

Year 9 Options 2018



**Central Lancaster
High School**

Introduction

The purpose of this booklet is to provide you and your parents with information which will help towards making decisions about which subjects you should study in Years 10 and 11.

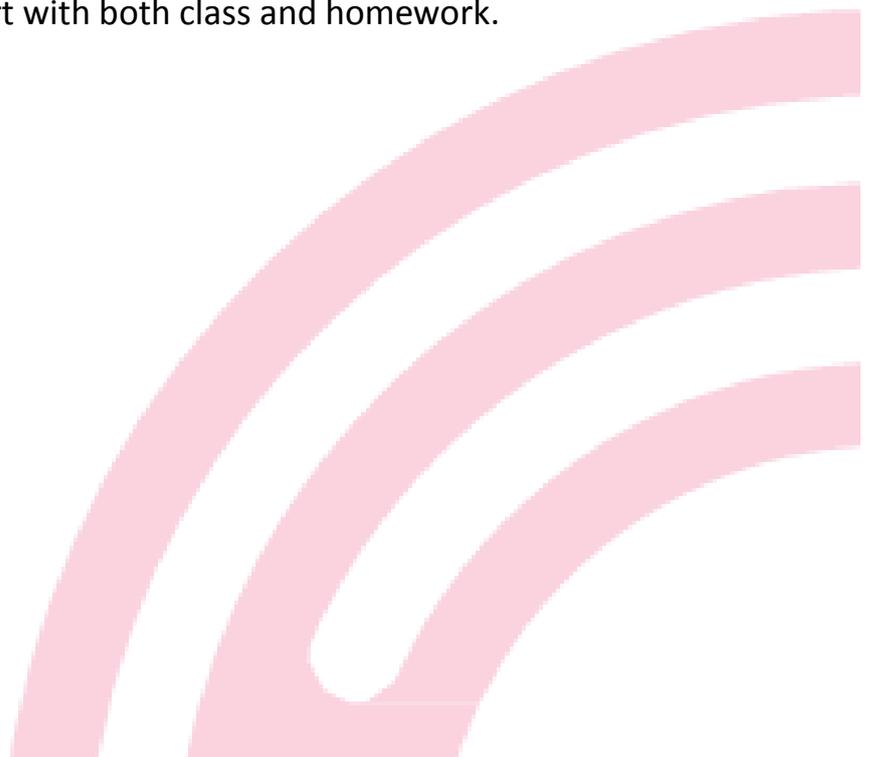
The end of Year 9 represents a landmark in your school life as it represents the point at which you embark on examination courses that will have a large influence on the rest of your life. Many of the subjects will be building on the skills and knowledge acquired during Years 7, 8 and 9, but there will be an opportunity to take up new subjects or specialise in areas where you have shown ability and interest.

This booklet is part of the information gathering process which will help you to make your decision about which options to take. Good choices will help to make the next two years both happy and worthwhile.

It is also important that you realise what you are taking on when starting on courses that lead to GCSE exams. You should think carefully before making your choices.

You will be given as much help as possible. There will be revision classes and mock exams as well as many opportunities to talk to teachers about your progress.

Most importantly, it will be down to you. Your success will be determined by your attendance, organisation and effort with both class and homework.



Key Stage 4 Rationale

English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a performance measure for schools, awarded when students secure a grade 5 or above at GCSE level across a core of five academic subjects: English, mathematics, history or geography, the sciences and a language.

The CLHS Options Model

At CLHS we believe that every pupil should be able to enter the EBacc, but we do not force pupils to do this. The 2017-18 options model reflects this shift in emphasis: it will enable students to enter the EBacc if they wish to, whilst still providing a degree of choice. Students will also be required to take two lessons of PE and one lesson of PSD per timetable cycle. These are known as core lessons.

There will be an opportunity for a few students to study a less academic curriculum which is more suited to their needs. This will be agreed after careful consideration and will not be an option available to the majority of students.



