



CLAREMONT FAN COURT SCHOOL

GCSE CURRICULUM BOOKLET

2022-24



BE CONFIDENT IN CHARACTER | BE LIMITLESS IN POTENTIAL | BE STRONG IN UNDERSTANDING

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Subject pages (arranged in the following order)

Faculty	Core	Optional
English	English Language English Literature* * a core subject unless otherwise advised by the head of faculty	
Mathematics	Mathematics	
Science/Technology	Combined Science (2 GCSE awards)	Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) Art and Design: Textile Design Computer Science Design and Technology Food Preparation & Nutrition Media Studies
Arts and Sports		Art and Design: Fine Art Art and Design: Photography Drama Music PE
Humanities	Religious Studies (Theology and Philosophy)	Business Geography History
Foreign Languages		French German Latin Spanish
PSHEE & Citizenship		Citizenship Studies

INTRODUCTION FOR YEAR 9 PUPILS

What are you trying to achieve when selecting GCSE options?

We would argue that there are three core objectives when making these choices:

1. Creating a GCSE pathway that will allow you to achieve the best possible grades and make the most of your hard work and endeavour - this will in turn facilitate the most opportunities in terms of further study, career paths and options.
2. Creating a GCSE curriculum where you will love learning those subjects, be happy and have fun studying - pupils are always at their most successful when they are doing what they love
3. Ensuring that your GCSE choices facilitate future options for further study and professional life - if you have a fixed idea about a future career then it is sometimes necessary to choose particular GCSE options. However, be careful when doing this when it is at the expense of a subject you love or would prefer to study.

Indeed, this philosophy is shared by the University of Oxford who state:

“We recommend that candidates take those GCSE subjects that they enjoy the most and are confident in achieving good grades in.”

We want all of our pupils to be happy and successful. That is why our GCSE curriculum has a huge amount of breadth so that pupils can choose subjects that are right for them, but also so that pupils can flourish on courses that are bespoke to their strengths and future aspirations.

However, please always remember that the school journey at Claremont Fan Court School is about more than the subjects selected for GCSE study. It is about engagement with others, whether your peers, your teachers or the wider community. Sport and PSHE continue to be core parts of the curriculum, as does the commitment we expect of every pupil to be involved in the wider life of the school: in assemblies; school council; creative performances or indeed supporting the house or school open events.

Do take care to discuss subject choices with your teachers and family in the coming weeks. Do not worry if your friends are not opting for the same combination as you, but instead take this opportunity to identify the subjects in which you can really flourish.

Our Year 9 parents' evening will be invaluable in discussing progress to date and also a chance to look forward towards GCSE.

Wednesday 23 February 2022
Year 9 options evening
6pm-8pm

Thursday 3 March 2022
Year 9 parents' evening
4.30-8.30pm

We are using PSHE lessons, tutor time and assemblies this term for further discussion about the move towards GCSE and the introduction of new subjects.

Option forms should be returned after 23 February and by Monday 7 March 2022. Early return of the options form is not necessary as we will not start processing the forms until Tuesday 8 March 2022. Please email the completed form to Mrs Garlick, exams & curriculum officer, (bgarlick@claremont.surrey.sch.uk).



Mr W Brierly
Headmaster



Mr H Jones
Deputy head academic



Mr T Rixon
Head of Year 9

TIMETABLE OF DATES

Spring term	Some curriculum and options talks take place in form time including new subjects
7 March 2022	Last date for returning options form to the Senior School timetabler
8 March 2022	Options will be collated from this date
By mid-June 2022	Letter from school confirming options
1-30 September 2022	Some option changes may be possible but only at the discretion of the deputy head academic
1 October 2022	No option changes will be considered from this date

OPTION CHOICES: YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

1. What subjects are compulsory and how many options do I take?	<p>Compulsory Subjects: English language, English literature, science (minimum of combined science equivalent to two GCSE awards), mathematics, religious studies.</p> <p>Options: Most pupils will choose four other options.</p> <p>We will try to meet your requests.</p> <p>The deputy head academic and head of individual needs may recommend a reduced curriculum of three options for certain pupils. These pupils will be placed in a study support group for the fourth curriculum slot. Please note that the study support group is not an option as such and is not examined.</p>
2. What if I need help?	Read this booklet carefully. If you want information about a specific subject, talk to your own subject teacher or the contact teacher. If you need more general advice, ask Mr Rixon or Mr Jones.
3. What should I do if my teacher encourages me to do a subject because I am good at it but I am not sure that it is right for me?	Listen to everybody's advice, especially that of teachers and parents. Choose subjects you know you will enjoy and you are confident that you can succeed in.
4. If my friend and I both choose the same subjects, will we be together?	Not necessarily. You could be in different sets depending on your choices. Never choose a subject just because your friend is choosing it!
5. What if I don't like a subject after a few weeks?	It may be possible to change your options once you have started the course. It is better that you choose the right ones in the first place! Remember that the school may not be able to give every pupil the choices they want.
6. How has coursework changed?	Coursework is now referred to as Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) and will be completed at school under teacher supervision.
7. How much homework will I get?	You should expect at least one hour of homework per week for each full GCSE course you take.
8. Will I get my choices?	The vast majority of choices will be met but it is inevitable that there will be some disappointments. If we cannot meet your choices, we will discuss alternatives with you.

9. How will I cope with all the work in Years 10 and 11?	Time-management is very important and so are good study skills. Think carefully about the range of subjects you are taking. Choosing a mixture of practical and academic subjects may help you to manage your workload more easily. Most importantly, choose subjects you are good at and enjoy.
10. Will I be able to drop a subject?	You will be expected to continue with your options throughout Year 10 and Year 11 unless the school advises you differently after you have sat the mock examinations in November 2023.
11. What happens if I fail a mock or module?	You will be expected to achieve a Level 4 or better in all your GCSE subjects in the final (summer) results. If you do not show good progress towards this goal at the end of the autumn term, the deputy head academic will contact you for further discussion. If a Level 4 is unlikely to be achieved in any optional subject or in English Literature or Religious Studies, you will not be entered for that subject's final examination.

GRADES FOR GCSE

New GCSE Grading Structure		Ofqual
NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE	CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE	
9		A*
8		
7		A
6	<div>GOOD PASS (DfE)</div> <div>5 and above = top of C and above</div>	B
5		
4	<div>AWARDING</div> <div>4 and above = bottom of C and above</div>	C
3		D
2		E
1		F
		G
U		U

GCSE grades now appear in numbers. The minimum grade expected by this school for continuation into sixth form is a 4 but, in keeping with most independent schools, we are keen to see a grade 5 wherever possible, which the government is labelling as a “*good pass*”. Please note that Claremont operates a different admissions system to its sixth form in terms of grades and details can be found in the A level curriculum booklet which is published in the autumn term ahead of entry the following year.

