
Key Stage 4 Options:

A Pathway to Success



CAISTER ACADEMY
Creative Education Trust
School of Literature
and Performing Arts

2023-2025

Caister Academy
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Ambition • Opportunity • Character • Community

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Caister Academy: A Pathway to Success

Welcome

I am pleased to welcome you to 'Key Stage 4 Options: A Pathway to Success'. The options process is your chance to shape your future in education, training, and employment. It is a defining moment and one that you should take with careful thought and consideration.

As an academy, our vision is to provide a **broad range of choices** that enable all our learners to **achieve academic excellence** and **educational fulfillment**. In other words, we want you to achieve outstanding grades across a curriculum that you find stimulating, engaging and enjoyable.

Our expectations are that you will take at least 8 qualifications, however, you will find a great deal of choice in what subjects make up these 8. There are some key terms that it is helpful to familiarise yourself with as you research your options:

GCSE (9-1)

The majority of the courses we offer are GCSEs. These are mainly assessed through examinations at the end of the courses and you are awarded a grade ranging from 9 – 1.

BTEC and Vocational Courses

These courses are equal to GCSEs in the level of qualification, however they provide some form of practical/internal assessment throughout the course as well as an examination. You are awarded a grade ranging from Level 1 Pass to Level 2 Distinction*.

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The EBacc is a measure of success in a range of academic subjects. To meet the EBacc measure, students need to achieve a grade 4 or higher in: English, mathematics and two sciences, geography **or** history, **and** a language. Meeting these criteria does not gain students an additional qualification as such, therefore there is no requirement to take this exact selection of subjects. However, success across these EBacc subjects carries with it **academic prestige** and has been linked to a **wider range of options** at university for students.

Support

The information contained within this booklet will provide you with the knowledge you need to start making these choices. However, you can access support from key members of the school community:

- | | |
|---|--|
| - Your parents | - Your Head of Year |
| - Your form tutor | - The Assistant Principal for Careers – Mrs Lumley |
| - Your class teachers and the head of departments | - The Assistant Principal for Curriculum – Mr Read |



Your Options at Caister Academy

Core Subjects

The following subjects are classed as **core qualifications** and will continue to form part of your curriculum during Years 10 and 11:

- English language
- English literature
- Mathematics
- Science – either triple award or combined

Your study of these subjects will result in a GCSE qualification.

English Baccalaureate (EBacc) Subjects

The following subjects are part of the English Baccalaureate and you **must choose at least one** of these to make up part of your curriculum during Years 10 and 11:

- Computer Science
- Geography
- History
- French
- German
- Spanish

Your study of these subjects will result in a GCSE qualification.

Non-Core Subjects

The following subjects can be selected to make up the remainder of your curriculum throughout Year 10 and 11:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| ▪ Art | ▪ Engineering |
| ▪ Business | ▪ Health & Social Care |
| ▪ Catering | ▪ Music |
| ▪ Dance | ▪ Photography |
| ▪ Digital Information Technology | ▪ Sport |
| ▪ Drama | ▪ Travel & Tourism |

Your study of these subjects will result in a Level 1 / 2 qualification of either a GCSE or equivalent.

Additional Entitlement

You will also continue to access physical education, religious education and personal, social and health education (PSHE), although these are not part of an awarded qualification. Development of skills and knowledge related to information technologies will be embedded throughout the curriculum.

Understanding your journey through education



Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9)

During Key Stage 3, you study a broad range of subjects designed to match the expectations of the National Curriculum. The academy creates a curriculum which gives you access to lots of different areas of potential future interest and ensures that you have had the grounding of knowledge and learning to be successful as you move on in life. These subjects include **core subjects** like English, mathematics and science, which you will continue to study throughout your time at Caister, but also **non-core subjects** like history, geography, performing arts, creative arts and technology, physical education, etc.

Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11)

In Key Stage 4, you will continue to study the **core subjects**, but you will also be able to choose which **non-core subjects** you would like to focus on and take a qualification in. You will find a broader array of courses on offer, so it is worth reading all the information about the different subjects so that you can make an informed choice. After all, these are the subjects that will give you access to further education and career pathways.

What happens next?

After you complete Key Stage 4, you will be required to do one of the following until you are 18:

- stay in full-time education, for example at a college
- start an apprenticeship or traineeship
- spend 20 hours or more a week working or volunteering, while in part-time education or training

Your achievement during Key Stage 4 will provide you with a wide range of options linked to these pathways.

“It is personal. That’s what an education does. It makes the world personal.” — Cormac McCarthy

Essential advice about choosing GCSEs

Enjoyment

Choose subjects you think you will enjoy. This means researching content closely and asking teachers and others who know you well for advice.



Aptitude

Choose subjects which you think you will be good at - you will be more likely to enjoy them as well. Think about why you might enjoy particular subjects and how committed you feel – e.g. Drama: have you enjoyed performing previously? Do you like working collaboratively? Are you committed enough to rehearse for GCSE performance work in the evenings and maybe at weekends?



Prospects

Think seriously about future ambitions. If you already have a university course in mind, check entry requirements for specific courses at university and work back from there.



Balance

If you have no idea what you want to do in the future make sure that your options provide a broad and balanced programme.

