



## Key Stage 4 Options

2024 - 2026

Dear Students,

At this time in Year 9 we ask you to make some decisions about subjects you would like to continue or start to learn in Years 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4). Everyone at Whitstone School will study a 'core' of subjects, the options process gives you the ability to request to study a further four subjects in the normal school day.

It is recommended that you select courses in which you have a real aptitude as well as interest. It is important that you understand your own strengths and weaknesses so that you can optimise your chances of success. You should not choose subjects based on what your friends are going to do, these choices are for you and you should consider which subjects you are best suited to.

As well as using the information in this booklet, you need to seek advice and guidance from your teachers, Aspire Lead and parents/carers. You will also be given the chance to experience what a Key Stage 4 lesson might look like in our Options Week. In addition there will be the opportunity to experience lessons in subjects which are new to you, these will take place after school during this week.

The two years of preparation for GCSE or BTEC examinations are the most significant and important to date, and GCSE or BTEC grades are a key element in admission to your next stage of learning beyond Whitstone School

Kind regards

Mr Elsegood  
Senior Assistant Headteacher (Curriculum)

## **Pathways**

At Whitstone School we offer two Pathways. These Pathways offer all of our students the best chance to achieve a wide range of qualifications, which will help them realise their potential.

All students will study the following subjects as part of our **Core Curriculum**:

GCSE English Literature

GCSE English Language

GCSE Mathematics

GCSE Science (Double Award)

GCSE History or GCSE Geography

PE (Not examined)

Ethics, Culture and Careers (Not examined)

GCSE French (some students study this qualification).

## **Pathway L**

### [Key Stage 4 Pathway L Option form](#)

Students who have been selected by the school to follow Pathway L, in addition to our Core Curriculum, will also study GCSE German. These students have shown a natural aptitude for Modern Foreign Languages over the last three years and thus they would be expected to achieve an excellent result in GCSE German at the end of Year 11.

## **Pathway N**

### [Key Stage 4 Pathway N Option form](#)

Students who have been selected for this Pathway will study all of the courses as part of our Core Curriculum offer and in addition will be given the choice of a further three subjects from the wide range of courses we offer.

All students will receive the correct Pathway Option form via their Aspire Lead at the start of the Option Week. In addition a copy of each Options Form can be found at the back of this booklet and there is a hyperlink to the relevant forms.

### **Options Week**

To support students making informed decisions about their options, we will be running an Options fortnight (Monday 26th February to Friday 1st March). During this week students can expect to experience a Key Stage 4 lesson in this subject during their normal Year 9 lessons. In addition, if one of our option choice subjects is not studied at Key Stage 3, then will be offering sample lessons after school in the following subjects:

GCSE Photography - Aspire time on Wednesday 28th Feb in W4

BTEC Health and Social - Aspire time on Monday 26th February in W8

**Option Form Submission deadline: Friday 8th March to Mr Elsegood by this date.**

## **Subject Guides**

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## GCSE English Language

### Exam board through which qualification will be awarded

AQA

### Web link to exam board specification

English Language: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>

### How you will be assessed

Examinations: 100%

There are two examinations. Each paper tests reading and writing skills equally. The examinations focus on reading extracts from the 19th, 20th and 21st century.

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing.

Paper 2: Writer's viewpoints and perspectives.

Speaking and Listening is credited as an extra endorsement.

### Recommended revision guide and cost

CGP GCSE English Language AQA Revision Guide - for the Grade 9-1 Course. ISBN: 9781782943693. £5.95.

CGP GCSE English Language AQA Exam Practice Workbook - for the Grade 9-1 Course (includes Answers). ISBN: 9781782943709. £5.95.

### Who you should speak to for further information

Mrs Pearce

### Why you should study English Language?

Good literacy and communication skills are the foundation for every subject in the curriculum and for every future learning path and career. English Language GCSE students will extend their knowledge of the technical aspects of writing as well as develop their abilities to respond to a range of text types. They will be encouraged to read a range of texts to become critical and engaged thinkers.

### **What will you learn in English Language?**

How to:

Read, understand and respond to texts.

Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more text.

Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references.

Produce clear and coherent writing which is tailored to different purposes and audiences.

Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

Demonstrate presentation skills in a formal setting

Listen and respond appropriately to spoken language, including to questions and back on presentations

Use spoken Standard English effectively in speeches and presentations.

### **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

Employers value a good performance in English Language. The course is a good foundation for further study in Sixth Form in any subject. A high level is necessary to study English at 'A' Level or to continue at college or university.

### **What are the possible career opportunities?**

- Journalist
- Screenplay Writer
- Publishing Editor
- Market Researcher
- Teacher/Lecturer
- Political Aide
- Playwright
- Novelist
- Public Relations Officer
- Information Scientist
- Travel Writer

GCSE English Literature
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>
AQA
<b>Web link to exam board specification</b> <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702</a>
<b>How you will be assessed</b>
Examinations: 100% Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel. Paper 2 Modern prose/drama, Power and Conflict poetry and unseen poetry.
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>
CGP are able to provide text guides to all the core texts we study. These cost £5.95. CGP also have workbooks for all the core texts we study. These cost £5.95.
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>
Mrs Pearce

<b>Why you should study English Literature?</b>
Studying this course gives students the chance to experience some of the greatest writers of all time. They will learn how to read in depth and critically, so that they are able to discuss and evaluate their interpretations and ideas. They will acquire the literary and linguistic terminology necessary to criticise and analyse what they read.
<b>What will you learn in English Literature?</b>
How to: Read, understand and respond to texts. Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate. Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written. Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.
<b>What courses could you take at college or university in the future?</b>
Because the study of literature broadens experience and develops analytical skills, a wide range of employers and educational institutions values it. A high level is necessary to study English at A level.
<b>What are the possible career opportunities?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Journalist</li> <li>● Screenplay Writer</li> <li>● Publishing Editor</li> <li>● Market Researcher</li> <li>● Teacher/Lecturer</li> </ul>



Mathematics GCSE
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>
AQA
<b>Web link to exam board specification</b> <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300</a>
<b>How you will be assessed</b>
Three exams. One non-calculator, two calculator. Each exam is 80 marks. You will either sit Foundation or Higher tier.
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>
Foundation: <a href="https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/maths/mqfs42-new-gcse-maths-aqa-complete-revision">https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/maths/mqfs42-new-gcse-maths-aqa-complete-revision</a> Higher: <a href="https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/maths/mqhs44-new-gcse-maths-aqa-complete-revision">https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/maths/mqhs44-new-gcse-maths-aqa-complete-revision</a>
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>
Mrs Edmunds, or any of the Maths faculty

<b>Why you should study Mathematics?</b>
All students have to study Mathematics at key stage four. It provides students with many essential skills useful for many areas of life, including problem solving and basic numeracy. It also has many applications in other subjects in both the arts and sciences.  Employers are looking for people who can think logically, analyse a situation rigorously and then make a sensible decision on the basis of their conclusions. These transferable skills equip students in life whatever their chosen path and are an integral part of mathematics.
<b>What will you learn in Mathematics?</b>
You will be expected to demonstrate your knowledge, understanding and skills in the following areas: number, algebra, ratio/proportion and rates of change, geometry and measures, probability and statistics. You will be required to use and apply standard techniques, reason, interpret and communicate mathematically and solve problems within mathematics in other contexts.  All of the marks awarded for the GCSE are obtained from 3 linear examinations taken at the end of year 11 (1 non-calculator and 2 calculator).

**What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

Specific Mathematics grades will be specified for most college courses and alongside English are the grades all future educational establishments and employers will ask for. A good grade in Maths will open the doors for most future courses and jobs.

