

Braeside School



Options Booklet

Key Stage 4

2017 to 2019

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Braeside GCSE Curriculum Guide

For Years 10 and 11

2017– 2019

Introduction

Dear Pupils and Parents

Moving into GCSE courses marks an exciting stage in education. The groundwork has been prepared over the first three years across the curriculum and pupils have already been introduced to many of the concepts and ideas needed for GCSE. Years 10 and 11 form a two-year course, with new options on offer at GCSE. After GCSEs in Year 11 our students almost always continue with further study in Sixth Form either taking A Levels or other options including diplomas or sometimes vocational courses.

At Braeside we offer a wide range of options and guide pupils towards choosing courses that ensure a well-balanced programme of study. Latest government strategy promotes the idea that a good education at GCSE should include at least one humanities subject (History or Geography) or modern language (French or Spanish), as well as a core of subjects including English, Mathematics and Sciences.

All students will follow a 'common core' of compulsory subjects: English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and 3 Sciences. Pupils also have PSHE lessons which include Citizenship and Careers, and have compulsory PE lessons in both Year 10 and Year 11.

Pupils choose to study up to a further 3 additional GCSEs.

Pupils and parents may have been considering subjects already and our advice is to choose with these in mind:

1. Choose option subjects that you are good at and that you happily spend time working on at home.
2. Choose subjects that complement any career ideas you may already have.
3. Act on the advice of your teachers who know your strengths and weaknesses in their subject and whether you have the potential to do well at GCSE.

Following parents' evening, when you have had feedback and guidance from your teachers and the Options Evening when you have gathered information about the subject courses, you need to rank your option choices.

Whilst we cannot guarantee that pupils can have all of their top 3 choices we will aim to build the timetable to accommodate a best fit for as many pupils as we can.

Your completed Option Choices Form must be returned to the School Office by **Friday 24 March 2017**, at the latest.

Claire Osborn
Headmistress

Please note that this information is correct at the time of publication

English Language GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8700
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	There are two exams: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

Introduction

You will learn to read, understand, analyse and evaluate and develop a critical viewpoint about a range of literature prose, non-fiction and literary non-fiction texts from the 20th and 21st centuries. You will learn to write in a range of styles and for a range of purposes: descriptive, narrative and to present a viewpoint. You will learn to communicate using Standard English effectively, developing your ideas and taking part in discussions as well as giving presentations (some presentations will be recorded and graded separately to the GCSE award level).

Course content

Year 10

Introduction to the course and enthusing students about English!

Consolidating Fundamental Skills and Concepts (on which to build throughout the course):

Key technical skills: vocabulary, spelling, punctuation, grammar, structure

Key concepts: literary form, genre, narrative perspective, theme, literal and metaphorical reading, analysing writer's choice, attitude and viewpoints

Reading, understanding and responding to texts - texts used: AQA Text book for GCSE and study of a selection of thematically linked fiction, poetry or non-fiction (autobiographical writing, extracts from print and online media, speeches and letters texts) e.g. poetry, war poetry, extracts from works of fiction, letters, news reports, editorial comment, diaries and letters.

Year 11

A consolidation and revision of the reading and writing skills built on in year 10, developing comparative and critical viewpoints and practice for responding to exam style questions.

How the course is assessed

You will have two examinations of equal weighting. There will be one tier containing integrated reading and writing tasks at the end of the course in Year 11 (levelled from grade 1-9)

<u>Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing</u>	<u>Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives</u>
What's assessed?	What's assessed?
Section A: Reading - One literature text	Section A: Reading - One non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text
Section B: Writing - Descriptive or narrative writing	Section B: Writing - Writing to present a viewpoint
How is it assessed?	How is it assessed?
1 hour 45 minutes written exam worth 50% of GCSE	1 hour 45 minutes written exam worth 50% of GCSE

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

Websites: BBC Bitesize, This is English, Mr Bruff, Youtube

Books: CGP- study and revision student work books and revision books; Collins- study and revision student work books and revision books

English Literature GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8702
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	There are two exams: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel Modern texts and Poetry

Introduction

You will study a modern prose or drama text, modern poetry and poems from the English Literary Heritage from the set anthology and learn how to respond to and compare unseen poems. You will study a Shakespeare play and a 19th century novel. You will develop personal and literary responses to texts. You will develop planning, reading, note-taking and independent study skills.