New GCSE Grades

From September 2016 a new grading system for nearly all GCSE subjects has replaced A*-G. Instead students will be awarded grades 9-1. See below for a comparison chart provided by Ofqual:

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
1	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

What are vocational qualifications?

BTEC qualifications are particular types of work-related qualifications, available in a wide range of subjects. You can take one if you are interested in learning more about a particular sector or industry. Many have been designed in collaboration with industry, so they can equip you with the skills and knowledge that employers are looking for. The qualifications offer a mix of theory and practice, and can also include an element of work experience.

Level 2 vocational qualifications are awarded at: Distinction*, Distinction, Merit, Pass

It is also possible to achieve a Level 1 Pass if the Level 2 standard has not been reached.

How do you make your decisions?

Before making your option choices you need to think about the following things:

- What do you enjoy studying? Two years is a long time to be studying something you don't really like.
- What are you good at? Speak to your class teacher and form tutor about your options.
- Have you decided on a career path? If so, check out the types of qualifications you may need for that career.

Don't choose a subject because your friends are doing it, or because you like the teacher (they may not be teaching you!).

What restrictions have CLHS placed on the options choices you can make?

There are some subjects which you **must** take next year., however as we believe in a balanced curriculum we have tried to give you as much choice as possible. Some students may be guided towards (or away from) option choices as we will use the extensive experience of our staff to help prepare you for your next steps as successfully as possible.

For this reason all students must take:

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- Triple science (see options sheet for further information)
- History or geography (more than one of these can be opted for)
- Core PE and PSD (non-examination subjects)



What support is there to help with these decisions?



At Central Lancaster High School we pride ourselves in the level of support and guidance we offer our students. If you have any questions about the options to choose you can ask for guidance from:

- ⇒ Your form tutor
- ⇒ Your Student Achievement Leader, Mr Sheard
- ⇒ Ms Cottam, our Careers Advisor
- ⇒ Any subject teacher or Head of Department
- ⇒ Any member of the Senior Leadership Team

We are all here to help you make the right decision!

There are also useful websites to help you make your choices:

<http://www.positive-steps.org.uk>

<http://icould.com>

<http://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

<http://www.prospects.ac.uk>

<http://www.creative-choices.co.uk>

<http://www.connexionslive.com>

<http://www.learninglinks.co.uk>

GCSE English Language & English Literature

All students will follow the Eduqas English Language and Eduqas English Literature courses over the two years. This means that students will receive **two** GCSE qualifications in English.

How will I be assessed?

GCSE English Language

2 examination papers

1 spoken language assessment

Paper 1 – 40% of GCSE

Exam is 1 hour 45 minutes

Two sections:

Reading: an unseen extract from a twentieth century prose text

Writing: descriptive and narrative writing – four titles offered in the exam.

Paper 2 – 60% of GCSE

Exam is 2 hours

Reading: Analysis of unseen non-fiction texts from 19th and 21st century

Writing: Persuasive, discursive and transactional writing – two tasks

Spoken Language

Candidates will be required to complete a formal individual presentation or speech and respond to a series of

questions. Achievement in Spoken Language will be reported as part of the qualification and is a compulsory part of the GCSE but it will not form part of the final mark or grade.

How will I be assessed?

GCSE English Literature

2 examination papers

Paper 1 – 40% of GCSE

Exam is 2 hours

Two sections:

Section A: Shakespeare extract and essay

Section B: Poetry from 1789 to present day. Comparison of poems.

Paper 2 – 60% of GCSE

Exam is 2 hours 30 minutes

Three sections:

Section A: Post 1914 Prose/Drama – essay

Section B: 19th Century Prose – essay

Section C: Unseen poetry from 20th/21st century - comparison

GCSE Maths

The Mathematics Department delivers an enriched curriculum that emphasises the development of reasoning and problem solving skills, as well as securing fluency. Our aim is to impart a love and passion for maths and to provide knowledge, understanding and skills to students that enable them to make competent life decisions, such as managing their own finances and to use a structured, systematic and logical approach in solving problems, as well as achieving academic success.

