

Year 9
Key Stage 4 Options
2026 - 2028

YOUR NEXT STEPS

London Academy

Dear Year 9 Student,

I hope that you have had a successful year so far. You have reached a very important point in your school life: making your key stage 4 options choices. The decisions that you make now may impact significantly on your future choices in education and the world of work.

We want you to make the right decisions so that you will get the best possible grades at the end of Year 11. Your option choice is your first step towards your plan for your future. The choices you make now have to be made with your future ambitions in mind and having had discussions with appropriate teachers and your parents/carers.

At London Academy we have always encouraged you to make positive decisions and in this decision we want you to think about what you want to do rather than what you don't want to do.

Your teachers will do all they can to encourage and support you, I'm sure that those who look after you at home will do the same, but the choice to work hard and do your best is largely down to you.

The primary purpose of this Options Booklet is to inform you about the subjects that you could study in Years 10 and 11 so that you can have informed discussions with your parents/carers. Very soon, the teachers who lead the options subjects will speak in your assemblies and you and your parents/carers are invited to attend our Year 9 Options Evening on **Thursday 26th March**. You will be asked to make your final choices and submit these signed by your parents at the Year 9 Options Evening.

I would like you to:

- Read this booklet - it's about YOUR FUTURE.
- Take it home and discuss it with your parents/carers.

Think carefully about the subject choices you have. Discuss them at home and with relevant teachers at school – the teachers responsible for each subject are identified on each of the subject pages.

When you have considered everything, you will be asked to make your choices. If you have any questions about the process, please come and speak with me.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Williams
Assistant Principal



Your choices

Your study in Year 10 and beyond will be divided into two sections—Core and Options.

You will study all of the 'Core Subjects' including your choice from Geography or History AND the language that you are currently studying (French or Spanish). You will also study two subjects from the Options list. The following pages give you more information about the subjects and qualifications you will be awarded.

Core Subjects

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science or Separate sciences
- Religious Studies
- French OR Spanish (depending on which you currently study)
- Geography OR History (**Choose One**)
- Core PE

Options

- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Electronics
- French
- Geography
- Graphics
- History
- Media Studies
- Music
- Physical Education
- Spanish



CONTENTS PAGE

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science & Separate sciences
- Religious Studies
- French
- Spanish
- Geography
- History
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Electronics
- Graphic Communication
- Media Studies
- Music
- Physical Education



GCSE English Language

Exam Board: Edexcel
Syllabus 1EN0

What will I learn?

Speaking and Listening:

You will develop your speaking and listening skills so that you become more confident in situations such as job interviews which require high standards of oracy.

Reading:

You will read a variety of texts, both fiction and non-fiction. You will develop your understanding of the texts you read through discussion and written work.

Writing:

You will develop your ability to communicate ideas clearly using the appropriate style and form.

How will I be taught?

Whole class work, such as reading together, discussion and studying different kinds of writing.
Small group work such as discussion, problem solving, planning and using speaking and listening skills.

Independent work such as developing formal essay writing skills, practising different kinds of writing and responding to examination texts.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 – Fiction and Imaginative Writing: Examination 40%

Reading – You will answer questions on an unseen 19th century fiction extract.

Writing – You will complete one imaginative writing task linked to the theme of the reading extract.

Component 2 – Non-fiction and Transactional Writing: Examination 60%

Reading – You will answer questions on two unseen non-fiction extracts.

Writing – You will complete one transactional writing task linked to the theme of the reading extracts.

Component 3—Spoken Language: Presentation

You will deliver a speech on a topic of your choice.

Teacher Contact: Ms Harwood



GCSE English Literature

Exam Board: Edexcel

Syllabus: 1ET0

What will I learn?

- You will learn how to read, understand and respond to all types of literature – poems, stories, novels and plays.
- You will develop your own reading interests through private reading and by writing about your private reading.

How will I be taught?

- Whole class work, e.g. reading literature and discussion work.
- Small group work, e.g. discussing literature, role playing, preparing presentations.
- Independent study, e.g. private reading, writing about Literature.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 – Shakespeare and Post 1914-Literature: Exam 50%

- Section A – You will analyse the presentation of a character or theme in an extract from Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, and then evaluate how that character or theme is presented in the play studied as a whole.
- Section B – You will answer an essay question on *An Inspector Calls* by J B Priestley.

Component 2 – 19th Century Novel and Poetry since 1789: Exam 50%

- Section A – You will analyse an extract from the 19th century novel you have studied, and then explore a related theme in whole text.
- Section B – You will compare two poems from an anthology you have studied, and then compare two unseen poems.

Teacher Contact: Ms Harwood



GCSE English Language and Literature

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- English Literature
- History

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- English language and literature
- History
- Economics
- Media studies
- Law
- Journalism
- Drama and theatre studies
- Psychology
- Accounting
- Business and management studies

What careers may then be open to me?

