



YEAR 9 OPTION BOOKLET

**2025
2027**



ASPIRE

Achievement * Support * Perseverance * Individuality * Respect * Excellence



The Henry Cort Community College

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Dear Year 9 Student

We are, together, entering a very exciting part of your educational journey where an element of control and decision making is now passed onto you. At the beginning of Year 10 you will start to undertake your GCSE studies in some of your selected subjects. This 'Option Choice Booklet' is designed to assist you with the process of choosing your courses. By Easter, you will have made your decisions that cannot be changed once you have started Year 10.

As you move from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4, you will be taking more responsibility for your learning and your future. What you study here will stay with you once you have left Henry Cort and will impact the opportunities you have at college and in future career(s). The decision of which subjects to study should be taken seriously and with maturity.

The options process allows you to pick over a third of your timetable but you will continue to take compulsory subjects at GCSE level. You will need to choose 4 subjects from a wide range of options. Most of the subjects will be familiar to you and some will be new. This option choice booklet, your options assembly, and the information evening are designed to give you all you need to help make the best choices.

It is normal at this point not to be totally certain with what you want to choose, so it is important that you read this booklet carefully and speak with your parents/carers and teachers. If you are already thinking of a career path and wish for additional guidance of which options to support with this, please talk to Mrs Hills who will be happy to help.

The choices have to be right for you, think about the subjects you need, enjoy or might interest you and not what your friends want, or what your favourite teacher teaches.

This booklet has two sections:

- The first section entitled: Guidance for Students and Parents, provides guidance on the option process and key issues that affect the choices that you make
- The second section entitled: Course Information, provides a detailed outline of the course syllabuses for 2025-2027

You deserve to be successful, aim high, choose wisely and work hard.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Walker
Assistant Principal

Mrs S White
Head of Year 9

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Section 1: Guidance for students, parents and carers

INTRODUCTION

The Henry Cort Community College aims to provide a broad and balanced curriculum which engages and challenges our students so that they achieve the best possible range of qualifications to enable their future aspirations to be fulfilled. The curriculum is designed to offer students a diverse and coherent choice of courses and learning experiences so that they develop skills and knowledge that remain with them long after examinations.

This is so that students leave school as confident and independent life-long learners, equipped with the transferable skills needed to thrive in a changing world.

SUBJECT CONSULTATION AND OPTIONS CHOICE INFORMATION EVENING

This will be taking place **Tuesday 11 March 2024**. This event will include a presentation that will be repeated three times at **4:30, 5:30 and 6:30pm** about the option choice process and there will be an opportunity to talk to the Senior Leadership Team afterwards.

COMPLETING THE OPTION CHOICE FORM

All the information you need is provided on the online form - [Year 9 Options Choice Form 2025](#). Please read and follow the instructions carefully before you complete it.

This form will be sent out to Year 9 students and parents on the 12th March, the day after the subject consultation meetings. All forms should be completed and submitted no later than **Friday 28 March 2025**.

OPTIONS OFFER

We offer a 'block choice' of subjects at The Henry Cort Community College to try to provide students their first choice options. We do not restrict students to a set pathway; however, we do strongly encourage students follow an Ebacc route by selecting a modern foreign language and geography or history.

We try to ensure that all students get their first choice; however, **in some cases it will not be possible to meet the combination of subjects chosen**. Whether or not we can meet students first choice depends on some of the following factors:

1. Number of students that choose each option – in some cases we can only offer a limited number of places for a subject, for example, Hospitality and Catering, due to the legal limit of students allowed in a class.
2. We have to consider our current staffing level and how many classes of a subject would be able to operate, and indeed, if too few students choose a subject it may be unfeasible to run.
3. Attitude to Learning (ATL) and attainment in the subject – if there is a history of poor engagement in the subject then you may be questioned as to the reasons behind your choice. For certain subjects, such as Computer Science, minimum requirements exist due to the complexity of the qualification.

CORE CURRICULUM – COMPULSORY

All students will follow a **core curriculum** to the end of Year 11 and will sit final GCSEs within each of the subjects. These courses and the qualifications which they lead to are detailed below. Further information about the core courses is given in Section 2 of this booklet.

Additionally, to note, all students will study the Combined Science syllabus which will lead to two GCSEs in Science. Many students that are successful in Combined Science follow one of these subjects into A-Level qualifications. *(A select group of students will be considered for Triple Science, however, students will need to be very able in both Maths and Science to be considered for this and may be moved back to combined if they are unable to maintain the level of progression required).*

PE core lessons and Religious Education will continue to be provided as part of our statutory responsibility. These elements will not be assessed at GCSE but must continue to be provided to our students during their time at Henry Cort.

SUBJECT	HOURS* PER FORTNIGHT (lessons)		NUMBER OF QUALIFICATIONS
	Year 10	Year 11	
English	8	8	2 GCSEs – English language and Literature
Maths	8	8	1 GCSE
Science	8	8	2 GCSEs (minimum)

**These hours are provisional*

OPTIONAL COURSES

Students will make 4 choices; a choice within an 'Option Block' should then be backed up with 2 reserve choices. Therefore 6 choices will be made in total; 4 primary and 2 secondary. As already stated, students are strongly encouraged to continue a language and either Geography or History. When choosing the reserve, they need to be different from the 4 previously chosen subjects.

During the subject consultation meetings, please discuss potential choices with your teachers to help gauge an understanding of suitability and help form a decision. Due to the nature of the language qualifications, hard work often results in high grades which is why we strongly recommend continue with the current chosen language.

In Year 10, each Option Course has five hours of lessons per fortnight.

Continuation of creative options (Music, Dance, Drama, iMedia, Art, Textiles, D&T, Food, and Photography) – Students current choices in these subjects can be chosen as an option. Those not successful in gaining their Year 9 preferred subject will be considered but be mindful in choosing the options, what is best for you. Please note that only 1 of 3D Art, Art and Textiles can be chosen as they are all part of the same qualification.

