



# **Woodchurch High School**

**Year 9 Options Booklet**

**September 2026 - July 2028**



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# Year 9 Options Booklet

## September 2026 - July 2028

This booklet is written to provide parents/carers and pupils with as much information as possible about the Years 10-11 curriculum prior to pupils selecting their courses. The information in this booklet is correct at the time of printing however the school is subject to government reforms which continue to be announced in stages. We will update parents/carers and pupils as these occur.

To help pupils make the right decision at this important stage in their careers they should find out as much as they can about themselves and about the courses. These people will help to answer any questions:

Form Tutors & Subject Teachers

Mr R Stead  
Mrs B Irving, Mrs L Morgan

Pupil Progress Leader,  
Assistant Pupil Progress Leaders

Mr M Canham  
Mr L Bannon

Headteacher  
Assistant Headteacher  
Careers Co-ordinator  
Assistant Headteacher  
Assistant Headteacher  
Careers Advisers MPLOY  
Social Inclusion Officer  
SENCO

Mr J Cartledge  
Mrs J Pettener  
Ms Joanne Tomlinson  
Mr G Simpson  
Ms F Tynan

In addition, a programme of events giving information and advice has been set up to help pupils and parents make informed choices about the courses on offer.

### Programme of Events

Year 9 Reports have been issued to parents/carers on Wednesday 14th January 2026 and this will give an indication as to how pupils have progressed within Key Stage 3 to date.

#### **Wednesday 14th January 2026**

Options Booklet issued to pupils.

#### **Thursday 29th January 2026**

Options Taster Evening. This evening will enable you to have an increased knowledge and insight into new courses available to your child in Key Stage 4. All subjects will aim to give you a taste of what your child/ward will experience during their course. The evening starts at 4.15 pm and concludes around 5.45 pm.

*Please ensure you have completed the Google Form, which has been sent to you via email.*

#### **Thursday 12th February 2026**

Year 9 Options Interviews and collation of option choices.  
Please note pupils are **NOT** in school on this day, interviews will be held in school

#### **September 2026**

Presentation to parents from non-option subjects – highlighting course structure and giving guidance on how to succeed in core subjects.

# THE CURRICULUM

At Woodchurch we offer pupils a selection of courses at GCSE as well as BTEC subjects if appropriate. During Options Day staff will provide advice on which learning pathway is suitable for your child. This will be based on pupil's targets, skills and attributes.

In Years 10-11, all pupils are required to study Mathematics, English, Science and Religious Studies at GCSE. All pupils also follow non-exam courses in PE, Personal, Social, Health, Relationship & Sex Education and Work Related Curriculum. Pupils are strongly encouraged to follow the EBACC pathway which will also include studying a Modern Foreign Language and Humanities course throughout Key Stage 4.

As a school, we feel it is important that we use the flexibility of learning pathways to ensure we provide every one of our pupils with the curriculum appropriate to their needs.

**There are some subjects that cannot be studied together as the content within these courses are too similar.**

**The subjects are marked with an \* and are:**

**GCSE Art & Design, GCSE Fine Art, GCSE Textile Design, GCSE 3D Art & Design.**

**GCSE PE and OCR Level 2 CNAT in Sports Studies**

**GCSE Computer Science and WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT**

Choices will be discussed during the Options meeting with a member of school staff and will be made in the light of pupils' targets, aptitude and talents.

## ACCREDITATION

### GCSE Grades

All GCSE subjects will be using the grading scale of 9-1, with 9 being the top grade.

### Vocational Courses

The school offers different types of vocational courses. These include BTEC, WJEC, NCFE and CNAT Courses. The BTEC grades are **PASS, MERIT, DISTINCTION** or **DISTINCTION\***.

*Please Note: All GCSE subjects will be examined in 2028. Vocational courses can offer a mix of coursework and exam based studies during years 10 and 11.*

**The final decision will depend on pupil preferences, staffing and other resources. Courses will only run if there is sufficient take-up to form a viable group.**

## LEARNING PATHWAYS

At our school, we are ambitious for every student. We believe that all young people should be given the knowledge, skills and qualifications that keep their future pathways open, whatever their goals may be. Where possible, we therefore encourage students to follow the EBacc pathway. The EBacc (English Baccalaureate) is not a single qualification, but a group of GCSE subjects that includes English, mathematics, science, humanities subjects (history or geography) and a modern foreign language. Studying these subjects provides a strong academic foundation, is highly valued by colleges, universities and employers, and supports success across a wide range of careers. Following the EBacc helps students develop critical thinking, communication skills and cultural understanding, while ensuring they have the breadth of knowledge needed to make informed choices at post-16 and beyond.

# COMBINATION PROGRAMMES

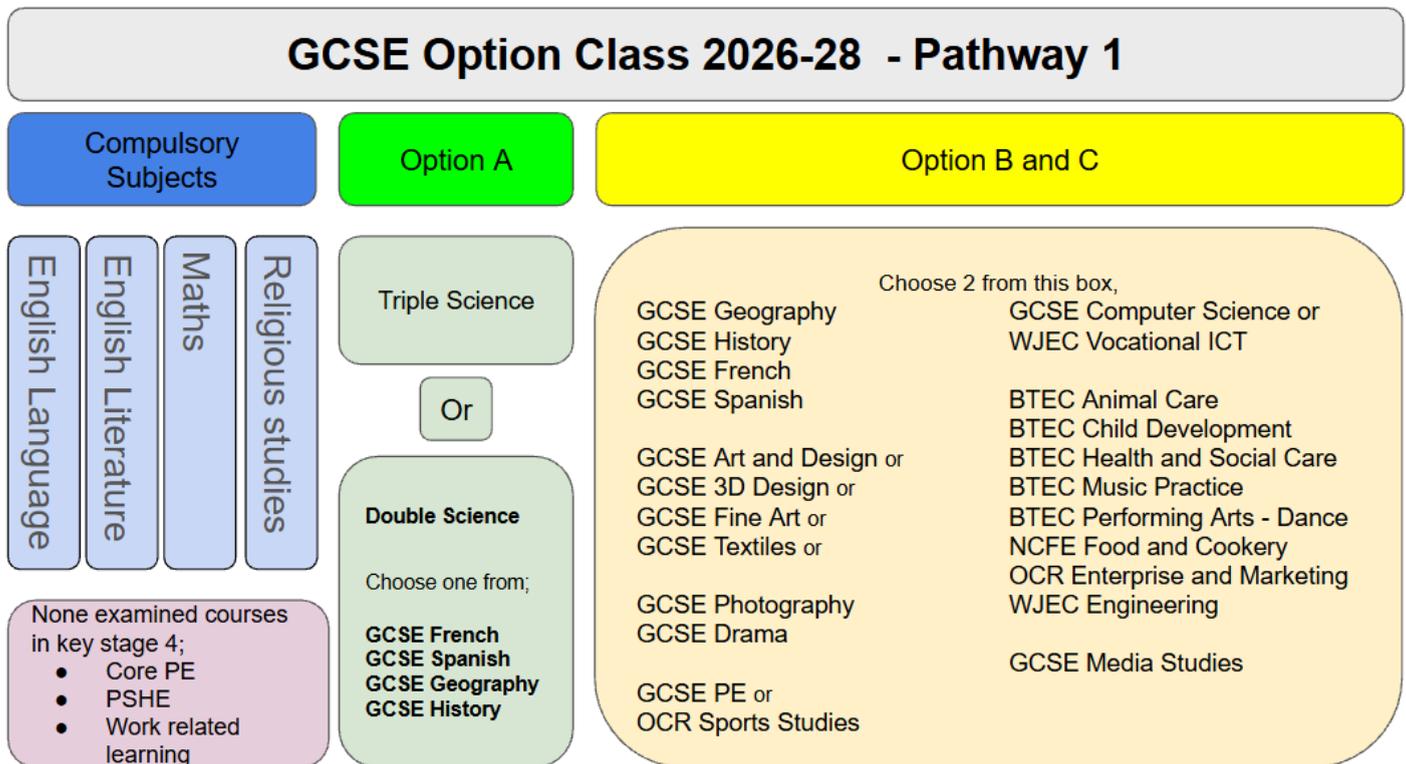
## Pathway 1

For students with high levels of attainment who are well suited to an academically ambitious GCSE programme, subject choices should provide both appropriate challenge and flexibility for future pathways. We strongly encourage these students to follow the full EBacc pathway by selecting a modern foreign language and a humanities subject such as History or Geography. These subjects are highly valued by colleges, universities, and employers, as they develop strong analytical, communication, and problem-solving skills.

**Subject teachers will advise parents and students on whether GCSE Triple Science and GCSE Computer Science are appropriate choices, taking into account each student's aptitude, progress, and readiness for the demands of these courses.**

This combination of subjects helps to keep a wide range of post-16 and career options open and provides a strong foundation for further academic study.

Students are asked to choose their GCSE options carefully. All students must select three subjects in total: one subject from the Option A block and two subjects from the Option B and C blocks. In addition, students must also choose two reserve options. These reserves are important, as some courses may not run if there is insufficient interest, and they allow us to ensure that every student is placed on a suitable and balanced programme of study.



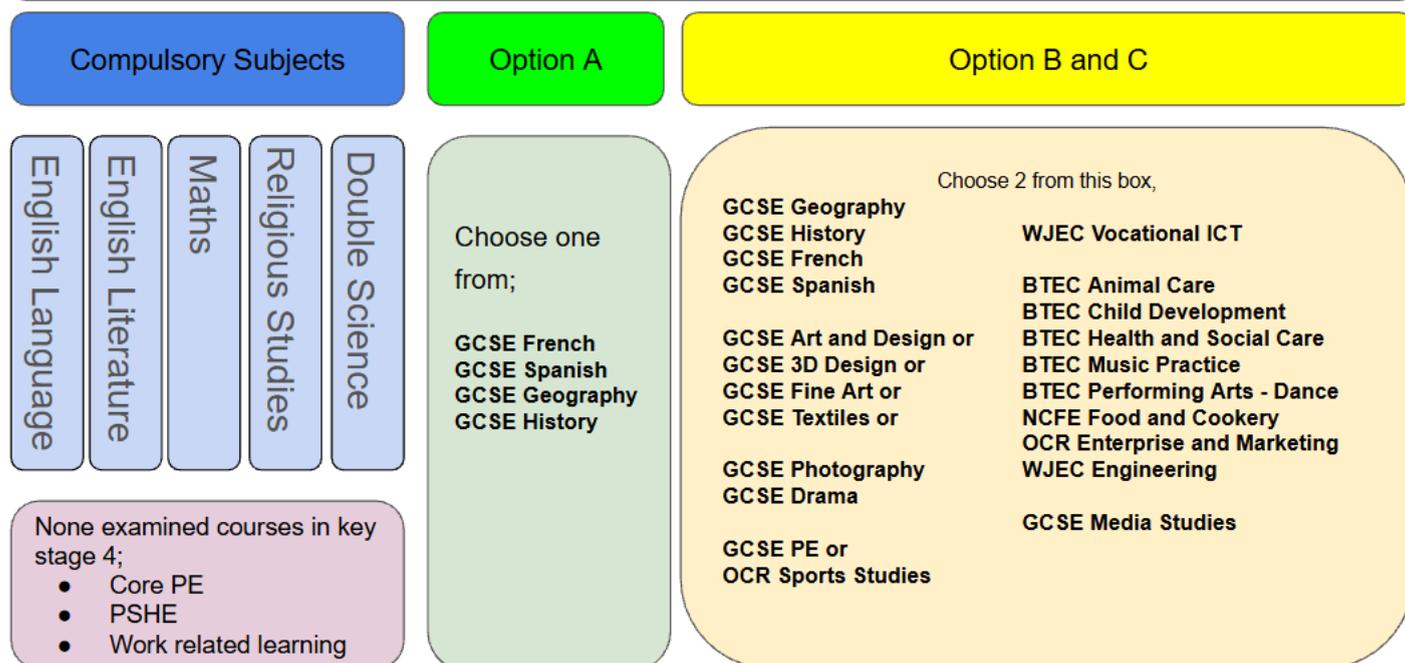
## Pathway 2

Although the school does not require students to follow the EBacc pathway, we strongly encourage the selection of one or more EBacc subjects where appropriate. Subjects such as History, Geography, and modern foreign languages help students develop valuable skills including extended writing, evaluation, and the ability to understand the world around them.

In particular, studying a language at GCSE supports literacy, memory, and communication skills, and is increasingly valued by employers and further education providers across a wide range of courses and careers. Choosing at least one EBacc subject helps maintain breadth in a student's curriculum, keeps future options open, and provides a strong academic foundation alongside more vocational or creative choices.

Students are asked to choose their GCSE options carefully. All students must select three subjects in total: one subject from the Option A block and two subjects from the Option B and C blocks. In addition, students must also choose two reserve options. These reserves are important, as some courses may not run if there is insufficient interest, and they allow us to ensure that every student is placed on a suitable and balanced programme of study.

### GCSE Option Class 2026-28 - Pathway 2



## Pathway 3

For some students, a pathway that prioritises a vocational subject alongside a broad range of GCSE options will be the most appropriate and successful route through Key Stage 4. In this pathway, students are encouraged to choose three subjects from three different option blocks, with the first choice being a vocational course that offers practical learning and clear links to future employment or further training.

Combining a vocational subject with GCSE courses from different areas of the curriculum helps students develop a wide range of skills, maintain engagement, and discover their strengths. This balanced approach supports progression into post-16 education, apprenticeships, or employment, while ensuring students leave Key Stage 4 with a broad, meaningful, and purposeful set of qualifications.

Students should pick three subjects in total: one from Option Block A and two from Option Blocks B and C. Students are asked to consider their choices carefully. In addition to their main choices, all students must also select two reserve options. These reserves are essential, as some courses may not run if there is insufficient interest, and they help ensure that every student can be allocated a suitable and balanced programme of study.

### GCSE Option Class 2026-28 - Pathway 3

#### Compulsory Subjects

English Language

English Literature

Maths

Religious Studies

Double Science

None examined courses in key stage 4;

- Core PE
- PSHE
- Work related learning

#### Option A

Choose one from;  
GCSE Art and Design

GCSE Photography

OCR Sports Studies

BTEC Health and Social Care

NCFE Food and Cookery

#### Option B and C

Choose 2 from this box,

GCSE Geography  
GCSE History  
GCSE French  
GCSE Spanish

GCSE Art and Design or  
GCSE 3D Design or  
GCSE Fine Art or  
GCSE Textiles or

GCSE Photography  
GCSE Drama

GCSE PE or  
OCR Sports Studies

WJEC Vocational ICT

BTEC Animal Care  
BTEC Child Development  
BTEC Health and Social Care  
BTEC Music Practice  
BTEC Performing Arts - Dance  
NCFE Food and Cookery  
OCR Enterprise and Marketing  
WJEC Engineering

GCSE Media Studies

***Guidance on the most appropriate course for your child will be given during the Options taster evening on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 and through assemblies and during the Options interview on Thursday 12th February 2026.***

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# GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Unlock the Power of Words!

Exam Board: EDUQAS

## Course:

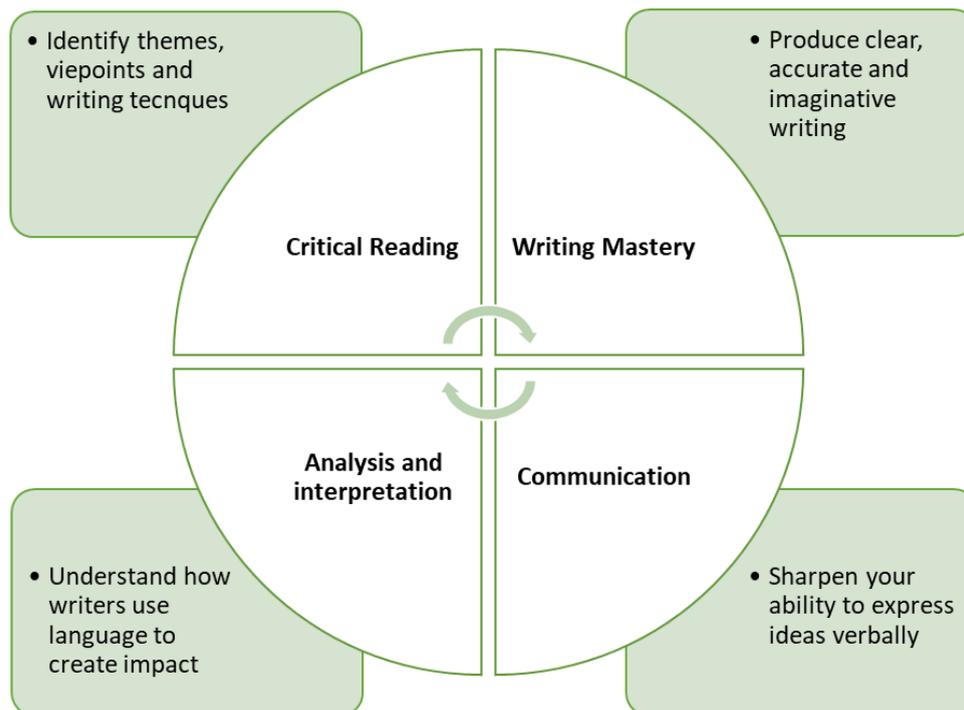
English Language is about more than just reading and writing. It helps you become a confident communicator, critical thinker, and creative writer. Whether you're analysing a thought-provoking piece of nonfiction, or crafting your own narrative, English Language equips you with essential skills that will benefit you in both your personal and professional life.

## What will you learn?

Our EDUQAS GCSE English Language course is packed with interesting and varied content:

- **Reading Non-Fiction Texts:** Learn to critically evaluate nonfiction texts from the 19th and 21st centuries.
- **Exploring Fiction:** Dive into creative prose from the 20th century and learn to craft your own narrative.
- **Writing to Persuade:** Develop your own writing style for different purposes and audiences and master the art of tone when writing articles, reviews, reports, speeches and letters.
- **Spoken Language:** Present your ideas clearly and confidently in spoken presentations.

## Skills you will develop:



## How is the course assessed?

### **Component 1: 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing**

- Written exam (40% of the GCSE)
- Section A: Reading and responding to a piece of 20th-century literature
- Section B: Writing a creative narrative

### **Component 2: 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading and Transactional/Persuasive Writing**

- Written exam (60% of the GCSE)
- Section A: Reading and comparing two non-fiction texts from the 19th and 21st centuries
- Section B: Writing for a range of purposes

## Spoken Language Assessment (Non-exam Assessment)

- You will give a presentation on a topic of your choice, which will be assessed separately and graded Pass, Merit, or Distinction. Whilst this does not contribute to your overall grade, it will appear on your exam certificate.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE English Language is an essential qualification for a wide range of post-16 pathways, including:

- **A-levels:** Subjects like English Language and Literature, History, Politics, and Media Studies require strong language skills.
- **Vocational Courses:** Communication skills are crucial for business, hospitality, and creative industries.
- **Apprenticeships:** Employers look for candidates who can read, write, and communicate effectively.
- **Employment:** English Language teaches transferable skills like problem-solving, analysis, and clarity in communication that are highly valued by employers.

In many fields, from law and journalism to teaching and marketing, the ability to express ideas clearly and persuasively will give you a competitive edge.

## Pupils' comments:

"I like reading about the different non-fiction topics, there were some really interesting pieces. I also enjoyed reading the short stories though it was a challenge to write my own!"

"Delivering my spoken language presentation was daunting, but I did a lot of research and people said it was clear I knew what I was talking about. It gave me a lot of confidence."

**For further information, please contact:  
Miss S Barney or Ms S Calder  
Curriculum Leaders English**

# GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

## Explore the World through Different Eyes!

### Exam Board: EDUQAS

#### Course:

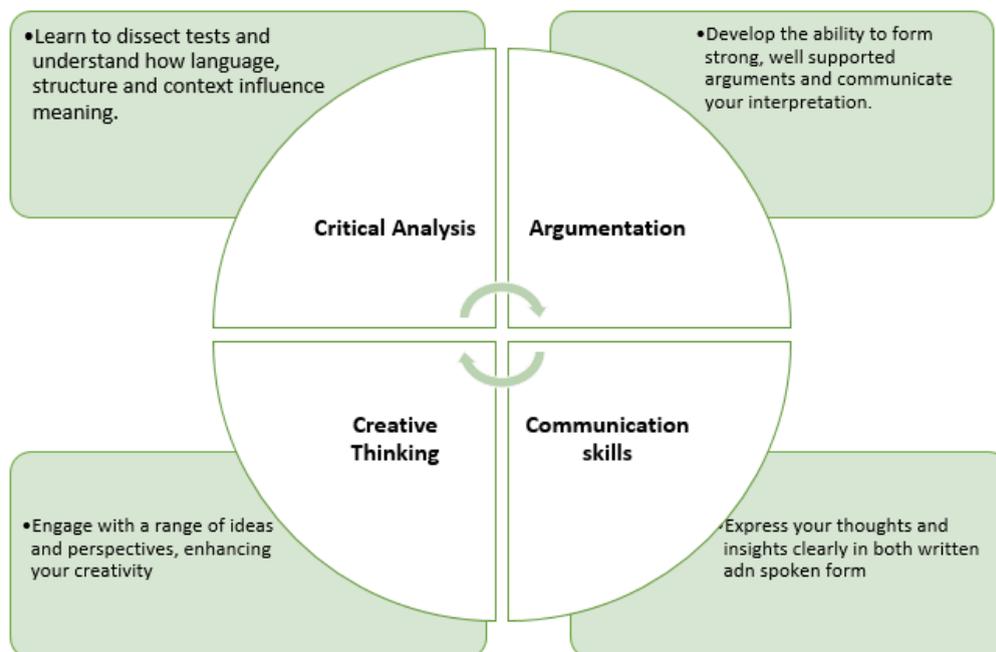
English Literature is about exploring human experiences through novels, plays, and poetry. You'll engage with classic and contemporary works, developing skills in analysis, interpretation, and argumentation. This course is perfect for students who love reading and discussing ideas about society, relationships, and the human condition.

#### What Will You Learn?

Our EDUQAS GCSE English Literature course covers a wide range of fascinating texts:

- **Shakespeare:** Study one of Shakespeare's most famous plays, *Macbeth*. You will analyse themes, characters, and language.
- **19th Century Novel:** Delve into Charles Dickens' classic ghost story *A Christmas Carol*, exploring its context and relevance today.
- **Post-1914 Drama:** Solve the mystery of the death of Eva Smith in J.B. Priestley's timeless play *An Inspector Calls*. Analyse the themes, characters and plot devices that make this mystery come to life.
- **Poetry Anthology:** Explore a range of poems, from the Romantics to the present day, learning how poets use language, form, and structure to express complex ideas about relationships, war, and nature.
- **Unseen Poetry:** Hone your skills in interpreting, comparing and appreciating poems you haven't studied before.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



#### How is the Course Assessed?

##### **Component 1: Shakespeare and Poetry**

- Written exam (40% of the GCSE)
- Section A: *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare
- Section B: Poetry from the Eduqas anthology (updated for this year!)