TIERING

Tiering is the system of setting examination papers at different levels of difficulty. All examination boards follow the same scheme of assessment.

Some subjects have two tiers but others have none. If a candidate fails to achieve the mark for the lowest grade of the tier, they will receive an unclassified (U) result. It is important to consider this when decisions about entry levels are made. **The final choice of tiering is the responsibility of the head of department.**

Tier	Grade Available (9-1)
Foundation	5-1
Higher	9-4

A grade 5 is counted as a good pass and is equivalent to a low B grade (as demonstrated in the table above).

The following subjects are tiered:

Languages

Mathematics

Science

NON-EXAMINATION ASSESSMENTS/MOCK EXAMINATIONS

Incomplete Non-Examination Assessments (NEAs) or an inadequate mock examination will result in the pupil being withdrawn from the examination. The deadline dates for school NEAs will be set and must be adhered to. Further information regarding deadline dates is distributed to parents at the beginning of Year 10.

English Language

Faculty of English

GCSE: English Language (8700)

Contact Teacher: Mrs B Clarke

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

The course is compulsory and must be studied by all pupils in Years 10 and 11. This specification will enable pupils of all abilities to develop the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts covering the 19th, 20th and 21st century time periods as well as to write clearly, coherently and accurately using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures. The course offers a skills-based approach to the study of English language in an untiered context. Questions are designed to take pupils on an assessment journey through lower tariff tasks to more extended responses.

Assessments

There are **two** examinations and **one** Non-examination Assessment (NEA).

All texts in the examination will be unseen.

For the award of the GCSE in English language pupils must complete all three assessments.

Examination

There are two examinations, each worth 50% of the English language GCSE.

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

Section A: Reading

- one literature fiction text

Section B: Writing

- descriptive or narrative writing

Assessment

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Questions:

Reading (40 marks) (25%); one single text

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

Section A: Reading

- one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

Section B: Writing

- writing to present a viewpoint

Assessment

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Questions:**Reading (40 marks) (25%)** – two linked texts

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Non-Examination Assessment (NEA)

The aim of the assessment is to allow pupils to demonstrate their speaking and listening skills.

Spoken Language**What is assessed?**

- presenting
- responding to questions and feedback
- use of Standard English

Assessment

- teacher set throughout course
- marked by teacher
- separate endorsement (0% weighting of GCSE)

Progression

This course offers excellent preparation for A level English, as well as equipping pupils with essential life-skills and the best progression route to future employment.

English Literature

Faculty of English

GCSE: English Literature (8702)

Contact Teacher: Mrs B Clarke

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

This course will be taught alongside English Language GCSE to most pupils in Years 10 and 11 and should encourage pupils to develop knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. Through literature, pupils have a chance to develop culturally and acquire knowledge of the best that has been created and written. Studying GCSE English Literature should encourage learners to read widely for pleasure and acts as preparation for studying literature at a higher level. The specification takes a skills-based approach to the study of English literature that is consistent across the genres in an untiered, closed book context through the use of extract-based questions in the assessment of the 19th century novel and the Shakespeare plays.

Examination

There are **two** compulsory examinations, one worth 40% and one worth 60% of the English Literature GCSE.

Both examinations are closed book: any stimulus materials required will be provided as part of the examinations.

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th century novel

- Shakespeare
- The 19th-century novel

Assessment

- written paper: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 64 marks
- 40% of GCSE

Questions:

Section A Shakespeare: pupils will answer one question on the play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B The 19th century novel: pupils will answer one question on the novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

- Modern texts
- Poetry
- Unseen poetry

Assessment

- written paper: 2 hour 15 minutes
- 96 marks

- 60% of GCSE

Questions:

Section A Modern texts: pupils will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B Poetry: pupils will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the Power and Conflict or Love and Relationships cluster.

Section C Unseen poetry: pupils will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

Progression

The study of English Literature GCSE offers excellent preparation for A level English literature as well as giving pupils a grounding in a wide variety of literature that will stay with them for life.

Mathematics

Faculty of Mathematics

GCSE: Mathematics (8300)

Contact Teacher: Mrs L Honnor

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

The course is a compulsory part of the curriculum and must be studied by all pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11. It covers five distinct areas:

- number
- algebra
- ratio, proportion and rates of change
- geometry and measures
- probability and statistics

Mathematics is an important thinking skill in everyday life. We would all be lost without the basic arithmetic involved in cooking, shopping, decorating, travel planning and scheduling. Learning mathematics trains you to think logically and clearly. It shows you how to organise information and how to reason effectively and efficiently. It can also be a lot of fun. Most people gain great satisfaction from cracking a problem or succeeding in understanding a difficult concept.

Syllabus and Examination

The AQA awarding body offers only one linear mathematics syllabus for GCSE with two tiers of entry: foundation and higher. At the higher tier, all grades from 4 to 9 are available. At the foundation tier, by contrast, the material is much more accessible to all candidates but the highest grade available is a 5. We expect most pupils at Claremont to be entered at the higher tier, although some pupils in lower sets may be entered at the foundation tier.

The examination consists of three examination papers covering content from any part of the specification. All exams are taken at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Non-calculator

One written paper (1½ hour) 80 marks (33⅓% of GCSE)

Paper 2: Calculator

One written paper (1½ hour) 80 marks (33⅓% of GCSE)

Paper 3: Calculator

One written paper (1½ hour) 80 marks (33⅓% of GCSE)

Following the mock examination at the end of the first term in Year 11, the decision will be made to enter pupils at higher or foundation level. Although it is likely that all the pupils in a given set will be entered for the same examination, the decision will be an individual one for each pupil.

Coursework Requirements

There is no coursework element in GCSE Mathematics. Assessment is based purely on examination performance.

Progressing from GCSE to A level

In addition to the GCSE Mathematics course, pupils in the top set will study for the AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics (specification no 8365) during Years 10 and 11. The syllabus for this examination has a very large overlap with the GCSE Mathematics syllabus and is particularly useful for gaining a deeper understanding of algebra and trigonometry. It provides pupils with opportunities to practise higher order skills, thus enhancing their opportunity of a high grade at GCSE, as well as giving a head start to those going on to take Maths A level. There is no coursework element.

Progression

Pupils who enjoy mathematics may wish to consider studying the subject at A level in the sixth form. They will certainly find it stimulating and rewarding and will explore both pure and applied maths. In recent years, more than half the students in the sixth form have chosen to study mathematics.