Specifically, some of the courses requiring higher grades in Maths include:

Any science course, Mathematics, Psychology, Engineering, Statistics and Business

**What are the possible career opportunities?**

Mathematics is applicable to most jobs and careers. In particular, the following careers require a higher level of Mathematical knowledge:

- Engineering
- Insurance
- Banking
- Mechanics
- Medicine
- Design engineering
- Teaching
- Actuary
- Finance & Accountancy
- Biometrician
- Statistician
- Environmental
- Forensic science
- Government
- Health Service
- Market Research
- Pharmaceutical

GCSE combined science (double award)
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>
AQA
<b>Web link to exam board specification:</b> <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464/specification-at-a-glance">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464/specification-at-a-glance</a>
<b>How you will be assessed</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six exam papers will be taken at the end of year 11, which leads to two science GCSEs. Each science GCSE consists of biology, chemistry, and physics. The first science GCSE is made up of three paper 1's (biology, chemistry, and physics) and the second science GCSE is made up of biology, chemistry, and physics paper 2.</li> <li>• Each paper will assess both knowledge and skills (science and maths), using formats such as multiple choice, longer answer questions, and 6-mark questions. Calculation questions will also be carried out in chemistry and physics.</li> <li>• Questions in the exam papers will also be asked about some of the practicals carried out during the GCSE course. This is designed to assess your knowledge of how a practical is carried out and how it can be improved.</li> </ul>
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>
Approx. £12.00 for three AQA revision guides (if bought through the school, or £5 each from retailers). You will need a biology, chemistry, and physics revision guide (for combined science, trilogy). Both the foundation and higher content are covered in the revision guides.
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>
Dr Wilkin

<b>Why you should study Science?</b>
<p><i>Why should you not study science! "science and everyday life cannot and should not be separated" (Rosalind Franklin – cofounder of the structure of DNA)</i></p> <p>The study of science helps you to understand the world around you and how it works. You can see how our bodies work and why/how they respond to certain situations. You can gain a better understanding of chemicals and their reactions, and how this can lead to useful products. You can also understand things we cannot see, such as forces, electricity, and micro-organisms that can harm us.</p> <p>Science will also help you to develop your teamwork skills and your practical skills, as well as developing scientific knowledge. Having this knowledge about the world around you can also help you to make informed decisions about things that may affect you. It can lead to many varied and exciting careers. Science is a subject that is always changing and advancing which means the opportunities it can give you is endless, but also exciting.</p> <p>All students, whether they want a career in a science area or not, will benefit from taking the subject.</p>

### **What will you learn in Science?**

The science course is divided into subjects that you learn in years 9 and 10 and others you learn in year 11. The course is structured so that you build on the knowledge you have gained in science in years 7-9. You will start off with the basics of science by looking at cells and atoms, before looking at areas such as systems in the body, and chemical reactions.

*Biology:* 17 different topics over the course. The first topics look at cells and how they work, and then moves onto the body and its different processes. Two important processes of photosynthesis and respiration are also covered in paper 1. Paper 2 looks at genetics and introduces you to some of the advances made in this area, as well as looking at the impacts humans have on the environment they live in.

*Chemistry:* 12 different topics over the course. The first areas look at the basics needed for chemistry – the atom, the periodic table, how to separate substances. You then look at how atoms form elements and compounds, and how to calculate data from chemical reactions. The second paper focuses more on industrial applications, such as crude oil, rates of reactions, and about the chemistry of the Earth.

*Physics:* 13 topics are covered. You will look first at different types of energy and how it makes things work. You then look at how electricity is made, and the alternative ways that are being used to make it which doesn't damage the environment. You will also learn about electrical circuits, and radiation in paper 1. The second paper focuses on forces, waves, and the electromagnetic spectrum.

You will also learn how to carry out practical investigations and how to interpret the results from these.

### **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

There is a large range of different courses that can be taken that builds on the science knowledge gained at GCSE: agriculture, medicine, horticulture, animal care, nursing, dentistry, engineering, forensics, midwifery, pharmacy, environmental health, as well as studying the individual sciences - biology, chemistry, and physics. Each area also has several different courses you can study within them.

The number of courses involving science is vast and changes all the time as new scientific advances come to light.

## What are the possible career opportunities?

Career opportunities using science are vast and constantly changing as new scientific studies require new jobs. The medical sector is probably the biggest area for those with a science background with roles such as doctors, nurses, surgeons, radiographers, midwives, laboratory staff, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, sports therapists, health visitors, dentists, and pharmacists. Animal care is also another area within medicine and can lead to a job as vets, vet nurses, animal physiotherapists, and animal husbandry.

Research is another common area for those with science qualifications. This area can lead to higher qualifications such as a PhD. This area is also an exciting one as this is where the scientific developments and advances are made, such as links between cancer and diet, new vaccines against dangerous pathogens, robotics, and new technology to explore space or our oceans. You could also look into the effects of climate change on our planet as a climate scientist.

Industry is another great area that science can lead you to. This area is where products we use on a daily basis are designed and manufactured. There is a vast number of industrial applications of science e.g. drug manufacture, fertilisers, plastics, electronics.

Law enforcement is another popular career area. This could be looking at the law surrounding our food and how it is prepared and stored in restaurants (environmental health officer), or how it is manufactured (public health officer). After watching programmes such as CSI, you may want to have a career within the police. There are so many different areas you could work in within this such as fingerprinting, blood spatter, ballistics, fibre analysis, handwriting, forensic psychology, and scenes of crime officers.

There is also the exciting and ever-changing career of teaching. Science can lead to teaching careers at all levels, from child care of early years children, all the way through to university courses.

GCSE triple science
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>
AQA
<b>Web link to exam board specification:</b>
<a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461/specification-at-a-glance">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461/specification-at-a-glance</a> <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462/specification-at-a-glance">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462/specification-at-a-glance</a> <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463/specification-at-a-glance">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463/specification-at-a-glance</a>
<b>How you will be assessed</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six exam papers will be taken at the end of year 11, which leads to three separate GCSE's - one in biology, one in chemistry, and one in physics.</li> <li>• Each paper will be 1hr and 45 mins in length, and is designed to assess both knowledge and skills (science and maths), using formats such as multiple choice, longer answer questions, and 6-mark questions. Calculation questions will also be carried out in chemistry and physics.</li> <li>• Questions in the exam papers will also be asked about certain practicals carried out during the GCSE course. This is designed to assess your knowledge of how a practical is carried out and how it can be improved.</li> </ul>
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>
Approx. £12.00 for three AQA revision guides (if bought through the school, or £5 each from retailers). You will need a biology, chemistry, and physics revision guide. Both the foundation and higher content are covered in the revision guides.
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>
Dr Wilkin

<b>Why you should study triple Science?</b>
<p><i>Why should you not study science! "science and everyday life cannot and should not be separated" (Rosalind Franklin – cofounder of the structure of DNA)</i></p> <p>The study of science helps you to understand the world around you and how it works. You can see how our bodies work and why/how they respond to certain situations. You can gain a better understanding of chemicals and their reactions, and how this can lead to useful products. You can also understand things we cannot see, such as forces, electricity, and micro-organisms that can harm us.</p> <p>Science will also help you to develop your teamwork skills and your practical skills, as well as developing scientific knowledge. Having this knowledge about the world around you can also</p>

help you to make informed decisions about things that may affect you. It can lead to many varied and exciting careers. Science is a subject that is always changing and advancing which means the opportunities it can give you is endless, but also exciting.

Triple science is a good option for those students wishing to take A-levels in the sciences with a view to following a career in a scientific discipline such as medicine or veterinary science. It is also a good option for those with a keen interest in the sciences that would like to be able to explore topics in more detail and at a greater depth.

### **What will you learn in triple science?**

The science course will start in year 9 and continue through to year 11. The course is structured so that you build on the knowledge you have gained in science in years 7-9. You will start off with the basics of science by looking at cells and atoms, before looking at areas such as systems in the body, and chemical reactions. The subjects will follow a similar course to that of the double award but will include more detail, extra content, and some extra topics.

*Biology:* 18 different topics over the course. The first topics look at cells and how they work, and then moves onto the body and its different processes. Two important processes of photosynthesis and respiration are also covered in paper 1. Paper 2 looks at genetics and introduces you to some of the advances made in this area, as well as looking at the impacts humans have on the environment they live in. Extra content includes the brain, the eye, and DNA structure, as well as an extra topic looking at the kidney.

*Chemistry:* 15 different topics over the course. The first areas look at the basics needed for chemistry – the atom, the periodic table, how to separate substances. You then look at how atoms form elements and compounds, and how to calculate data from chemical reactions. The second paper focuses more on industrial applications, such as crude oil, rates of reactions, and about the chemistry of the Earth. Extra topics included in paper 2 look at reactions of organic molecules, polymers, and how we make resources that we use such as ammonia, and fertilisers.

*Physics:* 16 topics are covered. You will look first at different types of energy and how it makes things work. You then look at how electricity is made, and the alternative ways that are being used to make it which doesn't damage the environment. You will also learn about electrical circuits, and radiation in paper 1. The second paper focuses on forces, waves, and the electromagnetic spectrum. Extra topics added into paper 2 include forces and pressure, light, and space, which looks at how stars and our solar system formed.

