

# Lynn Grove Academy

## Curriculum Choices

### 2023-2025



**LYNN GROVE  
ACADEMY**  
*Creative  
Education  
Trust*

## Contents

	Page
<b>Introduction</b>	4
<b>Core Subjects</b>	
English Language/English Literature	8/9
Mathematics	10
Science	11
<b>Optional Subjects</b>	
Art	12
Business	13
Child Development	14
Chinese	15
Citizenship	16
Computer Science	17
Creative iMedia	18
DT Engineering	19
Drama	20
Film Studies	21
Finance	22
Food Preparation & Nutrition	23
French	24
Geography	25
Graphic Communication	26
Health & Social Care	27
History	28
Information Technologies	29
Music	30
Photography	31
Religious Studies	32
Spanish	33
Sport	34
<b>Curriculum Choice – Pupil Selection</b>	36

*“The best way to  
predict the future is  
to create it.”*

*- Abraham Lincoln*

## Introduction For Parents/Guardians

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. Ethics / PSHE (*non-examination*)

We also have an expectation that pupils in sets 1 and 2 MFL groups in Year 9 will continue to study a GCSE Language (French 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 (Level 2)
Computer Science	Finance (LIBF Level 2 Certificate)
Drama	Health & Social Care (BTEC)
Film Studies	IT (WJEC Vocational)
Food Prep & Nutrition	Music (BTEC)
French/Spanish/Chinese	Sport (BTEC)
Geography	
Graphic Communication	
History	
Photography	
Religious Studies	

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

- Art **or** Photography
- Art **or** Graphics
- Photography **or** Graphics
- Health and Social Care **or** Child Development
- IT **or** Computer Science
- Business **or** Finance
- RE **or** Citizenship

Note – you can only take a language if you have studied it in KS3 or have substantial prior experience.

## 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 and 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/guardians
- Your teachers
- Mrs Pitcher (Assistant Principal and Careers Co-ordinator)
- Mr Carter (Vice Principal – Curriculum)
- Mrs Gill (Progress Leader)

The following websites will be useful in giving you information:

- [www.startprofile.com](http://www.startprofile.com)
- [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers)
- [www.helpyouchoose.org](http://www.helpyouchoose.org)
- [www.informedchoices.ac.uk/degrees](http://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/guardians 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”*

## **Subject: English Language**

### **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 imagination. 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, 19<sup>th</sup> 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 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 and photosynthesis, the nervous system and hormones, genetics and evolution and ecology.

Chemistry includes rates of reaction, fuels, and 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 artwork 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 & 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 helps 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. We also attend an annual conference in Manchester.

### **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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 need. 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 areas such as programming, data storage, computational thinking, and networks. Topics in these areas include systems architecture, 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 visits 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 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 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 3 units of work:

- Creative iMedia in the media industry – assessed by examination
- Visual identity and digital graphics – assessed by NEA.
- A third optional NEA unit

### **How will I be assessed?**

R093 - 40% of the course by examination.

R094 - 30% NEA

R097 - 30% 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?**

By developing applied knowledge and practical skills, this course will enable you to progress on to A Levels, a Cambridge Technical in Digital Media, an apprenticeship, or University. Creative iMedia could be the first step of a career as a games developer, comic book writer, graphic designer, and more.

## **Subject: DT – Engineering (Level 2 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 and automotive engine testing. This qualification will also prepare you for recruitment into the armed forces.

## **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, your evaluation and judgment, and let your imagination and creativity thrive. The course will also allow you to develop your group and leadership skills. There are also opportunities to expand your knowledge of designing and technical theatre.

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> you will create a piece of abstract, devised theatre based on an exam board stimulus, and evaluate your own work. The 3<sup>rd</sup> component is performance of extracts from a play.

### **How will I be assessed?**

40% - 1 terminal examination  
40% - devised drama and a written portfolio.  
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: Film Studies**

### **Why should I study this subject?**

Many consider film to be the major art form of the last hundred years and feel it important to study a medium which has such a significant influence on the way people think and feel. You will think and work creatively and develop critical thinking skills and aptitude. You will develop a mindset of creativity and connectivity through your exploration of film.

### **What will I do? (course content)**

The course has 3 components:

1. Key developments in US film looking at both mainstream and independent films from the 1950s to 1980s
2. Global film: narrative, representation, and film style
3. Production – writing a screenplay of genre-based extracts

### **How will I be assessed?**

Component 1 – written examination (35%)  
Component 2 – written examination (35%)  
Component 3 – NEA (30%)

### **What opportunities are there out of the classroom?**

Cinema visits and other cultural trips will be organised.

### **What careers would this subject support?**

The media and film industry are growing rapidly, and this course provides for jobs of the future in film, media and other related areas of employment and study. It also supports careers where an analytical, research and evaluative focus is needed.

## **Subject: Finance (Level 2 Technical Certificate)**

### **Why should I study this subject?**

There are 1.3 million people employed in the financial services sector and the UK is the world's leading exporter of financial services. If you have an interest in working in business or finance or in gaining a greater understanding of managing your personal finances, then this course is for you.

### **What will I do? (course content)**

The course will cover the follow areas:

- Achieving personal financial goals, methods of borrowing and repaying money, personal and small business banking, financial advice, creating and managing budgets
- Ethics, sustainability, business models, financial careers, principles of UK taxation and marketing
- Financial regulation, protection, and the impact of debt
- Financial services providers and how they function linked to careers in banking, accounting, investment, insurance, and financial technology
- Real-life application of numeracy and maths used in financial services

### **How will I be assessed?**

Unit 1 – Finance for the individual – NEA (25%)

Unit 2 – Finance in business – NEA (25%)

Unit 3 – Financial services sector – written examination (50%)

### **What opportunities are there out of the classroom?**

Visits to local financial businesses, as well as guest speakers and competitions.