- Digital copywriter
- Journalist
- Publishing copy-editor/proof reader
- Web content manager
- Advertising copywriter
- Marketing executive
- Media researcher
- Public relations officer
- Records manager
- Social media manager

Top Universities for English

- University of Cambridge
- University of Oxford
- Imperial College London
- University College London
- University of Manchester
- University of Sheffield
- University of Bristol
- University of Leeds
- Durham University
- University of Nottingham



GCSE Mathematics

Exam Board EdExcel
Syllabus: 1MA1

What will I learn?

The new GCSE will require the coverage of broader and deeper mathematical content and there is a greater emphasis on mathematical reasoning, communication and problem solving skills.

The content which you will learn as part of GCSE Maths can be broken down into 5 key domains, with the weighting attached to each domain shown in brackets.

1. Number (15%)
2. Algebra (30%)
3. Ratio, proportion and rates of change (20%)
4. Geometry and measures (20%)
5. Probability & Statistics (15%)

How will I be taught?

In preparation for the maths GCSE you will be taught skills and techniques, as above, however there is a strong emphasis on being able to apply what you have learned to solve complicated problems. Students will be taught to adapt and combine skills they have learned to solve problems which assess more than one area and a variety of skills. Homework is an important part of the course. You will be expected to produce two pieces of homework per week. Students should have a scientific calculator with them every lesson and for independent study. We recommend a Casio FX83GT.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be assessed through 3 1hr 30 min papers.

As it is a linear qualification, all examination papers must be taken in the same series at the end of the course. One paper is non-calculator and the remaining two are both calculator papers.

Students will be graded from 1-9.

Teacher Contact: Ms Mpanzu and Ms Assombalonga



GCSE Mathematics

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Maths
- Further Maths
- Physics
- Economics

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Architecture
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Dentistry
- Engineering
- Finance
- Medicine

What careers may then be open to me?

- Accounting and Finance
- Mathematics and Management
- Business and Finance
- Academia
- Data Analyst
- Aviation Engineer
- Actuary

Top Universities for Mathematics:

- University of Cambridge
- University of Oxford
- St Andrew's University
- Durham University
- Imperial College London
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Bristol
- University of Leeds
- Lancaster University
- University of Nottingham



GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

Exam Board AQA

Syllabi: 8464

What will I learn?

This GCSE will inspire, motivate and challenge students by following a broad, coherent, practical and worthwhile course of study. Learners will develop their curiosity about the living, material and physical worlds and will gain an insight into and experience of how science works and allow them to engage with science in their everyday lives. Learners will be able to make informed decisions about further study in science and scientific career choices. You will study a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics and you will learn practical inquiry skills within these subjects.

Biology Paper 1

- Topic 1 Cell Biology
- Topic 2 Organisation
- Topic 3 Infection and Response
- Topic 4 Bioenergetics

Chemistry Paper 1

- Topic 8 Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
- Topic 9 Bonding, structure and the properties of matter
- Topic 10 Quantitative Chemistry
- Topic 11 Chemical Changes
- Topic 12 Energy Changes

Physics Paper 1

- Topic 18 Energy
- Topic 19 Electricity
- Topic 20 Particle Model of Matter
- Topic 21 Atomic Structure

Biology Paper 2

- Topic 5 Homeostasis and response
- Topic 6 Inheritance, Variation and Evolution
- Topic 7 Ecology

Chemistry Paper 2

- Topic 13 The rate and extent of chemical change
- Topic 14 Organic Chemistry
- Topic 15 Chemical Analysis
- Topic 16 Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Topic 17 Using resources

Physics Paper 2

- Topic 22 Forces
- Topic 23 Waves
- Topic 24 Magnetism and Electromagnetism

How will I be assessed?

This GCSE is assessed through two 70 mark exams lasting 1 hour 15 minutes, for each science subject (6 exams in total). The examinations will contain a mixture of question styles including multiple – choice questions, short answer questions, calculations and extended open response questions. You will be awarded two connected grades.

Teacher Contact: Mr Fancourt



GCSE Separate Sciences

Exam Board AQA
Syllabi: 8461, 8462, 8463

What will I learn?

These GCSEs will inspire, motivate and challenge students by following a broad, coherent, practical and worthwhile course of study. Learners will develop their curiosity about the living, material and physical worlds and will gain an insight into and experience of how science works and allow them to engage with science in their everyday lives. Learners will be able to make informed decisions about further study in science and scientific career choices. You will study a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics.