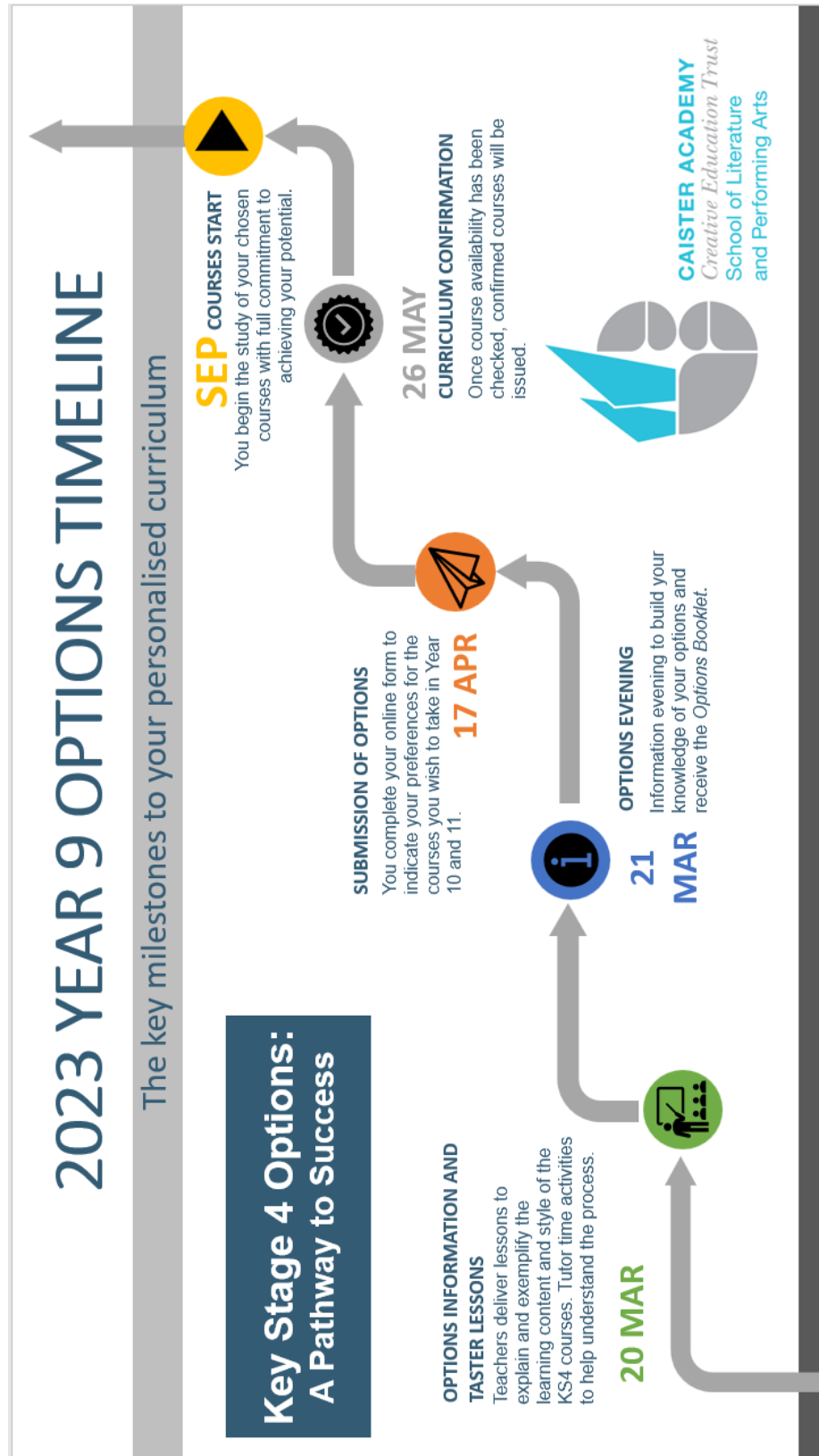


Independence

Don't choose on the basis of what friends are doing or on the basis of favourite teachers. Make your own decisions.



Options Timeline



English Language

***Provisional Course Details: AQA/8700/GCSE**

What will I study?

Students will develop their skills around three key areas:

Reading – you will learn how to interpret, analyse, evaluate and compare both fiction and non-fiction texts selected from a wide range of engaging and topical sources.

Writing – you will learn how to become a powerful communicator of the written word. You will develop both your narrative and transactional voice throughout the two years.

Spoken Language – you will learn how to present your ideas powerfully through the spoken word.

How will I be assessed?

You will take 2 exams at the end of Year 11:

- Paper 1 will assess your reading skills based around an unseen fiction text, and your ability to write effectively in the form of description or narrative.
- Paper 2 will assess your reading skills based around transactional texts, and your ability to write effectively in the form of a speech, letter, article or essay.

Both papers are equally weighted and are combined to award you a 9-1 grade.

You will also complete an internal assessment of your Spoken Language component.

- You will deliver a 10-minute presentation on a topic of your choice to a small audience. You will be awarded a pass, merit, or distinction for this component.



What careers will this give me access to?

GCSE English Language is a core expectation of many careers as it shows your power as a communicator. More specific career pathways might include journalism, media and teaching.

What do current students say about the course?

"Studying English Language allows me to enhance my writing and use it creatively."

"Studying English Language has allowed me to develop my vocabulary and has allowed me to use this to my advantage in such things as college and job applications. I can put my ideas across in a more formal and structured way."

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Your class teacher
- Miss Soanes – Curriculum Leader
- Miss Delf – Second in Department

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ *Persuasive talkers*
- ✓ *Creative writers*
- ✓ *Passionate readers*
- ✓ *Curious thinkers*
- ✓ *Future leaders!*

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

English Literature

***Provisional Course Details: AQA/8702/GCSE**

What will I study?

Students will study a range of different forms of Literature and develop their analytical skills to be able comment on the writers' use of methods, layers of meaning and the influence of historical contexts. Texts studied throughout the course are:

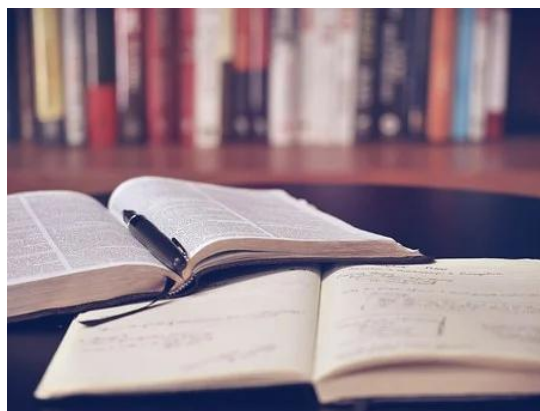
- Shakespeare: *Romeo & Juliet*
- 19th Century Novel: *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens
- Modern Text: *An Inspector Calls* by J. B. Priestley or *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
- Power & Conflict Poetry Anthology
- Unseen Poetry

How will I be assessed?

