"Success for all through hard work and harmony"
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HOW THE PATHWAYS PROCESS WORKS

During the first three years at Hamstead Hall Academy all students follow the same wide range of courses. In Years 10 & 11 subjects are studied in far greater detail and therefore, there would simply not be enough time to take all the courses available. Consequently, your child will have to make some important choices guided by us.

All students will, for over half their timetable, follow compulsory subjects. These include: Mathematics, English, Science, Physical Education, Personal Social and Health Education and a course in Religious Education and Citizenship.

Each student, under guidance, will also be given the opportunity to follow an Individual Learning Pathway. The chosen pathway will involve a range of subjects giving the students a broader learning experience and ultimately greater individual success at the end of Key Stage 4.

**English Baccalaureate Pathway**

**(Compulsory Pathway for Set 1 and Set 2 French and Spanish students and available to all other students)**

The EBACC was introduced as a performance measure in the 2010 performance tables. The measure recognises where pupils have secured a grade 5 or higher in GCSEs across a core of subjects – English, mathematics, two sciences, history or geography and a language (including Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) or ancient languages).

By introducing this performance measure, the Government hopes that more pupils will be offered the chance to take a broad core of more traditional academic options.

The Government believes that the English Baccalaureate will be the benchmark and measure of success for high attaining students used by universities and employers. It is seen as an academic pathway. The EBACC pathway is compulsory for those students who are in Set 1 and Set 2 for French and Spanish. Other students are welcome to select this pathway.

**Non – EBACC Pathway**

For those students who do not wish to opt for EBACC subjects they have the flexibility to choose a wider range of creative, practical and academic subjects from across the four option blocks in addition to the compulsory subjects.

Please refer to the guidance for completing the options pathway form at the back of this booklet as there are restrictions to studying particular subjects that may be deemed too similar.

All students in Year 9 have been receiving Information, Advice and Guidance to support them to make their choices for Key Stage 4 and have been encouraged to discuss their preferences with their parents / carers.
Research has shown that students have greater opportunity for success in the workplace if they have good levels of literacy and numeracy. To that end, the government is keen for as many students as possible to reach a standard of a grade 4 or higher in English and Maths. Students who do not achieve a 4 or higher in English and Maths by the end of year 11 are required to continue to study these subjects beyond the age of 16. We fully endorse this as we recognise that literacy and numeracy are essential life skills and will help to improve attainment for the students in all subjects. To support this and to help the students achieve their best grades in English and Maths, the students will all have extra time allocated to English and Maths during years 10 and 11.

Additional Information

There will also be courses and opportunities beyond 3.15pm and parents should be aware that all Year 10/11 students finish school at least one day a week at 3.45pm so that the school can deliver a high quality Physical Education programme as part of the core entitlement. There may also be an opportunity for your child to study another subject after school such as Panjabi and Latin.

All choices will involve consultation between you and your child. The booklet has been carefully produced so that it will answer any queries you may have about courses, choices and examinations.

A deliberate attempt has been made to make the booklet attractive and to be brief and concise in subject detail. During the process, all students will have had the opportunity to discuss their subject choices with form tutors and subject staff.

All students’ preferences are subject to agreement with Mr Mortimer (Executive principal), Mrs Tranter (Assistant Head of School), Miss Hoyte (KS4 Learning and Welfare Director), Ms Lynch (Head of Year 9), Mrs Mirza (Assistant Head of Year 9), Year 9 Form Tutors and all subject staff.

Deadline: Monday 26th February, 2018

Final option choices will be submitted online at www.hamsteadhall.com. A direct link to the options survey is available on the home page and is called:

Year 9 Final Option Preferences 2018

If you require further details or clarification then please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Tranter
What is the EBACC?

- It was introduced as a performance measure for schools.
- It is an academic pathway.
- Recognises where pupils have secured a grade 5 or higher across a core of academic subjects – English, Mathematics, History or Geography, the Sciences and a Language.
- Current thinking is that the EBACC will be a desirable award for those students seeking to apply for a university place in the future.

Why was the EBACC introduced?

- Due to a higher take-up of vocational qualifications by young people it has been suggested that many of these qualifications do not carry real weight for entry to higher education or for getting a job.
- The EBACC provides a measure which enables parents and pupils to see how their school is performing in these key academic subjects.
- Intended to give pupils greater opportunity to study in and beyond the vital core of English, Mathematics and the Sciences.
- Any student can opt to follow the EBACC pathway but the government recommends that able students should achieve the EBACC as universities may attach more significance to these subjects.

Considerations

- Hamstead Hall philosophy is that the child is at the centre of our learning community. “Success for all through hard work and harmony”
- Option choices should be chosen on what is right for the young person’s future.
- The EBACC combination is available to all students.
- The EBACC is compulsory for all students in Set 1 and Set 2 for French and Spanish.
- It is interesting to note that universities have not yet started to require the EBACC as a prerequisite for university study but this may happen in the future.
- Achievement in English and Maths at GCSE, together with strong A Level /BTEC Level 3 performance, remains the clear academic requirements for study in higher education.
- For more information visit: http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/teachingandlearning/qualifications/englishbac/a0072073/the-english-baccalaureate
There are two courses available in English. Pupils will study both English Language and English Literature as separate courses (2 GCSEs). There is also a Step Up Silver and Gold qualification available. This provides pupils of different abilities with the opportunity to attain an English qualification.

