

## **Subject Choices for Years 10 and 11**

Dear Year 9 students,

This is a really important time for you at school. It is the start of your GCSEs and then on to your exciting careers ahead. It is vital that you take the time to think about what is the best route for you, as you will be studying the subject you choose in Year 9 for the next two years. Unfortunately, once your timetable has been produced it is very difficult to change your option.

This booklet should make the choice as simple as possible. It gives you information about the subjects available at Allerton Grange, as well as information about the core subjects that are studied by everyone. Over the next few weeks you will need to talk to as many people as possible so that you can make an informed decision about your future. However, choose what you want to study and not what your friends want, as this is a personal decision that needs to be right for you.

The best and most simple piece of advice we can provide you with is...

*'If you enjoy something and you are good at it, then at this stage of your life, take advantage of your opportunities by gaining a qualification in whatever you are good at. It is much easier to succeed at something you are good at and enjoy'*

Your option forms will be given to you by your tutors.

**Please note:**

**Some classes are very popular so places are on a first come, first serve basis.**

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## What do you choose?

Students at Allerton Grange are expected to study the full range of EBacc subjects at GCSE. Research shows that studying this group of subjects increases your chances of staying in full time education. Furthermore, the Russell Group Universities recognise these subjects as being essential to access many Degree courses.

At Allerton Grange we believe that all students should have access to as many opportunities as possible and therefore value the EBacc subjects at GCSE level. Studying these subjects is also known to improve outcomes in English and Maths.

The English Baccalaureate subjects are:

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- Science (Students will either study biology, chemistry and physics separately, or gain two science qualifications)
- A language
- A humanity - geography or history

In addition to this there will be the choice of one additional subject which will be in an option block within the school timetable. This option will have three hours of teaching per week. *It is possible to pick an additional language or (History and Geography)*

All students will continue to study RS and PE which are compulsory at Key Stage 4.

## What qualifications will I get at the end of Year 11?

The table below shows the grades that you could come out with at the end of Year 11. All grades are a pass and therefore a qualification in the subject (other than a grade U which is what you would get if you failed)

GCSE Grades	Vocational Qualifications
9 (Highest Grade Possible)	
8	Level 2 Distinction*
7	Level 2 Distinction
6	Level 2 Merit
5	
4	Level 2 Pass
3	Level 1 Distinction
2	Level 1 Merit
1	Level 1 Pass
U Unclassified	A qualification has not been achieved.

## Careers Education and Guidance

Careers Education and Guidance is an important part of every student's curriculum. Its focus is to enable students to make well-informed academic, vocational and training choices.

At Allerton Grange many elements of Careers Education and Guidance are embedded through PSHCE Education. During Year 9 there will be time in tutor groups to explore different careers and there will be an assembly giving you further guidance.

In school we have a careers computer program called "Start in Leeds" which is a simple, user-friendly database. It is worth a visit on <https://www.startprofile.com/> as it not only has quizzes but contains more information on job profiles, case studies, careers video clips etc, and is particularly helpful for if you are unsure about what you want to do.

Please visit the AGS School website Careers section which has a lot of information and links to really useful sites. Miss Walker is the Careers Coordinator in school. Please speak to her about the resources available to help you or email her: [jesswalker@allertongrange.com](mailto:jesswalker@allertongrange.com).

## Qualifications – Where Can They Take You?

Qualifications can help you to get ahead in life. They come in 8 different levels, as this diagram shows:

	University			
Level 8	Doctorate PhD			
Level 7	Master's Degree MA, MSc, MPhil			
Level 6	University Degree BA, BSc			
Level 5		Foundation Degree FdA, FdSc	HND	
Level 4			HNC	
Level 3	A Level		L3 Diploma	L3 Certificate
Level 2	GCSE Grades 9 to 4	Level 2 BTEC	Level 2 VRQ	
Level 1	GCSE Grades 4 to 1	Level 1 BTEC	Level 1 VRQ	
Lower school	Key Stage 3 Years 7-9			
	School or College			

Generally you progress from one level to the next. You may be able to switch between different types of qualification as you progress. For example, with five or more GCSE's at level 2 you could:

- Progress to an A level course (Grade 5's normally needed)
- Progress to an Advanced Diploma course
- Progress to a combination of Advanced Diploma and AS level.

# **Core Subject Information**

## English GCSE

### **Contact for further information: Miss H. Shaw**

English is a compulsory subject at GCSE and is highly valued in employment and for further education. Most employers will want you to have a good grade in English to show you are able to communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Students who achieve a 5 or above in English Language or English Literature should be able to study these subjects in 6<sup>th</sup> Form. An A level in English Literature or English Language is well regarded by universities and colleges and will allow access onto many different courses.

There is just one tier of entry, covering grades 1-9. The courses are both assessed solely by external exams at the end of Year 11. There are no longer any controlled assessments. Speaking and Listening will be assessed in school, based on a presentation and response to questions and you will be graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction for this.

All students will follow the GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature AQA courses.

### **GCSE English Language**

Examinations 100% of overall mark - 2 x 1 hour and 45 minutes examinations:

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

- Students will be given an unseen extract from 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> century fiction
- The questions will require students to analyse the language and structure of this extract and form a critical opinion, supporting their ideas with evidence.
- Students will be asked to produce a piece of narrative or descriptive writing based on an image

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

- Students will be given two unseen extracts from 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> century non-fiction
- The questions will require students to select and retrieve information, summarise the differences in a text, analyse language and structure and compare the attitudes and perspectives of writers.
- Students will also be asked to produce a piece of discursive writing to communicate a point of view.