You will also learn how to carry out practical investigations and how to interpret the results from these.

### **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

There is a large range of different courses that can be taken that builds on the science knowledge gained at GCSE: agriculture, medicine, horticulture, animal care, nursing, dentistry, engineering, forensics, midwifery, pharmacy, environmental health, as well as studying the individual sciences - biology, chemistry, and physics. Each area also has several different courses you can study within them. The number of courses involving science is vast and changes all the time as new scientific advances come to light.

Triple science appears to be becoming a requirement for more Universities that offer medicine and veterinary courses. If this is the path you would like to take, then this is the option for you.

### **What are the possible career opportunities?**

Career opportunities using science are vast and constantly changing as new scientific studies require new jobs. The medical sector is probably the biggest area for those with a triple science background with roles such as doctors, nurses, surgeons, radiographers, midwives, laboratory staff, physiotherapists, dentists, and pharmacists. Animal care is also another area within medicine and can lead to a job as a veterinary surgeon, or an animal physiotherapist.

Research is another common area for those with triple science qualifications. This area can lead to higher qualifications such as a PhD. This area is also an exciting one as this is where the scientific developments and advances are made, such as links between cancer and diet, new vaccines against dangerous pathogens, robotics, and new technology to explore space or our oceans. You could also look into the effects of climate change on our planet as a climate scientist.

Industry is another great area that science can lead you to. This area is where products we use on a daily basis are designed and manufactured. There is a vast number of industrial applications of science e.g. drug manufacture, fertilisers, plastics, electronics. Triple science, especially chemistry and physics qualifications, are a good start for careers in these areas.

Law enforcement is another popular career area. This could be looking at the law surrounding our food and how it is prepared and stored in restaurants (environmental health officer), or how it is manufactured (public health officer). After watching programmes such as CSI, you may want to have a career within the police. There are so many different areas you could work in within this such as finger printing, blood spatter, ballistics, fibre analysis, handwriting, forensic psychology, and scenes of crime officer.

There is also the exciting and ever-changing career of teaching. Triple science qualifications can lead to teaching careers within secondary, college, and university sectors.



## GCSE Art & Design (Fine Art)

### Exam board through which qualification will be awarded:

AQA

### Web link to exam board specification:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206/subject-content/fine-art>

### How you will be assessed:

#### Component 1 60%: Creative Practice in Art & Design

This comprises two internally assessed creative projects, completed over year 10, and the first term of year 11. The portfolio of work you produce is then internally marked and externally moderated.

#### Component 2 40%: Responding to a Brief

There is a choice of externally set briefs for this component from which you can choose. The brief (known as exam briefs, although there is not a written exam) is released in January of year 11. You will complete this project over the remainder of year 11. Component 2 is externally marked.

### Recommended revision guide and cost

N/A

### Who you should speak to for further information

Mrs Lipin or Mx La Turner

### Why you should study Art & Design?

The practice of Art and Design is one of the ways in which we understand ourselves and the world around us. Creative practice supports personal development, as we learn more about ourselves through exploring and developing our ideas. The study of Art and Design helps us to understand and contribute to our visual environment and culture.

GCSE Art and Design will suit learners who are interested in taking a hands-on course that develops creative and analytical skills and offers an insight into what it is like to work in the art and design sector.

The course enables you to develop skills across a broad range of art and design processes and become familiar with different materials. You will explore the work of different artists, and produce your own responses inspired by the ideas you discover. Some of the artists you look at will be suggested by your teacher, and you are also free to explore your own creative starting points. You will learn how to understand and critique your own and others' work. Your own work will be developed through exploration into a series of realised pieces. All the work you produce throughout the course contributes to your portfolio, on which your final grade is based.

### **What will you learn in Art & Design?**

This award enables learners to develop skills across a range of art and design practices using a combination of practical exploration, experimentation and realistic outcomes. You will develop personal skills, such as managing creative projects, documenting progress of skills and work, responding to briefs and presenting work through a practical and skills-based approach to learning and assessment.

- Explore what it's like to work in the sector and gain the underpinning knowledge and skills required to work in it.
- Develop key knowledge, skills and behaviours, and learn about essential tools, techniques, and equipment.
- Apply your learning to real-life contexts and vocational scenarios in both learning and assessment.

### **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

Successful completion of this course opens up progression to A Levels or the study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as:

- BTEC National in Art and Design.
- Fine Art (A Level / Level 3)
- Graphic Communication (A Level - Level 3)
- Photography (A Level - Level 3)
- Art and Design (Foundation Diploma - Level 3)

### **What are the possible career opportunities?**

The skills developed through an education in art and design are integral to many roles within the creative sector, which is a collection of exciting and vibrant industries including fine art, fashion, game development, advertising, graphics and publishing, craft and product design, art restoration and history, interior design and architecture.

Collectively, the creative sector in the UK contributed nearly £112 billion to the economy in 2019, and has grown by 7.4% since 2017, a rate of growth five times that of the overall UK economy

## Pearson BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 Tech Award in PERFORMING ARTS (Dance)

### Exam board through which qualification will be awarded

Pearson (Edexcel)

### Web link to exam board specification:

[Specification - Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Performing Arts 2022](#)

### How you will be assessed

Component one and two are worth in total 60% of your final grade.

Two assignments that are set and marked by the teacher and *internally* assessed.

Component three is *externally* assessed and is 40% of your final grade.

You will be individually assessed. However, group work and performances in front of an audience is an essential part of the course, especially in component two and three and therefore good organisation skills and attendance is essential.

### Recommended revision guide and cost

You can purchase directly from the Pearson website the “Revise BTEC Tech Award Performing Arts (2022) Revision Guide” at £6.49

[pearson-revise-btec-tech-award-performing-arts-revision-guide-2022](#)

### Who you should speak to for further information

Miss Curtis

### Why you should study Dance?

If you have an infectious passion for dance and like to be in the spotlight showcasing your talent, then this course is for you. At Whitstone School we strongly believe that the performing arts industry is extremely important to all students' personal learning journey and development as individuals. Dance should be selected by students who are passionate, self-motivated and keen to improve their ability and skills set as a dancer. Finally, we offer you the chance to take part in our annual ‘Primary school dance festival’ and ‘Celebration of Dance’ evening. That aims to provide you with a like to like, realistic experience of what could be expected of you in the performing arts industry if you wish to pursue a career in dance post-16.

## **What will you learn in Dance?**

The course is made up of three components, two of which are assessed in school by the teacher and the third is set and marked by the exam board:

### Component 1 - Exploring the Performing Arts (30%)

During Component 1, you will: Explore performance styles, creative intentions and purpose; investigate how practitioners create and influence what's performed; discover performance roles, skills, techniques and processes.

### Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts (30%)

During Component 2, you will: Take part in workshops, classes and rehearsals; gain physical, interpretative, rehearsal skills; apply these skills in performance; reflect on their progress, their performance and how they could improve.

### Component 3: Performing to a Brief (40%)

During Component 3 you will: Use the brief provided and prior knowledge to come up with ideas; build on your skills in classes, workshops and rehearsals; review the process using an ideas and skills log; perform a piece to their chosen audience; reflect on their performance in an evaluation report.

## **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

After completing their BTEC Tech Award, you will be in a great position to continue in the performing arts sector. This qualification prepares students for both practical and academic routes. You will have developed a practical understanding of the performing arts industry, and the roles and responsibilities of the people involved in performing arts industries. Because you will be building useful skills, which are not generally covered in GCSE courses, you will have a better understanding of whether the performing arts industry is for you. This will allow you to decide whether this is an area you want to continue to study. The course will also help you to develop specific skills and knowledge, such as self-evaluation and group work, which will benefit you wherever you progress to next. If you decide to go on to further study of performing arts, the best option for you will depend on the grades you have achieved in this and the other qualifications you have taken, and what you enjoy doing. You could progress to a Level 2 Technical Certificate or to a Level 3 programme, such as A Levels, a T Level or a BTEC National, either on its own or in combination with A levels.

If you achieve a Level 1 at the end of KS4 you will be able to enter Post-16 Level 2 study of Performing Arts. Ideal for students who perform strongly in Performing Arts compared to their overall performance at KS4. You could also enter Post-16 Level 2 to study in a variety of subjects. Designed to lead towards work, apprenticeships or further study at Level 3.