You will take two exams at the end of Year 11:

Both papers are combined to award you a 9-1 grade.

- Paper 1 – Shakespeare & the 19th Century Novel is weighted at 40% of your overall grade. The exam consists of two extract questions, one on each of the texts you have studied. You will use the extract as a starting point to comment on the use of the writer's methods and identify links to context within your analytical essay as well as commenting on the text as a whole.
- Paper 2 – Modern Texts & Poetry is weighted at 60% of your overall grade. In this exam, you will answer one question on the modern text you have studied by writing an analytical essay. Then, you will compare two of the fifteen Power & Conflict poems you have studied and analyse two unseen poems.



What careers will this give me access to?

GCSE English Literature lends itself to many different job opportunities including publishing, advertising, marketing and teaching.

What do current students say about the course?

"English Literature is really interesting as you get to explore why a writer has created the text, not just read what they wrote."

"Studying English Literature allows me to appreciate the thought process of the author by looking at their writing style."

"I particularly liked the poetry unit of English Literature; it is so clever how much content a writer can fit into a single poem!"

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Your class teacher
- Miss Soanes – Curriculum Leader
- Miss Delf – Second in Department

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ *Passionate readers*
- ✓ *Critical thinkers*
- ✓ *Keen debaters*
- ✓ *Eager historians*

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Mathematics

***Provisional Course Details: AQA/8300/GCSE**

What will I study?

Math's is for everyone. It is diverse, engaging and essential in equipping you with the right skills to reach your future destination, whatever that may be.

Students will study a range of mathematical topics including:

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

How will I be assessed?

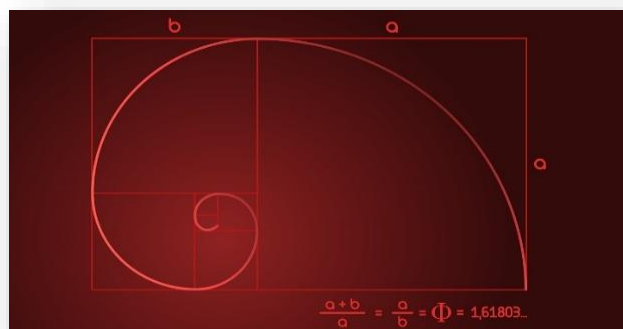
You will take 3 exams at the end of Year 11:

GCSE Mathematics has a Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) and a Higher tier (grades 3 – 9). You must take three question papers at the same tier that will all contribute equally to your final grade.

Paper 1: Non-calculator

Paper 2 and 3: Calculator

The three papers will test your knowledge, understanding and skills across the range of topics studied through a mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The exams mathematical demand increases as you progress through the paper.



What careers will this give me access to?

You name it Mathematics is in it! It is the key which opens so many doors to incredible opportunities and has been referred to as 'The pivot on which the world turns. I couldn't agree more!

Problem solving, communication, analysis and interpretation of data and creativity are all skills and attributes which employers value extremely highly and will aid you as you progress on your chosen career path.

What do current students say about the course?

"No teacher will ever put you down, if you get an answer wrong, you're actually helping to develop everyone's understanding! Teachers use that answer to help you and your classmates to improve. "

"You learn lots of interesting topics, including trigonometry and quadratics!"

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Your class teacher
- Miss Lee – Curriculum Leader
- Mr Soanes – Second in Department

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ *Logical strategic thinkers*
- ✓ *Problem solvers*
- ✓ *Anyone with an interest in how the world works.*
- ✓ *People with an appreciation of history, and the beauty and joy of Mathematics.*

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Science

***Provisional Course Details: AQA/8464/GCSE**

What will I study?

Students will develop their skills and expertise within the 3 disciplines of science:

- **Biology:** this is the study of living organisms. We examine the processes that they undertake to survive and develop to create our diverse ecosystem of our planet.
- **Chemistry:** here, you will learn how the materials that make up our world are ordered and arranged.
- **Physics:** this is the study of energy, forces, mechanics, waves and the structure of atoms.

How will I be assessed?

Combined Science

You will take 2 exams for each science at the end of Year 11:

- Paper 1 will assess your understanding of cells and organisation; atomic structure and material properties; and energy and electricity.
- Paper 2 will assess your understanding of biological control processes; the Earth and a finite resource; radioactivity, magnetism, and forces.

During lessons, you will also be carrying out a range of required practical work to develop your skill set as a scientist of the future.

Triple Award Science

- For the separate science award, students will sit a further paper for each subject that goes into greater detail.
- Two grades are awarded for combined Science and three for the separate science.



What careers will this give me access to?

GCSE science is a core expectation of many careers as it develops your skills in critical thinking, analysing data and evaluating practice. More specific career pathways might include working in the field of medicine, engineering, architecture, and computer sciences.

What do current students say about the course?

"Science helps me to understand the key issues that the world faces today like global warming and climate change."

"It has made me think about what I want to do in the future, I didn't realise there were so many occupations in the field of science."

Who do I speak to for more information?

- **Your class teacher**
- **Mr Foster – Curriculum Leader**
- **Miss Mileham – Second in Department**
- **Mr Sewter – Lead Practitioner**

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ *Analytical thinkers*
- ✓ *Constantly curious*
- ✓ *Passionate environmentalists*
- ✓ *Logical minded*
- ✓ *Future leaders!*

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Computer Science

*Provisional Course Details: OCR Computer Science

Entry requirements: Students need to be working towards a minimum of grade 6 in mathematics to choose this course. If you are not working at this level, please consider the Digital Information Technology course.