Biology Paper 1

- Topic 1 Cell Biology
- Topic 2 Organisation
- Topic 3 Infection and Response
- Topic 4 Bioenergetics

Chemistry Paper 1

- Topic 1 Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
- Topic 2 Bonding, structure and the properties of matter
- Topic 3 Quantitative Chemistry
- Topic 4 Chemical Changes
- Topic 5 Energy Changes

Physics Paper 1

- Topic 1 Energy
- Topic 2 Electricity
- Topic 3 Particle Model of Matter
- Topic 4 Atomic Structure

Biology Paper 2

- Topic 5 Homeostasis and response
- Topic 6 Inheritance, Variation and Evolution
- Topic 7 Ecology

Chemistry Paper 2

- Topic 6 The rate and extent of chemical change
- Topic 7 Organic Chemistry
- Topic 8 Chemical Analysis
- Topic 9 Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Topic 10 Using resources

Physics Paper 2

- Topic 5 Forces
- Topic 6 Waves
- Topic 7 Magnetism and Electromagnetism
- Topic 8 Space

How will I be assessed?

These GCSEs are assessed through 100 mark, 1 hour 45 minute exams, for each science subject (6 exams in total). For each science subject the content from topic one will be assessed through both of the written examinations. The examinations will contain a mixture of question styles including multiple – choice questions, short answer questions, calculations and extended open response questions. You will be awarded three unconnected grades.

Teacher Contact: Mr Fancourt



GCSE Sciences

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Architecture
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Dentistry
- Engineering
- Finance
- Medicine

What careers may then be open to me?

- Optometry & Ophthalmology
- Pharmacology & Pharmacy
- Physics and Astronomy
- Physiotherapy
- Psychology
- Sports Science
- Veterinary Medicine

Top Universities for Science

- University of Cambridge
- University of Oxford
- Imperial College London
- University College London
- University of Manchester
- University of Sheffield
- University of Bristol
- University of Leeds
- Durham University
- University of Nottingham



GCSE Religious Studies

Exam Board: Edexcel

Syllabus: Religious Studies B

Website: [Edexcel](#) | [GCSE](#) | [Religious Studies B](#) | [Specification at a glance](#)

What will I learn?

There are **two components** to this exam:

Component 1: Christianity

The following units are studied within Christianity:

- Christian Beliefs
- Living the Christian Life
- Marriage and the Family
- Matters of Life and Death

Component 2: Islam

The following units are studied within Islam:

- Muslim Beliefs
- Living the Muslim Life
- Crime and Punishment
- Peace and Conflict

How will you be taught?

We will explore the topics above through debates, discussions, essay writing.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: 1hr 45 min written exam (50%)

Component 2: 1hr 45 min written exam (50%)

Teacher Contact: Ms. Elsaheb



GCSE Religious Studies

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Philosophy & Ethics
- Politics
- Sociology
- History
- English

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Anthropology
- Any humanities degree
- English
- History
- Law
- Philosophy
- Religious Studies
- Theology

What careers may then be open to me?

- Advice worker
- Archivist
- Charity fundraiser
- Counsellor
- Civil Service administrator
- Community development worker
- Editorial assistant
- Newspaper journalist
- Police officer
- Youth worker

Top Universities for Religious Studies

- University of Cambridge
- University of Oxford
- Imperial College London
- University College London
- University of Manchester
- University of Sheffield
- University of Bristol
- University of Leeds
- Durham University
- University of Nottingham



GCSE French and Spanish

Exam Board: AQA

Syllabi: 8658 (French) 8698 (Spanish)

What will I learn?

Taking GCSE French and Spanish is fun, interactive, and gives you a real-life communication tool, which will stay with you for the rest of your life. Over half of UK adults regret not having made the most of studying languages when they had the chance. The younger you are, the easier it is to acquire a new language, so now is the best time to learn! Learning a language allows you to travel, work and live abroad, opening up a world of opportunity.

Colleges, universities and employers all love students who can speak a modern foreign language, because it shows you have the dedication and ability required to master a very difficult skill. Knowing another language is an impressive addition to your CV and it will make you stand out from the crowd. It will also improve your English, and your ability to communicate with the people around you, whether it's in the world of education, work or even in your personal life.

You will learn:

- How to give opinions and express myself in French or Spanish
- How to speak fluently to a basic level and discuss real life issues which matter to me
- How to ask and answer questions in French or Spanish
- Useful phrases to help me when travelling to French and Spanish-speaking countries
- Communication, presentation and debating skills

How will I be taught?

- Authentic resources including videos, articles, recordings, websites and texts
- Taking part in discussions with my teacher and my classmates in French and Spanish
- Reading and learning about the culture and traditions in French and Spanish-speaking countries

How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1: Listening – (45 minutes, 25%): Takes place at the end of Year 11
- Paper 2: Speaking – (10-12 minutes, 25%): Takes place around Easter of Year 11. You will have a recorded conversation in French or Spanish with you teacher. There will be a role play, a photo card to discuss and then general conversation.
- Paper 3: Reading – (1 hour, 25%): Takes place at the end of Year 11
- Paper 4: Writing – (1 hour 15 minutes, 25%): Takes place at the end of Year 11. You will have to write a structured writing task, and an open-ended writing task in French or Spanish. Then there is a translation from English into French or Spanish.

