Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel

- Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on **Romeo and Juliet**. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.
- Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on **The Strange Case of Jekyll and Hyde**. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.
- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 40% of GCSE

#### Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry

- Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on the play **Blood Brothers**.
- Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the **Love and Relationships** cluster.
- Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one **unseen poem** and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.
- Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes 60% of GCSE

### Career Opportunities

A qualification in GCSE English Literature will expose students to a wide range of literature and literary contexts. It will enable students to continue the study of Literature, if they so wish, in both further and higher education.

### Entry Requirements

All students entered for GCSE English Language will also be entered for GCSE English Literature, as it is a double qualification course

# GCSE MATHEMATICS

## Exam Board EDEXCEL

## Subject Overview

At Key Stage 4 students will follow the Edexcel GCSE syllabus.

This will consist of a linear programme which will be examined at the end of Year 11.

There are two entry levels:

- Foundation tier – grades 1 to 4.
- Higher tier – grades 4 to 9.

## Assessment

100% Exam

## Career Opportunities

Examples of possible careers for mathematician: Engineering, Sciences, Nursing, Medicine, Financial Services, the Actuarial profession, ICT Sector, Teaching etc.

## Entry Requirements

**All students** will be entered for GCSE Mathematics



# GCSE SCIENCE

## Exam Board AQA

## Subject Overview

According to recent Government research, from 2017 nearly two-thirds of new jobs will be science-related, which explains why Science is a Core Subject that all students study up to year 11, with many progressing to post-16 qualifications afterwards.

It's all change in science at key stage four with an exciting new curriculum and a new exam board. Students will follow the AQA Trilogy Combined Science course, with two GCSEs being awarded at the end of year eleven.

As a department we are really excited about the change of course; the course will be broken down into modules of Biology, Chemistry and Physics and there is a strong practical element. In particular, we feel that students at Beaufort will benefit from the straightforward approach to assessment offered by AQA. The course is suited to learners of all abilities and aspirations, and is an ideal pre-cursor to our A-level and Level 3 BTEC post-16 courses.

## Assessment

There are six, 1 hour 15 minute papers: two biology, two chemistry and two physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Students will either be entered for Higher or Foundation.

## Students will study

### Biology

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

### Chemistry

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

### Physics

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

## Career Opportunities

Research Scientists, Technicians, Forensics, Food Manufacturing, Environment and Conservation, Animal Health and Breeding, Engineering and Aerospace.

## Entry Requirements

**All students** will be entered for GCSE Science.

# GCSE CITIZENSHIP STUDIES

## Exam Board

AQA

## Subject Overview

GCSE Citizenship Studies has the power to motivate and enable young people to become thoughtful, active citizens.

Students gain a deeper knowledge of democracy, government and law, and develop skills to create sustained and reasoned arguments, present various viewpoints and plan practical citizenship actions to benefit society.

They will also gain the ability to recognise bias, critically evaluate argument, weigh evidence and look for alternative interpretations and sources of evidence, all of which are essential skills valued by higher education and employers.

Citizenship studies investigates how the citizen is enabled by society to play a full and active part and how citizens are empowered to effect change within society. Citizenship understanding develops through the knowledge of how a society operates and functions and its underlying values.

The overarching theme of this specification is 'How citizens can try to make a difference'. This aim is supported by three content themes: Life in Modern Britain, Rights and responsibilities and Politics and participation. The skills, processes and methods underpin the specification.

## Career Opportunities

Apart from being beneficial at a personal and community level, Citizenship is useful in any working environment whether this be job or professionally based.

# GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## Exam Board

AQA

## Subject Overview

The course content is as follows:

### The study of religion: beliefs, teaching and practices

The beliefs, teaching and practices of:  
Christianity  
Islam

### Thematic studies

Relationship and families;  
Religion and life;  
Religion, peace and conflict;  
Religion, crime and punishments.

For each topic students will be required to understand the various attitudes of the different religions. They will also be actively encouraged to present their own opinions which, in all cases, will be respected. The final exams, similarly, seek to test not only pupils' understanding but also their attitudes to key issues.

## Assessment

This qualification is 100% exam.

Should you have any concerns about the course we would request that you discuss these with the Head of RE

# CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students continue to take part in Physical Education lessons. During these periods the activities covered try to both complement the foundation course offered in Key Stage 3 and to extend the range of activities offered. These include Badminton, Squash, Weight Training, Aerobics and Water Polo. In addition Football, Basketball, Netball, Hockey, Rugby, Cricket, Athletics, Softball and Tennis can all be available within the programme. The course is designed to ensure that standards of learning, physical development and understanding are maintained.

