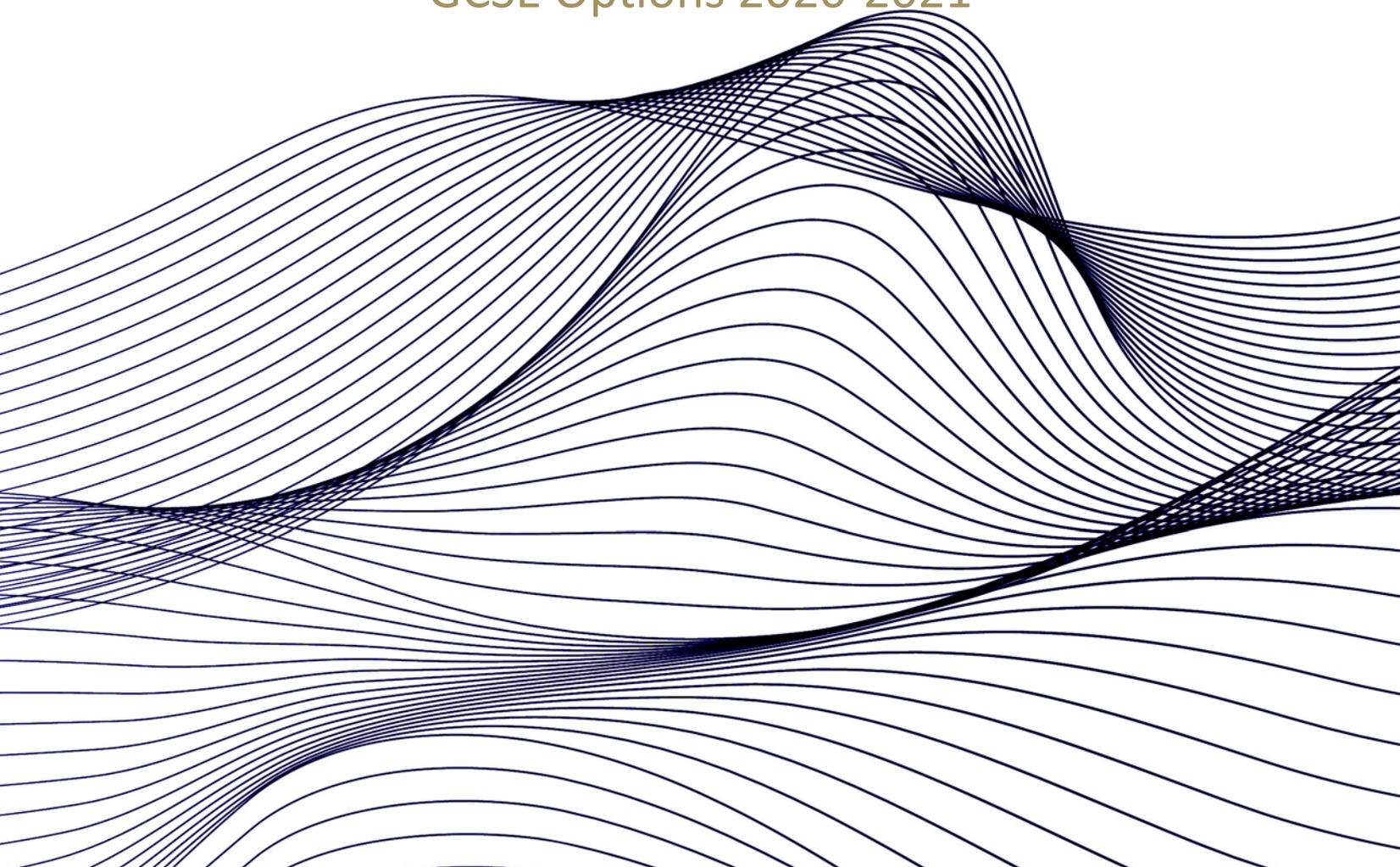
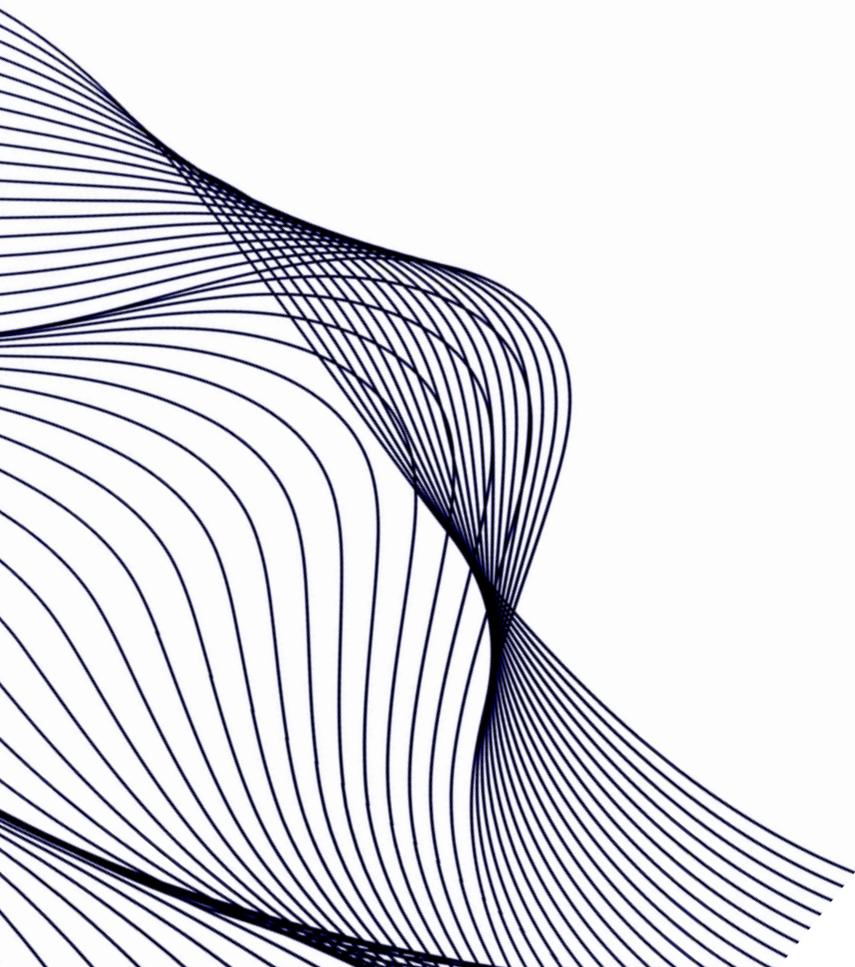