## GCSE English Literature

Examinations 100% of overall mark - 1 x 1 hour and 45 minutes examination; 1 x 2 hours and 15 minutes examination



Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> century novel

- *Macbeth* or *Romeo and Juliet* (William Shakespeare): Students will be given an extract from the play (this will *not* be pre-released) and asked to explore a character and/or theme. They will be expected to analyse language, form and structure in the extract whilst also demonstrating an understanding of the play as a whole. In addition, marks will be awarded for exploring how context can deepen meanings.
- *A Christmas Carol* (Charles Dickens): Students will be required to produce an extended essay-style answer to a question on a theme or character from the text. Similar to the first part of the exam, students should analyse language, form and structure and show an understanding of the text as a whole, as well as exploring context.

Paper 2: Modern texts, poetry anthology and unseen poetry

- *An Inspector Calls* or *The History Boys*: Students will be given a choice of two questions based on character or theme. They should answer one question and explore how the chosen writer uses language, form and structure to convey meanings. Marks are also awarded for showing an understanding of context
- Power and Conflict Poetry: Students will study a collection of fifteen poems from an anthology. They will explore themes of war, conflict, violence, power, honour and bravery. In the examination, students will write a comparison of two poems from this anthology: one poem will be specified and students may choose the second.
- Unseen Poetry: Students will complete two tasks in this section of the exam. The first will ask students to focus on an analysis of a poem they will not have studied in class. They will be awarded marks for insightful responses to the way in which the poet uses language, form and structure to present ideas and feelings in the poem. The second question will be based on a comparison of two poems, both of which are unseen.

### **Career paths that need English:**

Media – Journalism, Publishing, TV and Radio, Copywriting, Events Management

Professions – Law, HR, Banking, Accountancy, Insurance

Public Sector – Civil Service, Health Service, Local Government, Police/Armed Forces



## Mathematics GCSE

### Contact for further information: Mr S. Fidler

Mathematics is a compulsory subject and is an essential qualification for all careers. Employers, colleges and universities will want you to have a good grade in Mathematics. All students follow the **EdExcel** GCSE specification and are entered for the most appropriate **tier**. There are two **tiers** for Mathematics: **Higher tier: Grades 4-9** and Foundation **tier: Grades 1-5**.

### Subject content

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

### Assessments

Students must take three question papers at the same tier (foundation or higher). All three question papers must be taken at the end of year 11. **Each paper is worth one third of the overall grade.**

Paper 1: Non-calculator

Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes, 80 marks

Content from any part of the specification may be assessed and there are a mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.

Paper 2: Calculator

Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes, 80 marks

Content from any part of the specification may be assessed and there are a mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.

Paper 3: Calculator

Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes, 80 marks

Content from any part of the specification may be assessed.

### Career paths that need maths:

Computer games designer, animator, forensic scientist, cryptanalyst

## Science GCSEs

Contact for further information: Mrs A Gonzales (Curriculum Responsibility for Biology).

Contact for further information: Mr K Addison (Curriculum Responsibility for Chemistry).

Contact for further information: Dr Caroline Noakes (Curriculum Responsibility for Physics).

All students study the fundamentals of each Science in Year 9. In Year 10 sets 1 to 3 in A band and sets 1 to 2 in G band will follow the Triple Science courses; all others follow the Combined Science: Trilogy course.

There are two routes in Science:

1. Triple or Separate Science – Biology, Chemistry and Physics – worth 3 GCSEs.
2. Combined Science: Trilogy – worth 2 GCSEs.

In Combined Science, they will still study all three Sciences but the content is slightly reduced and the scores of the six exams are amalgamated to produce two overall grades e.g. 5-5 or 7-6.

## Triple (separate) Science GCSE's

Science is a compulsory subject as it is a highly valued qualification for all careers. It is relevant to most issues facing the modern world and in the development of new products. All students study the fundamentals of GCSE Science in Year 9. In Year 10 sets 1 to 3 in one band and sets 1 to 2 in the other will follow the Triple Biology course.

Exam boards assess separate Biology, Chemistry and Physics science via **three written exams at the end of Year 11**. Students can either be entered for the foundation **or** higher tier for both exams.

The questions will be a mixture of multiple-choice, short answer, structured and longer open responses. The students will also be assessed on their **mathematical and working scientifically skills**. There will also be an element of **synoptic** assessment in some of the written papers. This will involve making and using connections within and between different areas of each science e.g. applying

knowledge and understanding of more than one area to a particular situation or context.

There are ten **Required Practicals** for each subject that have to be covered during lesson time over the two years and may be covered in the written exam.

## Combined Science (Trilogy) GCSE

Exam boards assess Combined Science via **two written exams per science at the end of Year 11**. This will mean a total of six written exams for Combined Science: Trilogy. Students can either be entered for the foundation **or** higher tier for all six exams. The questions will be a mixture of multiple-choice, short answer, structured and longer open responses. The students will also be assessed on their **mathematical and working scientifically skills**. There will also be an element of **synoptic** assessment in some of the written papers. This will involve making and using connections within and between different areas of each science e.g. applying knowledge and understanding of more than one area to a particular situation or context.

There are twenty-one **Required Practicals** (seven for Biology, six for Chemistry and eight for Physics) that have to be covered during lesson time over the two years and may be covered in the written exam.

**To study any Science subject at A-level students will need to get a grade 6-6 in Combined Science and will also need to have at least a grade 5 in English Language and a grade 6 in Mathematics.**

**What exam board do we use?**

AQA <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse>

### Some careers that need Biology

Doctor, dentist, pharmacist, marine biologist, geologist, university lecturer, teacher, nurse, geneticist, astrophysicist, biochemist, pharmaceuticals sales representative.

### Some careers that need Chemistry

Analytical chemist, chemical engineer, forensic scientist, geochemist, materials scientist, doctor, dentist, pharmacist, geologist, university lecturer, teacher, nurse, biochemist, pharmaceuticals sales representative etc.

