

Lynn Grove Academy

Curriculum Choices

2021-2023



**LYNN GROVE
ACADEMY**

*Creative
Education
Trust*

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Introduction For Parents

Year 9 is a milestone year for pupils. It is probably the first time in their educational journey that pupils have had any choices in the curriculum that they are studying. For some pupils, they see this as a chance to really focus in on their chosen career paths; for others it can be a daunting time knowing what to choose and what not to, especially if they do not know what their chosen careers may be at this stage. With this in mind, we have developed a curriculum framework that offers choice, balance and diversity, allowing all pupils to select robust and well-regarded qualifications that will serve them well in later life.

The GCSE courses that we follow are graded from 9-1. The Vocational courses are graded either from 9-1 or from Distinction* to Pass and are run as Level 2 courses.

We have a set of core subjects that all pupils will study throughout Years 10 and 11. These are:

1. GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature
2. GCSE Mathematics
3. GCSE Science
4. A GCSE in a Humanity (Geography or History)
5. PE (*non-examination*)
6. PSHE (*non-examination*)

We expect that pupils in sets 1 or 2 MFL groups in Year 9 will continue to study a GCSE Language (German or Spanish).

Pupils can choose a combination of courses from the following subjects:

GCSE	Vocational & Technical Awards
Art & Design	Child Development (BTEC)
Business	Creative i-Media (Cambs Nat)
Citizenship	Engineering (NCFE Level 2)
Computer Science	Health and Social Care (BTEC)
DT Graphics	IT (Cambs Nat)
Drama	Music (BTEC)
Food Prep & Nutrition	Sport (BTEC)
German/Spanish/Chinese	
Geography	
History	
Photography	
Religious Studies	

Pupils can take **one but not both** of the following subjects:

- Art **or** Photography
- Health and Social Care **or** Child Development
- IT **or** Computer Science

Information For Pupils - How To Make Your Choices

You need to think very carefully about what you want to do now and in the future. Your career choices may have an influence on the courses you take. However, you should also consider:

- Your skills, interests and aptitudes
- The subjects you enjoy or achieve success in
- Creating a balanced combination of subjects to study
- The way the courses you choose are assessed
- The workload of your combination of subjects

You should **NOT** choose a course because:

- It is the same as your friend has chosen
- You think it is easier than other choices
- Older brothers & sisters may have recommended it because they did it
- Of the teacher delivering the course

The next thing you need to do is to speak to people, especially

- Your parents
- Your teachers
- Mrs Cullingham (Careers Co-ordinator)
- Mr Carter (Vice Principal – Curriculum)
- Mr Batt (Progress Leader)

The following websites will be useful in giving you information:

- www.startprofile.com
- www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers
- www.helpyouchoose.org
- www.informedchoices.ac.uk/degrees
- [Careerpilot : Jobs by subject](#)
- [eCLIPS \(eclips-online.co.uk\)](http://eCLIPS (eclips-online.co.uk))

To help you, you and your parents will have a meeting with senior staff to go through your choices.

The Language of Options

GCSE	Stands for General Certificate of Education and a pass is graded from 9 (top grade) to 1 (lowest passing grade). A lot of college courses and universities will demand at least a 5 to get on their courses.
Vocational course	The course may have more practical links to an area of work, and the assessment structure is likely to be different, but it is just as valid as a GCSE.
L1 / L2 course	Level 1 is equivalent to GCSE grade 1-3, and level 2 is equivalent to GCSE grades 4-9. All of our vocational courses are taught as L2 courses.
Terminal examination	This means you sit the written paper exams at the end of the course in year 11.
NEA	Non-Exam Assessment is a type of coursework that can be done in the classroom but usually under supervised or exam conditions.

The following pages contain information on all of the courses on offer.

“Individuals who achieve five or more good GCSEs (including English and mathematics) as their highest qualification have a lifetime productivity gain worth around £100,000 compared to those with below Level 2 or no qualifications.”

Why should I study this subject?

English Language encourages us to use our imagination and sparks creativity. It teaches us essential social and language skills, such as how to communicate effectively in the world beyond the classroom with a variety of audiences and in a range of different styles.