Course content

Year 10

Study of a Shakespeare Play (Macbeth) and developing skills to respond to an exam style question

Study of a selection of poems from the AQA anthology of poems and developing skills to respond to and compare anthology poems and unseen poems

Study of a modern drama text - An Inspector Calls by J B Priestley

Study of a 19th century Novel – Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Year 11

Further study and revision and development of critical viewpoints of the texts read in year 10 and practice responding to exam style questions.

How the course is assessed

Paper 1 worth 40% and Paper 2 worth 60% of the GCSE. There will be one tier containing integrated questions at the end of the course in Year 11 (levelled from grade 1-9)

<u>Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel</u> Section A: An extract based question on the Shakespeare play that has been studied Section B: An extract based question on the 19th century novel that has been studied How is it assessed? 1 hour 45 minutes written exam worth 40% of GCSE	<u>Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives</u> Section A: Modern texts - One essay question on the modern prose or drama text studied Section B: Poetry - One comparative question from the chosen cluster of poems from the anthology Section C: Unseen Poetry - One question on an unseen poem and one question comparing it with a second unseen poem How is it assessed? 2 hour 15 minutes written exam worth 60% of GCSE
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Useful website links, text books used and additional information

Websites: BBC Bitesize, This is English, Mr Bruff, Youtube

Books: CGP- study and revision student work books and revision books; Collins - study and revision student work books and revision books; York notes

Mathematics GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8300
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	Paper 1: Non-calculator paper (1½ hours) Paper 2: Calculator paper (1½ hours) Paper 3: Calculator paper (1½ hours) Each paper is out of 80 marks and worth a third of the overall grade. Written examinations to be taken in May/June of year 11
TIERS OF ENTRY	Higher (grades 4-9) & Foundation (grades 1-5)

Introduction

Mathematics underpins the world around us and a good understanding of maths will help with many everyday life activities from catching a train to managing personal finances to baking a cake!

Mathematics concerns the study of number, patterns and relationships, shape & space, statistics and probability which are combined with problem solving and reasoning.

It is a cross-curricular subject, which means that mathematics is used in many of the subjects you will study. As a core subject, it will also provide you with an essential qualification for further education.

GCSE Mathematics is highly valuable in the workplace, opening up opportunities for many different career paths such as architecture, banking & finance, engineering, health and medicine, IT, psychology, science, teaching and many other careers.

Course Structure and Content

The content of the new Higher tier GCSE Mathematics has been augmented with some A level content so that the course stretches the most able pupils. There is also more focus on Geometry and Ratio, for example Trigonometry is now covered in both tiers.

There will be fewer questions where the solution is directed and students will be asked to explain their method with full written solutions.

There is increased emphasis in the GCSE Mathematics examinations on the assessment of applying mathematics and using mathematics to solve problems, and some questions will be set in contexts that students should be expected to deal with in the real world.

The subject content of this course is common to all exam boards and has been organised into six broad topic areas as follows:

Number	Algebra
Geometry and measures	Ratio, proportion and rates of change
Statistics	Probability

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

The core text book is AQA GCSE Maths Higher or AQA GCSE Maths Foundation.

Each pupil has access to a MyMaths account for online consolidation of topics.

Useful websites: www.aqa.org.uk , www.mymaths.co.uk , <http://corbettmaths.com>, www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize, www.themathsteacher.com, www.examsolutions.net.

The websites have good resources including revision notes and video explanations of GCSE Maths topics as well as exam questions and model answers for GCSE Maths, organised by topic and as full exam papers.

Biology GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8461
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	Paper 1 Paper 2

Introduction

Biology is the study of living things and the course will cover aspects from the microscope structures and processes of such topics as cells and respiration right up to the way in which living things adapt and coexist in their various habitats.

Course content

Students in Y10 will briefly review the following topics studied in Y9:

Topic 1: Cell Biology

Topic 2: Cell Organisation

New topics studied in Y10 will be:

Topic 3: Infection and Response

Topic 4: Bioenergetics.

Topic 5: Homeostasis and Response

Topic 6: Inheritance, variation and evolution

In Y11 the final section, Topic 7: Ecology, will be studied as well as a brief review of other work before a thorough revision programme is conducted.

How the course is assessed

The course is assessed by two written papers, each of 1 hour and 45 minutes in length. These can be taken at Foundation Tier (grades 1 – 5) or Higher Tier (grades 4 to 9). There is no practical assessment but practical work is interwoven into the course and will be addressed in the written papers.