Teacher Contact: Ms Sayer (French), Ms Hopcraft (Spanish)



GCSE French and Spanish

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- French
- Spanish

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Spanish
- French
- International relations
- Linguistics
- Business and management studies
- Economics
- Politics
- Sciences
- Law
- Geography
- English language and literature

What careers may then be open to me?

- Interpreter
- Civil servant
- Journalist
- Broadcaster
- Translator
- Media executive
- Buyer and merchandiser
- Diplomatic service officer
- International aid/development worker
- Logistics and distribution manager

Top Universities for Languages

- University of Cambridge
- University of Oxford
- Durham University
- University of St Andrews
- University of Warwick
- University of Bath
- Kings College London
- University of Exeter
- University of York
- University of Bristol



GCSE Geography

Exam Board: Edexcel

Syllabus: 1GB0 (EdExcel B)

What will I learn?

Each day the media brings us more bad news; natural disasters devastate communities, climate is set to change all over the world, towns and cities are growing out of control and pollution is destroying our wildlife. Businesses are struggling to survive and countries are at risk of war and terrorist attacks. The good news is that by studying GCSE Geography you will explore the solutions to these problems and make informed decisions about your future. Geography draws connections between many subjects e.g. science, economics, business, law, history and politics and many more to develop you into an employable and well-rounded individual.

What will I learn?

GCSE Geography is made up of a mixture of three units; two carrying a weighting of 37.5% and one worth 25% towards your final GCSE Geography grade:

Unit 1- Global geographical issues [37.5%]

You will explore the mechanics of the planet from the core to the highest points of the atmosphere. You will also learn how humans interact with the planet and how our actions will ultimately either destroy or protect the environment we call home. The unit is split into three topics: Hazardous Earth – Climate change, extreme weather and tectonic hazards; Development Dynamics – global inequality, an in depth study of an emerging country; Challenges of an urbanising world – the cause and challenges of rapid urbanisation and an in depth study of a megacity.

Unit 2- UK Geographical issues [37.5%]

The unit is split into three topics: The UK's evolving physical landscape – Physical landscapes across the UK shaped by geographical processes and an in depth study into rivers and coasts. The UK's evolving human landscape – The socio-economic and political influences on the changing landscape of the UK and an in depth study into one of the UK's dynamic cities. Geographical investigations – A fieldwork unit. The module requires students to attend compulsory two day-field trips (one human and one physical). The students will be assessed on their field trips within the exam.

Unit 3- People and environmental issues: Making Geographical Decisions [25%]

In this unit you will further develop your knowledge and understanding of the processes and interactions between people and environment and investigate related issues at a variety of scales. You will develop advanced skills in: source interpretation, data analysis, inference and deduction. You will be given a scenario which will require you to make and justify your choice. This unit is split into three topics: People and the biosphere – Characteristics of large-scale ecosystems and their importance for humans; Forests under threat – a detailed study of the tropical rainforest and the taiga; Consuming energy resources – a study of renewable and non-renewable energy sources, their supply, demand and issues for sustainability in the future.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed throughout the year by a combination of short quizzes and longer assessments. In Year 11, you will sit 3 exams which are an hour and a half each.

Teacher Contact: Ms Langton



GCSE Geography

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Geography
- Economics
- Biology
- English Literature

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Geography
- Earth sciences
- Geology
- Law
- Economics
- International Development
- Politics
- Sustainable Management
- Urban planning

What careers may then be open to me?

- Banker
- Town planner
- Policy advisor
- Management Consultant
- Climate Change Analyst
- Conservationist
- Business Executive
- Travel Writer/Journalist
- Project Management
- Environmental consultant
- Meteorologist
- Diplomacy

Top Universities for Geography

- University of Cambridge
- University of Oxford
- University of Durham
- St Andrews University
- University College London
- University of Bristol
- London School of Economics
- Exeter University
- University of Lancaster
- University of Leeds
- Queen Mary, University of London



GCSE History

Exam Board: Edexcel

Syllabus: GCSE (9-1) History 1HIO

What will I learn?

History is continuously changing the world around us and historic events have helped to shape our society. Learning about past events and the people who've influenced history will allow you to understand how the world got to the point it's at now and how it will continue to develop in the future.

Unit 1: Migrants in Britain (c.800 to today)

- Why have groups of people migrated to Britain over time?
- What experiences have people had and what impact have they left behind in Britain?
- What were the experiences of Caribbean migrants to Notting Hill in the 1940s-60s?

Unit 2: Elizabethan England 1558-88

- Why did no one expect Elizabeth to be such a successful monarch?
- Why did Elizabeth have her cousin Mary Queen of Scots executed?
- How did the English defeat the Spanish Armada?