##### **Component 2: Post-1914 Prose/Drama, 19th Century Prose, and Unseen Poetry**

- Written exam (60% of the GCSE)

- Section A: Modern Prose/Drama
- Section B: 19th Century Novel
- Section C: Unseen Poetry



### **What Will It Help With Post-16?**

GCSE English Literature is a great foundation for many post-16 pathways, offering skills that are highly regarded in further study and careers:

- **A-levels:** English Literature is an excellent choice if you want to study English, History, Politics, Drama, Philosophy, or Sociology.
- **Vocational Courses:** English Literature sharpens your analytical and communication skills, which are vital for creative and media-related vocational courses.
- **Apprenticeships:** Many apprenticeships, especially in marketing, communications, publishing, and media, benefit from the skills developed through literature analysis.
- **Employment:** The ability to think critically, analyse language, and communicate effectively is valuable in a wide range of careers, from law and journalism to public relations and teaching.

English Literature provides you with strong reading, writing, and analytical skills that will prepare you for careers in:

- Journalism and Media
- Publishing and Editing
- Law and Politics
- Education and Teaching
- Advertising and Marketing

### **Pupils' comments:**

“I like the historical aspect of the course.”

“Reading ‘An Inspector Calls’, ‘A Christmas Carol’, ‘Macbeth’ and the poetry anthology has made me realise there is a lot I don’t know about British history!”

**For further information, please contact:  
Ms S Calder or Miss S Barney  
Curriculum Leaders English**

# GCSE MATHEMATICS

## Build a Solid Foundation for Your Future

### Exam Boards: AQA

#### Course:

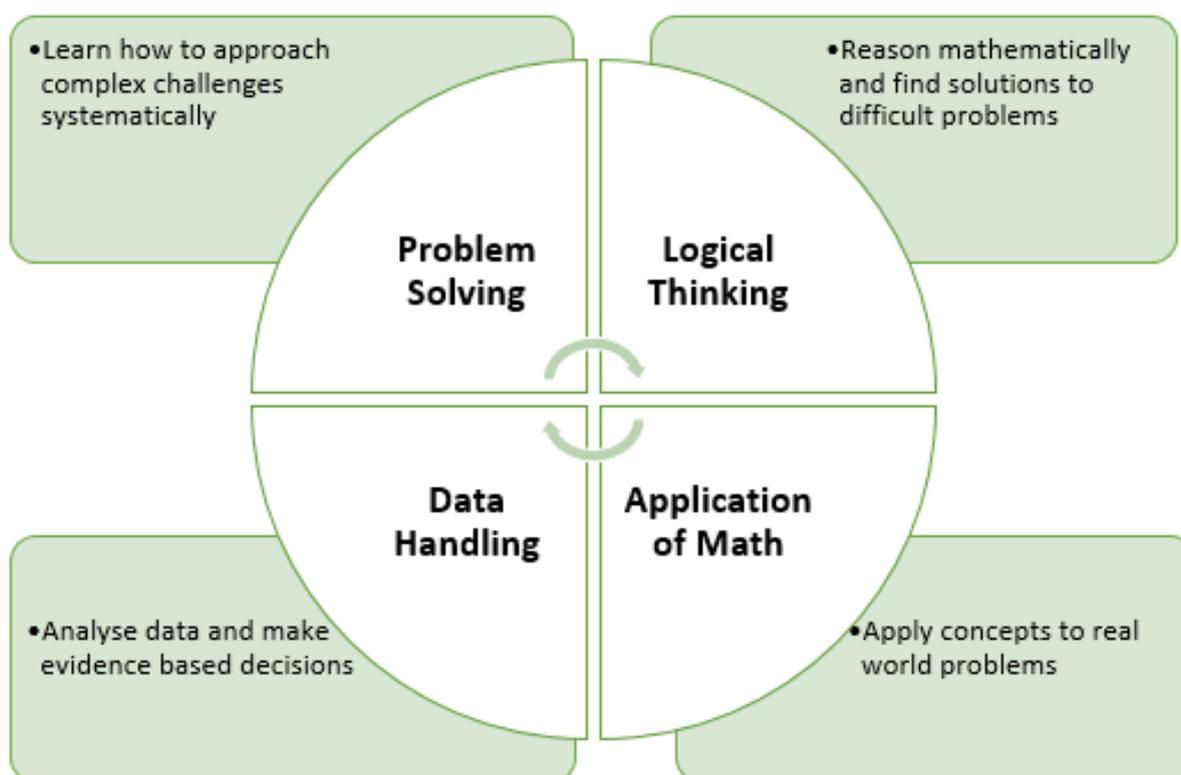
Mathematics is essential for understanding the world and solving real-life problems. This course equips you with the skills to think logically, tackle challenges, and apply mathematical concepts to everyday life. Whether you're considering a career in science, business, or technology, GCSE Mathematics will give you the foundation you need.

#### What Will You Learn?

Our AQA GCSE Mathematics course covers a wide range of topics designed to build both your practical and theoretical understanding:

- Number: Develop accuracy with numbers, calculations, and numerical reasoning.
- Algebra: Learn how to solve equations, inequalities, and work with graphs.
- Geometry and Measures: Explore properties of shapes, angles, areas, volumes, and coordinate geometry.
- Ratio, Proportion, and Rates of Change: Understand the relationships between quantities in everyday situations.
- Probability: Learn how to calculate likelihoods and make predictions.
- Statistics: Interpret data, use averages, and understand the importance of data in real-world contexts.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



#### How is the Course Assessed?

- **Three Written Exams:**  
Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes, with equal weighting (33.3% each of the GCSE).
  - **Paper 1:** Non-calculator paper
  - **Paper 2:** Calculator paper
  - **Paper 3:** Calculator paper

Questions cover all topics from the syllabus, including problem-solving tasks that test your ability to apply knowledge to unfamiliar situations.



### What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Mathematics is a crucial qualification for a variety of post-16 options, offering essential skills for further study and employment:

- **A-levels:** Maths is often a prerequisite for A-level subjects such as Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Economics, and Computer Science.
- **Vocational Courses:** Many technical and engineering courses require strong mathematical understanding, especially in fields like construction, electronics, and IT.
- **Apprenticeships:** Apprenticeships in engineering, finance, construction, and data analysis rely heavily on the mathematical skills developed at GCSE level.
- **Employment:** Strong maths skills are sought after in almost every industry, including finance, technology, logistics, and business.

Maths is an essential qualification for careers in:

- Engineering and Architecture
- Data Science and Statistics
- Finance and Accountancy
- Technology and Software Development
- Teaching and Research

### **Pupils' comments:**

“Maths is challenging and requires a lot of thinking. When you solve a hard problem you feel a great sense of achievement.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs S Arthur  
Director of Maths**

# GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE

## Understand the Science Behind Everyday Life!

### Exam Board: AQA

#### Course:

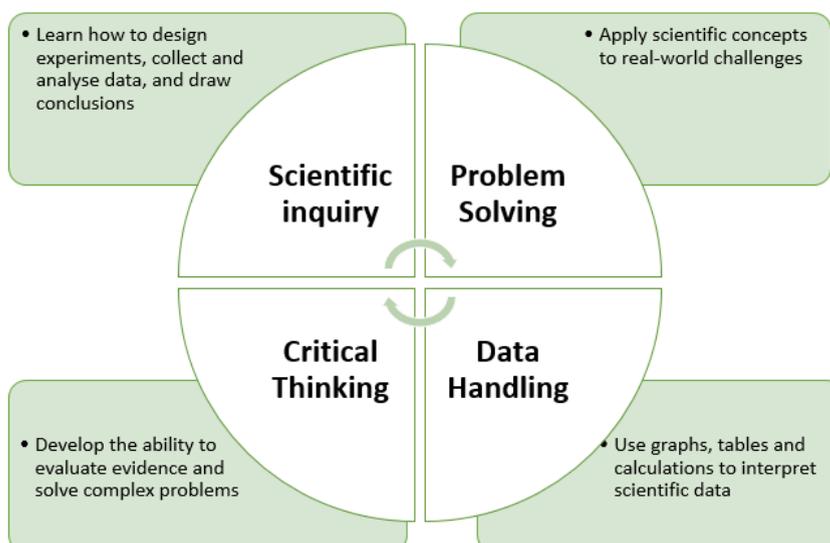
This course offers an engaging mix of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, giving you a well-rounded understanding of the world around you. It's perfect for students interested in a variety of science disciplines and opens up numerous pathways for further study or careers in science, technology, and beyond.

#### What Will You Learn?

The **Combined Science: Trilogy** course covers key topics from all three sciences:

- **Biology:**
  - Cell Biology: Discover the building blocks of life.
  - Organisation: Learn about organs and systems in living organisms.
  - Infection and Response: Explore how diseases affect the body and how we defend against them.
  - Bioenergetics: Understand photosynthesis and respiration.
  - Ecology: Investigate ecosystems and biodiversity.
- **Chemistry:**
  - Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table: Explore the basic building blocks of matter.
  - Bonding, Structure, and Properties: Learn how materials are made.
  - Chemical Reactions: Understand the principles behind reactions and how they drive change.
  - Organic Chemistry: Study carbon-based compounds, including fuels.
  - Using Resources: Discover how we obtain and use Earth's materials.
- **Physics:**
  - Energy: Learn about the different forms of energy and how we use them.
  - Electricity: Explore how electricity powers devices.
  - Forces: Understand how objects move and interact.
  - Waves: Discover how sound and light travel.
  - Magnetism and Electromagnetism: Investigate magnetic fields and their uses.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

- **Six Written Exams:**
  - Two Biology, two Chemistry, and two Physics papers (each 1 hour 15 minutes).
  - Each paper is worth 16.7% of the final grade.
  - Questions include multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.
  - Students will receive two GCSE grades based on their performance across all three sciences.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy provides a solid foundation for various post-16 pathways:

- **A-levels:** It prepares you for A-levels in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or Applied Science.
- **Vocational Courses:** Many vocational and technical courses, such as healthcare, engineering, and environmental science, require a strong understanding of basic science concepts.
- **Apprenticeships:** STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) apprenticeships in sectors like medical technology, laboratory science, engineering, and environmental conservation build directly on skills gained in Combined Science.
- **Employment:** Many industries value the analytical, problem-solving, and technical skills developed in this course, including healthcare, manufacturing, and IT.

This qualification opens doors to careers in:

- Medicine, Dentistry, and Nursing
- Engineering and Construction
- Environmental Science and Conservation
- Research and Laboratory Work
- Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals

### ***Pupils' comments:***

“Science is great. I really like the experiments as we get to find things out for ourselves”.

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs J Taylor  
Director of Science**

# GCSE BIOLOGY

## Explore the Science of Life!

### Exam Board: AQA

#### Course:

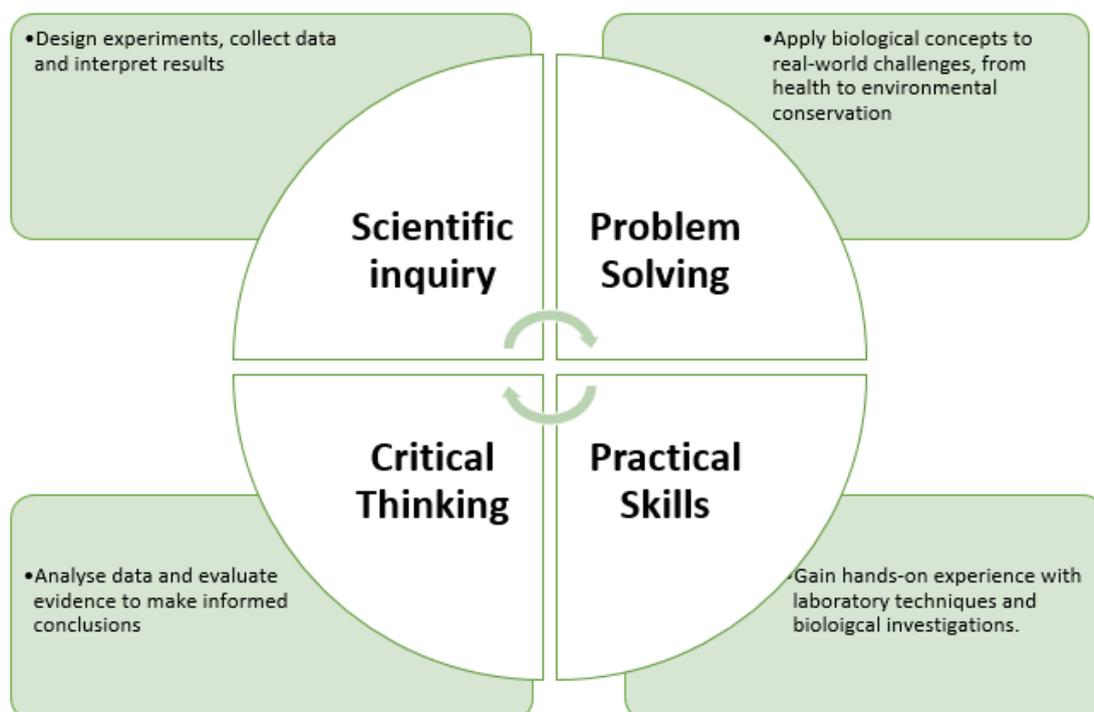
Biology is the study of living organisms and their interactions with the environment. If you're curious about how life works—from the tiniest cell to complex ecosystems—GCSE Biology will provide you with fascinating insights. You'll explore essential topics like genetics, human biology, and environmental science, equipping you with knowledge that's crucial for many careers and future studies.

*This course is part of the Triple Science programme. You cannot opt for Biology alone. Please select Triple Science on the option form to study GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics.*

#### What Will You Learn?

- **Organisation:** Study how cells form tissues, organs, and systems in plants and animals.
- **Infection and Response:** Explore how diseases affect organisms and how the immune system defends against pathogens.
- **Bioenergetics:** Understand the processes of photosynthesis and respiration, which provide energy for life.
- **Homeostasis and Response:** Learn how organisms regulate their internal environment, from temperature to water balance.
- **Inheritance, Variation, and Evolution:** Discover the principles of genetics, natural selection, and the diversity of life.
- **Ecology:** Investigate ecosystems, biodiversity, and the human impact on the environment

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

- **Two Written Exams:**

Each exam is 1 hour 45 minutes and covers different topics:

- **Paper 1:** Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics
- **Paper 2:** Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation and Evolution, Ecology
- Questions include multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Biology is an excellent foundation for a variety of post-16 options and careers in the sciences:

- **A-levels:** Biology is a key subject for A-levels in Biology, Human Biology, Environmental Science, Psychology, and Chemistry.
- **Vocational Courses:** Strong biology knowledge is essential for courses in health and social care, medical technology, and animal care.
- **Apprenticeships:** Opportunities in healthcare, laboratory science, agriculture, and environmental conservation build directly on the skills developed in GCSE Biology.
- **Employment:** Many industries require biological understanding, from healthcare and medicine to conservation, biotechnology, and pharmaceuticals.

Biology opens up a wide range of career paths, including:

- Medicine and Nursing
- Biomedical Science and Biotechnology
- Environmental Conservation and Ecology
- Forensic Science and Laboratory Research
- Veterinary Science and Zoology

### ***Pupils' comments:***

“I love biology, because I can see how it relates to real life, and other subjects like P.E.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs J Taylor  
Director of Science**

# GCSE CHEMISTRY

## Discover The Building Blocks of Our World!

### Exam Board: AQA

#### Course:

Chemistry is the study of matter and how it changes. It's a fascinating subject that explains the substances we use, the air we breathe, and the reactions that power everything from our bodies to our cars. If you're curious about how materials interact and why the world works as it does, GCSE Chemistry will take you on a journey through the atomic world to the global challenges of energy, materials, and sustainability.

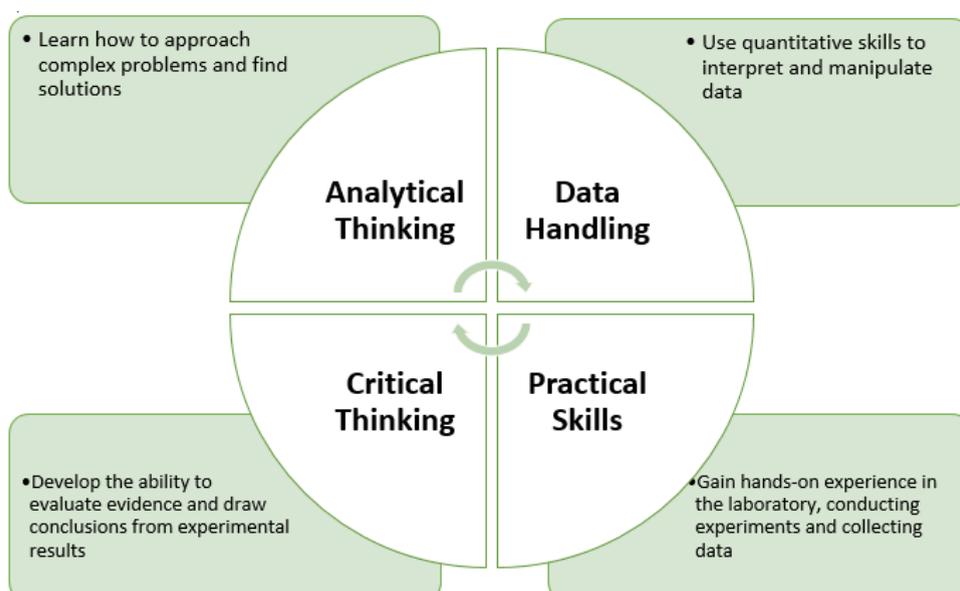
*This course is part of the Triple Science programme. You cannot opt for Chemistry alone. Please select Triple Science on the option form to study GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics.*

#### What Will You Learn?

The **GCSE Chemistry** course covers a wide range of topics that explore both the theoretical and practical aspects of chemistry:

- **Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table:** Learn about the structure of atoms and how elements are classified.
- **Bonding, Structure, and Properties of Matter:** Discover how different substances are bonded and how their properties relate to their uses.
- **Quantitative Chemistry:** Understand how chemists calculate amounts of substances and ensure reactions occur efficiently.
- **Chemical Changes:** Explore how acids and bases react, and the principles behind chemical reactions.
- **Energy Changes:** Learn about exothermic and endothermic reactions and how energy is transferred.
- **The Rate and Extent of Chemical Change:** Study how reaction rates are affected and how chemists control them.
- **Organic Chemistry:** Delve into carbon compounds, including fuels and plastics.
- **Chemical Analysis:** Investigate methods used to identify substances.
- **Chemistry of the Atmosphere:** Understand the composition of Earth's atmosphere and the impact of human activity on climate change.
- **Using Resources:** Learn how we extract, use, and recycle the Earth's resources sustainably.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

- **Two Written Exams:**

Each exam is 1 hour 45 minutes and covers different topics:

- **Paper 1:** Atomic Structure, Bonding, Quantitative Chemistry, Chemical Changes, Energy Changes
- **Paper 2:** The Rate and Extent of Chemical Change, Organic Chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the Atmosphere, Using Resources
- Questions include multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Chemistry provides a solid foundation for a variety of post-16 options and careers:

- **A-levels:** Chemistry is essential for A-levels in Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Environmental Science, and Medicine.
- **Vocational Courses:** Chemistry knowledge is important for vocational courses in health sciences, chemical engineering, and laboratory technology.
- **Apprenticeships:** Many apprenticeships in industries such as pharmaceuticals, chemical manufacturing, and environmental monitoring require chemistry skills.
- **Employment:** Chemistry develops problem-solving, analytical, and practical skills that are valued in fields like engineering, healthcare, research, and manufacturing.

Careers in Chemistry can lead to:

- Medicine and Dentistry
- Pharmacology and Biochemistry
- Chemical Engineering and Materials Science
- Environmental Science and Sustainability
- Forensic Science and Research

### *Pupils' comments:*

“Chemistry is fun and interesting. It’s really hands-on.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs J Taylor  
Director of Science**

# GCSE PHYSICS

## Unlock the Secrets of the Universe!

### Exam Board: AQA

#### Course:

Physics explores the fundamental principles that govern everything in the universe, from the smallest particles to the largest galaxies. If you're curious about how things work—whether it's the forces that keep planets in orbit or the technology behind your smartphone—GCSE Physics is the subject for you. It's ideal for students interested in a deeper understanding of energy, forces, and the laws of nature.

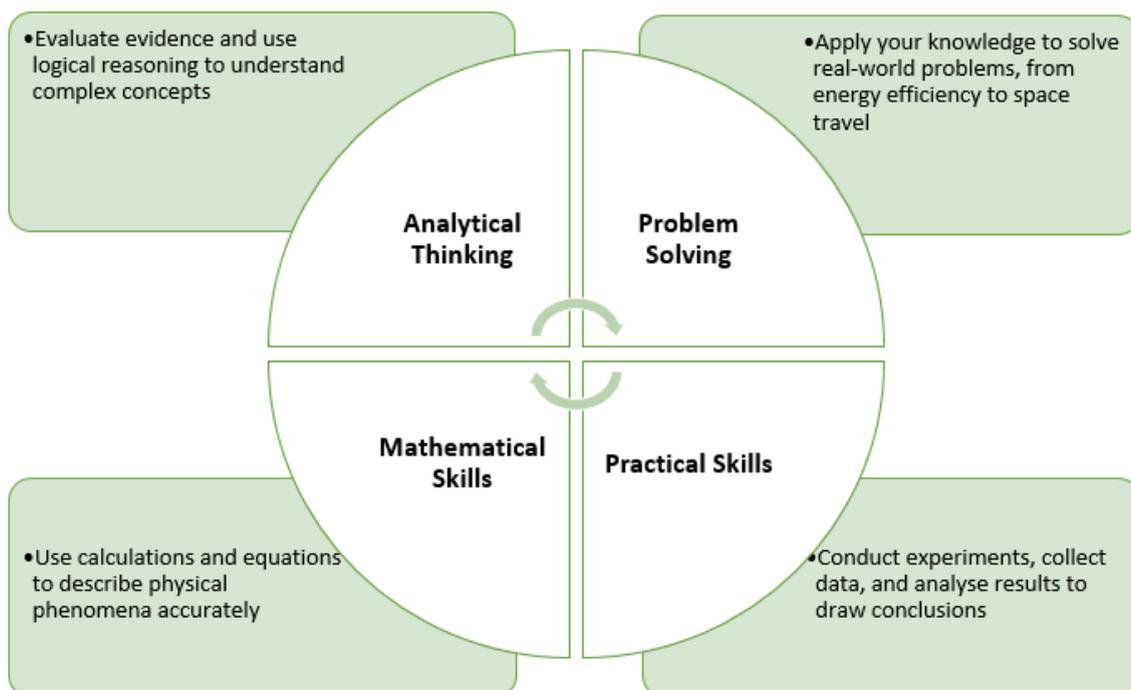
*This course is part of the Triple Science programme. You cannot opt for Physics alone. Please select Triple Science on the option form to study GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics.*

#### What Will You Learn?

The **GCSE Physics** course covers a range of fascinating topics that explain how the physical world operates:

- **Energy:** Learn how energy is transferred and conserved, and how we use it in everyday life.
- **Electricity:** Explore the principles behind electrical circuits and the technology they power.
- **Particle Model of Matter:** Understand how particles behave in solids, liquids, and gases.
- **Atomic Structure:** Discover the structure of the atom and the basics of radioactivity.
- **Forces:** Study the different forces acting on objects and how they affect motion.
- **Waves:** Learn about the properties of sound and light waves and how we use them in communication and technology.
- **Magnetism and Electromagnetism:** Investigate magnetic fields and their role in generating electricity.
- **Space Physics:** Explore the solar system, stars, and galaxies, and understand the big questions about the universe.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

- **Two Written Exams:**

Each exam is 1 hour 45 minutes and covers different topics:

- **Paper 1:** Energy, Electricity, Particle Model of Matter, Atomic Structure
- **Paper 2:** Forces, Waves, Magnetism and Electromagnetism, Space Physics
- Questions include multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Physics is highly regarded and opens up numerous post-16 options:

- **A-levels:** Physics is a key subject for A-levels in Physics, Engineering, Mathematics, and Computer Science.
- **Vocational Courses:** Physics is essential for vocational courses in engineering, electronics, and medical technology.
- **Apprenticeships:** Many technical apprenticeships, such as in electrical engineering, aerospace, and telecommunications, rely on strong physics knowledge.
- **Employment:** Physics develops analytical, practical, and mathematical skills, making it highly valued in fields like engineering, technology, finance, and data analysis.