### Some careers that need Physics:

Aerospace engineer; Astrophysicist; Airline pilot; Architect; Biomedical engineer; Biomedical scientist; Building services engineer; Clinical engineer; Doctor; Electrician etc.



## Geography GCSE

### **Contact for further information: Miss K. Williams**

The world we live in will change more in the next 50 years than it has ever done before, raising geographical issues students will be unable to avoid. Geography explains the reasons behind these changes and helps students to prepare for the future by building on their own experiences to investigate places at all stages, from local to global. Geography develops many transferable skills such as questioning, investigation and critical thinking which will be useful to students in a number of different careers. Geography will inspire students to recognise their contribution as a global citizen by exploring their place in the world, their values and responsibilities to other people, to the environment and to the sustainability of the planet.

The AQA course comprises of three units which are each assessed through an examination paper.

- Unit 1 focuses on the physical processes operating in our world. Students will learn about the challenge of natural hazards, the living world and the physical landscape of the UK.
- Unit 2 gives students a sound understanding of human geography. Students will identify the issues and challenges urban areas face, learn how the economic world is changing and acknowledge the challenge of managing resources.
- Unit 3 is about students' ability to apply their geographical understanding to skills based questions. A pre-released booklet of materials about a geographical issue will be provided. Students will assess and evaluate the materials to help them to reach a conclusion. They will also answer questions about their field study experience in the exam.

There is an expectation that students who study GCSE geography take part in field work. The students visited Ilkley last year to investigate the changing long profile of a river and the function of the settlement.



### **Some careers that need Geography:**

Studying geography means you have a broad range of career paths open to you. Geography graduates have one of the highest rates of graduate employment. It's often said that there is no such thing as a geography job; rather there are multiple jobs that geographers do. Geography students tend to be open-minded and interested in the world around them, qualities which are attractive to all employers.

Cartographer, Town planner, Geographical information systems officer



## History GCSE

**Contact for further information: Miss K. Moore**

### **Why choose History?**

History is widely recognised as a respected academic discipline which develops meaningful and transferable skills for many future careers. History helps you to develop your skills in critical thinking, essay writing and the analysis of complex evidence. It also enables you to develop your ability to a debate and argue a case using a range of evidence. The knowledge you acquire and skills you establish are well regarded by both sixth-forms and universities. By studying history you will be empowered with knowledge of events and concepts that have shaped the modern world, and continue to impact the world in which you live.

### **What will I study and how will I be assessed?**

The GCSE course enables students to study a broad chronological and geographical range of history. You will have the opportunity to investigate history from the medieval period to the present day, as well as study world, European and British history.

You will have three fifty-five minute lessons of GCSE History a week, following the Edexcel specification. There are three exam papers which are sat at the end of Year 11:

**Paper 1:** Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.

Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes

30% of the qualification

**Paper 2:** Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88 and the American West, c1835–c1895

Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes

40% of the qualification

**Paper 3:** Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39

Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes

30% of the qualification



<b>YEAR 11</b>	<p><b>PAPER 2</b></p> <p><b>Period study</b></p> <p>The American West, c1835–c1895</p>	<p><b>PAPER 3</b></p> <p><b>Modern Depth study</b></p> <p>Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39</p>
<b>YEAR 10</b>	<p><b>PAPER 1</b></p> <p><b>Thematic study and historic environment</b></p> <p>Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.</p>	<p><b>PAPER 2</b></p> <p><b>British depth study</b></p> <p>Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88.</p>

Some careers that need **History**:

**To add**

## Modern Foreign Languages GCSE

**French - Miss C. Pringle**

**German - Mrs H. Walker**

**Spanish – Mrs P. Woolliscroft**

*Languages are essential for trade, business and the economy. Alarming the economic cost of the UK's linguistic underperformance – in terms of lost trade and investment – has been estimated as up to £49bn per year or 3.5% of GDP. Language skills will prove vital to post-Brexit Britain, as we look to forge new relationships across the globe and strengthen ties within Europe.*

*The Guardian Newspaper, March 2019.*

The Languages department at Allerton Grange is recognised as one of the most successful in Leeds – our results are consistently higher than the national average.

A Modern Foreign Language qualification can be valuable to an employer or in enrolling on to a college or university course. Some universities insist on students having a GCSE language. Moreover, it forms part of the “E-Bacc” qualification introduced by the current Government. At Allerton Grange, we are able to offer three European languages in the options system.

Studying a language at GCSE builds on the skills and knowledge students have already acquired. It will give them the ability to communicate with other communities, offer an understanding of foreign countries and encourage positive attitudes to the wider world. It will really develop their grammar, literacy, memory and thinking skills in a way which benefits all of their other learning.

GCSE Languages have a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier.

The broad topic areas students will learn about are:

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



The course is assessed through four exams at the end of Year 11

- Listening (25% of final mark)
- Reading (25% of final mark)
- Speaking (25% of final mark)
- Writing (25% of final mark)

In recent years, students have had the opportunity to participate in various activities and projects including: a trip to Granada, a project at Leeds Art Gallery to commemorate the fall of the Berlin Wall, revision days at Leeds University and exchanging pen-pal letters with students from France.

### Studying a Second Language

The vast majority of students will continue with the language they studied in Years 7, 8 and 9. Some students may however also wish to opt for a second language. If you consider yourself a talented linguist, you should strongly consider doing so. People with a qualification in one language are highly valued by employers, but having two foreign language qualifications can open even more doors.

Many students assume that they will get confused or “mixed up” when learning two languages. This is rarely the case, and, in fact, it can make things easier because the study skills and techniques are the same for all languages. If you are not sure, or you would like any further advice about this, please speak to one of the Languages teachers.