- **English Language:**
  100% Exam – Assesses pupils’ reading and writing.
  Paper one – Explorations in Creative reading and writing
  Paper two – Writers’ Viewpoints and Perspectives

- **English Literature:**
  100% Exam - Assesses pupils’ responses to a range of literature
  Paper one – Shakespeare and 19th century novel
  Paper two – Poetry and a modern text

- **Step Up to English Level Silver and Gold**
- **Entry Level Certificate:**
  100% Controlled Assessment – Reading and Writing
GCSE MATHEMATICS
at Hamstead Hall Academy
Empower your thinking

An interesting and enjoyable compulsory course that is designed to develop thinking skills and problem solving.

GCSE Mathematics

Course Content

It is the aim of the Mathematics department that every student be given the opportunity to be assessed for positive achievement at every level of ability. To this end students will be assessed within a range of attainment so that they can show what they know, understand and can do.

Students will take the following course with Edexcel:

GCSE Edexcel Mathematics A – IMA1 (2-tier Linear GCSE)

GCSE specification IMA1 consists of three papers, one non-calculator and two calculator, all taken at the end of the course in year 11. Each paper will assess students’ ability to recall, select and apply their knowledge of mathematics and to interpret, analyse and solve problems. There is no coursework.

The content of the GCSE Mathematics specifications has been grouped into the topic areas of Number, Algebra, Geometry, Measures, Statistics and Probability.

Free Standing Mathematics Qualification

Additional Mathematics

Pupils in set 1 will be given the opportunity to study the FSMQ Additional Mathematics (6993) alongside their GCSE. This course provides candidates with an introduction to the mathematics studied in AS and A Level GCE modules. It is designed for those students who have a thorough knowledge of the content of the Higher Tier of the National Curriculum for Mathematics. They should be expecting to achieve grade A* or A at GCSE.

The assessment is by a single 2 hour examination in the Summer of year 11, with grades A, B, C, D, E or U available. As an Advanced Level qualification, the FSMQ carries UCAS points.

There is no coursework. Candidates are permitted to use a scientific calculator in the examination for this unit.

For further information please contact Mr Michael, Head of Mathematics

Past students have gone on to study at:

- University of Birmingham
- Aston University
- Birmingham City University
- Wolverhampton
- University of Liverpool
- Cardiff Metropolitan University
- Nottingham Trent University

Entry Level Qualifications:

Entry Level Edexcel Functional Skills Assessments will be available to pupils in sets 7, 8 and the Resource Base throughout Key Stage 4. Pupils who achieve the required level in these assessments will achieve a certificate at the appropriate level.

Mathematics provides a huge range of employment pathways following A levels and graduation. Analytical and quantitative skills are sought in a wide range of careers, these can vary from:

- Finance, Statistics
- Engineering, Computing
- Teaching, Accountancy
- Industry, Public Service
- Research.
GCSE SCIENCE at Hamstead Hall Academy

The course is designed to:
- Develop personal, learning and thinking skills.
- Develop an understanding of science based issues in the world.
- Develop skills in communication, mathematics and the use of technology in scientific contexts.
- Develop their ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the method, evidence and conclusions.

The Courses
- Science is a three-year course at this Academy. You started in year 9!!
- You will have already studied one topic in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- There are now only two choices, Combined Science which gives two GCSE grades or Triple Science which gives three GCSE grades.
- All students must do at least the Combined Science and the higher achievers will be invited by their Science teachers to choose the 3rd Science in the option block.
- There is no coursework!
- There are 8 practical activities for each GCSE grade gained. So Combined Science requires 16 practical activities to be completed and Triple Science requires 24.
- You will be assessed by internal exams each term to monitor your progress.
- The external exams which give your final grades are at the end of year 11 only.
- There are 6 exams (2 per subject) for the Combined Science each lasting 1hr 15 minutes.
- There are 6 exams (2 per subject) for the Triple Science each lasting 1hr 45 minutes.

Future Pathways/Careers
Science opens up many opportunities including:
Clinical psychologist, sports scientist, engineer, forensic scientist, medicine, dentistry, music technology, animal healthcare, finance, photography, art restoration to name but a few!
WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

- Enthusiastic and dedicated pupils who strive to achieve excellence in everything they do.
- Pupils should have a strong interest in this subject and be prepared to produce in depth research, experiment with materials and techniques, develop their practical skills and present their ideas in a creative manner.

THE COURSE:

- Pupils produce coursework (a portfolio) throughout Years 10 and 11, which contributes 60% of their overall grade. There is also a final examination in Year 11, which makes up the other 40% of marks.
- The portfolio of work must demonstrate their ability to respond to a stimulus, develop ideas and experiment with a broad range of processes, techniques and materials.
- Throughout the course, pupils will be given the opportunity to work in a wide variety of art media including paint, print, textiles and clay. Photography and drawing are also essential skills that pupils will develop over the duration of the course.