Unit 2: Cold War and International Relations 1941-91

- Why were the USA and USSR enemies after they were allies in the Second World War?
- How close did the world come to nuclear war over Cuba?
- Why was the Berlin Wall built in 1961 and then knocked down in 1989?

Unit 3: Germany 1918—1939

- Why was Hitler able to come to power in 1933?
- How did the Nazis control Germans using terror, propaganda and censorship?
- How did Hitler and Nazis treat different social groups?

How will I be taught?

- By teachers passionate about their subject
- Through discussion of why things happened how they did, and who caused them
- By learning how to argue your point, and write a convincing essay
- Interpreting sources and artefacts from the people who lived through these times

How will I be assessed?

Three exams at the end of Year 11

Teacher Contact: Mr Sims and Ms Fatine



GCSE History

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- History
- English Literature
- Economics
- Politics
- Geography
- Religious Studies

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- History
- Politics
- English Literature
- Economics
- International Development
- Philosophy
- Business Management
- International Relations

What careers may then be open to me?

- Law
- Journalism
- Museums and curation
- Education
- Finance
- Media
- Politics

Top Universities for History:

- University of Cambridge
- University of Oxford
- Imperial College London
- University College London
- University of Manchester
- University of Sheffield
- University of Bristol
- University of Leeds
- Durham University
- University of Nottingham



GCSE Business

Exam Board: Edexcel

Syllabus: 1BS0

What will I learn?

You'll start by exploring the world of small businesses through the lens of an entrepreneur. How and why do business ideas come about? What makes a successful business? You'll learn how to develop an idea, spot an opportunity and turn it into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business effective, manage money and see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved. Then you'll move on to investigating business growth. How does a business develop beyond the start-up phase? You'll learn about key business concepts and issues and decisions you need to make when growing a business and working in a global business. You'll learn about meeting customer needs, making marketing, operational, financial and human resourcing decisions and you will explore how the wider world impacts the business as it grows.

The main themes of the course are:

- Theme 1: Investigating small business
- Theme 2: Building a business

How will I be taught?

- Case study work
- Regular testing
- Small group work
- Weekly homework
- Whole class teaching
- Mini assignments
- Working with local employers

How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1: Investigating small business. Written exam: 105 minutes, 90 marks
- 50% of the total GCSE
- Paper 2: Building a business. Written exam: 105 minutes, 90 marks
- 50% of the total GCSE

Teacher Contact: Ms Morgan



GCSE Business

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Business
- Economics

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Business and management studies
- Economics
- Accounting
- Finance
- Marketing
- Law
- Politics
- Geography
- Computer science
- Building and surveying

What careers may then be open to me?

- Actuarial analyst
- Business analyst
- Chartered management accountant
- Corporate investment banker
- Data analyst
- Forensic accountant
- Management consultant
- Project manager
- Risk manager
- Stockbroker

Top Universities for Business

- University of Oxford
- University of St Andrews
- University of Warwick
- University of Bath
- Loughborough University
- University of Buckingham
- Goldsmiths, University of London
- Lancaster University
- Durham University
- University of Derby



GCSE Computer Science

Exam Board: OCR

Syllabus: J277

What will I learn?

Unit 1: Computer Systems

Introduces students to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

Unit 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Students apply knowledge and understanding gained in Unit 1. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators.

How will I be taught?

- Opportunities to practice programming skills
- Research tasks using the Internet
- Formal lessons of note taking, group tasks and class discussion
- Practice tasks to help with exam preparation and controlled assessment tasks
- Use of online resources to test and practice skills learnt
- Homework will form an important part of the course and will be set weekly

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1:	Computer Systems	Written paper, 90 minutes 50%
Unit 2:	Computational thinking, algorithms & programming	Written paper, 90 minutes 50%

Practical programming

Students are to be given the opportunity to undertake a programming tasks during their course of study which allows them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. Students will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations, in particular Unit 2 (section B).

Teacher Contact: Ms Scott



GCSE Computer Science

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Computer Science
- Graphics

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Computer science
- Information systems
- Business and management studies
- Media
- Software engineering
- Computer games design and programming
- Economics
- Mathematics
- Accounting
- Electronic and electrical engineering

What careers may then be open to me?

- Applications developer
- Cyber security analyst
- Data analyst
- Forensic computer analyst
- Game designer
- Information systems manager
- Multimedia programmer
- Software engineer
- VFX artist
- Web designer

Top Universities for Computer Science

- University of Oxford
- University of St Andrews
- University of Warwick
- University of Cambridge
- Loughborough University
- Imperial College London
- Durham University
- University of Southampton
- University of Leeds
- University of Surrey
- University of Birmingham
- University of Manchester



GCSE Drama

Exam Board: AQA

Specification: GCSE Drama (8261)

What will I learn?

GCSE Drama offers students the opportunity to explore drama as a practical art form in which ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through choices of form, style and convention. Students will create, perform and respond to drama informed by their theoretical knowledge of Drama and Theatre.