### **Some careers that need languages:**

Language skills can be used in almost any career, particularly in businesses that trade internationally. Other careers that need languages are:-

*Interpreter and translator, Political risk analyst, Sales executive, Diplomat*



# **Option Subject Information**

## Art and Design GCSE

### **Contact for further information: Mrs K. Crampton**

This creative, exciting course will enable students to explore, experiment and develop a wide range of techniques to enhance their interest in Art and Design. This broad course will explore practical work as well as looking at the work of other artists, to help inspire students' own ideas.

There will be opportunities to explore a wide range of processes including:

- Painting, drawing and mixed media work
- Printmaking using a range of processes
- Construction and 3D processes
- Digital photography and ICT design packages.

The course comprises two units:

### **Component 1 – Portfolio of work (worth 60%).**

This is selected from the work produced over the two years by the students in response to projects set by teachers in the lessons. Students document their processes and ideas showing clear development to produce final outcomes.

### **Component 2 – Externally Set Task (worth 40%).**

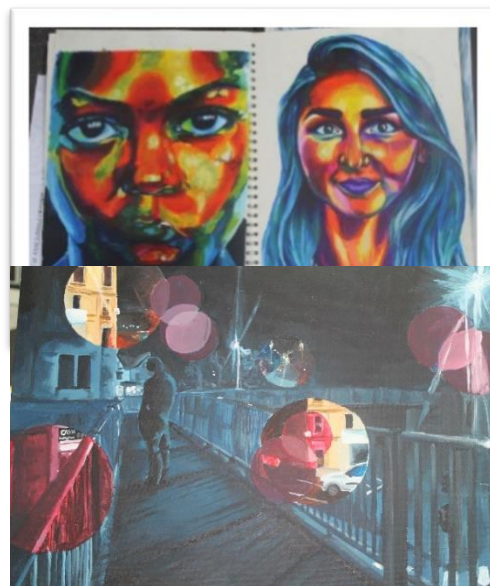


The theme is set by the exam board and students are given preparation time over a number of weeks to develop their ideas. The final practical exam is 10 hours long and delivered over two continuous days. During this time, students will produce a final outcome.

GCSE Art and Design is the first step from which to progress to A Level, college courses and careers in a wide range of creative subjects such as Fine Art, Graphic Design, Architecture, Fashion Design etc. To study this course students must be committed, creative and take enjoyment in this subject.

### **Some careers that need art and design:**

*Architect, Graphic Designer, Fine artist, Art therapist, Illustrator and lots more!*



## **Business Studies (OCR National)**

**Contact for further information: Mrs C Ellison**

**In year 10 the students start the OCR Nationals in Enterprise & Marketing Level 1/2. This** would be useful if you are interested in going on to **study** or work in areas like accountancy, **business** management, running your own **business**, law, ICT, retail management, leisure management and the travel Industry.

In Enterprise & Marketing you will be required to read about and study businesses as well as learn lots of key terms and language. You will need to be able to write longer answers to questions about business decisions, clearly explaining through persuasive writing. You will need to have good literacy skills to succeed as well as basic profit and loss calculations.

The course is made up of 1 external examination R064 taken at the end of year 10 and 2 coursework units R065 and R066 done in year 11. All three units must be undertaken for the successful completion of the course and for students to gain the award.

### **Some careers that need Business Studies:**

*Business owner or Entrepreneur, Marketing, Sales*

*As all organisations, including Schools are businesses, understanding how a business works is very useful for most jobs.*

## Classical Civilisation GCSE

### **Contact for further information: Miss G. Williams**

Classical Civilisation, more commonly known as Classics, is the study of Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome. It consists of the study of the literature, history, philosophy and art of Greece and Rome, giving insight into their social, cultural and political values and beliefs.

### **Why choose Classical Civilisation?**

Classics allows you to develop a critical understanding of the roots of modern society and culture. You will build skills in evaluation and analysis as well as developing excellent communication skills and the ability to argue articulately. Classics is a highly academic subject which means that a GCSE in Classical Civilisation is excellent preparation for a wide variety of A level subjects. The requirement to defend opinions and ideas in debates is a transferable skill that is highly valued by employers and top universities. Classicists go on to many successful careers and a wide range of university courses including History, Law, Medicine and Architecture.

The department offers a range of opportunities to support broader engagement with Classics. In recent years students have been on trips to the University of Cambridge, attending workshops in the Museum of Classical Archaeology and experienced a lecture by a Cambridge academic, as well as a trip to the British Museum in London.

### **What will I study and how will I be assessed?**

There are two topics studied across Year 10 and 11. One is a thematic study on Myth and Religion and the other a study of culture and the Homeric World. There are two exams which are both taken at the end of Year 11. Both exams are 1 hour 30 minutes and are worth 50% of the GCSE grade.

### **Myth and Religion**

Within this topic you will study the religions of Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome. This will include learning about the gods and goddesses of Greece and Rome and looking at mythology. Within this topic we shall also study the Universe of the Hero (Hercules and Theseus) and the role of religion in society including the mythology surrounding death and the Underworld.

### **The Homeric World**

This topic requires you to explore *The Odyssey*. *The Odyssey* is believed to have been composed in the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC by a bard named Homer.

The Greek hero, Odysseus, has spent 10 years away from home fighting with the Greeks in the Trojan War. Homer's *Odyssey* tells the story of Odysseus' journey to return home. Unfortunately, Odysseus has angered Poseidon, God of the Sea by blinding his son. As a result of Poseidon's wrath, it will take him 10 years to travel to his home, the island of Ithaca, where his wife and son are waiting for him.

We will read five sections of Homer's *Odyssey* including *The Cyclops* and *Circe*. We will study the text in the context of the period, meaning we will study life, beliefs and traditions in the Mycenaean Age as well as studying the site of the Trojan War.

### **Some careers that need Classics**

*Specialist careers in Classics include being a museum curator, an archivist or an academic researcher.*

The nature of Classics means that students develop intellectual flexibility and analytical thinking. Therefore, Classics students go on to a wide range of careers including barristers, journalists and heritage managers.