THE ART DEPARTMENT:

We are a very popular choice at GCSE as the course enables pupils to develop their individual aptitudes and interests, which encourages confidence and fosters a sense of achievement. Our teaching rooms have recently been refurbished and we offer extra-curricular sessions to all of our pupils in order for them to complete work or further develop their skills.

Our GCSE results are well above the National Average as we are a department dedicated to helping each and every pupil maximise their potential. Teaching staff are proficient in many different specialisms including Fine Art, Textiles, Ceramics and Illustration. We are therefore able to offer flexible courses to meet the needs of individual pupils.

USES OF GCSE ART & DESIGN:

Art Teacher, Architect, Art Therapist, Art Historian, Fashion Designer, Florist, Jeweller, Theatre Designer, Costume Designer, Interior Designer, Animator, Make-up Artist, Photographer, etc.

Please contact the Art & Design Department for further information.
Business is one of the most popular options chosen at GCSE by Hamstead Hall students. A high majority of these students continue studying the course at A-level and beyond.

If you enjoy:
- Communicating and explaining your ideas
- Thinking creatively and making decisions
- Working with numbers to solve business problems
- Learning about the world of business through real and relevant local and international brands then the GCSE Business course is the right subject for you.

What do I need to know?
It doesn’t matter if you haven’t studied business prior to taking this course. You might have an interest in business, and want to start your own business one day. You may have an enquiring mind and be interested in learning about the world around you, how businesses are set up, and what it is that makes someone a great entrepreneur. This course will help you to understand all this and more.

Scheme of Assessment:
This course is worth ONE GCSE.
There are only TWO exams and NO controlled assessment/coursework unit.

Progression:
Our GCSE (9-1) in Business has been designed to support progression to our new A-level.

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<td>Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes 50% of the qualification 90 marks</td>
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<td>Theme 2 Building a business</td>
<td>Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes 50% of the qualification 90 marks</td>
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As part of the innovative BITE faculty, Business and ICT leads the school on the use of new technology, most recently in the use of iPads.

The course is proving extremely successful and has produced very good GCSE results with an average A* - C Pass Rate of above 70% for the last 5 years.

“I really enjoyed the course. I have decided to study Business at A-level!”

Ti Huynh

40% of our sixth form students go on to study a Business related degree at university

This qualification has been developed to provide an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of media through the use of ICT.

**Brief Content Description / Summary:**

Unit 1 of the core units is a broad unit that underpins the fundamental knowledge and understanding of media principles looking at all five key sectors (Digital Moving Image, Digital Audio Production, Digital Publishing, Website Production and Digital Games Production) and the different types of audiences. Unit 2 must be taken alongside the optional units and focuses on communication techniques.

The optional specialist units offered within the qualification build on the core and provide learners with an opportunity to develop a wider understanding and appreciation of any two sectors of the creative digital media sector, depending on their interests and motivation.

**Assessment Structure:**

This course is worth the equivalent to ONE GCSE.

**Unit 1: Digital Media Sectors and Audiences**
This unit is externally assessed using a paper-based exam for 1 hour and is out of 50 marks

**Unit 2: Planning and Pitching a Digital Media Product**
This unit is assessed internally by the centre and externally verified by Pearson.

**Optional Units 3-7**
This unit is assessed internally by the centre and externally verified by Pearson.

**Career Progression Options:**

Junior roles working in moving image production, audio production, publishing, website production or digital games production.

Supports progression into the sixth form, to study A-levels and BTEC Level 3

It is a requirement that students should have access to a Windows compatible computer or laptop, and access to the Internet (preferably broadband) at home. It would also be very useful if they had access to Microsoft Office.

This course builds on the content, knowledge and skills developed during Key Stage 3.

The variety of teaching and learning approaches we use in to enrich the learning experience.

Student Comments:

“This course is interesting, challenging and allows creative freedom”

“My favourite subject. It’s really enjoyable”
The course is designed to prepare students in the art of:
- Performance
- Choreography
- Auditions
- Dance Techniques
- Dance Industry

Students can progress on to:
- BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts
- ‘A’ Levels
- Dance Colleges
- Performing Arts Industry

Pupils studying the BTEC course are encouraged to do after school dance clubs. Some of these are free and some require a small fee. To obtain the higher grades, pupils should think about joining a dance school to improve their overall technique in a variety of styles.

Dance provides a huge range of employment pathways:
- Performer
- Choreographer
- Director for TV/Film
- Dance Producer
- Dance Coach
- Stylist
- Agent
- Dance Troup

A fantastic vocational course to develop dance talent and creativity whilst providing students with a good professional approach to the dance and Performing Arts industry.

Edexcel BTEC Tech in Performing Arts Dance Pathway:

The course breakdown is as follows:

**Component 1** – Exploring the Performing Arts Industry (Internal Assessment)

**Component 2** – Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts (Internal Assessment)

**Component 3** – Performing to a Brief (External Examination)

In order for students to fulfill the criteria of the course they must achieve a pass in all units. Passes, merits and distinctions are gained through the completion of the Units displayed above. The BTEC course provides a solid foundation for progression to dance related courses, including A-Level Dance, BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts and a career in dance professions. Students will have the opportunity to perform at a number of school concerts as well as external events, often working with professional performers in a range of venues around the city.