As previously mentioned, the Year 9 subject consultation meetings will be a perfect opportunity to discuss considerations for moving forward with a specific subject, with subject specialists that know the students and their ability.

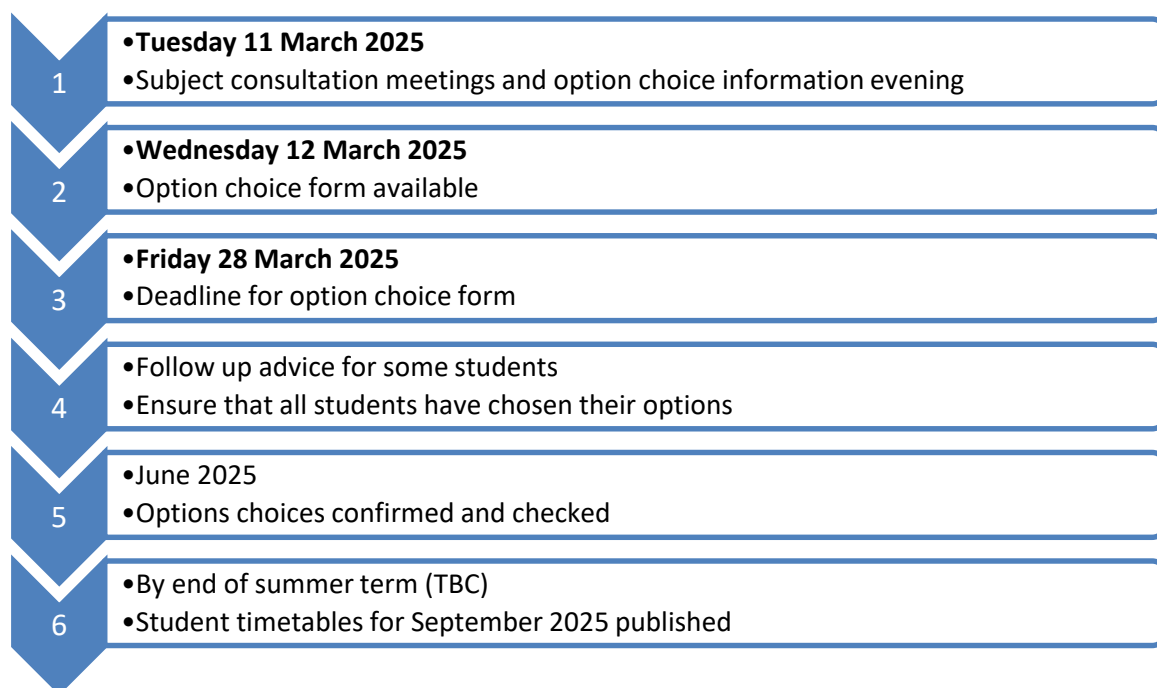
Moving beyond this, there are some additional areas of support/guidance on the next page.

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STAFF ROLE	AREA OF ADVICE
Tutor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options choice process - who to go to
Subject Teacher/Faculty Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More detailed course information Student suitability for a course
Mrs Hills (Careers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Careers advice and guidance incl. appointments Work experience
Mr Parker (SENDCo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice for students with SEND
Mr Walker (Assistant Principal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options choice process Technical questions College policy Timetable queries (after options are complete)

TIMELINE

This is a very careful sequence of events that informs the number of teaching hours required for different subjects and can inform the need for recruitment in different subject areas. Once the process is complete, the building of next year's academic timetable can begin and not before.



CAREERS

Throughout Year 10 and Year 11 students will be provided the opportunity to have Careers advice. Mrs Hills will provide advance notification of all provisions available to our students and a detailed explanation of how Work Experience operates at specific points in the academic year.

ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

We have a long tradition of working with our students to ensure they gain the right education. We work with numerous local colleges and training providers whose courses have offered an alternative way to learn. At present we are not in the position to provide any further details of these, as the courses are not yet available for us to consider. The most important thing to remember is that 'dropping' a course is not an option, as there will be nowhere to go.

Section 2: Course Information (2025-2027)

COMPULSORY CORE SUBJECTS

- English language and English literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science

In addition to the above compulsory subjects, you are strongly encouraged to pick a modern foreign language and humanities subject.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

<u>Option Block 1</u>	<u>Option Block 2</u>	<u>Option Block 3</u>	<u>Option Block 4</u>
3D Art	Citizenship	Dance	Art
Art	Computer Science	Design & Technology	French
Business Studies	Drama	French	Geography
French	Geography	Geography	History
Geography	History	German	Hospitality & Catering
History	Music (Performing Arts)	History	iMedia
PE Vcert	PE Vcert	PE Vcert	PE Vcert
Religious Studies	Spanish	Spanish	Photography
	Textiles		

NB: The subjects studied will be dependent on their approval by the Department of Education in May/June 2025. Any qualifications that are deemed not suitable will be replaced by an alternative and you will be informed.

SUBJECT GUIDE

These allow you to compare the subjects according to their demands – try to balance their requirements to your skills and abilities. Each subject has been rated by their teachers according to a range of factors:

- ★ Literacy - *level of writing and reading required*
- ★ Numeracy - *level of maths application involved*
- ★ Communications - *need to explain and share your thoughts and ideas with others*
- ★ Creativity - *need to think for yourself creatively*
- ★ Practical - *level of hands-on involvement required*
- ★ Group work - *working with others, being both dependent and dependable*

Course Choice Guide	
Literacy	*****
Numeracy	*
Communications	*****
Creativity	*****
Practical	****
Group Work	****
<u>Teaching, Learning & Assessment</u>	
Examinations (4)	100%

AQA ENGLISH LANGUAGE (8700) AND ENGLISH LITERATURE (8702)



Full course details can be found at www.aqa.org.uk

SUMMARY OF COURSE

As a core subject, a GCSE in either English language or English literature is required by nearly all employers, training programmes and providers of further education. Our students experience a wide range of activities, including analysing a range of texts, debating, discussing and producing a range of creative writing.