Hasmonean High School For Girls

GCSE Options 2020-2021





NEW BEGINNINGS

Choosing your GCSE subjects is one of the first opportunities you will be given to direct the course of your adult life. One or more of the courses you choose may be directly linked to a future career or begin a journey into a subject which lasts a lifetime.

At Hasmonean High School For Girls, we believe that you should be given the widest range of high quality courses from which to choose. As well as studying Jewish Studies, English, Mathematics and Science, you will choose from a broad range of academic, talent-based and career-based courses. In addition to these examined courses, you will have many enrichment subjects to choose from to educate you about a variety of areas that you have not yet encountered.

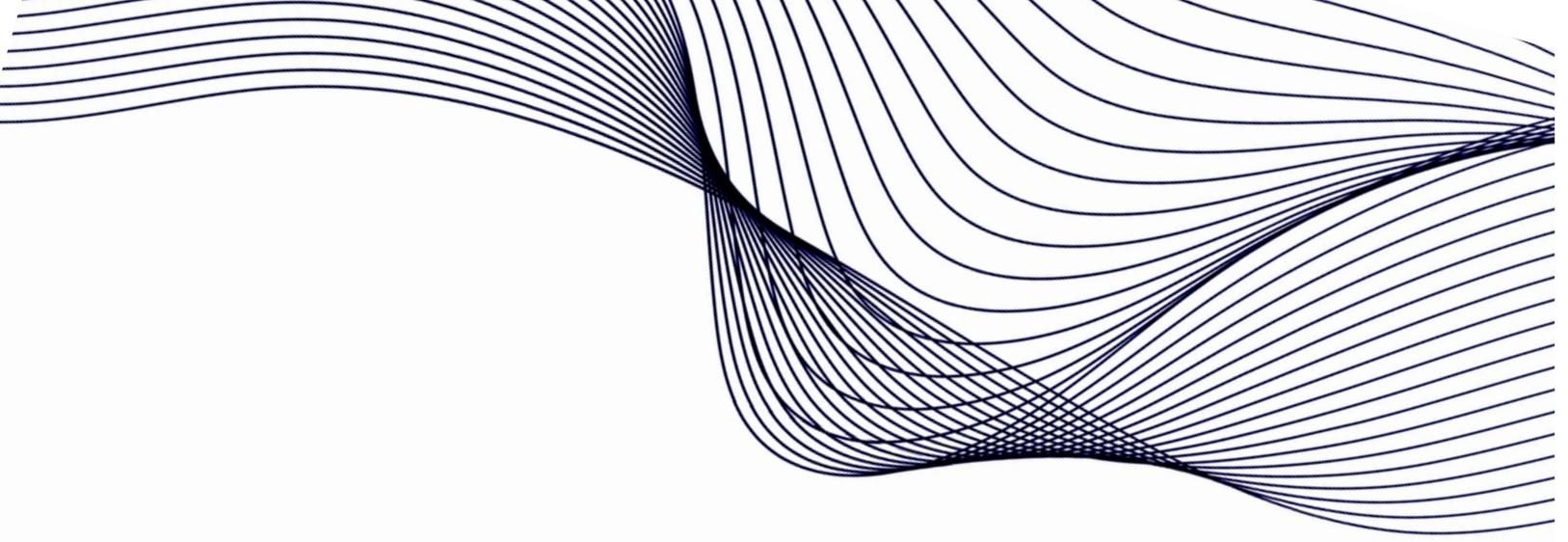
When choosing courses, ensure that the ones you opt for play to your strengths and also establish a broad foundation upon which you can further develop. After reading through this brochure, speak to your parents and teachers, as well as students in higher years, to ensure you know exactly what a course involves. A course may sound exciting, but is it appropriate for you? Don't wait until it starts to find out what it involves: do the research now.

Making choices about which GCSE and enrichment subjects you will take is a very important time in your life; it is also a very exciting one too. Take the decision-making process seriously. Prepare yourself to be truly inspired by the world of learning that awaits you.

Choose well!



Mrs K Brice
Headteacher





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CHOOSING YOUR OPTIONS

During the first two years at Hasmonean High School For Girls, alongside the comprehensive programme of Jewish Studies, each student is introduced to a range of subjects based on the National Curriculum. It is not possible to study all of these subjects to examination level during Years 9, 10 and 11, but all students should maintain a breadth in their studies. The purpose of this booklet is to assist students in making informed decisions, in consultation with their parents and teachers, about the GCSE and BTEC courses they will study.