Paper 1: (100 marks, 50% of GCSE) Covering Topics 1 to 4

Paper 2: (100 marks, 50% of GCSE) Covering Topics 5 to 7

Both papers will contain multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions.

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-science-programmes-of-study>

<http://www.my-gcse-science.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrkw2hv>

Text based resources are to be decided based on the new curriculum

Chemistry GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8462
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	Paper 1 Paper 2

Introduction

Chemistry is the study of the branch of science concerned with the substances of which matter is composed, the investigation of their properties and reactions, and the use of such reactions to form new substances.

Course content

Students in Y10 will briefly review the following topics studied in Y9:

Topic 1: Atomic structure and the periodic table

Topic 2: Bonding, Structure and the Properties of Matter

Topic 3: Quantitative Chemistry

New topics studied in Y10 will be:

Topic 4: Chemical Changes

Topic 5: Energy Changes

Topic 6: The rate and extent of chemical change

Topic 7: Organic chemistry

Topic 8: Chemical analysis

In Y11 the final sections, Topic 9: Chemistry of the atmosphere and Topic 10: Using resources, will be studied as well as a brief review of other work before a thorough revision programme is conducted.

How the course is assessed

The course is assessed by two written papers, each of 1 hour and 45 minutes in length. These can be taken at Foundation Tier (grades 1 – 5) or Higher Tier (grades 4 to 9). There is no practical assessment but practical work is interwoven into the course and will be addressed in the written papers.

Paper 1: (100 marks, 50% of GCSE) Covering Topics 1 to 5

Paper 2: (100 marks, 50% of GCSE) Covering Topics 6 to 10

Both papers will contain multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions.

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/chemistry-8462>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-science-programmes-of-study>

<http://www.my-gcscscience.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrkw2hv>

Text based resources are to be decided based on the new curriculum

Physics GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8463
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	Paper 1 Paper 2

Introduction

Physics is the branch of science concerned with the nature and properties of matter and energy. The subject matter of physics includes mechanics, heat, light and other radiation, sound, electricity, magnetism, and the structure of atoms.

Course content

Students in Y10 will briefly review the following topics studied in Y9:

Topic 1: Energy

Topic 2: Electricity

Topic 3: Particle Model of Matter

New topics studied in Y10 will be:

Topic 4: Atomic Structure

Topic 5: Forces

Topic 6: Waves

Topic 7: Magnetism and electromagnetism

In Y11 the final section, Topic 8: Space Physics, will be studied as well as a brief review of other work before a thorough revision programme is conducted.

How the course is assessed

The course is assessed by two written papers, each of 1 hour and 45 minutes in length. These can be taken at Foundation Tier (grades 1 – 5) or Higher Tier (grades 4 to 9). There is no practical assessment but practical work is interwoven into the course and will be addressed in the written papers.

Paper 1: (100 marks, 50% of GCSE) Covering Topics 1 to 4

Paper 2: (100 marks, 50% of GCSE) Covering Topics 5 to 8

Both papers will contain multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response questions.

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-science-programmes-of-study>

<http://www.my-gcsescience.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrkw2hv>

Text based resources are to be decided based on the new curriculum

Art and Design (Fine Art) GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8202
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	Unit 1 (60%) Unit 2 (40%)

Introduction

Fine Art is defined here as the need to explore an idea, convey an experience or respond to a theme or issue of personal significance.

This course is aimed at pupils who may wish to pursue careers and further study within the area of Art and Design, and is seen as a precursor to A Level, GNVQ, BTEC, Foundation and Degree Courses.

Course content

The course is split into two Components. Component 1 comprises of two separate projects in which pupils respond to a theme and develop ideas from concept through to a final piece. The development work is completed between Year 10 and Year 11 and is recorded in two separate sketchbooks. The development work and final pieces in Component 1 represent 60% of the final mark.

Component 2 is the third and final project. Pupils are given a choice of different theme and are asked to develop ideas in preparation for a 10 hour exam during which pupils create their final artwork under exam conditions. Component 2 represents 40% of the final mark.

This course aims to teach pupils how to manipulate line, shape, form, colour, tone, pattern and texture using a wide variety of media and techniques to achieve a diversity of outcome. This includes drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, collage, printmaking, photography, photo-manipulation, ICT and mixed media work.