You are encouraged to use your own ideas and become independent learners.

The syllabus will allow you to study a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts from 19th, 20th and 21st Centuries. Marks for the written exams are given for technical accuracy (spelling, grammar and punctuation):

- English language – 20%
- English literature – 5%.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Success in either English language or English literature will, of course, lay the foundations for your work in English language or literature at AS level. The listening, speaking, reading and writing skills you develop will also be useful across a range of arts, humanities and social science subjects. English can open opportunities for careers in journalism, publishing, law, teaching and many more.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will be expected to complete regular reading and revision of key terms and text details.

Course Choice Guide

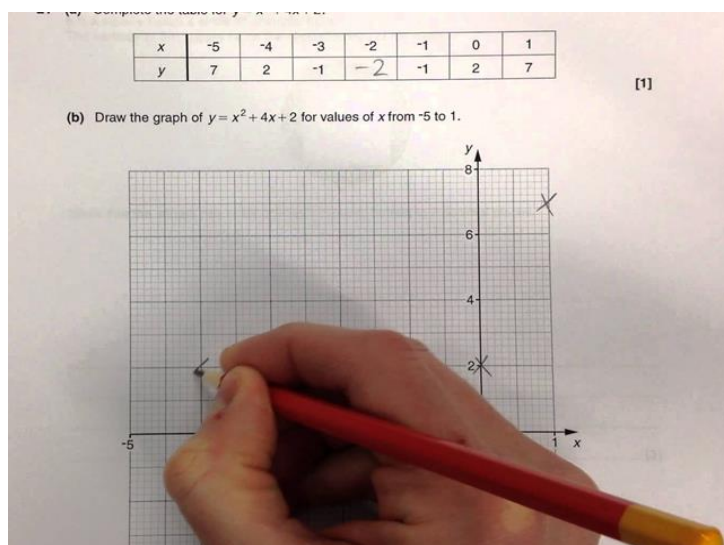
Literacy	*****
Numeracy	*
Communications	*****
Creativity	*****
Practical	****
Group Work	****

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examinations (4)	100%
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MRS SEAR

OCR MATHEMATICS (J560)



Course Choice Guide

Literacy	***
Numeracy	*****
Communications	***
Creativity	***
Practical	**
Group Work	*
<u>Teaching, Learning & Assessment</u>	
Examinations (3)	100%

Full course details can be found at www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-mathematics-j560-from-2015

SUMMARY OF COURSE

Mathematics is offered at two levels of entry; higher and foundation. If you wish to follow mathematics beyond Key Stage 4 you must study higher. The course covers all aspects of mathematics and is assessed by a terminal examination made up of three papers. These are 2 x calculator and 1 x non-calculator. In addition to this, you are assessed each half term to ensure progress is maintained.

At GCSE we build upon the work covered at Key Stage 3 and prepare you to be efficient in the use of mathematics in real life applications. In the mathematics faculty we embrace new technologies but these are underpinned by the traditional approaches to the subject that are required in the wider world. A successful mathematician will be able to show organisation, logic and ordering skills in order to break a problem down to smaller, more manageable tasks.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Mathematics is required for practically every job that you can imagine. Most job advertisements will request mathematics at a pass grade at GCSE. The skills developed will demonstrate that problems can be identified and broken down. As an A level subject it is widely considered to be the most marketable; opening doors into careers in ICT, law, engineering, medicine, science and business. The skills that you will develop are universal and can be implemented in many areas.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will be expected to undertake independent review and revision of the topics studied throughout the course. You will be expected to complete a weekly homework of up to 1 hour in length. In addition, you will be asked to practice basic skills using the ICT available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR SMITH

AQA COMBINED SCIENCE: TRILOGY (8464)

Full course details can be found at
<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse>

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	****
Numeracy	****
Communications	****
Creativity	**
Practical	****
Group Work	**

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examinations (6)	100%
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SUMMARY OF COURSE

GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy) is a double GCSE taken by the majority of students. It builds on the Key Stage 3 curriculum and covers the National Curriculum Programme of Study for science at Key Stage 4. It encourages students to explore, explain, theorise and model in science and develops a critical approach to scientific evidence. At Henry Cort students start studying towards their GCSE Combined Science in Year 9.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Success in Combined Science can provide access to A Level courses such as Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology as well as BTEC/ T-Level courses such as Applied Science and Forensics. Future careers might include Medicine, Veterinary Science, Mechanical Engineering, Nursing, Midwifery, Child Care, Sports Science, Architecture, Chemical Engineering and Horticulture. The range of careers involving science is almost endless, and many employers value candidates who have a good scientific background.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Our exam board for science is AQA. There are six papers: two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics. Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. At the end of the course, two GCSE grades will be awarded as a combination of all three sciences. Students cannot mix their tier of entry, they have to sit either Higher or Foundation for all six of the exams. Each exam paper comprises of:

- Written Exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation (Level 1-5) or Higher Tier (Level 3-9)
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR RAKE

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OPTION SUBJECTS

EDUQAS 3D ART - THREE-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN¹



Full course details can be found at

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	***
Numeracy	*
Communications	***
Creativity	*****
Practical	*****
Group Work	*
<u>Teaching, Learning & Assessment</u>	
Coursework	60%
Exam (10 hours)	40%

SUMMARY OF COURSE

You will be required to demonstrate skills in the following:

- Selecting and critically analysing sources. Recording your ideas, observations, insights and independent judgements.
- Refining your ideas as work progresses through researching, selecting, analysing, constructing and presenting artefacts, products and personal outcomes.
- Appropriate specialist vocabulary through either visual communication or written annotation, or both and drawing skills for different needs and purposes.

You will be required to work in one or more areas listed below, combinations of these areas are also possible.

- Architectural design
- Interior design
- Product design
- Exhibition design
- Environmental/landscape design
- Sculpture
- Design for theatre, film and television
- Jewellery and body adornment
- Ceramics
- Design communications techniques

You must demonstrate the ability to work creatively with processes and techniques appropriate to the chosen area(s) of study such as computer-aided design, model making, prototyping, constructing and assembling. An understanding of the relationship between form and function is essential.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

GCSE art and design can be a stepping stone towards A Level art, textiles or a BTEC national diploma in similar art related subjects. This could then lead to degree courses (BA/ BA Hons) in various subject areas. Art is so diverse that future careers can be very varied and could lead to professional artist, art teacher, illustrator, graphic designer, interior designer, print maker, fashion designer, theatre design, ceramics and many more.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Art is time consuming so you must be committed to finishing work in your own time. The attendance at art club and completion of homework will be expected regularly.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MISS GREENSTREET

¹ You cannot study this, Fine Art and Textile Design

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OCR FINE ART (J171)²



Full course details can be found at www.ocr.org.uk

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	***
Numeracy	*
Communications	***
Creativity	*****
Practical	*****
Group Work	*
<u>Teaching, Learning & Assessment</u>	
Portfolio	60%
Externally set task	40%

SUMMARY OF COURSE

At Henry Cort the art department is passionate about unlocking creative potential and working to individual strengths and interests. In the fine art course, you will undertake a broad range of creative processes as well as exploring work by historical and contemporary artists and crafts people. A keen interest in all areas of art and design, plus a willingness to learn new skills are the key requirements of this course. Consider opting for the fine art course if you are eager to improve and refine painting and drawing techniques and use your own creativity and imagination. The course provides an opportunity for you to take a personal interest in why art and design matters and to be inspired and influenced by studying an exciting and stimulating course.

You are required to choose one or more area(s) of study:

- Installation
- Lens/light-based media
- Mixed-media
- Land art
- Printing
- Painting
- Sculpture

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

GCSE art and design can be a stepping stone towards A Level art, textiles or a BTEC national diploma in similar art related subjects. This could then lead to degree courses (BA/ BA Hons) in various subject areas. Art is so diverse that future careers can be very varied and could lead to professional artist, art teacher, illustrator, graphic designer, interior designer, print maker, fashion designer, theatre design, ceramics and many more.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Art is time consuming so you must be committed to finishing work in your own time. The attendance at art club and completion of homework will be expected regularly.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MISS GREENSTREET

² You cannot study this, 3D Art and Textile Design

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OCR BUSINESS STUDIES (J204)



Full course details can be found at

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/business-j204-from-2017/>

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	*****
Numeracy	*****
Communications	****
Creativity	***
Practical	***
Group Work	***
<u>Teaching, Learning & Assessment</u>	
Examination (2)	100%

SUMMARY OF COURSE

A GCSE in business will equip you with the skills and confidence to explore how different business situations affect decision-making. You will develop your understanding of concepts, objectives and terminology, and the impact of contemporary issues on business operations.

You will learn how to apply your knowledge and understanding to a variety of different business contexts in a dynamic and competitive environment. These include businesses ranging from small enterprises to large multinationals and businesses operating in local, national and global contexts.

You will develop an understanding of how these business contexts impact on a company's behaviour. You should be able to make decisions based on the analysis and evaluation of information provided. You should be able to recognise the use and limitations of qualitative and quantitative data in business decision making.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

This qualification will encourage you to make informed choices about a wide range of further learning opportunities and career pathways as well as develop life skills that enable you to become financially and commercially aware. The course will help you prepare for further education post-16 and for a growing number of vocational qualifications.

Whatever line of work you will ultimately find yourself entering, you will benefit since the learning on this course applies across all jobs, in all industries and better equips you to succeed in a very competitive market for jobs of the future.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You can attend supported sessions which run weekly after college revision periods. Extensive online self-learning material will also be available to you.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MRS JONES

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AQA CITIZENSHIP STUDIES (Politics and the Law) (8100)



Full course details can be found at www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/citizenship/gcse/citizenship-studies-8100

Course Choice Guide

Literacy *****

Numeracy ***

Communications *****

Creativity ****

Practical ****

Group Work *

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examinations (2) 100%

Includes active Citizenship Project

SUMMARY OF COURSE

This subject was introduced 9 years ago which has been studied enthusiastically by students leading to excellent results.

GCSE citizenship studies is a good subject to compliment many other subjects such as History, English and Geography, being a broad based general subject. It will also interest those with an interest in the world around them and current affairs. The course looks at fighting for change in society, how the political and legal systems in Britain work and affect us. How the media influences us, relations between Britain, Europe and the rest of the world including conflict resolution and aid giving.

The course is immensely relevant to the world we are living in and involves issues we simply cannot ignore. This helps you develop skills such as critical thinking, decision making and collaborative working.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Citizenship is a demanding subject but incredibly relevant if you want to be involved and change the world you live in. Students have gone on to study A Level Citizenship, Sociology, Philosophy, History and Geography at college.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Specific revision sessions will be offered in Year 11. It is essential that you keep up with current affairs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR CURRIE

OCR COMPUTER SCIENCE (J276)



Full course details can be found at

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j277-from-2020/>

SUMMARY OF COURSE

The GCSE in computer science is engaging and practical, encouraging creativity and problem solving. Students must have consistently attained at 'exceeding' in maths throughout Year 8 and 9 to be able to access the content of this course.

This course encourages you to develop your understanding and application of the core concepts in computer science. You will also analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs. You will be introduced to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. You will also look at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

You will also develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic, translators and data representation.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

This course can help you prepare for further and higher education. It prepares you for relevant academic and vocational studies post-16. Computational thinking is at the heart of the GCSE course and the skills learned will support many other disciplines in further education or the workplace. Problem solving techniques applied to programming are similarly useful, especially in many STEM subjects across the board. Practical skills learned over the course will also boost your digital literacy skills and support you in any field after secondary school.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You should attend supported sessions that run weekly after college and specific revision sessions.

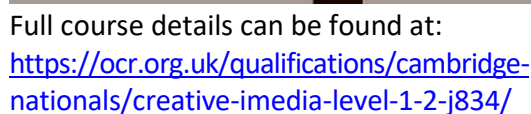
Course Choice Guide

Literacy	*****
Numeracy	*****
Communications	*****
Creativity	***
Practical	*****
Group Work	**

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examination (2)	100%
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR SMITH



Literacy	*****
Numeracy	****
Communications	*****
Creativity	****
Practical	*****
Group Work	***

External assessment (1)	40%
NEA - Non Examined assessment (2)	60%

Creative iMedia will inspire and equip students with the confidence to use skills that are relevant to the digital media sector and more widely. This qualification will help you to develop an understanding of media codes and conventions which can be appropriately applied when producing digital media products. Skills used to design, plan and create digital media products that are appropriate for defined target audiences and meet client requirements. You will also design, plan, create and review digital media products to meet client and target audience demands. You will study 2 mandatory units and choose 1 optional unit. The two mandatory units are:

- There are 5 optional units to choose from, Characters and comics; Animation and audio; Interactive digital media; Visual imaging; Digital games

The knowledge and skills you develop will help you to progress onto further study in the media industry. This may be other vocational qualifications including the Level 2 or Level 3 OCR Cambridge Technical in Digital Media and/or Information Technology; the T Level Qualification in Digital Production Design and Development or Media, Broadcast and Production; or the Media and Broadcast Assistant Pathway Apprenticeship. The qualification also helps to develop other transferable skills including creative thinking, digital presentation, planning and problem solving that will be valuable in other life and work situations.

You should attend supported sessions which run weekly after college, as well as specific revision sessions.

Henry Cort reserves the right to review the number of students selecting this course as there are significant overlaps with content of Digital Information Technology. In the event that this course is oversubscribed, students may be allocated the Digital Information technology course instead.

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AQA DANCE (8236)



Course Choice Guide

Literacy	***
Numeracy	*
Communications	****
Creativity	*****
Practical	*****
Group Work	****
<u>Teaching, Learning & Assessment</u>	
Examination	40%
Performance	30%
Choreography	30%

SUMMARY OF COURSE

During this course you will have the opportunity to study and experience the prime skills, techniques and creative aspects of the art of being a dancer. A predominately practical based course, the dance will cover a range of skills from choreography to performance.

You will experience contemporary technique and perform in not only a group dance but also two solo set dances. You will learn and develop your skills as a choreographer and as part of your coursework, create a group dance.

You will support your practical understanding of the key elements of dance through analysing professional choreographers, as well as deepening your knowledge of the dancers' body, nutrition and aspects of health and safety. These will be formalised as part of a written examination at the end of the course.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

If you wish to study dance or performing arts further, local colleges offer A Level and BTEC courses.

If you choose not to pursue the course to a higher level, having this course on your CV will show employers not just your creative side but that you have a proven ability to self-manage, organise events, show commitment and work effectively as part of a team.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will be expected to study/rehearse in your own time (after college) to prepare for the performance and choreography assessments. You will also need to be confident in performing and be able to lead choreography tasks well. There is also an expectation that students will be involved in a creative arts production, such as college performances, and the Arts festival.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MRS WARNER

AQA DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (8552)



Full course details can be found at

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/gcse/design-and-technology-8552>

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	****
Numeracy	***
Communications	*****
Creativity	****
Practical	****
Group Work	**

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examination (1)	50%
Non-Exam Assessment*	50%
*30-35 hours approx	

SUMMARY OF COURSE

Design and technology is part of everyday life and is constantly evolving. You will focus on developing practical skills and knowledge within design and technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. You will work creatively to design a range of products to solve problems, applying technical and practical expertise.

For your non-exam assessment, you will design and make a prototype for a client and will test and evaluate your work. This assignment will also involve you carrying out independent research and applying your mathematical and scientific knowledge in the subject. You will also be assessed in the form of a written exam at the end of the course, which has been split into three sections as follows:

- **Core Technical Principles:** A wide range of technical knowledge and understanding on timbers, polymers, textiles, metals, paper & boards, mechanical devices, electronic systems and energy sources.
- **Specialist Technical Principles:** In-depth knowledge and expertise in using timbers and polymers.
- **Designing and Making Principles:** Understanding the design process including iterative design, user-centred design, designers, companies, technical drawing, CAD/CAM, commercial manufacturing and evaluation.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

GCSE Design and Technology could lead onto academic or vocational qualifications in further education or an apprenticeship in a range of different industries; including engineering, manufacturing, product design, construction, architecture, mechanics, marketing, advertising, arts & crafts, carpentry, plumbing and electrical engineering. These are careers that involve problem solving, creativity and practical skills.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will be required to use the technology facilities to keep up with the demands of the course.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MRS BIMSON

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EDUQAS DRAMA



Full course details can be found at

https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/drama-gcse#tab_overview

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	****
Numeracy	*
Communications	*****
Creativity	*****
Practical	*****
Group Work	*****

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Internal Assessment -	40%
Devising theatre	
External Assessment	20%
Performing texts	
Written exam	40%
Interpreting theatre	

SUMMARY OF COURSE

At Henry Cort the drama department is passionate about giving students the opportunity to be involved in creating and performing live theatre. As part of the course, you will develop these skills by producing script work and devised dramatic performance. You will develop an appreciation for a wide variety of different styles and genres which will enhance the work you create. This course focuses on your practical performance skills asking you to plan, produce, perform and evaluate your work. This is an exciting course for those students passionate about drama who may or may not wish to study drama at a later date. The Eduqas GCSE Drama qualification is an exciting, inspiring and practical course. The specification promotes involvement in and enjoyment of drama, as performers and/or designers. Learners will also attend live theatre performance allowing them to become informed and thoughtful audience members. By taking part in all these activities, learners will develop a range of essential life skills which will help them succeed in any career they choose

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

If you intend to continue your education post-16, it offers a solid grounding for A Level drama, which is recognised and accepted by the majority of universities and colleges. It also supports progression to study a Level 3 RSL award/ BTEC Level 3 in drama / performing arts. As well as the career opportunities in the theatre, radio, film and television broadcasting, the course can be relevant to a variety of jobs linked with communications e.g., sales, public relations, social work, teaching, law, journalism. Drama is an excellent subject to develop a wide range of soft and transferable skills from team work to public speaking and presentation skills

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will benefit from taking part in additional performances, either externally or in college. You are also expected to rehearse practical work after college a minimum of once a week. Good attendance is essential for KS4 drama as all practical work involves working as part of a group and you will let your partners down if you do not attend.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MRS WALLIS

AQA GEOGRAPHY (8035)



Full course details can be found at

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035>

SUMMARY OF COURSE

This course is exciting, relevant and essential for understanding the changes we face in the 21st century. The course consists of three units:

1. **Living with the physical environment** - the causes, consequences and management of natural hazards such as hurricanes, volcanoes and earthquakes, climate change, ecosystems such as tropical rainforests and hot deserts, the UK physical landscapes including coastal and river landscapes.
2. **Challenges in the human environment** - urban issues and challenges including in depth studies about cities in different parts of the world such as Nigeria and the UK; the changing economic world; the challenge of resource management – how are we going to ensure we have sufficient food, water and energy for the future?
3. **Geographical applications** - Issues evaluation: This section involves a critical thinking and a problem-solving element finding creative solutions to the world's problems. Fieldwork: Over the three years students will carry out both human and physical fieldwork to enable them to develop and apply a range of skills which will be tested in an exam.

You will be helped to develop and demonstrate a range of skills, including cartographic, graphical, numerical, decision making and statistical.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Geography develops your skills of analysis, investigation and decision making. The skills you will pick up during the course are easily transferable to many walks of life, from planning, environmental work, geology, teaching, park ranger...the list is endless!

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will be encouraged to attend revision sessions, attend the fieldwork trip and have an interest in the world around you. Revision guides: Revise AQA GCSE (9-1), geography revision workbook ISBN 978-1-292-13131-3.

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	*****
Numeracy	*****
Communications	****
Creativity	***
Practical	***
Group Work	**

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examination (3)	100%
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR CURRIE

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EDEXCEL HISTORY



Course Choice Guide

Literacy	*****
Numeracy	*
Communications	*****
Creativity	**
Practical	*
Group Work	**

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examination (3)	100%
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Full course details can be found at <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>

SUMMARY OF COURSE

- 1) **Medicine in Britain, c1250-present.** This thematic study examines how medicine has developed in Britain. This includes an in-depth study of the British sector of the Western front (1914-18), looking at injuries, treatments and the trench.
- 2) **Early Elizabethan England (1558-1588).** Students examine the role of the government and religion in Elizabeth's reign, the challenges to her power and the age of exploration.
- 3) **Super Power Relations of the cold War (1941-1991).** This is the period study, focusing on a substantial time frame of 50 years. The students will examine the origins of the Cold War, the crises (including the Berlin Wall and Cuba) of the period up to and including the collapse of the Soviet Union.
- 4) **Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939 (the interwar years).** This modern depth study requires that the students understand the complexity of a historical situation. This unit looks at Germany after WW1 and the fall of the Weimar Republic, the rise of Hitler and his control and society in Germany.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

History informs your present and guides your future in every sense: you will learn to weigh up evidence, offer opinion, and communicate informed ideas clearly and confidently, both verbally and in writing; these are skills employers seek greatly.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will research and revise independently in addition to the offered revision sessions. You can also take advantage of other enrichment opportunities like trips, university sessions, workshops and guest speakers. We recommend My Revision notes, Edexcel GCSE (9-1): Four Units in one. (978-1510469440)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR CURRIE

EQUAS LEVEL 1/LEVEL 2 HOSPITALITY AND CATERING



Full course details can be found at

<https://www.edugas.co.uk/qualifications/hospitality-and-catering-level-1-2/>

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	****
Numeracy	****
Communications	*****
Creativity	*****
Practical	*****
Group Work	***

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examination (90 mins)	40%
Portfolio / Controlled Assessment (9 hours)	60%

SUMMARY OF COURSE

The course has been designed to develop knowledge and understanding related to a range of topics including; hygiene and safety, roles and responsibility of the environmental health officers (EHO), food laws and regulations, food allergies and intolerances. You will also learn about job roles in the hospitality and catering industry as well as the structure of the 'front' and 'back-of-house' in catering establishments.

There is an opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations. In this qualification, you will also develop food preparation and cooking skills as well as the transferable skills of problem solving, organisation, planning, communication and time management.

This course is split into two sections:

- Unit 1: The Hospitality and catering industry (40% of overall grade)
- Unit 2: Hospitality and catering in action (60% of overall grade)

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Successful completion of this qualification could lead to a number of possibilities. There are many local colleges that provide advanced qualifications in food, catering and hospitality e.g. apprenticeships and Level 1-3 courses.

You could progress into careers like a Chef, Dietician, Health and Social care, Food Technologist, Nursing, Food production and Manufacture, Hospitality, Food product development and Childcare.

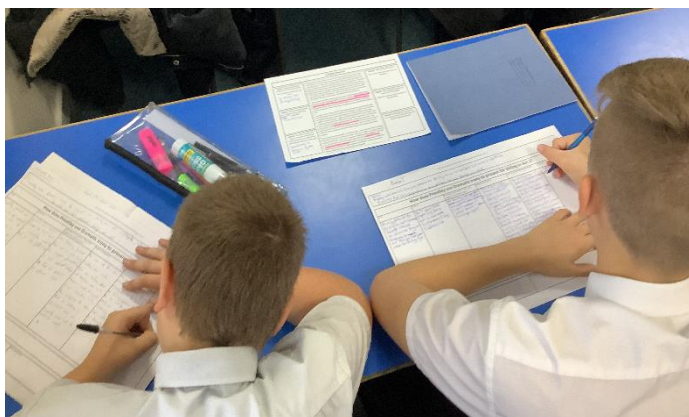
EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will be responsible for providing ingredients for each practical session and suitable means to take your finished dishes home. There is a trip to Fareham College restaurant.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MRS WILLIAMS

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EDEXCEL MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: FRENCH (1FR1), GERMAN (1GN1) AND SPANISH (1SP1)



Course Choice Guide

Literacy *****

Numeracy *

Communications *****

Creativity ***

Practical **

Group Work **

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examination (4) 100%

Internal assessment 0%

SUMMARY OF COURSE

Having chosen your language option in Year 9, you can continue to study your chosen language – French, German or Spanish.

You will study six broad themes at KS4: My personal world, Lifestyle and wellbeing, my neighbourhood, media and technology, studying and my future and travel and tourism. You will learn how to speak and write about these topics and you will be encouraged to express your own thoughts and opinions. Throughout the course, you will prepare your own responses to spoken and written questions, enabling you to communicate effectively in your chosen language. The course is assessed by final exams in 4 skills: Listening, speaking, reading and writing which all count for 25%.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Studying a modern foreign language is much more than just an academic subject. It enables you to empathise with and enter into another person's world; to communicate across cultures and to enrich one's own life. It expands your range of thinking and develops effective writing skills in both English and the foreign language. Research shows clear advantages in studying a modern foreign language in terms of cognitive skills and understanding as well as better outcomes in English. Colleges, universities and employers will look favourably on candidates who have studied a foreign language. Career options are varied and include: Journalism, Travel and Tourism, Armed Services, Sales and Marketing, Teaching, Interpreting, and Engineering to name but a few.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will be expected to do writing, reading and vocabulary learning tasks after every lesson. There will be revision sessions in Year 11 which you are encouraged to attend.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MRS WILKS

NCFE LEVEL 1/2 TECHNICAL AWARD IN HEALTH AND FITNESS (603/2650/5)



Course Choice Guide

Literacy	****
Numeracy	**
Communications	*****
Creativity	****
Practical	****
Group Work	*****
<u>Teaching, Learning & Assessment</u>	
External Assessment	40%
Internal Assessment	60%

Full course details can be found at

www.qualhub.co.uk/qualification-search/qualification-detail/ncfe-level-12-technical-award-in-health-and-fitness-111

SUMMARY OF COURSE

The NCFE Level 1/2 technical award in health and fitness (603/2650/5) compliments GCSE qualifications. It is aimed at 14-16 year olds studying Key Stage 4 curriculum who are interested in the health and fitness industry sector. This qualification is designed to match the rigour and challenge of GCSE study. The qualification is graded at Level 1 pass, merit, distinction, distinction* and Level 2 pass, merit, distinction, distinction* (equivalent to GCSE grades 1-8.5).

This Level 1/2 qualification enables you to develop a significant core of knowledge and understanding in health and fitness. Most lessons will be theory based in classrooms and basic IT skills are required for completing the non exam assessment (NEA). There will be 1 practical lesson a week.

At the end of the course you will understand and identify the main body systems and their functions; understand the principles of training and FITT (frequency, intensity, time, and type); explore how physical activities affect the body in the short and long term and how it leads to better mental health. You will learn to understand how relevant fitness tests can be used for specific health and skill components of fitness; understand different lifestyle analysis tools and how to apply them by creating a health and fitness programme.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

This course is an excellent foundation for post-16 courses in physical education and sport science related fields. It is also suitable if you are thinking about coaching or teaching related careers or sports management.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

It may be necessary to complete additional support classes after college to ensure that units of work are completed to a good standard. We also encourage you to continue to participate in your favourite sports outside college hours.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR PLOMER

EDUQAS LEVEL 1/2 VOCATIONAL AWARD IN PERFORMING ARTS 5639QA (MUSIC)



Full details can be found at:

https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music-gcse/#tab_overview

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	*****
Numeracy	**
Communications	*****
Creativity	*****
Practical	*****
Group Work	*****

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Internally assessed NEA	60%
Externally assessed NEA	40%

SUMMARY OF COURSE

The Eduqas Level 2 Vocational Award in Performance Arts is a course designed to meet the individual needs of young musicians. The course is delivered over 2 years, with the intention being for students to deliver a performance (the Externally Assessed NEA) at the end of their time at Henry Cort. There is an emphasis on playing music, although students with backgrounds in music technology (such as producers and DJs) are also welcome. Year 10 will focus on 2 key areas:

- Performance - 7 minutes of music to be performed, with background research and evidence of rehearsal.
- Composition (30%) to a brief, with depiction of music written in a visual format (e.g. a score).

Finally, the Performing Arts in Practice Unit (Unit 3) forms most of Year 11, with a view to students planning and performing at a live event, before reflecting on the experience and what they hope to achieve as a musician moving forward.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

You can consider A Level music or one of the vocational music/music technology courses now available. In addition, you might wish to study A Level Performing Arts. Music is often a hugely enjoyable course and is a great way to build confidence. It is also great for many 'soft-skills', such as public speaking, spatial awareness, independent work and social skills.

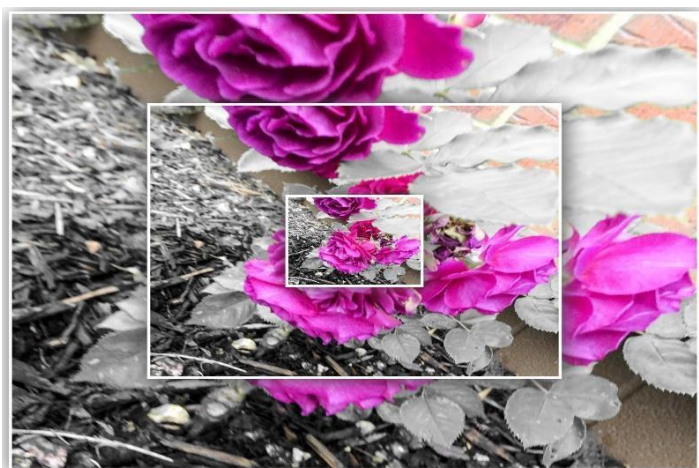
EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Students are expected to perform, and often. This may involve playing to audiences in class, or at open evenings and other events in the calendar. Students who find themselves unable to confront their discomfort with performing will be at a disadvantage. Students will also need to have access to an instrument and ideally, be able to practice at home.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR CHILCOTT

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OCR PHOTOGRAPHY (J173)



Full course details can be found at www.ocr.org.uk

SUMMARY OF COURSE

This is a practical, project-based course designed to enable pupils to explore, acquire and develop skills, knowledge and understanding through traditional and digital photographic techniques. Photography is defined here as the practice of creating durable static or moving images by recording light with light-sensitive materials. Pupils will build a portfolio exploring many aspects of photography, by investigating practical, critical and contextual sources such as the work of historical and contemporary photographers and the different purposes, intentions and functions of photography. You must demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding through area(s) of study relevant to photography by creating your own work. This course is suitable for all pupils who have a keen interest in photography who wish to further their creatives and technical skills.

You are required to choose one or more area(s) of study:

- Documentary photography
- Photo-journalism
- Studio photography
- Location photography
- Experimental imagery
- Installation
- Moving image: film, video and animation

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Completion of the GCSE in photography will allow you to further your interest through either A level photography or through college based courses. There are also many career opportunities for which a photography background is relevant: Photographer; Advertising; Branding; Photojournalist; Wildlife, Fashion, Events, Sports Photographer, Animator; Web Designer; Illustrator; Film Editor/Director. The portfolio of work you create in the course is valued by employers and colleges and provides an ideal route into creative courses.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Photography is time consuming so you must be committed to finishing work in your own time. Your attendance at workshops and completion of homework will be expected regularly..

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	***
Numeracy	*
Communications	***
Creativity	*****
Practical	*****
Group Work	
<u>Teaching, Learning & Assessment</u>	
Portfolio	60%
Externally set task	40%

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MISS GREENSTREET

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EDUQAS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – ROUTE A (C120P2)



Full course details can be found at
https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies-gcse/#tab_overview

SUMMARY OF COURSE

Students will study the following three components:

1. An **in-depth** study of the beliefs and teachings of **Christianity**.
2. An **in-depth** study of the beliefs and teachings of **Hinduism**.
3. The following religious, philosophical and ethical themes:
 - **Issues of life & death**- the origins and value of the universe and human life, abortion, euthanasia.
 - **Issues of Relationships**– relationships, sexuality, contraception, gender equality, family in the 21st century, marriage, divorce.

A range of religious and non-religious responses to these issues will be explored. In both parts of the course, a wide variety of teaching and learning methods are used e.g. debates, discussions, visiting speakers, film and multimedia, trips, games, individual, pair and group work.

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Religious Education is a subject which is desirable in today's multi-cultural world and highly regarded by employers, especially in careers which involve an emphasis on working with people e.g. Police, Law, Media, Medicine, Education and Business. It helps you develop the skills of analysis and evaluation of different points of view, empathy and the ability to view an argument from every side and the talent to debate and critically argue a given topic. It has great value as an examination subject for a variety of careers and for entry to Higher Education.

Religious Education is an 'open' exploration that will help you to understand different views of life as well as helping you to develop your own understanding of important questions. It provides a strong foundation for A Level RE, Philosophy or any social studies subject.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You are expected to keep up-to-date with current affairs through newspapers, television, the internet and radio.

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	*****
Numeracy	*
Communications	****
Creativity	**
Practical	
Group Work	****

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Examinations (3)	100%
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR CURRIE

OCR TEXTILE DESIGN (J174)³



Full course details can be found at www.ocr.org.uk

Course Choice Guide

Literacy	***
Numeracy	*
Communications	***
Creativity	*****
Practical	*****
Group Work	
<u>Teaching, Learning & Assessment</u>	
Portfolio	60%
Externally set task	40%

SUMMARY OF COURSE

Textile design is defined here as the creation of designs and products for woven, knitted, stitched or printed fabrics and involves an understanding of fibres, yarns and fabrics. You must explore, acquire and develop skills, knowledge and understanding through the application of techniques and processes specific to your chosen area(s) of study in textile design. You must explore practical and relevant critical and contextual sources such as the work of historical and contemporary textile designers and the different purposes, intentions and functions of textile design as appropriate to their own work. You must demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding through area(s) of study relevant to textile design.

You are required to choose one or more area(s) of study:

- Constructed textiles
- Digital textiles
- Dyed fabrics
- Printed fabrics
- Fashion design
- Installed textiles
- Soft furnishings
- Stitched and/or embellished textiles

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO AT COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Completion of the GCSE in textiles will allow you to further your interest through either A level Textiles or through college based courses. There are also many career options within fashion and textiles ranging from designing and development of textiles products to careers within the fashion industry. The portfolio of work you create in the course is valued by employers and colleges and provides an ideal route into creative courses.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Textiles is time consuming so you must be committed to finishing work in your own time. Your attendance at workshops and completion of homework will be expected regularly.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MRS BALDRY

³ You cannot study this, 3D Art and Fine Art
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