Studying Physics can lead to exciting careers in:

- Engineering (Mechanical, Civil, Electrical, Aerospace)
- Astrophysics and Space Science
- Robotics and Artificial Intelligence
- Environmental Science and Renewable Energy
- Software Development and Data Science

### **Pupils' comments:**

“I want to be an engineer, so I think Physics is great. It helps us to understand how things work”.

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs J Taylor  
Director of Science**

# GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## Explore the Big Questions of Life!

### Exam Board: EDUQAS

#### Course:

Religious Studies invites you to explore some of the most important and thought-provoking questions about human existence, morality, and society. Whether you're interested in learning about different world religions, ethics, or the philosophical debates about life and death, GCSE Religious Studies encourages critical thinking and helps you understand diverse viewpoints. This course fosters respect, tolerance, and deeper understanding of our shared world.

#### What Will You Learn?

The **Religious Studies Eduqas Route A** course consists of two main components:

##### **1. Beliefs and Teachings** (Christianity and Judaism)

Students explore the key beliefs and teachings of two religions in depth. These include:

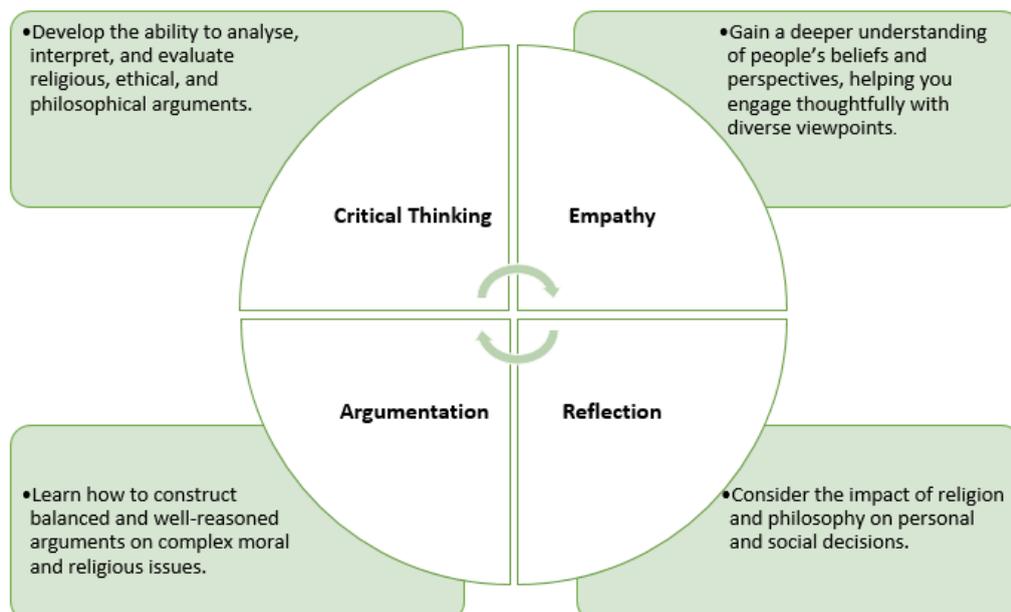
- **Christianity:** This will cover core Christian beliefs such as the nature of God (e.g., the Trinity), the role of Jesus, salvation, and the afterlife, as well as Christian practices like worship and sacraments.
- **Judaism:** This will cover Jewish beliefs and practices, including the nature of God and festivals.

##### **2. Philosophy and Ethics**

In this section, students engage with significant ethical, philosophical, and social issues from a Christian perspective. The themes explored in this part of the course include:

- **Relationships:** This theme covers topics such as marriage, divorce and gender equality.
- **Life and Death:** This could involve discussions on the sanctity of life, abortion, euthanasia, and the nature of life after death, drawing on religious teachings to understand differing views on these topics.
- **Good and Evil:** Students explore concepts like moral responsibility, the problem of evil, suffering, and the existence of God in light of suffering, as well as the role of free will and divine justice.
- **Human Rights and Social Justice:** This includes topics like poverty, inequality, discrimination, human rights, and how religious groups respond to social justice issues, focusing on concepts like charity, compassion, and social responsibility.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## **How is the Course Assessed?**

Three written examinations:

- Paper 1 - Philosophy and Ethics exam (worth 50% of overall grade)
- Paper 2 - Christianity exam (worth 25% of overall grade)
- Paper 3 – Judaism (Worth 25% of overall grade)

## **What Will It Help With Post-16?**

GCSE Religious Studies is a valuable qualification that provides essential skills for a wide variety of post-16 options:

**A-levels:** Religious Studies is often a stepping stone for A-levels in Philosophy, Ethics, Sociology, History, Psychology, and English.

**Vocational Courses:** Religious Studies is useful for vocational courses in law, healthcare, social work, and education, where understanding human behaviour and cultural differences is key.

**Apprenticeships:** Many apprenticeships in areas such as community work, healthcare, law enforcement, and social services value the empathy, communication, and ethical reasoning developed through studying Religious Studies.

**Employment:** Careers in teaching, social work, law, counselling, and international relations can be enhanced by the critical thinking and understanding of diverse worldviews that you gain from studying this subject.

Religious Studies can lead to careers in:

- Teaching and Education
- Social Work and Counselling
- Law and Human Rights Advocacy
- Healthcare and Pastoral Care
- Journalism and International Relations

### ***Pupils' comments:***

“I enjoy RS because it gives me opportunities to think about and discuss different issues and look at the different opinions people have on them.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs H Wilton**

## Religious Studies Subject Leader

# GCSE GEOGRAPHY

## Discover the World Around You!

### Exam Board: AQA

#### Course:

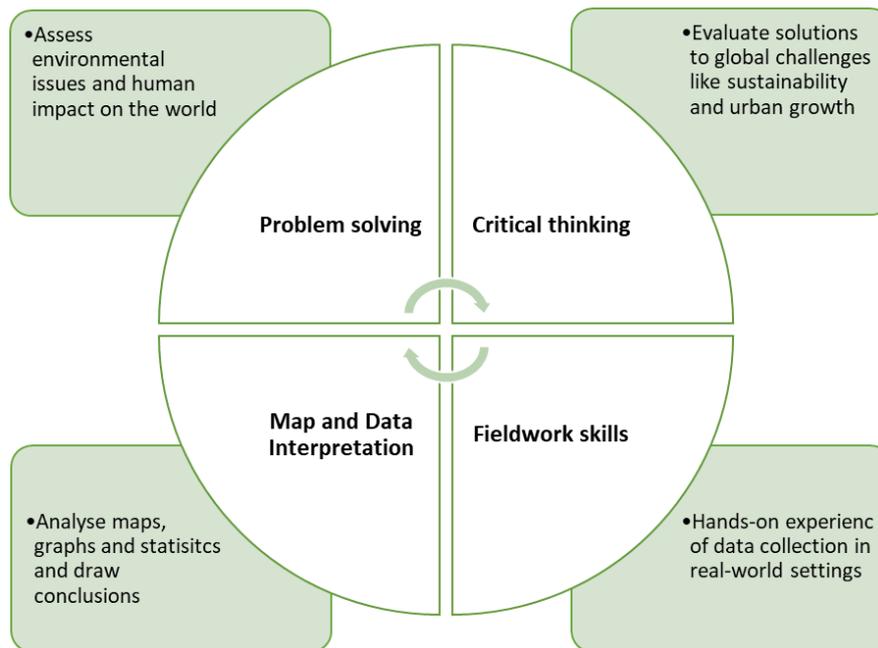
Geography helps you make sense of the world. You'll study a wide range of topics, from physical landscapes and ecosystems to urbanisation and global development. It's a subject that connects the environment, people, places, and cultures, offering insights into both local and global issues.

#### What Will You Learn?

Our GCSE Geography course explores:

- The Living World: Investigate ecosystems, rainforests, and deserts.
- Urban Challenges: Understand how cities grow and the issues they face.
- Natural Hazards: Explore the causes and effects of earthquakes, volcanoes, and climate change.
- The UK's Physical Landscape: Study rivers, coasts, and the changing landscape.
- Economic Development: Learn about the gap between rich and poor countries, and how it's changing.
- Fieldwork: Investigate human and physical aspects of Geography in Liverpool and North Wales

#### Skills You Will Develop:



#### How is the Course Assessed?

- **Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment**  
Topics: Natural Hazards, Physical Landscapes in the UK, and The Living World. (35% of the GCSE)
- **Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment**  
Topics: Urban Issues and Challenges, The Changing Economic World, and Resource Management. (35% of the GCSE)
- **Paper 3: Geographical Applications**  
Issue evaluation and fieldwork, using pre-release resources and real-world case studies. (30% of the GCSE)



### **What Will It Help With Post-16?**

GCSE Geography equips you with valuable skills and knowledge for a wide range of post-16 options:

- A-levels: Geography complements subjects like Environmental Science, Politics, Sociology, and Economics.
- Vocational Courses: Geography's focus on sustainability, urban planning, and environmental management is essential for many vocational pathways, such as construction, agriculture, and tourism.
- Apprenticeships: Whether you pursue business, civil engineering, or environmental science, geography provides essential skills like data analysis, problem-solving, and an understanding of the world's systems.
- Employment: Employers value geographers for their ability to think critically, interpret data, and understand global issues. Careers in planning, conservation, climate change, and international development are just some examples of where geography can take you.

A GCSE in Geography can open doors to careers in fields such as:

- Environmental Science
- Urban Planning and Development
- Research and Conservation
- International Relations and Humanitarian Work
- Climate Change and Sustainability

### **Pupils' comments:**

"It has given me so many good transferable skills such as data analysis and valuable writing skills. I have enjoyed it so much I am hoping to continue my studies at A Level and then university."

**For further information, please contact:  
Miss A Palfrey  
Geography Subject Leader  
Humanities Curriculum Leader**

# GCSE HISTORY

## Uncover the Past, Shape the Future Exam Board: PEARSON EDEXCEL

### Course:

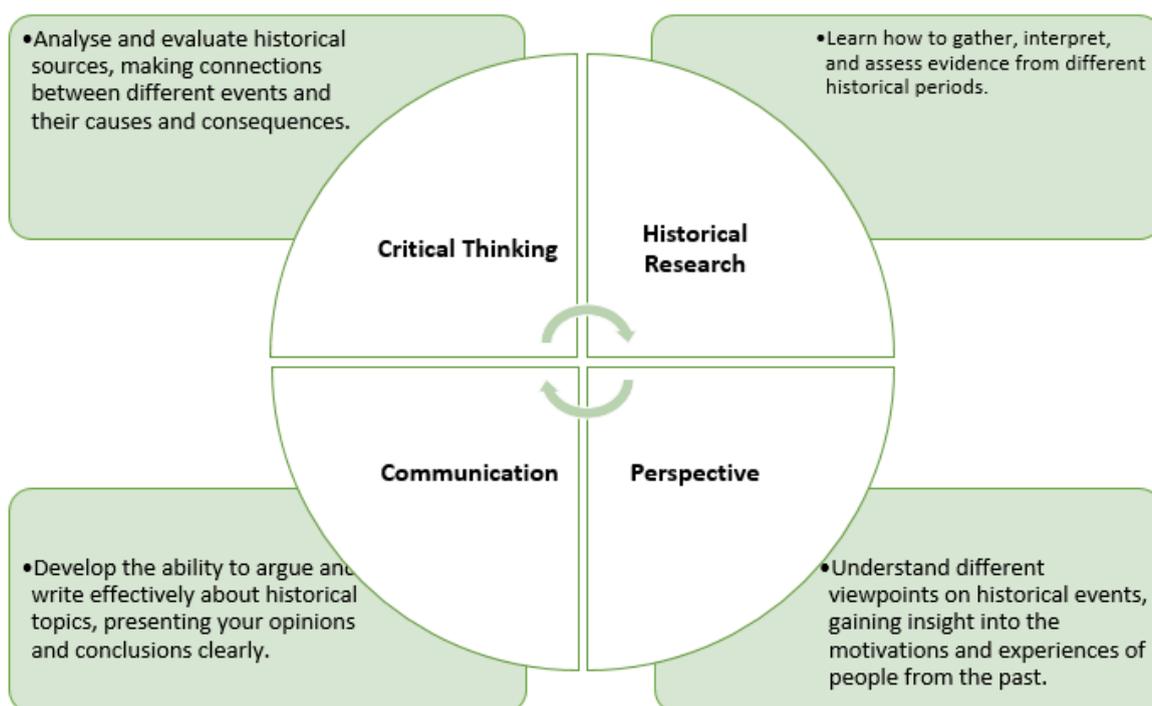
History is not just about the past—it's about understanding how past events shape the present and influence the future. If you're fascinated by the stories of past civilizations, key turning points in history, or the struggles for power and justice, GCSE History will help you explore them. This course will encourage you to understand cause and consequence and the process of change over time. You will learn to think critically, analyse sources, and appreciate different viewpoints on historical events.

### What Will You Learn?

The **Edexcel GCSE History** course covers a variety of topics from British and world history, allowing you to gain a broad understanding of how societies have evolved:

- **The Weimar Republic and Nazi Germany (1918–1939):** Understand why and how the Weimar Republic was formed, its early challenges, and later successes. Learn about the rise of Adolf Hitler, and how the Nazis eventually managed to control Germany through propaganda, terror, and ideology.
- **Superpower Relations and the Cold War (1941–1991):** Explore the tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union, including key events like the Hungarian Uprising, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Berlin Wall and its fall.
- **Medicine in Britain (c. 1250 to present):** Trace the development of medical knowledge and public health in Britain, from superstitious and religious medieval treatments to modern technological advancements. See how the medical knowledge of the time worked in practice by studying medicine on the British sector of the Western Front in the First World War.
- **Elizabethan England (1558-1588):** Explore the early reign of Queen Elizabeth I covering key events such as the religious settlement, the Spanish Armada, and plots against the Queen. Learn about Elizabeth's main problems and how she navigated them to establish a stable and prosperous reign.

### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

- **Three Written Exams:**
  - **Paper 1:** Thematic Study (Medicine in Britain and Medicine on the Western Front of the First World War) – 30%
  - **Paper 2:** Period Study (Superpower relations and the Cold War) and British Depth Study (Early Elizabethan England) – 40%
  - **Paper 3:** Modern Depth Study (The Weimar Republic and Nazi Germany) – 30%

All questions are written responses, ranging from shorter 4 mark questions to 16 mark essays.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE History provides a solid foundation for a wide range of post-16 options and careers:

- **A-levels:** History is a popular A-level choice that opens doors to further study in history, politics, law, sociology, economics, and more. History is a 'facilitator subject'.
- **Vocational Courses:** A solid understanding of history is helpful for vocational courses in law, journalism, politics, media, and archaeology.
- **Apprenticeships:** Many apprenticeships in public services, education, heritage, and museum curation value the skills gained through studying history, particularly critical thinking and research.
- **Employment:** Careers in teaching, law, public relations, journalism, international relations, and business all benefit from the problem-solving, communication, and research skills developed in history.

History can lead to exciting careers in:

- Teaching and Education
- Journalism, Media, and Publishing
- Law and Politics
- Museum and Heritage Services
- International Relations and Diplomacy
- Social Research and Public Policy

### **Pupils' comments:**

"The topics are really interesting and the lessons have a range of activities that help us feel well prepared for the exam."

**For further information, please contact:  
Ms N Llewellyn  
History Subject Leader**

# GCSE FRENCH

## Open Doors to a World of Opportunity

### Exam Board: AQA

#### Course:

Learning a language opens up a whole new world of opportunities, both personal and professional. GCSE French allows you to explore the culture, history, and lifestyle of French-speaking countries while developing the communication skills that are in high demand in today's globalised world. Whether you want to travel, work abroad, or simply gain a deeper understanding of the world, GCSE French is a key to many exciting possibilities.

#### What Will You Learn?

The **AQA GCSE French** course is designed to help you develop your skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing while learning about the French-speaking world. You will study:

#### **Theme 1: People and lifestyle**

- Topic 1: Identify relationships with others
- Topic 2: Healthy living and lifestyle
- Topic 3: Education and work

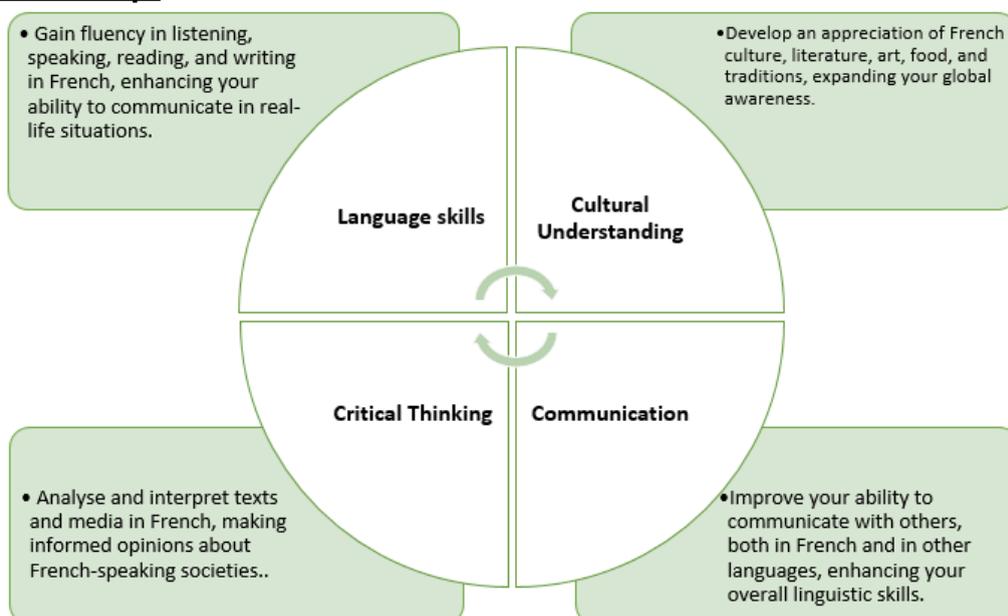
#### **Theme 2: Popular culture**

- Topic 1: Free-time activities
- Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations
- Topic 3: Celebrity culture

#### **Theme 3: Communication and the world around us**

- Topic 1: Travel and tourism, including places of interest
- Topic 2: Media and technology
- Topic 3: The environment and where people live

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **AQA GCSE French** course is assessed through four skill-based exams:

- **Listening:** 25% – You will listen to a range of spoken texts in French and answer questions.
- **Speaking:** 25% – You will take part in a spoken exam, discussing various topics in French with an examiner.
- **Reading:** 25% – You will read texts in French and answer questions to demonstrate understanding.
- **Writing:** 25% – You will write essays or short pieces in French, demonstrating your ability to communicate clearly in the language.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE French is an essential skill that opens many doors for further study and future careers:

- **A-levels:** French is a popular choice for A-levels in languages, literature, and international studies, and can complement subjects such as History, Geography, and Business.
- **Vocational Courses:** French is useful for vocational courses in international business, tourism, marketing, translation, and hospitality.
- **Apprenticeships:** Many apprenticeships in areas such as customer service, travel, and international relations require strong communication skills, and French can give you a competitive edge.
- **Employment:** In an increasingly globalised world, being fluent in French opens up career opportunities in multinational companies, embassies, tourism, translation, and journalism.

Studying French can lead to careers in:

- International Relations and Diplomacy
- Translation and Interpreting
- Tourism and Travel Management
- Marketing and Business
- Teaching and Education
- Journalism and Media

### **Pupils' comments:**

“Having a language qualification makes your application stand out and can open job opportunities.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Miss J Parkinson  
Curriculum Leader MFL**

# GCSE SPANISH

## Unlock the Spanish Speaking World

### Exam Board: AQA

#### Course:

Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, making it a valuable skill for travel, work, and study. Choosing GCSE Spanish will allow you to explore the language and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries, while also helping you develop strong communication and cultural understanding. Whether you're interested in language, travel, business, or international relations, Spanish opens doors to countless opportunities.

#### What Will You Learn?

The **AQA GCSE Spanish** course helps you to develop your listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills while exploring a variety of exciting topics, including:

#### **Theme 1: People and lifestyle**

- Topic 1: Identify relationship with others
- Topic 2: Healthy Living and lifestyle
- Topic 3: Education and work

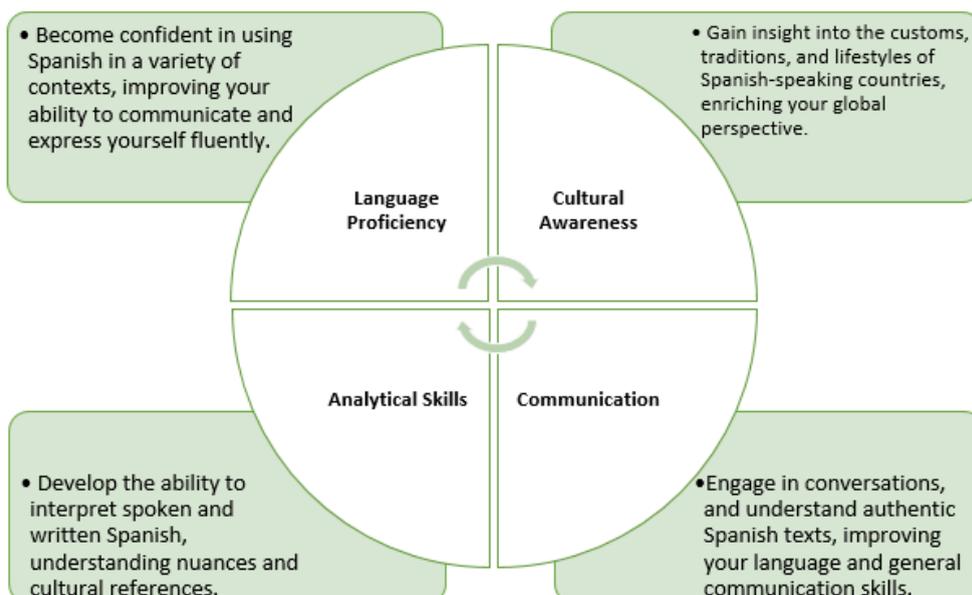
#### **Theme 2: Popular culture**

- Topic 1: Free-time activities
- Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations
- Topic 3: Celebrity culture

#### **Theme 3: Communication and the world around us**

- Topic 1: Travel and tourism, including places of interest
- Topic 2: Media and technology
- Topic 3: The environment and where people live

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **AQA GCSE Spanish** course is assessed through four exam components:

- **Listening:** 25% – You will listen to various spoken texts in Spanish and answer questions in English and Spanish.
- **Speaking:** 25% – You will take part in a speaking exam with an examiner, discussing topics such as family, hobbies, and future plans.
- **Reading:** 25% – You will read a variety of texts in Spanish, including advertisements, letters, and articles, and answer questions to demonstrate your understanding.
- **Writing:** 25% – You will write essays or short texts in Spanish, showcasing your ability to communicate in the language clearly and accurately.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Spanish is a highly regarded qualification that opens many doors for further study and career opportunities:

- **A-levels:** Spanish is a popular A-level choice, often paired with subjects such as History, Geography, Business, or Sociology.
- **Vocational Courses:** Spanish is an asset for vocational courses in international business, tourism, marketing, translation, and hospitality.
- **Apprenticeships:** Apprenticeships in industries like customer service, marketing, travel, and international relations value foreign language skills, particularly in Spanish-speaking markets.
- **Employment:** Being bilingual in Spanish can give you a competitive edge in a range of industries, including tourism, international trade, media, and public relations.