If you achieve a Level 2 at the end of KS4 you will be able to enter Level 3 vocational qualifications e.g. BTEC National in Performing Arts. This will prepare you for entry into employment or apprenticeships and Higher Education. You could also enter for A-levels that will prepare you for entry into Higher Education.

**What are the possible career opportunities?**

1. Professional Dancer: West End shows, Music Videos, Professional companies, Disneyland/Cruise Ships/Holiday resorts, Sports events, Entertainment industry
2. Dance Teacher: Private dance school, Secondary school, Further education college/University, Performing Arts college/school, Primary or community teacher, Special educational needs.
3. Instructor: Fitness instructor, Yoga teacher, Pilates teacher, Dance instructor in the local community, Dance coach, Corporate events, Weddings
4. Behind the scenes: Lighting/costume designer, Administrator for dance or performance companies/theatres, Dance development officer in the local community, Events coordinator for dance events, Photography/videography
5. Choreographer: Musical theatre/West End shows, Professional companies, Universities and Colleges, Dance schools, Entertainment industry
6. Other: Stunt artist, Aerial artist, Circus performer, Movement therapist, Physiotherapist, Dance as therapy

GCSE Design and Technology
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>
Eduqas
<b>Web link to exam board specification:</b> <a href="https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/25tlhbw/gcse-design-and-technology-specification.pdf">https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/25tlhbw/gcse-design-and-technology-specification.pdf</a>
<b>How you will be assessed</b>
You will be assessed in 2 ways. You have a 35 hour piece of coursework to complete which will be internally marked by the teacher and then externally assessed. You will have a 2 hour exam on the theory side of design and technology.
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>
<a href="https://www.amazon.co.uk/Grade-Design-Technology-Revision-Guide/dp/1782947523">https://www.amazon.co.uk/Grade-Design-Technology-Revision-Guide/dp/1782947523</a> Around £6
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>
Ms Hughes

<b>Why you should study Design and Technology?</b>
<p>You should design technology if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● have a passion for designing new things (using any material from timer to textiles)</li> <li>● like learning new skills</li> <li>● like learning new theory to support the skills</li> <li>● enjoy being creative</li> <li>● enjoy being practical as well</li> <li>● want to learn about different types of components and materials</li> </ul> <p>Design Technology is something you should take if you like being able to see the designs you have drawn come to life and in working order. Design Technology allows you to be creative and try things you might not have tried before so if you are adventurous and always willing to try something new and outside of your comfort zone, DT is for you.</p>
<b>What will you learn in Design and Technology?</b>
<p>You will learn a whole range of different theories needed for the exam but you will also learn a number of different practical skills which will help enforce your theory and set you up to be able to make something in your coursework, independently.</p> <p><i>Theory you will look at:</i> Sustainability, Energy, Mechanical systems, CAD/CAM, Electronics, Materials – paper/card/woods/plastics/metals/textiles, Smart and modern materials</p>

The aim would be that for every area of theory you look at there is a practical which supports the theory and allows you to continuously develop skills. You will be able to have a look at coursework before you start so you can see what will be expected of you and how you can always achieve the best.

*Practical skills you will look at:*

Joining methods within woods/metals/plastics/textiles, the use of the materials and the use of the different tools

**What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

You will be able to take any courses which have a design related style – computer design/design technology/art and design/carpentry/fashion/interior/electronics/construction. You could also go for an apprenticeship within all of these areas.

At university you could take courses such as:

Sound engineering, Graphic designing, Interior designing, Industrial designing, Video game design and Web developer

**What are the possible career opportunities?**

Careers you could go into:

- Sound engineer
- Graphic designer
- Interior designer
- Industrial designer
- Video game designer
- Art director
- Web developer
- Architect
- Software developer
- Civil engineer

WJEC Level 1 / 2 Vocational Award in Performing Arts (Acting Pathway)
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>
Eduqas
<b>Web link to exam board specification:</b> chrome-extension://efaidnbnmnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/ <a href="https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/yjfn5uvb/wjec_l1-2-vocaward_ta_performing-arts_specification-e-12-09-23.pdf">https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/yjfn5uvb/wjec_l1-2-vocaward_ta_performing-arts_specification-e-12-09-23.pdf</a>
<b>How you will be assessed</b>
60% - Unit 1 and 2 (30% each). Internally set and assessed by Mr Grant 40% - Unit3. Set by the exam board and assessed through an external examiner
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>
The best revision resources are through GCSE Bitesize and are free to use. There is a course book <a href="https://www.amazon.co.uk/Vocational-Performing-Course-companion-Eduqas/dp/1860857612/ref=cm_cr_arp_d_product_top?ie=UTF8">https://www.amazon.co.uk/Vocational-Performing-Course-companion-Eduqas/dp/1860857612/ref=cm_cr_arp_d_product_top?ie=UTF8</a> however at £28 retail I would not recommend buying this as all resources that are helpful will be provided for students.
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>
Mr Grant

<b>Why you should study Drama?</b>
<p>Drama is a practical subject that allows you to develop hugely valuable skills which you will continue to use throughout your life.</p> <p>Nothing teaches you to work well in a team as well as practical subjects like Drama. In Drama you are nearly always working with a group of people of varying sizes. You will work with creative people, enthusiastic people, and working as a team will make up part of your final grade.</p> <p>Acting Skills will also be taught with an emphasis on physical and vocal skills. This will allow you to strengthen your skill as a performer, but also will assist you in public speaking roles. Strengthening your diaphragm will improve your speaking voice and working on your physical skills will help you to create characters that are different from yourself.</p> <p>Analysing Drama productions and your cohort's performances will allow you to develop your critical thinking skills.</p> <p>Finally, Drama helps people to grow in confidence as it gives you the opportunity to push yourself to perform. You will be able to grow in confidence, develop your performance skills and overcome the fear of making mistakes in a fun, creative and supportive environment. Drama is a valuable subject that many people benefit from.</p>
<b>What will you learn in Drama?</b>
<i>Unit 1</i> - You will study a variety of plays in the opening term. Learning how to bring your acting skills up to the level needed for a level 2 qualification. You will then rehearse and perform and extract from a play. This can be individually or in small groups. You will track your development



throughout the rehearsal period through a log book and discuss the importance of research, character development, blocking, as well as importance of a rehearsal schedule and keeping on time.

*Unit 2* - The exam board will set a theme and you will work in a group to devise a play based on that theme. You will be assessed on your performance as well as through written reports on your rehearsal process, the skills you have developed and an evaluation of your final performance.

*Unit 3* - The exam board will set a different theme for Unit 3. In this unit you must imagine that you are making a pitch (Dragon's Den style) to potential investors of a performance. You must convince them that they should invest in your product by having carefully costed the venue you wish to use, explain the technical aspects and costuming, and show a few short extracts from the work you would create. This unit is assessed externally and makes up the examined element of the course.

### **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

Drama prepares you to explore the performing arts industry with courses in; Level 3 Performing Arts Btec, Level 3 Musical Theatre Btec, Level 3 qualifications in stage management, technical design for theatre and Level 3 Dance Btec.

A Levels in Drama and Theatre Studies are also accessible and well prepared through studying a vocational course on Performing Arts.

At University Drama and Theatre Studies are established courses at almost all institutions, as well as numerous technical courses that cover everything from costume design to theatre technicians.

Drama also compliments English A Levels and University Courses

### **What are the possible career opportunities?**

- Performers – actors, dancers, mime artists, clowns etc
- Directors – both for theatre and for movies and understanding of dramatic tension is essential.
- Stage Manager – A stage manager runs the show when in a theatre and works with actors, directors, and all creatives.
- Technicians – Lighting, Sound, Projections, Staging all need technicians to run the show
- Producers – Every show needs producers, these are the people who find the money, set the budget, find the theatre and usually have a huge impact into the creativity of the process as well.
- Playwright/ Screen writer - Every production must start with a writer, whether that be stage or screen, playwright and screen writers are an essential part of the performing arts industry.
- Teachers – Drama has a huge range of teaching jobs, from education departments in theatres to working in mainstream schools, there are numerous teaching roles within the performing arts.

These are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to jobs in the performing arts industry and industry that employs over 137,000 people and turned over £10.3 billion in the UK alone.

## GCSE French

### Exam board through which qualification will be awarded

AQA

### Web link to exam board specification:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8652>

### How you will be assessed

The course is externally assessed at the end of the two-year course in 4 skill areas – Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. All 4 skills carry equal weighting of 25% of the final grade.