### **What careers would this subject support?**

The course leads to the T level in Finance or A levels in economics or business. Beyond this, any careers in the financial services sector such as banking and insurance, as well as preparing future entrepreneurs to start their own business.

## **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 and 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 and physical therapy; sports related industries and of course; finding that first part-time catering job.

## Subject: French

### 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. France is our closest neighbour and a large economic power in the Europe, but French is also spoken worldwide in countries on every continent.

### 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

***Note you can only study this course if you have done French at KS3***

### How will I be assessed?

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

### What opportunities are there out of the classroom?

We offer trips to France to be able to put your French knowledge into practice and to discover a different culture. You may also participate in competitions and events organised through the school.

### 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: 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 evaluate issues and complete 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 have opportunities for visits to UK coastal and urban sites, as well as an optional trip aboard.

### **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: Graphic Communication

### Why should I study this subject?

Graphic Communication will help you to develop your artistic skills and expand your creativity, imagination, and independence. This course encourages you to follow your own interests in design whether it be in illustration, interactive design (including web, app, and game) or advertising. If you are inventive, artistic, and able to problem solve, Graphics will be a perfect option for you to get ahead in creative industries.

### What will I do? (course content)

You will develop your knowledge, skills and understanding of graphics, art, design, media, and technology. You will develop knowledge of designers from contemporary and historical contexts and cultures. You will develop your knowledge, skills and understanding in iterative design, critical thinking, risk taking, drawing, modelling, historical and contemporary design, CAD/CAM, and using different medias and processes. You will be required to choose one or more area(s) of study: advertising; communication graphics; design for print; illustration; interactive design (including web, app, and game design); multi-media; package design; signage; typography.

### How will I be assessed?

#### Portfolio (60%)

**Externally set task (40%)** 10-hour supervised time period to create a personalised response. ***There is no written exam in this specification.***

### 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: 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 peoples' 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, 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-Present  
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**

### **Why should I study this subject?**

The course allows you to explore a range of hardware, application, and specialist software. You will investigate how IT is used in a range of contexts from home use to business. You will also learn and become skilled in using databases and spreadsheet software and have to apply these skills to real world problems.

### **What will I do? (course content)**

During the course you will learn about the following topics:

- Functionality of hardware devices and software
- Services provided by IT
- Why data is fit for purpose
- How data is moved over a network and protected
- Cyber security and threats

You will complete coursework that covers:

- Planning, creating and interrogating databases
- Planning, creating, and using spreadsheets
- Creating and using automated documents
- Creating, manipulating, and storing images.

### **How will I be assessed?**

40% - on-screen exam  
60% - 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. The skills learnt will support you with any future path you choose.

## Subject: Music (BTEC)

### Why should I study this subject?

If you have a love of performing or creating music this course is for you. You will have the opportunity to play a variety of musical instruments as well as develop your music technology skills.

### What will I do? (course content)

You study 3 components: music technology, performance, and composition:

**Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles** you will explore the techniques used in the creation of different musical products and investigate the key features of different musical styles.

**Component 2: Music Skills Development** you will develop two musical disciplines through engagement in performance, production and composition while documenting your progress and planning for further improvement.

**Component 3: Responding to a Music Brief** you will develop and present music in response to a given music brief.

### How will I be assessed?

60% Internally assessed project work for components 1 and 2 including written and practical elements.

40% Externally assessed assignment completed between January  
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?

You will be able to participate in the school and Trust choirs and orchestras, keyboard, and 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 that 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. 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; medial 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

**Note that you can only take this course if you studied Spanish at KS3**

### How will I be assessed?

Spanish – 4 terminal examinations (listening, reading, speaking, writing)

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

We offer trips to Spain to be able to put your Spanish knowledge into practice and discover a different culture.

### 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 Tech Award)**

### **Why should I study this subject?**

If you have a love of sport and enjoy challenging yourself this is for you. This qualification gives you the opportunity to study the theory behind PE and sport. You will learn about the anatomy and physiology of sport, looking at different providers of sport and how they tailor their needs to increase participation in sport and physical activity, and look at leadership skills through delivering various activities across the course. This course will allow you to develop your communication, leadership, and team-work skills.

### **What will I do? (course content)**

You will work through 3 units of work. These are:

- 1: Preparing to take part in sport and physical activity
- 2: Taking part and improving other participants' sporting performance
- 3: Developing fitness to improve other participants' performance in sport and physical activity.

### **How will I be assessed?**

**Component 1:** A 5 hour supervised assessment

**Component 2:** A 4 hour supervised assessment

**Component 3:** A 90-minute written exam

### **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 teamwork; problem solving; leadership; decision making, and presentation skills are required.

*“The future depends  
on what you do  
today.”*

*- Mahatma Gandhi*

## Curriculum Choices 2023-2025 – 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, guardians 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.

- You must place a tick to indicate your choice in option pools A-D
- You can only select a subject **once**
- Write an “R 1-4” next to your reserve choices in each option pool. These must be different to your first choices.

Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Creative iMedia	Business	Art	Art
Finance	Creative iMedia	Business	Food
Geography	Child Development	Citizenship	Engineering
History	Drama	Computer Science	Geography
Spanish	Film Studies	Engineering	Health & Social Care
Sport	French	Food	History
Chinese*	Geography	Geography	IT
Religious Studies	History	Graphic Comm.	Music
	Photography	Health & Social Care	Photography
	Sport	History	Spanish
		Sport	Sport

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(parent/guardian)

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(senior staff)