What will I study?

Students will develop their skills around three key areas:

- An introduction 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
- The application of knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. You will develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators
- The opportunity to undertake a programming task(s) during their course of study which allows you to develop your skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. You will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations, in particular component 02 (section B).

How will I be assessed?

- Parts 1 and 2 are assessed through an external exam
- Part 3 is assessed through moderated teacher assessment.



What careers will this give me access to?

Studying this course will give you access to further and higher education courses that in turn will prepare you for a career in the following areas: software developer, database administrator, computer hardware engineer, computer systems analyst, computer network architect, web developer, information security analyst, computer and information research scientists, etc.

What do current students say about the course?

"Computer science is really interesting. I am currently creating software with python and learning how a PC works. I would recommend this course to anyone who has an interest in computers and coding." – ZP, Year 10

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Mr Thompson – Head of Creative Arts and Technology

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ Students who want to learn programming
- ✓ Logical thinkers
- ✓ Creative designers
- ✓ Mathematics thinkers

*Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.

Geography

***Provisional Course Details: AQA/8035/GCSE**

What will I study?

GCSE Geography will help you to understand more about the world, the challenges it faces and your place within it. Geography is exciting and dynamic. Over time you will be able to articulate and understand what a good Geographer looks like, critique your own knowledge and set your own personal learning goals.

You will develop a holistic understanding of complex issues such as climate change, development, population growth, coastal management, globalisation and migration.

You will be encouraged to make geographical decisions by applying your knowledge, understanding and skills to real-life 21st-century people and environment issues.

You will also have the opportunity to participate in a 3-day residential fieldtrip to Flatford Mill field studies centre in Suffolk during Year 10.

How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1 (35%) - The challenge of natural hazards, The living world, Physical landscapes in the UK, Geographical skills
- Paper 2 (35%) - Urban issues and challenges, The changing economic world, The challenge of resource management, Geographical skills
- Paper 3 (30%) - Issue evaluation, Fieldwork, Geographical skills.



What careers will this give me access to?

GCSE Geography opens doors to many careers, these could include: climate science, engineering, conservation, politics, urban development and hazard management.

What do current students say about the course?

"Geography is an excellent option choice because not only does it allow you to see how the world works, but it also helps you to engage with the many challenges that we are facing. I have made amazing memories choosing Geography and one of my favourite parts of the course was doing my fieldwork at Flatford Mill, I was able to spend time with my fellow students and teachers and make memories that will last forever. Studying Geography has enabled me to have a burning passion for the subject and want to pursue it further and even as a career."

EB Year 11

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Mr Cromwell – Curriculum Leader
- Mr Blackburn – Teacher of Geography

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ *Problem Solvers*
- ✓ *Critical Thinkers*
- ✓ *Big Picture Thinkers*
- ✓ *People who enjoy a variety of learning styles*

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

History

***Course Details: Pearson Edexcel (9-1) 1H10**

What will I study?

Students will study the following 4 Units:

1) Medicine in Britain, 1250-present:

- Ideas about the cause of disease and illness
- Approaches to prevention and treatment

There will also be a focus on World War 1:

- The trench system, injuries, and treatments
- How war developed medicine

2) Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88

- Government and religion
- Challenges to Elizabeth's power
- Life in Elizabethan society

3) The American West, 1835-95

- The lives of Native American Indian tribes
- The settlement of the American West
- Conflict and conquest

4) Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-39

- Germany after World War 1
- The rise of Adolf Hitler
- Nazi control and dictatorship

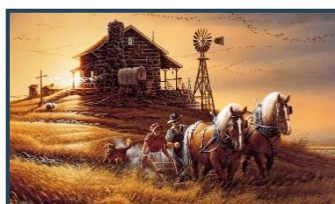
How will I be assessed?

You will take 3 exams at the end of Year 11:

- Paper 1 – Medicine in Britain (30%)
- Paper 2 – Early Elizabethan England and The American West (40%)
- Paper 3 – Weimar and Nazi Germany (30%)

* Both the Early Elizabethan England and The American West papers are sat at the same time, in different exam booklets. The topics are worth 20% each.

The papers test a range of skills including inference, source analysis, description, explanation, and judgement.



What careers will this give me access to?

Gaining a grade in GCSE History is convincing proof to any future employer that you can think clearly and objectively; that you can question judgements and write reasoned arguments. These are key skills needed for any job. More specific career pathways might include archaeologist, journalist, lawyer or teacher.

What do current students say about the course?

- *95% enjoyed the subject*
- *95% said they knew they could ask for / get support from their teachers*
- *95% said behaviour in lessons was good and allowed them to learn*
- *"I like history because it is much more customised to the individuals that take the course, this means that there is a more personalised learning experience." (Year 10 student)*

Who do I speak to for more information?

- **Mrs McMillan – Curriculum Leader**
- **Miss Mallett – History Teacher**

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ **Students who like to debate ideas and investigate causes of life changing events.**
- ✓ **Students who are able to recall key events, make judgements, explain events and ideas.**

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

French

***Provisional Course Details: AQA/8658/GCSE**

What will I study?

You will build upon your work in Years 7, 8 and 9, developing your skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing, as well as your ability to manipulate the structures of the language through the themes of:

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international, and global areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment

How will I be assessed?

You will take 4 (higher or foundation tier) exams at the end of Year 11:

- Paper 1 Listening – Exam (25%)
- Paper 2 Speaking – Oral exam (25%)
- Paper 3 Reading – Exam (25%)
- Paper 4 Writing – Exam (25%)

[The oral exam will be conducted by your teacher]



What careers will this give me access to?

The ability to speak and understand French is an advantage in the international job market and it is the international language of cooking, fashion, theatre, the visual arts, dance and architecture, as well as being the official language of diplomacy and the International Olympic Committee. It is the third most widely used language in international business after English and German internationally, but it is also an analytical language which develops critical thinking.