### Recommended revision guide and cost

CGP GCSE French AQA Revision guide (ISBN 9781782945376) with the corresponding Exam Practice Workbook (ISBN 9781782945383)

### Who you should speak to for further information

Mrs Tozer

### Why you should study French?

Studying GCSE French will give students the necessary skills to develop and use the language in life beyond the classroom. It will also help to broaden a student's cultural understanding of another country and to be more tolerant of other cultures. It can even provide students with a better understanding of their own language.

Having a GCSE in a language will open many doors in the world of work. There is evidence to suggest that it can even lead to a higher paid job with linguists earning on average between 8-25% more than their non-linguistic peers.

Achieving a GCSE in a language shows commitment, determination, and resilience. These are qualities highly sought after by future colleges, universities and employers. Learning a language will also help to improve your communication, listening, problem solving and critical thinking skills. It can also help to improve your memory.

### What will you learn in French?

The course is split into 3 main themes: Identity and Culture, Local, National, International and Global areas of interest and Current and Future Study and Employment.

These 3 themes are then split into the following sub-topic areas:

**Theme 1: People and lifestyle:** (Me, my family and friends, healthy living and lifestyle, Education and work

**Theme 2: Popular culture:** Freetime and celebrations, customs, celebrity culture

**Theme 3: Communication and the world around us:** Holidays and travel, media and technology, the environment and home and local area

You will be strongly encouraged to learn vocabulary, grammar and chunks of language on a regular basis to enable you to cover the breadth of language and topics required for the GCSE exams. You will also have access to subject specific resources, including online resources.

**What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

With a French GCSE you can choose to continue to learn French to a higher level (e.g. A-Level) or can use your skills of language acquisition to pick up a new language.

At university you can also combine French at degree level with another subject e.g. international business, marketing, economics, linguistics, law, history etc.

**What are the possible career opportunities?**

A GCSE in French can be beneficial in a number of different professions and fields of employment. These include (but are not limited to):

- Travel and tourism
- Medicine
- Law
- Business administration
- Journalism
- Education
- Catering and hospitality
- Digital technology
- Engineering
- Science/ Research
- Business and Finance
- Voluntary and charitable organisations

GCSE Geography	
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>	
AQA	
<b>Web link to exam board specification:</b> <a href="#">AQA   Geography   GCSE</a>	
<b>How you will be assessed</b>	
<p><b>Paper 1:</b> Living with the physical environment - topic work (35%)</p> <p><b>Paper 2:</b> Challenges in the human environment - topic work (35%)</p> <p><b>Paper 3:</b> Geographical applications - fieldwork on a geographical issue (30%)</p> <p>Approximately 5% of the marks in the exams will be allocated to spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>	
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>	
GCSE 9-1 Geography AQA Revision Guide (Second edition). Author <b>Tim Bayliss</b> , Author <b>Rebecca Tudor</b> , Price: £8.99	
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>	
Mrs K Webb	

<b>Why you should study Geography?</b>
<p><b>“Geography explains the past, illuminates the present and prepares us for the future. What could be more important than that?” Michael Palin</b></p> <p>There has never been a better or more important time to study geography. With the growing importance of issues such as <b>climate change, migration and inequalities</b>, geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun!</p> <p>There are so many ways of learning in geography. It is very <b>practical</b>, with opportunities to learn new skills such as <b>modern computer based mapping (called GIS), map skills, interpreting photographs, fieldwork skills, presenting, role play and debating techniques</b>. Fieldwork, or working outside the classroom, is a really important part of geography. It is a brilliant opportunity to experience some of the things you have learnt about in class, see things differently and of course have fun.</p> <p>Studying GCSE geography provides you with a variety of valuable skills and knowledge that can be <b>transferred and used across other subject</b> areas and in everyday life, such as: highly relevant knowledge, looking at issues differently, teamwork, and visual communication skills.</p>
<b>What will you learn in Geography?</b>
<p><b>Unit 1: Living with the physical environment</b></p> <p>The Challenge of Natural Hazards The Living World Physical Landscapes of the UK</p> <p><b>Unit 2: Challenges in the human environments</b></p> <p>Urban Issues and Challenges The Changing Economic World The Challenge of Resource Management</p>

### **Unit 3: Geographical Applications**

This unit will cover **Geographical Skills** (reading maps, drawing and reading graphs and the use of geographical statistics, fieldwork) and **Issue Evaluation** (this is a current geographical issue which is released by the exam board in the Summer term).

**Two fieldwork investigations** – In the Summer Term of Year 10 students will go on a field trip to Lyme Regis to investigate coastal processes and defences. During the Autumn term of Year 11 a field trip to Bristol to look at social inequality as part of the Human Geography element.

### **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

Employers and universities value the broad range of transferable skills that Geography delivers. Geography fits well with science, arts and humanities, and geographers also tend to have very good IT skills. A GCSE in Geography is excellent preparation for a career in planning, resource and countryside management, tourism and recreation and environmental management and development. Many geographers also move into general management careers or branch out into journalism.

### **What are the possible career opportunities?**

There is a broad range of careers available to you when you choose to take geography further:

- Commercial/Residential Surveyor
- Environmental Consultant/Ecologist
- GIS Officer
- Town Planner
- International Development Worker
- Landscape Architect
- Meteorologist
- Logistics and Distribution Manager
- Market Researcher
- Nature Conservation Officer
- Sustainability Consultant
- Tourism Officer
- Police Officer
- Pilot

## Pearson BTEC Tech Level 2 in Health and Social Care

### Exam board through which qualification will be awarded

Pearson (Edexcel)

### Web link to exam board specification

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

### How you will be assessed

#### The grades available on this course are:

**Level 2 pass, merit, distinction and distinction\***. This is approximately equivalent to GCSE grades 4/5-9. If level 2 is not achieved, students can be awarded a level 1 pass, merit or distinction. This is approximately equivalent to GCSE grades 1-4.

#### Component 1: Human Lifespan Development

This component is assessed through coursework marked by the course lead and moderated by the exam board. It comprises two written assignments. This component comprises 30% of the final mark.

#### Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values

Similar to component 1, this component is assessed through coursework, comprising two written assignments. The second assignment involves practical elements, as students demonstrate care values. Component two represents 30% of the final mark.

#### Component 3: Health and Wellbeing

This component is assessed through a written task, completed in exam conditions. This task comprises 40% of the final mark.

### Recommended revision guide and cost

The revision guide we use for component three costs £6. We offer a library scheme, where students can borrow a revision guide if they prefer.

### Who you should speak to for further information

Mr Hallam

## **Why you should study Health and Social Care**

The health and social care course will give you a broad base from which to continue your studies in whatever direction you choose. You will learn transferable professional skills that will be helpful to you whatever profession you enter as an adult. The course also supports you to develop as a person; as you gain a deeper understanding about how people grow and develop throughout their lives, and what affects this. You will learn how to identify the different needs people have, and how we as individuals can support each other. This knowledge will help you in your future relationships, both professional and personal.

Recently, Health and Social Care Services have been in the spotlight as never before, and the importance of the NHS and associated care providers has been very much in the public consciousness. The importance of skilled, compassionate care cannot be denied, and if you feel you would like to work with people in the future, then this course will provide you with a broad base of skills and knowledge from which to start your next steps.

## **What will you learn in Health and Social Care?**

The BTEC course covers the following topics:

- Human growth and development throughout our lifespan
- The range of factors that affect our development, both positively and negatively
- The diverse range of needs that individuals may have
- How to assess these needs and plan support for an individual
- The wide range of services offered by health and social care, and the professionals who provide these.
- The skills and qualities needed for these professional roles
- The care value base, and how to apply these values in a range of professional settings

## **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

The health and social care level 2 BTEC provides a good grounding for a range of courses including:

- Health and social care level 3, A-level or T-level
- Childcare
- Hairdressing, barbering and beauty therapies
- Psychology
- Paramedic science
- Nursing
- Mental health and psychiatry
- Medicine
- Therapeutic roles
- Teaching

## **What are the possible career opportunities?**

The health and social care industries are extremely broad. The NHS alone is one of the world's largest employers. Some of the options open to you after studying health and social care are:

- The full range of medical and healthcare roles including medicine, midwifery, nursing, pharmacy, physiotherapy, radiography etc. there are too many roles to list!
- Caring roles; working with people of all ages and needs, or specialising in an area that interests you
- Dentistry, ophthalmology, audiology
- Working with individuals with special needs
- Counselling
- Mental health nursing and psychiatry
- Childcare
- Teaching (early years, special needs, secondary and above)
- Social work, youth work and working with vulnerable groups
- Police and prison services
- Ambulance services



## GCSE History

### Exam board through which qualification will be awarded

Pearson (Edexcel)

### Web link to exam board specification:

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

### How you will be assessed

The course consists of 4 units:

1. Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches (30% of the course)
2. Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88 (20% of the course)
3. The American West, c1835–c1895 (20% of the course)
4. Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39 (30% of the course)

You will take 4 exams at the end of the course, in the summer of year 11. They will consist of questions that require written answers of varying length and complexity.