Throughout the course high levels of participation and effort are required and high standard of dress (School Uniform Kit is a requirement) is expected.

There are also a range of opportunities outside lessons for those who wish to develop their potential in physical activity. It is also hoped that those who possess the ability will represent the School in the wide range of sports which make up this important aspect of the Community life of the school.

Students move away from a more structured programme of study, and opt termly on several different pathways. These pathways range from 'competitive sports', 'recreational physical activities', and 'developing fitness' as just a sample. All pathways aim to continue to develop our students' level of fitness and aim to provide them with a broader understanding of the physical activity options post-16, and in the wider world, in the hope that they will maintain positive and active lifestyles in the future."



-  GCSE ART & DESIGN – Fine Art
-  GCSE ART & DESIGN - Textiles
-  BTEC First In Business
-  CIDA
-  GCSE Computer Science
-  GCSE Drama
-  GCSE French

**democracy**

**social  
responsibility**

**honesty**

**caring for others**

# Path Way Subjects

**self responsibility**

**openness**

**equity**

**solidarity**

**self help**

**equality**

GCSE Geography 

BTEC First in Health & Social Care 

GCSE History 

GCSE Media Studies 

GCSE Music 

GCSE Photography 

GCSE Physical Education 

# Making your choice

The choices you are about to make are vitally important to your future and there are certain factors which you must consider before making them.



- DO** Consult with your teachers about subjects.
- DO** Take into consideration the comments on your report, your predicted grades and advice in the letter already sent to you.
- DO** Seek advice from Mrs Coetzee (Work Related Learning Teacher) if you are in doubt about certain qualifications for certain jobs
- DO** Talk about your options with your parents so that you and they understand why you are making a particular choice.

- DON'T** Choose a subject which you don't like. Generally people do far better if they do subjects that they are interested in.
- DON'T** Choose a subject just so that you can be with friends. You must make the best choice for you!
- DON'T** Choose a subject just because it's new. There are a whole range of new subjects offered in ks4 but make sure you know what you are letting yourself in for before choosing one of them. Ask older students if necessary.

Take time and trouble, it is important for your future.

# GCSE ART & DESIGN

## Fine Art

### Exam Board AQA

### Subject Overview

The course consists of two components which is a portfolio of work to be assessed at the end of the course externally. This consists of a theme based unit of work which will show drawing and experimentation leading to a final piece. Students will also follow a series of workshop based lessons developing a wide variety of skills in Art such as printing, painting and mixed media work. Students are to provide evidence of strong drawing skills and written annotation.

The second component is an externally set assignment students will develop preparatory work leading up to an exam which is a 10 hour supervised exam run over several days.

### Assessment

The portfolio of work is worth 60% of the overall course  
The external exam is worth 40 % of the course.

### Career Opportunities

Graphic designer, advertising director, spatial designer, makeup special effects artist, animator, interior designer, sports apparel designer, art critic, typographer, dressmaker embroider, concept designer, fibre artist, logo/branding designer, sign writer, stage designer and the list continues.....



# GCSE ART & DESIGN

## Textile Design

### Exam Board

#### AQA

### Subject Overview

Textile design provides students with an exciting opportunity to design and make fashion and interior products or pieces of art with creativity and originality. Students will work with a wide variety of materials and techniques such as, applique, embroidery, printing and garment construction. They will be required to manufacture high quality outcomes using appropriate tools and equipment. The students will have to demonstrate a clear understanding of each assessment objective through sketchbook work, sampling, development and a final response all supported with written annotation.

The course encourages students to research, observe, plan, experiment and design. As well as working practically students will also develop skills in decision making, creativity, and critical analysis through consistent evaluation and personal reflection.



### Assessment

#### Component 1: 60% Portfolio

A sustained project in response to a theme, subject or title and must demonstrate the journey from beginning to final outcome.

This would involve:

- Observational drawing
- Experimenting with different textile techniques
- Development of prototype with design proposals
- Final Outcome

A selection of further work:

- Mini projects
- Response to a gallery/museum visit
- Trials and experiments.

#### Component 2: 40% Practical Exam

- Exam board will set the assignment
- Students select one starting point/ title
- Preparatory work to support the final response available at the start of January.
- 10 hour practical exam under supervision.