Choosing a language can also open doors to a wider range of degree options, as languages can be combined with business, history, science, among many more.

What do current students say about the course?

"I chose French because I enjoy it and it will help me further in life".

"I chose French so that I can understand people who speak French all over the world."

"I chose French because the lessons are interesting and fun".

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Your class teacher
- Mrs Wood – Curriculum Leader

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ Students with an interest in the wider world
- ✓ Students who enjoy communicating
- ✓ Students with analytical skills
- ✓ Problem solvers

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

German

***Provisional Course Details: AQA/8668/GCSE**

What will I study?

You will build upon your work in Years 7, 8 and 9, developing your skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing, as well as your ability to manipulate the structures of the language through the themes of:

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international, and global areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment

How will I be assessed?

You will take 4 (higher or foundation tier) exams at the end of Year 11:

- Paper 1 Listening – Exam (25%)
- Paper 2 Speaking – Oral exam (25%)
- Paper 3 Reading – Exam (25%)
- Paper 4 Writing – Exam (25%)

[The oral exam will be conducted by your teacher]



What careers will this give me access to?

Studying German is a valuable asset in the eyes of FE colleges and universities, as well as employers. Taking German can play an important part in enhancing your career prospects, where people with language skills can earn 8 – 12% more. 1 in 5 companies are aware of losing business due to language barriers, and 30% are hiring people specifically for their language skills [source: Chamber of Commerce]. German continues to be essential in obtaining a good job and a fulfilling career.

Choosing a language can also open doors to a wider range of degree options, as languages can be combined with business, history, science, among many more.

What do current students say about the course?

"I took German because it is useful as it is spoken in more than one country."

"I took German because I like learning about different cultures, and I like to learn new languages."

"German is easy to learn in a smaller group and it can be fun a lot of the time".

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Your class teacher
- Mrs Wood – Curriculum Leader

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ Students with an interest in the wider world
- ✓ Students who enjoy communicating
- ✓ Students with analytical skills
- ✓ Problem solvers

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

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Art and Design – Fine Art

Provisional Course - OCR Art and Design

What will I study?

Students will develop their skills around three key areas:

- Art and Design complements literary, mathematical, scientific, and factual subjects. It is especially concerned with visual perception and aesthetics and is a form of communication and a means of **expressing ideas and feelings**.
- There is also a **written critical study** in the course where students need to evaluate artists and reflect on the **development of ideas visually**. This will involve **students exploring and extending their key skills in communication and problem solving**.
- To follow this course, students need to draw upon skills acquired during Year 8/9 and to develop these in their creative work. While doing this they will enjoy developing a more independent approach to work and **experiment with a variety of materials** using photography, printmaking, painting, drawing and three-dimensional forms. Enthusiasm and commitment is needed to do well as well as good time management.

During the first year in GCSE, Year 10 develop the technical skills and understanding of art. In the second year students have the freedom to allow their interests, curiosity, and aptitudes to dictate the focus of their studies.

How will I be assessed?

The course is divided in coursework and an external set task starting in January of Year 11. The final assessment is a combination of coursework and the examination evaluation.

- Coursework: One final piece plus a Portfolio/Sketchbook of supporting work. (60%)
- Controlled Assessment: 10 hour externally set exam that takes place under controlled conditions. The Examination only differs from Coursework in the sense that it is a timed exercise with less input from the teacher. (40%)



What careers will this give me access to?

A GCSE in art can lead you into many different career paths, in many different sectors. For example: advertising, computer games, visual effects, fashion, film and television, photography, illustration... to name but a few. The list really is endless. Talk to your teacher for more information.

What do current students say about the course?

"You don't get marked for being right or wrong-it's your interpretation that counts"

"I've learned a lot about different artists and styles which is really useful and interesting"

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Miss Atkinson – Course Leader
- Mr Thompson – Head of Creative Arts and Technology

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ Self-motivated learners
- ✓ Responsible students
- ✓ Creative risk-taking students
- ✓ Confident students showing initiative and able to develop ideas
- ✓ Independent thinkers

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Business and Enterprise

***Provisional Course Details: Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Enterprise**

What will I study?

Students will develop their skills around three key areas:

This qualification has been designed to sit alongside the requirements of core GCSE subjects and is appropriate for students who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on experiences and through content which is concrete and directly related to those experiences.

This course will teach you to understand:

- Entrepreneurial characteristics and business aims and objectives
- Legal structures, organisational structures and stakeholder engagement
- The marketing mix, market research, market types and orientation types
- Operations management
- Internal and external influences on business
- Research, resource planning and growth for business
- Human resource requirements for a business start-up
- Sources of enterprise funding and business finance
- Business and enterprise planning

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 is externally assessed through an exam which has a 40% course weighting. Unit 2 is assessed through moderated coursework with a 60% weighting.



What careers will this give me access to?

Business offers students the opportunity to study different types of businesses in different industries. It looks at why they exist, how they are set up and how they are run.

Everyone works in an organisation which is a business of some sort – so studying business is useful as you develop skills that are found in most jobs. Business studies will give you the skills of coming up with business ideas, using maths skills to analyse data, making decisions and developing your communication skills through presentations and reports - all highly transferable skills.

Business studies can lead into a wide range of careers such as marketing, HR, finance and law. It can open doors into careers related to finance or running your own business.

Who do I speak to for more information?

- **Mr Thompson – Head of Creative Arts and Technology**

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ Self-motivated learners
- ✓ Responsible students
- ✓ Future entrepreneurs
- ✓ Independent thinkers

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Catering

***Provisional Course Details: WJEC Level 1 / 2 Award in Hospitality and Catering**

What will I study?