Students will:

- apply knowledge and understanding when making, performing and responding to drama
- explore performance texts, understanding their social, cultural and historical context including the theatrical conventions of the period in which they were created
- develop a range of theatrical skills and apply them to create performance work
- work collaboratively to generate, develop and communicate ideas
- develop as creative, effective, independent and reflective students who are able to make informed choices in process and performance
- contribute as an individual to a theatrical performance
- reflect on and evaluate their own work and that of others

Students learn to collaborate with others, think analytically and evaluate effectively. They gain the confidence to pursue their own ideas, reflect and refine their efforts. Whatever the future holds, students of GCSE Drama emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills, applicable both in further studies and in the workplace.

How will I be taught?

Through a mixture of practical explorations of texts studied and theoretical understanding of the key knowledge relating to creating, performing and evaluating Drama and Theatre. You will work both independently and in a range of diverse group settings which extend your communication, co-operation and creative skills. As a performer you will develop your vocal, physical and staging skills and learn to rehearse, refine and review your own skill level. When devising you will generate your own creative interpretations of ideas and issues, and shape these into effective drama and theatre, working collaboratively to refine and perform your own piece of theatre. You will also attend a Theatre Trip to experience live performance.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Understanding Drama -40%	Component 2: Devising Drama—40%	Component 3: Texts in Practice—20%
<p><i>Section A: Theatre Makers and their Roles</i></p> <p><i>Section B: Study of a set text</i></p> <p><i>Section C: Review of Live Performance</i></p>	<p><i>You will respond to a range of stimuli from which you will create, refine, rehearse and perform an original piece of theatre. You will write a 2500 word Devising Log and Perform your piece under exam conditions</i></p>	<p><i>You will perform in TWO extracts from ONE scripted play, learning lines and communicating the playwrights' original intentions in performance.</i></p> <p><i>This will be any combination of Monologue, Duologue or Group Performances.</i></p>
<p>Written Exam (1hour 45 minutes)</p>	<p>Performance Exam—10%</p> <p>Devising Log (written) - 30%</p> <p>Assessed by Teachers—</p> <p>Moderated by AQA</p>	<p>Performance Exam—Assessed by a Visiting Examiner from AQA</p>

Teacher Contact: Mr Coetzee



GCSE Drama

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Drama and Theatre Studies
- English Literature
- Social Sciences
- Humanities

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Drama, Theatre Studies and Performing Arts
- Acting (Stage and Film)
- Musical Theatre
- English Literature
- Media, Film and Television Studies
- Creative Writing
- Social Sciences
- Humanities
- Education

What careers may then be open to me?

- Performance based—acting, presenting, musical theatre
- Theatre Design—lighting, sound, set, costume
- Directing
- Drama Therapist
- Writer—T.V, Drama, Film, Prose
- Producer—T.V, Theatre, Film
- P.R., Media and Marketing
- Teaching
- Communications

Top Universities for Drama and Theatre Studies

- Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts
- Royal Central School of Speech & Drama
- Oxford University—Extra Curricular—Oxford University Drama Society
- Cambridge University—Education, English, Drama, and the Arts—Footlights
- Mountview
- Arts Ed
- Italia Conte
- University of Bristol
- Bristol Old Vic Acting School
- The Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts
- Goldsmiths, University of London
- Guildford School of Acting
- East 15 Acting School
- Manchester Metropolitan University School of Theatre
- Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance
- Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama
- Guildhall School of Music and Drama



GCSE Electronics

Exam Board: WJEC Eduqas

Syllabus: 603/0776/6

What will I learn?

In Electronics students will be learning the key fundamentals underlying electronics and will provide a firm basis for any further study in Electronics. Students will also have the opportunity to design their own electronic circuit, print the circuit off and etch it and then build it with their choice of components. All students will be guided through the design and making process.

You will use CAD/CAM facilities that can be used for both circuits and cases.

An A4 or electronic portfolio of work will be required, containing research, specifications, designing, modelling evidence, CAD and evaluations. The course is split between coursework and an exam. 20% is coursework, and 80% is the exam.

How will I be taught?

Lessons will require active participation and students will be assessed regularly through regular questioning and quizzing. Lessons are fast paced and there are high expectations placed on all students. Students will be given significant resources and will be expected to use this for independent study.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1— Discovering Electronics— Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of qualification (80 Marks)

Component 2—Application of Electronics— Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of qualification (80 Marks)

Component 3— Extended system design and realisation task—Non-exam assessment (NEA) 20% of qualification. This task requires each learner to produce a single extended system design and realisation task independently. The task builds on the systems developed throughout the specification and the requirement to relate practical circuit design and construction to knowledge and understanding within Components 1 and 2.