Hasmonean High School achieved excellent exams results in both secular and Jewish Studies. This was confirmed in our most recent OFSTED (November 2012) and Pikuach inspections (November 2017) where inspectors reported that all aspects of the provision were 'Outstanding'.

Ofsted's report begins by noting that, "The senior leaders' vision of 'balancing the religious with the secular and having respect and desire for excellence in both' is the cornerstone of Hasmonean High School success. Students have a genuine hunger to excel in all areas of their life at Hasmonean." In the 2017 Pikuach report, Hasmonean High School was rated as outstanding in every area of Limudei Kodesh in the school.

EBACC

The EBacc is a group of 5 specific GCSEs that are recognised by employers and universities as giving a broad and balanced curriculum. It is worth keeping this in mind when making your choices. The government uses the EBacc as a way to measure school performance.

For many of our students it provides a good benchmark to help them receive a solid, broad education. The EBacc consists of a pass in:

- English Language and Literature GCSE
- Mathematics GCSE
- Two Science GCSEs
- Modern Foreign Language GCSE
- Geography or History GCSE

(A pass constitutes a grade 5 or above)

COMPULSORY CORE COURSES

- Jewish Studies - For suitable candidates this may include, GCSE Biblical Hebrew or iGCSE Religious Studies
- English Language and Literature - GCSE
- Mathematics - GCSE
- Science - GCSE
- PE - Non exam

THE DECISIONS YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE

The decisions you make in Year 8 are important because they control the next 3 years of your school life and can have implications towards what you go on to do after your GCSEs. In Year 8 you will have to decide which subjects you want to focus on over the next 3 years (Years 9, 10 and 11). Some subjects are compulsory but others are for you to decide – your options. Because you are studying fewer subjects, the ones you choose can be studied in greater depth.

WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?

The subjects you are best at are normally the ones that you are passionate about. Think about the subjects you enjoy studying and why. Do they bring out your creative side? Is it other languages or cultures that you love? Or maybe you're the sort of person who only feels safe whilst holding a calculator. Whatever your thing, choose subjects that inspire and motivate you.

ANYTHING YOU CAN DO...

Think about people you admire and why – is it Richard Branson for his business brain or maybe J K Rowling for her writing? Do you think you could give them a run for their money? Talk to people and find out about what they studied and why.

THE FUTURE

Although the choices you make are very important, don't worry too much about the future. Many people at your age are unsure about what they want to do with their lives, so just remember to choose a balanced set of subjects you enjoy.

TOTALLY CONFUSED?

If your brain is a muddle and you don't know where to start, why not speak to the people that will be teaching you. They will let you know what the lessons involve and you'll be able to see if it's for you. Remember though, think about what's best for you, not just what pleases your friends, family and teachers.

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

If the subjects on offer don't inspire you or you want to try something different, remember there is a lot you can do outside the classroom. You can meet new people, get experience and knowledge, you can socialise and, hopefully, find your calling. Why not volunteer, get active or look for work experience that fits around your spare time?

TOP TIPS

- Be unique; don't take a subject just because your friends have. Branch out, take the subjects you love and see it as an opportunity to make new friends.
- If you have no idea what careers interest you, choose a broad range of subjects.
- Some GCSE courses lean more towards coursework and others are much more exam-led. Which do you prefer?
- Be realistic in your choices. Choose the subjects that will give you the best chance of getting good grades.

JEWISH STUDIES

JUDAISM HALACHA CHUMASH

CONTACT:	MISS P. SIMONSSON
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WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Jewish Studies at Hasmonean High School For Girls offers a wide range of topics and texts all taught by an experienced and enthusiastic team of dedicated teachers. Every student is given the opportunity to learn Torah texts in depth and to be inspired by wonderful role models.

Jewish Studies lessons are not only interesting and thought provoking, they also help students improve their textual skills so they can become independent learners.

Students study a variety of different subjects including חומש, הלכה, סדרה, Biblical Hebrew and Jewish History.

- Year 9 and 10 students learn weekly insights into tefillah and the sedra in their davening assemblies.
- Year 9 Chumash studies focus on Sefer Bamidbar.
- A Holocaust education enrichment is offered for Year 9 students.
- Year 10 Chumash studies focus on developing skills in navigating a Mikraos Gedolos, with specific focus on selections from Bamidbar and Devarim.

Jewish Studies permeates school life through Tefilla, Tzedakah activities, Friday enrichment, 'lunch and learn', and a host of other fantastic informal education activities for all year groups.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Students will be assessed in non-GCSE classes by regular tests and an end-of-year examination.

BIBLICAL HEBREW

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	EDEXCEL/1BHO
CONTACT:	MS M. GOLDBLATT

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

This course aims to inspire and challenge students by engaging them in the process of enquiry into Biblical Hebrew. You will study a range of Biblical texts to discover aspects of the language and develop an understanding of its structure.

Throughout the course, students will acquire a knowledge and understanding of the literary, contextual and grammatical features of the two set texts studied.

Biblical Hebrew will be offered as an alternative to the IGCSE RS.

The set texts are:

- Set text 1: Gideon and Abimelech – Judges 7, 8, 9
- Set text 2: The reign of Solomon – I Kings 2, 3, 5

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are two exam papers.