Spanish can lead to careers in:

- International Relations and Diplomacy
- Translation and Interpretation
- Travel and Tourism Management
- International Business and Marketing
- Journalism, Media, and Publishing
- Education and Teaching

### **Pupils' comments:**

“Having a language qualification makes your application stand out and can open job opportunities.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Miss J Parkinson  
Curriculum Leader MFL**

# GCSE ART & DESIGN

## Express Your Creativity, Shape Your Future

### Exam Board: EDUQAS

#### Course:

Art and Design is more than just creating beautiful images—it's about exploring your imagination, developing your skills, and expressing your individuality. Whether you're interested in painting, sculpture, photography, or digital media, GCSE Art and Design gives you the opportunity to experiment with different techniques, develop a unique style, and communicate your ideas visually. This course will help you understand the role of art in society while also fostering essential creative and practical skills.

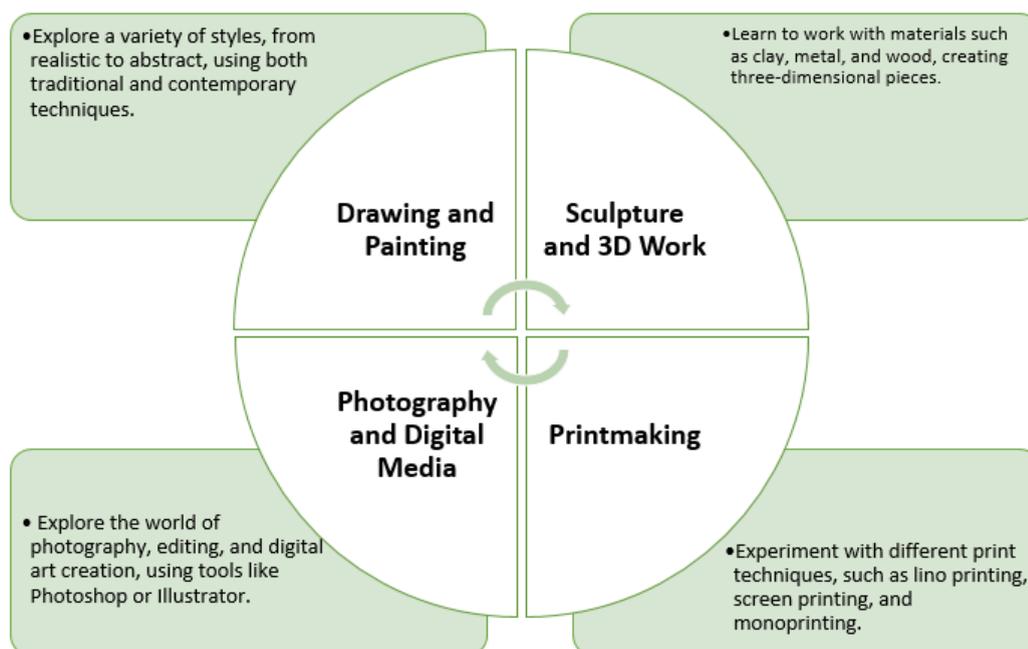
*This course cannot be taken at the same time as any of the following; GCSE Textile Design, GCSE Fine Art and GCSE Art 3D. You can opt to take this course with GCSE Photography.*

#### What Will You Learn?

The **Eduqas GCSE Art and Design** course encourages you to explore various techniques and materials across a range of disciplines. You will study:

- **Drawing and Painting:** Explore a variety of styles, from realistic to abstract, using both traditional and contemporary techniques.
- **Sculpture and 3D Work:** Learn to work with materials such as clay, metal, and wood, creating three-dimensional pieces.
- **Printmaking:** Experiment with different print techniques, such as lino printing, screen printing, and monoprinting.
- **Photography and Digital Media:** Explore the world of photography, editing, and digital art creation, using tools like Photoshop or Illustrator.
- **Art History and Context:** Study different art movements and famous artists from history, and understand how art has been used to express cultural and social ideas.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The Eduqas GCSE Art and Design course is assessed through two components:

- **Component 1: Portfolio (60%):** This includes a personal investigation, where you will create a body of work based on a theme or idea of your choice. You will document your development, research, and final pieces in a sketchbook. This will be done in lesson time and at home from the very beginning of the course.
- **Component 2: Externally Set Task (40%):** This is a controlled assessment, where you will receive an exam paper with a range of themes. You will have time to prepare your ideas, and then create a final piece under exam conditions, typically lasting 10 hours. Your prep work will be completed in lesson time and at home from January of year 11.



## How Will It Help With Post-16?

- **A-levels:** Art and Design is a natural progression to A-levels in Fine Art, Photography, Graphic Design, or Textiles. These can lead to further study in areas like architecture, fashion design, animation, or visual arts.
- **Vocational Courses:** Art and Design is ideal for vocational courses in graphic design, animation, film production, interior design, and photography.
- **Apprenticeships:** Many apprenticeships in the creative industries value the technical and creative skills learned in Art and Design. Opportunities are available in areas such as digital marketing, graphic design, fashion, and product design.
- **Employment:** The creative industries are vast and varied, including careers in advertising, publishing, web design, visual merchandising, and more. Employers value creative thinkers who can communicate visually and problem-solve in innovative ways.

Art and Design can lead to careers in:

- Graphic Design and Digital Media
- Fine Art and Illustration
- Fashion Design
- Photography and Film Production
- Architecture and Interior Design
- Advertising and Marketing

### ***Pupils' Comment:***

"I'm really pleased I chose this course because I can try out loads of different skills including printing and painting."

**For further information, please contact:  
Miss C Rapple  
Subject Teacher**

# GCSE FINE ART

## Discover the Artist Within You

### Exam Board: EDUQAS

#### Course:

Fine Art is a journey of self-expression and exploration through the visual arts. If you're passionate about creating art, experimenting with different media, and interpreting the world around you, this course will help you develop your skills and confidence. GCSE Fine Art offers you the opportunity to explore a wide range of artistic techniques, from drawing and painting to pastels and mixed media, while reflecting on the work of artists from history to today. This course helps you unlock your creativity and develop a personal artistic voice.

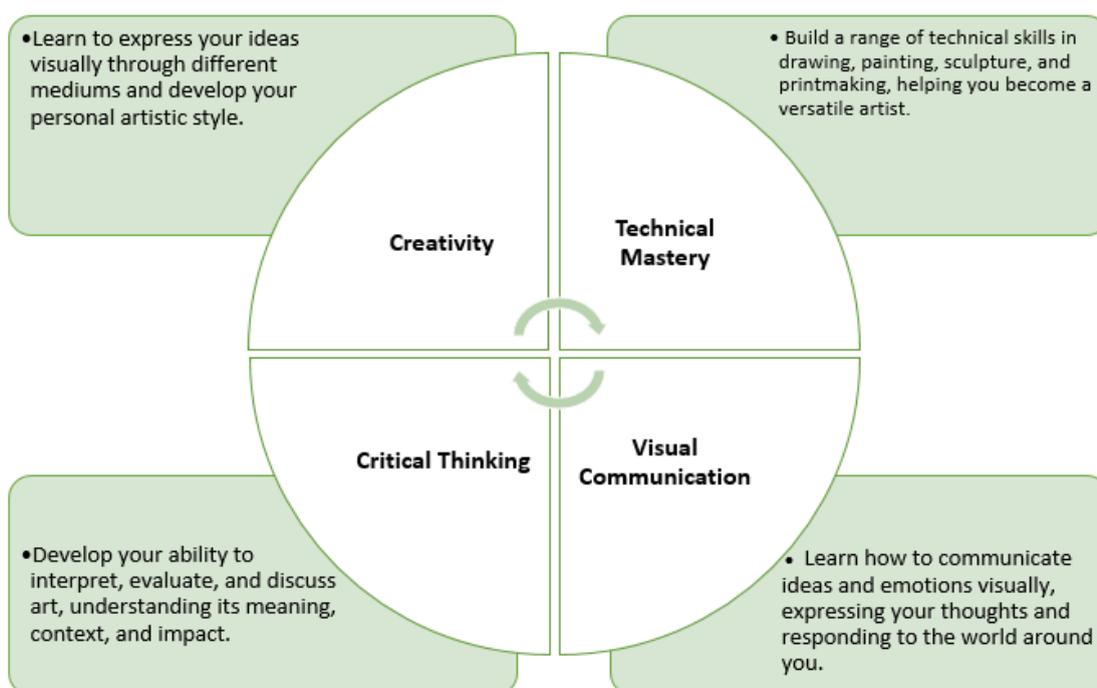
*This course cannot be taken in conjunction with any of the following; GCSE Textile Design, GCSE Art & Design and GCSE Art 3D. You can opt to take this course with GCSE Photography.*

#### What Will You Learn?

The **Eduqas GCSE Fine Art** course is designed to help you explore a wide range of techniques and materials. You will develop both your technical skills and your ability to interpret ideas through art. You will study:

- **Drawing and Painting:** Develop your skills in observational drawing, portraiture, animal portraits, and abstract art using a variety of mediums such as pencil, charcoal, inks, oil pastel, chalk pastel and acrylic paint.
- **Mixed Media and Collage:** Combine different materials and techniques to create layered, dynamic pieces of art.
- **Art History and Contemporary Art:** Study different art movements, historical and modern artists, and explore how artists respond to cultural, political, and social influences.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



#### How is the Course Assessed?

The **Eduqas GCSE Fine Art** course is assessed in two components:

- **Component 1: Portfolio (60%):** This component is based on your coursework, where you explore a theme or idea based on animal portraits. You will produce a series of pieces, documenting your creative process, research, experiments, and final artwork.
- **Component 2: Externally Set Task (40%):** In this controlled assessment, you will receive an exam paper with a set theme. You will have time to develop ideas and prepare your work, then produce a final piece of artwork in the exam (10 hours).



### What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Fine Art opens doors to a wide range of further study options and creative career paths:

- **A-levels:** Fine Art is a natural progression to A-levels in Art, Fine Art, or Art History. These can lead to university degrees in Visual Arts, Architecture, Fashion, Animation, and more.
- **Vocational Courses:** Fine Art is perfect for vocational courses in graphic design, fashion design, interior design, photography, animation, and multimedia art.
- **Apprenticeships:** Apprenticeships in creative industries such as design, digital media, or photography will value the creative, technical, and practical skills gained through Fine Art.
- **Employment:** The creative sector is vast, with opportunities in fields such as graphic design, illustration, advertising, film production, fashion, and digital media. Employers look for creative individuals who can think outside the box and communicate ideas visually.

Fine Art can lead to careers in:

- Fine Art and Illustration
- Graphic Design and Digital Media
- Fashion Design
- Animation and Film Production
- Architecture and Interior Design
- Advertising and Marketing

### ***Pupils' comment:***

"I chose Fine Art because I looked at past work and it inspired me. The Barcelona Trip was a great cultural experience."

**For further information, please contact:  
Mr J Cartledge  
Creative Arts and Design Curriculum Leader**

# GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

## Capture Your Creative Vision

### Exam Board: EDUQAS

#### Course:

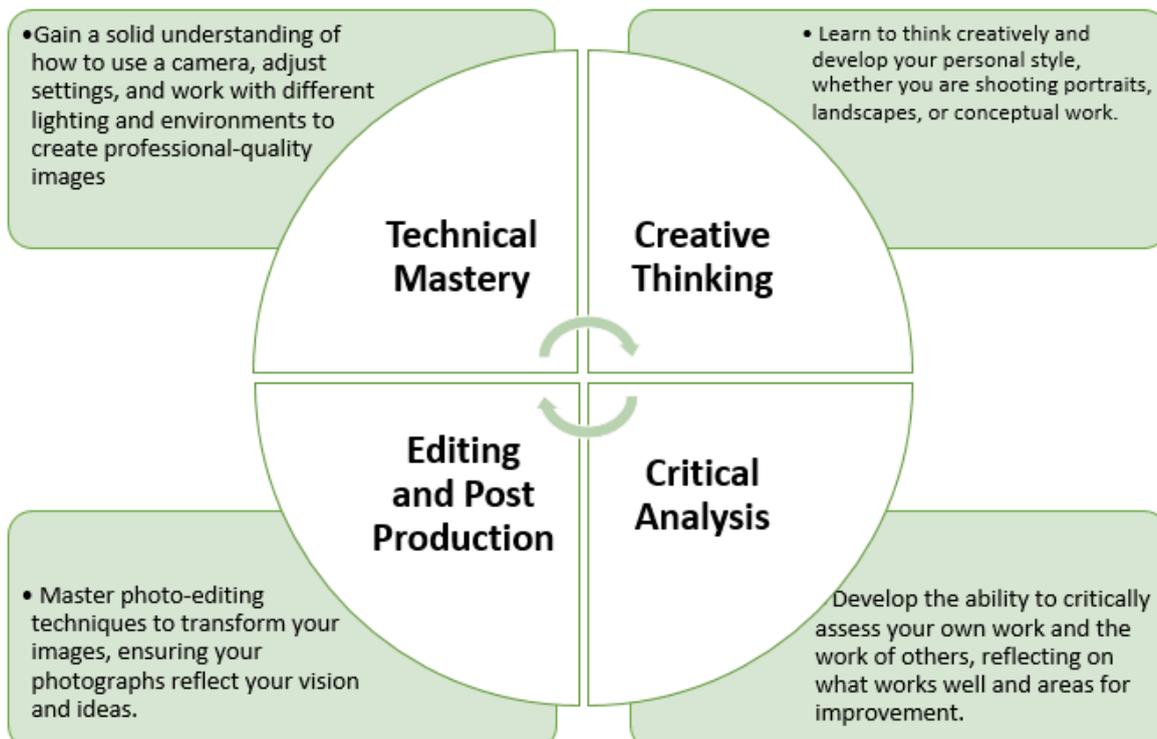
Photography is a powerful medium for storytelling, self-expression, and exploration. If you love capturing moments, experimenting with light, and using technology creatively, GCSE Photography will help you develop the technical and artistic skills you need to turn your ideas into stunning visual images. Whether you're interested in portrait, landscape, studio, or experimental photography, this course will allow you to explore photography as both an art form and a creative tool for communication.

#### What Will You Learn?

The **Eduqas GCSE Photography** course covers a wide range of skills, techniques, and creative processes. You will study:

- **Camera Techniques:** Learn how to use different types of cameras, from basic digital to advanced DSLR.
- **Composition and Framing:** Explore how to compose an image, including the use of rule of thirds, symmetry, depth, and lighting to enhance your photography.
- **Studio Photography:** Learn how to set up and use studio equipment for controlled shoots, including lighting, backdrops, and props.
- **Digital Photography and Editing:** Master photo editing software such as Pixlr to enhance your images and create your final portfolio.
- **Experimental Photography:** Explore creative ways to manipulate, compose and layout your photos and final outcomes.
- **Photography in Context:** Study the work of famous photographers, explore different styles and genres, and understand how photography communicates cultural, social, and emotional messages.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **Eduqas GCSE Photography** course is assessed in two components:

- **Component 1: Portfolio (60%):** This is your coursework, where you will develop a body of work based on a chosen theme or idea. You will document your creative process in a sketchbook and showcase your final photographs in a portfolio.
- **Component 2: Externally Set Task (40%):** You will receive an exam paper with a set theme. After developing your ideas, you will produce a final set of photographs in a controlled assessment, which includes a 10-hour exam period to complete your work.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Photography is the ideal foundation for further study in creative fields. It offers exciting opportunities in both education and employment:

- **A-levels:** Photography can lead to A-levels in Photography, Art and Design, Media Studies, or Graphic Communication, which can be used for university courses in fine art, film, animation, and more.
- **Vocational Courses:** Photography is a stepping stone to vocational courses in film and media production, visual arts, design, and digital media.
- **Apprenticeships:** There are a wide variety of apprenticeships in creative industries, such as digital marketing, media production, and content creation, that value photography skills.
- **Employment:** A GCSE in Photography prepares you for careers in photography, media, advertising, photojournalism, and visual arts, where photographic skills are highly valued.

Photography can lead to careers in:

- Professional Photography (e.g., portrait, event, and commercial photography)
- Photojournalism and Documentary Photography
- Film and Video Production
- Graphic Design and Digital Media
- Advertising and Marketing
- Art Galleries and Museums
- Social Media Content Creation

## Pupils' comments:

“I like photography because I’ve learnt so many skills that I didn’t even know about.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs R Simpson  
Art Photography Lead**

# GCSE-TEXTILE DESIGN

## Weave Your Creative Future

### Exam Board: EDUQAS

#### Course

Textile Design is all about transforming fabric into artistic expressions. If you have a passion for fashion, fabric, and design, this course will allow you to explore the diverse world of textiles. Whether you are interested in fashion design, interior textiles, or experimental fabric art, GCSE Textile Design offers you the opportunity to develop your creative skills through a variety of techniques, from embroidery and printmaking to fashion illustration and garment construction. This is a dynamic course that combines art, design, and craftsmanship to create pieces that are both beautiful and functional.

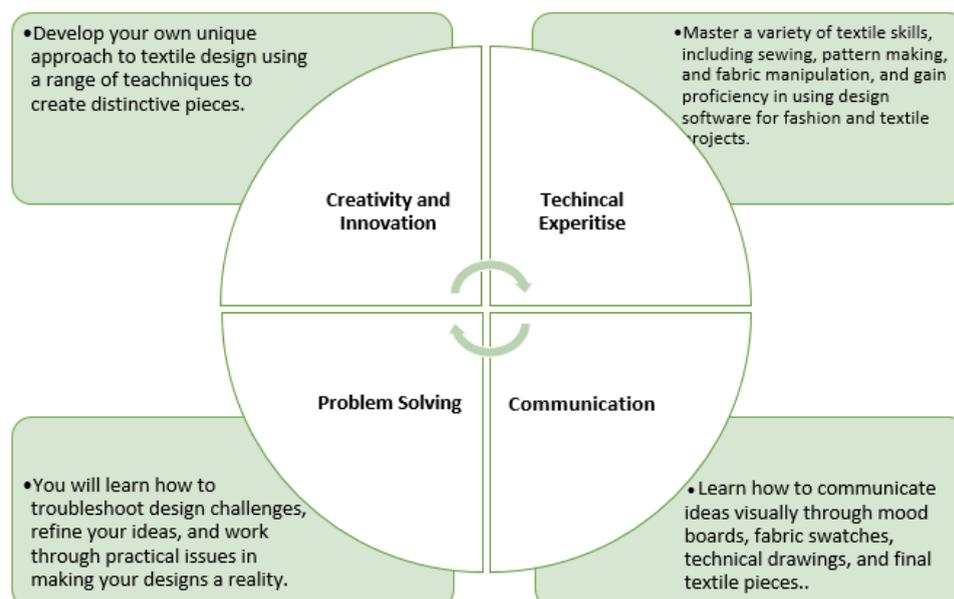
*This course cannot be taken in conjunction with any of the following; GCSE Fine Art, GCSE Art & Design and GCSE Art 3D. You can opt to take this course with GCSE Photography.*

#### What Will You Learn?

The **Eduqas GCSE Textile Design** course will introduce you to a range of techniques and skills that allow you to create unique textile pieces. You will study:

- **Textile Techniques:** Explore traditional and modern techniques, including weaving, printing, dyeing, embroidery, and knitting.
- **Fashion Design:** Learn how to design and construct garments, understanding patterns, fabric types, and garment construction techniques.
- **Textile Art:** Experiment with fabric manipulation, applique, quilting, and other creative processes to produce stunning textile art pieces.
- **Surface Decoration:** Explore methods for adding texture and design to fabrics through techniques like screen printing, batik, and fabric painting.
- **Sustainability in Textiles:** Understand the importance of sustainable design practices and learn about eco-friendly fabrics and techniques.
- **Textile History and Context:** Study the history of textiles and fashion, learn about different cultural influences, and understand how textiles shape and reflect society

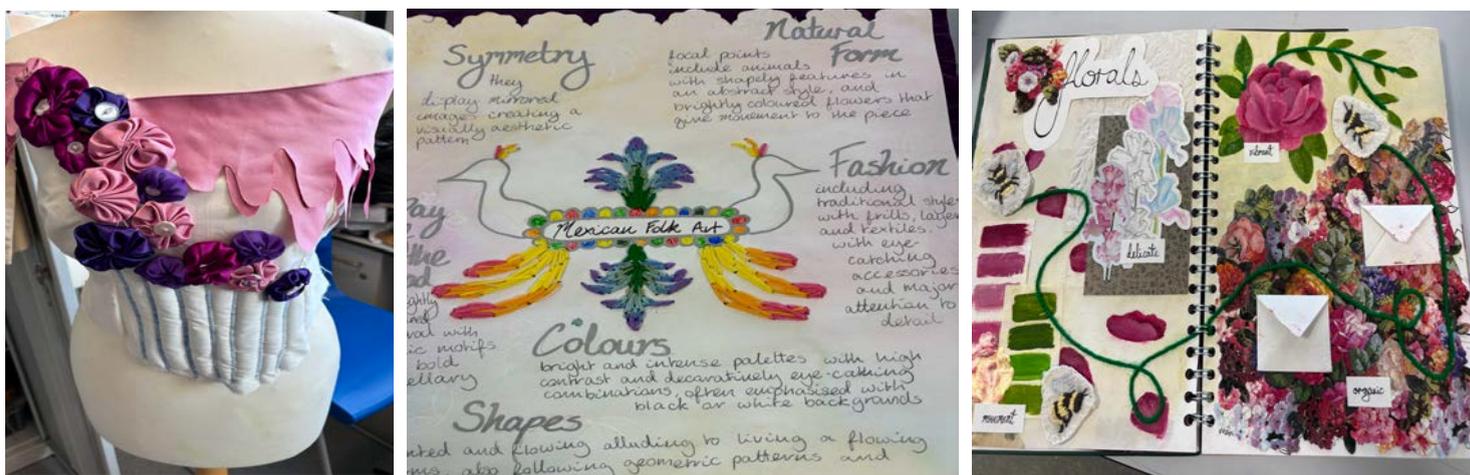
#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The Eduqas GCSE Textile Design course is assessed in two components:

- **Component 1: Portfolio (60%):** This component involves developing a body of work around a theme or concept of your choice. You will explore and experiment with various techniques and materials, documenting your ideas and processes in a sketchbook. Your final designs will showcase your creativity and skill.
- **Component 2: Externally Set Task (40%):** For the final assessment, you will receive an exam paper with a design brief. After preparing your ideas and experimenting with techniques, you will produce a final textile outcome in response to the brief, working under controlled exam conditions for 10 hours.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Textile Design opens the door to further studies and creative careers in a variety of fields:

- **A-levels:** Textile Design can lead to A-levels in Fashion and Textiles, Art and Design, or Design Technology. These subjects are excellent foundations for university courses in areas such as Fashion Design, Interior Design, and Textile Technology.
- **Vocational Courses:** Textile Design is a great starting point for vocational courses in Fashion, Textile Production, Costume Design, and Fashion Marketing.
- **Apprenticeships:** There are numerous apprenticeships in the creative industries, including in fashion design, textiles, marketing, and interior decoration, where the skills learned in this course will be highly valued.
- **Employment:** The textile industry offers a wide range of careers in fashion, design, and manufacturing, including roles such as fashion designer, textile technologist, costume designer, and textile artist.