### Recommended revision guide and cost

Pearson Revise: Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History. (4 units as above)

### Who you should speak to for further information

Mr Cope, Miss Carter or Mrs Goody

### Why you should study History?

George Santayana said “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it” These words, written in 1905 have never felt more relevant than in the topsy-turvy world we currently inhabit. To study History is to study a vibrant subject which examines the lives of real people in real situations. It teaches transferable skills that assess the value and weight of evidence, information analysis and the ability to evaluate and explain points through a fluent and structured written argument.

The content of the course encompasses a wide variety of topics, placing the student at the heart of the subject and being able to study a variety of cultural, social, political and economic issues that resonate in the modern world.

The stories of History have been told and retold. Finding your own story is an enjoyable experience and will provide countless hours of entertainment, intrigue and investigation. Furthermore the stories are part of the modern world and the society we live in. By understanding them we are more able to use them to explain the present and predict the future.

### **What will you learn in History?**

*Unit 1: Medicine through time 1250 - Present Day and British Sector of the Western Front.* The Black Death, The Great Plague, changes in Public Health, changes in technology, causes and treatments of disease, developments in the modern day and the impact of war on the development of medicine

*Unit 2: The American West, 1835 - 1895* - How the Indigenous Peoples of the Plains lived, why settlers moved west, how people settled on the plains, law and order in the Wild West, the role of the cowboys and the destruction of the way of life of the Indigenous Peoples of the Plains.

*Unit 3: Early Elizabethan England 1558 - 88* - Elizabeth's character, strengths and the problems she faced, challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad, Elizabethan society - education and leisure, poverty and exploration

*Unit 4: Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1938* - The establishment of the post war republic, challenges to the Weimar Republic in the early years, Weimar's recovery and cultural change, chaos returns to Weimar. The collapse of democracy, the development of the Nazi Party and the rise of Hitler, the lean years of the Nazis, the rise to power, how the Nazis established control and setting up a dictatorship, Nazi society - churches, women and children, economic recovery and success at home and the persecution of the Jews and other minority groups.

### **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

History GCSE opens a world of opportunity. There is the obvious route of A-Level History but it also gives access to many other courses and potential pathways. These include: Law, Journalism, Archaeology, Library Studies and Museum Studies

### **What are the possible career opportunities?**

- Teacher
- Public Services
- Armed Forces
- Entrepreneur
- Tour Guide,
- Museum Curator
- TV Presenter
- Writer
- Lecturer
- Journalist
- Politician,
- Customer Service Clerk
- Researcher (TV, etc)
- Archaeologist
- Community Support Worker
- Librarian
- Office Manager

<b>WJEC Vocational Award in Level 1 /Level 2 Hospitality and Catering</b>
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>
WJEC
<b>Web link to exam board specification:</b> <a href="https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering-level-1-2/#tab_overview">https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering-level-1-2/#tab_overview</a>
<b>How you will be assessed</b>
<p><b>UNIT 1 - The Hospitality and Catering Industry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● External Exam</li> <li>● Written examination – 90 minutes</li> <li>● 40% of qualification (90 Marks)</li> <li>● Completed in the Summer Term of Year 10.</li> </ul> <p><b>UNIT 2 - Hospitality and Catering in Action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 60% Non-Examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated.</li> <li>● 9 hours which includes a 3 hours' practical exam.</li> <li>● Practical exam is a two course meal for two people with accompaniments</li> </ul>
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>
My Revision Notes: WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering by Bev Saunder and Yvonne Mackey, Hodder Education. £10.99
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>
Miss Rennie

<b>Why you should study Hospitality and Catering?</b>
<p>The WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering has been designed to support students who want to learn about the Hospitality and Catering industry and the potential it can offer them for their careers or further study.</p> <p>Learners will gain an overview of the hospitality and catering industry, the types of job roles available and the opportunities of progression within the industry. They will also gain knowledge, understanding and skills to equip them to prepare and cook a variety of foods. Learners will develop a range of generic and transferable skills, encouraging them to make informed choices about food and nutrition for a wide range of establishments and/or consumers. Employment in hospitality and catering can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers and food technologists in food manufacturing.</p> <p><b>General attributes:</b> Enjoy cooking, have an interest in food, be able to follow plans and adapt or improve them, be creative and come up with original ideas, good organisational skills, committed to providing ingredients for practical lessons</p>

## **What will you learn in Hospitality and Catering?**

### **Unit 1 – Year 10**

In this unit you will learn about the different types of providers within the hospitality and catering industry, the relevant legislation and the operation of hospitality and catering establishments, along with the factors affecting success.

### **Unit 2**

In this unit you will gain knowledge of the nutritional needs of a range of client groups in order for you to plan nutritional dishes to go on a menu. You will learn and develop safe and hygienic food preparation, cooking and finishing skills required to produce nutritional dishes.

*Theory Content – 6 Hours of final assessment*

*Practical Content – 3 Hours of final assessment*

## **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

Successful completion of this qualification could support entry to qualifications that develop specific skills for work in hospitality and catering such as: Level 1 Certificate in Introduction to Professional Food and Beverage Service Skills, Level 2 Certificate in Professional Food and Beverage Service Skills, Level 1 or Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Professional Cookery

## **What are the possible career opportunities?**

Employment in hospitality and catering can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers and food technologists in food manufacturing. All of these roles require further education and training either through apprenticeships or further and higher education.

<b>Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Digital Information Technology</b>	
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>	Pearson (Edexcel)
<b>Web link to exam board specification:</b>	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/digital-information-technology-2022.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/digital-information-technology-2022.html</a>
<b>How you will be assessed</b>	<p>Two internally assessed components to be completed in Year 10 – 60%</p> <p>Component 1: exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques</p> <p>Component 2: Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data</p> <p>One exam to be completed in Year 11 – 40%</p> <p>Component 3: Effective digital Working Practices</p>
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>	Revise BTEC Tech Award Digital Information Technology Revision Guide, Pearson, £5.99
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>	Miss Stuart

<b>Why you should study BTEC Digital Information Technology?</b>
<p>BTEC Digital Information Technology will provide you will the knowledge, understanding and skills required to use ICT in the workplace. We use vocational and realistic contexts to underpin the knowledge gained so that you are able to understand the real-world applications for the skills and knowledge that you will acquire. If you want to get a taste of what working in the digital sector is like and gain transferable skills and confidence, this could be the course for you.</p> <p>This qualification is designed to help you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Explore</b> what it's like to work in the sector and gain the underpinning knowledge and skills required to work in it.</li> <li>• <b>Develop</b> key knowledge, skills and behaviours, and learn about essential tools, techniques, and equipment.</li> <li>• <b>Apply</b> their learning to real-life contexts and vocational scenarios in both learning and assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>What will you learn in BTEC Digital Information Technology?</b>
<p>The Tech Award gives you the opportunity to develop sector-specific applied knowledge and skills through realistic vocational contexts. The main focus is on four areas of equal importance, which cover the:</p>

- development of key skills that prove your aptitude in digital information technology, such as project planning, designing and creating user interfaces and dashboards as a way to present and interpret data
- process that underpins effective ways of working in digital information technology, such as project planning, the iterative design process, cyber security, virtual teams, legal and ethical codes of conduct
- attitudes that are considered most important in digital information technology, including personal management and communication
- knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as how different user interfaces meet user needs, how organisations collect and use data to make decisions, virtual workplaces, cyber security and legal and ethical issues.

### **Which courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

Learners who generally achieve at Level 2 across their Key Stage 4 learning might consider progression to:

- A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in IT, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the digital sector.