What will I do? (course content)

You will cover a broad range of skills including reading literature fiction in order to consider how authors use narrative and descriptive methods to engage the reader. You will craft your own creative text, inspired by an image or an idea to demonstrate your narrative and descriptive skills. You will develop your insights into how writers have particular viewpoints and perspectives and compare and contrast linked sources from different time periods and genres. You will produce a written text aimed at a specific audience where you express and articulate your own viewpoint and perspective on a chosen topic.

How will I be assessed?

English Language – 2 terminal examinations

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

We are fortunate to have a truly fantastic school library and we work closely with the knowledgeable and passionate library staff to bring in authors and to run workshops. You can take part in competitions both nationally and with our partner schools within Creative Education Trust. These competitions have been hugely popular as they allow you to share your ideas and experiences with other like-minded young people. The competitions are organised to ensure all pupils can make links to current affairs and express themselves creatively.

What careers would this subject support?

English Language skills are essential in all jobs but particularly in careers in journalism, law, publishing, editing, teaching, copywriting and screen writing.

Subject: English Literature

Why should I study this subject?

English Literature broadens your horizons and stirs your imaginations. We study a rich and diverse curriculum, looking at texts and influential writers from a range of backgrounds and cultures that will provide you with an insight into the lives and experiences of others. Our intention is to enable you to fully appreciate how literature has influenced our society and shaped the way we view the world around us.

What will I do? (course content)

GCSE English Literature: You will cover a broad range of the English literary canon, including: Shakespeare, 19th Century literature, modern drama and poetry.

How will I be assessed?

English Literature - 2 terminal examinations

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

The English Department run numerous enriching trips throughout the year, visiting theatres to see plays brought to life. You can also take part in book clubs run in the library and the Trust Shakespeare Day.

What careers would this subject support?

English literature skills can lend themselves to all jobs. However, a GCSE in English Literature opens the door to the world of journalism, law, publishing, editing, copywriting (for adverts), screen writing, writing plotlines for games and much, much more!

Subject: Mathematics

Why should I study this subject?

You study maths to become a confident numerate adult. In Maths you will develop the skills to solve problems by thinking creatively and spotting patterns. Maths helps you to develop your concrete and abstract thinking and connect theory to practice. Numeracy skills are required in all sorts of everyday situations, such as calculating bills, cooking from a recipe or decorating a room.

What will I do? (course content)

The GCSE course covers the following areas of mathematics:

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

How will I be assessed?

Mathematics – 3 terminal examinations

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

Maths Leaders – A chance to develop your leadership and mentoring skills, and support other pupils who may need some extra help with maths.

Maths Challenge - The UKMT Individual Maths Challenges are designed to challenge and stimulate pupils' interest in Maths at all levels.

Maths Enhancement – the more able mathematicians have the chance to take part in additional classes at ENSFC designed to support the transition to A level maths. There are also visits to Maths conferences in Cambridge.

What careers would this subject support?

Everything! A pass in GCSE Mathematics is vital for accessing training for nearly all professions or careers, and particularly in Sciences, Economics, Accounting, Finance, Engineering, Education and Computing.

Subject: Science

Why should I study this subject?

A good understanding of Science is essential for everyday life, from understanding how your body works (essential for your health) to being able to make decisions about how your lifestyle affects the environment and understanding how things work from the universe to hand-gel!

What will I do? (course content)

You will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics and complete practical work. Biology includes: respiration & photosynthesis, the nervous system and hormones, genetics and evolution and ecology.

Chemistry includes: rates of reaction, fuels & chemical analysis.

Physics includes: magnets, forces, motion and electricity.

There are also a number of required practicals to carry out.

Please note – most pupils will study combined Science (equal to 2 GCSEs) but some pupils (usually in the top Science set) will be invited to take Triple Science (equal to 3 GCSEs) which covers the topics in more depth and includes additional content.

How will I be assessed?

Science - 6 terminal examinations (2 each in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

There are a variety of competitions offered with organisations such as Salters Chemistry and the Institute of Biology. The John Innes Centre (in Norwich) has a number of events which you will also be able to enjoy.