Paper 1: Language 50%

2 hours

Students will need to:

- Answer comprehension questions based on unseen passages of Biblical Hebrew
- Translate unseen passages of Biblical Hebrew into English
- Choose between answering grammar questions or translating sentences from English into Biblical Hebrew

Paper 2: Literature 50%

2 hours

Students will need to:

- Answer comprehension and grammar questions about the set texts
- Translate passages from the set texts into English
- Evaluate the use of language in passages from the set texts
- Write a short essay comparing themes in the two set texts

RELIGIOUS STUDIES IGCSE

LEVEL OFFERED:	iGCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	(4RS1)/EDEXCEL PEARSON
CONTACT:	RABBI Y BENNETT

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The course aims to provide a broad understanding of the key values and beliefs of Judaism. In addition students will learn how modern British society responds to the topics and issues covered in the course.

Paper 1 – Beliefs and Values focuses on beliefs and values of Judaism including the universe and place of human beings, life and death, peace and conflict and rights, equality and social justice.

Paper 2 – The Religious Community paper contains an exploration of the origins of Judaism and their impact on the community, celebrations and pilgrimage and worship and practice.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

All examinations take place at the end of Year 11, there is no coursework or exams until the end of the course.

There are two exam papers.

Paper 1: Beliefs and Values 62.5%
1 hour 45 minutes

Students will need to:

Answer four, four part questions each worth 25 marks. Each question has a 3 and 4 mark short answer question, a 6 mark explanation question and a 12 mark longer evaluation question designed to assess knowledge and understanding.

Paper 2: The Religious Community
1 hour 30 minutes.

Students will need to:

Answer three, three part questions, each questions is worth 20 marks. Each question has a 4 mark short answer question, 6 mark explanation question and a 10 mark knowledge and understanding question.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & ENGLISH LITERATURE

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	AQA ENGLISH LANGUAGE: 8700 AQA ENGLISH LITERATURE: 8702
CONTACT:	MRS J. ELLERMAN/MRS P. JACOBSON

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The English Language GCSE will encourage students to read a range of challenging literary and non-fiction texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st century.

Students will learn to write for different purposes and audiences. There will be a focus on clarity and accuracy in the writing of standard English, including vocabulary, spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Students will develop their speaking and listening skills, in particular your confidence in formal speaking.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

The English Literature GCSE will encourage you to read a range of classic and post-1914 literature, including Shakespeare, drama, a novel and a selection of poetry.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

There will be examinations at the end of the course. Reading and writing will be equally weighted in the assessment.

A Spoken Language endorsement, based on a formal presentation, will be listed separately to the GCSE.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

There will be examinations at the end of the course. Students will be assessed in their reading of 'unseen' texts as well as 'set' texts. The quality of your writing when responding to texts will also be assessed.



MATHEMATICS

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	EDEXCEL
CONTACT:	MR C. FRANCOS

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The areas of study are:

- Numbers and Proportionality
- Algebra
- Geometry, Shape and Space
- Statistics and Probability

The scheme of work is topic based, with the intention that all groups work on the same chapters concurrently. This will enable ease of movement between groups.

Most students at Hasmonean High School For Girls are entered for the Higher award. Students in the lowest set will take the Foundation tier (alongside any students in the set above who are having particular difficulties in Mathematics.)

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

This examination has two tiers of entry – Higher (9 to 4) and Foundation (5 to 1). Both tiers are examined by two calculator and one non-calculator paper at the end of Year 11.

There is no coursework for this GCSE.



SCIENCE

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE DOUBLE SCIENCE, BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	AQA
CONTACT:	MRS M. LANGDON

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Hasmonean High School For Girls offers varied pathways in which Science can be studied:
GCSE Double Science (Sets 2 to 4 - 2 GCSEs)
GCSE Biology, Chemistry, Physics (Set 1) - Triple Science (3 GCSEs).

All levels of the science GCSE will be taught by more than one specialist teacher. Each students' individual pathway will be chosen as the course progresses. In Year 9, Sets 1-4 all follow the same pathway. Most students follow the higher tier. However, students in Set 4 and those having difficulties in Set 3 will sit the foundation tier.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

GCSE - All external assessments will be taken at the end of Year 11. Students will also be assessed internally throughout the course. The GCSE will be graded 9-1.



BUSINESS STUDIES

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	EDEXCEL BUSINESS 1BSO
CONTACT:	MR M. RIVERS-DAVIS

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The course will enable students to understand the challenges facing small businesses in the UK modern trading environments. They will be taught how entrepreneurs work to set up a new business enterprises. It will enable students to appreciate the stresses of being in business, operating in a competitive environment, including the financial, marketing and manufacturing challenges in building a business's trading operation in the 'real world'. The course will provide a basis for the concepts that can be investigated in the popular Economics A Level courses taught in the Sixth Form.

The course covers the following topics over two themes (see below):

- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Understanding external influences on business
- Making marketing, financial and operational decisions
- Growing the business

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The course is assessed over two external written examination papers. All examinations will take place in the summer of the final year of study in Year 11. The two external exams comprise of the following:

Theme 1 (taught in Year 9): Investigating small business (paper code 1BS0/01). This paper has 90 marks available and the exam last 1 hour and 30 minutes. It is worth 50% of the overall GCSE qualification mark.

Theme 2 (taught in Year 10): Building a business (paper code 1BS0/02). This paper has 90 marks available and the exam last 1 hour and 30 minutes. It is worth 50% of the overall GCSE qualification mark. Yr 11 will involve exam technique, revision and consolidating topics from the two themes.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

Students should have an interest in current business activities as they exist in the news or business environment. They will be required to answer questions on small business case study sources with an ability to analyse and evaluate, as well cope with multiple-choice style questions and simple business financial calculations.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	AQA 8520
CONTACT:	MR R. KESSLER

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Computer technology continues to advance rapidly and the way that technology is consumed has also been changing at a fast pace over recent years. The growth in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for employers and employees.