The course is aimed at pupils who have a keen interest in dance and want to follow an in depth dance course concentrating on performing and choreographing dance pieces. The course also enables pupils to gain understanding of how the dance industry works, the history of dance and how careers can be developed within the performing arts industry.

Students will work with outside dance genre specialists to develop technical skills. You will participate in a number of dance workshops to develop areas that will prepare you for live performances and auditions. You will learn how to use interpretative skills and stylistic qualities to improve your techniques in a range of dance styles. Throughout your course, you will learn to appreciate aesthetic qualities, review your own and others work, set targets and track your own progress.

Pupils will have the opportunity to perform in a variety of dance festivals, talent shows and competitions. This BTEC Tech has an equivalent value to one ‘GCSE’.

For further information please contact Miss S Wood, Dance Subject Leader.
GCSE DRAMA (EDEXCEL)

The course is designed to prepare students in:
- Performance
- Collaboration
- Evaluation
- Creativity

Additional Info:

Theatre visits are a compulsory element of the course and students will be required to make a contribution towards the cost of tickets. There will also be an opportunity to watch visiting Theatre in Education companies and to participate in workshops run by members of the profession.

There are a range of performance opportunities within the department including concerts, assemblies and the school production. Drama students also often become involved in helping to deliver extra-curricular activities to students lower down the school. Drama also teaches skills invaluable in a competitive job market, giving students the ability to work collaboratively in teams and present themselves and their ideas effectively in a range of contexts.

GCSE Drama explores Drama through a creative, practical and imaginative approach helping students develop self and group awareness, confidence and social skills. Acting skills and analysing drama and live theatre are the main course elements.

**Edexcel GCSE Drama**

The subject content for GCSE Drama is divided into three components:

**Component 1: Devising (Coursework)**
- Create and develop a devised piece from a stimulus.
- Assessment of the performance (acting skills) and a written evaluation of the process (evaluation skills).
- Internally assessed and externally moderated.
- 40% of GCSE.

**Component 2: Performance from Text (Coursework)**
- Performance of two key extracts from a performance text.
- Externally assessed by a visiting examiner.
- 20% of GCSE.

**Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice (Written examination)**
- Practical exploration of a play.
- Live theatre evaluation.
- External examiner.
- 40% of GCSE.

The GCSE Drama course provides a solid foundation for progression to Drama related courses and a career in the Drama field as well as giving students a range of skills in presentation and collaborative group work both of which are highly valued by Universities and employers alike.

You will learn how drama is created including skills needed to put a piece of drama on stage. You will learn how to create a character and perform in role. Teamwork skills are a big part of the course and you will work collaboratively throughout. A range of texts are explored practically and evaluation skills, both oral and written, are looked at in detail. The course includes compulsory theatre visits and a final written exam based on practical work completed on a play text in addition to a review of a piece of professional theatre the group will be taken to see.

For further information please contact Miss Davies Head of Drama.
GCSE GEOGRAPHY (AQA)

Geography is part of our everyday lives, so come and discover the world around you. The world in which we live is likely to change more in the next 50 years than it has ever done before. Geography explains why, and helps to prepare you for those changes.

Why choose geography?
We believe that you should take Geography because it helps you:
- To understand the environment at local and global scales,
- To know your world through fieldwork,
- To make decisions that balance environmental and developmental concerns,
- To develop a wide range of skills such as presenting arguments or map skills,
- To use computers and other technology,
- For analysis / presentation,
- To understand other cultures throughout the world.

GCSE Geography
Geography is one of the humanities subjects that count towards the English Baccalaureate.

Course Content
1. Living with a Physical Environment
A study of the new and updated Geography key themes including Natural Hazards, Rivers & Coasts, and Ecosystems. 1 ½ hr examination at the end of year 11 35%.

2. Challenges in the Human Environment
A study of the new and updated Geography key themes including Urban issues and Challenges,

3. Geographical Application
This section requires pupils to undertake two contrasting fieldwork trips. It also requires students to use their learning from the themes studied to analyse a geographical issue, to consider solutions and justify their choices using pre-released materials. 1 hr 15 minutes examination 30%.

For further information please contact Miss Newton Head of Geography

‘Choose your future. Choose Geography’. Not all Geography students become Geography teachers or weather presenters on the television. Geography has the best graduate employment rate in the country and this is because it will provide you with many skills. More employers are looking to employ geographers because the subject fosters transferable skills; an asset in the world of employment today. Many jobs need people who can organise information and who can make decisions in order to solve problems. You will learn how to justify these decisions, and to recognise how they will affect different people. You will learn how to minimise the damage caused by your decisions.
WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

Lively, enthusiastic and committed individuals who strive to achieve excellence in all that they do; working together in partnership with the departmental staff to achieve their potential in this subject.

THE COURSE:

Graphics Communication consists of 60% coursework completed throughout year 10/year 11, and 40% examination, which is 10 hours long with 6 weeks preparation time.

Students present a portfolio of work and a final application for their coursework assessment. Students will use various computer applications as well as traditional art/graphics materials to produce design ideas and styles leading towards a final outcome such as a book cover design, information posters, packaging graphics, corporate ID, etc.

Students must show that they can in an original and individual manner: investigate, research and react to Art, Craft and Design.