### **What are the possible career opportunities?**

- IT Project Management
- User Interface/Experience designer
- App designer
- Website designer
- Data Analyst
- Data Scientist
- Data Manager
- Database Administrator
- IT Security Specialist

## Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Music Practice

### Exam board through which qualification will be awarded

Pearson (Edexcel)

### Web link to exam board specification:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-tec-awards/music-practice/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/btec-tech-award-music-practice-2022-spec.pdf>

### How you will be assessed

There are three components to the course:

1	Exploring Music Products and Styles	Internally marked; externally moderated
2	Music Skills Development	Internally marked; externally moderated
3	Responding to a Music Brief	Externally assessed

Components 1 and 2 are assessed through non-exam internal assessment. There is one external assessment, Component 3, which provides the main synoptic assessment for the qualification.

### Recommended revision guide and cost

There is not a revision guide published at present but workbooks have been produced to cover all necessary elements of the syllabus

### Who you should speak to for further information

Mr Castle

### Why you should study Music

If you are reading this, then you will most likely love music in various forms and styles, learn an instrument either in school or privately and enjoy the opportunity of playing music in a group. Music is all about communication, a connection between the musician and the audience or listener. A musician has at their heart the desire to convey the joy of music to those around them. Well, if you find yourself nodding or generally agreeing with the above global mission statement, then you have come to the right place .. read on and Mr. Castle will be delighted to help you realise your goal.

## What will you learn in Music?

**In Component 1**, learners will explore a variety of musical styles and understand the historical context, key features, music theory and techniques that underpin these styles. This knowledge will then be applied via performance, composition and production tasks to demonstrate their understanding of the styles.

**Component 2** focuses on developing the professional and commercial skills required in the music industry. Learners will identify and develop skills and techniques in the following areas: performance, creating original music (composition/song-writing) and music production.

The final component, **Component 3** of the course, allows learners to focus on a particular area of the music sector that excites and appeals to them. They will respond to a music brief as a composer, performer or producer. Using relevant resources, skills and techniques they will then develop and refine musical material before presenting their final response.

Preparing music to meet the requirements of a set brief develops skills in self-management, communication and presentation, which are vital to any future course of study.

**Do I need any skills prior to signing up?** It is crucial that students will have an independent focus and willingness to persevere at any task before them. It is expected that music students will be receiving music tuition on at least one *melodic* instrument (ie not drumkit), either in school or privately, as well as have some basic proficiency at the Piano or Keyboard.

**Will Music ICT be part of the training?** Very much so. In addition to Bandlab, Whitstone is equipped Cubase 11 software to allow you to create your own Drum and Bass masterpiece as well as write your own film score, or rewrite the opening car chase in Quantum of Solace

**But will I get the chance to perform?** Absolutely! Throughout the course there will many opportunities for you to develop your skill and experience as a musician by performing in many concerts, both informal and formal, to local schools and care homes, as well as attending outside concerts with visits to music colleges such as The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (RWCMD) in Cardiff.

## What courses could you take at college or university in the future?

Given that a music education teaches so many important transferable skills – resilience, self-discipline, communication, team-working - you could go on to study any subject you like!

However, the following courses are a natural progression from this particular course: BTEC National in Music, BTEC National in Music Technology/Production, A Level Music (this would require additional theoretical study and a performing standard of at least Grade 5), A Level Music Technology.

## What are the possible career opportunities?

As musicians tend to acquire many transferable skills, former music students work in roles in publishing, editing, media production, broadcasting, journalism and marketing. Careers in finance, banking and law are also common. There are, of course, numerous (and evolving) career opportunities in the music industry itself, such as sound engineering, composing for TV or film, performing, conducting, event management and promotion. Opportunities in other sectors include teaching, research, examining and music therapy. Many musicians have a portfolio career whereby they combine several of these roles.



GCSE Photography
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>
AQA
<b>Web link to exam board specification:</b> <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206/subject-content/photography">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206/subject-content/photography</a>
<b>How you will be assessed:</b>
<p><u>Component 1: Portfolio</u>  This comprises a series of projects developed in response to a theme and the work of a range of photographers. Also, a selection of further work resulting from activities such as skills based workshops, experimentation and external visits. The portfolio comprises <b>60%</b> of the GCSE final mark.</p> <p><u>Component 2: Externally Set Assignment</u>  Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper. This project includes research, experimentation and preparation, concluded by 10 hours of supervised time. The externally set assessment comprises <b>40%</b> of GCSE.</p>
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>
The A3 portfolio books are subsidised and charged to students at a reduced rate. Students will need to have access to a camera with manual setting. If you have access to other types of photographic equipment (e.g. compact camera / camera phone), this is also useful. If you do not have a camera at home, the school has a limited amount of cameras available, and no student will be refused access to the course through lack of funds or equipment.
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>
Mrs Lipin

<b>Why you should study Photography</b>
<p>As our communications move more and more into the digital sphere, photography becomes an increasingly important part of our daily lives. Photographic images surround us, and shape our understanding of the world more profoundly than ever before in human history. Being able to understand – to ‘read’ images – is vital to our understanding of the culture we live in, and increases our enjoyment of other people’s creative output. Whether you want to be a professional photographer or whether you would just like to be able to make high quality visual content to support another interest; being able to produce your own, high quality images allows you to join in the visual conversation. GCSE photography is your first step towards this goal.</p>

**What will you learn in photography?**

As you study photography you will learn how to 'deconstruct' photographic images; to understand how an image is made, what equipment and processes were used, what the intention of the photographer was and what context or situation the work was produced in. You will learn how to apply this understanding to your own work through a series of skills workshops and themed projects, culminating in a self-led project in Year 11. You will learn digital and chemical processes, and apply your skills both inside the school, on external visits and in your own practice at home. You will learn how to organise and present your work in your portfolio. You will learn how to use camera functions, apps and related software. You will learn how to enhance, edit and manipulate images using adobe creative suite, and how to produce abstracted and composite designs.

To be successful in GCSE photography you need to be highly self-motivated; much of the photographic work takes place outside of lessons. You need to have a keen interest in photography and visual culture and be willing to experiment. You also need to be able to dedicate time, energy and care into building up a portfolio of your own work, as well as analysis of the works of others.

**Which courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

Art and Design foundation course, Lens based media (film), Photography, Photojournalism, Web design, Advertising, Other design / art based courses with transferable skills such as Fine Art / Graphic Design

**What are the possible career opportunities?**

The creative industries are very broad and there are many job roles and specialisms available for graduates of arts based courses. These include:

- Working in the media or in advertising, as a photographer, film maker, technical specialist or in post-production.
- Web design and related services
- Graphic design and layout
- Photojournalism
- Fine Art photography

GCSE Religious Studies B
<b>Exam board through which qualification will be awarded</b>
Pearson (Edexcel)
<b>Web link to exam board specification:</b> <a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/religious-studies-b-2016.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/religious-studies-b-2016.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments</a>
<b>How you will be assessed</b>
<p>The course consists of two papers</p> <p>Paper 1 – Religion, Peace and Conflict through Christianity  This includes Christian Beliefs, Crime and Punishment, Living the Christian Life, and Peace and Conflict as well as Non-Religious Viewpoints</p> <p>Paper 2 – Religion, Philosophy and Social Justice through Islam  This includes Muslims Beliefs, Philosophy of Religion, Living the Muslim Life, and Equality as well as Non-Religious Viewpoints</p> <p>It is a linear course and both papers will be assessed by 1 hour 45 minute examinations.</p>
<b>Recommended revision guide and cost</b>
Pearson Edexcel B Religious Studies Christianity and Islam Revision Guide £5.99
<b>Who you should speak to for further information</b>
Miss Barrett
<b>Why should you study Religious Studies?</b>
<p>You should study Religious Studies if you enjoy investigating and discussing current world issues, you like to argue a point of view and back it up, you are open minded and can listen to, and empathise with, other peoples' points of view.</p> <p>You should study Religious Studies If you are looking to learn about other people, their views, traditions and beliefs, you would like an insight into the history of humanity, you would like to develop key skills such as critical thinking, analytical writing, and debating skills.</p>
<b>What will you learn in Religious Studies?</b>
<p>You will learn about Muslim and Christian beliefs and traditions.</p> <p>You will cover a range of Ethical Issues including War, the Death Penalty, Social Justice, Racial Discrimination and Wealth and Poverty.</p> <p>You will consider different religious and non-religious viewpoints.</p> <p>You will learn how to look at and analyse different points of view, including your own.</p> <p>You will learn the correct use of religious language and will explore differences of opinion between religious beliefs and practices. You will learn some Arabic as part of this GCSE.</p>

Religious Studies will enable you to learn about and reflect upon personal, social and global issues that will help you to navigate your future in a multi faith and multicultural world. You will have the opportunity to develop key life skills such as broad mindedness, empathy, cultural sensitivity and religious tolerance.