A computational thinking exam provides an academically challenging programme. Students will be building on their knowledge of the Python programming language, which they started in Year 8. The skills developed here will help students who would like to progress on to an A Level in Computer Science, as well as being able to apply them to other subject areas. Critical thinking and problem solving are key components of computational thinking and much in demand elsewhere.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

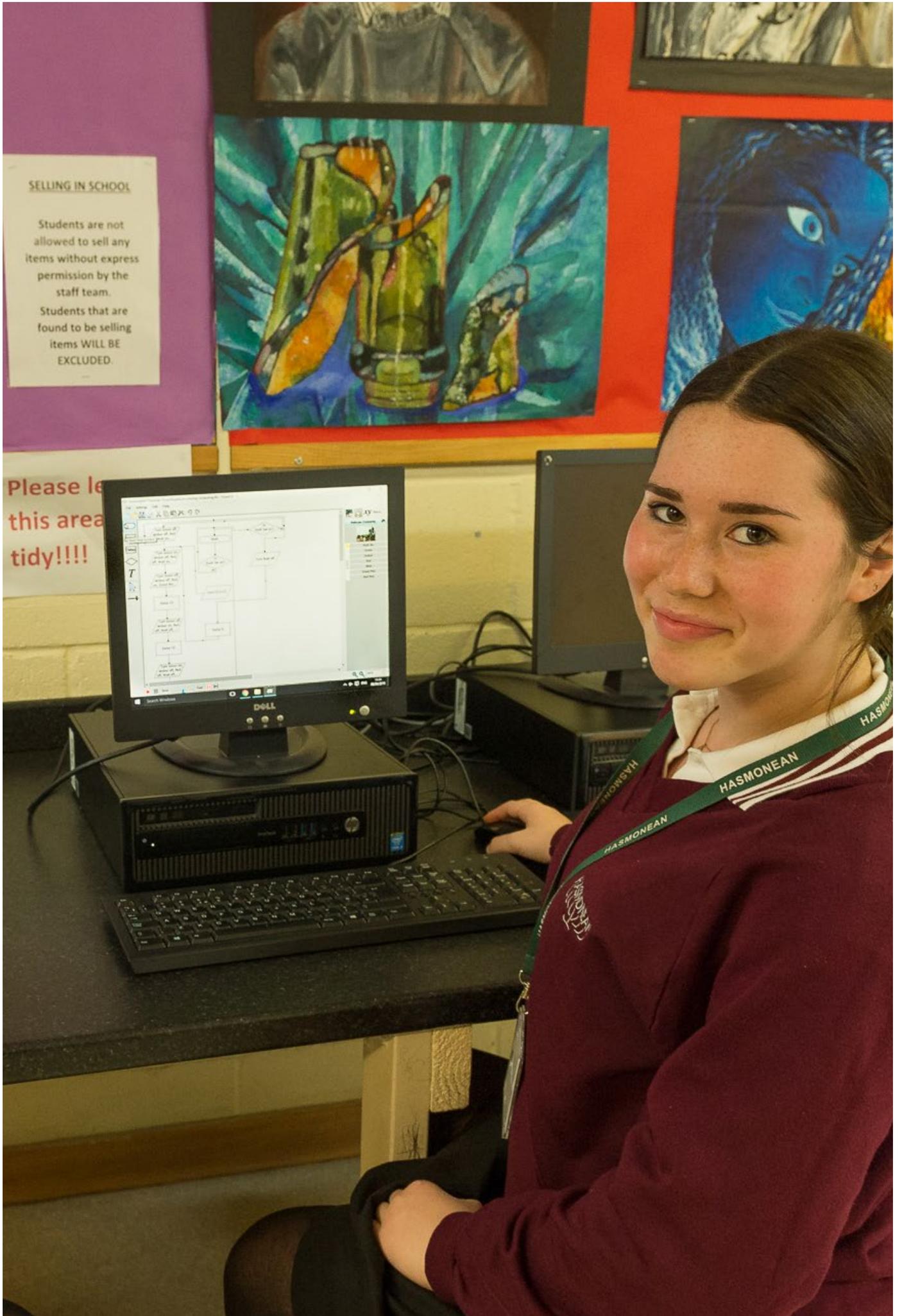
Students studying this subject will learn how to decompose a problem, filter all but the essential aspects and use logical thinking to arrive at a solution. They will learn about both the theoretical and practical aspects. In the theory portion, they will learn about mathematical operators, Boolean, variable declaration, iterations and subroutines amongst other aspects. In programming they will learn how to create subroutines (functions and procedures). They will also be able to write and understand algorithms amongst a wide range of other concepts.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Paper 1 - 1 hour and 30 minutes
Computational thinking, problem solving, code tracing and applied computing as well as theoretical knowledge of computer science. 50% of total GCSE.

Paper 2 - 1 hour and 30 minutes
Data representation, computer systems, computer networks, cyber security and ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society.
50% of total GCSE

This course is very demanding but also extremely fulfilling. It can also constitute one of the sciences in an EBACC qualification. Due to the level of complexity involved, we would require any applicants for the course to be in either set 1 or 2 for both Mathematics and English, to ensure the best chance of a successful outcome.