### Career Opportunities

Textile Design is an excellent choice for anyone considering a career in Art and Design – Fashion Design, Textile Design (Print, Weave and Knit), Interior Design, Fashion Marketing, Buyers and Merchandisers.

# BTEC First Award in Business

## Exam Board EDEXCEL

## Subject Overview

The core units cover the essential knowledge and skills required in the business sector. Additional units, cover branding and promotion, customer service, sales, retail business recruitment and career development, and business support systems.

The course provides opportunities for students to develop the communication skills needed for working in the business sector, as they progress through the course. This will be achieved through presentations and in discussions where they have the opportunity to express their opinions.

Students will have the opportunity to develop the key enterprise and financial skills and knowledge necessary to enable them to understand how businesses recognise opportunities, and build on them to succeed.

Students will understand how a business makes and manages its money, and plans for the future.

## Assessment

### 25% External Assessment

A one hour on-screen test covering 'Finance for Business' (Unit 2). Aspects of finance include costs, profit, break-even analysis and cash-flow.

### 75% Coursework

Continually assessed work throughout the course covering business structure and organisation, resources, marketing and the economy.

## Career Opportunities

This course could provide a starting point of a route into employment in many of the diverse areas of business, including roles in specialist areas such as marketing, finance, customer service or human resources in large businesses, or a more general role in a small, local business.



# GCSE Catering

## Exam Board WJEC

## Subject Overview

This course is aimed at students who primarily have a passion for cooking, health and nutrition and may wish to use this qualification within a career in Hospitality, Catering and Management.

The WJEC GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

Areas of study include:

- Food commodities
- Principles of nutrition
- Diet and good health
- The science of food
- Where food comes from
- Cooking and food preparation

## Assessment

### 25% External Assessment

40% Written Exam – end of Year 11

Unit 1 – Principles of Food and Nutrition - 1 hour and 30 minutes

- **Section A:** questions based on stimulus materials.
- **Section B:** a range of question types to assess all content related to food and nutrition.

60% Controlled Assessment:

- **Assessment 1:** 20% of total mark.
- Food Investigation assessing skills, understanding and scientific principles of food preparation.
- **Assessment 2:** 40% of total mark:
- Planning, cooking and presentation of dishes to form a menu.

## Career Opportunities

Catering and hospitality management, food technology, food science, chef, food management production and retail. It offers a valuable preparation for students interested in food based careers and progressing onto further and higher education.



# ICT Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA)

## Exam Board EDEXCEL

## Subject Overview

Students who complete the course receive a Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA) This is equivalent to one GCSE.

The course is purely an electronic qualification; therefore no paper work is produced.

Students present their work in an electronic e-portfolio (website) after reading an online web resource and independently completing a set number of tasks.

### Inspiring and Challenging

CiDA promotes creative use of digital applications. It challenges learners to demonstrate what they know and are able to do when creating real documents, publications and graphics.

### Modern and Future-Proofed

CiDA is designed to equip learners with the skills they need to live, learn and earn in the 21st century.

### Creative

CiDA enables learners to make the leap from passive consumers to active producers of quality digital content. It develops their ability to organise themselves and their work and encourages them to reflect critically on their own and others' use of ICT.

## Assessment

### 25% External Exam –

Unit 1: Developing Web Products

### 75% Coursework Assessment –

Unit 2: Creative Multimedia or

Unit 3: Artwork and Imaging or

Unit 4: Game Making

## Career Opportunities

Careers in retail, communications industries and creative computing such as: graphic design, web design, computer games design and interactive media. The CiDA course provides an excellent route into the Sixth Form where students can opt for either the Level 2 or Level 3 BTEC ICT subjects.



# ICT Computing

## Exam Board EDEXCEL

### Subject Overview

The course provides students with a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. It will give students an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming, which many learners find absorbing.

#### Units

##### Fundamentals of Computer Systems

This topic introduces computer systems and provides a foundation for the remaining topics in this unit. Students will learn that the term 'Computer System' does not just mean the desktop at home but can include any system controlled or including a processor.

##### Computing Hardware

Students will be able to define the term hardware and have an understanding of many different types and how they operate.

##### Software

Students will be able to define the term software and have an understanding of the types and how they interact with the user and hardware.

##### Representation of data in computer systems

Students will understand how data is stored on a computer system and the different ways they can be represented including binary and hexadecimal conversion.

##### Databases

Students will be able to understand, operate and create databases.

##### Computer Communications and Networking

Students will learn about the setup and structure of networks and the Internet

##### Programming

Students will gain an understanding of how programming languages operate and learn how to design and plan solutions using algorithms and flowcharts.