What careers would this subject support?

Most jobs use some Science (for example, electricians, hairdressers and even chefs need some scientific knowledge). Many careers rely heavily on a good understanding of Science, such as Acoustics Engineer, Biochemist, Chemical Engineer, Climate Scientist, Clinical Psychologist, Data Analyst-Statistician, Electronics Engineer, Renewable Energy Engineer, Food Scientist, Doctor, Forensic Scientist, Geologist, Lab Technician, Marine Engineer, Meteorologist, Microbiologist and Vet.

Subject: Art & Design

Why should I study this subject?

If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical and research abilities, Art is a great choice. Art is a way of expressing your ideas and feelings and making sense of the world around you. It also develops your time management and independence.

What will I do? (course content)

The Art course begins with projects which will rapidly develop your Art skills. Projects will focus on drawing skills, painting using acrylic paints and other art materials. You will cover 4 Objectives: Artist Research, Drawing and Recording Observations, Idea Development and creating a series of Outcomes. Your art work will be presented in sketchbooks and in larger pieces.

In Year 11 you will complete your personal portfolio and an additional project set by the exam board. The course concludes with an exhibition comprising some of the pieces submitted for your final assessment.

How will I be assessed?

Art - 60% School Set Project and 40% Externally Set Assignment.

There is no written exam, however, there is a timed, practical task completed over 2 days in exam conditions.

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

After-school Year 10 Art Club and trips to art and photography galleries.

What careers would this subject support?

Careers in advertising; art therapy; fine artist; commercial artist; photographer, designer; fashion; film; theatre; website design; architect; interior designer; illustrator; animator; courtroom artist; make-up artist; special effects/prop making for film and theatre; print maker; curator, art historian.

Subject: Business

Why should I study this subject?

Studying Business will prepare you to enter the world of work with dynamic skills and understanding. You will learn about setting up small businesses, enterprise and finance, all of which will be useful whether you become an employee or an employer.

What will I do? (course content)

You will study 6 different units of work:

1. Business activity - why people start businesses and how they grow.
2. Marketing - the tools and techniques use to make a product successful.
3. People - people as the key to a successful business and how to manage them.
4. Operations - the internal process that make a business run.
5. Finance - how to manage money and how to source it.
6. Influences - how the global economy affects business and how they respond.

How will I be assessed?

Business – 2 terminal examinations

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

A knowledge of business will help you to find part time work. Visits, competitions and enterprise projects are offered during the course.

What careers would this subject support?

Business will support you in any career by increasing your understanding of how the company runs or the skills needed to set up your own company or be self-employed.

Subject: Child Development (BTEC)

Why should I study this subject?

This will help you to understand how children grow, learn and develop and give you practical and theoretical approaches to the various sectors who work with children.

What will I do? (course content)

The course is made up of three components:

- **Children's Growth and development** where you will learn about children from conception to the age of 5.
- **Learning through play**, you will develop an understanding of how children play and how this develops their learning
- **Support Children in Play** where you develop knowledge and understanding of how Nurseries and Childcare providers are structured to ensure children are supported in their development.

How will I be assessed?

BTEC Child development – 2 internal components and 1 external component. The course uses a 3 block structure: explore, develop and apply. This allows you to build on what you learn and develop your assignment skills.

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

You will explore our close links with local Childcare providers, where you will take part in visits, events and activities and undertake work experience working with children in a busy nursery or school environment. As part of your course you will plan an activity which you will be able to undertake within a nursery environment with real children.

What careers would this subject support?

This qualification supports careers in many sectors:
Education - Early Years Teacher, Nursery Worker or Classroom assistant.
Voluntary: project worker, therapist, protection officer or charity worker.
Healthcare: Children's Nurse, Health visitor, paediatrician or SL therapist.
Social Care: children mental health support worker, family support worker, social worker.

Subject: Chinese

Why should I study this subject?

China plays an important role in world economics and an understanding of the language, culture and country are very valuable assets in the current UK job market. Studying a language will help you to understand people around the world, not just what they say but also how their beliefs and values shape who they are.