DIGITAL CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION

LEVEL OFFERED:	BTEC TECH AWARD LEVEL 1/2 IN CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	EDEXCEL
CONTACT:	MS R. GAON

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Learners will acquire technical knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by applying the learned knowledge and processes related to investigating, exploring and creating media products as part of their Key Stage 4 learning. The qualification recognises the value of learning skills, knowledge and vocational attributes to complement GCSEs. The qualification will broaden the learners experience and understanding of the varied progression options available to them.

The Award gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on four areas of equal importance, which cover the:

- Development of key skills that prove your aptitude in creative media production such as investigating and developing ideas through pre-production, production and post-production of media products
- Process that underpins effective ways of working in creative media production, such as responding to briefs and feedback, planning and generating ideas
- Attitudes that are considered most important in creative media production, including personal management and communication
- Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as production processes and techniques

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Students are required to complete and achieve all three components in the qualification.

Component 1 Exploring Media Products 36 credits - Internal

Component 2 Developing Digital Media Production Skills 36 credits - Internal

Component 3 Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief 48 credits - External Synoptic
40% exam based

FINE ART

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD: FA01/02 EDEXCEL
CONTACT:	MRS F. LOUGHREY

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Fine Art students you will study the creative process of art, craft and design in order to develop as effective and independent students, and become critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds. Students will learn to develop creative, imaginative and intuitive capabilities when exploring and making images, artefacts and products. Students of Fine Art will become confident in taking risks and learn from experience when exploring and experimenting with ideas, processes, media, materials and techniques. Students will develop critical understanding through investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills. Students will learn to develop and refine ideas and proposals, personal outcomes or solutions with increasing independence. Through their studies, students will acquire and develop technical skills in a broad range of media, materials, techniques, processes and technologies with purpose and intent. They will expand their knowledge and understanding of art, craft and design in historical and contemporary contexts, societies and cultures. Finally, students will develop an awareness of the different roles and individual work practices evident in the production of art, craft and design in the creative and cultural industries.

More specifically, Fine Art is work that is developed primarily to communicate visually appealing ideas and meanings rather than to serve a practical or commercial function.

Materials used: Wide range of drawing media, acrylic and watercolour paints, collage, printing, oil pastel, chalk pastel and mixed media.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Students will be assessed on 2 units of coursework.

UNIT 1: Personal study which is worth 60% of your overall mark

UNIT 2: Externally set assignment which is worth 40% of your overall mark

There is no written exam. Students will have a period of sustained working under controlled conditions as part of Unit 2. Students will work for a total of 10 hours over two days on a final piece that has been planned and practised. We call this the art exam.

For both Unit 1 and 2, students will be assessed on the following objectives:

1. Develop (18 marks)
2. Refine (18 marks)
3. Record (18 marks)
4. Present (18 marks)



FOOD PREPARATION NUTRITION

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	AQA 8585
CONTACT:	MRS L. STAFFORD

This GCSE teaches students to understand the scientific principles behind food and nutrition. Students will use a number of practical cooking techniques to learn how to prepare and cook food. The qualification will be demanding and give students in-depth knowledge of nutrition, food choice, where food comes from and practical cooking, as well as the ability to apply this knowledge when cooking. It will prepare them for further study, such as Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition, BTEC Hospitality or apprenticeships in the catering or food industries.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Food preparation: planning, preparing and cooking using a variety of food commodities, cooking techniques and equipment; exploring a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international), to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.
- Nutrition: exploring the functions and sources of nutrients as well as the nutritional content of food and drinks; diet and health.
- Food: understanding the economic, environmental, ethical, socio-cultural influences on food availability and production processes, and studying food provenance (where our food comes from).

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

50% Non Exam Assessment and 50% Written Exam

The Non Exam assessment will be comprised of two separate projects:

Task 1: Food Investigation (worth 15% of the GCSE)

Task 2: Food Preparation (35% of the GCSE, including a 3 hour practical exam)



FUNCTIONAL MATHS AND ENGLISH

LEVEL OFFERED:	ENTRY LEVEL/LEVEL 1
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	EDEXCEL
CONTACT:	MS O. GIANNOPOULOUS

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Functional skills in Maths will give students the practical skills they need to deal with maths in everyday life e.g. budgeting and using timetables to plan journeys.

Functional skills in English will teach students the essential skills to give them confidence to be able to contribute to discussions, prepare and give presentations, and write formal and informal letters and emails.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Entry level is assessed by papers that are completed and marked in school and then externally moderated

Level 1 – Exam completed and marked externally – English has a speaking and listening aspect which is recorded and sent for external moderation

GEOGRAPHY

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	EDEXCEL B
CONTACT:	MRS A. SHIRAZI

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Geography examines patterns and features of our world, current affairs and the issues we face. Geography helps us to plan for a sustainable future.

The course includes topics such as:

- Changing populations and work structure in the UK
- Living sustainably in cities
- Managing food, water and energy into the future
- Poverty and development
- Natural hazards including tectonic and weather hazards
- The formation of river and coastal landscapes
- Biodiversity and ecosystems
- Coping with climate change

Students will complete practical fieldwork and learn to use ICT to produce graphs, maps and reports. Geography links well with the Science GCSE as well as Mathematics, History, Business Studies and ICT.

In Year 9 we will be providing a skills based programme that explores a range of topical geographical issues around the world. This provides a foundation for the GCSE by giving the students good place knowledge, map skills, and other required skills while building up an understanding of world issues.

