

Key Stage 4 Curriculum Summary

Core/ Optional	Subject	GCSE/ BTEC	Exam Board & Course Code	Overview of course content
Core	English Language	GCSE	AQA 8700	This qualification involves investigative and analytical approaches using the English language in different contexts and includes a creative and functional writing element. Pupils will also develop key spoken language skills.
	English Literature	GCSE	AQA 8702	This course will involve reading and discussing a range of engaging texts including a nineteenth century novel, a Shakespeare play, a modern novel and an anthology of poetry. Students are taught to develop their own responses to the texts through a thorough understanding of the writer's craft.
	Mathematics	GCSE	EDEXCEL 1MA1	GCSE Mathematics covers a wide range of content grouped into six areas: number, algebra, ratio, proportion and rates of change, geometry and measures, probability and statistics. While studying Mathematics, pupils will use mathematical skills and knowledge to solve problems, and using logic and reason, break down those problems into small steps in order to solve them.
	Combined Science (Trilogy) – worth two GCSEs.	GCSE	AQA 8464	Pupils will study a diverse range of topics from all three science disciplines. They will be expected to complete a series of required practical tasks, in which they will hone their practical skills, data handling and presentation, analysis and evaluation. These skills along with subject knowledge and application will be assessed in a series of examinations at the end of year 11: 2 in biology, 2 in chemistry, and 2 in physics. The combined score will be reported across two GCSE grades.
	Biology	GCSE	AQA 8461	Pupils will cover a diverse range of biology, chemistry and physics topics, with extended content compared to the combined science GCSE course. They will be expected to complete a series of required practical tasks, in which they will hone their practical skills, data handling and presentation, analysis and evaluation. These skills, with the subject knowledge and application will be assessed through two written examinations per subject at the end of year 11.
	Chemistry	GCSE	AQA 8462	
	Physics	GCSE	AQA 8463	
	Religious Studies	GCSE	Edexcel Beliefs in Action: Specification B	<p>Students must study four content sections based upon Christianity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beliefs (Nature of God, Creation, Afterlife, Salvation, Jesus Christ) • Marriage and the Family • Living the Religious Life (Worship, Festivals, Role of the church community and worldwide, Sacraments, Pilgrimage and celebrations). • Matters of Life and Death <p>Students must study four content sections based upon Judaism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beliefs (The nature of God, Mitzvot, Covenant and the Messiah) • Philosophy of Religion • Living the Religious Life (Worship, The Synagogue, Rituals, Marriage ceremony, Festivals: Practices in Britain and elsewhere and Dietary laws) • Equality <p>100% Exam based. Pupils will take two 1hr 45minute exams at the end of year 11.</p>

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Optional	Art	GCSE	EDEXCEL 1AD0	<p>Pupils learn the how use a range of mediums and grounds to create expressive pieces of artwork, using their research and understanding of artists and movements in art to influence their sketches and final pieces.</p> <p>The course comprises 60% coursework and 40% externally set assignment.</p>
	Business Studies	BTEC	BTEC First in Business Studies (Edexcel)	<p>The course consists of four units including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enterprise in the Business World - an introduction to Business Studies and the working world. this looks in detail at what steps need to be taken to start a small business successfully and some of the common mistakes. Finance for Business - this unit looks at the numbers and accounting side of running a business. Promoting a brand – this unit explains how a business builds a brand and why this is important. It looks at a number of promotional techniques that can be used to make people aware of your brand. Principles of customer service – this unit introduces students to the different types of customers that business come into contact with, and how to deal with them to ensure that their expectations are met. <p>The course is 75% coursework and 25% exam—financial control. Some pupils may decide to take this subject, because they feel that they struggle to show their true ability in examinations and are better suited to coursework.</p>
	Computing	GCSE	Edexcel 1CP1	<p>Pupils will learn to understand how computer technology works, including computer programming. Pupils will look at the use of algorithms in computer programs, acquire and apply creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of IT in a range of contexts, develop computer programs to solve problems, evaluate the effectiveness of computer programs/solutions and the impact of computer technology in society.</p> <p>Pupils will be assessed through two written examinations in Year 11, these are Computer Systems and Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming.</p>
	Drama	GCSE	Edexcel 1DR0	<p>Component 1: Devising- Centre Assessed worth 40% of qualification In groups, pupils will create and develop a devised piece from a stimulus. They will then need to evaluate and analyse the devising process and performance in a portfolio.</p> <p>Component 2: Performance from Text-External Examiner worth 20% qualification Pupils will perform two extracts from a published play, which could involve either a monologue or duologue and a group performance.</p> <p>Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice- Written examination worth 40% Pupils will sit a 1 hour and 30 minutes exam which will cover the following: Section A- answering a question on an unseen extract from the play they will be studying. Section B- Pupils will have to answer two questions based on a theatre performance they have seen with their class. Pupils will be allowed to bring in theatre evaluation notes of up to a maximum of 500 words into the exam.</p>
	Geography	GCSE	EDEXCEL 1GAO	<p>Pupils examine many of the major contemporary themes facing the world including environmental, economic, social, and political issues. They study physical geography including the changing landscapes of the UK, weather hazards and climate change, eco systems and biodiversity. They also study human geography, which includes changing cities, global development and resource management. Finally, pupils conduct fieldwork on river ecosystems.</p>