What will I do? (course content)

You will develop your linguistic skills through the study of three broad themes:

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment

Note that this course is only available to pupils who have studied Chinese in Year 9.

How will I be assessed?

Chinese - 4 terminal examinations (speaking, listening, reading, writing)

What opportunities are there to engage/enjoy the subject out of the classroom?

This course is taught as part of the Swire programme and has links to local schools and The Norwich School, where pupils will have the chance to collaborate with their peers.

What careers would this subject support?

This subject would be an asset in any international business and any career involving communication with Chinese people. Specialised career paths include translation, interpreting, international trade, TEFL teaching in China and teaching in the UK.

Subject: Citizenship

Why should I study this subject?

This course is ideal if you have an interest in how your local community and country work, your rights and responsibilities and how democracy works. Understanding how the government works and laws are formed and, and how you can make your voice heard. If you have an interest in current affairs, ethics, politics or social justice then this course gives you the chance to make sense of how these are shaping your world.

What will I do? (course content)

You will cover 4 themes: living together in the UK; democracy at work in the UK; how the law works; power and influence. All of these themes deal with real and current events and ideas. The 5th theme enables you to plan, carry out and review a citizenship action, developing your skills in getting your voice heard and your message across so as to influence the community you live in.

How will I be assessed?

Citizenship – 2 terminal examinations

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

Your action project will take you out of the classroom and working in the local community. There will also be visits to Parliament and institutions linked to course content such as the law courts.

What careers would this subject support?

The skills that this course will develop in understanding social issues would be useful in careers such as social work, advocacy, law, politics, the police, community work, humanitarian work, journalism, communication based industries and the public and charity sectors.

Subject: Computer Science

Why should I study this subject?

In the modern world computing expertise is becoming increasingly invaluable as so many industries rely on computer systems you will be developing highly commercial skills that employers are prepared to pay high salaries for. Problem solving skills are also developed which will help you in a range of subjects.

What will I do? (course content)

In Computer Science you will study different units of work that cover everything from programming, data storage, computational thinking and networks. Topics include: systems architecture; networks, connections and protocols; Network security; Algorithms and Programming languages. *Note: this course is more suitable for pupils with a good level of maths and a keen interest in programming*

How will I be assessed?

Computer science – 2 terminal examinations

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

You will be able to use your programming skills to write apps and games. The department plans visits to local businesses and the National Computing Centre, as well as entering pupils for local and national competitions.

What careers would this subject support?

Computer Science can lead to careers in networking, computer design, cyber security, programming in all sectors of industry, games design and any IT or STEM related field. Teaching the subject is also an area of high demand. The course would also be ideal for those pupils wishing to study computing at A level and progress to a computing-related degree.

Subject: Creative i-Media (Cambridge National)

Why should I study this subject?

This subject will give you a solid foundation in several key areas in the media field, from pre-production skills to digital animation, and offers a hands-on approach to learning. This is also an ideal subject to develop useful transferable skills such as research, planning, reviewing, working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively. This course is for you if you like to use computers creatively.

What will I do? (course content)

In i-Media you will cover two compulsory units of work which are based on 'Pre-Production Techniques' and 'Creating Digital Graphics'.

You will also study from the following units from the following range of topics:

- Creating interactive multimedia products
- Creating a game concept
- Digital photography.

How will I be assessed?

25% of the course by examination
75% - 3 units of NEA

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

Pupils can develop their skills in digital photography and video game design through local and national events, visits and competitions.

What careers would this subject support?

i-Media can be your stepping stone to many different careers including: print, film and television media; graphic design, gaming and games design, and work in the computer and IT industries.

Subject: DT – Engineering (Level 2 Technical Award)

Why should I study this subject?

This qualification will introduce you to the Engineering industry which covers many sectors and disciplines. It will also help you to develop skills based in Maths and Science to solve real world problems and your knowledge in the different disciplines of Engineering and how they have shaped the products and projects of the modern world. It is a sought after qualification for jobs both locally and nationally.