Mathematics is taught for 8 hours over the two week timetable for all year groups, with intervention support provided both in and out of maths teaching time as appropriate for identified students.

What does the course involve?

Students follow the Collins 5 year scheme of work. Their study is an appropriate blend of co-operative and independent learning such that they are able to work with others to articulate their reasoning and achieve tasks, whilst also having the resilience and resource to be able to organise their own thinking.

Throughout year 10 there remains some flexibility to change the tier of entry being followed by individual students between

the foundation and higher course. This is determined by success in examination style progress assessments.

All students will complete topics in these broad mathematical areas:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, Proportion and Rate of Change
- Geometry and Measure
- Probability
- Statistics

The three assessment strands are:

- Use and apply standard techniques.
- Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically.
- Solve problems within mathematics and other contexts.

How will I be assessed?

Each pupil will take 3 exams at the end of the course. There is one non-calculator paper and two calculator papers, each worth 80 marks. There are two tiers of examination entry which allow pupils to achieve the following grades:

Higher: GCSE Grades 4-9

Foundation: GCSE Grades 1-5

GCSE AQA Combined or Triple Science

Science provides the foundation for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. All students should learn essential aspects of knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. Students gain appreciation, through practical and theory lessons, of how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas that relate to the sciences and that are both inter-linked and of universal application.

There are two qualifications available:

- GCSE Combined Science (2 GCSEs) combining Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- GCSE Separate Science (3 GCSEs) where students study Biology, Chemistry and Physics as 3 separate science GCSEs.

GCSE AQA Combined Science

Combined science will develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics.

GCSE AQA Separate Science

This course builds on the work studied in the Combined Science specification. It is a perfect course for those students who want to go on and study 'A' level in 1 or more of the 3 sciences. The subject material delves deeper into scientific concepts to enable a greater understanding of the scientific world.

In Year 9 and 10 all students will study the Separate Science course. At the end of Year 10 students will be assessed and some students will move to the Combined Science course.

How will I be assessed?

Every student studying Combined Science or Separate Sciences will sit an equal number of exams – 6 in total at the end of year 11.

Students will complete a series of required practical activities which will then be assessed in the exam papers.

What qualification will I get?

Students studying Combined Science they will attain two GCSEs. Students studying Separate Science will attain three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

GCSE History

There are many good reasons for taking history:

- It will help you to understand the world you live in, the events of the past and will help to explain the problems and opportunities of the world today.
- The skills you develop are valuable – you deal with real people and you can work out why they did what they did.
- You will improve your ability to judge whether you are being told the truth, part of the truth or something completely untrue.
- You enjoy the subject and want to carry on studying history.

What does the course involve?

There are five sections to this course. Each contributes to your overall qualification, and will be assessed through three exam papers.

1. Thematic Study

A study of how ideas changed and developed about Medicine in Britain from c1250 until the present.

2. Historic Environment

A study of the context of the British sector of the Western Front in the First World

War, and how medicine developed during that conflict.

3. Period Study

A study of international relations, the beginnings of the Cold War and major clashes between the USA and the USSR.

4. British Depth Study

This will involve a study of the 16th century Britain, looking at the complexity of the Tudor era. You will study the political, military, social and religious aspects of the period.

5. Modern Depth Study

A study of Germany from the end of the First World War to the beginnings of the Second World War. This will include reasons for the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party.

How will I be assessed?

There will be three exams for the course, with each paper assessing different units that we have studied.

What skills do I need?

This is an essay based subject so you need to be prepared to develop your essay writing skills. In addition to this you will need to be able to form an argument and support this with evidence, looking at more than one point of view.

GCSE Geography

Throughout the GCSE Geography course students have the opportunity to consider a variety of geographical issues and, in doing so, become knowledgeable and critical geographers. There is a strong emphasis on the understanding of physical processes in the environment, as well as the management and mismanagement of resources by people. Students also have the opportunity during this course to develop their fieldwork skills.