Science

Faculty of Science and Technology

Department of Science

Awarding Body: AQA

GCSE:

AQA GCSE in Combined Science: Trilogy Foundation (8464F) Higher (8464H)	OR	AQA GCSE in Biology (8461F/8461H) AQA GCSE in Chemistry (8462F/8462H) AQA GCSE in Physics (8463F/8463H)
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Contact Teachers:

Mr D Ridings (head of faculty: science and technology)

Miss A Jackson (head of physics)

Mr A Boothe (head of biology)

Mrs R Michael (head of chemistry)

Pupils have two alternative pathways through science: *either* GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy) leading to two GCSE qualifications *or* separate GCSE subjects in Biology, Chemistry and Physics leading to three GCSE qualifications.

Route One: GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy)

GCSE Combined Science provides a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It encourages learners to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards, science and to recognise its importance in their own lives and to society. All learners are taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. They are helped to appreciate how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas relating to the sciences which are both inter-linked and are of universal application.

This specification is intended to promote a variety of styles of teaching and learning so that the course is enjoyable for all participants. Learners will be introduced to a wide range of scientific principles which will allow them to enjoy a positive learning experience. Practical skills are developed throughout this course and an investigatory approach is promoted.

The course consists of six papers (components):

	Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Paper 1 (16.7% of GCSE – written exam 1 hr 15 mins)	Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics.	Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; and Energy changes.	Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure.
Paper 2 (16.7% of GCSE – written exam 1 hr 15 mins)	Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology.	The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources.	Forces; Waves; and Magnetism and electromagnetism

Pupils will achieve two GCSE Combined Science grades at the end of this course and not separates grades in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Route Two (separate sciences): GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics

GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics specifications draw on the teaching modules from the GCSE Combined Science specification with further sections of content specific to each subject.

Each course will be examined via two papers:

GCSE Biology	GCSE Chemistry	GCSE Physics
Paper 1: Topics 1 - 4: Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics. (50% of GCSE – written exam - 1 hr 45 mins)	Paper 1: Topics 1 - 5: Atomic structure, the periodic table; Bonding, structure, the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry, Chemical changes; and Energy changes. (50% of GCSE – written exam - 1 hr 45 mins)	Paper 1: Topics 1 - 4: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure. (50% of GCSE – written exam - 1 hr 45 mins)
Paper 2: Topics 5 - 7: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology. (50% of GCSE – written exam - 1 hr 45 mins)	Paper 2: Topics 6 - 10: The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere; and Using resources. (50% of GCSE – written exam - 1 hr 45 mins)	Paper 2: Topics 5 - 8: Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism; and Space physics. (50% of GCSE – written exam - 1 hr 45 mins)

Those who wish to take science A levels or pursue a career in the sciences or engineering are strongly advised to take the three separate sciences at GCSE. However, as this route is more demanding, the science department requires pupils to average a **grade B** or higher in their Year 9 tests to qualify for this route. The professional judgement of the classroom teacher should also be taken into account. It is vital that good communication exists between parent, department and pupils in order for the correct decision to be made.

Art and Design: Textile Design

Faculty of Science and Technology

Department of Technology

GCSE: Art and Design: Textile Design (8204)

Contact Teacher: Mrs T Hart

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

GCSE Textile Design will prepare pupils to participate confidently and successfully in the fashion, art and design industries. Pupils will develop awareness and learn from wider influences on design including historical, contemporary, cultural and environmental factors. Pupils will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

Non-examination Assessment: Component 1 Portfolio (8204/C) (60% of final grade)

This will include a selection of experimental and creative work produced in skills based workshops and as a result of gallery and exhibition visits. There will also be a sustained project which requires the development of a response to a subject or a theme. This preparatory work will be developed into final outcomes which could either be a fashion outcome, an interior outcome, an installation or a wall hanging. This will be undertaken in Year 10 and completed in Year 11.

Examination: Component 2 (8204/X) Externally Set Assignment (40% of final grade)

Pupils respond to one of the seven set starting points. Pupils prepare for the exam by producing a range of textile ideas and responses in a sketchbook. Pupils use their prepared ideas to produce a creative response during a 10-hour exam. Component 2 will be undertaken between January and May in Year 11.

Target Group

The course is aimed at any pupil who is interested in art and design in general and particularly: textile design, fashion, accessories, interior design, wall hangings and installations or soft furnishing design. Pupils interested in a career in fashion design, buying and magazine production should also consider this course. Pupils should have enthusiasm and good organisational skills.

Co-curricular

We visit exhibitions and attend workshops in Year 10 to gain an insight into the textile and fashion industries and visit college and university exhibition stands. Previous trips have included the Royal College of Art, to see the work of MA design pupils, the Business Design Centre to see design graduates' work, exhibitions at the Design Museum, V&A Museum and the Barbican Centre, attending workshops at the Saatchi Gallery and talks at the Fashion and Textile Museum.

Progression to A level

The creative skills learned during the GCSE Textile Design course form a very good foundation for A level Textile Design. The GCSE Textile Design course is similar in structure to the A level Textile Design course.

Computer Science

Faculty of Science and Technology

GCSE: Computer Science (J277)

Contact Teacher: Mrs A Taylor

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Outline

The course provides an introduction both for pupils who are interested in Computer Science as a discipline itself and for aspiring scientists, or engineers, for whom Computer Science is increasingly important as an 'underpinning' subject. The content has been designed to establish a solid basis of understanding and to engage learners and get them thinking about real world applications. Computer science is a creative subject that encourages pupils to develop their own ideas and pursue their interests. The course values computational thinking and helps pupils to develop the skills to solve problems and design systems.

The qualification encourages pupils to:

- understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation
- analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs
- think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society
- apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science.

Assessment Summary

The assessment consists of two written examinations: Component 01 and Component 02. Pupils' ability to write or refine algorithms is assessed in Component 02.

Component 01: Computer Systems (50%)

External examination 1 hour 30 minutes:

- Systems architecture
- Memory and storage
- Computer networks, connections and protocols
- Network security
- System software
- Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology

Component 02: Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming (50%)

External examination 1 hour 30 minutes:

- Algorithms
- Programming fundamentals
- Producing robust programs
- Boolean logic
- Programming languages and integrated development environments

All pupils will be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s), either to a specification or to solve a problem (or problems), during their course of study. Pupils may draw on some of the content in both components when engaged in practical programming.

Progression

The skills developed are excellent preparation for pupils who want to go on to study Computer Science at A level and beyond. The qualification also provides a good grounding for other subject areas that require computational thinking and analytical skills.

Design and Technology

Faculty of Science and Technology
Department of Technology
GCSE: Design and Technology (0979)
Contact Teacher: Mr P Gladstone

Awarding Body: CAIE

Course Outline

Cambridge Design and Technology IGCSE (9–1) enables learners to identify, consider and solve problems through creative thinking, planning and design and by working with different media, materials and tools to produce a made product.