What will I do? (course content)

You will develop your knowledge of a range of Engineering disciplines including chemical, electrical, aerospace, civil, biomedical, communications and software Engineering. You will expand your knowledge, skills and understanding of technical drawings, computer aided design, planning techniques, health and safety legislation and will apply STEM skills. You will confidently be able to discuss, select and use appropriate Engineering materials, tools and machinery, and develop the skills needed to work within Engineering through a range of practical project tasks.

How will I be assessed?

40% – Externally assessed written exam

60% – Summary project fully covering qualification content

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

You will be able to participate in visits to local industry and participate in local and national STEM events and competitions.

What careers would this subject support?

The qualification supports further study and careers in a range of STEM based industries. You could progress onto an apprenticeship in the Engineering sector through routes such as Aerospace, Aircraft Maintenance & Automotive Engine Testing. This qualification will also prepare you for recruitment into the Armed Forces.

Subject: DT Graphics

Why should I study this subject?

Graphics will prepare you to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. This course encourages you to follow your own interests in design whether it be in Advertising, Illustration, Computer Aided Design, Motion Media, Interior Design, Interactive Design (including web, app and game), Business Branding or Architecture. If you are inventive, artistic and able to problem solve Graphics will be a perfect option for you, or, if you know that you want a career in the Creative Arts industry Graphics will most definitely help you.

What will I do? (course content)

A GCSE in Graphics enables you to creatively design and make products using a range of skills and techniques. You will be using exciting new technology and will develop your skills in Graphic Design, Computer Aided Design, Computer Aided Manufacture and Product Manufacture. You will have access to a range of materials including smart materials, paper and boards, card, clay, plastic, foam, polymorph and acrylic. You will develop an awareness of the wider influences on Design Technology.

How will I be assessed?

50% - 1 terminal examination
50% - NEA

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

You will be able to participate in visits to local industry and STEM based events and competitions.

What careers would this subject support?

You could progress onto careers such as Graphic Designer; Illustrator; Interior Designer; Promotional Advertising; Games Designer; Web Designer; Animator; Architect; Interior Designer, 3D Animator.

Subject: Drama

Why should I study this subject?

This course won't just develop you as an actor or develop your appreciation of the theatre. It will help you find your self-confidence, develop ways to express yourself, improve your communication and critical skills and let your imagination and creativity thrive.

What will I do? (course content)

The course is broken into 3 components; the first covers knowledge and understanding of the theatre; study of a play and analysis and evaluation of a live performance. In the 2nd you will create devised drama and evaluate your own work, and the 3rd is performance of extracts from a play (as performer or designer).

How will I be assessed?

40% - 1 terminal examination
40% - devised drama and log
20% - performance of extracts

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

You will visit the theatre to see live performances as part of the course, as well as have opportunities to work with visiting actors, be involved in school productions and events across the high schools in the Trust.

What careers would this subject support?

This qualification would be useful in all aspects of the theatre, media and broadcasting industries. The skills developed would also help you in coaching, public speaking, teaching, customer service and leading teams.

Subject: Food Preparation & Nutrition

Why should I study this subject?

You will develop the vital life skill of being able to prepare and cook a wide range of dishes and will apply principles of Food Science, Nutrition and Healthy Eating. If you love cooking, are able to problem solve and really just enjoy learning about Food and Health topics, a GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition is the perfect option for you.

What will I do? (course content)

This course allows you to develop your knowledge, skills and understanding of the Food, Catering and Nutrition industries. Experimentation, investigation and decoration are all key components of the course. You will make a variety of dishes and will recognise the environmental and cultural impact food has across the world. You will gain awareness and learn about health and nutritional choice, food provenance, food science, food safety and food production.

How will I be assessed?

50% - terminal examination

50% - NEA (assessments in the investigation and preparation of food)

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

You will have the opportunity for visits in the food and hospitality sector and master classes in expert cooking techniques. You can also support group fundraising projects either in school or the local community.

What careers would this subject support?

This qualification offers a wealth of transferable skills. You may also wish to go on to Catering College. Food & Nutrition is very relevant to a number of employment areas; including the NHS (Dietician and Nutritionist); Catering and Hospitality; Product Development; the Fitness Industry; the Armed forces, Care Work; Health and Safety Management; Social Work; Occupational & Physical Therapy; Sports related industries and of course; finding that first part-time catering job.