Textile Design can lead to careers in:

- Fashion Design and Pattern Making
- Textile and Print Design
- Interior Design and Upholstery
- Fashion Marketing and Styling
- Costume Design for Film and Theatre
- Textile Manufacturing and Sustainability

### ***Pupils' comment:***

“I think the course is unique and allows you to explore talents you didn't know you had.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs E Ball  
Subject Leader Art Textiles**

# GCSE 3D DESIGN

## Shape Your Creative Future

### Exam Board: EDUQAS

#### Course:

3D Design is about bringing ideas to life through a creative approach to making. You will learn to become a craftsman, exploring a wide range of materials and processes, designing and making beautiful or interesting objects for a variety of purposes. If you're interested in sculpture, prop-making, set design, architecture, model making, jewellery or product design, this course will teach you to transform your ideas into tangible creations. GCSE 3D Design lets you experience a variety of materials and techniques, from traditional sculpting to modern design technologies, allowing you to discover and build on your strengths and preferences. As you progress through the course you will be able to use these experiences to specialise your craft and lead your projects so that they are personal and demonstrate your interests. It's perfect for anyone who loves working materials with their hands, has a passion for design, or wants to shape the world around them with innovative, practical, and creative solutions.

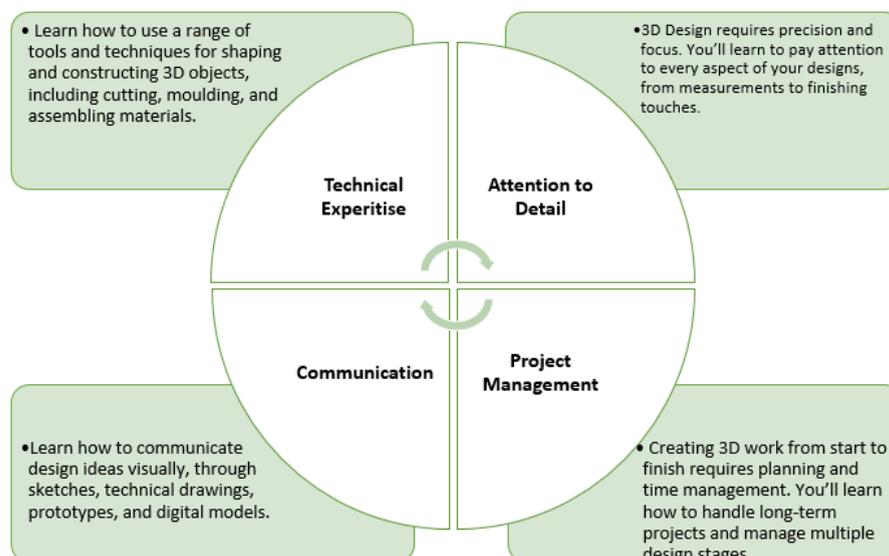
*This course cannot be taken in conjunction with any of the following; GCSE Fine Art, GCSE Art & Design and GCSE Textiles. You can opt to take this course with GCSE Photography.*

#### What Will You Learn?

The **Eduqas GCSE 3D Design** course covers a wide range of skills and techniques to help you create professional and imaginative 3D works. You will study:

- **Materials and Processes:** Learn how to work with a variety of materials such as wood, metal, clay, plastics, and ceramics, understanding their properties and uses in design.
- **Model Making and Prototyping:** Develop skills in creating prototypes and models for products, sculptures, and installations, learning how to scale designs and test ideas.
- **Product Design:** Understand the process of designing everyday objects, including the aesthetic, functional, and ergonomic considerations that influence design.
- **Sculpture and Installation:** Explore three-dimensional art forms, including sculpture, kinetic design, and large-scale installations, to develop your creative expression.
- **Digital Design and CAD:** Learn how to use digital tools such as Computer-Aided Design (CAD) software to create designs and prototypes.
- **Design Contexts:** Study the role of 3D design in society, including its impact on architecture, sustainability, technology, and culture.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The Eduqas GCSE 3D Design course is assessed in two components:

- **Component 1: Portfolio (60%):** This component is your coursework, where you will develop a body of work around a chosen theme or idea. You will document your creative process, experiments, and final designs using sketchbooks or design boards and create a final 3D piece of work.
- **Component 2: Externally Set Task (40%):** For the final exam, you will receive a paper with a range of themes and design briefs from which you will choose a starting point for your own project. You will be given 10 hours to work on your final piece under controlled conditions.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE 3D Design is a great choice for anyone looking to pursue further education or a career in design and creative industries. It opens doors to a wide range of opportunities in both education and employment:

- **A-levels:** GCSE 3D Design can lead to A-levels in Art and Design, Product Design or Graphic Design. These courses are excellent preparation for university courses in 3D Design, Craft, Industrial Design, Architecture, the Arts or Engineering.
- **Vocational Courses:** After GCSE, you can study vocational courses in areas such as 3D Design, Set/Costume Design, Interior Design, Model Making, Furniture Design, and Product Design, where you'll gain further technical skills for the design industry.
- **Apprenticeships:** There are a wide range of apprenticeships available in fields like traditional crafts, carpentry, architecture, product design, and design technology, where your creative and technical skills will be highly valued.
- **Employment:** 3D Design offers many exciting career paths in industries like sculpture, architecture, set design, and industrial design, where creative and technical skills are in high demand.

## 3D Design can lead to careers in:

- Contemporary or Traditional Crafts - Ceramics, Glass, Jewellery, Carpentry, Metal Working.
- Product and Industrial Design
- Architecture and Interior Design
- Set Design for Film and Theatre
- Sculpture and Public Art

## *Pupils' comment:*

"I think the course is unique and allows you to explore talents you didn't know you had."

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs R Leahey  
Subject Lead for 3D Design**

# GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE

## Unlock the World of Technology

### Exam Board: OCR

#### Course:

In today's world, technology drives nearly every industry. From artificial intelligence to cybersecurity, computer science shapes our future. If you have an interest in programming, problem-solving, and understanding how computers work, GCSE Computer Science is the perfect choice. This course will give you a deep understanding of how computers operate and how you can use programming to create software, applications, and systems. Whether you're interested in coding, gaming, data analysis, or technology development, this course equips you with the skills to thrive in the digital age.

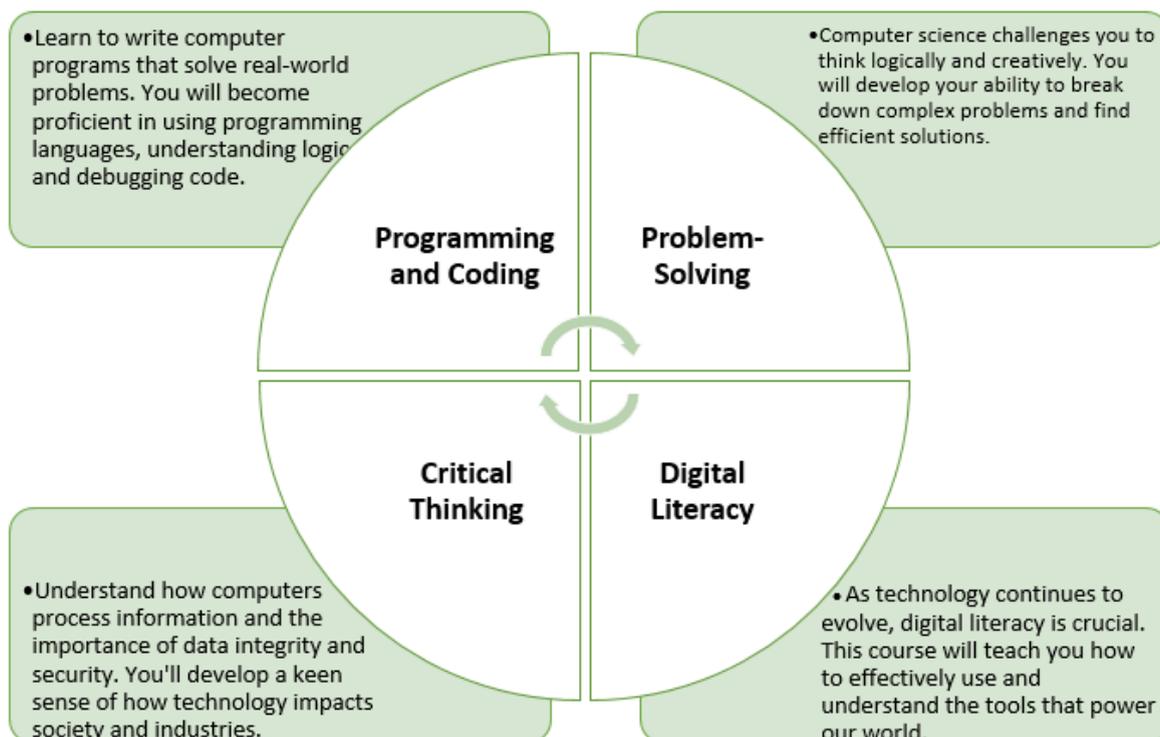
*Please note that if GCSE Computer Science is chosen then Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT cannot be chosen*

#### What Will You Learn?

The **OCR GCSE Computer Science** course covers a broad range of topics, giving you the foundation to understand both the theoretical and practical aspects of computing:

- **Computer Systems:** Learn how computers work from the inside out, covering topics such as hardware, software, memory, and operating systems.
- **Programming:** Develop programming skills in languages like Python, learning how to create algorithms, write code, and solve problems using software.
- **Networks:** Understand how computers communicate with each other, exploring topics such as local area networks (LAN), the internet, and network protocols.
- **Cybersecurity:** Learn about the threats facing computer systems and how to protect data and networks from malicious attacks, such as viruses and hacking.
- **Data Representation:** Understand how data is stored, retrieved, and manipulated, as well as how information is represented in denary, binary code and hexadecimal.
- **Algorithms:** Study the importance of algorithms in solving problems and optimizing solutions, with an emphasis on creating efficient algorithms and understanding computational thinking.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **OCR GCSE Computer Science** course is assessed in two components:

- **Component 1: Computer Systems (50%):** This is the written exam, where you will be tested on your knowledge and understanding of computer systems, hardware, software, data representations, network, security, ethics and legislation.
- **Component 2: Computational Thinking, Algorithms, and Programming (50%):** This exam focuses on problem-solving, abstraction, decomposition, algorithms and programming. It tests your ability to create, test and refine solutions using algorithms and pseudocode.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Computer Science provides a strong foundation for further study and careers in the fast-growing tech industry. It opens doors to a wide range of exciting opportunities:

- **A-levels:** This course is a great stepping stone to A-levels in Computer Science, Mathematics, or Further Mathematics. It can also lead to other STEM subjects like Engineering, Physics, and Data Science.
- **Vocational Courses:** There are numerous vocational courses in computing, such as Software Development, Web Development, and IT Support, where you can develop industry-specific skills.
- **Apprenticeships:** The tech industry offers many apprenticeship opportunities in software development, cybersecurity, network engineering, and IT consultancy, all of which value the programming and problem-solving skills learned in this course.
- **Employment:** Computer Science graduates are in high demand in a variety of industries. A career in computing could take you into software development, web design, network administration, data analysis, AI research, or game design.

Computer Science can lead to careers in:

- Software Development and Programming
- Cybersecurity and Ethical Hacking
- Data Science and Machine Learning
- Game Development
- Web and App Development
- IT Support and Network Engineering
- Artificial Intelligence and Robotics

### ***Pupils' comment:***

"I knew I would love programming but was surprised how much I liked theory even though it was hard."

**For further information, please contact:  
Mr M O'Leary  
Computing & Business Curriculum Leader**

# GCSE DRAMA

## Express Yourself Through Performance

Exam Board: PEARSON EDEXCEL

### Course:

Drama is an exciting and creative subject that allows you to explore the world through acting, directing, and designing. If you love storytelling, performance, and working as part of a team, GCSE Drama will help you develop skills in communication, creativity, and problem-solving. This course is ideal for those who enjoy performing, writing, and bringing characters and stories to life on stage. Whether you dream of becoming an actor, director, or behind-the-scenes designer, Drama gives you the opportunity to experiment with theatre techniques and develop a deep appreciation for the power of performance.

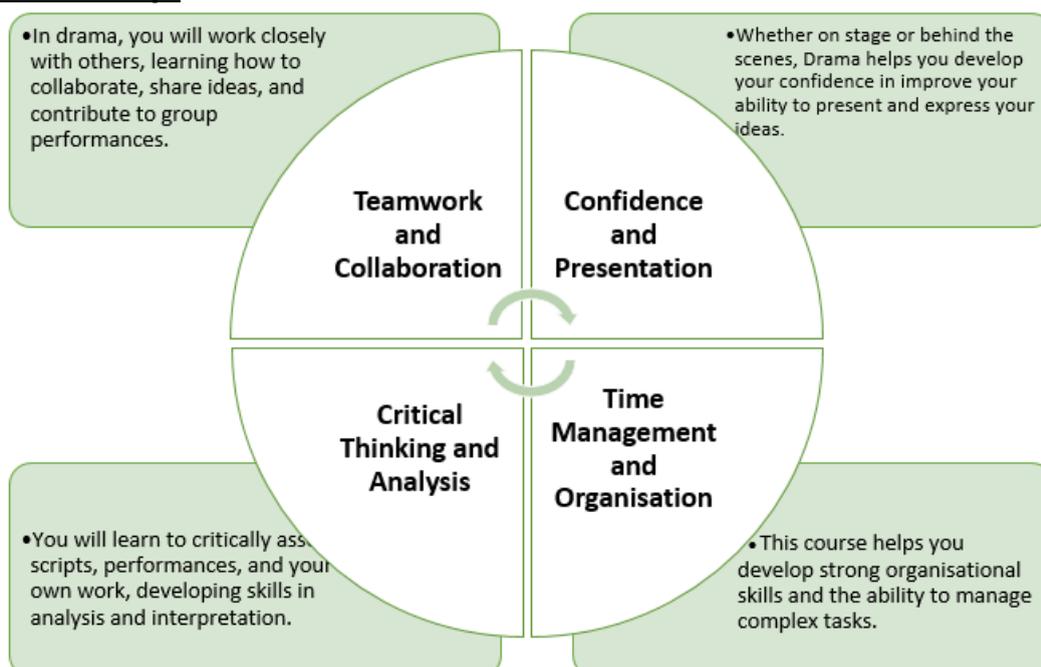
*If GCSE Drama is chosen then BTEC Level 1/2 in Performing Arts (Drama) cannot be chosen.*

### What Will You Learn?

The **Edexcel GCSE Drama** course will teach you a range of performance and production skills, covering both the practical and theoretical aspects of theatre:

- **Devised Drama:** Create your own original performance from scratch. You will work collaboratively to devise a piece of theatre, incorporating different themes, styles, and techniques.
- **Performance Skills:** Learn the fundamental skills of acting, voice, movement, and physical theatre. You will develop the ability to create and portray characters convincingly.
- **Theatre Design:** Explore the key elements of design in theatre, including set, lighting, costume, and sound. You'll have the chance to learn how to contribute to a production's overall aesthetic.
- **Textual Analysis:** Study and perform extracts from plays. You will learn how to analyse the text, understand character motivations, and interpret the meaning behind the words.
- **Theatre Styles and Genres:** Explore a variety of performance styles and theatre genres, from classical to modern, physical theatre to musicals, and more. You'll learn how to adapt your acting and production methods to suit different genres.
- **Live Theatre Evaluation:** Attend live performances and evaluate what you've seen. This aspect of the course helps you understand the practical application of the techniques you are learning.

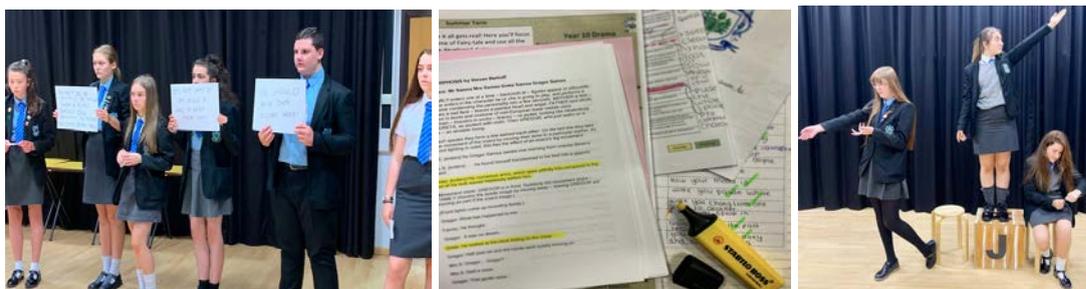
### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **Edexcel GCSE Drama** course is assessed through both practical and written components:

- **Component 1: Devised Performance (40%):** This component involves creating an original piece of theatre from a given stimulus. You will be assessed on your creative process, collaboration, and the final performance.
- **Component 2: Performance from a Text (20%):** You will perform a scene from a published play as part of a group. This component assesses your acting skills, character development, and your ability to bring a script to life.
- **Component 3: Written Exam (40%):** The written exam will test your understanding of the texts you've studied, your ability to analyse live theatre performances, and your knowledge of drama techniques. The exam includes practical questions about your devised work and performance pieces.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Drama provides the foundation for further study and careers in the performing arts and beyond. It equips you with skills that are valued in many industries:

- **A-levels:** You can study A-level Drama and Theatre Studies, English Literature, or Performing Arts. These subjects are ideal for students interested in pursuing a career in acting, theatre design, directing, or stage management.
- **Vocational Courses:** If you're interested in more specialised areas, you could pursue qualifications in areas like Performing Arts, Musical Theatre, Stage Management, and Theatre Production.
- **Apprenticeships:** The creative industries offer numerous apprenticeships in fields such as acting, stage design, production management, lighting, and sound engineering. These apprenticeships combine hands-on learning with professional experience.
- **Employment:** A career in Drama can lead to many exciting roles in the creative industries, such as acting, theatre production, scriptwriting, event management, and television or film production. The transferable skills developed in Drama are also valued in sectors like marketing, education, and media.

Drama can lead to careers in:

- Acting and Theatre Production
- Stage Management and Direction
- Lighting and Sound Design
- Film and Television Production
- Event Planning and Management
- Scriptwriting and Playwriting
- Theatre Education and Community Arts

### ***Pupils' Comment:***

"Drama isn't like any other subject because it's fun! It's really interesting to learn about different styles of acting and theatre. Do Drama, it's the best!"

**For further information, please contact:  
Miss N Ryan  
Curriculum Leader for Performing Arts**

# GCSE MEDIA STUDIES

## Explore the World of Media

### Exam Board: AQA

#### Course:

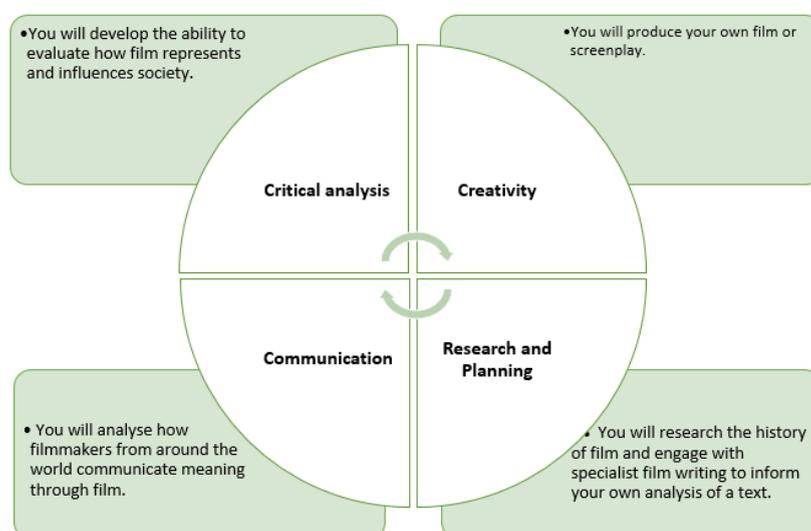
The media plays a huge role in shaping the way we see the world. If you're fascinated by television, film, digital platforms, advertising, and news, GCSE Media Studies is the perfect subject for you. In this course, you will learn how to analyse and create media products, and understand the techniques used to influence, entertain, and inform audiences. Whether you dream of becoming a filmmaker, journalist, graphic designer, social media manager, or marketing expert, this course provides you with a deep understanding of how the media industry works and how to create compelling content for various platforms.

#### What Will You Learn?

The **AQA GCSE Media Studies** course covers a range of topics that will give you a comprehensive understanding of the media landscape:

- **Media Language:** Learn how to decode the techniques used in media products, including visual language (camera shots, editing, mise-en-scène) and linguistic features (headlines, language styles). Understand how media producers use these to convey messages.
- **Representation:** Explore how different social groups (such as gender, age, ethnicity, and class) are represented in the media. Study the ways stereotypes and identities are constructed and how this affects audiences.
- **Media Industries:** Study the structures and operations of the media industry, including film, television, print, digital media, advertising, and social media. Understand the role of institutions, audiences, and regulation in shaping media products.
- **Audience:** Investigate how audiences interact with and interpret media texts. Learn about different target audiences and how media producers tailor content to meet their interests and needs.
- **Media Forms:** You will study a range of media forms, including television, film, music videos, video games, newspapers, magazines, and online platforms. Explore how each form has its own characteristics, codes, and conventions.
- **Practical Production:** You will have the opportunity to create your own media content, such as designing a magazine front cover, filming a short video, or creating a digital advertisement. This allows you to apply the theoretical concepts you've learned in a creative way.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **AQA GCSE Media Studies** course is assessed in three main components:

- **Component 1: Understanding Media (40%):** This component is a written exam where you will answer questions based on the topics you've studied, such as media language, representation, audience, and industries. You will also analyse specific media products and evaluate their impact.
- **Component 2: Creating Media (30%):** This component involves practical work, where you will create your own media product (e.g., a film sequence, magazine layout, website, or advert). Your creativity and ability to apply media techniques will be assessed.
- **Component 3: Media in the Digital Age (30%):** This component is a written exam focused on media products in the digital age, such as online platforms, social media, and digital advertising. You will analyse the impact of digital media and how it is changing the way we consume content.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Media Studies is an excellent choice for anyone interested in continuing their studies in the media and creative industries. It provides a strong foundation for further education and future careers in this dynamic field:

- **A-levels:** You can continue your studies in A-level Media Studies, Film Studies, English Literature, or Photography. These subjects will help you explore media in more depth and prepare for university-level study.
- **Vocational Courses:** There are numerous vocational courses in media, such as Digital Media, Journalism, Film and Television Production, and Photography, which will equip you with practical skills and industry knowledge.
- **Apprenticeships:** The media industry offers various apprenticeships in film production, editing, marketing, journalism, social media management, and more. These apprenticeships provide hands-on experience in the media world.
- **Employment:** Careers in the media industry are diverse and include roles in film, television, advertising, journalism, social media, and digital marketing. The skills you develop in Media Studies are also valuable in industries like public relations, publishing, and event management.