Learners gain technical and design awareness and develop skills such as initiative, resourcefulness, enquiry and ingenuity. They also develop the communication skills central to the design process.

Cambridge IGCSE Design and Technology (9–1) is designed to accommodate a wide range of interests, materials and resources. It provides an ideal basis for further study and equips learners with technical knowledge and practical designing and making skills for the world of work.

Non-examination Assessment (NEA)

One major design and make project manufactured using chosen specialist material (resistant materials) completed in Year 11 (50% of final grade).

Examination

Final examination: Two papers (25% each of final grade) taken at the end of Year 11.

Useful Skills

You should have an appreciation of the world around you, an interest in design, enthusiasm, drive, good organisational skills, creativity and accuracy in presentation and layout.

Target Group

The course is aimed at anyone who is interested in 3D-design work such as product design, transport design, furniture, interior design, architecture, exhibition design, set design, advertising, marketing, graphics and computer aided design.

Co-curricular Activities

We will visit the Design Museum and the Royal College of Art in Year 10 to see the work of MA Design students which will enable pupils to begin planning their major project.

Progression

This qualification is a recognised part of the National Qualifications framework. As such, IGCSE DT provides progression from Key Stage 3 through Key Stage 4 to post-16 studies. It lays an appropriate foundation for further study of Design and Technology at A level.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Faculty of Science and Technology

Department of Technology

GCSE: Food Preparation and Nutrition (601/8093/6)

Contact Teacher: Mrs V Johns

Awarding Body: Eduqas

This is a new and exciting course which has replaced Food Technology qualifications. This course is much more creative with more focus on practical cooking skills, nutrition and food science.

Course outline

The GCSE specification in Food Preparation and Nutrition will equip pupils with the knowledge, understanding, skills and encouragement they need to cook. It will give them the ability to apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating.

Pupils will be able to make informed decisions about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways and develop vital life skills so that they can feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously.

Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

1. **Food, nutrition and health** – Macronutrients, Micronutrients, Nutritional Needs and Health.
2. **Food science** – Cooking of Food, Heat Transfer, Functional and Chemical Properties of Food.
3. **Food safety** – Food Spoilage, Contamination and the Principles of Food Safety.
4. **Food choice** – Factors affecting Food Choice, British and International Cuisines, Sensory Evaluation, Food Labelling and Marketing.
5. **Food provenance** – Environmental Impact and Sustainability of Food, Food Processing and Production.

Non-Examination Assessment 1 (NEA 1)

Task 1: Food investigation (15%) Written Report

Pupils will demonstrate an understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Pupils will submit a written report (1500–2000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.

Non-Examination Assessment 2 (NEA 2)

Task 2: Food preparation assessment (35%) Written Portfolio

Pupils will be assessed on their knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task.

Pupils will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved. Pupils will submit a written portfolio (15 A4 pages) including photographic evidence.

Exam: Paper 1: Food preparation and nutrition (50%)**Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes****Co-curricular Activities**

- Lunchtime clinics and clubs to extend practical skills and subject knowledge
- Visits from experienced chefs/food workshops
- Trip to develop ideas for non-examination assessment

Target Group

We welcome any pupil who has a real interest in the vital and essential world of food and nutrition, how it is prepared and the need for an understanding of how this knowledge underpins the world we live in today.

Media Studies

Faculty of Science and Technology

Department of Media Studies

GCSE: Media Studies (J200)

Contact Teacher: Mrs J Mann

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Outline

You will develop a deeper understanding of the modern mass media - newspapers, online, magazines, advertising, music video, video games, radio, film and television - through studying the institutions that produce them and the audiences that consume them. You will investigate relevant and interesting case studies that will introduce you to some key ideas of current debates in the mass media. You will make your own productions after practice in a range of technical skills that develop your creativity and knowledge of technology.

Teaching methods include the use of audiovisual material, discussion, presentations, group work and individual investigation. All pupils record their work on individual blogs that are linked to the class teaching blog. You will learn to use the school's Canon cameras, to film and edit in iMovie, to use Photoshop and other platforms like ComicLife. This year, pupils have made film openings, production company logos in stop-frame animation, film trailers and comics.

Course Content

J200/01 Television and Promoting Media - written exam (1 hour, 45 minutes) 70 marks, 35% of total GCSE

In this module, you will explore how media products (specifically, contemporary and historical television crime drama) follow generic conventions, use media language, represent events, issues, places, individuals and social groups, address audiences and reflect their industrial context. As television crime drama is our case study, you will view an extract from a television crime drama and answer questions about genre conventions under examination conditions; you will analyse its film language and the representation of people and places; and you will explain the differences between television channels and their audiences. You study how a Hollywood major studio advertises and markets its films using posters, advertising campaigns and video games.

J200/02 Music, News and Radio - written exam (1 hour, 15 minutes) 70 marks, 35% of total GCSE

This module will introduce you to a wide variety of contemporary media forms and industries - newspapers, magazines, radio, online media and music videos - through a specific case study designated for each of these mass media. In the exam, you will demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of aspects of each industry, its language, its audiences and the ways in which it creates representations. You prepare in-depth case studies for exam questions about products intended for different audiences:

- Music videos and music magazines
- BBC Radio
- Newspapers and online news (historical and contemporary)

J200/03/04 Creating Media - non-examination assessment, 60 marks, 30% of total GCSE

You will create your own original production and will be assessed on your work individually although you may use other people as actors and assistants to operate light, sound and recording in your video work or to feature in your print production. Past briefs have included making the two-minute opening sequence from a new children's television soap opera, drama or music video (video brief), the front cover and double page spread for a music magazine aimed at an audience of young people (print brief) and a news website (online brief). Briefs change every year.

Co-curricular activities

Media Club and clinics run during lunch breaks during which time you will have access to the media studio's suite of Mac computers with the full Adobe software suite. You learn to use the school's Canon cameras. You have the freedom to practise film editing and Photoshop skills as well as stop-frame animation. You may enter film production competitions. We usually have a study day at the British Film Institute.

Target Group

As a recognised part of the National Qualifications framework, the Media Studies course gives you valuable insight into how media is produced for those interested in working in business, marketing, journalism and in the creative industries of television, film, marketing, advertising, design, magazine and radio. You will develop transferable skills in research and new technologies. If you have curiosity about the modern world, and love film, television, music, newspapers and radio, and want to learn more about how to discuss and to make them, then this is the course for you.

Progression

You will learn a wide variety of transferable skills in technology as well as analytical skills that provide a sound foundation for humanities, design and arts subjects at A level. We offer CAIE A level Media Studies in the sixth form.