GCSE students on a trip to the University of Cambridge, Faculty of Classics.



## Computer Science GCSE

### **Contact for further information: Mr D. Smith**

Over the last half century Computer Science has changed business operations. The impact it has had on the entertainment industry and how we as individuals interact with technology has also been significant. Computer science today has become a skill that employers in all fields recognise as a driving force to success, whether harnessing the power of social media or the exciting field of artificial intelligence, Computer Science gives students the skills to succeed.

### Course Content

OCR GCSE Computer Science will provide you with in-depth knowledge and understanding of computer technology and how it works.

A combination of theory lessons and practical lessons will be delivered to enable you to fully appreciate how computers work. You will initially develop your knowledge of the fundamentals of computing systems such as systems architecture, memory, storage, network security, and the moral, social, legal, cultural and environmental concerns.

Once you have understood the fundamentals you will develop programming knowledge, this involves developing an understanding of computational thinking, algorithms and programming usually using the Python programming language. Tasks whilst learning include creating cipher text(encrypted messages) and developing brute force attacks on cipher text.

You will also complete a number of mini programming projects, the main aim of this is to develop programming techniques. This will involve design, development, testing and evaluating the programs you develop.

\* Computer systems including: Systems architecture, memory, storage, wired and wireless networks, network topologies/protocols and layers, system security, system software

\* Computational Thinking including: Algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, Computational logic, Translators and languages, data representation

\* Practical programming: Students will be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s) during their course of study which allows them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. Programming techniques will be examined as part of unit 2.

### Method of assessment

The course is assessed through two external exams which is equivalent 100%

### Progression after GCSE Computer Science

This course will provide you with excellent knowledge and understanding and therefore it will prepare you well for further study in computing. The skills developed throughout the course will provide you with all the essential skills needed to study any Advanced level course and work in the future.



**Some careers that need Computer Science:**

*Software application developer (from games to applications such as MS Word),  
Computer systems analyst, Software systems developer (operating systems such as  
MS Windows, Android and IOS), Web developer*



## Drama GCSE

**Contact for further information: Mrs R. Jarman**

**Examination Board:** Eduqas

**Specification:** GCSE DRAMA (9-1)

GCSE Drama offers students the opportunity to develop the skills they have already learned, acquire new ones and create and perform longer and more complex pieces of drama for public audiences. GCSE Drama is an exciting, inspiring and practical course that promotes involvement in and enjoyment of drama, as performers and designers. Additionally it provides opportunities to attend live theatre performances and to develop skills as informed and thoughtful audience members.

**The course is split into 3 components:-**

**Component 1:** Devising Theatre

**Component 2:** Performing from a text

**Component 3:** Interpreting Theatre

This is a course for people who love to participate in and experience all kinds of performance. Students will have the opportunity to learn and perform in our state of the art Drama Studio, creating work that is both original and thought provoking. Students will need to be dedicated, as students will often have to rehearse outside of normal lesson time; and since the course involves being able to write about theatre as well as to perform, students will need to be able to get their views down on paper. There are regular opportunities to work with leading professional artists and companies and share in their experiences. Most recently, our GCSE students have worked with a number of theatre companies and professionals including, Leeds University-School of Performance and Cultural Industries, The Paperbirds, TIE It Up Theatre Company, Red Ladder Theatre Company and Dave Cartwright- Actor/Theatre Maker. There will be regular practical and written homework tasks, professional theatre workshops and opportunities to see live theatre.

**Method of assessment:**

40% performance and 60% written



## **Some careers that need drama:**

*Performer- actor, dancer, singer, Drama therapist, Youth and Community Worker*

## **Technology Qualifications**

### **Contact for further information: Mrs J Maurice**

If you enjoy Technology, choosing a qualification in Hospitality and Catering, Three Dimensional design or Art Textiles adds balance to your options allowing you to develop your creativity, problem solving, ICT, and design skills which are sought after by employers.

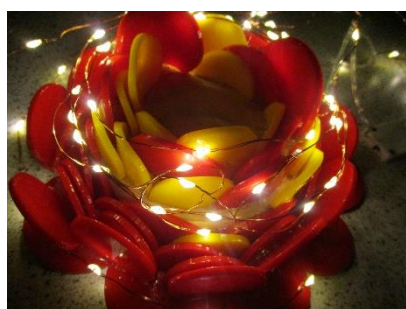
Across all Design and Technology subjects you will design new products and use the state of the art CAD/CAM equipment to make high quality products or creative pieces that will be a proud addition to any interview portfolio. There are a wide variety of chosen career paths and further/higher education courses available to students such as Fashion, Interior Design, Architecture, Food and Nutrition, Hospitality and Catering, Product Design and Engineering.

### **Three Dimensional Design (Art and Design)**

An exciting option for students who have enjoyed the hands on approach of their Design Technology lessons at Key Stage 3 and are looking forward to stepping up their skills to the next level. There is no written examination within this course, providing students with plenty of time to develop their practical skills.