Throughout the course, students will learn both about the hospitality and catering industry, as well as the practical skills of working in this sector. Through the successful study of the course you will:

- Understand the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate
- Understand how hospitality and catering provisions operate
- Understand how hospitality and catering provision meets health and safety requirements
- Know how food can cause ill health
- Be able to propose a hospitality and catering provision to meet specific requirements
- Understand the importance of nutrition when planning menus
- Understand menu planning
- **Be able to cook dishes!**

How will I be assessed?

You will study two units of learning:

- Unit 1 - The Hospitality and Catering Industry which will be assessed through an external **online** exam (40%). Students can retake this exam on one occasion to support in achieving their potential.
- Unit 2 - Hospitality and Catering in Action which will be assessed through internal **practical** assessment. (60%)



What careers will this give me access to?

- Accommodation manager
- Catering manager
- Chef
- Conference centre manager
- Event manager
- Fast food restaurant manager
- Hotel manager
- Public house manager
- Restaurant manager

The hospitality sector offers good prospects for early responsibility, so if you show a willingness and ability to learn, you can gain experience of supervising and training new staff early on in your career.

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Your class teacher
- Mr Thompson – Head of Creative Arts and Technology

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ *Future caters or those with an interest in the hospitality industry*
- ✓ *Organised, self-motivated students!*

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Dance

***Provisional Course Details: BTEC Performing Arts (Dance pathway) / Level 2**

What will I study?

Skills and Knowledge covered:

- Analytical skills – You will learn how to analyse three productions and the contextual features that belong to each genre and performance
- Technical and Interpretive skills – You will develop your physical and performance skills within three dance styles, during technical workshops and replication of choreography
- Chorographical Skills – You will learn how to create choreography, with deep expansion using structure and choreographic devices.

How will I be assessed?

There are three components to the course.

- Component 1 (Exploring the Performing Arts) - Assessed internally
- Component 2 (Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts) - Assessed internally
- Component 3 (Responding to a brief) - Assessed externally

After the completion of every component, you will be awarded a grade Pass, Merit or Distinction. These grades will accumulate to a final overall grade.



What careers will this give me access to?

BTEC Dance can lead to many careers outside of the Performing Arts Industry, as the course develops creativity, leadership, teamwork and physical ability. However, this course can also lead to more specific career pathways, including as a professional dancer, choreographer, teacher, or a career in the fitness industry.

What do current students say about the course?

"BTEC Dance is my favourite lesson, it is really fun!"

"BTEC Dance, allows me to utilise my creativity in ways that the core subjects don't – it's nice to have a bit of freedom."

"I love BTEC Dance because I get a chance to perform and learn brilliant choreography."

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Miss Sharpe - Teacher and Assessor
- Miss Curston – Curriculum Leader of Performing Arts

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ *Creative thinkers*
- ✓ *Confident students*
- ✓ *Pupils with a dance background*
- ✓ *Hard working beginners!*
- ✓ *Passionate performers*

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Information Technology

***Provisional Course Details: OCR Level 1/Level 2 Cambridge National in Creative iMedia**

What will I study?

Students will develop their skills around three key areas:

1. Exploring Creative iMedia in the media industry
2. Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data
3. Effective Digital Working Practices

How will I be assessed?

Components 1 and 2 are assessed through internal assessment. Internal assessment for these components have been designed to relate to achievement of application of the conceptual underpinning for the sector through realistic tasks and activities.

There is one external assessment, Component 3, it provides the main synoptic assessment for the qualification. Component 3 builds directly on Components 1 and 2, and enables learning to be brought together and related to a real-life situation.

This course is for students who want to acquire technical knowledge and technical skills through vocational contexts by studying the knowledge, understanding and skills related to data management, data interpretation, data presentation and data protection.

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**



**DIGITAL
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY**

What careers will this give me access to?

Ideal for learners who want a career in IT and want to get a broad taste of digital skills.

- A stepping-stone to careers like IT Project Management, Technical Support and Cyber Security
- The creativity of the User Interface design element and the opportunity to work towards a realistic work scenario
- Cloud storage and cyber security aspects can be related to social media like Instagram and Facebook to make the content interesting and relatable to students

Who do I speak to for more information?

- **Mr Thompson – Head of Creative Arts and Technology**

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ *Those with a keen interest in a career in IT*
- ✓ *Students who want to learn a strong mix of creative design and technical knowledge*
- ✓ *Ideal for learners who want to progress to a digital Apprenticeship or BTEC Level 3 National*
- ✓ *students who want to gain a real insight into the modern fundamentals of IT*
- ✓ *The external assessment is structured to be relevant to IT so students get real experience of real-world IT*
- ✓ *Organised, self-motivated students!*

Drama

***Provisional Course Details: AQA/8261/GCSE**

What will I study?

Students will develop their skills around three key areas:

- Understanding Drama – you will learn about the characteristics of performance texts, and how meaning is communicated to an audience, as well as roles and responsibilities in the theatre, and how to correctly use theatre terminology
- Devising Drama – you will learn how to create and develop ideas to communicate meaning in a devised theatrical performance
- Texts in Practice – you will learn how to contribute to a text-based drama in a live theatre context for an audience

How will I be assessed?

You will complete 1 piece of coursework in Year 10:

- You will be assessed on the performance of an original devised duologue or group piece. You will also be required to produce an individual devising log documenting the devising process and an analysis and evaluation of your contribution. (40%)

You will complete 1 practical exam and 1 written exam in Year 11:

- Practical exam: you will perform 2 extracts from 1 play in a live performance to an invited examiner. (20%)
- Written exam: you will be assessed on your knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed, including in connection to a set play and on your ability to analyse and evaluate the live theatre work of others. (40%)



What careers will this give me access to?

GCSE Drama is not just for those students who wish to pursue a career in acting. It provides a wealth of opportunities, from directing to costume designing to film and television production. The skills developed in Drama are also invaluable across a wide range of other sectors, due to the confidence, teamwork, and communication skills it will equip you with.