Teacher Contact: Mr Jahic



GCSE Electronics

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- BTEC Level 3 Engineering

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Electronic and electrical engineering
- Mechanical engineering
- Computer science
- Building and surveying
- Maths
- Civil engineering
- Architecture
- Design
- Aerospace engineering
- Physics

What careers may then be open to me?

- Acoustic consultant
- Aerospace engineer
- Broadcast engineer
- CAD technician
- Control and instrumentation engineer
- Design engineer
- Electrical engineer
- Electronics engineer
- Nuclear engineer
- Systems analyst

Top Universities for Electronics

- University of Nottingham
- University of Southampton
- University of Surrey
- Imperial College London
- University of Bath
- University of Manchester
- University of Bedfordshire
- University of Leeds
- University College London
- University of Bristol



GCSE Graphic Communication

Exam Board: AQA

Syllabus: 8203

What will I learn?

This is a specialist area of Art and Design which focuses on advertising, text design, illustration and the use of digital techniques, including Photoshop software and photography. You will learn how to design lettering styles and logos, consider the creation of posters, packaging, magazine covers and illustration and gain an understanding of the importance of layout. A range of styles, techniques and production methods will be used and you will study the work of other graphic designers. Through research, discussion and evaluation you will learn how to produce your own creative work and present it like a professional graphic designer.

How will I be taught?

- By looking at examples of past and current design work.
- By using a range of image creation techniques.
- By practising skills using Photoshop software and Photography.
- By Visiting a museum or gallery.
- Through demonstrations and workshops.
- By understanding a design brief.
- Through the development and communication of your own original ideas.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1— Portfolio of work 60% of total mark

Through controlled assessment and the presentation of three extended projects:

- AO1 - Understanding and responding to research; Looking at designers' work, lettering, logos, illustration and packaging.
- AO2 - Experimenting with techniques including; Digital illustration, drawing , collage and photography.
- AO3 - Recording and developing your ideas including; Annotating the stages of your designs, creative use of Photoshop, sketching and the use of specialist Graphic Design vocabulary.
- AO4 - Presentation skills—Final graphic design work in response to the Design briefs.

Unit 2—Externally set task 40% of total mark

Exam project:

- Working on an exam question of your choice.
- Use of materials and technique appropriate to Graphic Design.
- Plan, develop and produce ideas for final outcomes, inspired by your research and in response to a design brief.

Teacher Contact: Ms Shkokani



GCSE Graphic Communication

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Art
- Graphics
- Photography

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Design
- Photography and film
- Architecture
- Fine art
- Psychology
- Media studies
- Computer games design and programming
- Marketing
- Drama and theatre studies
- Computer science

What careers may then be open to me?

- Architect
- Games designer
- Graphic designer
- Animator
- Illustrator
- Photographer
- Art therapist
- Interior designer
- Museum/gallery curator
- Multimedia programmer
- Stylist
- Web designer
- Fine artist

Top Universities for Art and Design / Graphics

- University of the Arts London (UAL)
- Goldsmiths University of London
- London Metropolitan University
- Central Saint Martins
- Royal College of Art
- Edinburgh College of Arts (ECA)
- Arts University Bournemouth
- Aberystwyth University
- Nottingham Trent University
- University of Southampton



GCSE Media Studies

Exam Board: EDUQAS

Syllabus: C680QS

What will I learn?

GCSE Media Studies engages students in the in depth study of media products in relation to the theoretical framework: media language, representation, industries, audiences and contexts.

Students are required to study media products from all of the following media forms:

- audio-visual forms (TV, film, radio, advertising and marketing, video games and music video) .
- online forms (social and participatory media, video games, music video, newspapers, magazines, advertising and marketing).
- print forms (newspapers, magazines, advertising and marketing).

How will I be taught?

- Research into existing media styles
- Analysis of contemporary and historical set media products and their contexts
- Analysis of unseen
- How to use your creativity in media production
- Hands-on practical experience of graphic design, web design, and filmmaking.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Exploring the Media 40%	Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products 30%	Component 3: Non-Exam Assessment 30%
A study of advertising and marketing, magazines, newspapers, radio and gaming.	A study of TV crime drama and the Music Industry	Creating a media product: Magazine, DVD cover and posters, website, music video or TV programme.
Written exam: 90 mins	Written exam: 90 mins	Assessed by teachers Moderated by EDUQAS.

Teacher Contact: Ms McKenzie



GCSE Media Studies

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Media Studies

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Media Studies
- Journalism
- Photography and film
- English Language/English Literature
- Marketing
- Design (graphic, web, product)
- Sociology
- Drama
- Theatre Studies
- Computer Science

What careers may then be open to me?