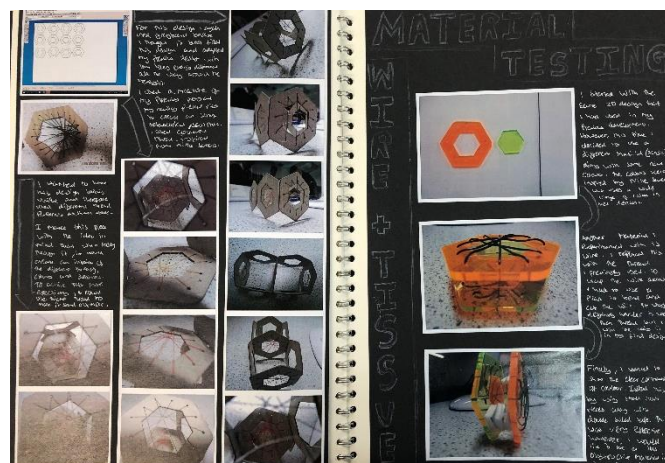
The course comprises of two coursework units:

#### **Component 1 – Portfolio of work (worth 60%).**



designers, artists, sculptors and architects allowing them to create own unique designs. The breadth of this fantastic course allows students to work within the following areas:

This is selected from the work produced over the two years by the students in response to projects set by teachers in the lessons. As well as producing a range of 3D outcomes, students will learn about design movements,



Architecture  
Product Design  
Jewellery and Body Adornment  
Sculpture  
Ceramics



### **Component 2 – Externally Set Task (worth 40%).**

The theme is set by the exam board and students are given preparation time over a number of weeks to

develop their ideas. The final practical exam is 10 hours long and delivered over two continuous days. During this time, students will produce a final 3D outcome.

GCSE Art and Design is the first step from which to progress to A Level, college courses and careers in a wide range of creative subjects such as Furniture Design, Architecture, Product Design etc. To study this course students must feel they enjoy working in the workshop environment and take pride in the work that they produce.

### **Art Textiles**

If you have enjoyed designing and making textile products, experimenting with dyes, paints, patterns or using textile equipment then Art Textiles lets you continue to experiment and create beautiful textile pieces. Art Textiles is not just about designing and making, it can develop your skills in CAD/CAM, ICT, Business and it enables you to work cooperatively or be a team leader if you want to and manage others. Employers, universities and colleges look out for students who have a wider understanding of the world and life skills. Textiles develops problem solving skills which can't easily be picked up in other subjects. It makes you more aware of the world and helps you discover why products are made the way they are. Employers routinely look for evidence of design skills and creativity when recruiting employees. Through the exploration of contemporary and historical fashion, you will create fashion, furnishings or accessories using a wide range of materials. This course is an excellent link to A level Textiles, Product Design and Art and a range of design based degree courses.



Art Textiles the examination assessment is:

- \* Timed 10 hour **practical** examination 40%
- \* Final school based Coursework 60%

### **Some careers that need Art Textiles**

*Fashion designer, costume/ set designer, textile designer*

## **Hospitality and Catering**

This exciting new qualification has been designed to support students who want to learn about this vocational sector and the potential it can offer for careers or further study. Students will learn about the environment in which Hospitality and Catering providers operate and will deliver the principles of nutrition. Primarily they will learn to demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a variety of food commodities whilst using different cooking techniques and equipment. Students will also develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks. Students will also understand and explore the Hospitality and Catering industry, the job roles





Hospitality and Catering Level 1 & 2  
assessment is:

Online written examination 40%  
School based assessment 60%

**Some careers that need Hospitality and catering**

*Restaurant manager, Chef, Food Technologist.*

## Hair and Beauty

### **Contact for further information: Miss P. Riley**

This is a vocational related course which introduces you to some of the knowledge and skills which are relevant to working in the hair and beauty sector. Our salon, **chAnGeS @ Allerton Grange** has been created as a realistic working environment where students are taught and assessed by former professional Hairdresser, Miss Pam Riley. Teaching in the salon focuses on the main services such as shampooing and conditioning hair, blow drying hair and cutting hair. Students are encouraged to act in a professional manner, have excellent time keeping and adhere to the health and safety rules, as they would in the workplace. Within this environment, students learn well, enjoy the experience of working in the salon, make new friends, aim high and achieve excellent results. The two year hairdressing qualifications are in two parts – A practical skills qualification based in the salon and a GCSE equivalent qualification based in the classroom.

#### **1. VTCT Level 2 Practical Skills Certificates includes:**

- Blow dry and finish hair
- Shampoo and treat hair
- Basic cutting techniques for women's hair
- Promote yourself and prepare for a job interview
- Create an image based on a theme

#### **2. VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy (VRQ)**

The units that make up this GCSE equivalent qualification are:

- Understanding the hair and beauty sector - **EXAM**
- Hair and beauty research project
- Marketing and promotions in hair and beauty
- Responding to a hair and beauty design brief

**Method of assessment: Internal assignments and one external exam** This qualification carries a GCSE Equivalent qualification and uses a grading model of Not Yet Achieved, Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction\* (C/B//A/A\*) which will improve student motivation and provide challenge, distinguish between levels of student achievement and ensure sufficient rigour in assessments.

**Method of assessment: Internal assignments - Pass, Merit, Distinction**

#### **Further information:**

Having completed this course successfully you can continue with Post 16 education opting to study a higher certificate in hairdressing. Alternatively you may choose to take up an apprenticeship in hairdressing or follow the NVQ route at College.

As a subject, Hairdressing combines elements of English, Mathematics, Business, ICT, Creative Art and Drama

**Some careers that need Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy:**

*Reputable hair and beauty companies such as L'Oréal and G.H.D. require hair and beauty professionals to work in their sales and marketing departments.*

*Film. TV sets and theatre all require specialist hair and beauty professionals.*

*Airlines, cruise liners, Spas and hotels require hair and beauty professionals*

*Funeral directors, Prisons and Hospitals require hair and beauty professionals*



## Health and Social Care - Level 1 and 2



### **Contact for further information: Mr N. Dutton-Taylor**

This is a brilliant course for anyone who is interested in working and caring for others in a variety of roles. You learn through completing individual projects based on realistic workplace situations and demands.



### **Methods of Assessment**

You must complete four units to complete the course. There are three controlled assessment units and one external exam. You may prefer this option if you feel you are better suited to coursework rather than exam work.