What do current students say about the course?

"Drama is one of the best lessons – there's no wrong answers as such, so you really have that freedom to explore your creativity and express how you feel."

"GCSE Drama is really fun. You get to do lots of practical lessons and work as a team with your friends and classmates."

"Even the writing is fun – the lessons are a good balance of practical and non-practical."

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Miss Curston - Curriculum Leader of Performing Arts & Drama Teacher

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ **Confident communicators**
- ✓ **Passionate performers**
- ✓ **Team players**
- ✓ **Creative thinkers**
- ✓ **Future Oscar winners!**

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Engineering/3D Design

What will I study?

The Award gives learners the opportunity to develop skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on the following areas:

- Development of key engineering practical and technical skills, such as research, observation, measurement, making, using computer-aided design (CAD) and the full range of engineering workshop equipment in our newly refurbished engineering department.
- Knowledge of the stages involved in planning and implementing an engineering project.
- Knowledge and skills involved in the investigation of solutions to engineering problems in response to a given brief.

How will I be assessed?

The course is divided into coursework and an external set task starting in January of Year 11. The final assessment is a combination of both.

- Coursework: One final piece plus a Portfolio/Sketchbook of supporting work.
- Controlled Assessment: 10 hour externally set exam that takes place under controlled conditions. The Examination only differs from Coursework in the sense that it is a timed exercise with less input from the teacher.

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**



What careers will this give me access to?

- A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects.
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3 or employment or apprenticeship within the engineering industry.
- Opportunities for career progression are vast from mechanical, electrical, electronics, petroleum, chemical, biomedical, and technical sales engineer. There is a career in engineering to suit any talent.

What do current students say about the course?

"I had no idea engineering was such a vast subject."

"Engineering can take me anywhere I want."

"I have really enjoyed each topic and it has prepped me to continue my engineering study."

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Miss Mason - Course Leader

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ Problem solvers
- ✓ Creative designers
- ✓ Passionate makers
- ✓ Curious thinkers
- ✓ Future leaders!

Health and Social Care

***Provisional Course Details: BTEC Level 1/ Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care**

What will I study?

The course will allow students to progress towards development of key skills that prove your aptitude in health and social care such as:

- The process that underpins effective ways of working in health and social care, such as designing a plan to improve an individual's health and wellbeing
- The attitudes that are considered most important in health and social care, including the care values that are vitally important in the sector, and the opportunity to practice applying them
- The knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as human growth and development, health and social care services, and factors affecting people's health and wellbeing

How will I be assessed?

Component	Name	Assessment
1	Human Lifespan Development	Internal coursework
2	Health and Social Care Services and Values	Internal coursework
3	Health and Wellbeing	External exam

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**



What careers will this give me access to?

Studying this course will give you access to further and higher education courses that in turn will prepare you for a career in the following areas:

- Health administration
- Care management
- Further Education teaching
- Community development
- Charity Officer
- Social work
- Nursing
- Health therapies

What do current students say about the course?

"I find it very interesting how much we develop and how many life stages we go through. I enjoy learning about the way we progress in how we grow. It's a fun thing to learn and it's totally different to other lessons. I think anybody who will take this course will enjoy it as much as I do." (HA Year 10)

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Miss Jackman – Teacher of PE
- Mr Thompson – Head of Creative Arts and Technology

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ Organised, self-motivated students
- ✓ Those with a genuine interest in the sector
- ✓ Those wanting to make a difference for other people

Music

***BTEC L1/2 Tech Award in Music**

Entry Requirements:

You will need to be able to play an Instrument or Sing to take this course. Mrs. Weihser and Miss Sharpe will listen to your Instrumental/ Vocal skills to make sure you can access all areas of the course.

You will also need to Perform to an audience as part of the coursework and exam requirements.

What will I study?

1. How to improve on my Instrument
2. Performance skills
3. Evaluating and improving Practical Skills
4. Musical Styles

How will I be assessed?

Through Course work showing your progress on an Instrument and Musical Knowledge .

An examined unit which will include a Live Music Performance: Rehearsing technique and performance through research, practice and performance.



What careers will this give me access to?

Music is useful for any job that involves communication and expressive skills. It is also a good preparation for further musical study and a solid foundation for the BTEC National Diplomas (in Music, Popular Music and Music Technology) and the new vocational A Level in Performing Arts. Future jobs might include careers in the music industry, publishing, entertainment, and teaching.

What do current students say about the course?

"Studying music at GCSE level not only allows you to explore different interpretations and research your favourite singers ,bands, or musical genre, it also allows you to perform your own piece of music at the end of the course - you can really envision yourself being your favourite singer." (AH Year 11)

Who do I speak to for more information?

- Mrs Weihser – Course Leader
- Miss Sharpe – Head of Performing Arts

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ Can play an Instrument or Sing
- ✓ Have a Passion for Music
- ✓ Disciplined to practise and improve
- ✓ Participate in Music Enrichment
- ✓ Creative thinker

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Photography

OCR Art and Design: Photography J173 GCSE

What will I study?

Skills and Knowledge Covered:

- Students will **explore, research and acquire techniques** and develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in a range of photographic media
- There is also a **written critical study** in the course where students need to evaluate artists/photographers and reflect on the **development of ideas visually**. This will involve **students exploring and extending their key skills in communication and problem solving**.
- Students will be expected to demonstrate a specialisation in a particular media or processes to allow an appropriate depth of study
- **Drawing skills** should be understood and developed as appropriate to the ways of recording and communicating intentions, ideas and emotions in the context of photography

How will I be assessed?

The course is divided in coursework and an external set task starting in January of Year 11. The final assessment is a combination of coursework and the examination evaluation.

- Coursework: One final piece plus a portfolio/sketchbook of supporting work. (60%)
- Controlled Assessment: 10 hour externally set exam that takes place under controlled conditions. The examination only differs from coursework in the sense that it is a timed exercise with less input from the teacher. (40%)

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**



What careers will this give me access to?