RESULTS:

Our GCSE results are well above the National Average as we are a successful department dedicated to helping each and every student to maximize their potential.

USE OF GCSE GRAPHICS:

Teaching/Lecturing, Advertising, Window Dressing, Gallery and Museum Display plus many more.

Please contact the Design Technology Department for further information
A vocational course that develops your ability to develop skills in understanding growth and development, care services, communication, promoting independence and health and wellbeing within the health and social care industry.

Edexcel BTEC Tech Award Level 1 & 2 in Health and Social Care

Course Content

The course breakdown is as follows;

**Component 1** – Human Lifespan Development (Internal coursework)

**Component 2** – Health and Social Care Services and Values (Internal coursework)

**Component 3** – Health and Wellbeing (Synoptic timed external assessment)

In order for student’s to fulfill the criteria of the course they must achieve 120 Guided Learning Hours (GLH). This will be achieved through external exam and coursework to complete all of the units displayed above.

The BTEC course provides a solid foundation for progression to health and social care related courses, BTEC Level 3 in Health and Social Care and a career in health care professionals.

The course is aimed at pupils who want to follow a career within health and social care and to develop their practical skills. The course also enables pupils to gain understanding of how the health industry works and how careers can be developed within the health industry.

Students will work with local schools’ to develop skills in communication and gaining insight into the whole person and all their needs and rights as an individual.

Pupils will have the opportunity to visit primary schools and Special Educational primary and secondary schools.

The BTEC Tech Award Level 1 & 2 has an equivalent value of one GCSE

For further information please contact Mrs Shipman - Teacher in charge of BTEC

Past students have gone on to study at:
- Birmingham University
- University of Birmingham
- Wolverhampton University

Additional Info:
You will be recommended to the Hamstead Hall Inclusion Team to work alongside children with disability, special educational needs, children with communication and social difficulties. Also local primary schools.

Future Pathways:
Consultant, nurse, midwife, occupational therapist, social worker, care worker.
Think for yourself and prove it!
History is a challenging and informative subject.

What is in the course?
OCR History - Explaining the Modern World. The specification follows three components:

1. Period study and non-British depth study.
Pupils study International relations 1918 - 2010 and a depth study on Germany 1925-1965.
105 Marks 50% of total GCSE 1hr 45Mins (Written paper).

2. British Thematic study.
Pupils study the theme of Migration to Britain 1000 - 2010. 50 Marks 25% of total GCSE 1hr (Written paper).

3. British depth study and a study of the historic environment.
Pupils study a depth study and a historical environment study on Migration and Empire. 50 Marks 25% of total GCSE 1hr 15Mins (Written paper).

Who can do the Course?
The course is open to all. There are no tiers in History exams. Everyone does the same exam.

If you want to know more
Speak to your History teacher
Ask a History student in Year 10 or 11.

Past students have gone on to study at:
- Oxford University
- Reading University
- Exeter University
- Birmingham University
- Keele University

Additional Info:
Visit to Whittington Barracks.
Exam board visits.
Theatre trip to the Trial of Adolf Hitler.
Doomed Youth Play about the First World War.

In History you will develop skills which are useful and needed in adult life and for a wide variety of careers, such as:
The Law, Computing, Banking & Accounting, Administration, Journalism, Any services dealing with people.

The study of History will develop your skills of:
- Data and information collection
- Analysis and interpretation of information
- Coherent and sustained reasoning
- Independent research and investigation
GCSE FRENCH (AQA)

Let’s get talking!

If you enjoy communicating with other people, finding out how language works and learning about different countries and cultures, studying GCSE French is an excellent choice for you!

GCSE French counts towards the English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The course is designed to prepare students in:
- Reading
- Writing
- Listening
- Communicating
- Understanding the global world

Past students have gone on to study at:
- Birmingham University
- Aston University
- Leeds
- Nottingham University

Pupils who study French will get the chance to go to Paris to practise the French they have learnt!

From Youth Culture to Entertainment and Leisure, from school life to Health and Fitness, you will cover a broad range of topics.

You will be assessed in all 4 skills and each skill carries the same weight (25% each).
The Listening, Reading and Writing exams will be external exams, with a date imposed by the exam board, whereas the speaking test will take place a bit before and will be conducted on a date chosen by the school.
The exams are tiered. If you do Foundation, you will have access to grades 1-5 and if you do Higher, you will have access to grades 4-9.

This course is aimed at pupils who have demonstrated a good understanding of French during Key Stage 3. We will build on what you have already learnt and extend it so you can understand and communicate in French more effectively.

You will study topics relating to family, relationships, modern technology, holidays, hobbies, your future plans, the environment, social issues such as smoking or drug abuse.

For more information, please see Mr Gicquel or any MFL teacher.

WHY STUDY LANGUAGES?

This is an excerpt from “The Guardian” newspaper (April 2015)

Britain’s economy is being seriously harmed because of a shortage of foreign language skills. In fact, according to the government’s own statistics, it costs the country 3.5% of GDP every year – that’s £48bn. James Foreman-Peck, professor of economics at Cardiff Business School described this as a “tax on growth”, which sees the potential of small to medium-size exporters being hampered. This happens not just because they don’t have the cash to employ lots of linguists like global companies do, but also because - without language skills - they are deterred from trading internationally.