### Assessment

#### Component 1

- (40%) 2 hour written examination
- Principles of Computer Science

#### Component 2

- (40%) 2 hour written examination
- Application of Computational Thinking

#### Component 3

- (20%) Programming Project

In order to be able to do this course you must have good grades within ICT and demonstrate strong mathematical skills.

### Career Opportunities

Career areas are constantly evolving due to the dynamic world of Computer programming and include areas such as web design, gaming, computer programming and software design.

# GCSE Drama

## Exam Board EDUQAS

## Subject Overview

Have you ever dreamt of being involved in the world of theatre?

Do you aspire to become a famous Actor or Director?

The study of GCSE Drama cannot only help towards your chosen career path but can also help encourage the following: enthusiasm, confidence, self esteem, tolerance and empathy.

Students can experience new roles or problems and explore actions and consequences safely and realistically removed from complications/experiences they may have in the real world.

The course offers students:

- The opportunity to devise and perform a play to an audience, thinking about lighting, sound, costume, set, props and make up
- To stage a section from a published play of their choice to an audience
- To consider a play from a directional point of view
- The ability to develop new ways of communicating and understanding others.

If you have a creative mind, enjoy working as part of a team, want to build on your confidence and enjoy all, or any aspects, of the world of theatre, drama is for you.

## Assessment

### Unit 1

- Task One 40% Devised Practical Performance
- Candidates will devise a practical performance based on a theme, linked with a practitioner or genre.
- Task Two 20% Devised Performance Report
- Candidates will complete a written report on the practical work they completed in Task One.

### Unit 2

- 20% - Performance from a text.
- Candidates will be assessed on their acting skills in a scene from a published play.

### Unit 3

- Written Examination 20%
- Written paper: 1½ hours
- Candidates will be assessed on their ability to analyse one set text as an actor, designer and director and to evaluate practical work completed in Unit 2.

## Career Opportunities

Actor, Actors Agent, Artistic Director, Arts Journalist, Backstage Crew, Costume Designer, Director, front of house work, lighting work, Props Manager, Set Designer, sound work, Stage Manager.

# GCSE French

## Exam Board AQA

## Subject Overview

Students may opt to study French to GCSE during Key Stage 4. Studying a modern foreign language at GCSE level and obtaining a Grade 5 or better is essential for entry into some British universities, regardless of the subject to be studied at degree level. Also, there is an increasing demand from employers for potential employees to have some foreign language skills, and the shortage of these skills is recognised by the government. Therefore, having a language GCSE may be of great value.

The course involves practising all four skill areas, listening, reading, speaking and writing, and each of these four skills contributes 25% towards the final grade awarded. Students can aim for Foundation level which offers grades 1-5, or Higher which offers the possibility of achieving up to grade 9.

## Assessment

There are three themes to be studied.

**Theme 1 is Identity and culture** and covers 'Me, my family and friends', 'Technology in everyday life, 'Free-time activities' and 'Customs and festivals in French-speaking countries/communities'.

**Theme 2 is Local, national, international and global areas of interest** and covers 'Home, town, neighbourhood and region', 'Social issues', 'Global issues' and 'Travel and tourism'.

**Theme 3 is Current and future study and employment** and covers 'My studies', 'Life at school/college', 'Education post-16', and 'Jobs, career choices and ambitions'.

We have a long track record of excellent results for GCSE French. In 2015 92% of students achieved a grade A\*-C, and in 2014 100% achieved A\*-C. If you choose to continue with French you will need to commit to working hard to maintain these excellent standards.

Please feel free to consult your own language teacher or Mr Gumbrell if you require any help or further guidance.

# GCSE Geography

## Exam Board EDEXCEL

## Subject Overview

“Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future” Michael Palin.

The new specification for Geography is relevant and engaging for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It involves the study of Global Issues, as well as those within the UK. It is an enquiry based course, encouraging students to explore issues through questions and linking all of their geographic skills together.

Topics studied on the course include:

**Hazardous Earth** – Why do volcanoes erupt and earthquakes shake? Why are some countries more vulnerable to weather hazards?

**Development** - Why are some countries rich, when others are so poor? Which economies are growing the quickest and why?

**Urbanisation** – Why does the quality of life vary within a megacity? How do megacities grow and improve?

**UK physical landscapes** – Why is there such a variety of landscapes in the UK? How is nature able to shape the land?

**UK human landscapes** – Why are places and people changing in the UK? What links does the UK have to the rest of the world?