We start teaching the GCSE syllabus during the summer term of Year 9.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Assessment is entirely by examination.

Unit 1: Global Geographical Issues (37.5%)

Unit 2: UK Geographical Issues and field work skills (37.5%)

Unit 3: People and environmental issues includes a decision making exercise that assesses geographical skills (25%)

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

LEVEL OFFERED:	BTEC LEVEL 1/2 TECH AWARD
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	EDEXCEL
CONTACT:	MRS R. WILKINS-CARLIER

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

This is a course which will appeal to students interested in pursuing a career that involves caring for and interacting with people of all ages and backgrounds in society. This course can lead to employment in social work, child care and nursing sectors. The course is comprised of 4 units of work over three years which cover a variety of interesting and challenging topics. These include how to communicate with a diverse group of people, performing role plays, learning about individuals' needs, varieties of lifestyle, how education and upbringing affects life choices, and the influence of popular culture.

There are two weeks of work experience incorporated in the subject which allow students to gain valuable insight into various aspects of health and social care and also participate in learning experiences more specific to their area of interest, e.g. working with children or the disabled. Some more challenging aspects of the course content include the study of the human body's systems and organs, diet and human development.

All 3 Components are compulsory.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Assessed by 3 components, 2 are assignments and 1 is an examined marked.
You must achieve a minimum of a Pass in each unit.

Component 1: Human Lifespan Development - 36 credits - Internal

Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values - 36 credits Internal

Component 3: Health and Wellbeing - 48 Credits External Synoptic 40% exam based

HISTORY

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	J410FB
CONTACT:	MRS L. YAROS

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The AQA GCSE History syllabus looks at some of the major international issues of the 20th Century, as well as how Britain has developed over the last 1000 years; from Island to Nation State. The emphasis is on both historical knowledge and on the skills required for historical research. Students develop an understanding of the nature of cause and effect, continuity and change, similarity and difference, and find out how to use and understand historical evidence as part of their studies.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Paper 1: This consists of two sections. Students will focus on questions based on the USA in 20th Century and the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Assessment for this unit requires students to apply their knowledge by explaining and evaluating key developments and changes over time as well as comparing different interpretations of these changes (50% of the marks).

Paper 2: A paper examining the changes in Britain over the last 1000 years. Students will be assessed on their depth of knowledge of certain issues within this period, and look at the breadth of the whole period. Students will be developing skills in usage of knowledge, causation and significance (25% of the marks).

Paper 3: A paper examining in depth the Elizabethan era. In addition, students will be studying a place in the historical environment allocated by the exam board (25% of the marks).

In Year 9 students will spend half of the year studying topics that provide context for the GCSE. This also provides a platform of skills which enhances the students' learning in Years 10 and 11.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE FRENCH, SPANISH, MODERN HEBREW
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	AQA
CONTACT:	MME S.BOOOTH

Languages are not merely a passport to an EBacc they are your window to the world!

Languages are highly valued at university and in the work place. British business is in need of more people who can speak foreign languages, with 3 in 4 British people saying they cannot hold a conversation in the top 10 languages. Take the first step to becoming a sought after asset or maybe just expand your possibilities for travel.

Need more reasons to choose a language GCSE?

1. English is not enough. Not everyone speaks, or wants to speak English.
2. A language will always be useful, no matter what you do.
3. In class, you will study a wide range of topics all about different people and cultures, not just how to speak.
4. You can read books, watch films and listen to songs in their native language – and understand them too.
5. Languages mean business - being able to speak a language will make you really stand out.
6. They're good for you. Speaking more than one language increases your brain capacity and improves your memory.
7. It's really impressive to be able to speak a foreign language. It's a real

- achievement that your friends will envy and universities and employers will love.
8. You can understand and talk to lots more people when you go abroad.
 9. Using a language at work could raise your salary from 8-20%.
 10. Learning languages really improves your communication skills.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The course is structured around three themes and aims to teach students about subjects relevant to their current experience, as well as broaden their knowledge about the culture and traditions of the countries where the target language is spoken. Students will study the following three themes: Identity and culture; Local, national and global areas of interest; and Current and future study and employment.

The GCSE will teach students to write and speak a language spontaneously and for a particular purpose. The reading and listening comprehension units will enable students to deal with authentic materials and cope with taught language in a range of contexts. The Modern Foreign Language GCSE is designed and taught at Hasmonean High School for Girls to foster lifelong language students.

MODERN HEBREW - CODE: MH 8678

Why choose Modern Hebrew for GCSE? Simple. This is the closest students can get to actually being in Israel without stepping on an aeroplane! Moreover, students will be updated with new Israeli slang, music and films, get advice on where to go and what to do in the Holy Land and much, much more. And most importantly: knowledge of Modern Hebrew is not only an academic study, it will be a very useful skill for students when visiting, staying or living in Israel in present and future.

SPANISH - CODE: AQA 8698

Students will learn about the culture, festivals, traditions and communities in countries all around the world where Spanish is spoken. The course will cover topics as diverse as new technology, holidays, future plans, music and sports. Join the fastest growing language and although it might not be perceived as a language of business, with 405 million native speakers, Spanish is the second most commonly spoken language after Mandarin. Open up travel, friendships and business with Spain, South America and even parts of North America.

GCSE Spanish will give students the foundation they need to take their linguistic skills further. The opportunities to continue after with A Levels or as an additional course at university, students can make learning Spanish a life-long adventure.