The four units include:

- Essentials values of care for use with individuals in care setting (External exam unit)
- Communicating and working with individuals in health, social care and early years settings (coursework unit)
- Understanding body systems and disorders (coursework unit)
- Creative activities to support individuals in health, social care and early years settings (coursework unit)

Having completed this course successfully you can continue with Post 16 education opting to study a Health and Social Care Level 3 course.

As a subject, Health and Social Care (H&SC) combines elements of psychology, sociology, business, biology, nutrition, law and ethics.

### **Some careers that need Health and Social Care:**

*Health care assistant*

*Medical technician*

*Child care practitioner*



## I Media (Cambridge Nationals)

### **Contact for further information: Mr D. Smith**

This course will provides you with all the essential skills needed to continue your studies at higher level in iMedia but will also focus on the particular skills needed by employers. This course will develop your knowledge and understanding of iMedia through practical applications.

#### Cambridge Nationals Delivery

The delivery of the subject will develop subject knowledge of iMedia during theory based lessons focusing on production documents that are used in business. The practical based content of the course will improve your understanding and develop your skills in using a variety of applications such as file types, videos, interactive media products and creating digital imaginary.

The following are some of the elements students may study:

- \* Understand the purpose and content of pre-production documents
- \* Planning for pre-production
- \* Work plans and production schedules
- \* Hardware and software used to digitise
- \* Heath and safety in the workplace

#### Method of Assessment

You must complete four units to complete the course; there are three coursework units and one external exam. Course work is chosen from the following:

- Creating digital graphics (mandatory unit)
- Creating 2D and 3D Characters
- Storytelling with a comic strip
- Creating a multipage website
- Creating a digital animation
- Creating a digital sound sequence
- Creating a digital video sequence
- Digital photography
- Designing a game concept

## Music GCSE

### **Contact for further information: Mrs T. Casey**

This is a new and exciting course which is a perfect choice for any student who likes composing, performing and analysing Music. 60% of this GCSE is based around practical coursework. Students must perform as well as compose music. The other component is worth 40%, which is a 1 hour and 30 minutes listening and analysing exam.

The Subject content is divided into the three components:

- Understanding music
- Performing music
- Composing music

We learn about the following four Areas of Study -

1. Western classical tradition 1650–1910 – Study Piece - Haydn: Symphony 101 in D Major; The Clock, movement. 2.
2. Popular music – Study Piece - The Beatles: Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. Also included is Musical theatre, Hip Hop and R'n'B, Rock etc.
3. Traditional music – Study Piece - Santana: Supernatural.
4. Western classical tradition since 1910 - Aaron Copland: Saturday Night Waltz and Hoedown from Rodeo.

These areas of study help to develop an in-depth knowledge of the theory of music, musical elements and musical language. They can also provide a rich source of material when developing performance and composition skills.

### **Assessment:**

Component 1: Understanding Music 40% - At the end of the two years, students sit a 1 hour and 30 minute written examination where they listen to lots of different kinds of Music and answer questions. Some questions will be specifically on two of the Study Pieces listed above and will require short and extended written answer.

Component 2: Performing Music 30% - Performers can play instruments, sing, rap, use turntables and music technology to perform any style of music. At the end of the two years they must submit one individual performance (acoustic or technology-based) and one group performance lasting a combined minimum of four minutes. The recordings can be made at any time during the course.

Component 3: Composing Music 30% - Students learn how to develop musical ideas and compose music that is musically convincing through two compositions. One must be in response to an externally set brief and the other a free composition. The combined duration of the compositions must be a minimum of three minutes.



**Some careers that need Music:**

*Professional Musician,  
(Film/TV/Game/any genre) Music,  
Composer  
Music Therapist  
Music Producer*

## **Physical Education**

### **Contact for further information: Miss R. Caisley**

This subject allows students to explore both practical and theoretical elements of sport and physical activity. The assessment for this course is both by practical performance and exams.

The course delivered will depend on the cohort of the students who select PE as their option. Depending on the skills and the number of the students we will run either GCSE PE and/or BTEC First Award in Sport. If you enjoy PE and you take part in sports through school teams or outside school then you would be successful in this subject. Students who do not currently participate in sports outside school would be expected to attend extra-curricular sports if they were to do this course.

### **Assessment:**

GCSE PE is assessed through practical assessment in a number of individual and team sports which is worth 40% of the grade and then two end of course exams worth 30% each.

The BTEC First Award in Sport is assessed through centre assessed units of work with a single exam during the cycle of the course.

The range of skills and topics taught in both of these qualifications will benefit students across other subject areas. The practical lessons develop confidence, self-esteem and leadership skills which will benefit students in all areas. In addition, elements of the theory will have direct links to Science (human biology and physics in particular), history, psychology, sociology and maths.

### **Future opportunities:**

Both courses can lead to Level 3 courses in sport, either via the A-Level route or other Level 3 qualifications. Students could also move on to an apprenticeship in sport.

### **Some careers that need PE:**

*Physiotherapy, Sports Journalist, Sports Nutritionist*

## Photography GCSE

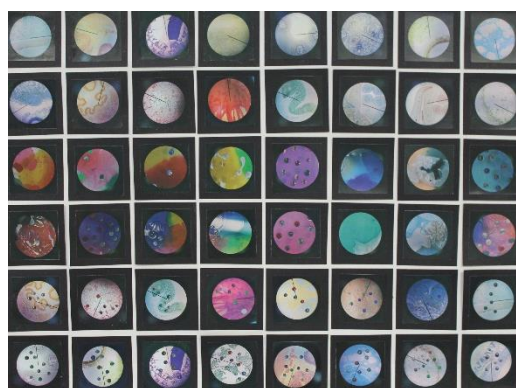
### **Contact for further information: Mrs J. Maurice**

A fantastic option for those who enjoy producing their own creative imagery using digital technology. Students will learn how to use Photoshop to create expressive artwork, as well as how to light and compose their own imagery.