- Media planner
- Multimedia specialist
- Programme researcher, broadcasting/film/video
- Public relations officer
- Runner, broadcasting/film/video
- Social media manager
- Television/film/video producer
- Web content manager
- Advertising account executive
- Broadcast journalist

Top Universities for Media Studies

- Queen Mary University of London
- University of Warwick
- University of Exeter
- Loughborough University
- University of Southampton
- University of Leeds
- Cardiff University
- University of Stirling
- Lancaster University
- University of Kent



GCSE Music

Exam Board: EDUQAS

Syllabus: 1MU0

What will I learn?

In this course you will develop composition, performance and listening skills which are essential to help you become a multi-faceted musician. You will gain an understanding of how music really works and will be able to explore a wide range of genres and styles to develop your listening skills. It is a requirement for A level music and will demonstrate to employers that you are a well-rounded individual.

Composition skills

You will learn to compose music using instruments and music technology. You will learn to record and transcribe or annotate your music.

Performance skills

You will develop your solo and ensemble performances skills using an instrument or your voice

Listening skills

At GCSE you will learn to analyse music in depth from a range of different styles including Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music .

How will I be taught?

Analysis of music and musical concepts, how to use your creativity in your own pieces of music (compositions), performance skills and instrumental skills. Working together in groups and independently.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment and you will work in groups and on your own when preparing for performances and recordings. You will be taught listening and analysis skills each week and you will spend time practising exam style questions.

GCSE

Component 1: Performing (30%)

One solo and one group performance playing an instrument, singing or rapping. This is recorded as coursework in lesson time.

Component 1: Composing (30%)

Two compositions, one free choice and one to a set brief. At London Academy, students compose on Garageband or Logic Pro X.

Component 3: Appraising (40%)

Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes.

The paper is made up of 8 questions exploring musical understanding based on set works ranging from Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music

Teacher Contact: Mr Giuliani



GCSE Music

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Music/Performing Arts and any arts related subject

What university courses could I then apply to read?

Music is actively encouraged by higher education institutions as it shows a well rounded-individual who is disciplined and has the ability to apply themselves under pressure. Specific courses related to music are:

- Musicology
- Instrumental performance
- Musical theatre / Theatre Studies
- Film/Gaming Composition
- Music/Copyright Law
- Audio recording and production
- Music composition and technology
- Sound engineering
- Marketing
- Design (graphic, web, product)
- Drama
- Computer Science

What careers may then be open to me?

- Music therapist
- Musician
- Private music teacher
- Sound technician, broadcasting/film/video
- Broadcast engineer
- Community arts worker
- Event manager
- Marketing executive
- Radio producer
- Theatre stage manager
- Law

Top Universities for Music

- Durham University
- Guildhall School of Music and Drama
- University of Oxford
- University of Bristol
- University of Leeds
- University of Birmingham
- Royal Holloway University
- University of Nottingham
- University of Manchester



GCSE Physical Education

Exam Board: OCR

Syllabus: J587

What will I learn?

- Practical element (30%):

Through training sessions and teaching in practical PE lessons and after school clubs students will complete a practical examination in three different sports.

- Theoretical element (60%):

Through classroom based lessons students will learn two separate Units:

⇒ Unit 1: Anatomy, physiology and physical training; The impact of exercise on the body, different types of training and fitness

⇒ Unit 2: Sports psychology and cultural issue in sport; the impact of the mind to sports performance, use of performance enhancing drugs and goal setting in sport

- Coursework element (10%)

Analysing and evaluating performance: Collecting data on fitness and sports performance and then designing a training programme based around the findings

How will I be taught?

- Through practical fitness and coaching sessions in each individual sport.
- Through playing and training in competitive sport on a regular basis. E.g. representing the school team.
- In classroom sessions involving lectures, worksheets and tests

How will I be assessed?

- Written examination 60%
- Practical assessment 30%
- Coursework 10%

Content	Assessment	
Physical training, anatomy and physiology	60 marks 1 hour written paper	30% of total GCSE
Sports psychology, health, fitness and well-being	60 marks 1 hour written paper	30% of total GCSE
Practical performance in three chosen sport	20 marks for each of the 3 practical performance	30% of total GCSE
Coursework: analysing your personal level of Fitness	20 marks	10% of total GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mr Robertson



GCSE Physical Education

What Sixth Form Courses could I then study?

- Physical Education

What university courses could I then apply to read?

- Sports Science
- Sports Management
- Sports Medicine
- Sports Physiotherapy
- Sports Development and Coaching
- Sports Massage
- Anatomy
- Physiotherapy
- Biology
- Psychology

What careers may then be open to me?

- Exercise physiologist
- Fitness centre manager
- Personal trainer
- Sports coach
- Sports development officer
- Sports therapist
- Health promotion specialist
- Healthcare scientist, cardiac sciences
- Outdoor activities/education manager
- Sport psychologist
- PE teacher

Top Universities for PE and Sport:

- University of Loughborough
- University of Bath
- University of Birmingham
- University of Glasgow
- University of Exeter
- Kingston University
- University of Aberdeen
- Durham University
- Bangor University
- Staffordshire University