FRENCH - CODE: 8658

Knowing how to converse in French will open up opportunities not available to monolingual English speakers. There are numerous benefits in being able to converse in a foreign language; it shows you have an analytical and disciplined mind, and gives students the chance to discover different cultures, people and customs. You are able to gain a far deeper understanding of them than is ever possible without knowledge of the language. Travelling and cultural pursuits are made more

rewarding and so much more fulfilling than if you speak only English. Most of all, being able to communicate on any level with somebody from a different culture in his or her language is invaluable. Languages are also very well-regarded in the workplace in any field and not limited to teaching and interpreting.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Grading is 9-1 and there is the option of taking either Foundation or Higher. The Foundation paper will enable you to gain a maximum grade of 5. All four papers are equally weighted and cover all four Language skills.

Paper 1: Listening paper

Paper 2: Reading paper

Paper 3: Speaking paper

Paper 4: Writing paper

music

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	AQA 8271
CONTACT:	MRS C. ALGRANATI

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Classical Music from 1750 - 1910
- Popular Music, including Broadway Musicals, Film Music and Gaming Music
- Traditional Music including Blues, Fusion and Folk Music
- 20th Century Classical Music.

Acceptance to Music GCSE is dependent on:

1. A minimum standard of Grade 2 on an instrument at the start of the course;
2. Successful completion of an aural test and interview with Mrs Algranati.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The music course is made up of three compulsory units:

- Performing 30% (controlled assessment)
- Composing 30% (partly controlled assessment)
- Listening and Appraising 40%

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE/BTEC – to be confirmed depending on cohort
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	EDEXCEL
CONTACT:	MR M. TUTTY

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Students will:

- Develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of applied anatomy and physiology; movement analysis and physical training. Students can use this knowledge to analyse and evaluate performance and devise informed strategies for improving/optimising their own practical performance.
- Develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the contribution that physical activity and sport make to health, fitness, and well-being. Students will learn how these can impact on their own performance, including the psychology of sport and socio-cultural influences.
- Perform effectively in different physical activities by developing skills as well as techniques and selecting and using tactics and strategies.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of data analysis in relation to key areas of physical activity and sport.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Unit 1 – Examination is externally assessed through two written examination papers, of 1h 45 minutes and 1h 15 minutes in duration. This will contribute 60% of the total marks.

Unit 2 – Non-exam assessment, 40% is assessed in two sections.

Section 1 – Three practical performances in the role of player/performer. Students can achieve 30% of the marks from the three performances.

Section 2 – Analysis of performance in one of the chosen activities. This will be worth 10% of the marks and should include planning, performing and evaluating a training programme.



TEXTILES

LEVEL OFFERED:	GCSE
SUBJECT CODE/EXAM BOARD:	AQA 8204
CONTACT:	MRS C. MACNEILL

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

GCSE Art & Design: Textiles Design involves the creation of designs and products for woven, knitted, stitched or printed fabrics and an understanding of fibres, yarns and fabrics. Textiles gives students the opportunity to experiment in a range of media in order to explore their strengths and discover new ones. Students will then develop these skills, using them to explore ideas relating to a theme of their choice. Researching designers that inspire them and learning from their methods is an important part of the course. Students will learn to analyse their work and understand art in the wider context of history.

- Actively engage in the creative process of art, craft and design in order to develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds
- Develop creative, imaginative and intuitive capabilities when exploring and making images, artefacts and products
- Become confident in taking risks and learn from experience when exploring and experimenting with ideas, processes, media, materials and techniques
- Develop critical understanding through investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills
- Develop and refine ideas and proposals, personal outcomes or solutions with increasing independence
- Acquire and develop technical skills through working with a broad range of media, materials, techniques, processes and technologies with purpose and intent
- Develop knowledge and understanding of art, craft and design in historical and contemporary contexts, societies and cultures
- Develop an awareness of the different roles and individual work practices evident in the production of art, craft and design in the creative and cultural industries

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNIT 1: Personal study (course work) = 60%

UNIT 2: Externally set assignment (exam) = 40%

You will be assessed using assessment objectives:

- Develop
- Refine
- Record
- Present

ENRICHMENT OPTIONS

Enrichment is offered in Year 9 for two lessons a week on a two week rotation. The enrichment provision is currently under review and a new enrichment programme is being constructed. More details will follow later on in the year.

Policy for Dropping or Changing GCSE Subjects

With the exception of those beginning Year 9 on a reduced curriculum, all students will study the following subjects:

- English Literature
- English Language
- Mathematics
- Double or Triple Science
- BH or IGCSE RS
- 3 Options

This is a minimum of 9 GCSEs and a maximum of 10.

CHANGING OPTION SUBJECTS

Students will be able to change option subjects up until the Summer term of Year 9. Students can only change into a course if the Subject Leader agrees that it is feasible for the student to catch up on the work missed. Requests should be made to the Year Leader who will then process the request and notify their parents of the decision. Students who change course must catch up the work within the timeframe set by the Subject Leader.

DROPPING OPTION SUBJECTS

Students will not be allowed to drop option subjects in Year 9-11 unless they have an ongoing medical issue that has been documented and is known to the school. In this scenario, permission should be requested via the Year Leader who will pass on the request to the Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral). The request will be considered and the parents will be notified of the decision.

Students switching to a BTEC subject at the end of Year 9 must be aware that, due to the coursework nature of the subject, they will be expected to work independently on completing assignments, with guidance being available during the latter part of Year 11. This may also affect the student's ability to go on study leave in Year 11 at the same time as the rest of the cohort.

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Tel: 020 8203 1411