A GCSE in photography can lead you into many different career paths, in many different sectors. For example:

- Advertising
- Computer games and visual effects
- Fashion
- Film and television production
- Digital photography and video art
- Art history
- Photojournalism

What do current students say about the course?

This is what GCSE students have to say about it.....

"You don't get marked for being right or wrong-it's your interpretation that counts"

"I've learned a lot about different artists and styles which is really useful and interesting"

Who do I speak to for more information?

- **Miss Atkinson – Course Leader**
- **Mr Thompson – Head of Creative Arts and Technology**

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ *Self-motivated learners*
- ✓ *Computer literate students*
- ✓ *Creative risk-taking students*
- ✓ *Confident students showing initiative and able to develop ideas*
- ✓ *Independent thinkers*

Sport

*Provisional Course Details:

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Sport / QN - 600/4779/3

What will I study?

This is a demanding theory-based course which includes some practical elements. The course looks at an array of theory and practical elements required within the sport and fitness industry and include:

- Aspects of coaching and support required for sports performance
- Anatomy and physiology
- Topics related to health and the effects of exercise on the body
- Fitness instruction/planning and implementing personalized fitness program
- Investigate the skills required to effectively plan and lead a sporting activity

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in four units. The course has units that the school assesses (internal) and units that Edexcel sets and marks (external). Internally assessed units are marked by your teacher and a random sample of coursework will be externally verified by Edexcel. The external unit is taken in year 10 and is a 1 hour 15-minute online exam.

- **Unit 1:** Fitness for Sport and Exercise (External assessed online written exam)
- **Unit 2:** Practical Performance in Sport (Internal assessed coursework)
- **Unit 3:** Applying the Principles of Personal Training (Internal assessed coursework)
- **Unit 6:** Leading Sports Activities (Internal assessed coursework)



What careers will this give me access to?

A BTEC in Sport will give you the skills and confidence needed to progress into a fulfilling, exciting career in the sport and fitness industry or progression onto level 3 vocational/academic courses, jobs included:



Physiotherapist



Personal trainer



PE Teacher

What do current students say about the course?

"BTEC Sport is a brilliant option to take for your GCSE's, because it allows you to have a healthy mindset as it is a flexible subject and broadens your knowledge all about how your body works when doing exercise. You will also get a brilliant amount of support from your teachers, who do not put you under any kind of stress or pressure to get work done, they will understand you and try their best to help you as much as possible. The coursework is very interesting as it is based on all the Sport Science... You are assessed over different topics for coursework and mini assessments, so you don't have the huge amount of stress about the final exam... I would totally recommend BTEC Sport, if you are interested in learning about your body and doing sports..." (BO, Year 11)

Who do I speak to for more information?

- **Your class teacher**
- **Mr McMillan – Curriculum Leader**

Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ **Fitness enthusiasts**
- ✓ **Keen sports people**
- ✓ **Organised, self-motivated students**

***Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.**

Travel and Tourism

*Provisional Course Details:

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in
Travel and Tourism / QN - 600/6512/6

What will I study?

You will study a range of content related to the tourism sector such as the role of technology, customer services, domestic and internal travel.

This course has been designed to:

- Inspire you to consider a career in the travel and tourism sector or in a related sector where knowledge of travel and tourism will be of use, such as airlines and travel agents
- Give you the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of, and skills in, the travel and tourism sector, e.g. itinerary building and route planning
- Support your progression to a more specialised level 3 vocational or travel and tourism course or an apprenticeship
- Give you the potential opportunity to gain employment within the travel and tourism sector

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in four units. The course has units that the school assesses (internal) and units that Edexcel sets and marks (external). Internally assessed units are marked by your teacher and a random sample of coursework will be externally verified by Edexcel. The external unit is taken in year 10 and is a 1 hour 15-minute written exam.

- **Unit 1:** UK Travel and Tourism Sector (External assessed written exam)
- **Unit 2:** UK Travel and Tourism Destinations (Internal assessed coursework)
- **Unit 3:** The Travel and Tourism Customer experience (Internal assessed coursework)
- **Unit 4:** International Travel and Tourism Destinations (Internal assessed coursework).



What careers will this give me access to?

The course is designed for anyone interested in a role in the travel and tourism industry. A wide array of careers are linked to this sector but jobs might include:



Travel Agent



Tourist Information Representative



Museum Worker



Travel industry e.g. cruise ships

What do current students say about the course?

"At first, I was not sure about picking Travel and Tourism. However, I am pleased I made the choice of choosing the subject as it links well with two other subjects that I am currently studying, and I get all the support and help that I need." (LA, Year 11)

"I have loved learning more about the tourism industry as this links to the career I want to pursue. You get assessed in a range of ways so you don't have to worry about one exam at the end of the course. I have had great support from my teachers and would recommend anyone with an interest in travel to take this course." (EG, Year 11)

Who do I speak to for more information?


- Your class teacher
- Mr McMillan – Curriculum Leader


Who would enjoy and be successful on this course?

- ✓ Travel enthusiasts
- ✓ Keen geographers
- ✓ Organised, self-motivated students!

*Specific courses are reviewed on a regular basis. Examining body and course details will be confirmed in September 2022.

Additional Support and Information

	https://www.brightknowledge.org/education
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	https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers
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	https://www.icanbea.org.uk
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	https://helpyouchoose.org/content/
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	http://www.futuremorph.org/
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	https://guest.startprofile.com/
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	https://icould.com/
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	https://www.parentalguidance.org.uk/making-choices/making-subject-choices-at-age-12-14
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An Important Note...

Whilst we do our best to accommodate all student preferences, all courses offered are dependent on sufficient group sizes, curriculum viability and staffing availability. Where we cannot offer a course or match the combination of courses requested, students will be supported in exploring and choosing alternative subjects that they can excel in.