Students will explore a range of themes and techniques within the structure of the course.

Possible themes will include:

- Portraiture
- Surrealism
- Abstract imagery
- Architectural Photography
- Mixed Media



The course comprises of 2 Units:

### **Unit 1 – Portfolio of work (worth 60%).**

This is selected from the work produced over two years by the students in response to projects set by teachers in the lessons. Students document their processes and ideas showing clear development to produce final outcomes.

**Unit 2 - Externally Set Task (worth 40%).** The theme is set by the exam board and students are given preparation time over a number of weeks to develop their ideas and take their photographs. The final practical exam is 10 hours long and delivered over two continuous days. During this time, students will produce a final outcome.



GCSE Photography is the first step for students who would consider studying this subject at A level, or at college. It would also benefit students who are considering studying Graphic Design or Media Studies. To succeed at this course students must be prepared to commit time outside of class to explore their own ideas.

### **Careers that need photography:**

*Commercial and industrial designer, Fashion photographer, Photo Editor, Cinematographer*



## Religious Studies GCSE

### Contact for further information: Mrs R. Barlow

All students will complete a **short course** GCSE in Religious Studies in 1 hour a week during KS4. There will be 2 exams at the end of the course of 50 mins each.

### **What will I actually study?**

The course involves the study of two of the main world religions (Christianity and Islam), Humanist and Atheist attitudes, along with personal reflection. We will then study a selection of contemporary ethical themes and how those groups would approach those issues. You will not only learn about the religious attitudes towards these but also the legal, political, psychological and sociological aspects associated with the themes.

### Christianity

**Christian Beliefs** – the study of the teachings and beliefs of Christianity.

**Marriage and the Family** – the study of marriage, divorce, contraception and gender roles and how different groups of society address them.

### Islam

**Muslim Beliefs** – the study of the teachings and beliefs of Islam.

**Crime and Punishment** – laws in society, causes of crime, types and the purpose of punishment, the effectiveness of the death penalty, treatment of criminals, reform and rehabilitation.

### **What if I want to complete a full GCSE in Religious Studies?**

You can opt to complete a full GCSE by attending Session 6 after school every week for the full 2 years. You will then cover the other 4 units to complete the full GCSE.

These units will be:

### Christianity

**Living the Christian Life** – the study of the practices of Christianity.

**Matters Of Life And Death** – the study of abortion and euthanasia, and theories about the origins of the universe including the Big Bang, evolution, Quantifier Shift Fallacy and the Anthropic Principle.

## **Islam**

**Living the Muslim Life** – the study of the practices of Islam.

**Religion, Peace and Conflict** – pacifism and peaceful protest, conscientious objectors, forgiveness and reconciliation, terrorism and war, bullying and family conflict, charity work and human rights.

This will mean that you sit 2 exams of 1 hr 45 mins each at the end of year 11

### **Is the course for me?**

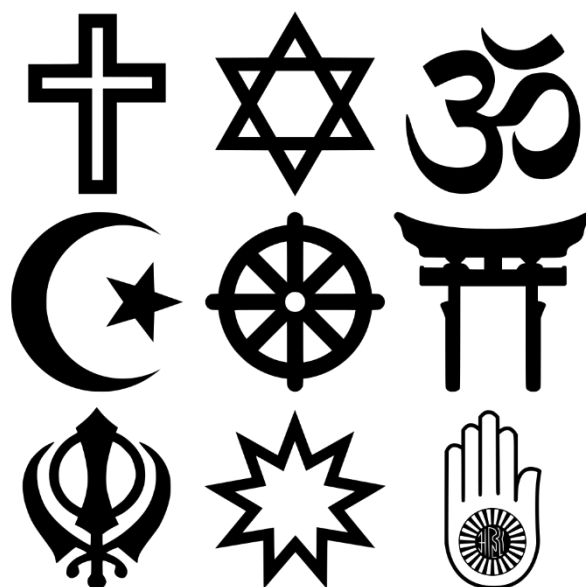
If you want to study current issues that are part of the world that we live in now and how they affect human behaviour, then yes, this course is for you.

You will get to debate issues such as marriage and relationships, crime and whether or not the death penalty is ever appropriate, as well what happens to us when we die. If you want to be skilled in the art of winning arguments convincingly or at least persuading people to consider your view, then yes, this course is for you.

If you have a faith of any kinds, are an atheist or agnostic, or simply follow a set of non-religious principles and values, then yes, this course is for you!

### **Future Prospects**

This GCSE prepares you for A-level courses in Religious Studies, Criminology, Law, Psychology, Sociology and other subjects. Religious Studies is well regarded by colleges and universities as it helps to develop students' thinking and evaluation skills in order to make them better learners.



**Careers where RS would be useful:**

*Examples of careers in which this would be a useful are Anthropology, Social Work, Nursing, Law, Journalism, Health Care and Education.*



## What will the option form look like?

The language you will be studying in Y10 will be indicated below. For some students a recommendation of a humanity subject will be made, but you can change this.

Please select one option from the Guided Choice selection below (unless you do not do a language then select two)

Baccalaureate Subjects	
Allocation	
<b>Language</b>	
Spanish	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">                     This will be pre-populated with the language you study now. If you don't study a language, choose two from the Guided choice                 </div>
German	
French	
Panjabi	
Urdu	
<b>Humanity</b>	
History	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">                     Pick one humanity: Geography or History                 </div>
Geography	

Guided Choice: Pick 1	
	Preference (tick)
Art	
Business	
Classical Civilisation	
Computing Science	
Drama	
Technology – 3D design	
Technology – Textiles	
Technology – Hospitality and catering	
Hair and Beauty	
Health and Social Care	
I Media	
Music	
PE	
Photography	
RS	

**Your form should be returned to your Form Tutor**