Media Studies can lead to careers in:

- Film and Television Production
- Digital Marketing and Social Media Management
- Journalism and Broadcasting
- Advertising and Public Relations
- Photography and Graphic Design
- Event Planning and Media Management

### ***Pupils' comment:***

“I love how interesting Media is, it really makes me think about the products.”

“The range of products is what makes this course brilliant for me!”

**For further information, please contact:  
Miss A Blackwell  
Subject Leader Media**

# GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Unlock Your Potential in Sport and Fitness

### Exam Board: AQA

#### Course:

If you're passionate about sport, fitness, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle, GCSE Physical Education is the perfect choice for you. This course combines practical performance in a range of sports with an in-depth understanding of the science behind physical activity, health, and fitness. Whether you want to pursue a career in sports science, coaching, physiotherapy, or sports management, this course will provide you with valuable knowledge and skills that can be applied both in and out of the classroom.

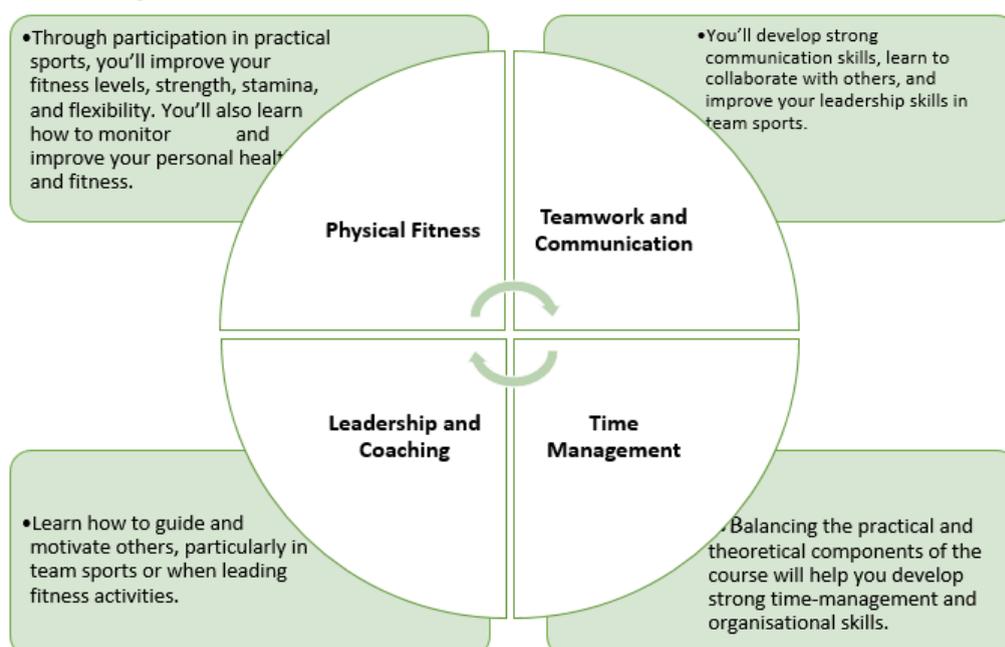
*Please note that if GCSE PE is chosen then Cambridge National Certificate in Sports Studies cannot be chosen*

#### What Will You Learn?

The **AQA GCSE Physical Education** course is divided into two main areas: practical performance and theoretical knowledge. Here's what you will study:

- **The Anatomy and Physiology of the Human Body:** Learn how the body moves and functions, including the muscular and skeletal systems, as well as the cardiovascular and respiratory systems.
- **Physical Training:** Study how exercise improves physical fitness, focusing on different types of training methods and how to design personal fitness plans. Learn about the importance of warm-up and cool-down routines and how to prevent injury.
- **Health, Fitness, and Well-Being:** Understand the impact of physical activity on overall health, including topics like diet, lifestyle, mental health, and the importance of regular exercise for long-term well-being.
- **Sports Psychology:** Explore the psychological factors that affect performance, such as motivation, confidence, and mental resilience. Learn how athletes and performers use psychology to improve their focus and performance.
- **Socio-Cultural Influences on Physical Activity:** Study the role of physical activity in society, including how factors like gender, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status influence participation in sports. Understand the impact of media and technology on sport.
- **Practical Performance in Sport:** You will have the opportunity to demonstrate your skills in a variety of sports. You'll be assessed on your practical performance and ability to apply tactics and strategies in competitive situations.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **AQA GCSE Physical Education** course is assessed through both practical and written components:

- **Component 1: Theory (60%):** The theory component is a written exam that covers topics like anatomy and physiology, physical training, health and fitness, sports psychology, and socio-cultural influences on physical activity. It will test your understanding of the theory behind physical activity and how to apply it to real-life situations.
- **Component 2: Practical Performance (30%):** In this component, you will be assessed on your practical performance in a variety of sports. You will also be assessed on your ability to apply strategies and tactics, your sportsmanship, and your ability to work as part of a team. You must perform in three different activities which are a combination of individual and team sports.
- **Component 3: Coursework (10%):** In this component, you will be assessed on your ability to evaluate your strengths and areas of development in one of your chosen sport. You must then design a training programme to improve an aspect of your personal fitness.

## What Will It Help With Post-16?

GCSE Physical Education provides a solid foundation for further study and careers in sports, fitness, and health-related fields. It equips you with both practical skills and theoretical knowledge that are highly valued in a variety of industries:

- **A-levels:** You can pursue A-levels in Physical Education, Sports Science, Psychology, or Biology. These subjects will deepen your understanding of the human body, fitness, and the psychology behind sports performance.
- **Vocational Courses:** There are many vocational qualifications in sports, such as Sports Coaching, Exercise and Fitness, and Sports Management, that will allow you to specialize in a specific area of sport or fitness.
- **Apprenticeships:** The sports industry offers numerous apprenticeship opportunities, including roles in coaching, fitness instructing, personal training, sports management, and leisure operations.
- **Employment:** A career in physical education and sport can lead to many exciting opportunities in coaching, sports development, fitness training, and physical therapy. Other career paths include roles in sports media, event management, and sports analysis.

Physical Education can lead to careers in:

- Sports Coaching and Management
- Fitness Training and Personal Training
- Sports Science and Physiotherapy
- Sports Psychology
- Sports Journalism and Media
- Event Management
- Teaching and Education



### ***Pupils' comment:***

“Taking GCSE PE has inspired me to do something with PE when I leave school.”

**For further information please contact:  
Mr J Yarranton  
PE Curriculum Leader**

# BTEC LEVEL 1/2 TECH AWARD IN ANIMAL CARE

## A Rewarding Career Working with Animals

### Exam Board: PEARSON EDEXCEL

#### Course:

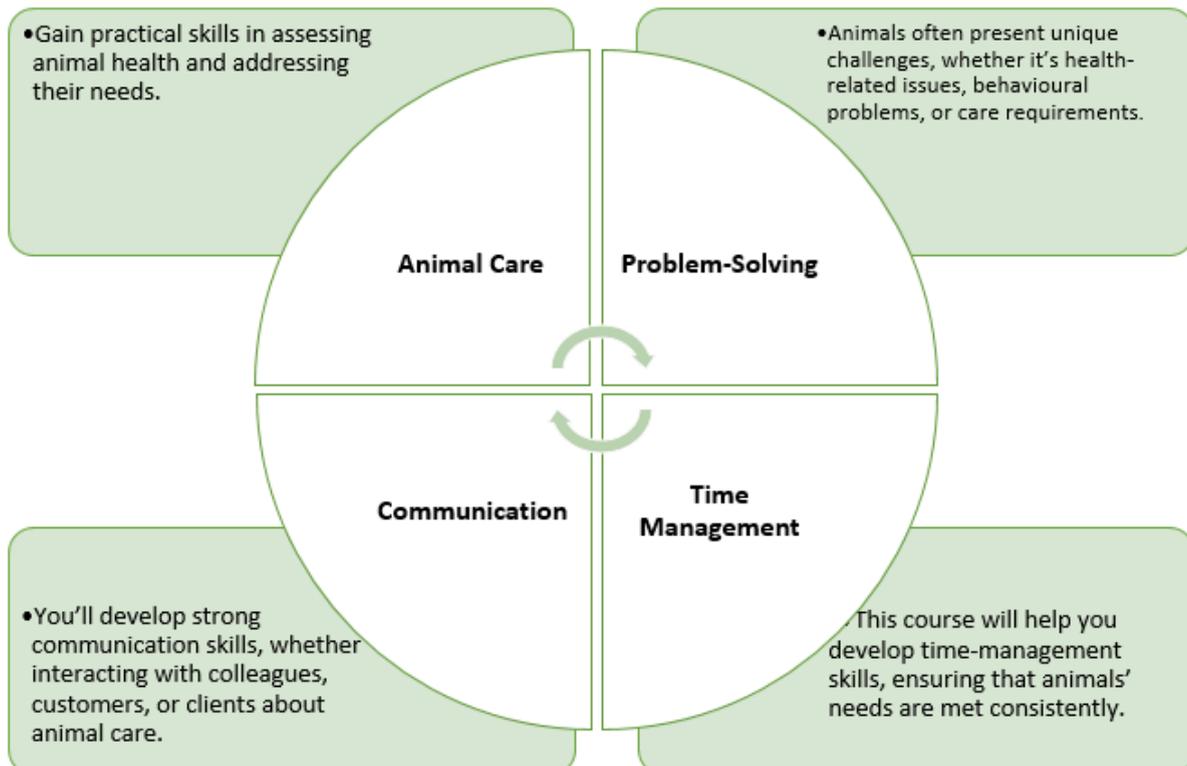
If you love animals and are interested in understanding how to care for them, BTEC Animal Care is the perfect course for you. This qualification allows you to explore the care, health, and welfare of animals, gaining practical experience and knowledge that can lead to exciting opportunities in animal-related careers. Whether you want to work with domestic pets, wildlife, or in zoos and veterinary practices, this course will give you the skills to support the well-being of animals and develop a deeper understanding of animal biology.

#### What Will You Learn?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Animal Care** is a practical and engaging course that covers a range of topics related to animal health, welfare, and management:

- **Animal Care:** Understand the essential requirements for animal welfare and the practical skills needed to care for different species.
- **Animal Anatomy and Physiology:** Study the anatomy of animals, how their bodies work, and what is required to maintain their health.
- **Animal Nutrition and Diet:** Learn about the nutritional needs of different animals, how to provide the correct diet, and how it affects their health and well-being.
- **Animal Behaviour and Handling:** Understand how animals behave in different situations and environments.
- **Health and Welfare of Animals:** Learn how to assess the health and welfare of animals, including how to spot signs of illness, injury, or stress.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Animal Care** is assessed through a combination of **internal assessments** (set by your teacher) and **external assessments**:

- **Component 1: Animal Handling:** You will be assessed through practical tasks of how to handle animals. You will also gain an understanding of animal behaviour, developing your skills to handle and restrain animals. This will be assessed through written coursework.
- **Component 2: Animal Housing and Accommodation:** You will develop an understanding of the accommodation and housing requirements of animals. You will complete practical assessments by carrying out preparation and cleaning out of animal accommodation.
- **Component 3: External Exam - Animal Health and Welfare:** The exam will assess all aspects of animal health and welfare. You will develop an understanding of how to look after the wellbeing of the animal. You will also develop an understanding of how animals are used in society and how they are protected by legislation. y



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Animal Care** provides the foundation for further study or work in a variety of animal-related fields. It will help you develop both practical and academic knowledge, opening doors to many career paths and further education options:

- **Post-16 Courses:** You can continue your studies with **Level 3 BTEC National Diplomas** in Animal Management or Animal Science, or other related courses like **Veterinary Nursing, Animal Behaviour, or Wildlife Conservation**.
- **Apprenticeships:** There are numerous apprenticeship opportunities available in the animal care sector, including roles in **animal care management, veterinary practices, and pet grooming**.
- **Employment:** With this qualification, you can enter the workforce in a variety of animal care roles. Potential career paths include working as an **animal care assistant, zoo keeper, veterinary nurse, pet groomer, or animal shelter worker**.
- **Further Education and University:** The course provides a strong foundation for university-level study in fields such as **Veterinary Science, Animal Science, Wildlife Conservation, or Equine Studies**. These courses lead to careers in veterinary practice, wildlife conservation, animal research, and more.

Animal Care can lead to careers in:

- Veterinary Nursing and Practice
- Animal Shelters and Rescue Centers
- Pet Grooming and Boarding Services
- Animal Behaviour Consultancy
- Wildlife Conservation
- Animal Research and Laboratory Work
- Zookeeping and Animal Parks



## Pupils' comments:

"It's amazing! I feel like I have learnt so much from this course, and have really enjoyed working outdoors."

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs J Taylor  
Director of Science**

# BTEC LEVEL 1/2 TECH AWARD IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT

## Understanding Children and Building Futures

### Exam Board: PEARSON EDEXCEL

#### Course:

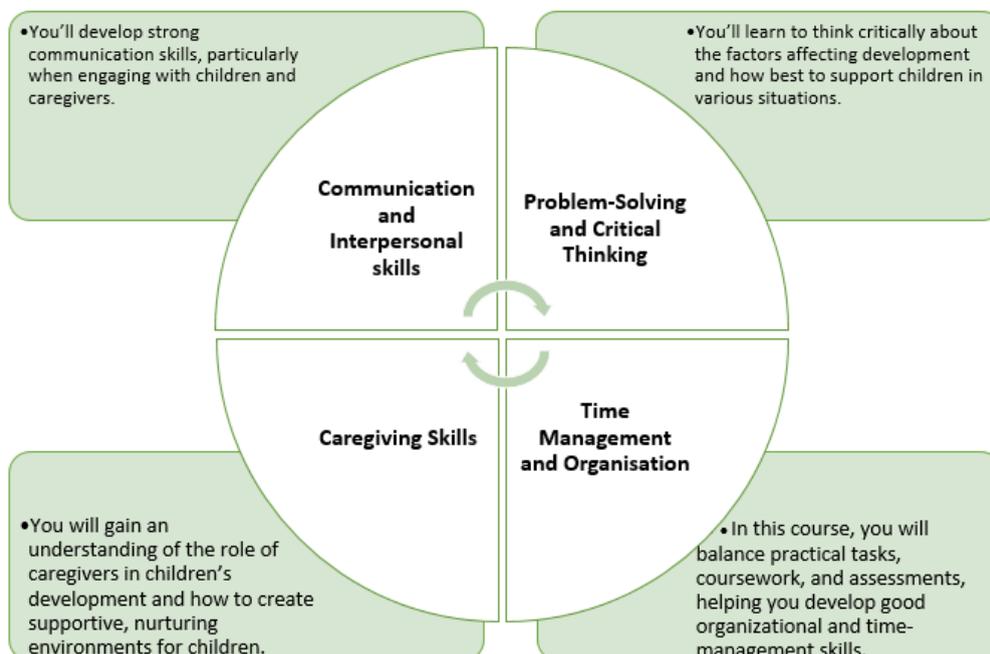
If you have an interest in children's growth, development and learning. BTEC Child Development is the ideal course for you. This qualification explores the physical, emotional, and social development of children from birth to the age of 5, helping you understand how children grow and learn, and the factors that influence their development. It is an excellent course for students interested in pursuing careers in teaching, childcare, health, and social work, or anyone who wants to make a difference in the lives of children.

#### What Will You Learn?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Child Development** is designed to give you an in-depth understanding of how children develop and the various factors that affect their growth and learning. You will study;

- **Child's Growth and Development:** Learn about the stages of growth and development from birth to 5 years old, covering physical, cognitive and intellectual, communication and language, emotional and social aspects. Understand how children's bodies and brains develop and the milestones they reach at each stage.
- **Factors Affecting Development:** Study the key factors that influence a child's development, including genetic factors, family, environment, and socio-economic conditions.
- **Stages and Types of Play Children's Physical Development:** Learn about the development of motor skills, movement, and coordination in children. Study how children's physical abilities improve over time and how to encourage healthy physical development.
- **Children's Social and Emotional Development:** Understand how children develop social skills and emotional intelligence. Explore attachment, relationships with others, and how children express and manage emotions.
- **Promoting Healthy Development:** Understand how to support healthy growth in children, including nutrition, exercise, and promoting positive behaviors
- **Childcare Services and Roles:** Learn about the importance of safeguarding and child protection and how professionals support the well-being of children.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Child Development** is assessed through a mix of **internal assessments** and an **external assessment**:

- **Component 1: Children’s Growth and Development (Internally Assessed):** You will complete a range of assignments where you apply your knowledge of human growth and development. You will look at case studies that will allow you to explain how factors such as nutrition can impact a child’s growth and development explaining the impact of those factors.
- **Component 2: Learning Through Play (Internally Assessed):** This component involves coursework where you explore the stages and types of play that support a child’s growth and development. Planning activities for children explaining the importance of the activities and benefits of the activity on a child’s development.
- **Component 3: Exam - Supporting Children to Learn, Play and Develop (Externally Assessed):** This is a final written exam that tests your knowledge of child development, including different circumstances that can affect their overall development. How adults can support a child’s development and the health and safety aspects of supporting a child to play, learn and develop.

## What Will It Help With Post-16?

- **Post-16 Courses:** You can continue your studies in **Childcare, Health and Social Care, or Education and Teaching** at Level 3 or A-level. These courses will deepen your knowledge of child development, psychology, and education.
- **Apprenticeships:** There are many apprenticeship opportunities in the childcare sector, including roles such as **childcare assistant, teaching assistant, and early years practitioner**. Apprenticeships offer the chance to gain hands-on experience while continuing your education.
- **Employment:** With this qualification, you can start your career in childcare, working in nurseries, schools, or after-school programs. You may also find roles in **child welfare** or **social care**, where you can support children and families in need.
- **Further Education and University:** The course prepares you for higher education in fields like **Early Years Education, Child Psychology, Social Work, or Teaching**. These courses lead to careers such as **primary school teacher, early years educator, social worker, and child psychologist**.

Child Development can lead to careers in:

- Childcare and Early Years Education
- Teaching Assistant or Nursery Nurse
- Social Work and Child Welfare
- Pediatric Nursing and Healthcare
- Child Psychology
- Primary or Special Education Teaching

### ***Pupils’ comment:***

“I enjoyed learning about how children develop and grow.”



**For more information, please contact:  
Mrs D Kennedy  
Curriculum Leader**

# BTEC LEVEL 1/2 TECH AWARD IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

## Exam Board: PEARSON EDEXCEL

### Course:

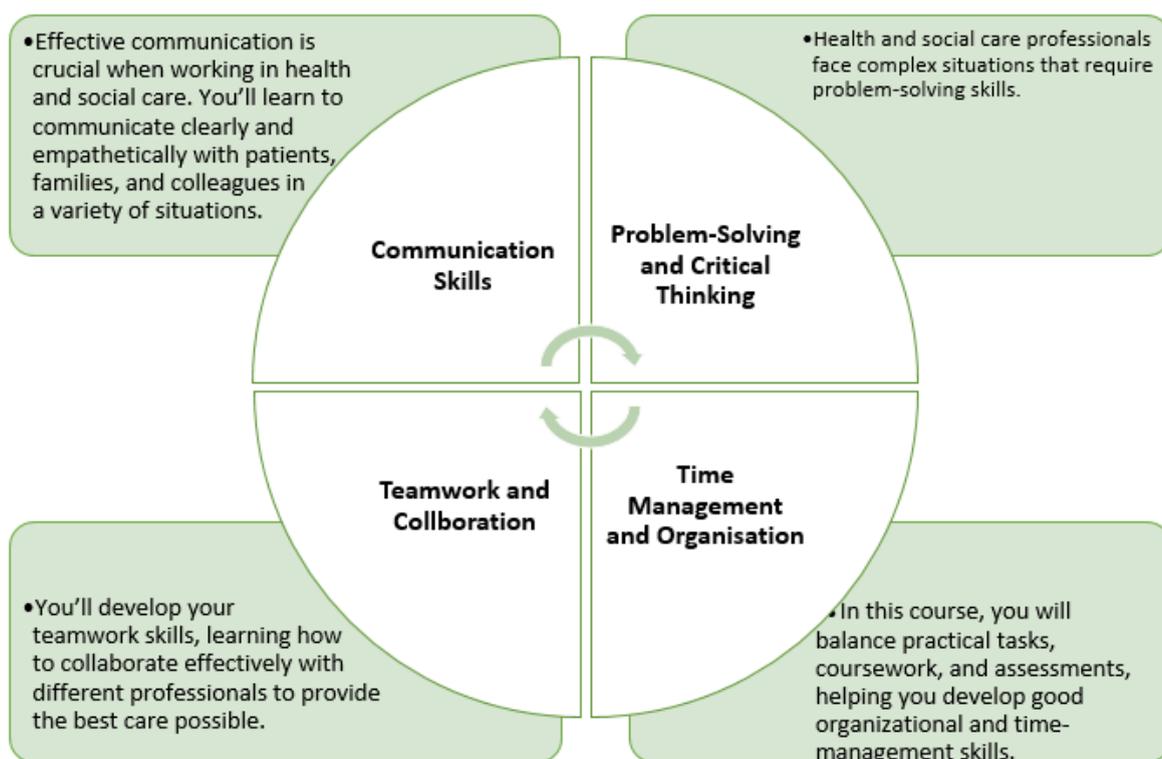
If you are interested in working with people and making a positive impact on their lives, BTEC Health & Social Care is the perfect course for you. This qualification gives you a solid understanding of the health and social care sectors, including the skills required to work in a range of care settings. Whether you're interested in healthcare, social work, education, or mental health, this course will provide you with the knowledge and practical skills needed for a rewarding career in helping others.

### What Will You Learn?

You will study the following areas:

- **Human Lifespan Development:** Explore the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development of individuals from birth to old age. Learn about the different life stages, including childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and later life, and the changes people go through as they age.
- **Health and Well-being:** Study the factors that influence health, such as diet, exercise, and lifestyle. Learn about physical and mental health issues, and understand how social, emotional, and environmental factors impact well-being. You will also explore the importance of healthcare services in supporting individuals.
- **Health and Social Care Services:** Learn about the different services and providers involved in health and social care, including hospitals, care homes, and community health services. Study the roles of professionals such as doctors, nurses, social workers, and therapists, and the importance of teamwork in providing care.
- **Care Values and Safeguarding:** Understand the core values that underpin good practice in health and social care, such as dignity, respect, and independence. Learn about safeguarding and how to protect vulnerable individuals in care settings from harm and abuse.

### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Health & Social Care** is assessed through a combination of **internal assessments** and an **external exam**:

- **Component 1: Human Lifespan Development (Internally Assessed)**: This component is coursework-based, where you will explore the aspects of growth and development across the life stages. You will study the factors that can affect an individual's growth and development. You will also explore how life events can impact an individual and how they adapt and cope with the changes.
- **Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values (Internally Assessed)**: This component looks at the health and social care services and how they meet the needs of the service users. You will also explore the skills, attributes and values required when health professionals are giving care.
- **Component 3: Exam - Health and Wellbeing (Externally Assessed)**: This final exam tests your knowledge of the factors that can affect health and wellbeing of individuals. You will learn about physiological and lifestyle indicators that indicate health concerns. You will make recommendations to improve an individual's health and wellbeing explaining possible obstacles and barriers they may face.