Outline of the Course

The course is divided into three main themes:

Section 1: Living with the physical environment

In this section study will focus on the challenge of natural hazards including volcanoes, earthquakes and tropical storms. Weather and climate change is also a focus, followed by physical landscapes of the UK including coasts and rivers. Finally, the living world which includes ecosystems such as tropical rainforests and hot deserts or cold environments.

Section 2: Challenges in the human environment

This section covers population, urban growth, the changing economic world and

global development. Resource management including the global distribution of food, water and energy and in particular detail the demand for food resources globally are also a focus.

Section 3: Geographical applications and skills

This section involves the undertaking two different fieldwork tasks that will be assessed in the final examinations at the end of Year 11. Pre-released material is received 12 weeks prior to the examination which will be studied in lesson time.

Assessment

There are three examinations at the end of Year 11, one for each section.

The first examination focuses on physical geography. It is 90 minutes long, worth 88 marks and makes up 35% of the total GCSE grade.

The second paper focuses on human geography. It is also 90 minutes long and worth 88 marks, also making up 35% of the GCSE grade. T

he final paper focuses on geographical applications and skills. It is 75 minutes long. It is worth a total of 76 marks and makes up 30% of the total GCSE grade.

Physical Education - Core

All students have to take part in Core PE throughout years 10 and 11.

The course builds upon the studies in years 7, 8, 9 to enable students to continue:

Enjoy participating in PE and Sport

- Developing a wide range of skills and the ability to use tactics and strategies to perform successfully
- Developing your confidence to take part in different physical activities and learn about the value of healthy, active lifestyles
- Discovering what you like to do in sport and how and where to get involved in physical activity
- Help you make informed choices about lifelong physical activity
- Help you develop personally and socially through sport
- Work as individuals, in groups, and in teams, developing concepts of fairness and of personal and social responsibility
- Take on different roles and responsibilities, including leadership, coaching and officiating

What does the course involve?

The emphasis throughout this course is being placed on participation for enjoyment.

Students will have the opportunity to participate in many different activities including:

- Football
- Basketball
- Netball
- Fitness
- Trampolining
- Badminton
- Table Tennis
- Rounders
- Cricket
- Athletics

Personal and Social Development (PSD) - Core

Personal Development is the collective term given to the curricular provision to equip students with the knowledge, skills and confidence to face the demands of life and work in modern Britain.

Careers

Careers information, advice and guidance will be delivered throughout years 10 and 11.

At the core of Personal and Social Development are the three themes of the PSHE programme of study:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Relationships
- Living in the Wider World

Health and Wellbeing

- Drugs
- Fitness, Health and Wellbeing
- Self-esteem and Confidence
- Stress Management

Relationships

- Healthy Relationships
- Sexual Consent and the Law
- Sexuality
- Contraception

Living in the Wider World

- Religion and Relationships
- Religion and Human Rights
- Religion, Sport and Leisure
- Multicultural Britain
- Money Management

GCSE Religious Studies

The Religious Studies Option course followed in years 10 and 11 is the AQA Religious Studies A Specification: The Study of Religion and Thematic Studies. Students will study Christianity and Islam.

What does the course involve?

The course involves studying religious beliefs, practices and perspectives on a number of different issues.

It is split into two modules:

The Study of Religions

- ⇒ Christianity Key Beliefs
- ⇒ Christianity Key Practices
- ⇒ Buddhism Key Beliefs
- ⇒ Buddhism Key Beliefs

Thematic Studies

- ⇒ Religion and War
- ⇒ Religion, Relationships and Family
- ⇒ Religion, Human Rights and Social Justice
- ⇒ Religion, Crime and Punishment

How will I be assessed?

This course is assessed through 100% examination.

There will be two examinations which will last one hour and forty-five minutes each.

What skills do I need?

Despite coursework not contributing to your final grade, your exams will be essay based so you need to be prepared to develop your literacy and writing skills.

In addition to this you will need to develop an argument and support this with evidence, looking at more than one point of view and give examples to illustrate your point.

GCSE French

Languages are part of the cultural richness of our society and the world in which we live and work. Learning languages contributes to mutual understanding, a sense of global citizenship and personal fulfilment.