One business leader, Nick Brown, explained: “English is fine if you want to buy things, but it’s not the right language to use for people who want to sell things.”

You will get priority place to take part to the trip to Paris.
If you enjoy communicating with other people, finding out how language works and learning about different countries and cultures, studying GCSE Spanish is an excellent choice for you!

The course is designed to prepare students in:
- Reading
- Writing
- Listening
- Communicating
- Understanding the global world

Past students have gone on to study at:
- Birmingham University
- Nottingham University
- Aston...

GCSE SPANISH OFFERS YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRANSFER THE SKILLS YOU HAVE ACQUIRED IN YOUR LANGUAGE LESSONS SINCE YEAR 7.

Course Content
Exactly the same features as GCSE French.
Same topics, same style of assessment, different language!
You will be assessed in all 4 skills and each skill carries the same weight (25% each). The Listening, Reading and Writing exams will be external exams, with a date imposed by the exam board, whereas the speaking test will take place a bit before and will be conducted on a date chosen by the school.

The exams are tiered. If you do Foundation, you will have access to grades 1-5 and if you do Higher, you will have access to grades 4-9.

It is no longer possible to ‘mix the tiers’ which means that if you do Foundation in one skill, all your exams will be Foundation.

You will study topics relating to family, relationships, modern technology, holidays, hobbies, your future plans, the environment, social issues such as smoking or drug abuse.

This FAST TRACK course is highly recommended for pupils who have shown commitment and dedication to language learning at KS3.

You can study French as well as Spanish if you want to! There are huge benefits in combining two Language GCSEs.

The best pupils in the best schools often study two languages. Don’t get left out!

Because of the similarities between the MFL GCSEs you will quickly be familiar with the demands of the course.

This course is only available to students who have previously studied Spanish...

For further information please contact:
Mr Gicquel or Miss Roberts

Range of employment pathways:
Business, Central and Local Government, Creative and Media, Engineering, Law, Marketing, Public Services, Translation and Interpreting and more!!
BTEC MUSIC

The course is designed to prepare students in the art of:
Performance
Composing
Recording
Music Technology
Music Industry Business

Past students have gone on to study at:
Birmingham University
Birmingham City University
Birmingham Conservatoire

We also offer a full instrumental teaching service for the following instruments;
Piano, Violin, Viola, Cello, Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Cornet, Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Drums, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Dhol Drums and Vocals.

Release Your Talents
A fantastic vocational course that develops musical talent and creativity whilst providing students with a professional approach to the music industry.

Edexcel BTEC Level 1/2 First Award in Music
The course is 120 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) and the breakdown is as follows;

Unit 1 - The Music Industry (external exam) (30 GLH)

Unit 2 – Managing a Music Product (30 GLH)

Unit 4 – Introducing Music Composition (30 GLH)

Unit 5 – Introducing Music Performance (30 GLH)

The BTEC course provides a solid foundation for progression to music related courses, including A-Level Music Technology, BTEC Level 3 Music and a career in music professions. Students will have the opportunity to perform at a number of school concerts as well as external events, often working with professional musicians in a range of high profile venues around the city.

The course is aimed at pupils who want to follow an in depth music course concentrating on studio recording and creating music using computers. The course also enables pupils to gain understanding of how the music industry works and how careers can be developed within the music industry.

Students will work with the schools’ designated Music Technician to develop skills in studio recording and sequencing using the most up to date industry standard equipment including Apple’s most recent iMac (with Quad-four processors) and Logic Pro X.

Pupils will have the opportunity to record, mix and master their own studio recordings as well as take part in live performances.

The BTEC Level 1/2 First Award in Music has an equivalent value of one GCSE.

For further information please contact Mr I Marshallsay, Head of Music

Music provides a huge range of employment pathways following A levels and graduation; these can vary from:
Performer, Songwriter, Composer for TV/Film, Music Producer, Recording Engineer, Music Journalism, A&R, Agent, Sound Engineer, Promotion, Teaching, Session Musician, Manager, Music Therapist, Radio DJ, Publisher
GCSE MUSIC (OCR)

Master Your Art

A superb course that instils creative thought and provides students with a multi-faceted approach to becoming the musician you want to be.

The course breakdown is as follows:

Integrated Portfolio - 60 marks (30%)
(Controlled Assessment) Internally assessed.
1: Performance on the learner’s chosen instrument
2: Composition to a brief set by the learner

Practical Component - 60 marks (30%)
(Controlled Assessment) Internally assessed.
1: Ensemble Performance
2: Composition to an OCR set brief

Listening and Appraising - 80 marks (40%)
1 hour and 30 minutes written exam paper.
Externally assessed.
Aural recognition and context from music from within the Areas of Study 2, 3, 4 & 5.

The 5 Areas of Study are:
1. My Music
2. The Concerto Through Time
3. Rhythms of the World
4. Film Music
5. Conventions of Pop

The GCSE course provides a solid foundation for progression to music related courses, including A-Level Music Technology, A-Level Music, BTEC level 3 Music and a career in music professions.

Students will have the opportunity to perform at a number of school concerts as well as external events, often working with professional musicians in a range of high profile venues around the city.