How the course is assessed

Pupils produce a portfolio of work in Years 10 and 11 which accounts for 60% of their final grade. This Controlled Assessment submission includes two units and will be assessed on the following:

AO1 Developing ideas through investigations

AO2 Refining ideas through experimenting with different media

AO3 Recording ideas, observations and insights

AO4 Presenting a personal, informed and meaningful response

Examination: Pupils are given a choice of themes of which they have to research and develop ideas. This culminates in a 10 hour timed examination which involves pupils producing a final piece of work relating to their chosen theme. The Exam and preparatory work account for 40% of their final grade.

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zdwtsbk>

<http://www.lightboxresource.co.uk/assess/gcse-gce-examples/gcse-fine-art/>

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/art-and-design/specifications/AQA-ART-GCSE-SP-2016-V1-0.PDF>

Business Studies GCSE

BOARD	OCR
SYLLABUS CODE	J204
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/UNITS	01 Business activity, marketing and people 02 Operations, finance and influences on business

Introduction

The philosophy of the subject incorporates the belief that the study of Business Studies should require candidates both to understand the dynamic environment in which a business operates and to appreciate the many and varied factors which impact upon business activity and business behaviour.

Students will be required to apply their knowledge and understanding to a variety of different business contexts in a dynamic and competitive environment. These include businesses ranging from small enterprises to large multinationals and businesses operating in local, national and global markets. Students will develop an understanding of how these factors impact on business behaviour.

Students should be able to make decisions based on the analysis and evaluation of information provided, and be able to recognise the use and limitations of qualitative and quantitative data in business decision making.

Course content

In year 10 students will study

legal forms of ownership, business aims and objectives, impact on stakeholders and how a business grows;
marketing, market research and analysis of marketing data;
human resources including: recruitment, selection and motivation of employees, training and development and employment law;

In year 11 students will study

operations management including: methods of production and quality assurance, retail and ecommerce, consumer law, dealing with suppliers and logistical problems;
methods of raising, controlling and monitoring of finance
influence of the external environment including: globalisation, consumer income and unemployment
interdependence of business activity and how these affect decision making

Link to OCR website:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/304213-specification-accredited-gcse-business-j204.pdf>

How the course is assessed

Students will sit two exams at the end of Year 11

Each exam comprises two sections and will be

- worth 50% of the final grade
- 1 hour 30 minutes long
- marked out of 80

01 Business activity, marketing and human resources

Section A

- multiple choice questions (worth 15 marks)

Section B

- short, medium and extended response questions to stimulus material (65 marks)

02 Operations, finance and influences on business

Section A

- multiple choice questions (worth 15 marks)

Section B

- short, medium and extended response questions to stimulus material (65 marks)

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

<http://www.ocr.org.uk>

<http://businesscasestudies.co.uk/#axzz30SousxK4>

<http://www.revisionstation.co.uk/index.htm>

OCR Business Studies for GCSE Second Edition

Drama GCSE

BOARD:	AQA
SYLLABUS:	8261
ASSESSMENT:	
Component 1: Understanding drama (written exam) 40%	
Component 2: Devising drama (practical exam with written portfolio) 40%	
Component 3: Texts in practice (practical) 20%	

Introduction

Drama is an exciting, creative and challenging course that allows students to develop a creative problem solving ability and leadership skills that are key to success. Although ability is important, maturity, motivation and enthusiasm are vital if you are to succeed on the course. You need to be willing to open up and take risks. Students need to be prepared to visit the theatre more than once and may need to rehearse after school.

What will I learn?

- Character and content
- Performance skills
- Genre, style and conventions
- Dramatic form and structure
- Social, historical and political issues
- Analytical and evaluative skills

What will I be doing in Drama lessons?

You will mainly work in small groups or as a whole class in creating pieces of drama. Some of the drama which you create will be based on a play text, but often you will explore meaning and invent characters/situations with your teacher and fellow students. In a typical lesson, you might expect to begin with a stimulus, make comments about it and then use appropriate drama techniques to develop a scene or performance. You might then share your work and hear what other students have to say about it, as well as the teacher's comments. For homework you will be asked to complete a variety of written and practical tasks such as after school rehearsals. You will take part in workshops and exciting theatre visits for inspiration and write a theatre evaluation as part of your written exam.

What will I have to do?

Component 1 – Understanding drama (written exam): In preparation for the 1.45 minute written exam students must study and explore one set play and learn how to evaluate the work of live theatre makers (performers and/or designers).