Subject: Geography

Why should I study this subject?

This course is so much more than countries and glaciers. You can refine your understanding of your role in society by considering different viewpoints; values and attitudes. You can develop your opinions on climate change, population increases and the world that you live in.

What will I do? (course content)

You will travel the world from the classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK); newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). You will study 2 areas of Geography:

- The Physical Environment which features natural hazards – earthquakes and volcanoes; weather hazards and climate change; ecosystems; rainforests and deserts; coastal landscapes and processes and river landscapes and processes.
- The Human Environment which features cities and urban challenges; the changing economic world – development and resource management – water, food, energy

You will also work on evaluating issues and completing fieldwork in the local area.

How will I be assessed?

Geography - 3 terminal examinations

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

Fieldwork is an essential part of the course. You will also have opportunities for visits to Pompeii; Italy and UK coastal and urban sites.

What careers would this subject support?

Studying geography is a good foundation for all careers, particularly in science; meteorology; geology; natural science; environmental science; or working in risk management; town or transport planning; surveying; construction, logistics; engineering conservation; sustainability; tourism; waste and water management; international relations, charities; teaching.

Subject: German

Why should I study this subject?

Having language skills will increase your earning potential and give you a competitive edge in any sector or industry, as well as developing your skills in understanding the grammar and origins of your own language. Germany is the biggest economy within the European Union and the fourth largest worldwide. It is home to numerous international corporations and on the front line of new technologies.

What will I do? (course content)

You will continue to develop your skills in speaking, listening reading and writing whilst exploring 3 broad areas covering:

- School, employment and future plans
- Holidays, local area and technology and the internet
- My family and free time, and social and global issues

How will I be assessed?

German – 4 terminal examinations (listening, speaking, reading and writing)

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

We offer trips to Germany to be able to put your German knowledge into practice and to discover a different culture. You may also participate in competitions and events organised through the Goethe Institute.

What careers would this subject support?

All businesses who work internationally benefit from language skills. You can pursue careers in areas as diverse as education, international relations, foreign exchange, banking, marketing, advertising, journalism, tourism; events coordination, travel, the civil service, engineering immigration, logistics, the armed forces and many more.

Subject: Health & Social Care (BTEC)

Why should I study this subject?

You will be interested in learning about providing physical, emotional and social support to help people live their lives. The NHS and Social Care are one of the largest employment sectors in the UK. Working in this field can be one of the most challenging and rewarding careers; but it is also the place where you get the opportunity to make a real difference to people's lives each day. It gives you a valuable insight into diversity, human rights, and equality in today's society.

What will I do? (course content)

The course is made up of three components: **Human Life Span Development** where you will learn about how we grow and develop throughout our lives. **Health and Social Care Services and Values**, where you will get to know how the Health and Social Care sector works and the care values that lie at the core of it, and finally **Health and Wellbeing** where you develop knowledge and understanding of simple Medical observations that will help improve someone's health.

How will I be assessed?

BTEC HSC – 2 internal components and 1 external component
The course uses a 3 block structure: explore, develop and apply. This allows you to build on what you learn and develop your assignment skills.

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

We visit many local Health and Social Care providers, taking part in events and activities. We are part of the James Paget Junior Healthcare Academy, which gives you the opportunity to take part in a hands on experience of at least 4 professional roles within a hospital.

What careers would this subject support?

There are a range of careers within the sector such as care assistant, nursing, midwifery, dementia care, disability and mental health support, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, social worker, family support worker, mental health support worker and community care practitioner.

Subject: History

Why should I study this subject?

You will build up a wide range of skills which employers value highly, such as the ability to understand several viewpoints, and the skill of constructing a convincing argument and backing up your point with evidence. It teaches you to think critically and challenge what you are being told so that you can make your own independent, rational decisions.

What will I do? (course content)

The course covers study of 4 main areas through a range of sources and viewpoints. These are:

Medicine through time 1250-1500
Early Elizabethan England 1558–88
Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939
Superpower Relations and The Cold War 1945-1990

How will I be assessed?