**What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

A' Levels in Philosophy, Sociology or Theology

University degrees in Contemporary Religions, History of Religions, Religious Law, Islamic Studies, Biblical Studies, Talmudic Law, History of Art, Law, Sociology, Philosophy, Politics and Economics, History, English

**What are the possible career opportunities?**

- Journalism
- Charity/NGO Work
- Law
- Police and Public Services
- Social Worker or Youth Worker
- Medicine and Healthcare
- Politics
- Diplomatic Work/Foreign Policy
- Humanitarian Work
- Ordination
- Teaching

## GCSE Statistics

### Exam board through which qualification will be awarded

Pearson (Edexcel)

### Web link to exam board specification

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Statistics/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/gcse-9-1-statistics-specification.pdf>

### How you will be assessed

Two exams at the end of the course, based on the three themes:

1. The collection of data
2. Processing, representing and analysing data
3. Probability

You will either sit Higher or foundation tier.

### Recommended revision guide and cost

Workbook:

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/maths/statistics/msxq41-gcse-statistics-edexcel-exam-practice>

Revision notes:

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/maths/statistics/msxr41-gcse-statistics-edexcel-revision>

### Who you should speak to for further information

Mrs Edmunds or Mr Abell

### Why you should study statistics?

You will learn a number of transferable skills to help you understand Statistics in the wider world. You will be introduced to the skills of statistical enquiry, and practise the underpinning statistical calculations and interpretation using real world data and authentic contexts. This will help you to understand the numbers you see in the media and provide essential skills for future life. The course compliments the GCSE Maths syllabus as well as providing many cross curricular links.

### What will you learn in statistics?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to develop statistical fluency and understanding through:

- the use of statistical techniques in a variety of authentic investigations, using real-world data in contexts such as, but not limited to, populations, climate, sales etc.

- identifying trends through carrying out appropriate calculations and data visualisation techniques
- the application of statistical techniques across the curriculum, in subjects such as the sciences, social sciences, computing, geography, business and economics, and outside the classroom in the world in general
- critically evaluating data, calculations and evaluations that would be commonly encountered in their studies and in everyday life
- understanding how technology has enabled the collection, visualisation and analysis of large quantities of data to inform decision-making processes in public, commercial and academic sectors, including how technology can be used to generate diagrams and visualisations to represent data

#### **What courses could you take at college or university in the future?**

Statistics complements your Maths qualification, so will be seen as a positive for any Maths or Science course. In addition, the following courses have a high proportion of Statistics within them:

Psychology, Sociology, Journalism, Statistics, Business, IT and Design.

#### **What are the possible career opportunities?**

Statistics is a useful qualification for many careers. In particular advertising, business, analytics, and economists. The top five occupations for statistics graduates are **actuaries, economists and statisticians** (22%), finance and investment analysts and advisors (11%), data analysts (9%), programmers and software development professionals (5%) and IT business analysts, architects and systems designers (4%).

## Cambridge National Award Sport Science Level 1 / 2

### Exam board through which qualification will be awarded

OCR Oxford Cambridge RSA

### Web link to exam board specification

<https://ocr.org.uk/Images/610952-specification-cambridge-nationals-sport-science-j828.pdf>

### How you will be assessed

You will be assessed across the following three units over the two years.

#### **Reducing the risk of sports injuries and dealing with common medical conditions**

40% external assessed through a written 1 hour 15 minute exam

#### **Applying the principles of training: fitness and how it affects skill performance**

40% Internally assessed through coursework

#### **The body's response to physical activity and how technology informs this**

20% Internally assessed through coursework

Coursework will be assignment based set by the exam board and marked by your teachers.

### Recommended revision guide and cost

N/A

### Who you should speak to for further information

Mr Cleave

### Why you should study Sport?

You may be interested in this if you want an engaging qualification where you will use your learning in practical, real-life situations.

The course is **theory based**, however there is some practical within each unit and you will be studying fitness training and testing in the second unit.

You should take this course if you enjoy Physical Education , sport, being physically active and following a healthy lifestyle. However, you should also be prepared for completing the coursework and taking an in depth look at the theory of sports injuries, fitness training and the body's response to physical activity .

You will need to be organised and prepared to work independently for course work and collaboratively during lessons, sharing ideas and contributing to class and group discussions when completing tasks.

## What will you learn in Sport?

The course will cover 3 assessed units and you will learn the following:

### **Reducing the risk of sports injuries and dealing with common medical conditions**

In this unit, students will learn how to prepare participants to take part in physical activity in a way which minimises the risk of injuries occurring; prepare them to be able to react to common injuries that can occur during sport and physical activity and to recognise the symptoms of some common medical conditions.

### **Applying the principles of training: fitness and how it affects skill performance**

In this unit, students will learn how to conduct a range of fitness tests, what they test and their advantages and disadvantages. They will also learn how to design, plan and evaluate a fitness training programme. This will give them the background knowledge they need to be able to plan and deliver appropriate fitness tests, some of which will be adapted to suit the skills of the sporting activity.

### **The body's response to physical activity and how technology informs this**

In this unit you will learn to understand how both the cardio-respiratory and musculo-skeletal systems provide you with the energy and movements needed to keep you exercising and in turn how exercise helps develop both of these systems

The qualification will also help you to develop learning and skills that can be used in other life and work situations, such as:

- Completing research
- Working with others
- Planning training programmes
- Evaluating and making recommendations to help improve performance
- Creating and delivering presentations
- Writing reports
- Leadership skills
- Healthy living and lifestyle skills

## What courses could you take at college or university in the future?

The Cambridge National Award will allow you to follow the following course at post 16:

- A Level Physical Education (Level 3)
- Apprenticeship e.g Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and Health sector (Level 2 and 3)
- Cambridge Technicals Sport and Physical Activity (Levels 2 and 3)

Which subjects will complement this course?

- Biology
- Combined Science
- Health and Social Care

## What are the possible career opportunities?

- Sport related professions
- Health care/First aid
- Public services
- Working with children





### Key Stage 4 Options Form 2023 (Pathway L)

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Aspire Group:</b>	
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Core curriculum						Humanities choice	Other subject choices	
English Language and English Literature GCSE	Mathematics GCSE	Science Double GCSE	PE (not examined)	Ethics, Culture and Careers (not examined)	French GCSE	Geography GCSE or History GCSE	Free choice	Free Choice

**Further guidance: You must choose either Geography or History and two further choices. One of these further choices could be Geography or History if you wanted to study both Humanities.\*You cannot choose Art and Design as well as Photography.**

	Humanities Choice	Choose any two from the following subjects	
<b>Subjects</b>	<b>Geography</b>	<b>Art and Design*</b>	<b>Catering and Hospitality</b>
		<b>Dance</b>	<b>Drama</b>
	<b>History</b>	<b>Geography</b>	<b>History</b>
		<b>ICT</b>	<b>Music</b>
		<b>Photography*</b>	<b>Product Design</b>
		<b>R.E</b>	<b>Sports Science</b>
		<b>Statistics</b>	<b>Triple Science</b>
<b>Student choice</b>		_____ and _____	
<b>Student reserve Choice</b>			

**Key Stage 4 Options Form 2023 (Pathway N)**

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Aspire Group:</b>	
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Core Curriculum					Humanities choice	Other subject choices		
English Language and English Literature GCSE	Mathematics GCSE	Science Double GCSE	PE (not examined)	Ethics, Culture and Careers (not examined)	Geography GCSE or History GCSE	Free choice	Free choice	Free choice

**Further guidance: You must choose either Geography or History and two further choices. One of these further choices could be Geography or History if you wanted to study both Humanities.\*You cannot choose Art and Design as well as Photography.**

	Humanities Choice	Choose three from the following subjects		
<b>Subjects</b>	<b>Geography</b>	<b>Art and Design*</b>	<b>Catering and Hospitality</b>	
		<b>Dance</b>	<b>Drama</b>	
		<b>French</b>	<b>Geography</b>	
		<b>Health and Social Care</b>	<b>History</b>	
	<b>History</b>	<b>ICT</b>	<b>Music</b>	
		<b>Photography*</b>	<b>Product Design</b>	
		<b>R.E</b>	<b>Sports Science</b>	
		<b>Statistics</b>	<b>Triple Science</b>	
<b>Student choices</b>				
<b>Student reserve Choice</b>				