## What Will It Help With Post-16?

- **Post-16 Courses**: You can progress to **Level 3 BTEC Nationals** in Health and Social Care, **A-levels** in related subjects like **Psychology** or **Sociology**, or other vocational courses such as **Childcare** or **Nursing**. These courses will provide you with more in-depth knowledge and qualifications for higher-level careers in health and social care.
- **Apprenticeships**: There are many apprenticeship opportunities in health and social care, including roles such as **healthcare assistant**, **social care assistant**, and **nursing assistant**. These apprenticeships allow you to gain on-the-job training and experience while studying towards a qualification.
- **Employment**: After completing this qualification, you could start working in a range of health and social care settings, such as hospitals, care homes, and community health services. Entry-level positions include roles like **care assistant**, **support worker**, or **receptionist** in healthcare settings.
- **Further Education and University**: The course provides a solid foundation for university-level studies in areas like **Nursing**, **Social Work**, **Public Health**, or **Healthcare Management**. These courses lead to careers as **nurses**, **doctors**, **social workers**, **care managers**, and many more.

Health and Social Care can lead to careers in:

- Nursing, Mental Health, and Healthcare Support
- Social Work and Social Care Services
- Public Health and Health Education
- Care Home and Residential Support Services
- Childcare and Family Support Services
- Community Outreach and Well-being Programs



### ***Pupils' comment:***

“I enjoy learning about all the different life stages. The case studies are really interesting.”

**For more information, please contact:  
Mrs D Kennedy  
Curriculum Leader**

# LEVEL 2 VOCATIONAL AWARD IN ENGINEERING

## Building the Future Exam Board: WJEC

### Course:

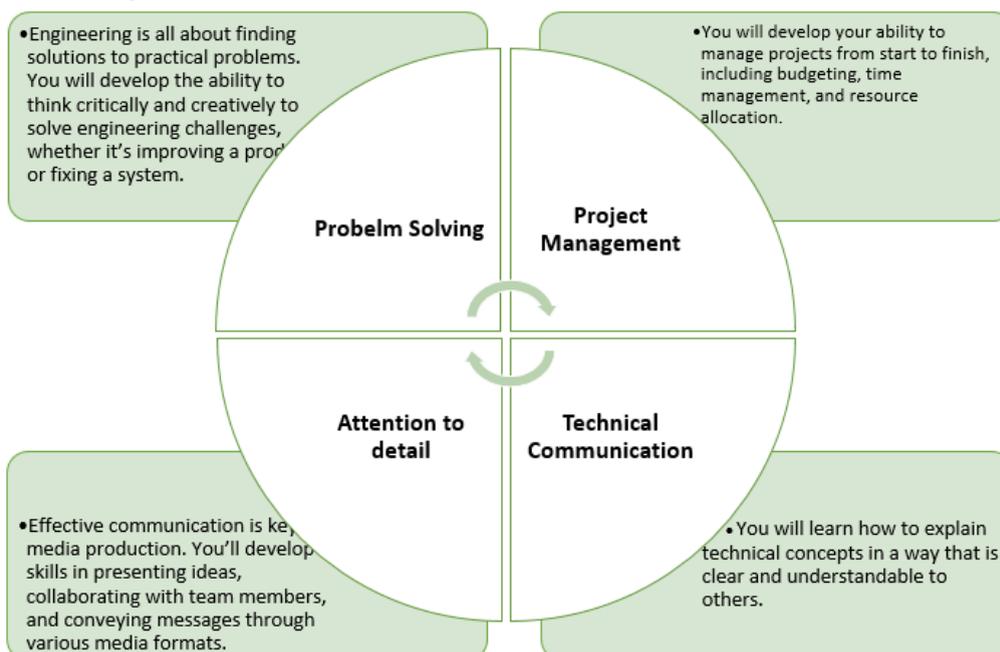
Engineering is all about problem-solving, creativity, and making things work. If you are interested in designing, building, and understanding how things are made, this course provides you with a solid foundation in the key concepts and practical skills needed in the engineering sector. Whether you're passionate about mechanical engineering, electronics, civil engineering, or manufacturing, this course will help you develop the skills needed to take your ideas from concept to reality.

### What Will You Learn?

The **Level 2 Vocational Award in Engineering** provides an introduction to the principles and practices used in the engineering industry. You will study the following key areas:

- **Principles of Engineering:** Learn about the basic principles that underpin engineering processes, such as mechanics, electricity, and thermodynamics. Understand how these principles are applied in different areas of engineering, including mechanical, electrical, and civil engineering.
- **Materials and Manufacturing:** Explore the different materials used in engineering, such as metals, plastics, and composites. Study how materials are selected based on their properties and how they are used in various manufacturing processes, from traditional methods to modern technologies like 3D printing.
- **Engineering Design:** Gain knowledge of the design process, from identifying problems and developing ideas to creating prototypes. You will learn how engineers work collaboratively to design and build products, while also considering factors like cost, sustainability, and functionality.
- **Engineering Systems and Technology:** Study the technology used in modern engineering, including robotics, automation, and control systems. Learn about how engineers use technology to improve efficiency, quality, and safety in engineering processes.
- **Health and Safety in Engineering:** Understand the importance of health and safety in engineering environments. Learn about the regulations and practices that keep workers and the public safe when working with machines, materials, and tools.

### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **Level 2 Vocational Award in Engineering** is assessed through a combination of **internal assessments** and an **externally assessed exam**:

- **Unit 1: Engineering Principles (Externally Assessed)**: This unit is assessed through a written exam, testing your knowledge of the core principles of engineering, including mechanics, materials, and engineering systems.
- **Unit 2: Practical Engineering Skills (Internally Assessed)**: This unit involves hands-on projects where you will apply your knowledge of materials, design, and manufacturing processes to create engineered products.
- **Unit 3: Engineering Design (Internally Assessed)**: In this unit, you will complete a design project where you will identify a problem, develop a solution, and create a prototype. You will be assessed on your ability to apply the design process and use engineering principles to develop your solution.

## What Will It Help With Post-16?

- **Post-16 Courses**: You can progress to **Level 3 Engineering Diplomas**, such as the **BTEC National in Engineering** or **A-levels** in related subjects like **Design and Technology, Physics, or Mathematics**. These qualifications will allow you to specialize in areas like mechanical engineering, civil engineering, or electronics.
- **Apprenticeships**: The engineering sector offers a wide range of apprenticeship opportunities where you can learn on the job. Popular apprenticeships include **engineering technician, mechanical engineering apprentice, electrical engineering apprentice, and design engineer**.
- **Employment**: Upon completing the vocational award, you may be able to enter the workforce in junior engineering roles, such as **engineering assistant, CAD technician, or production technician**. The engineering industry is vast, with opportunities in manufacturing, construction, automotive, aerospace, and energy sectors.
- **Further Education and University**: The course provides a strong foundation for university courses in **Engineering, Product Design, Mechatronics, Renewable Energy, or Robotics**. Graduates of these programs go on to become **engineers, designers, project managers, and researchers** in industries like aerospace, automotive, construction, and robotics.

Engineering can lead to careers in:

- Mechanical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Manufacturing and Production
- Robotics and Automation
- Automotive Engineering
- Aerospace Engineering
- Renewable Energy



## Pupils' comments:

"I like WJEC Engineering because I want to be an engineer and this course is helping to prepare me for that."

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs N Cartledge  
Curriculum Leader**

# LEVEL 2 IN ENTERPRISE & MARKETING

## Launch Your Business Ideas

Exam Board: OCR CNAT

### Course:

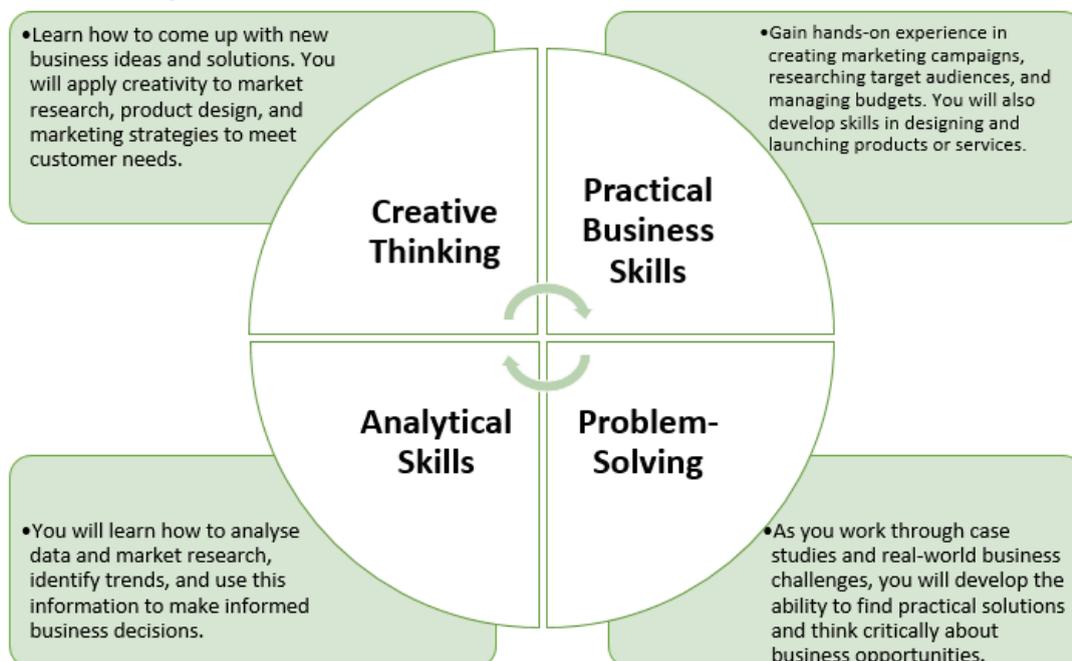
Are you interested in business, marketing, and creating new products or services? The **Cambridge National in Enterprise & Marketing** will provide you with the skills and knowledge to understand how businesses start, operate, and grow. You will learn about developing new ideas, how to market products, and how to succeed in the competitive world of business. This qualification is perfect if you are looking to start your own business or pursue a career in marketing, retail, or other areas of business.

### What Will You Learn?

The **Level 2 Cambridge National in Enterprise & Marketing** helps you develop the practical and theoretical skills needed to succeed in business and marketing. The key areas you will study include:

- **Enterprise and Marketing Concepts:** Learn the basics of how businesses are created and grow. Understand the importance of market research, business planning, finance, and marketing strategies. You will explore real-world examples of businesses and the challenges they face.
- **Market Research and Target Audience:** Discover how businesses conduct market research to understand customer needs and identify opportunities. Learn how to define a target market and create marketing strategies to reach that audience.
- **The Marketing Mix:** Understand the 4Ps of marketing – Product, Price, Place, and Promotion – and how businesses use these elements to design products, set prices, select sales channels, and advertise to their customers.
- **Business Finance:** Gain an understanding of the financial side of running a business, including managing budgets, calculating costs, understanding profit margins, and preparing financial forecasts.
- **Developing and Launching a Business Idea:** Apply your knowledge to develop your own business ideas. You will create a marketing campaign, design a product or service, and learn how to pitch your ideas to others.
- **Planning for Success:** Learn how to plan and execute a successful business strategy. This includes setting clear business objectives, identifying resources, and developing a strategy for long-term success.

### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **Level 2 Cambridge National in Enterprise & Marketing** is assessed through a combination of **internally assessed coursework** and an **externally assessed exam**:

- **R067: Enterprise and Marketing Concepts (Externally Assessed)**: This unit is assessed through a written exam, which will test your understanding of key business and marketing concepts, such as market research, the marketing mix, and business finance.
- **R068: Design a business proposal (Internally Assessed)**: This unit focuses on how businesses promote their products and services. You will learn about pricing, advertising, and budgeting, and apply this knowledge to a real-world business scenario.
- **R069: Market and pitch a business proposal (Internally Assessed)**: In this unit, you will develop your own business idea, create a business plan, and design a marketing campaign. You will pitch your business idea to a panel and present your findings in a formal report.

## What Will It Help With Post-16?

- **Post-16 Courses**: You can continue your education with **Level 3 Business Studies, Marketing, or Enterprise & Entrepreneurship** courses, such as BTEC National Diplomas or A-levels. These qualifications will allow you to explore business management, finance, marketing, and international business.
- **Apprenticeships**: The business world offers many apprenticeship opportunities. After completing this qualification, you can enter apprenticeships in areas such as **marketing, retail management, business administration, or accountancy**. These apprenticeships combine practical work experience with further education.
- **Employment**: This qualification also provides skills for entry-level jobs in business and marketing. You could start working as a **marketing assistant, sales executive, retail manager, or customer service representative**. These roles provide valuable experience and can lead to career progression.
- **Further Education and University**: You can continue your studies at university in areas like **Business Management, Marketing, Economics, or Entrepreneurship**. This leads to careers in **marketing, advertising, product development, retail management, and finance**.

Marketing and Enterprise can lead to careers in:

- Business Management
- Marketing and Advertising and Retail Management
- Event Planning/Sales and Customer Service
- Digital Marketing and Social Media Management
- Entrepreneur and Start-Up Business Owner



### ***Pupils' comment:***

“I really like the coursework because it is practical and I can be creative”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mr M O'Leary**

## Computing & Business Curriculum Leader

# LEVEL 1/2 VOCATIONAL AWARD IN ICT

## Unlock the Power of Technology

Exam Board: WJEC

### Course:

In today's world, technology is everywhere, and understanding how to use it effectively is crucial. The **Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT** is designed for students who want to develop their skills in information technology, which is essential in almost every job sector. From working with databases and spreadsheets to developing digital products and understanding cybersecurity, this course will equip you with valuable digital skills needed in the modern workplace.

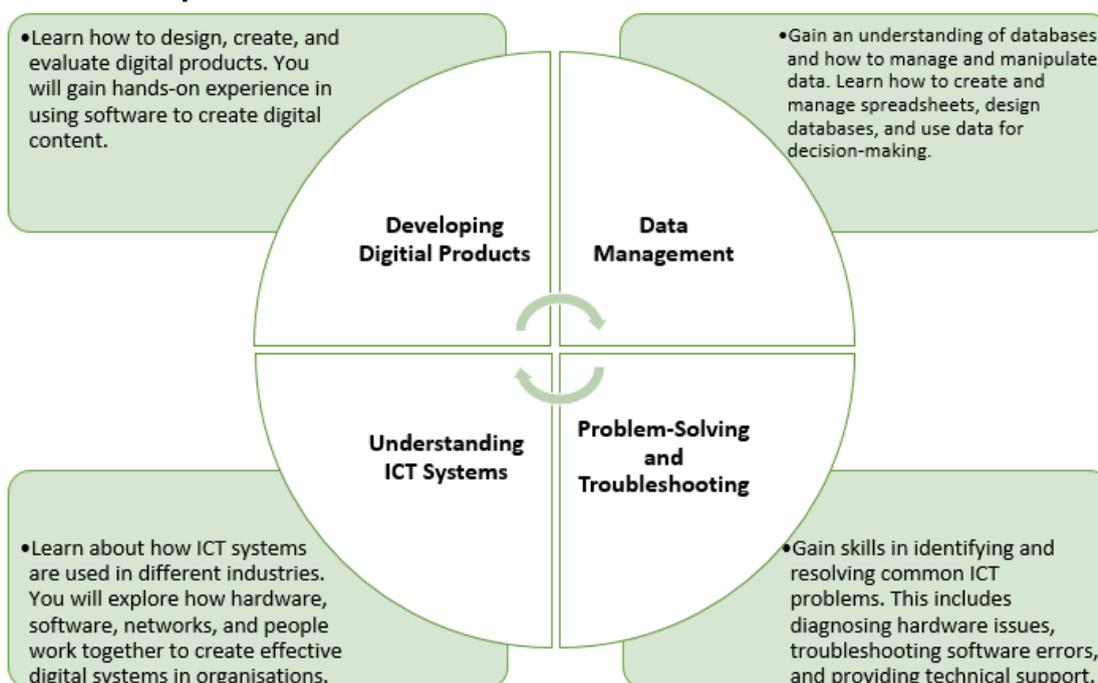
*Please note that if Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT is chosen then GCSE Computer Science cannot be chosen*

### What Will You Learn?

The **Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT** covers a range of practical and theoretical skills that are important for working in the ICT industry or using technology effectively in any career. The main areas of study include:

- **Understanding ICT Systems:** Learn about how ICT systems are used in different industries. You will explore how hardware, software, networks, and people work together to create effective digital systems in organizations.
- **Developing Digital Products:** Learn how to design, create, and evaluate digital products such as websites and interactive multimedia presentations. You will gain hands-on experience in using software to create digital content.
- **Data Management:** Gain an understanding of databases and how to manage and manipulate data. Learn how to create and manage spreadsheets, design databases, and use data for decision-making.
- **Cybersecurity:** Learn how to protect digital information and systems from cyber threats. You will explore best practices for security and how businesses safeguard their data and networks from cyber attacks.
- **Using ICT to Communicate:** Discover how technology is used for communication in the workplace, including email, social media, and collaboration tools. You will also learn how to create professional digital presentations.
- **Problem-Solving and Troubleshooting:** Gain skills in identifying and resolving common ICT problems. This includes diagnosing hardware issues, troubleshooting software errors, and providing technical support.

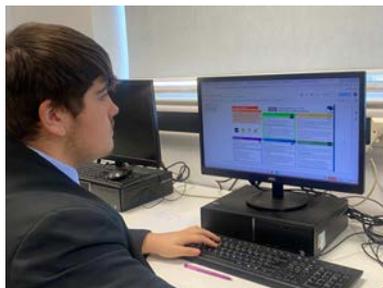
### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT** is assessed through a combination of **internal assessments** and an **externally assessed online exam**:

- **Unit 1: ICT in society (Externally Assessed)**: This unit is assessed through an online exam, which will test your understanding of how ICT systems work, including the components of computer systems, hardware, software, networking, and security.
- **Unit 2: ICT in context (Internally Assessed)**: In this unit, you will create your own digital product, such as a digital products or a multimedia presentation, and be assessed on your ability to plan, design, and evaluate your work. You will also complete tasks such as creating spreadsheets, databases, and presentations, and will be assessed on your ability to apply these tools to solve real-world problems.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

- **Post-16 Courses**: Continue your education by taking **Level 3 ICT, Computing, or Digital Media** courses, such as BTEC National Diplomas, or A-levels in **Computer Science** or **Digital Technologies**. These courses will allow you to specialize in areas such as **software development, networking, web design, and cybersecurity**.
- **Apprenticeships**: Many sectors, including IT, marketing, and business, offer apprenticeship opportunities where you can combine learning with practical experience. Potential apprenticeships include **IT support technician, web developer, data analyst, and digital marketing assistant**.
- **Employment**: ICT skills are in high demand across almost every industry. With this qualification, you could enter the workforce in entry-level roles such as **IT support technician, web content creator, data entry specialist, or technical support assistant**.
- **Further Education and University**: The course provides a strong foundation for university courses in **Computer Science, Software Engineering, Data Science, or Cybersecurity**. Graduates of these programs can pursue careers as **software developers, IT consultants, data scientists, network engineers, or cybersecurity specialists**.

ICT and Technology careers include:

- IT Support and Help Desk Technician
- Web Developer and Designer
- Data Analyst and Data Scientist
- Cybersecurity Expert
- Network Engineer/Software Developer
- Digital Marketing Specialist/Multimedia Designer

### ***Pupils' comment:***

“I really like using the computers to create useful content which can be used in the real world”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mr O'Leary  
Computing & Business Curriculum Leader**

# LEVEL 1/2 TECH AWARD IN FOOD AND COOKERY

## Empowering Future Chefs

### Exam Board: NCFE

#### Course:

Are you passionate about food, cooking, and learning about how food impacts health and wellbeing? The **Level 1/2 Tech Award in Food and Cookery** offers a fantastic opportunity to develop your cooking skills, understanding of food science, and ability to work with others in the kitchen. This course is perfect if you're interested in pursuing a career in the food industry or simply want to learn how to cook delicious and nutritious meals.

#### What Will You Learn?

The **Level 1/2 Tech Award in Food and Cookery** covers a wide range of skills and knowledge that are useful for a career in the food industry or to improve your everyday cooking. The main areas of study include:

**Food Preparation and Cooking:** Learn the essential skills for preparing, cooking, and presenting food. You will develop practical skills in the kitchen, learning how to safely and effectively use kitchen equipment, prepare ingredients, and cook a variety of dishes.

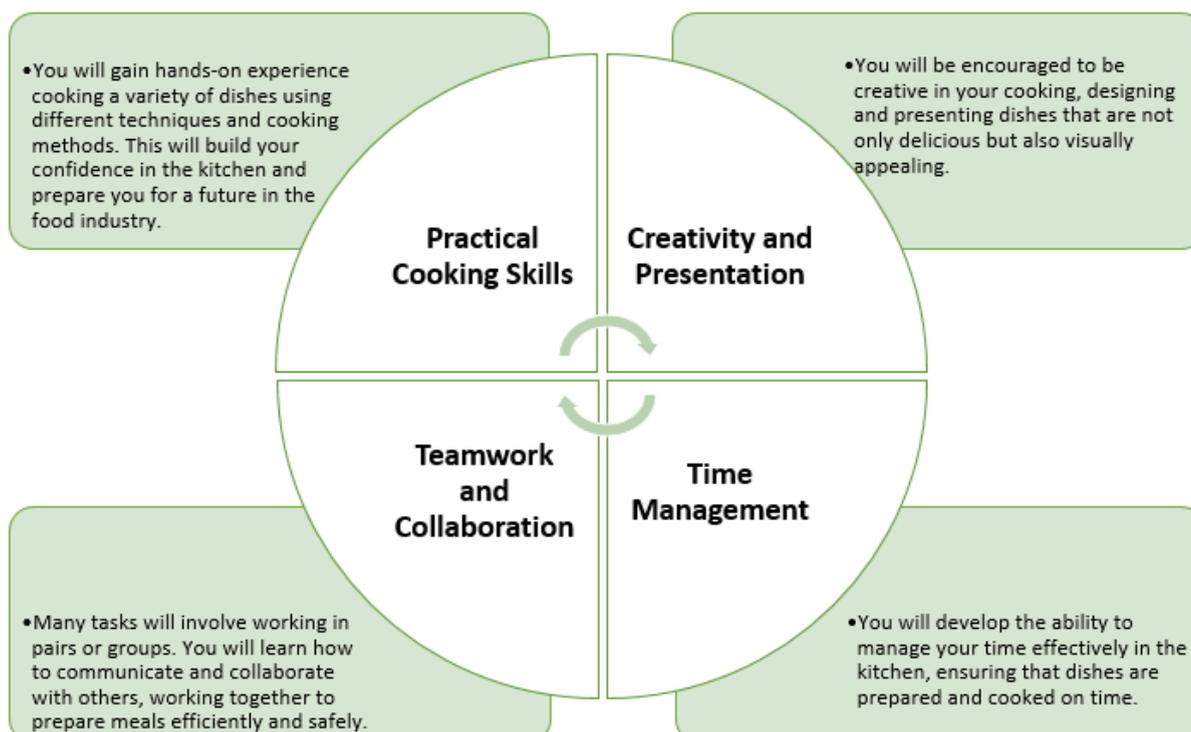
**Food Science:** Understand the science behind food and cooking. You will learn about nutrition, food preservation, the role of different ingredients, and how cooking methods affect food.