**Biospheres** – Why are biospheres so important to human wellbeing?

**Forests** – What are the threats to forests, and how can they be reduced?

**Energy** – How can we meet the growing demand for energy, without causing damage?

There will also be the opportunity to conduct both a physical and human piece of fieldwork during the course.

Geography is part of our everyday lives, so discover the world around you.

## Assessment

In total, there are three exams at the end of the course.

- Paper 1: Global Geographical Issues
- Paper 2: UK Geographical Issues
- Paper 3: People and Environmental Issues – Making Geographical Decisions.

## Career Opportunities

Geography is an excellent opportunity for you to have an understanding of our modern world and is applicable to many jobs and professions, including working for charities or development agencies to help people, landscape design, tourism, journalism, teaching, advertising, geology, volcanology, meteorology.

Never have geographic issues been so important to our planet: climate change, global warming, migration, renewable energy, redevelopment to name but a few.



# BTEC First Award in Health & Social Care

## Exam Board EDEXCEL

## Subject Overview

The first core unit of this qualification, which is externally assessed, provides students with a sound understanding of human life span development. Students will also gain an appreciation of the importance of health and social care values in the sector from the second core unit.

The qualification also covers a range of specialist topics through completion of additional units, which provide for a wide range of students' needs and interests, such as 'Promoting Health and Wellbeing' and looking at 'Individual Rights in Health and Social Care'.

All students will have the opportunity to experience the vocational elements of the course through talks from visiting speakers, and develop practical skills, such as demonstrating health and social care values that will help prepare students for the world of work.

The course provides opportunities for students to develop the communication skills needed for working in the Health & Social Care sector, as they progress through the course. This will be achieved through presentations and in discussions where they have the opportunity to express their opinions.

## Assessment

**25% Exam** - A one hour exam covering 'Human Lifespan Development' (Unit 1). Topics include changes which occur at different life stages and factors that affect growth and development.

**75% Coursework Assignments** – Continually assessed work throughout the course covering a range of health issues including effective communication, promoting good health, nutrition and diet and equality and diversity.

## Career Opportunities

This course provides a good preparation for careers in a wide range of Health and Social Care professions, as every student taking the qualification completes it with a level of understanding and skill on which to build at a later date, through employment or further study. It presents knowledge, skills and understanding in a meaningful work-related context, to allow students to understand theory and application.

# GCSE History

## Exam Board AQA

## Subject Overview

GCSE history is divided into four areas and taught across the 3 years of study with 2 exams taken in the summer of the final year. The first element is Germany, 1890-1945. This period of study focuses on the development of Germany during a turbulent half century. It was a period of democracy and dictatorship – the development and collapse of the Weimar Republic and the rise and fall of Nazism. A wider world depth study will focus on conflict and tension in Asia, 1950-1975. This will look at the development of the Cold War in Asia and why conflict occurred in Korea and Vietnam. This study also considers the role of key individuals such as Richard Nixon. Britain: Health and the People, a thematic study will enable students to gain an understanding of how public health and medicine developed in Britain over a long period of time. Finally, Norman England 1066-c1100, this unit allows students to study in depth the arrival of the Normans and how they consolidated their control. It will also focus on life under the Normans and how they changed and influenced the English Church.

## Assessment

### Paper 1: Understanding the Modern World

- Section A: Germany 1890-1945; Democracy & Dictatorship. Six compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B: Conflict & Tension in Asia; 1950-1975. Four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Total marks 84 (including four marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology).
- 50% of GCSE.

### Paper 2: Shaping the Nation

- Section A: Britain: Health and the People. Five compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B: Norman England, 1066-c1100. Four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Total marks 84 (including four marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology).
- 50% of GCSE.

## Career Opportunities

A GCSE or A Level in History demonstrates the ability to think analytically and identify the causes for change and the impact they have had. History is an academic discipline and is highly regarded by employers and universities. A good history qualification would be particularly beneficial to careers in Politics, Journalism, Education, Media and Business.

# GCSE Media Studies

## Exam Board

AQA

## Subject Overview

During the course students will study the three media platforms: print, broadcast and e-media. They will be able to use their talents in each area to produce work that is of a professional standard, recreating scenes from famous films, television shows and music videos, as well as developing their own artistic creations. Texts that have been studied are: the advertising industry, the promotion of bands and artistes, magazine production, the production of movie trailers, radio broadcasts and gaming.