Students will work with the most up to date industry standard equipment including Apple’s most recent iMac (with Quad-four processors) and Logic Pro X to compose their own pieces of music, as well as develop skills in studio recording and sequencing.

This qualification is linear which means that students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course.

For further information please contact Mr. I Marshallsay,
Head of Music

Music provides a huge range of employment pathways following A-levels and graduation; these can vary from:

Performer, Songwriter, Composer for TV/Film, Music Producer, Recording Engineer, Music Journalism, A&R, Agent, Sound Engineer, Promotion, Teaching, Session Musician, Manager, Music Therapist, Radio DJ.
BTEC SPORT

Reach your Potential

A fantastic vocational course to develop sporting talent and creativity whilst providing students with a good professional approach to the sporting industry

Edexcel BTEC First Award in Sport:
The course breakdown is as follows:

Unit 1 - Fitness for sport (External Assessment 25% of overall grade)

Unit 2 - Practical performance
Unit 5 - Training for Personal Fitness
Unit 6 - Leading Sports Activities

In order for students to fulfill the criteria of the course they must achieve at least a pass in all units. Passes, merits and distinctions are gained through the completion of the Units displayed above. The BTEC course provides a solid foundation for progression to sport related courses, including A-Level Physical Education, BTEC Level 3 Sport and a career in sporting world. Students will have the opportunity to perform at a number of school sport meetings as well as external events, often working with professional performers in a range of venues around the city.

The course is aimed at pupils who have a keen interest in sport and want to follow an in depth sport course concentrating on performing and understanding how the body and mind function. The course also enables pupils to gain understanding of how the sport industry works, the human body and how careers can be developed within the sporting industry.

Students may work with outside sport specialists to develop technical skills. You will participate in a number of sporting workshops to develop areas that will prepare you for live performances and analysis or performances by both yourself and others. Throughout your course, you will learn to appreciate aesthetic qualities, review your own and others work, set targets and track your own progress.

Pupils will have the opportunity to perform in a variety of sport competitions.

This BTEC First Award has an equivalent value to one ‘GCSE’.

For further information please contact Miss S Wood, BTEC Sport Subject Leader.

The sporting industry provides a huge range of employment pathways following both level 2 & 3 courses and these can vary from:

- Performer, Sports Manager, Director for TV/Film
- Producer, Coach, Media, Agent, Trainer
- Promotion, Teaching, Entertainer, Manager, Publisher, Physiotherapist, Sports retail
GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (EDEXCEL)

FASTER, HIGHER, STRONGER
A fantastic course designed for students to be inspired, challenged and highly rewarded for performance, creativity, analysis and decision making skills whilst engaging in a range of physical activities.

There are four components within the GCSE PE course and the content is outlined below:

**COMPONENT 1**
Fitness & Body Systems
- Written examination: 1hr 45 Mins
- 36% of qualification

- Topic 1: Applied Anatomy & Physiology
- Topic 2: Movement Analysis
- Topic 3: Physical Training
- Topic 4: Use of Data

**COMPONENT 2**
Health & Performance
- Written examination: 1hr 15 Mins
- 24% of qualification

- Topic 1: Health, Fitness & Well-being
- Topic 2: Sport Psychology
- Topic 3: Socio-cultural influences
- Topic 4: Use of Data

**COMPONENT 3**
Practical Performance
Non-examined assessment: internally marked and externally moderated.
30% of qualification
105 Marks (35 marks per activity)
Assessed in 3 Practical Activities
One team activity
One individual activity
+ One free choice from the activity list published by Edexcel.
Your skills in isolation will be assessed along with your skills in a competitive formal situation.

**COMPONENT 4**
Personal Exercise Programme (PEP)
Internally assessed, Externally moderated
20 Marks, 10% of qualification
Aim & planning analysis
Carrying out & monitoring PEP
Evaluation of the PEP

For further information please contact
Mr J Sims – Head of PE

FUTURE PATHWAYS / CAREERS
Professional Athlete, Journalist, Commentator, Sports Analyst, Physiotherapist, PE Teacher, Sports Coach / Leader, Referee / Umpire, Sport and Exercise Scientist, Sports Centre Manager, Personal Trainer, Lifeguard, Gym Instructor, Sports Psychologist, Sports Medicine.

Past students have gone on to study at Universities in:
- Birmingham
- Loughborough
- Leeds
- Liverpool
- Worcester
- Bath
- Sheffield

Additional Info:
Pupils studying GCSE PE will also have the opportunity to do the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Students will also have the opportunity to gain many other National Governing Body Qualifications and accreditations for leadership, coaching, officiating and volunteering.
WHY STUDY PRODUCT DESIGN?
This course will help you understand and appreciate the design and manufacture of products, making you a more discriminating purchaser. It will help you to be creative in your approach and you will use computers to help you with your design ideas and in creating products.

You will learn about a range of materials including modern materials and how they respond to changes in temperature, light or pressure. You will also gain an insight into how products are packaged to appeal to the target market and how advertisement can influence different products.