Art and Design: Fine Art

Faculty of Arts and Sports

Department of Art

GCSE: Art and Design: Fine Art (1FA0)

Contact Teacher: Mrs E Williams

Awarding Body: Pearson Edexcel

Course Outline

The GCSE Fine Art course includes the study of drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and alternative media. Pupils are introduced to the history of art and contemporary art and are taught how to make exciting and ambitious creative outcomes. Pupils will show evidence of trying to extend the way in which they and others see the world. They will learn how to use the language of the subject sensitively and thoughtfully.

The course aims to develop your:

- creative and imaginative ability and the practical skills for communicating and expressing ideas, feelings and meanings in art
- investigative, analytical, experimental and interpretative capabilities, aesthetic understanding and critical and enquiring minds
- personal attributes including self-confidence, resilience, perseverance, self-discipline and commitment

Assessment

The course is fully linear so pupils' work is officially assessed at the end of Year 11. There will be assessments made throughout the coursework component so pupils are confident about the levels they are achieving.

Prerequisites

Pupils have to be prepared to work consistently from the start of the course and have a passion for creativity. Pupils are required to have willingness to develop their drawing and making skills and to analyse a wide variety of different artists' work.

Course Structure

Personal portfolio (Component 1)

60% of qualification

Project 1: The theme for this project can vary each year but pupils will develop drawing, printmaking, painting and sculpture skills then focus on an area for a final outcome response at the end of the spring term in Year 10.

Project 2: Spans from the summer term in Year 10 to January of Year 11. Project 2 will encourage independent creative thinking and is likely to be based on past GCSE exam paper titles in order to prepare pupils for their Externally Set Assignment.

Pupils respond to a given visual theme and research, analyse, annotate and develop a practical body of coursework and a final outcome.

ESA: Externally Set Assignment (Component 2)

40% of qualification

A controlled unit is set to a theme provided by the awarding body and issued to pupils in January of Year 11. Pupils develop a practical portfolio of work in lessons and for prep and

then sit a ten-hour exam in which they produce their final outcome. The unit in its entirety is worth 40% of the final grade.

Viewing Art in Context

A visit to a relevant exhibition will take place in Year 10. Further visits to art galleries will help with ideas and project development. It is expected that pupils carry out several gallery visits independently throughout the two-year course.

Target Group

Any pupil with an enquiring and analytical mind who enjoys drawing and painting or 3-D work would enjoy this course. The study of fine art at GCSE is relevant to pupils considering most subjects at A level and has links with history, literature, mathematics, science, religion, politics and philosophy. It is suitable for pupils interested in pursuing all kinds of careers including architecture, engineering and medicine, photography, graphic design, product design, illustration, advertising, interior design, theatre set design, fashion design, game design and animation to name but a few.

A level

The skills learned during the GCSE course are a foundation for studies at A level and therefore pupils must complete the GCSE Art course if they wish to continue onto A level Art. GCSE Fine Art would also be an advantage for those pupils wishing to study A level Photography.

Art and Design: Photography

Faculty of Arts and Sports

Department of Art

GCSE: Art and Design: Photography (1PY0)

Contact Teacher: Mrs H Bradshaw

Awarding Body: Pearson Edexcel

Course Outline

The GCSE Photography course encompasses the study of lens and light-based media. This could include work created using film, video, digital imaging or light sensitive materials. Pupils will study both contemporary and historical sources of photography and will be taught how to use the photographic mediums to explore and create a body of work in response to their exploration. Pupils will learn how to develop and refine both the photographic process and the concept as well as how to communicate their ideas through the use of appropriate visual language.

The course aims to develop pupils' ability to:

- apply a creative approach to problem solving
- consider and develop original ideas from initiation to realisation
- analyse critically their own work and the work of others
- express individual thoughts and choices confidently
- take risks, experiment and learn from mistakes.

Assessment

The course is fully linear so pupils' work is officially assessed at the end of Year 11. There will be assessments made throughout the coursework component so pupils are confident about the levels they are achieving.

Prerequisites

Pupils have to be prepared to work consistently from the start of the course and have a passion for creativity. Pupils are required to have willingness to develop their own image making skills and to analyse a wide variety of different photographers' work.

Course Structure

Personal portfolio (Component 1)

60% of qualification

Consisting of:

Project 1: The theme for this project can vary each year but pupils will develop skills in a variety of processes such as digital imaging, lighting, film, light sensitive materials, montage, studio and location photography and then focus on an area for a final outcome response at the end of the spring term in Year 10.

Project 2: Spans from the summer term in Year 10 to January of Year 11. Project 2 will encourage independent creative thinking and is likely to be based on past GCSE exam paper titles in order to prepare pupils for their Externally Set Assignment. Pupils respond to a given visual theme and research, analyse, annotate and develop a practical body of coursework and a final outcome.

ESA: Externally Set Assignment (Component 2)

40% of qualification

A controlled unit is set to a theme provided by the awarding body and issued to pupils in January of Year 11. Pupils develop a practical portfolio of work in lessons and for prep and then sit a ten-hour exam in which they produce their final outcome. The unit in its entirety is worth 40% of the final grade.

Viewing Photography in Context

A visit to a relevant exhibition will take place in Year 10. Further visits to art and photography galleries will help with ideas and project development. It is expected that pupils carry out several gallery visits independently throughout the two-year course.

Target Group

This course is aimed at pupils who are passionate about the visual world, have an analytical mind and want to develop observational skills to record and communicate ideas. The study of Photography at GCSE is relevant to pupils considering most subjects at A level and has links with history, literature, mathematics, science, religion, politics and philosophy. It is suitable for pupils interested in pursuing all kinds of careers including photography, graphic design, product design, illustration, advertising, interior design, architecture, theatre set design, fashion design, game design and animation to name but a few.

Progression

GCSE Photography is designed to allow progression to AS and A level Art and Design: Photography and other Level 3 qualifications.

Drama

Faculty of Arts and Sports

Department of Drama

GCSE: Drama (1DR0)

Contact Teacher: Mr I Williams

Awarding Body: Pearson Edexcel

Course Outline

In Year 10 each pupil will normally undertake:

1. A general introductory unit.
2. Practical workshops on a set text.
3. A devised performance – teacher examined – awarding body moderated.
4. A portfolio on the devising process and performance – teacher examined – awarding body moderated.

The devised component is divided into two parts:

- a) Preparatory and exploratory work.
- b) Performance and presentation or demonstration and artefact.

Throughout the practical work, pupils will be expected to complete associated written work. This will form an important part of the coursework which is internally marked and externally moderated.