Students look at the ways the star power of celebrities is shaped and developed, how movie trailers, video games and adverts are produced as well as how media is used to influence the way we think about the world. It is a fascinating subject that is limitless in its scope.

Students will learn about the four key media concepts; language, institution, audience and representation - they will begin to appreciate just how powerful and influential the media world is. There really is something for everyone!

There are no formal qualifications required. It has a significant practical element. Ability to manage long-term coursework projects and written evaluations are required.

## Assessment

### Unit 1: Investigating the Media 40%

- Exam topic – Television dramas (2018)

### Unit 2: Understanding the Media 60%

- Assignment 1 – Print Magazines: create a magazine cover after researching existing magazines.
- Assignment 2 – Promotion of Music: explore how artists are represented and promoted before designing an original artist.
- Assignment 3 – Moving Image: research existing film campaigns before creating a trailer for a film from a chosen genre.

## Career Opportunities

The UK is a global leader in the creative industries, and it's an area that's booming in Britain, with employment in the creative industries at twice the rate of other areas of employment. Qualifications in Media Studies would provide anyone with a platform to step into the creative industries, leading to careers in music, ICT, journalism, advertising, film making and more.

GCSE Media Studies offers an engaging and rewarding route into what is seen as the fastest growing and arguably most important industries in the UK for today and the future.



# GCSE Music

## Exam Board EDUQAS

## Subject Overview

The GCSE Music course is ideal for those who are excited about all aspects of Music, especially Performing, Composing and Listening. You will get to specialise in the instrument or voice of your choice and experience more freedom to develop your skills and musicality. You will learn to use a variety of up to date music software to enable you to write music yourself. GCSE Music allows you to broaden your musical knowledge to exciting new styles of music and leads you through a fascinating journey of Music for Stage and Screen, Musical Structure, Welsh Music and Music Evolution.

## Assessment

**40% Listening Exam** - made up of music of all styles from the Music for Stage and Screen, Musical Structure, Welsh Music and Music Evolution. Students get to listen to music, explore its meaning and the way it is written.

**30% Performance Exam** - Everyone performs two pieces. One performance is as a soloist and the other as part of a group. This enables you to perform and also choose the instrument/voice you perform with.

**30% Controlled Assessment** - Composition. Through the two years you will learn how to write your own music. This is a hugely rewarding aspect of the GCSE and a lot of pride is taken by students in producing their own music. The two compositions are assessed as coursework and are recorded.

## Career Opportunities

GCSE Music can lead on to an A Level or Degree course in Music, Music Technology, Performing Arts, Theatre Studies, Teaching, Music Management, Marketing, Music Journalism, Music Therapy, DJing, Film Composing, IT, Recording, Sound Engineering, Song Writing, Event Management and Performing.



# GCSE Photography

## Exam Board AQA

## Subject Overview

During the course you will develop your 'creative eye' and learn how to compose successful imagery. You will also learn how to present your imagery in different ways.

You will learn about different photographic genres eg. Architecture, wildlife, portrait and fashion. You will use traditional and digital methods to produce your work.

The course involves several day trips and you will be required to provide your own digital camera.

## Assessment

Photography is a two year course during which you are required to produce work for a coursework portfolio (60% of the overall grade) and an exam (40%).

## Career Opportunities

Students who study photography often choose to develop their skills further at A-Level and then go on to become photographers, illustrators and graphic designers. It is relevant for careers in media, ICT (games design and so on) and other creative industry jobs.



# GCSE Physical Education

## Exam Board AQA

## Subject Overview

GCSE Physical Education provides students with the knowledge and understanding of how to live a healthy and active lifestyle, enabling them to make informed choices about their own physical development. Students can choose from a variety of roles and activities in which to participate in physical activity. They will be examined in three sports at the end of the course.

In order to improve their practical grades over the course, GCSE students will be expected to regularly attend extra-curricular activities and represent the academy. The GCSE students are expected to be role models for the rest of the year in PE.

## Assessment

Students study seven units in theory lessons for the exams which include applied anatomy and physiology, sports psychology and movement analysis. Students should consider their current performance in Science and English as a guide to how they may perform in the theory element.

Students will take two exams at the end of the course which make up 60% of the overall grade. The remaining 40% is the practical exam and analysis of performance. The exams will consist of short and long answer questions based on the units covered.

Students studying GCSE PE can move on to A Level Physical Education or BTEC Sports Studies in the 6<sup>th</sup> form.