Pupils learn to appreciate different countries, cultures, communities and people. By making comparisons, they gain insight into their own culture and society.

The ability to understand and communicate in another language is a lifelong skill for education, employment and leisure in this country and throughout the world.

What does the course involve?

The language course builds upon work already begun in Key Stage 3. We will practise all 4 skills in order to prepare for the final exam at the end of year 11.

Students will learn how to:

Communicate effectively in the target language

Develop an awareness of the language in its cultural context.

Learn about French culture.

Students are entered for their GCSE examination at a Foundation or Higher Level.

GCSE topics are:

- Personal Information
- Media and Free time
- Food and healthy living
- Home and Local Area
- School, Education and Career Plans

How will I be assessed?

Students are assessed on their ability to communicate in spoken and written form and on their ability to understand and respond to spoken and written language.

The exam is a combination of:

Writing: 25%

Speaking: 25%

Listening: 25%

Reading: 25%

Exam Board: Eduqas

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting course, which encourages innovation and creativity. This new course has been designed to allow the development of practical cookery skills, alongside an awareness of the principles of good nutrition and how to apply these to different groups in society. This course will also allow you to gain a range of transferable skills such as time management, budgeting and team work; all of which are useful to further study and employment.

In selecting this GCSE, it is essential that you are able to bring in ingredients every week (support is available in purchasing these under certain circumstances)

What does the course involve?

You will have three lessons per week, one is a theory lesson, and two are practical lessons.

You will study five key topics over the two years:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance

How will I be assessed?

Written exam (50% of GCSE)

1 hour 45 minutes.

100 marks.

Multiple choice questions (20 marks).

Five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks).

Questions will cover the five key topics studied over the two years.

Task 1: Food investigation (20% of GCSE)

You will carry out an investigation on the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. You must write your findings up in report format (1,500 - 2,000 words).

Task 2: Food preparation assessment (30% of GCSE)

You will submit a coursework portfolio to show you understand how to plan, prepare, cook, present and nutritionally analyse a suitable three course meal. As part of the assessment, you must also prepare, cook and present your three course meal within a three hour time frame.

GCSE Art & Design

The course has been designed so that students develop their skills in a range of materials and processes, including working in 2D and 3D. Students will learn how to develop their own response to a theme using research into other artists and experimentation with a range of media.

They have access to a specialist art studio and staff with a range of experiences in art and design. Students are not required to have any specialist equipment of their own. However, for some projects it is expected that they will source appropriate materials.

It is expected that students spend at least one hour a week in the art studios either after school or at lunchtime.

How will I be assessed?

For the GCSE course students will need to submit course work based on 2 main themes. This is worth 60% of the final grade.

They are also required to sit a 10 hour controlled test in the Spring term or year 11. This is worth 40% of the final grade.

Assessment Objectives

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- Develop their ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources demonstrating analytical and cultural understanding
- Refine their ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes
- Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to their intentions in visual and/or other forms
- Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating analytical and critical understanding, realising intentions and where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.

GCSE Textiles

The course has been designed so that students develop their skills in a range of textiles techniques, including printing, embellishment, and basic dress-making. They learn how to use a sewing machine and other specialist equipment, but also need to be able to complete drawing and design work as part of their assessment.

They have access to a specialist art studio and staff with a range of experiences in textiles design.

It is expected students spend at least one hour a week in the art studios either after school or at lunchtime.

Students are not required to have any specialist equipment of their own. However, for some projects it is expected that they will source appropriate fabric and other materials for their design.

How will I be assessed?

For the GCSE course students will need to submit course work based on 2 main themes. This is worth 60% of the final grade.

They are also required to sit a 10 hour controlled test in the Spring term or year 11. This is worth 40% of the final grade.

Assessment Objectives

Students will be assessed on their ability to:

- Develop their ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources demonstrating analytical and cultural understanding
- Refine their ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes
- Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to their intentions in visual and/or other forms
- Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating analytical and critical understanding, realising intentions and where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.