History – 3 terminal examinations

What opportunities are there to engage/enjoy the subject out of the classroom?

You will be able to see productions at local theatres and in London helping to improve understanding of the history studied, as well as take part in events and competitions where your skills and knowledge are tested.

What careers would this subject support?

A GCSE History qualification can lead to a diverse range of careers. People who have studied history are sought after by employers in many sectors. Examples include: journalism, law, teaching, research, video game design, film and television, government and politics, police, costume and set design and many more.

Subject: Information Technologies (Cambridge National)

Why should I study this subject?

Data Manipulation and Project Management are vital skills for success in employment and higher education and are key transferable skills required by employers. You will improve your understanding of these skills through the development of creative products to solve real world data problems.

What will I do? (course content)

You will study the following topics:

- Knowledge of hardware and software applications.
- Data Manipulation tools and techniques.
- Project Life Cycle – phases, interaction, inputs and outputs.
- Risks, legal moral, ethical and security issues
- Development of advanced spreadsheets
- Development and implementation of databases
- Work through a project brief

How will I be assessed?

50% - written exam

50% - NEA

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

You will have the chance to participate in a range of IT-related competitions and events.

What careers would this subject support?

IT skills are universally important but if you wish to specialise you could consider: network technician, network manager, data analysis and project management.

Subject: Music (BTEC)

Why should I study this subject?

If you have a love of music or interest in aspects of music this course is for you. You will have performing opportunities throughout the course to help you develop your confidence – a useful skill in all areas of life.

What will I do? (course content)

You will study a mix of 4 core and additional units.

The Music Industry: In this unit you will learn about different types of organisations that make up the industry and the job roles in the music sector.

Managing a Music Product: In this unit you will plan, develop and deliver and promote a music product as well as review the management of a music product.

Introduction to Live Sound: In this unit you will plan for a live music event, demonstrate understanding of health and safety and set up and use live music systems.

Music Performance: In this unit you will develop your music performance skills and review your own practice, and use your music performance skills within rehearsal and performance.

How will I be assessed?

25% - 1 written exam

75% - 3 unit assignments

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

You will be able to participate in the school and Trust choirs and orchestras, keyboard & music theory club. Regular performances in and out of school including lunchtime concerts and the annual school musical. The 'Music Leaders' programme. Trips to see and work with professional musicians.

What careers would this subject support?

Music venues and theatres; music publishing and record companies; any venue where live sound plays a major part. Working as a performer, sound engineer or in the industry.

Subject: Photography

Why should I study this subject?

Are you creative and imaginative? Do you enjoy exploring ideas and looking at things in different ways? If so, you should consider a course in photography. You will enjoy developing your understanding of the visual world, learning practical skills and responding to ideas and issues in ways that are personal to you. The most exciting aspect of photography is that you are capturing the world as you see it.

What will I do? (course content)

In Year 10 you begin with projects which will rapidly develop your photography skills. Projects will focus on use of a DSLR camera (manual settings: aperture, shutter speed and ISO), creating successful compositions, the use of studio lighting, photoshop and how to present your work professionally. You will explore four objectives: Artist Research, Recording photoshoots and post-editing, Idea Development and Outcomes (creating several 'series' of photographs exploring different themes). In Year 11 you will complete your personal portfolio and an additional project set by the exam board before displaying your work.

How will I be assessed?

Photography - 60% School Set Project and 40% Externally Set Assignment. There is no written exam, however, there is a timed, practical task completed over 2 days in exam conditions.

What opportunities are there to engage/enjoy the subject out of the classroom?

Year 10 Photography Club and trips to art and photography galleries.

What careers would this subject support?

Advertising; Graphic Design; Media Illustration; Commercial Photographer; Photography Technician; Photojournalism; Fashion Photography; Print Industries; Forensic photographer; Picture Editor

Subject: Religious Studies

Why should I study this subject?

Understanding what shapes people's beliefs and values helps you to understand them and the actions that they take. This subject will help you to develop analytical skills, present a well-rounded argument considering different angles of a topic and get an insight into some of the issues of social justice that are so important in today's world. The skills gained will support you in any subject requiring analytical and discursive skills such as history or English literature.