In addition, everybody will be given the opportunity to work on technical and design aspects of theatre if they wish. Pupils can choose to study one of following technical and design skills:

1. Costume
2. Set design
3. Lighting
4. Sound

In Year 11, one further practical project will be completed, this will be chosen from a text and performed to an outside examiner. At the end of the course there is a written examination.

Written Examination

The written examination involves pupils answering questions on a play text they have practically explored in lessons and a theatre production they have seen. Pupils will be expected to take part in a variety of drama activities including showcases and visits to the theatre.

Target Group

The course is suitable for those pupils who are interested in the creation of drama as an art form and also for those who wish to demonstrate on their CV an aptitude for creativity, excellent presentational skills, confidence and team working skills. Drama is a subject that is becoming increasingly valued by business leaders. Within drama you will not only study the craft of acting and theatre, you will also learn extremely valuable transferable skills, for example: collaboration, empathy, analysis, evaluation and developing your problem-solving skills.

You don't need to be an Oscar worthy actor to take this course but you do need an enthusiasm for drama. It is a great course for those who enjoy their drama lessons and will provide an excellent basis for A level Drama and Theatre and other A levels.

Music

Faculty of Arts and Sports

Department of Music

GCSE: Music Level 1/Level 2 (1MU0)

Contact Teacher: Mr A Affonso

Awarding Body: Pearson Edexcel

Course Outline

The course is divided into testing the three basic musical skills: *Performing* (30%), *Composing* (30%) and *Appraising* (40%). These are integrated through four areas of study that cover a wide range of musical styles from all ages and places.

Performing: one solo lasting a minimum of 1 minute, one ensemble lasting a minimum of 1 minute. Together the total of both performances should be no shorter than 4 minutes. They are internally assessed and then sent off to Edexcel for external moderation.

Composing: two compositions, one of which is completed to a brief set by Edexcel and lasting a minimum of one minute. A second composition is in a style chosen by the candidate (free choice), again not lasting less than 1 minute. Both compositions should together last a minimum of 3 minutes. They are internally assessed and then sent off to Edexcel for external moderation.

Pupils must work on their compositions under controlled conditions for at least five hours. This must include the final write up of their compositions and can include any research and development time. The final write up is defined as the time when the final recording and score or commentary of the piece is produced.

As composition is a creative process that cannot be confined to the classroom, pupils will be allowed to research and generate initial ideas outside of the classroom and teacher supervision. However, to ensure the composition is the pupil's own unaided, personal and independent work, teachers must monitor and authenticate preparatory work (development of composition ideas, for example this may involve listening to other music, mulling over a brief, experimenting with suitable melodies or rhythmic ideas on guitar or piano, working out rough drafts) prior to the commencement of the composition recording period. Pupils will be allowed to bring in stimulus and ideas but need to develop ideas within a classroom setting and complete the final recording and write up under controlled conditions.

The **Appraising** (*Listening*) paper (1 hour and 45 minutes in length) consists of:

Section A: answering questions on two set works and recorded excerpts drawn from each of the four areas of study. Instrumental Music 1700-1820/Vocal Music/Music for Stage and Screen/ Fusions.

- Six questions related to 6 of the 8 set works
- One short melody / rhythm completion exercise (worth 6-10 marks)
- One question on an unfamiliar piece (skeleton score provided) with questions on its musical elements, musical contexts and musical language.

Section B: one question that asks candidates to compare and/or evaluate the musical elements and musical language of one set work with one unfamiliar piece of music.

This paper is sat during the public exam period and marked externally.

Requirements

The ability to sing or play an instrument and a willingness to develop all aspects of musical experiences and knowledge is essential. GCSE Music pupils should already be in one of the school's choir/orchestra/band.

Co-curricular Activities

A GCSE Music pupil is expected to be a leading member of at least two school based musical activities e.g. choir/orchestra/band.

Target Group

Pupils with an interest in all styles of music and music technology and who wish to develop their knowledge and musical horizons.

Prerequisites

Minimum level of entry should be Grade 2. A willingness to follow a course of Grade 5 theory to support the listening paper element of the course. Recommendation from their music teacher as to their suitability for such a course and possible future studies.

Physical Education

Faculty of Arts and Sports
Department of Physical Education
GCSE: Physical Education (J587)
Contact Teacher: Mr A Mawson

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Outline

Theory 60%

The theory content of the course is in two distinct parts. It is challenging and requires you to apply your knowledge from a number of subjects across the school curriculum. The focus of the theory element is to link physical education to living a healthy, active lifestyle. Theory lessons will be mostly classroom-based, with some practical sessions to support learning when appropriate.

1. Applied Anatomy and Physiology topics (30%):

- Structure and function of the skeletal and muscular systems
- Movement analysis
- Cardiovascular and respiratory systems
- The effects of exercise on the body systems
- Components of fitness
- Types of training
- Preventing injury in physical activity and training

2. Socio Cultural Influences, Sports Psychology, Health, Fitness and Wellbeing topics (30%):

- Engagement patterns of social groups in physical activities and sport
- Commercialisation of physical activity and sport
- Ethical issues in physical activity and sport
- Characteristics and classification of skills
- Goal setting
- Mental preparation
- Types of guidance and feedback
- Health, fitness and wellbeing
- Diet and nutrition

Non-examination Assessment (NEA)

Practical performance (30%)

You will be assessed in *3 different sports from 2 different activity groups* (individual and team activities). These will be pursued through the games programme and outside of curriculum time.

Evaluating and analysing performance (10%)

This element requires pupils to observe and complete a written assessment on a performance in a sport of their choice. They will need to develop a good understanding of the concepts that explain performance and create an action plan to develop the performer in one aspect of performance.

Examination

Pupils will be assessed in two papers for each theory component:

Paper 1:

Applied Anatomy and Physiology - 1 hour, 60 marks, 30% of GCSE

Paper 2:

Socio Cultural Influences, Sports Psychology, Health, Fitness and Wellbeing - 1 hour, 60 marks, 30% of GCSE

Pupils also undertake practical assessments via video evidence and within school. A select number of pupils will be asked to attend a practical moderation day, where they will perform in one or more of their assessed activities, with pupils from other schools as well as an external examiner.

Target Group

The course is suitable for pupils with an interest in a variety of sports and science, particularly biology. Potential careers include medical based careers such as physiotherapy, diet and nutritionist. More traditional pathways include coaching, teaching, elite sport support or perhaps even playing.