Component 2- Devising drama (practical exam with written portfolio): This is a practical component in which students are assessed on their ability to create and develop ideas to communicate meaning for theatrical performance, apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance and analyse and evaluate their own work.

Component 3 - Texts in practice (practical): This component is a practical component in which students are assessed on their ability to apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance.

What are the most important deadlines during this course?

Comp. 2 will begin in Year 10 Summer Term, Comp. 3 in Year 11 Autumn Term and Comp. 1 in Year 11 Summer Term.

French GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8658
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	4 papers Listening , Reading, Speaking and Writing

Introduction

Studying French will enable you to communicate with the Francophone peoples and thus enable you to appreciate the richness of other cultures. French is the third most spoken language in business after English and Mandarin, and before Spanish. Studying a modern language at GCSE level is considered to be an indicator of a broad and balanced education, enhancing your applications to university and increasing your chances of finding a good job.

Course content

Theme 1 - Identity and culture e.g. family, free-time activity, customs and festivals

Theme 2 - Local, national, international and global areas of interest e.g. the environment, travel and tourism

Theme 3 - Current and future study and employment e.g. education post-16, jobs and careers

How the course is assessed

GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). You will take all four question papers (Listening, Reading, Speaking, Writing) at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series. Each paper will account for 25% of your GCSE final grade.

- **Listening paper:** Foundation paper (35 minutes) Higher paper (45 minutes), both Tiers have two sections. Section A: questions in English to be answered in English. Section B: questions in French to be answered in French
- **Reading paper:** Foundation paper (45 minutes) Higher (1 hour) both Tiers have three sections. Section A: questions in English to be answered in English. Section B: questions in French to be answered in French. Section C : translation from French into English (approximately 35 words at Foundation Tier and 50 words at Higher Tier)
- **Speaking paper:** The format is the same at Foundation Tier and Higher but with different length. There are three sections. Role-play (2minutes for both Tiers) , photo card (2 minutes at Foundation Tier and 3 minutes at Higher Tier) and general conversation (3-5 minutes at Foundation Tier and 5-7 minutes at Higher Tier).
- **Writing paper:** (Foundation Tier 1 hour, Higher Tier 1h and 15 minutes). Foundation Tier has four questions. Question 1: message (student produces four sentences in response to a photo), question 2: short passage (maximum 40 words), question 3: translation from English into French (minimum 35 words) and question 4: structured writing task (90 words approximately) there is a choice from two questions. Higher Tier has three questions. Question 1: structured writing task (90 words, with a choice of two questions), question 2: open-ended writing task (150 words approximately, with a choice of two questions) and question 3: translation from English into French (minimum 50 words).

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

www.linguascope.co.uk and www.duolingo.com (useful to practise vocabulary)

<http://www.language-gym.com> (New GCSE vocabulary, grammar and translation skills)

BBC Bitesize - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zhsvr82>

www.languagesonline.org.uk (useful spelling and grammar practice)

AQA GCSE Revision Guide and Kerboodle (Online AQA GCSE textbook with listening exercises)

Geography GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8036
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	Examination 1: 35% Physical Examination 2: 35% Human Examination 3: 30% Geographical applications

Introduction

The study of Geography stimulates an interest in and a sense of wonder about places. It helps young people make sense of a complex and dynamically changing world. It explains where places are, how places and landscapes are formed, how people and their environment interact, and how a diverse range of economies, societies and environments are interconnected. It builds on pupils' own experiences to investigate places at all scales from the personal to the global.

Course content

Living with the physical environment

3.1.1. The challenge of natural hazards, 3.1.2 Physical landscapes in the UK,

3.1.3 The living world 3. Geographical skills

Challenges in the human environment

3.2.1 Urban issues and challenges, 3.2.2 The changing economic world, 3.2.3 The challenge of resource management, 3.4 Geographical skills

Geographical applications

3.3.1 Issue evaluation, 3.3.2 Fieldwork, 3.4 Geographical skills

How the course is assessed

Paper 1: Living with the physical environment

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 88 marks (including 3 marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology (SPGST))
- 35% of GCSE

Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 88 marks (including 3 marks for SPGST)
- 35% of GCSE

Paper 3 Geographical applications

Written exam: 1 hour 15, 76 marks (including 6 marks for SPGST), 30% of GCSE,

Pre-release resources made available from 15 March in the year of the exam

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

The following are AQA approved textbooks publishers:

Cambridge University Press

Oxford University Press

Hodder Education

History GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8145
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	Two written papers, covering four units, of 1 hour 45 minutes each

Introduction

Students will build on their work in Key Stage 3. They will study both modern world history and an earlier period of British history. British history must form at least 40% of the course

Paper 1: Understanding the Modern World help students to understand key developments and events in modern world history.