YOU WILL STUDY:
- How to develop a specification for a product (you can decide your own starting point).
- How to analyse existing products.
- How to generate a range of design proposals.
- Developing prototypes and analysing the impact they have on the end product.
- How to use the internet to research ideas.
- Product development and planning.
- How to select materials and work with tools and equipment.
- How to evaluate and test products.
- The importance of advertising and how to advertise products to attract the target audience

YOU WILL:
- Improve your ICT skills and learn about CAD and CAM.
- Analyze products and the processes used to manufacture them.
- Develop awareness of consumer requirements of a product.
- Work practically with wood, metal and plastic materials. Learn how to work on your own or part of a team.

ASSESSMENT:
This is made up of two areas; a piece of coursework which is worth 60% of the overall grade and a two hour exam which is worth 40% of the overall grade.

COURSEWORK:
This will be worth 60% of your overall grade. You will produce a concise design portfolio and 3D product. You will have a free choice of topic. To help you choose, your teacher will provide you with list of suitable topics.

Please contact the Design Technology Department for further information.
The exams are the same style as the RE exams in KS3.

GCSE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (AQA)

The benefits of picking RE are:

- Academic and personal challenge.
- Learn skills for higher education.
- Learn to balance an argument.
- Learn to give reasons for your opinion.
- Become able to understand people in a multicultural society.

There is no controlled assessment.

The two exams are at the end of year 11.

There is one exam for the four units studied in year 10:
1) Christian Beliefs
2) Christian Practices
3) Sikh Beliefs
4) Sikh Practices

There is one exam for the four units studied in year 11:
1) Relationships and Families
2) Religion and Life
3) Religion, Peace and conflict
4) Crime and Punishment

For each exam 50% is knowledge and understanding and 50% is evaluation.

Past students have gone on to study at:
- Oxford University
- Birmingham University
- Birmingham City University
- University of Wolverhampton
- Leeds University
- University of Chester
- Coventry University
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Staffordshire University
- University of Hertfordshire

Studying RE not only equips you with the skills needed to attain an excellent grade at GCSE it also readies you for further academic study both at A Level and at University as it teaches key skills in essay writing. RE also provides a solid grounding in ethics, which is highly useful in the following professions:

Accountancy, Banking, Business, Journalism, Law (domestic and international), Local government, Medicine, Police, Politics, Retail management, Teaching, Travel and Tourism.
WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

Lively, enthusiastic and committed individuals who strive to achieve excellence in all that they do; working together in partnership with the departmental staff to achieve their potential in this subject.

THE COURSE:

3-D Design consists of 60% coursework completed throughout. Year 10/Year 11, and a 40% examination which is 10 hours long with 6 weeks preparation time.

Students present a portfolio of 3-D work plus a final 3-D outcome. Students will use a range of resistant materials such as wood, metal and plastic.

The portfolio will consist of jewellery design - students design and make various types of jewellery based on inspirations and selected designers work, including rings, pendants, brooches, etc. In addition other applications such as Etching and Enamelling are explored and applied.

Students must show that they can in an original and individual manner: investigate, research and react to Art, Craft and Design.

THE COURSE

Our GCSE results are well above the National Average as we are a successful department dedicated to helping each and every student to maximize their potential.

We are a very popular choice at GCSE as the course enables students to develop their individual special aptitudes and interests, which fosters and encourages confidence, enthusiasm and a sense of achievement.

USES OF GCSE 3-D DESIGN:

GCSE 3-D Design would be advisable for those considering the following careers: Product Design, Jewellery and Silversmithing, 3-D Design, Interior Design, Architecture, Art Teaching/ Lecturing, Window Dressing, Set and Prop Design (film and theatre), Gallery and Museum Display work.

Please contact the Design Technology Department for further information.
EBACC Pathway:

- It is compulsory for students currently in Set 1 and Set 2 for French / Spanish to study the EBACC pathway.
- Any pupil can study the EBACC pathway
- From across the four option blocks students must select:
  - A humanity (History or Geography)
  - A language (French or Spanish)

Other Guidelines:

- For Art, Graphics and 3D that have been marked with an asterisk (*), students can only select one of these subjects from across the four option blocks.
- Students cannot select the same subject twice.
- Students should give their first subject preference in Option blocks A to D. They should then give an alternative second preference underneath in case their first preference is unavailable.
Year 9 Options Pathway 2018

First Name: ___________________ Surname: ___________________ Form: ______________

**Option A**
- Geography
- History
- 3rd Science
- French
- Business

**Option B**
- French
- RE
- 3D (*)
- BTEC Dance
- Drama
- Spanish

**Option C**
- History
- RE
- Business
- Creative Digital Media
- Physical Education
- Art (*)

**Option D**
- Geography
- Business
- BTEC Health
- GCSE or BTEC Music
- Product Design
- Graphics (*)

**Important Guidelines**

**EBACC Pathway:** Compulsory for students in Set 1 and Set 2 for French / Spanish.

**Within your 4 options you must have:**
- At least one Humanity (History or Geography)
- At least one Modern Foreign Language (Spanish or French)

(*) Students can only select one of these subjects across all of the option blocks.

You can only pick GCSE Spanish in the option block if you have previously studied it in Year 8 and Year 9.

**Deadline:**
26th FEBRUARY, 2018

*Please return to your Form Tutor*