Theology and Philosophy (RS)

Faculty of Humanities

Department of Theology and Philosophy

GCSE: Religious Studies (8062A)

Contact Teacher: Miss B Rose

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

The Religious Studies GCSE course is designed to educate pupils on the two most widely followed religions of the world, Christianity and Islam. It will provide them with a thorough understanding of what it is like to be a follower of the religions, and equip them to live in harmony with others in our increasingly diverse society. Pupils will also complete four philosophy and ethics thematic studies, which will give them the opportunity to investigate their own beliefs on a wide range of topics relevant to the modern world, and to practically apply what they have learnt about Christianity and Islam. Questions such as '*how did we get here?*', '*does God exist?*', '*can war ever be justified?*' and '*should the death penalty be legalised?*' will be explored in depth, giving pupils a chance to look at controversial issues from a range of perspectives.

Course Information

All pupils at Claremont study for the full course GCSE in Religious Studies, reflecting the vital role the course plays in helping pupils develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally.

Component 1: The Study of Religions: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices:

- Christianity: Beliefs and Teachings
- Christianity: Practices
- Islam: Beliefs and Teachings
- Islam: Practices

Component 2: Thematic Studies

- Religion and Life
- The Existence of God and Revelation
- Religion, Peace and Conflict
- Religion, Crime and Punishment

Assessment

Pupils will be assessed through two written exams at the end of Year 11:

Component 1 – 1 hour 45 minutes, 96 marks, 50% of GCSE

Component 2 – 1 hour 45 minutes, 96 marks, 50% of GCSE

Theology and Philosophy A level

The GCSE course is an excellent preparation for the Religious Studies (theology and philosophy) A level we offer, also with the AQA awarding body.

Business

Faculty of Humanities

Department of Business and Economics

GCSE: Business (1BS0)

Contact Teacher: Mr N Rocca

Awarding Body: Pearson Edexcel

Understanding business is a vital life skill. It is how the world functions; it is about making things happen. Business drives the UK and worldwide economy, creates wealth and employment and generates income and tax for governments everywhere. Business combines very well with many subjects and disciplines, whether that be humanities such as geography and history, or with sciences such as maths or biology.

This course is aimed at both pupils with an entrepreneurial spirit and those pupils who are interested in exploring how the real world operates. It is an interactive course and pupils should be able to communicate their ideas and explain their decisions. Pupils will gain a thorough understanding of the techniques and practices that lie behind making informed business decisions; an invaluable life skill. They will learn why some businesses fail and others grow. Irrespective of whether or not pupils go on to study business at a higher level this course will equip them very well for the future as they will all at some point come into contact with the business sector. GCSE Business is therefore an excellent starting point!

Course Outline

The business course is divided into two units over two years and distinguishes between the issues that face a small business versus those that a large business may need to consider. The Year 10 unit entitled ***Investigating a Small Business*** includes analysis of how to set up and run a small business from the initial market research to the importance of completing cash flow forecasts and the significance of dealing with initial staffing issues. In Year 11 pupils will build on the knowledge acquired thus far and complete the second unit called ***Building a Business***. The focus of this unit is larger organisations, particularly the role and significance of the core business functions of Accounting and Finance, Marketing, Operations and Human Resources. Pupils will also consider the impact of the wider world and the role and influence governments can have on their success or failure and appreciate the issues and potential problems that are associated with growing a business.

Prerequisites

An interest in and enthusiasm for current affairs and the world of business is important as is an ability to problem solve.

Non-examination Assessment

There is no NEA for this course.

Examination

There are two examinations, one for each of the above units. Both examinations are ninety minutes, each accounting for 50% of the qualification and follow the same structure. Each paper consists of three sections which range from calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions. The extended-writing questions are based on short business case studies.

A level

GCSE Business provides a strong foundation for those pupils who wish to either continue with Business at A level or to study Economics A level both of which are offered in the sixth form at Claremont. However, pupils can also study Business A level without completing a GCSE.

Geography

Faculty of Humanities

Department of Geography

GCSE: Geography (8035)

Contact Teacher: Mr A Pinks

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

Geography encourages flexible thinking and independent thought and it is an essential subject in understanding our ever-changing world. This exciting and relevant course studies geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the link between them. Pupils will travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom, higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include climate change, changing urban environments, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use. Pupils are also encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes. The subject of geography is wide ranging and has links with many other subjects. It is constantly changing and highly regarded by many employers as a result of the transferable skills geographers possess. Nationally, geography has one of the best graduate employment records in the country and, in some industries, has the highest proportion of those in leadership and managerial positions.

Fieldwork

Pupils undertake two geographical enquiries, each of which include the use of primary data, collected as part of a fieldwork exercise. The two enquiries are carried out in contrasting environments and show an understanding of both physical and human geography. In the enquiries pupils show an understanding about the interaction between physical and human geography. Pupils' understanding of the enquiry process will be assessed in Paper 3 in the following two ways:

1. Questions based on the use of fieldwork materials from an unfamiliar context.
2. Questions based on pupils' individual enquiry work.

Examination

There are three final written examinations. Geography is a linear course so written exams will be taken at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1 1hr 30 minutes 35% of marks - Living with the Physical Environment

Paper 2 1hr 30 minutes 35% of marks - Challenges in the Human Environment

Paper 3 1hr 30% of marks - Geographical Applications

Co-curricular Activities

Lunchtime clinics, field trips, geography competitions, Royal Geographical Society lectures (A level) and an optional field trip abroad.

We welcome any pupil who has a real interest in the subject and the world around them and who is willing to work hard to achieve results. An enquiring mind is essential.

Further Information

A level Geography is offered in the sixth form and is a subject that is highly regarded by universities. It encourages links with other subjects and includes residential and local fieldwork.

History

Faculty of Humanities

Department of History

GCSE: OCR History A: Explaining the Modern World (J410)

Contact Teacher: Mrs L Smith

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Outline

This course has been designed to help pupils to explain and understand the world around us today. Pupils will study a wide range of content options and consider key themes which demonstrate the relevance of the past in understanding the present.

The course allows them to study history from three eras: Medieval (500-1450), Early Modern (1450-1750) and Modern (1700-present) and on three timescales: short (depth study), medium (period study) and long (thematic study) and in three geographical contexts: a locality (the historic environment), British and European and/or wider world settings.

Within the course, pupils will study five different topics: one thematic study, one British depth study, one non-British depth study, one period study and one study of the historic environment.

Examination (100% written examination at the end of Year 11)

1. **Period study and non-British depth study:** International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975 and a depth study on Germany 1925-1955: The People and the State (50% of GCSE)
2. **British thematic study:** Migration to Britain c.1000 to c.2010 (25% of GCSE)
3. **British depth study and a study of the historic environment:** The Impact of Empire on Britain 1688-c.1730 with Urban Environments: Patterns of Migration (25% of GCSE)

Units 2 and 3 are linked.

Teaching methodologies include use of visual and audio sources, presentations, group work, discussion and personal research projects.