Paper 2: Shaping the Nation, enables students to understand key developments and events in the history of Britain.

Course content

Year 10 will study Paper 1, Section A “Understanding the modern world”, in which they will study democracy and dictatorship in Germany 1890-1945. Section B is the wider world depth study in which they study conflict and tensions 1918-1939.

Year 11 will study Paper 2, Section A, in which they will study the theme of medicine and health 1000-present day. Section B will be a depth study of one period of British history.

How the course is assessed

This qualification is linear. This means students will sit both their examination papers at the end of Year 11.

Both papers are worth 50% of the GCSE and assessed by written exam lasting 1 hour 45 minutes. They are each worth 84 marks, including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar. There is no controlled assessment or coursework of any kind.

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

Textbooks approved by AQA will be purchased for the course. Students will also watch relevant DVDs and film clips. Revision books and notes will also be provided.

Music GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8271
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	Unit 1: Listening to and appraising music: 40% Unit 3: Performing music: 30% Unit 4: Composing music: 30%

Introduction

The AQA adopts a 'holistic' approach in learning about a wide range of music from classical styles to the present day. The course also allows students to develop their creativity in Composing music and executive skills in performing music on an instrument of their choice. In order to take Music GCSE, students should ideally achieve Grade 3 standard in at least one instrument by the end of Year 9. Pupils should be able to read either notation or tablature and confidently play at least one instrument and/or be a confident singer/ performer.

GCSE Music is delivered through the AQA examination Board. The qualification is specifically designed to test the students understanding in appraising and critically evaluating music, as well as performance, composition and creative skills. The Qualification is divided into 3 sections.

Unit 1: Appraising music

The student's skills and contextual understanding abilities will be tested through an exam and listening paper. The listening paper will use questions based on excerpts of music. This unit is divided into 2 sections. Section A will be based around unfamiliar music to the students, and section B will be chosen from the various study pieces the students will research throughout the course. The overall exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes and counts for 40% of the overall GCSE grade.

Unit 2: Performing Music

Students will be required to perform 2 short pieces of their choice. The first piece will be a Solo performance, the second is an Ensemble performance, which requires more than one musician or the use of an accompanist. This component is weighted at 30% of the overall GCSE mark.

Unit 3: Composing music

Students will be given a brief (a short description of an event or situation) to which they must compose a piece of music which will fit the description appropriately. The students will use skills learnt from the first year of the course to choose appropriate instruments, styles and techniques in order to successfully complete the composition. The second composition is a "free composition" which gives students the ability to compose in any style they feel comfortable with. The students must submit their recorded compositions on CD. This weighting is 30% of the overall GCSE mark.

How the course is assessed

- Two compositions
- One solo performance
- One ensemble performance
- A Listening paper and written exam
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Useful website links, text books used and additional information

Religious Studies GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8062
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	2 written exam papers - 1 hour 45. Section A (Religious studies) and Section B (thematic studies).

Introduction

The GCSE covers two religions and philosophical and ethical themes, ensuring you have a variety of intriguing subjects to explore. You will explore core beliefs, values, meaning, purpose and truth, enabling you to develop your own values and attitudes towards religious issues. You will also gain an appreciation of how religion, philosophy and ethics form the basis of our culture. You develop analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with abstract ideas, leadership and research skills. These will help prepare you for further study.

Course content

Section A: The study of religions: beliefs and teachings of **two** religions:

Christianity – The Trinity; life of Jesus; nature of God; evil and suffering; beliefs about the afterlife; types of worship; festivals and the significance of the church.

Islam – Shia and Sunni Islam; six articles of faith; 5 roots of Usul-ad Din; predestination; life after death; authority and prophethood.

Section B: Thematic studies: religious, philosophical and ethical studies:

Theme A: Relationships and families (sex, marriage, divorce, parenting and gender)

Theme B: Religion and Life (origins of the universe and the value of human life)

Theme C: The existence of God (miracles, evil and suffering, arguments for existence)

Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment (reasons for crime, types of punishment)

How the course is assessed

There are two exam papers that are 1 hour 45 minutes.