BTEC First Award Acting

The BTEC Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts (Acting) is a practical, work related course. You will learn by completing performance related assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands.

The course will prepare you for employment and progression for further education.

It is suitable for all pupils with an interest and talent in the performing arts, and those who thrive on practical learning and course work.

The qualification is equivalent to one GCSE at grade 5-8.5.

What does the course involve?

The course is made up of three units:

- Individual Showcase.
- Preparation, Performance and Production.
- Acting Skills.

Taking part in live performances to an audience is an essential part of the course.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed by all the work created during the course, there is no examination. There is a written requirement in each unit to research characters, context of play, professional roles in the theatre as well as material for your Individual Showcase.

Two solo performances will be filmed and submitted to an external examiner in your second year on the course along with a written letter.

What qualification will I get?

You will receive a BTEC Level 2 First Award at either grade Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* which is equivalent to one GCSE grade level 5-8.5.

RSL Certificate in Dance

The RSL Level 2 Certificate in Dance is a practical, work related course. You will learn by completing professional performance assignments that are based on realistic professional dance workplace situations, activities and demands.

The course will prepare you for employment and further dance training.

It is suitable for all pupils with an interest and talent in the performing arts, and those who thrive on practical learning and course work.

What does the course involve?

The course is made up of two units:

- Ensemble Performance
- Dance Skills.

Taking part in live performances to an audience is an essential part of the course.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed by all the rehearsal and performance work created during the course, there is no examination. There is a written requirement for several units to research themes, music and professional dancers from the industry.

What qualification will I get?

You will receive an RSL Level 2 Certificate in Dance at either grade Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* which is equivalent to one GCSE grade level 5-8.5.

BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise

The BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Enterprise is designed to cover a wide range of business topics. You will learn how to set up and survive in business, how to pick the ideal location for your business and look at several different case studies to better understand why some businesses work and others fail. You will keep up to date with current issues in the news, such as the credit crunch, the administration of HMV, recession and VAT. You will see how these events unfolded and the impact on the individuals and communities involved. You will also study how the Internet has changed the way that many businesses operate. You will have a chance to plan and run a micro enterprise activity of your own. Enterprise is a very hands-on course.

What does the course involve?

You will study three units:

Unit 1: Exploring Enterprises

Unit 2: Planning for and Running an Enterprise

Unit 3: Promotion and Finance for Enterprise

Units 1 and 2 are internally assessed coursework units. You will be taught theory covering these topics and then create a coursework portfolio. Unit 3 is the external exam unit looking at how business make and manage their money.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through coursework. You will produce various assignments for each unit. Each assignment will be based on a real business scenario to help link the assignments to the real world. The course is assessed and graded by teachers. Unit 3 is assessed by a written exam. This is the only exam and you will be given plenty of opportunities to practise the exam before sitting it.

What qualification will I get?

You will receive a BTEC Level 2 Tech award in Enterprise at either grade Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*, which is equivalent to grades 4– 8.5 at GCSE.

For more information please talk to

Mr. Rubery in School or via e-mail :

tom.rubery@lancasterhigh.lancs.sch.uk

Certificate in Digital Applications

The Certificate in Digital Applications is a vocational course offering a range of different topics that are transferable to the world of work in Information and Communication Technology. The course is very hands on, giving you the chance to create your own products, and work with real computer hardware. The course has been developed to:

- equip young people with the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to design and make, effective digital products for others to use
- enable young people to use digital tools as a means of expression to inform, persuade and entertain
- foster young people's creativity and develop their independent learning skills
- challenge young people to reflect on what they produce and strive for excellence
- increase young people's awareness of their responsibilities in the digital world and their respect of other people's rights
- equip young people with professional, real-world skills in planning, project management and communication
- give young people the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to support future learning and exploit the creative digital industries.

What does the course involve?

The course is made up of two units over two academic years. Students taking this course will be able to choose from the following units:

Unit 1: Developing Web Products

Unit 2: Creative Multimedia

Unit 3: Artwork and Imaging

Unit 4: Game Making

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 is mandatory and will be externally assessed via controlled assessment.