Prerequisites

A successful pupil of history will be someone who is keen to expand their knowledge of the past, has an enquiring mind and who should also be ready to work hard, as well as being able to express themselves effectively using the written word.

Target Group

Pupils with a curiosity about and an interest in the modern world, those who want to explore history further and who like thinking for themselves will enjoy this course. If you are considering History A level, it is a huge advantage to have taken the subject at GCSE.

Languages

French

Faculty of Languages

GCSE: French (8658)

Contact Teacher: Mr S Woolnough

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

This course is for pupils who have taken French as their foreign language in Year 9. Pupils follow the course *Studio* for AQA GCSE. Pupils expand all aspects of their knowledge of French, learning to write short pieces of spontaneous French and also to translate short texts, to answer questions orally on a range of topics, and also prepare for comprehension tests in reading and in listening.

Examination

There will be four exam papers, all taken in the summer of Year 11:

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|--|
| Listening | (25%) | There is a listening comprehension test, with some questions and answers in English and some in French, about short passages of spoken French. |
| Speaking | (25%) | There is a short speaking test. |
| Reading | (25%) | There is a reading comprehension test, with some questions and answers in English and some in French about short passages of written French. There is also a short translation from French into English. |
| Writing | (25%) | Pupils write short texts in French, and there is also a short translation from English into French. |

Target Group

The school advises most pupils to continue with their foreign language at least to GCSE level so pupils who have taken French as their foreign language in Year 9 are encouraged to opt for this GCSE course.

Languages

German

Faculty of Languages

GCSE: German (8668)

Contact Teacher: Mr S Woolnough

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

This course is for pupils who have taken German as their foreign language in Year 9. Pupils follow the course *Stimmt* for the AQA GCSE. Pupils expand all aspects of their knowledge of German, learning to write short pieces of spontaneous German and also to translate short texts, to answer questions orally on a range of topics, and also prepare for comprehension tests in reading and in listening.

Examination

There will be four exam papers, all taken in the summer of Year 11:

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---|
| Listening | (25%) | There is a listening comprehension test, with some questions and answers in English and some in German, about short passages of spoken German. |
| Speaking | (25%) | There is a short speaking test. |
| Reading | (25%) | There is a reading comprehension test, with some questions and answers in English and some in German about short passages of written German. There is also a very short translation from German into English. |
| Writing | (25%) | Pupils write short texts in German, and there is also a short translation from English into German. |

Target Group

The school advises most pupils to continue with their foreign language at least to GCSE level so pupils who have taken German as their foreign language in Year 9 are encouraged to opt for this GCSE course.

Languages

Latin

Faculty of Languages

GCSE: Latin (J282)

Contact Teacher: Mr S Woolnough

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Outline

This course is for pupils who have taken Latin in Year 9. It concentrates on developing the ability to understand written Latin and to translate from Latin into English and also from English to Latin. There is also a literature paper, where pupils need to show understanding of prepared passages of real Latin literature, and a history paper.

Examination

There will be three exam papers, all taken in the summer of Year 11:

Language	(50%)	This consists of texts in Latin with questions in English to check understanding; a translation from Latin to English; a translation from English to Latin.
Literature	(25%)	This paper tests the pupils' ability to translate prepared passages of real Latin literature and to answer short essay questions about the texts.
Literature and Culture	(25%)	This is a history paper, with mainly short factual questions on two topics out of Roman Britain, Myths and Legends, and Roman Entertainment.

Target Group

This course is for pupils who have taken Latin in Year 9 and who wish to take their study of the language to GCSE, adding an element of authentic Latin literature and study of Roman history.

Languages

Spanish

Faculty of Languages

GCSE: Spanish (8698)

Contact Teacher: Mr S Woolnough

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

This course is for pupils who have taken Spanish as their foreign language in Year 9. Pupils follow the course *Viva* for AQA GCSE. Pupils expand all aspects of their knowledge of Spanish, learning to write short pieces of spontaneous Spanish and also to translate short texts, to answer questions orally on a range of topics, and also prepare for comprehension tests in reading and in listening.

Examination

There will be four exam papers, all taken in the summer of Year 11:

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---|
| Listening | (25%) | There is a listening comprehension test, with some questions and answers in English and some in Spanish, about short passages of spoken Spanish. |
| Speaking | (25%) | There is a short speaking test. |
| Reading | (25%) | There is a reading comprehension test, with some questions and answers in English and some in Spanish about short passages of written Spanish. There is also a short translation from Spanish into English. |
| Writing | (25%) | Pupils write short texts in Spanish, and there is also a short translation from English into Spanish. |

Target Group

The school advises most pupils to continue with their foreign language at least to GCSE level so pupils who have taken Spanish as their foreign language in Year 9 are encouraged to opt for this GCSE course.

Citizenship Studies

Department of PSHEE & Citizenship
GCSE: Citizenship Studies (8100)
Contact Teacher: Mrs R Heard

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Outline

Citizenship is at the heart of everyday debates about the kind of society we are striving to build and our role in the process. During this GCSE course, pupils will learn about their rights, roles and responsibilities as a citizen in Britain and in the world. They will develop their knowledge of democracy, government, law and the media and the understanding of how different communities and society operate and function. Pupils will also develop skills to create sustained and reasoned arguments, present various viewpoints and plan practical citizenship actions to benefit society. They will gain the ability to recognise bias, critically evaluate argument, weigh evidence and look for alternative interpretations and sources of evidence, all of which are essential skills valued by higher education and employers.

During the course pupils will:

- Learn about power, democracy, the operation of government and the legal system and the role of the UK in the wider world.
- Explore different controversial and topical issues with political, social, ethical, economic and environmental dimensions in local to global contexts.
- Experience taking citizenship action and learn from trying to make a difference in society.

Assessment

There are two final written examinations which are taken at the end of Year 11:

Paper 1	1 hour, 45 minutes	50% of GCSE	Active citizenship & Politics & Participation
Paper 2	1 hour, 45 minutes	50% of GCSE	Life in modern Britain & Rights and Responsibilities

Target Group

Any pupil is welcome to study this course but it really helps if you have an enquiring mind and a real interest in current affairs. The active citizenship unit requires a responsible and proactive approach to an individual enquiry. Pupils will gain most from the course if they participate actively during discussion and debate.

Progression

There are numerous courses that pupils may choose to pursue with GCSE Citizenship Studies. This may include A levels in social sciences such as politics, economics, psychology, sociology and history. A good GCSE grade in Citizenship Studies provides the backbone and skills necessary for any career in life. It will allow you to progress to A levels and a degree that can lead to various careers including those in the public sector (e.g. police or nursing), law, journalism and politics. A good qualification in citizenship also demonstrates your character as a responsible, aware and active citizen in society.