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Optional	History	GCSE	EDEXCEL 1HI0	Paper 1: Thematic Study (1HI0/10) - Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000–present and Whitechapel, c1870–c1900: crime, policing and the inner city. Paper 2: Period Study and British depth Study (1HI0/B2 and 26/27) - The reigns of King Richard I and King John, 1189–1216 and Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91 Paper 3: Modern Depth Study (1HI0/33) - The USA, 1954–75: conflict at home and abroad.
	MFL	GCSE	AQA French 8658 AQA Spanish 8698	Students study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based. Theme 1: Identity and culture (inc. Family, Friends, Technology, Social Media, Mobile Phones, Sport, Cinema, TV, Festivals in France / Spain) Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest (inc. Home, Towns, Charity Work, Healthy and Unhealthy Living, environment, Poverty, Homelessness, Holidays, Travel) Theme 3: Current and future study and employment (inc. School, Subjects, Life at School, University or Work?, Choice of Career) GCSE French and Spanish have a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. All four question papers (Listening, Reading, Speaking, Writing), worth 25% of the final grade each, are taken at the end of Year 11 as final exams.
	Music	GCSE	EDUQAS 601/8131/X	Pupils learn to perform, compose and appraise different styles of music, including film music, popular music, jazz and blues, musical theatre and Western Classical music (Baroque, Classical and Romantic). Coursework: Pupils complete a portfolio of performances (both solo and ensemble performances) and 2 compositions. Exam: 1 exam at the end of Year 11.
	Physical Education	GCSE	OCR J587	GCSE Physical Education is a course covering the academic side of the sports industry. Pupils will develop theoretical understanding of physical activity and use this to improve performance. Alongside this they will develop their physiological and psychological knowledge and this will lead into course such as A Level Physical Education, Biology and Psychology. Pupils will also gain a grasp for biomechanical principles and start to be able to apply these Mathematical concepts to sports performances which will aid their future applications to modern technologies in sport. The course is examined in two one hour papers (worth 60%) assessing: Applied anatomy and physiology including physical training Socio-cultural influences and Psychology The remaining 40% will be assessed against their practical ability in 3 Sports.
	3D Design	GCSE	Eduqas GCSE Art and Design (3D Design) C655QS	Pupils will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of essential skills and experiences in 3D Design or Textile Design. The pupils will follow a course that encourages creativity, sustained investigation, experimentation, design and making as a means of developing technical and expressive skills, extending experience and personal response, as well as developing imagination and critical, reflective thinking. In Year 11 they will complete one Portfolio project (component 1) and one externally set assignment (which culminates in a practical exam).
	Textiles (Art Textiles)	GCSE	Eduqas GCSE Art and Design (Textile Design) C653QS	