The remaining unit is optional and is first internally assessed and standardised by your teacher. You will be given an opportunity to improve your work once you have submitted it. Units are graded A*, A, B, C only.

Each unit is certificated individually and full award certificates are issued automatically when you complete the prerequisite number of units.

What qualification will I get?

Edexcel Pearson Level 2 Certificate in Digital Applications

GCSE PE

GCSE PE is a combined practical and theoretical learning experience. The current ratio is 40% practical and 60% theory.

In selecting GCSE PE it is essential that you:

- are committed to PE and Sport
- always bring your kit
- have a good idea what is expected of you as there will be written requirements
- have an interest in Sport/PE outside of school, either playing, watching or a possible career
- have an interest in health and fitness

What does the course involve?

You will complete 4 sports. These are a mixture of team and individual sports and can also include sports that we might not offer but you participate in outside of school. You will also be taught in the classroom through a number of theory topics which include:

- Fitness and Body Systems
- Health and Performance
- Practical Performance
- Personal Exercise Programme

How will I be assessed?

You will sit a 1 hour and 45 minute exam at the end of the 2nd year of study. This is scored out of 90 marks and covers fitness and body systems. It is worth 36% of the total qualification. You will be studying for this exam throughout the 2 year course.

You will also sit a 1 hour and 15 minute exam at the end of the 2nd year of study. This is scored out of 70 marks and covers health and performance. It is worth 24% of the total qualification.

You will study and perform in 3 sports and receive a grade out of 35 for each one, this makes up 30% of your total grade.

You will also complete a Personal Exercise programme which is worth 10% of your total qualification.

Child Development and Care

This qualification provides the opportunity to gain a vocational qualification that gives a basic introduction to the sector. It has been designed to meet the needs of learners from the age of 14 years. It includes the knowledge and understanding of child development and well-being necessary for working with children in a variety of settings. It is aimed at a range of learners who wish to be introduced to childcare and development for children aged 0-5 years.

How is this course assessed?

This qualification consists of 3 units:

Two graded A* - D assessed by a graded Assessment Task; and an Assessment unit which is assessed via a Multiple Choice Exam Paper.

Learners must achieve three units:

Units 1 and 2.

- Units 1 and 2.
- Unit 3. Multiple Choice Question Paper.

What related qualifications can you progress to?

Learners can progress to the following qualifications:

- Level 2 Certificate and Diploma in Child Care and Education
- Level 2 Certificate Introducing Caring for Children and Young People
- Level 2 Award in Preparation for the Responsibilities of Parenting
- Level 2 Certificate for the Children and Young People's Workforce
- Level 3 Award, Certificate and Diploma in Child Care and Education
- Level 3 Diploma for the Children and Young People's Workforce
- Many other qualifications in the Care Sector at Level 2 and Level 3

Or, you may wish to progress to an apprenticeship where you can gain qualifications and work experience at the same time. For example, in a nursery, primary school or healthcare setting.

Design and Technology

GCSE Design and Technology is an exciting course, which encourages innovation and creativity. This new course has been designed to allow the development of practical skills using hand tools and machinery, alongside an awareness of materials, electronics, the design process and production. This course will also allow you to gain a range of transferable skills such as time management, budgeting and team work; all of which are useful to further study and employment.

What does the course involve?

You will have lessons which are theory based and workshop lessons where you will be assessed on your practical skills as well as health and safety.

You will study six key topics over the two years:

- new and emerging technologies
- energy generation and storage
- developments in new materials
- systems approach to designing
- mechanical devices
- materials and their working properties.

How will I be assessed?

Written exam (50% of GCSE)

2 hours (100 marks)

Section A – Core technical principles (20 marks)

A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding.

Section B – Specialist technical principles (30 marks)

Several short answer questions (2–5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of technical principles.

Section C – Designing and making principles (50 marks)

A mixture of short answer and extended response questions.