What will I do? (course content)

You will study a range of topics concerning social justice, crime and punishment, peace and conflict and relationships, focusing on the beliefs and practices of 2 major world religions.

How will I be assessed?

Religious studies – 2 terminal examinations

What opportunities are there to engage/enjoy the subject out of the classroom?

There will be visits and participation in events relating to both religion and current related topics.

What careers would this subject support?

This is a robust GCSE that will support further study in any subject such as history, law and be useful in careers based in social work, the police, current affairs, journalism, legal professions, community and humanitarian work, politics and research.

Subject: Spanish

Why should I study this subject?

Spanish opens the doors to communicate with 400 million Spanish speakers all over the world. Knowing the language will make your travel experiences in Spain and Latin America more enriching and increase your earning potential by opening doors to job opportunities in the global economy. If you are thinking of going to a top university you should consider a language regardless of the subject that you are going to study.

What will I do? (course content)

You will continue to develop your skills in reading listening, speaking and writing whilst exploring 3 main areas of interest:

- School, employment and future plans
- Holidays, local area, and technology and the internet
- Family and free time, and social and global issues

How will I be assessed?

French – 4 terminal examinations (listening, reading, speaking and writing)

What opportunities are there to engage/enjoy the subject out of the classroom?

We offer yearly trips to Spain to be able to put your Spanish knowledge into practice and discover a different culture. There are television programmes and internet sites that allow you to listen and practice Spanish.

What careers would this subject support?

All businesses who work internationally benefit from language skills. You can pursue careers in areas as diverse as education, international relations, foreign exchange, banking, marketing, advertising, journalism, tourism; events coordination, travel, the civil service, engineering immigration, logistics, the armed forces and many more.

Subject: Sport (BTEC)

Why should I study this subject?

If you have a love of sport and enjoy challenging yourself this is for you. You will have the chance to develop and display your ability to play many sports at a competitive level. This course will help you to be physically active and develop an understanding of how to lead a healthy lifestyle. During the course you will design and a fitness training programme leading to a greater understanding of life-long health and fitness.

What will I do? (course content)

You will work through four units of work. These are:

Fitness for Sport and Exercise: Learning about the components of fitness and principles of training.

Practical Sport: You will gain an understanding of the rules, regulations and scoring systems for different sports and the roles of their officials.

Training for Personal Fitness: You will design, take part in and review a personal fitness training programme.

Leading Sports Activities: You will learn about the key skills and qualities needed for successful leadership within sport.

How will I be assessed?

25% - onscreen written examination

75% - 3 unit assignments

What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

Many extra-curricular opportunities are available including lunchtime and afterschool clubs and sports teams. There are opportunities to participate in leadership activities within the PE department.

Sports involvement outside of school will be beneficial to the course.

What careers would this subject support?

The Sports Industry; Fitness/Personal Trainer; Sports Coach; Analyst; Armed Services; Teacher; Teaching Assistant; Event Organiser. Jobs where team work; problem solving; leadership; decision making and presentation skills are required.

Curriculum Choices 2021-2023 – Pupil Selection

Pupil Name: _____ **Form:** 9__

Below you should select the subjects that you would like to study during Years 10 and 11.

You should read this booklet carefully and also discuss your choices thoroughly with parents and subject teachers. Please have this form ready for the 1:1 interview. You will be expected to submit your choices to the member of the staff at the end of the interview.

- a) You must place one tick to indicate your choice in each option pool A-D
- b) You can only select a subject **once**
- c) Write an “R” next to your reserve choices in each option pool. These should be different to your first choices.

Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Business	Art	Chinese	Art
Creative i-Media	Creative i-Media	Citizenship	Business
Geography	Child Development	Computer Science	Geography
German	Drama	DT Graphics	Health & Social Care
History	German	Engineering	History
Music	History	Food	IT
Spanish	Photography	Geography	Music
Sport	Religious Studies	Health & Social Care	Photography
	Sport	History	Spanish
	Geography	Sport	Sport

Signed by: _____ (parent/carer)

Signed by: _____ (senior staff)

Signed by: _____ (pupil)