**Understanding Diet and Nutrition:** Explore the nutritional value of different foods and how diet impacts health. Learn how to create balanced meals and understand dietary requirements for different groups of people.

**Food Safety and Hygiene:** Learn the key principles of food safety, including how to handle food safely, store food correctly, and maintain cleanliness in the kitchen. This unit covers important hygiene practices that ensure food is safe to eat.

**The Food Industry:** Gain insight into the food production process, from farm to fork. Understand how food is produced, manufactured, and marketed, and explore sustainability and ethical issues in food production.

#### Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **Level 1/2 Tech Award in Food and Cookery** is assessed through **internally assessed coursework** and **externally assessed tasks**:

- **Component 1: Food Preparation and Cooking (Internally Assessed):** You will be assessed on your ability to prepare and cook a range of dishes, showing creativity, skill, and understanding of food science.
- **Component 2: Food Science and Nutrition (Internally Assessed):** This unit covers the scientific principles behind food preparation and the nutritional content of different foods. You will complete assignments to show your understanding of these concepts, including diet planning and food safety.
- **Component 3: The Food Industry (Externally Assessed):** This unit is assessed through an exam, where you will be tested on your understanding of food production, sustainability, and ethical practices within the food industry.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

- **Post-16 Courses:** Continue your education with **Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition, Catering, or Hospitality** qualifications, such as BTEC National Diplomas in **Culinary Arts, Food Technology, or Food Science**. These courses will allow you to specialize in areas such as **nutrition, dietetics, food innovation, and restaurant management**.
- **Apprenticeships:** There are numerous apprenticeship opportunities in the food and hospitality industry. After completing this qualification, you could pursue apprenticeships in **professional cookery, food and beverage service, or bakery**. These apprenticeships offer hands-on learning combined with industry experience.
- **Employment:** The skills you develop through this qualification will allow you to enter a variety of roles in the food industry. Potential job roles include **chef, baker, caterer, nutritionist, food stylist, or food technologist**.
- **Further Education and University:** If you are interested in pursuing a career in **food science, nutrition, or hospitality management**, this qualification will provide a strong foundation for university courses. You could go on to study **Food Science, Hospitality Management, Nutrition, or Culinary Arts**.

Food and Hospitality careers include:

- Chef or Head Chef
- Caterer or Event Planner
- Food Technologist or Product Developer
- Food Stylist or Food Photographer
- Nutritionist or Dietician
- Food Safety and Hygiene Officer
- Catering Manager
- Restaurant Manager or Hotel Manager



***Pupils' comment:***

“I like that we develop our practical skills every week.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mrs N Cartledge  
Curriculum Leader**

# BTEC LEVEL 1/2 TECH AWARD IN MUSIC PRACTICE

Exam Board: PEARSON EDEXCEL

## Course:

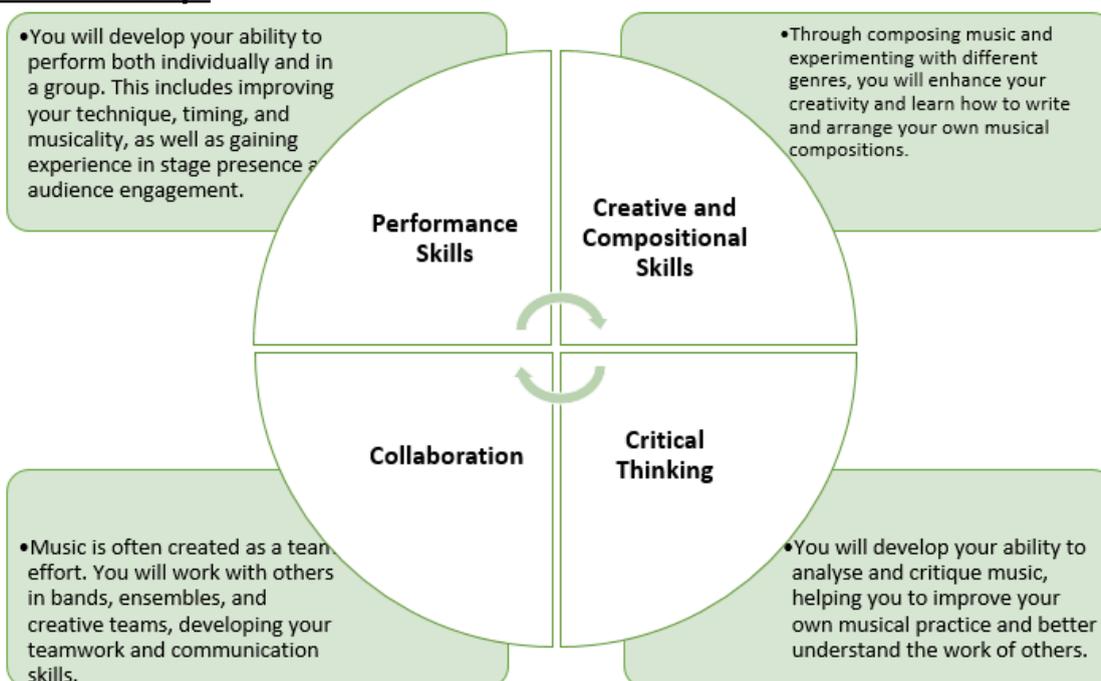
If you have a passion for music and want to develop both your performance and technical skills, the **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Music Practice** is the perfect choice for you. This course allows you to explore and develop your musical talents through practical work, while also gaining a deeper understanding of the music industry, sound production, and the skills needed to be a successful musician or music professional. Whether you are interested in performing, composing, or working behind the scenes in music production, this qualification provides a solid foundation for a career in music.

## What Will You Learn?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Music Practice** is designed to develop your musical skills, creativity, and understanding of the music industry. The course covers a wide range of topics, including:

- **Music Performance:** Develop your skills as a performer by learning to play an instrument or sing. You will rehearse and perform pieces of music as part of a group or as a soloist, gaining confidence and stage presence.
- **Music Composition:** Learn how to compose your own music, experimenting with different styles, genres, and techniques. This unit encourages creativity and helps you express your musical ideas.
- **Music Technology:** Explore how music is created, recorded, and produced. Learn how to use music production software and other technologies to create and record music tracks, podcasts, or sound effects.
- **The Music Industry:** Gain an understanding of the music business, including how artists are managed, the role of record labels, and how music is marketed and distributed. This unit covers the financial, legal, and organizational aspects of the music industry.
- **Live Music Events:** Learn how to plan and manage live music events, from small gigs to larger performances. You will understand the technical, logistical, and promotional elements involved in organizing a live performance.

## Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Music Practice** is assessed through a combination of **internally assessed coursework** and **externally assessed tasks**:

- **Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Services (Internally Assessed)**: This unit covers the study of different music products and services, such as albums, live concerts, and music streaming platforms.
- **Component 2: Music Skills Development (Internally Assessed)**: In this unit, you will focus on developing your performance and music production skills.
- **Component 3: Responding to a Brief (Externally Assessed)**: This unit is externally assessed through a controlled assessment, where you will respond to a set brief that could involve performing or producing music to meet the specific requirements of a client or scenario.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

- **Post-16 Courses**: Continue your education with **Level 3 Music** courses, such as BTEC National Diplomas or A-levels in **Music** or **Music Technology**. These courses allow you to specialize in areas such as **performance, composition, sound engineering, or music business**.
- **Apprenticeships**: There are a wide range of apprenticeship opportunities in the music and entertainment industry. You could pursue apprenticeships in **music performance, sound engineering, music production, or event management**. These apprenticeships offer hands-on learning combined with practical industry experience.
- **Employment**: The skills you develop will open doors to various roles in the music industry. Potential job roles include **performer, music producer, sound technician, composer, music teacher, event coordinator, or music journalist**.
- **Further Education and University**: The course provides a strong foundation for university courses in **Music Production, Sound Engineering, Composition, Music Performance, or Music Business**. Graduates of these programs can pursue careers in **film and TV sound, live events, studio recording, music publishing, or music teaching**.

Music Industry careers include:

- Musician or Performer
- Music Producer or Engineer
- Sound Technician
- Composer or Songwriter
- Music Teacher
- Event Manager or Promoter
- Music Business Professional (Manager, Marketer, Agent)
- Broadcasting or Radio Production
- Music Therapist



### ***Pupils' comment:***

“I like that you are given time to rehearse songs in groups using the rehearsal rooms because you feel like a musician.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Miss N Ryan  
Curriculum Leader for Performing Arts**

# BTEC LEVEL 1/2 TECH AWARD IN PERFORMING ARTS (DANCE)

Exam Board: PEARSON EDEXCEL

## Course:

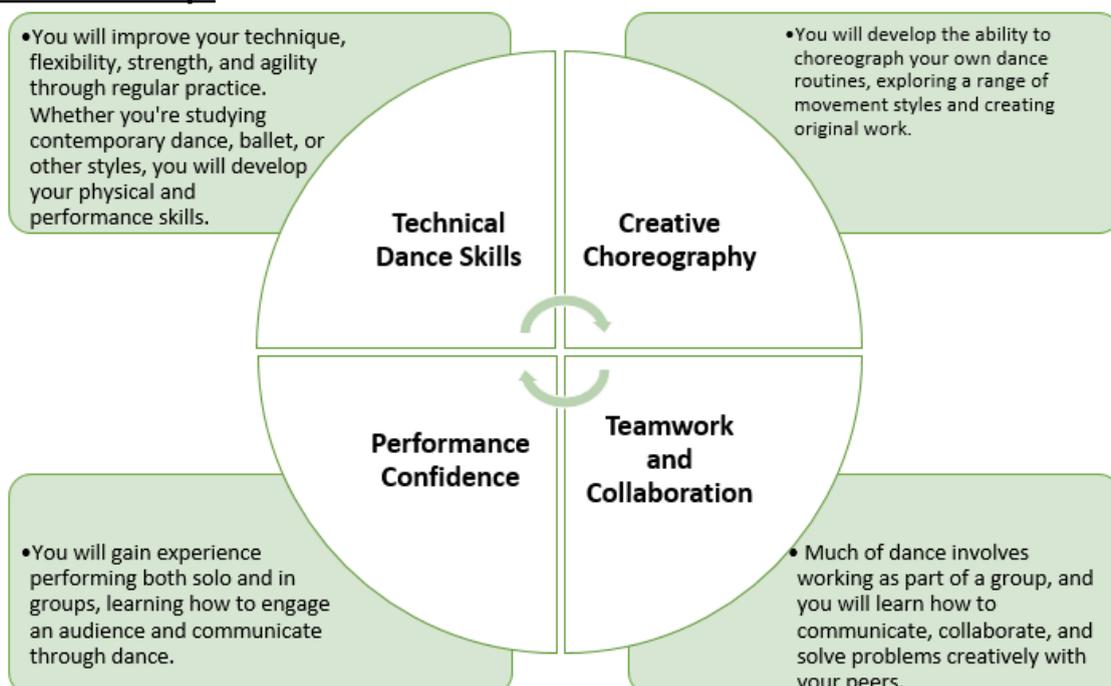
Are you passionate about dance and performing? The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Performing Arts (Dance)** offers an exciting and creative way to explore dance in both practical and theoretical contexts. You will gain the skills and knowledge needed to perform confidently, choreograph your own routines, and understand the broader world of performing arts. This course is perfect if you're considering a career in dance, theatre, or entertainment, or if you simply want to develop your performance skills and confidence.

## What Will You Learn?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Performing Arts (Dance)** covers a broad range of skills and knowledge in dance and performance, including:

- **Developing Dance Skills:** You will learn and refine your dance technique, learning a range of styles from contemporary to classical. This unit helps you develop your ability to perform with confidence, understanding the technical aspects of dance, including posture, balance, coordination, and rhythm.
- **Choreography and Performance:** This unit focuses on developing your creativity and choreography skills. You will learn how to create original dance pieces, working individually or in groups. You will also perform your work, gaining stage experience and enhancing your performance skills.
- **The Performing Arts Industry:** Gain an understanding of how the performing arts industry works. You will learn about the roles of performers, choreographers, directors, and other key industry professionals. This unit provides insight into how dance performances are produced, managed, and marketed.
- **Dance Appreciation:** Study the history and evolution of dance, understanding different dance forms and their cultural significance. You will analyze performances and explore the context in which they were created, helping you to develop critical thinking skills in relation to dance.
- **Collaboration and Communication:** Dance is often a collaborative art form, and you will work with others to create performances, communicate ideas, and solve creative challenges. This unit focuses on developing teamwork and communication skills that are essential in both the performing arts and everyday life.

## Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Performing Arts (Dance)** is assessed through a combination of **internally assessed coursework** and **externally assessed tasks**:

- **Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts (Internally Assessed):** In this unit, you will investigate different types of performance and the skills required in various dance styles.
- **Component 2: Developing Dance Skills (Internally Assessed):** You will develop your practical dance skills, working on technique and performance.
- **Component 3: Performing to a Brief (Externally Assessed):** This is an externally assessed unit where you will respond to a performance brief, either as a dancer or choreographer.



## What Will It Help With Post-16?

- **Post-16 Courses:** Continue your education with **Level 3 Dance** courses such as BTEC Nationals or A-levels in **Dance** or **Performing Arts**. These courses provide more in-depth study in areas such as **choreography, dance performance, and dance analysis**.
- **Apprenticeships:** The performing arts industry offers a wide range of apprenticeships. You could pursue an apprenticeship in **dance performance, choreography, or dance teaching**.
- **Employment:** The skills you gain will help you pursue a range of careers in the performing arts and entertainment industries. Job roles include **professional dancer, dance teacher, choreographer, performing arts technician, or dance studio manager**.
- **Further Education and University:** If you're passionate about dance and performance, this qualification provides a strong foundation for university study in **Dance, Performing Arts, or Theatre Studies**. Graduates can pursue careers in **choreography, theatre production, or dance therapy**.

Performing Arts and Dance careers include:

- Dancer or Dance Performer
- Choreographer
- Dance Teacher or Tutor
- Dance Therapist
- Theatre Director or Producer
- Event Manager
- Stage Manager
- Arts Administrator
- Performance Technologist

### **Pupils' comments:**

"I really enjoy learning about how professional dance works and seeing how all the designers work together to produce a dance work."

**For further information, please contact:  
Miss N Ryan  
Curriculum Leader for Performing Arts**

# OCR LEVEL 2 CNAT IN SPORTS STUDIES

Exam Board: OCR

## Course:

If you have a passion for sport and physical activity and want to explore the world of sports science, coaching, and the sports industry, the **OCR Level 2 CNAT in Sports Studies** is the perfect course for you. This course offers a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical skills, providing you with a deeper understanding of how sport and exercise impact performance and well-being. It's ideal if you are considering a career in sport, fitness, coaching, or health and want to develop your understanding of how sport is structured and delivered at a professional level.

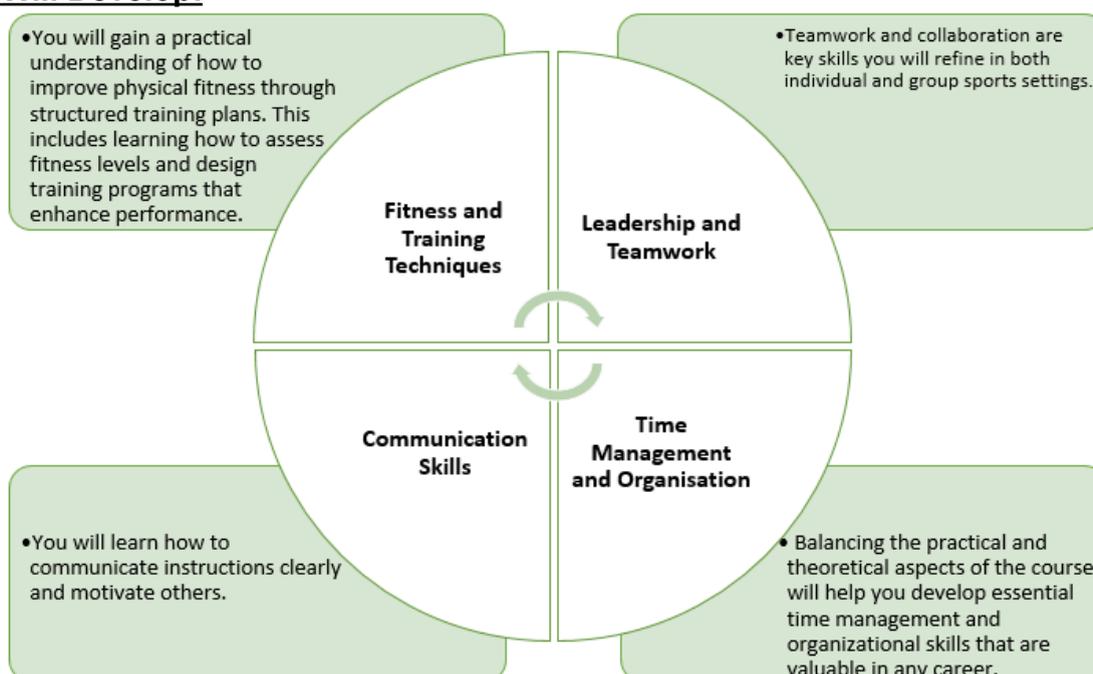
*Please note that if Cambridge National Certificate in Sports Studies is chosen then GCSE PE cannot be chosen*

## What Will You Learn?

The **OCR Level 2 CNAT in Sports Studies** covers a broad range of topics to prepare you for further study or a career in the sports industry:

- **Physical Training and Fitness:** Learn how to design and implement training programs. Understand the principles of fitness and how different types of training can improve performance in various sports.
- **Sports Leadership:** Develop the skills needed to lead sports activities, including communication, planning, and problem-solving. You will have opportunities to take on leadership roles within class activities and sports events.
- **Practical Sport:** This unit focuses on improving your skills in different sports. You will explore various games and sports activities, learning how to perform at your best and understanding the tactics, rules, and skills required for success.
- **Sports Injuries:** Understand common sports injuries, their causes, and how to prevent and treat them. You'll learn about injury rehabilitation and recovery strategies to ensure athletes can perform safely.
- **The Sport Industry:** Gain insights into the broader world of sport, from amateur to professional levels. Study the key organizations that govern sport, the importance of sports marketing, and how sports events are managed.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** Understand the physical and mental benefits of participating in sports. Learn about the role of sport in promoting overall health and well-being and its impact on communities and individuals.

## Skills You Will Develop:



## How is the Course Assessed?

The **OCR Level 2 CNAT in Sports Studies** is assessed through a combination of **internally assessed coursework** and **externally assessed exams**:

- **Unit 1: Contemporary Issues in Sport (Externally Assessed Exam):** You will explore the ethical and social factors influencing participation, as well as how sport can have a positive impact on individuals and society.
- **Unit 2: Sports Leadership & Developing Sports Skills (Internally Assessed Coursework):** You will demonstrate your ability to participate in different sports, focusing on skill development, strategy, and performance. In the leadership section of the unit you will be planning and leading a sports activity or event.
- **Unit 3: Risk Assessment in the Outdoors (Internally Assessed Coursework):** You will learn about different types of outdoor activities and the outdoor environment. You will also have to plan and risk assess a practical session that you participate in.

## What Will It Help With Post-16?

- **Post-16 Courses:** You could continue your studies with **Level 3 qualifications** such as BTEC Nationals in **Sport**, or **A-levels in Physical Education**. These courses provide deeper insights into areas like **sports science**, **sports psychology**, and **exercise physiology**.
- **Apprenticeships:** The sports industry offers a wide range of apprenticeship opportunities. You could pursue an apprenticeship in **sport coaching**, **fitness training**, **sports development**, or **event management**. These provide practical experience while continuing your learning in the workplace.
- **Employment:** The skills you gain will help you pursue a variety of roles in the sports and fitness sectors. Job roles include **fitness instructor**, **sports coach**, **event coordinator**, **sports development officer**, or **physical education assistant**.
- **Further Education and University:** This course provides a solid foundation for university degrees in **Sports Science**, **Sport Management**, **Sports Therapy**, and **Physical Education**. Graduates can go on to work in areas such as **sports coaching**, **sports therapy**, **exercise science**, or **sports marketing**.

Sport and fitness careers include:

- Fitness Trainer or Personal Trainer
- Sports Coach
- Sports Nutritionist
- Sports Therapist
- Physical Education Teacher
- Sport Development Officer



### ***Pupils' comment:***

“As the course has assessed assignments for each topic, I felt this suited me more rather than big exams at the end of the course.”

**For further information, please contact:  
Mr J Yarranton  
PE Curriculum Leader**

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Core)

## Course:

Core Physical Education (PE) in Years 10 and 11 provides students with the opportunity to engage in a wide range of physical activities while also developing a deeper understanding of health, fitness, and well-being. The course is designed to encourage lifelong participation in physical activity, improve personal fitness levels, and help students acquire skills that can be applied both in sport and in daily life. It focuses on improving physical performance, enhancing knowledge about exercise and nutrition, and fostering teamwork and leadership skills.

## Course Structure

Core PE in Years 10 and 11 is primarily practical but also includes theoretical elements. Students will participate in regular physical activities, which may include team sports, individual sports and fitness training. In addition to physical participation, students will develop an understanding of how exercise contributes to physical and mental health, the importance of a balanced diet, and the impact of a healthy lifestyle on overall well-being.

## Key Components of the Course:

### 1. **Practical Physical Activity:**

- **Team Sports:** Football, netball, basketball, rugby, and volleyball.
- **Individual Sports:** Athletics, tennis, badminton, trampolining.
- **Health Related Fitness:** Students will participate in fitness-based activities such as circuit training, running, and strength training.

### 2. **Skill Development:**

- Students will learn and practice the technical skills required for a range of sports, including passing, shooting, dribbling, and tackling in team sports, and individual skills such as running technique and body control in trampolining.
- Focus on improving personal performance through goal setting, self-reflection, and feedback.

### 3. **Health and Fitness Knowledge:**

- Students will gain an understanding of how physical activity improves fitness, muscle strength, and cardiovascular health.
- Exploration of **fitness principles** such as aerobic vs. anaerobic exercise, the importance of warm-ups and cool-downs, and the role of flexibility and recovery.
- **Nutrition and Well-being:** Students will learn about the role of diet, hydration, and sleep in maintaining physical and mental health.

### 4. **Leadership and Teamwork:**

- Students will be given opportunities to take on leadership roles, such as organizing and leading activities or coaching peers in certain sports.
- Focus on building communication skills, decision-making, and the ability to work collaboratively in team settings.

### 5. **Mental and Emotional Well-being:**

- The course promotes the positive impact of physical activity on mental health, including reducing stress, improving mood, and boosting self-esteem.
- Understanding how sport and physical activity contribute to social well-being, such as building relationships, fostering inclusivity, and promoting a sense of belonging.



Core PE is a vital part of the school curriculum, encouraging students to develop a lifelong commitment to physical activity and well-being. By combining physical practice with knowledge of health and fitness, the course empowers students to lead active and healthy lives, build skills that are transferable to a range of careers, and understand the positive effects of sport on both the body and mind.

***Assessment:***

Pupils are assessed in the following areas:

- Developing physical competence and performance
- Applying rules, tactics and strategies for success.
- Developing a healthy, active lifestyle
- Evaluating performance

**For further information, please contact:  
Mr J Yarranton  
PE Curriculum Leader**