NEA (50% of GCSE)

30-35 hours (100 marks)

- Substantial design and make task
- Identifying and investigating design possibilities
- Producing a design brief and specification
- Generating design ideas
- Developing design ideas
- Realising design ideas
- Analysing & evaluating

BTEC First Award Music

The BTEC Level 2 First Award in Music is a practical, work related course. You will learn by completing performance related assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands.

The course will prepare you for employment and progression for further education.

It is suitable for all pupils with an interest and talent in Music, and those who thrive on practical learning and course work.

What does the course involve?

The course is made up of four units:

- The Music Industry (externally assessed exam)
- Managing a Music Product (internally assessed)
- Introducing Music Performance (internally assessed)
- Introducing Music Composition (internally assessed)

Taking part in live performances to an audience is an essential part of the course.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed by all the work created during the course and an examination at the end of the second year. There is a written requirement for all units to research roles, professionals and venues in the industry. You will be expected to play an instrument or sing to a high standard and perform as a soloist and as part of a group.

What qualification will I get?

You will receive a BTEC Level 2 First Award at grade Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* which is equivalent to one GCSE grade level 5-8.5.

BTEC Travel & Tourism

Introduction

BTEC Firsts in Travel and Tourism can help you take your first steps towards a career in retail travel, customer service, holiday representatives, airport employee and many more. You'll learn essential skills such as business awareness, customer service and understanding destinations in the UK and worldwide.

Choosing this option means you will explore some key areas within the sector including accommodation, tourism development and promotion, transport and visitor attractions.

What does the course involve?

Mandatory units:

Unit 1: 'The UK Travel and Tourism Sector'

Unit 2: 'UK Travel and Tourism Destinations'

Optional Units:

Students study two optional units from a choice of four. These units, listed below, allow students to learn more about specific aspects of the travel and tourism sector.

The four optional units are:

The Development of Travel and Tourism in the UK

International Travel and Tourism Destinations

Factors affecting Worldwide Travel and Tourism

The Travel and Tourism Customer Experience

How will I be assessed?

The Travel and Tourism course will be assessed on an evidence portfolio and a 1 hour exam.

Through studying this qualification, all students will gain:

- An understanding of UK travel and tourism and its importance
- A wider appreciation of the dynamic nature of industries within the travel and tourism sector
- A range of skills and personal attributes essential in working life

What qualification will I get?

You will achieve a BTEC Level 2 First Award in Travel and Tourism, those that do not achieve the Level 2 Award will be awarded a Level 1 Pass.

Practical Horticulture

Developing your horticultural skills, growing plants and vegetables, this is a practical course that will see you outside in our gardens or in the local poly tunnels at Claver Hill...who knows you may be able to sell your produce to our staff and the school kitchen!

Why could this be a great option for me?

You experience a range of programmes and through these will develop skills which will help you to be successful when you leave school; whether you decide to go for an apprenticeship or to further education, perhaps at College.

You will:

- Develop important employability skills
- Develop teamwork and communication skills
- Follow practical courses that involve learning outside of the classroom

How will I be assessed?

City and Guilds Level 2 Practical Horticulture is assessed through on going practical skills assessments.

Future progression from this option

These courses could help you select other practical routes for your future at Myerscough College or Lancaster and Morecambe College, or you could decide to aim for an apprenticeship with your strong employability skills.

Coupled with your other subjects you will have great opportunities in a wide range of areas.

What happens next?

Please complete your application on the option choices form. Please return the form to your Form Tutor or to Mr Sheard.

The last day to complete and hand in your option choices form is **Friday 26th January**. Please take time to consider all of the options. This is a DRY-RUN which is designed to give the school an overview of the interest in the different courses being offered. These subject blocks may alter slightly due to student demand for particular subjects. If changes need to be made we will conduct a final options process.

No news is good news. When the forms are collated, school will then start to process them and you will receive a letter towards the end of the Spring Term confirming your Year 10 options. Our aim is to give you the subject choices you want. Where possible we will try to ensure that every student receives his or her first choice. However, on rare occasions this may not be possible and you will be offered your reserve choice. If there are any issues with your choices, you will be contacted at the earliest opportunity.