Paper one: Two compulsory five-part questions will be set on each religion.

Each five-part question is worth 24 marks, with 12 marks for AO1 and 12 marks for AO2.

Up to 5 marks are awarded in respect of spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) based on performance in the 12 mark extended writing questions.

Paper two: Students must answer questions on four themes from religious, philosophical and ethical themes and textual themes. One compulsory five-part question will be set per theme.

Each five-part question is worth 24 marks, with 12 marks for AO1 and 12 marks for AO2.

In each five-part question, AO1 is tested in the first four questions; AO2 is assessed through the 12 mark question.

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/rs/

<http://www.rsrevision.com/contents/index.htm>

<https://quizlet.com/18580769/religious-studies-religion-and-life-keywords-flash-cards>

Spanish GCSE

BOARD	AQA
SYLLABUS CODE	8698
NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPERS/ UNITS	4 papers Listening , Reading, Speaking and Writing

Introduction

Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the world. It is the mother tongue of Spain and most South and Central American countries. Studying a modern language at GCSE level is considered to be an indicator of a broad and balanced education, and will enhance your university applications, as well as your chances of obtaining a good job in, particularly in a post-Brexit Britain.

Course content

Theme 1 - Identity and culture e.g. family, free-time activity, customs and festivals

Theme 2 - Local, national, international and global areas of interest e.g. the environment, travel and tourism

Theme 3 - Current and future study and employment e.g. education post-16, jobs and careers

How the course is assessed

GCSE Spanish has a total of four papers: listening, reading, speaking and writing. Every paper has a Foundation Tier (grades 1-5) and Higher Tier (4-9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. Each paper represents 25% of the overall GCSE.

Listening paper: Foundation paper (35 minutes) Higher paper (45 minutes), both Tiers have two sections.

Section A: questions in English to be answered in English. Section B: questions in Spanish to be answered in Spanish

Reading paper: Foundation paper (45 minutes) Higher (1 hour) both Tiers have three sections. Section A: questions in English to be answered in English. Section B: questions in Spanish to be answered in Spanish. Section C : translation from Spanish into English (approximately 35 words at Foundation Tier and 50 words at Higher Tier)

Speaking paper: The format is the same at Foundation Tier and Higher but with different length. There are three sections. Role-play (2minutes for both Tiers) , photo card (2 minutes at Foundation Tier and 3 minutes at Higher Tier) and general conversation (3-5 minutes at Foundation Tier and 5-7 minutes at Higher Tier).

Writing paper: (Foundation Tier 1 hour, Higher Tier 1h and 15 minutes). Foundation Tier has four questions.

Question 1: message (student produces four sentences in response to a photo), question 2: short passage (maximum 40 words), question 3: translation from English into Spanish (minimum 35 words) and question 4: structured writing task (90 words approximately) there is a choice from two questions.

Higher Tier has three questions. Question 1: structured writing task (90 words, with a choice of two questions, question 2: open-ended writing task (150 words approximately, with a choice of two questions) and question 3: translation from English into Spanish (minimum 50 words).

Useful website links, text books used and additional information

www.linguascope.co.uk and www.duolingo.com (useful to practise vocabulary)

<http://www.language-gym.com> (New GCSE vocabulary, grammar and translation skills)

BBC Bitesize - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zhsvr82>

www.languagesonline.org.uk (useful spelling and grammar practice)

AQA GCSE Revision Guide and Kerboodle (Online AQA GCSE textbook with listening exercises)

OPTION CHOICES FORM 2017

Pupil Name: _____

All students study a core set of academic subjects in Years 10 and 11:

English Language and English Literature
Mathematics
3 Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

*You must then choose **AT LEAST ONE** of the following:

*French
*Geography
*History
*Spanish

You then choose two more subjects either from the list above or the list below:

Art
Business Studies
Drama
Music
RS

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Rank your subjects from 1-11</u> (1 is your first choice, 11 your last choice) AT LEAST ONE of the subjects with a * must be in your top 3
*French	
*Geography	
*History	
*Spanish	
Art	
Business Studies	
Drama	
Graphic Design	
Computer Science	
Music	
ASDAN Award	

NB we cannot guarantee that all pupils will have their top 3 subjects but we will try to match up as closely as we can.

Signed: Pupil

Signed: Parent

Date: