



# Your Options

## Key Stage 4 Curriculum 2017/18



# Your Options 2017/18

## Academic Year 2017/18

### Welcome

Detailed in this booklet are the proposed Option choices for current Year 8 students to study in Years 9, 10 and 11 starting in September 2017. The Options Evening on **Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017**, is designed to help your child make an informed decision on which choices to make.

During the evening, the curriculum model will be explained and you will be able to talk to teachers from the different subject areas, meet students who presently study the subjects and see the resources which are used.

### Introduction

We believe in preparing your child for an aspirational pathway and will be giving them choices based on what we believe suits their academic ability and potential. The offer is broad and balanced, and allows for many opportunities Post 16 and at University.

Our curriculum at The Buckingham School will meet the needs of all students and will serve to provide them with an education which challenges and engages; is linked to individual student's abilities and identified progression plans; and prepares all students for life, further learning, employment and training.

We will do this by:

- Providing all students with extensive information, advice and guidance on all Options
- Supporting students with career choices through career education, guidance and research opportunities
- Enabling students to consider and define their own career pathways and future plans in order to enable them to make effective choices
- Providing parents and carers with accessible information and with opportunities for face-to-face information and guidance so that they are able to effectively support students in the options process
- Providing students and parents/carers with signposts to further information and impartial guidance.

We will guide students towards:

- Subjects they are good at
- Subjects they enjoy
- Subjects that will stretch and challenge them
- A balanced range of subjects
- Subjects that are linked to individual progression plans Post 16 and beyond.

Success for All through Achievement, Challenge & Enjoyment

# What choices do students have?

## Core Studies

The Core Studies curriculum offer is set for all students. The Buckingham School Core offer comprises:

- English Language GCSE
- English Literature GCSE
- Mathematics GCSE
- Science GCSE
- PE for health and fitness

Tutor time will be used to deliver the key elements of SMSC, PSHE, Philosophy & Ethics, British Values and Citizenship.

## Options

Options include a range of GCSE and Vocational qualifications. Vocational qualifications are BTEC Level 2 qualifications that are equivalent to GCSE. BTEC qualifications are more vocationally linked, and assessed through a portfolio of evidence, in addition to an external examination. These also include hands-on and practical skills development, alongside theory and classroom learning.

## The English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is not a qualification in itself. It is a certificate that will be awarded to students who get GCSE A\*-C grades in:

- English
- Mathematics
- At least two Sciences (which can include Computer Science)
- A Modern Foreign Language – French or Spanish
- Geography or History

Success in EBacc subjects can lead to taking these subjects Post 16, where they are seen as facilitating subjects. These subjects are highly recognised at top Universities; especially those in the Russell Group.

For this reason, we have adapted our curriculum models so that more of our students can study these subjects, in addition to still being able to have at least two additional options.

## Optional GCSE subjects

The following GCSE subjects are available through the Options blocks. Please note that students are able to select and study one subject from each Option block and combinations of subjects must be achievable within the block system.

- Art GCSE
- Business Studies GCSE
- Computer Science GCSE
- Dance GCSE
- Drama GCSE
- Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE
- Media Studies GCSE
- Music GCSE
- PE GCSE
- Psychology GCSE

## Optional Vocational subjects

- ASDAN
- Business BTEC
- Construction BTEC
- Health & Social Care BTEC
- Performing Arts BTEC
- Sports Leadership BTEC

## Subject Summaries

Within this pack, you will find summaries of each of the subjects offered across our Key Stage 4 (KS4) curriculum. Each summary has details of the Curriculum Leader for that area, to whom students can direct any specific requests for further information.

Many of these sheets also contain links to websites where more detail on the specific courses can be found.

## Advice and Guidance

We are committed to providing all our students with detailed advice and guidance in making the right options. We know that the vast majority of our students consider parents/carers to be one of their most valued sources of advice and we will provide information and guidance to parents/carers in order that you can provide the support needed in this process.

Our students will have the opportunity to meet with specialist staff to discuss Options in subjects that have not been part of their Key Stage 3 curriculum provision.

In addition to the breadth of advice and support offered in school, students should be encouraged to conduct their own research in job options and the qualifications that might be needed to secure certain career paths.

## Timeline for the Options Process

- **Students should use all the advice, information and guidance resources available to them and ensure that they are clear on what subjects best meet their individual need.**
- **Options Evening will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017.**
- **The Options form will include clear guidance on how to make the choices. All students will be asked to provide a second choice in each Option block.**
- **Options forms need to be completed and returned to reception by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017.**
- **All students will be invited to attend a meeting with their parent/carer between 28<sup>th</sup> February and 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, to discuss their choices and to confirm their options.**
- **Where possible, a student's first choice will be offered but this cannot be guaranteed.**
- **Please note that sufficient numbers are required to run each Option offered.**

# Your Options 2017/18

## Core Subjects

7	GCSE	English Language
8	GCSE	English Literature
9-10	GCSE	Mathematics
11	Key Stage 4 Information regarding Pathways available in Science	
12	GCSE	COMBINED Science
13	GCSE	SEPARATE Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

# Your Options 2017/18

## Core Subjects

Subject	GCSE English Language
Course Content	<p><u>Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing</u></p> <p>Assessed written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 80 marks 50% of GCSE</p> <p>Section A: Reading</p> <p>Questions based on one literature fiction text</p> <p>Section B: Writing</p> <p>Descriptive or narrative writing - 1 extended writing question</p> <p><u>Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives</u></p> <p>Assessed written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 80 marks 50% of GCSE</p> <p>Section A: Reading</p> <p>Questions based on one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text.</p> <p>Section B: Writing</p> <p>Writing to present a viewpoint -1 extended writing</p> <p>Alongside this, students will complete a Speaking and Listening Assessment which, although compulsory, does not contribute to the final GCSE grade.</p>
Where does this Course lead?	This course is a perfect introduction to AS and A2 English Language and/or AS and A2 Literature. It is a fully recognised qualification that can lead to entry into sixth forms, colleges and universities.
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	Students will need to read widely to develop their reading skills and to keep up with homework tasks.
How Parents can help	Parents/carers will need to encourage students to read extensively and in a range of genres and also to support students in their homework.
Assessment	Two compulsory exams.
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700">http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700</a>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Core Subjects

Subject	GCSE Literature
Course Content	<p><u>Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel</u></p> <p>Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 64 marks 40% of GCSE</p> <p>Two extended questions; one on a Shakespeare play and the second on the 19<sup>th</sup> century novel. Both texts will be studied in detail in class with the students.</p> <p><u>Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry</u></p> <p>Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes 96 marks 60% of GCSE</p> <p>Three extended questions; one on a modern text that students will read and study before the exam, a second on an anthology of poetry that students will also have studied and the final question will be on an unseen poem.</p>
Where does this Course lead?	This course is a perfect introduction to AS and A2 English Language and or AS and A2 Literature.
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	Students will need to read their chosen texts.
How Parents can help	Students will need to buy copies of the texts for students to explore and study and also support students in their homework.
Assessment	Two compulsory exams.
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702">http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702</a>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Core Subjects

Subject	GCSE Mathematics
Course Content	<p>The new GCSE in Mathematics will be more demanding than the current specification and has additional content compared to the current specification.</p> <p>Subject content is split into three groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Content that all should master</li><li>• Content that should be taught but only the higher achieving students should master</li><li>• Content that will only be taught to the highest achieving students (those likely to progress to A level Mathematics)</li></ul>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>GCSE qualification in Mathematics</p> <p>For the most able Mathematicians there will be an opportunity to also follow a level 2 qualification in Further Mathematics. This is very useful for those thinking of continuing Mathematical studies at A-level.</p> <p>Progression routes will suit individual abilities and needs. The GCSE will form a basic requirement for entry to other college or school based courses, such as 'A' Levels. A pass in GCSE Mathematics will be a requirement for almost all job applications.</p>
How Parents can help	<p>Parents can help by making sure students come to lessons properly equipped. Parents can also keep track of homework tasks listed on Show My Homework and encourage the use of online lessons from Mymaths to secure understanding and practice skills developed in lessons.</p>
Assessment	<p>There will be three assessment units:</p> <p>AO1 - Use and apply standard techniques Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• accurately recall facts, terminology and definitions</li><li>• use and interpret notation correctly</li><li>• accurately carry out routine procedures or set tasks requiring multi-step solutions</li></ul>

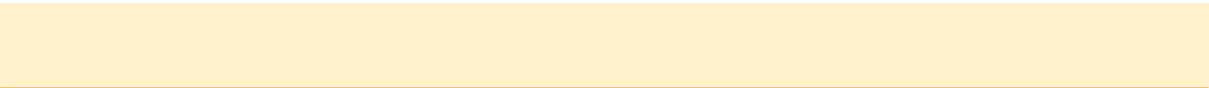
Continued overleaf.

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## Core Subjects

Subject	GCSE Mathematics
Assessment	<p><b>AO2 - Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically</b> Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• make deductions, inferences and draw conclusions from mathematical information</li><li>• construct chains of reasoning to achieve a given result</li><li>• interpret and communicate information accurately</li><li>• present arguments and proofs</li><li>• assess the validity of an argument and critically evaluate a given way of presenting information</li></ul> <p><b>AO3 - Solve problems within mathematics and in other contexts</b> Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• translate problems in mathematical or non-mathematical contexts into a process or a series of mathematical processes</li><li>• make and use connections between different parts of mathematics</li><li>• interpret results in the context of the given problem</li><li>• evaluate methods used and results obtained</li><li>• evaluate solutions to identify how they may have been affected by assumptions made</li></ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Three written terminal papers to be taken at the end of year 11.</li><li>▪ (At present there are two papers where a calculator is permitted and one non-calculator paper. All the papers are 1 hour and 45 minutes long).</li><li>▪ Tiered papers</li><li>▪ Foundation Tier grades 5 - 1</li><li>▪ Higher Tier grades 9 - 4</li></ul>



# Your Options 2017/18

## Core Subjects

### Key Stage 4 Science Options

As Science is a core subject, all students must follow a Science course as part of their KS4 curriculum. Currently, there is a national expectation that students complete KS4 with two Science GCSEs. The Buckingham School currently has two courses available within Science at GCSE.

**The two courses that we will be offering are:**

- Combined Science – 2 GCSEs
- Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry & Physics) – 3 GCSEs

**Separate Sciences is an academically demanding course. We will support student requests to study Separate Science using the following pieces of information:**

- KS2 English and Maths data
- KS3 Science data, including all end of unit tests, assessment tasks and homework tasks
- Professional discussions with previous Science teachers.

It is the expectation that students who start on the path towards Separate Sciences from the beginning of Year 9 remain on this pathway throughout Years 9-11. This is because it forms one of their option choices.

# Your Options 2017/18

## Core Subjects

Subject	Combined Science
Course Content	<p>This course is designed for the majority of our students. It sets students up for many opportunities within STEM careers, as well as giving them valuable insight into real-life science applications. The course comprises of studying biology, chemistry and physics units, as well as carrying multiple practical activities for each unit.</p> <p>On successful completion of this course, students will achieve two GCSEs in Combined Science.</p>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>This course sets students up well to continue studying science at Key Stage 5. Depending on the students' attainment, they would be able to follow either vocational (BTEC) and/or academic (A-Level) routes.</p>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>There are no longer coursework components to Science GCSEs, however, the students will be carrying out specific practicals throughout their course that they will be expected to write about during their examinations.</p>
How Parents can help	<p>Parents/carers may wish to consider purchasing a good revision guide specific to the new AQA GCSE Combined Science specification. Suitable revision guides will be available from Reprographics during the Autumn term of 2016. It is our intention that 100% of students have access to past examination papers.</p>
Assessment	<p>This is a linear course and therefore all of the students' exams are sat in the summer of Year 11, although progress will be monitored through formative and summative internal assessments during Years 9 and 10.</p>
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<p>Excellent revision guides are available from both AQA and Collins publishers. Students will be made aware of how they can access these resources through their class teachers.</p> <p>GCSE Bitesize online offers a variety of support activities to support revision and exam preparation.</p> <p><a href="http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/science/AQA-KS4-SCIENCE-COMP-GUIDE.PDF">http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/science/AQA-KS4-SCIENCE-COMP-GUIDE.PDF</a></p>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Core Subjects

Subject	Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
Course Content	<p>This course is designed for the Most Able, Upper students. It contains units in Biology, Chemistry and Physics as well as a controlled assessment task for each of the disciplines.</p> <p>On completion of this course, students will receive three GCSEs in the three Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics).</p>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>This course prepares students wonderfully for further academic study, i.e. A-Level Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics at Key Stage 5. The new AQA GCSE course has been specifically designed to make the transition between GCSE and A-Level as seamless as possible. These courses can then lead to a wide variety of university courses and careers in STEM subjects.</p>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>There are no longer coursework components to Science GCSEs, however, the students will be carrying out specific practicals throughout their course that they will be expected to write about during their examinations.</p>
How Parents can help	<p>Parents/carers may wish to consider purchasing a good revision guide specific to the new AQA GCSE Combined Science specification. Suitable revision guides will be available from Reprographics during the Autumn term of 2016. It is our intention that 100% of students have access to past examination papers.</p>
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## Options Subjects

15-17	GCSE	Art & Design
18	Bronze Award, Short Course Award	ASDAN
19	GCSE	Business Studies
20	BTEC	Business Studies
21-22	GCSE	Computer Science
23-24	BTEC	Construction and The Built Environment
25-26	GCSE	Dance
27	GCSE	Drama
28-29	GCSE	Food Preparation & Nutrition
30-31	GCSE	French
32	GCSE	Geography
33	BTEC	Health & Social Care
34	GCSE	History
35	GCSE	Media Studies
36	GCSE	Music
37	BTEC	Performing Arts
38	GCSE	Physical Education
39	GCSE	Psychology
40	BTEC	Sports Leadership
41-42	GCSE	Spanish

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Art & Design
Course Content	<p>Years 9, 10 &amp; 11 - Over the three years, students will learn a variety of skills and techniques to help them complete more than one collection of work or extended project and an externally set task, (10 hour exam in Year 11) covering a range of the skills listed below:</p> <p><b>Painting:</b> Candidates should explore the use of tone, colour, composition, materials and context. Candidates can show this through the use of various processes and media, such as inks, acrylic, watercolour or oil paints.</p> <p><b>Drawing:</b> Candidates should be encouraged to work from direct observation to explore drawing using line and tone. They should also be encouraged to explore a wide variety of drawing materials using different surfaces. Drawing materials might include pastel, pencil, pen and ink, paint, charcoal or other materials.</p> <p><b>Printmaking:</b> Candidates should explore a variety of printmaking techniques and produce either a series of related images or one-off prints using methods such as linocut, etching, mono printing or screen printing.</p> <p><b>Critical analysis through written work:</b> Candidates should demonstrate in their written response, interpretation of the textual material using appropriate research and source material. Candidates are not permitted to copy out any written text or website material. Candidates must combine analysis of work with reference to information gathered from their research.</p> <p>Students at GCSE have to submit more than one extended collection of work for their coursework with a final outcome and plan a project for their exam preparation. During the exam, students will create a final outcome from their project.</p> <p>Exam length at GCSE is 10 hours. Coursework is 60% and the controlled assessment (exam) is 40%. Our examination board is AQA. Details of the Assessment Objectives and course specification can be found on their website (see link below).</p>

Continued Overleaf.

# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Art & Design
Course Content	<p>Art and Design (Full Course) Art and Design 4200 – At a glance</p> <p>Unit 1: Portfolio of Work</p> <p>Controlled Assessment – set and marked by Centre and moderated by AQA. 80 marks – 60% - Candidate portfolio selected from work undertaken during course of study and must include more than one project.</p> <p>Unit 2: Externally Set Task</p> <p>Question papers issued from 1 January. Marked by Centre and moderated by AQA. 80 marks – 40% Unlimited preparation time. 10 hours of sustained focused study. Candidates respond to their chosen starting point.</p> <p>The Art Exam (controlled assessment) is 10 hours. However, the preparation for the exam is graded too. This is roughly 10 weeks (30 lessons/hours) to complete a sketch book in preparation for the final outcome which you do in the 10 hours.</p> <p>Students get graded on the same four Assessment Objectives as the coursework.</p>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>The GCSE leads directly to 'A' level at our CFE. Students can also study Photography at 'A' level. The GCSE and 'A' level courses we offer use the same exam board so assessment criterion are similar. This makes progression easier for students.</p>
Visits/ Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>All basic equipment is supplied, for example, acrylic paint, oil pastels, colour pencils etc. Students may wish to purchase their own resources however, it is not essential.</p> <p>We require students to always attend their lesson with their own stationary and they will need to purchase an A3 sketchbook for September, in Year 10 and an A4 sketchbook for January, in Year 11.</p> <p>Any specialist crafts that students choose to undertake in Year 11 for their exam may need to be purchased by the student.</p>
How Parents can help	<p>The course is very time consuming and parents will need to motivate their child to work at home and to attend afterschool catch up clubs. Visiting galleries and drawing at home will help to broaden student's knowledge and understanding.</p>



## Option Subjects

**Subject**                      **GCSE Art & Design**

Assessment	ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES:			
	AO1 Develop their ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources demonstrating analytical and cultural understanding.	AO2 Refine their ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes	AO3 Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to their intentions in visual and/or other forms	AO4 Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating analytical and critical understanding, realising intentions and where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements
Students work has to cover all <u>4</u> Assessment Objectives (above). Further breakdown of the boundaries are on pages 41,42 and 43 of the Art and Design Specification found on the AQA website.				

**Guides / Support**                      <http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/subjects/AQA-4200-W-SP-14.PDF>  
**Materials / Websites**                      <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-4200>

# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

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<b>Subject</b>	<b>ASDAN Bronze Award, Short Course Award</b>
<b>Course Content</b>	Skills for life including numeracy, literacy, working with others, problem solving, planning and reviewing, communication skills, home management, health and survival, community work, information handling, world of work, improving the environment, current affairs, healthy living, personal finance, enterprise, fundraising, research skills and presentation skills.
<b>Where does this Course lead?</b>	Bronze Award – Short Course Award Silver Award / Gold Award
<b>Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements</b>	ASDAN booklets, evidence portfolios, walks, parks, projects in school and the local community.
<b>How Parents can help</b>	By watching and sharing up-to-date news and current affairs for discussions, supplying their children with the correct equipment for school and by supporting with any homework required.
<b>Assessment</b>	Internal and external moderation.
<b>Guides / Support Materials / Websites</b>	

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

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Subject		GCSE Business Studies
Course Content	Students take three Business Studies units: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unit 1: Introduction to Small Business</li><li>• Unit 2: Investigating Small Business</li><li>• Unit 3: Building a Business</li></ul>	
Where does this Course lead?	Learners progress onto AS & A2 GCE Applied Business Studies or a BTEC Level 3 Certificate.	
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	Trips to large Business Marketing seminars and students are required to read and take an interest in local, national and global economic, political and business issues.	
How Parents can help	Parents and carers can greatly assist student's learning by actively increasing their child's knowledge by discussing local and national business issues and explaining their own work place structures and services. Parents are encouraged to join The Buckingham School Business Club.	
Assessment	Unit 1: Exam (25%) Unit 2: Controlled Assessment (25%) Unit 3: Exam (50%)	
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	Fully equipped ICT facilities, textbooks, learning guides, teacher's notes and coursework clubs. Students involved with whole school Enterprise ethos. Edexcel examiner's websites and online support material. Resources also posted on the school's VLE.	

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

### Subject **BTEC Business Studies**

#### Course Content

Students take mandatory units 1 & 2 plus 2 optional units

Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Business			
Unit	Core units	Assessment method	GLH
1	Enterprise in the Business World	Internal	30
2	Finance for Business	External	30
<b>Optional specialist</b>			
3	Promoting a Brand	Internal	30
4	Principles of Customer Service	Internal	30
5	Sales and Personal Selling	Internal	30
6	Introducing Retail Business	Internal	30
7	Providing Business Support	Internal	30
8	Recruitment, Selection and Employment	Internal	30

Students take mandatory units 1 & 2 plus 2 optional units

Where does this Course lead?

BTECs are vocational qualifications designed to give students the skills they need to either move on to higher education or go straight into employment. They can use this qualification to progress on to BTEC L3 and Advanced Level courses.

Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements

Trips to large Business Marketing seminars and students are required to read and take an interest in local, national and global economic, political and business issues.

How Parents can help

Parents and carers can greatly assist student's learning by actively increasing their child's knowledge by discussing local and national business issues and explaining their own work place structures and services. Parents are encouraged to join The Buckingham School Business Club.

Assessment

Unit 1: Internal  
Unit 2: External (Exam)  
Optional Units: Internal

Guides / Support Materials / Websites

Fully equipped ICT facilities, textbooks, learning guides, teacher's notes and coursework clubs. Students involved with whole school Enterprise ethos. Edexcel examiner's websites and online support material. Resources also posted on the school's VLE.

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## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Computer Science
Course Content	<p>The Computer Science GCSE is structured to allow students get solid grounding in programming and theory of computing. The outline of the key exciting concepts is listed. The course is split so that there is still assessed programming task with two examinations taken in Year 11.</p> <p>Programming project: Programming techniques; Analysis; Design; Development ; Testing and Evaluation and Conclusions (40 marks)</p> <p>Computational thinking, algorithms and programming: Algorithms: Programming techniques : Producing robust programmes; Computational logic; Translators and facilities of languages; Data representation Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (80 marks)</p> <p>Computer systems Systems Architecture; Memory; Storage; Wired and wireless networks; Network topologies, protocols and layers; System security; System software; Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns; Computer systems. (80 marks)</p>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>The course gives students a really in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Students will no doubt be familiar with the use of computers and other related technology from their other subjects and elsewhere. However, this course will give them an insight into what goes on ‘behind the scenes’, including computer programming which many students find absorbing.</p> <p>The course provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment in the field of computer science. The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this area.</p> <p>Students who have taken a GCSE in Computing and who then progress to study the subject at ‘A’ Level or university will have an advantage over their colleagues who are picking up the subject at these levels.</p>
Continued Overleaf.	

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## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Computer Science
	<p>The course will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills through the study of computer programming, giving students a fun and interesting way to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life. In this respect, the course provides excellent preparation for students who want to study or work in areas that rely on these skills, especially where they are applied to technical problems. These areas include engineering, financial and resource management, science and medicine.</p>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Computer Science Conference – Microsoft University Visits; After School Coding; Robotics Competitions Research; reading around the subject; proactive attitude; independent style of learning; good time management; organisation; meeting deadlines; learning with IT Technicians; attendance at extra-curricular clubs/activities.</p>
How Parents can help	<p>Codecademy/ Khan Academy /W3 Schools All students have Google drives that they can access and then share their work and progress with their parents</p>
Assessment	<p>Programming Project: Totalling 20 hours Non-Exam Assessment 20% of total GCSE</p> <p>Computational thinking, algorithms and programming 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper 40% of total GCSE</p> <p>Computer systems 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper 40% of total GCSE.</p>
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<p>Course book - OCR Computer Science for GCSE Student George Rouse, Sean O'Byrne:: New GCSE Computer Science OCR Revision Guide - for the Grade 9-1 Course: CGP Books: Websites <a href="http://www.cambridgegcsecomputing.org/">http://www.cambridgegcsecomputing.org/</a> <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/standard/computing/computer_systems/">http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/standard/computing/computer_systems/</a> There are multiple of sites we will be using however these are excellent starting points for keen learners .</p>

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## Option Subjects

Subject	BTEC Construction and The Built Environment
Course Content	<p>Construction Technology, Construction and Design, Scientific and Mathematical Applications, Brickwork, Joinery, Decorating, Construction Drawing.</p> <p><u>The core units are:</u></p> <p><b>Unit 1: Construction Technology</b> This unit covers the different forms of construction that can be used for low-rise offices, retail units and homes. Students will develop an understanding of the structural performance required for low-rise construction and explore how substructures and superstructures are constructed. This unit will be externally assessed.</p> <p><b>Unit 2: Construction and Design</b> In this unit, students will develop a broad understanding of the construction industry, the sorts of projects it undertakes and the contribution it makes to wider society. Students will also look at how client needs can shape the design of a building and develop their own design ideas to a given brief.</p> <p><u>The mandatory unit is:</u></p> <p><b>Unit 3: Scientific and Mathematical applications for Construction</b> In this unit, students will apply scientific and mathematical knowledge, understanding and skills to practical construction contexts. Students will develop an understanding of the scientific principles affecting the performance of construction materials and develop skills to perform mathematical calculations in the construction contexts.</p> <p>Students choose one further unit from the seven optional specialist units offered within this qualification, building on the core and the mandatory unit to provide students with an opportunity to develop a wider understanding and appreciation of areas of the construction industry, dependent on their interests and motivation.</p> <p><u>The optional specialist units available are:</u></p> <p><b>Unit 5: Construction Drawing Techniques</b> Where learners will develop the techniques to interpret and produce clear construction drawings through a variety of methods.</p>

# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	BTEC Construction and The Built Environment
Where does this Course lead?	<p>Level 2 BTEC First Award is for girls as well as boys. The rationale for all qualifications in the BTEC First Suite in Construction and the Built Environment is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inspire and enthuse students to consider a career in the Construction industry</li><li>• Give students the opportunity to gain a broad knowledge and understanding and develop skills in the Construction industry</li><li>• Support progression to a more specialised Level 3 vocational or academic Construction course or an apprenticeship</li><li>• Give students the potential opportunity in due course to enter employment within a wide range of junior job roles across the Construction sector.</li></ul>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Applicants need to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability with mathematics (Set 1,2 or 3)</li><li>• Science ability is also required</li><li>• Drawing skills need to be of a good standard for the design unit of this course</li><li>• Students must also have good practical skills.</li></ul>
How Parents can help	<p>Students will require:</p> <p>Overalls, boots, calculator, pencil, ruler, pen and access to a computer and printer.</p> <p>Good key skills and organisation are vital if students are to cope with this course.</p>
Assessment	25% external and 75% internal
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<a href="http://www.edexcel.com">www.edexcel.com</a>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

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Subject	GCSE Dance
Course Content	<p><b>You will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop skills, knowledge and understanding of dance as a performer, choreographer and critic;</li><li>• Apply and adapt your skills in performance and choreography;</li><li>• Create dances for a range of purposes and in response to different stimuli;</li><li>• Develop your ability to analyse, evaluate and appreciate dance;</li><li>• Learn to appreciate the contribution of dance to your personal and social health, fitness and wellbeing.</li></ul> <p>(Please note the final agreed exam syllabus should occur by the end of Jan 2017.)</p>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>The skills gained during the course are relevant to all subject areas, future employment and progression to many Post-16 courses. These include Level 3 courses in Dance, Drama, Musical Theatre and PE. It can also lead to a range of careers and college or university courses.</p>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Students will need to realise that all lessons they participate in will support their coursework, either practical or written. Therefore, they will need to keep detailed lesson notes. These will also support revision for the final GCSE written exam.</p> <p>All students need to understand that they will be expected to perform solo, duet and group dances. These will be completed and performed to an external examiner.</p>
How Parents can help	<p>Whilst many students will bring some previous experience of dance, others will have very little. This course aims to value and build on whatever experience students have, therefore, supporting students to complete the expected hour of rehearsal each week is very useful.</p> <p>The school also runs several different after school clubs to build confidence and skills and, therefore, it would be useful to allow your son/daughter to stay after school.</p>

# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

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### Subject

### GCSE Dance

#### Assessment

- Practical (60%) Written Exam (40%)
- Performance (30%)
- Set phrases in a solo performance
- Duet/trio performance
- Choreography (30%)
- Solo OR group dance
- Written Exam (40%)
- Questions are based on student's own experience as a performer and choreographer and on the GCSE Dance Anthology – a collection of professional dance works.

#### Guides / Support Materials / Websites

The exam board (AQA) website and direct access to the Dance page is below;  
<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/dance/gcse/dance-8236>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Drama
Course Content	<p>This course consists of both practical and written content. Students will be expected to explore themed work through devising and creating performance work using their own ideas on specific topics.</p> <p>Students will also need read and perform at least two scripts. The written work accompanies these and will be completed under controlled conditions in school. There is also a terminal performance and written exam.</p>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>After you have completed GCSE Drama, you can go on to higher levels of study. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ GCE Drama and Theatre Studies at AS and A2 Level</li><li>▪ BTEC National Performing Arts (Acting)</li></ul>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Students will need to realise that all lessons they participate in will support their coursework, either practical or written. Therefore, they will need to keep detailed lesson notes.</p> <p>All students need to understand that they will be expected to perform both as an ensemble and occasionally on their own.</p>
How Parents can help	<p>Encouraging Drama students to experience many different styles and types of theatre is a very useful activity parents can participate in. Encouraging the Drama students to explore differing ways of recording their class work is also extremely useful.</p>
Assessment	<p>You will explore themes, ideas and plays in a wholly practical way and your teacher will assess how well you have done in both the performances and in a written portfolio. Parts of this course will also be externally moderated.</p> <p>You will also be required to sit a written exam based on a set text and review of a performance seen.</p>
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<p>The exam board (OCR) website and direct access to the Drama page is below; <a href="http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/242630-specification-draft-gcse-drama-j316.pdf">http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/242630-specification-draft-gcse-drama-j316.pdf</a></p> <p>Another useful website is BBC bitesize; <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/drama/">http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/drama/</a></p> <p>This will support the learning of specific skills needed for the course and aids the use of technical language.</p>

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## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition
Course Content (Draft content at present)	<p>Year 9 skills based learning with Food Preparation and Nutrition skills and theory. Extending what has been taught in Key Stage 3 and building more skills on top. This will enable students to be able to design better products for GCSE.</p> <p><u>Year 10/11 GCSE</u> Specification at a glance This qualification is linear. Linear means students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessments at the end of the course.</p> <p>Subject content Food Preparation Skills – these are intended to be integrated into the five sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Food, Nutrition and Health</li><li>▪ Food Science</li><li>▪ Food Safety</li><li>▪ Food Choice</li><li>▪ Food Provenance</li><li>▪ Assessments</li></ul> <p>Paper 1: Food Preparation and Nutrition What's assessed Theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition from Sections 1 to 5 above.</p> <p>How it's assessed Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 100 marks 50% of GCSE Questions</p> <p>Multiple choice questions (20 marks) Five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks)</p> <p>Non-exam assessment (NEA)</p> <p>What's assessed</p> <p>Task 1: Food investigation</p> <p>Students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Practical investigations are a compulsory element of this NEA task.</p>

# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition
Course Content  (Draft content at present)	<p>Task 2: Food preparation assessment</p> <p>Students' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task.</p> <p>Students will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.</p> <p>How it is assessed</p> <p>Task 1: Written or electronic report (1,500–2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.</p> <p>Task 2: Written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence. Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included.</p>
Where does this Course lead?	Catering and Hospitality L3 – catering based courses and training 'A' Level Food Preparation and Nutrition and diet courses
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Year 9 course is skills based enabling students to learn more basics.</p> <p>Year 10 and 11 can then apply their skills to designing their own food products. Students will be required to provide ingredients for this course and this will be a weekly occurrence.</p> <p>Students need to have a passion for food and in designing recipes.</p>
How Parents can help	<p>Support students in encouraging them to prepare their own ingredients and to work on coursework at home.</p> <p>Encourage students to be passionate about food and watch foodie programmes and cook at home.</p>
Assessment	Controlled Test (Design folder and practical) 50% Examination 50%
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk">www.aqa.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.ifst.org">www.ifst.org</a> <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk">www.bbc.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.s-cool.co.uk">www.s-cool.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.nutrition.org.uk">www.nutrition.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.fairtrade.org.uk">www.fairtrade.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk">www.foodafactoflife.org.uk</a>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE French
Course Content	<p>French GCSE is a practical course in which students learn to speak French in situations which might arise if they were in France or a French-speaking country. These situations include everyday activities, personal and social life, the world around us, the world of work and the international world.</p> <p>Students also learn to understand details of what is said to them as well as announcements, instructions, requests and conversations within the areas listed above. They practise reading and understanding menus, timetables, weather reports, brochures, letters and accounts about an aspect of life in France.</p> <p>The course gives students an insight into life in France or a French-speaking country and an awareness of its culture. The work covered in Years 10 &amp; 11 is determined by the demands of the examination. As in Year 9, the vocabulary and the grammatical constructions associated with the topics required by the syllabus are taught concurrently. Regular practice is given in the four skills required by the GCSE syllabus.</p>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>A Modern Foreign Language qualification is an increasingly important asset in many careers. A GCSE in a modern language can be the basis for study at AS or 'A' level as well as Vocational courses.</p> <p>A GCSE in a modern foreign language has gained even more importance with the planned implementation of the English Baccalaureate that the government are introducing.</p>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Course book: AQA GCSE French. Students will also benefit from having native speakers within the department.</p> <p>In Years 9 or 10, students will have the opportunity to take part in a French residential trip where they can put into practice their French learned in lessons. It is an excellent opportunity for them to experience the culture and language of France.</p>
How parents can help	<p>Monitor the student's progress in their exercise books. Show an interest in what and how the student is learning in class. Be prepared to help the student to learn new phrases / grammar rules.</p> <p>Encourage the student to listen to French radio online.</p>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

### Subject GCSE French

Assessment	Unit Title	Weighting	Nature of Assessment
	Unit 1 - Listening	25%	A range of question types based on pre-recorded spoken material in French.
	Unit 2 - Reading	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Role-play</li><li>• Photo card</li><li>• Conversation</li></ul>
	Unit 3 - Speaking	25%	A range of question types based on written material in French and translation from French into English.
	Unit 4 - Writing	25%	List tasks (Foundation Tier only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Message (Foundation Tier only)</li><li>• Translation from English into French</li><li>• Structured writing task</li><li>• Open-ended task (Higher Tier only)</li></ul>

#### Guides / Support Materials / Websites

Course book: AQA GCSE exercise book.

Each student will be expected to bring a dictionary to each lesson and a verb book.

We recommend:

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/Oxford-School-French-Dictionary-Valerie/dp/0199115281/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1394022729&sr=1-2&keywords=oxford+school+French+dictionary](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Oxford-School-French-Dictionary-Valerie/dp/0199115281/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1394022729&sr=1-2&keywords=oxford+school+French+dictionary)

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Blue-Pocket-French-Verbs-Language-Learning/dp/0071421637>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Geography
Course Content	<p><b>Year 9</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• During the first term in Year 9, students will understand how to complete fieldwork investigations. They build their skills in enquiry and plan, prepare and execute fieldwork on the school site and in the local area.</li><li>• In the second and third terms, students start the GCSE Geography course:</li><li>• Component 1: Investigating Geographical Issues; Changing Places, Changing Economies.</li></ul> <p><b>Year 10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Component 1: Changing Environments &amp; Environmental Challenges (40%)</li><li>• Component 3: Applied Fieldwork Enquiry. Students will undertake fieldwork in two contrasting environments, which will be assessed in a written exam. (30%)</li></ul> <p><b>Year 11</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Component 2: Problem Solving Geography: This component assesses content from across the themes and students will spend time revising, as well as developing skills in justifying their choice in an extended response. (30%)</li></ul>
Where does this Course lead?	Students are able to progress to AS and A2 Geography.
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Fieldwork on the school site and in Buckingham will take place in the first term of Year 9.</p> <p>In Year 10, students will complete more extensive fieldwork in two contrasting environments. Locations could vary each year and will be decided in due course.</p> <p>Groups are taught in mixed ability classes.</p>
How Parents can help	Encourage your son/daughter to watch the local, national and world news regularly so they are able to discuss current issues.
Assessment	Students will take <u>three</u> exams in total. Fieldwork will take place in Year 10 and this will be assessed at the end of Year 11 in one of the written exams. There is no Controlled Assessment.
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<a href="http://www.eduqas.co.uk">www.eduqas.co.uk</a>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject		BTEC Health and Social Care
Course Content	<p>The course enables learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the health and social care sector.</p> <p>The units we study are:</p> <p>Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development Unit 2: Health and Social Care Values Unit 3: Effective Communication in Health and Social Care Unit 5: Promoting Health and Wellbeing Unit11: Services in Health and Social Care</p>	
Where does this Course lead?	<p>This is a vocational subject that develops a range of skills, techniques, understanding, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successfully working in a health, social care or early years setting.</p> <p>At Key Stage 5, students can progress to the BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate or Diploma in Health and Social Care</p>	
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Students will have use of ICT facilities and specialised text books. Guest speakers are invited into school to discuss health and social care issues.</p> <p>Students are able to attend support sessions at lunch-time and after school to help them with their coursework.</p>	
How Parents can help	<p>Parents and carers can greatly assist student's learning by discussing local and national health and social care issues and by helping students to research health, social care and early year settings.</p>	
Assessment	<p>Coursework is assessed internally (75%) and externally (25%). Students are awarded either a Pass, Merit or Distinction</p>	
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<p>Information about the course can be found at <a href="http://www.qualifications.pearson.com">www.qualifications.pearson.com</a> - BTEC Firsts Health and Social Care (2012)</p>	

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE History
Course Content	<p>The History GCSE course will teach students new and valuable skills. Students that take this subject will learn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Make links between events</li><li>• Analyse the causes and consequences of events</li><li>• Evaluate and interpret a range of sources</li><li>• Draw conclusions from evidence</li><li>• View the past from a range of perspectives.</li></ul> <p>Students will follow the Edexcel GCSE History course. The units studied are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–1918: injuries, treatment and the trenches</li><li>• Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–1088</li><li>• Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–1939</li><li>• Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–1991.</li></ul>
Where does this Course lead?	This course is designed to provide students with the skills they need to achieve their potential at GCSE.
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	Students use a range of source material and interactive activities. Students are taught in mixed ability teaching groups.
How Parents can help	Encourage your child to use websites such as <a href="http://www.schoolhistory.co.uk">www.schoolhistory.co.uk</a> .
Assessment	This course is assessed using core tasks, one per half-term. Students will be assessed on both their knowledge and understanding and their key skills. Mock examinations will take place in Years 10 and 11.
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<a href="https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html">https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html</a> Revision booklets will be available for purchase near the beginning of Year 11.

# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Media Studies
Course Content	<p>The GCSE Media course will introduce students to a wide range of media texts and platforms and allow them to develop their understanding of how media products are developed, created and produced. They will study the media industry and the different audiences for media products as well as aspects of production such as audio, lighting, costuming and budget and finance.</p> <p>Across the course, students will plan and develop their own products including short films, radio shows and magazines and learn how to complete risk assessment paperwork, finance plans, shooting schedules and scripts and storyboards. They will also learn about the codes and conventions of different genres of product and explore an industry which is worth £977 billion worldwide.</p> <p>The course will encompass a range of group, pair and individual work and aims to build a detailed theoretical knowledge as well as developing a range of practical and technical skills.</p>
Where does this Course lead?	The course can lead to an 'A' Level in Media and Film. It can then be used to progress to university courses with a base in media, journalism or film studies or to apply for work experiences and apprenticeships in media firms.
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	Students will visit local radio stations and filming and recording studios as well as attend British Film Institute (BFI) exhibitions in Southbank London.
How Parents Can Help	Support students in exploring a range of media texts, including film, TV, newspaper and magazine articles.
Assessment	<p>GCSE Media</p> <p><u>Exam:</u></p> <p>Textual Analysis and Moving Image 40%</p> <p><u>Coursework:</u></p> <p>Individual media studies portfolio 30% (Analytical essay and print based task).</p> <p>Production portfolio 30% (Research and planning folder with own production piece).</p>
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<p>OCR Media Studies textbook.</p> <p><a href="http://www.ocrmediastudies">www.ocrmediastudies</a></p>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Music
Course Content	<p>Unit 1: Understanding Music – Part A is a listening exam where students answer questions about various musical extracts. Part B tests students' knowledge of four set pieces and the various musical aspects of each.</p> <p>Unit 2: Performing Music - Performance standard to be equivalent to a minimum of Grade 3 equivalent by the end of year 11 – 1 Solo, 1 Group</p> <p>Unit 3: Composing Music - 2 Final pieces with a realisation/performance of each.</p>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>In addition to helping students acquire subject knowledge, this specification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Provides students the opportunity to gain self-confidence through performing to others</li><li>▪ Develops team-working skills through performing with others</li><li>▪ Extends students' creative skills through composing music</li><li>▪ Encourages the understanding of the importance of continuous evaluation and refinement in any process</li><li>▪ Provides a solid foundation for progression to music related courses, including 'A' Level Music, and a career in music professions</li></ul>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Possible class trips to see a Symphony Orchestra perform.</p> <p>Coursework will involve music theory, written assignments, music composition, and audio recording of performances.</p>
How Parents can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Enrol student(s) in peripatetic music lessons for their specific instrument</li><li>▪ Engage in any musical activities; concerts, musicals, symphony concerts, any place where they may hear various styles and genres of music</li><li>▪ Listen to students perform/have them perform for family friends etc. (when they are ready, not forced).</li></ul>
Assessment	<p>Unit 1: Understanding Music 40% 1 hour 30 minutes written examination 96 marks in total</p> <p>Unit 2: Performing Music 30% Controlled Assessment 72 marks in total</p> <p>Unit 3: Composing Music 30% Controlled Assessment 72 marks in total</p>
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<p>There is a course study guide, composition workbook, listening example workbook and a revision guide that will all be very useful in terms of completing the GCSE course.</p>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	BTEC Performing Arts
Course Content	<p>Unit Core units Assessment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Individual Showcase</li><li>2. Preparation, Performance and Production</li></ol> <p><u>Optional specialist units</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. Acting Skills Internal</li><li>4. Dance Skills Internal</li><li>5. Musical Theatre Skills</li><li>6. Music Performance Skills</li><li>7. Production Skills for Performance</li></ol>
Where does this Course lead?	If students work to achieve a minimum of a merit in all units they will receive a level 2 qualification. They will then be able to progress to level 3 qualifications in Performing Arts, depending on the strand chosen.
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	Evidence portfolios, performances to external audiences, classes in chosen techniques, video work. There will be an expectation to complete a rehearsal log which will extra to the hours in school.
How Parents can help	By watching and sharing up-to-date news and current affairs for discussions, supplying their children with the correct equipment for school and by supporting with any homework required.
Assessment	Internal and external moderation, including Solo performance & external written work.
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<a href="http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Firsts/Performing-Arts/2012/Specification-and-sample-assessments/BF033557_BTEC_AWD_L12_PA_ISSUE_2_NEW.PDF">http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Firsts/Performing-Arts/2012/Specification-and-sample-assessments/BF033557_BTEC_AWD_L12_PA_ISSUE_2_NEW.PDF</a>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Physical Education
Course Content	<p>The GCSE Physical Education course contains three areas of content.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The human body and movement in physical activity and sport. Applied anatomy and physiology • Movement analysis • Physical training • Use of data.</li><li>2. Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport. Sports psychology • Socio-cultural influences • Health, fitness and well-being • Use of data,</li><li>3. Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport</li></ol>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>GCSE PE can be the launch pad for a career in the sports industry and a lifelong commitment to fitness. Students who succeed in GCSE PE can study 'A' Level PE/BTEC Sport in Years 12 and 13.</p>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Students require Level 5 in PE and, ideally, Level 5 in English, Maths and Science. Pupils must be adept in at least <u>two</u> sports. For example, they should either represent the school or play for an external team.</p>
How Parents can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collect extra course information regarding the specification of GCSE,</li><li>• Download past papers and mark schemes.</li><li>• Support homework and coursework deadlines being met. Ensure students are suitably equipped for all lessons, including PE kit. Parents should also support and encourage their sons and daughters to attend extra curricular activities and external sporting ventures.</li><li>• Pupils need to attend two extra-curricular sporting activities.</li></ul>
Assessment	<p>Section 1 Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes • 78 marks • 30% of GCSE Section 2 Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes • 78 marks • 30% of GCSE Practical assessment of 3 sports 2 team one individual or visa versa. Assessed by teachers • Moderated by AQA • 100 marks • 40% of GCSE</p>
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<p>AQA GCSE PE Revision guide AQA GCSE PE Text book <a href="http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/pe">http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/pe</a> <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe/">http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe/</a></p>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Psychology
Course Content	<p>Psychology is one of the most popular subjects to study because it has a big impact on all areas of life, from education and health, to the economy and crime.</p> <p>Psychologists apply scientific methodology to explain human behaviour. They formulate theories, test hypotheses through observation and experiment, and analyse their reports with statistical techniques that help them identify important findings.</p> <p>The topics covered are:</p> <p>Criminal behaviour, Development, Psychological problems, Social influence, Memory, Sleep and dreaming, and Research methods</p>
Where does this Course lead?	<p>Psychology can help you in your future career, whatever that may be. There are plenty of exciting careers in psychology that you might want to explore, such as forensic psychology and working in mental health professions. However, studying the subject can help you in many other professions as well. For example, if you want to become a business manager, understanding human behaviour can improve your ability to manage and interact with your employees. The police, sports, working with children and finance are also popular career choices with people who have studied Psychology.</p>
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>There will be a visit that develops understanding of one area of the curriculum. There is no coursework in GCSE Psychology.</p>
How Parents can help	<p>By encouraging their son or daughter to take an interest in the world around them by reading a newspaper or watching the news on television. By talking about Psychology with their children, encouraging critical thinking and independent learning that includes wider reading.</p>
Assessment	<p>2 x written paper exams. Each worth 90 marks and lasting 1hr 30 mins. Each paper is worth 50% of total GCSE.</p>
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<p>More information can be found at <a href="http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/309306-specification-draft-gcse-psychology-j203.pdf">http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/309306-specification-draft-gcse-psychology-j203.pdf</a></p>

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject		BTEC Sports Leadership
Course Content	<p>With the new BTEC Tech Award in Sports Leadership, you can not only get to know the industry, but also develop vital sports leadership skills and explore potential careers.</p> <p>As the BTEC Tech Award in Sports Leadership is a practical introduction to life and work as a sports leader, your will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• explore different sports, leadership roles, responsibilities and styles</li><li>• delve deeper into how to help others develop their sporting techniques</li><li>• plan and lead a training activity focused on improving fitness.</li></ul>	
Where does this Course lead?	<p>BTEC Tech Award in Sports Leadership can be the launch pad for a career in the sports industry and a lifelong commitment to fitness. Students who succeed in BTEC Tech Award in Sports Leadership can study BTEC Sport in Years 12 and 13.</p>	
Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements	<p>Coursework comes in the form of assignments.</p>	
How Parents can help	<p>By supporting pupils with their learning, homework and coursework assignments. Ensuring that they meet any and all deadlines set.</p>	
Assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Developing sports leadership skills Weighting: 30% Aim: develop and review sports leadership skills, as well as support participants with playing by the rules and improving sporting techniques. Assessment: internally assessed assignments.</li><li>2) Understanding sports leadership Weighting: 30% Aim: understand what sports leaders do and how they can enhance others' fitness, performance and enjoyment of sport. Assessment: internally assessed assignments</li><li>3) Planning and leading a sports activity Weighting: 40% Aim: plan and lead a sports session, then evaluate its success. Assessment: externally assessed task where your students will plan and lead a sports session based on a set brief and stimulus material.</li></ol>	
Guides / Support Materials / Websites	<p>For the course outline and specification please follow the link below <a href="http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/sports-leadership.html">http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/sports-leadership.html</a></p>	



# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

Subject	GCSE Spanish
<b>Course Content</b>	<p>Spanish GCSE is a practical course in which students learn to speak Spanish in situations which might arise if they were in Spain or a Spanish speaking country. These situations include everyday activities, personal and social life, the world around us, the world of work and the international world. Students also learn to understand details of what is said to them as well as announcements, instructions, requests and conversations within the areas listed above. They practise reading and understanding menus, timetables, weather reports, brochures, letters and accounts about an aspect of life in Spain.</p> <p>The course gives students an insight into life in Spain or a Spanish speaking country and an awareness of its culture. The work covered in Years 10 &amp; 11 is determined by the demands of the examination. As in Year 9, the vocabulary and the grammatical constructions associated with the topics required by the syllabus are taught concurrently. Regular practice is given in the four skills required by the GCSE syllabus.</p>
<b>Where does this Course lead?</b>	<p>A Modern Foreign Language qualification is an increasingly important asset in many careers. A GCSE in a modern language can be the basis for study at AS or A level as well as vocational courses.</p> <p>A GCSE in a modern foreign language has gained even more importance with the planned implementation of the English Baccalaureat that the government are introducing.</p>
<b>Visits / Coursework / Specialist Requirements</b>	<p>We follow the AQA specification. The course aims to develop students' language skills within a variety of contexts, relating to their own lifestyle and that of other people, including people in countries/communities where Spanish is spoken. The course builds on Key Stage 3 study and prepares students for further study.</p>
<b>How Parents can help</b>	<p>Monitor the student's progress in their exercise books. Show an interest in what and how the student is learning in class. Be prepared to help the student to learn new phrases / grammar rules.</p> <p>Encourage the student to listen to Spanish radio online and also to watch DVD's in Spanish.</p>
<b>Continued Overleaf.</b>	

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# Your Options 2017/18

## Option Subjects

### Subject GCSE Spanish

Assessment	Unit Title	Weighting	Nature of Assessment
	Unit 1 Listening	25%	A range of question types based on pre-recorded spoken material in Spanish.
	Unit 2 Speaking	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Role-play</li><li>• Photo card</li><li>• Conversation</li></ul>
	Unit 3 Reading	25%	A range of question types based on written material in Spanish and translation from Spanish into English.
	Unit 4 Writing	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• List task (Foundation Tier only)</li><li>• Message (Foundation Tier only)</li><li>• Translation from English into Spanish</li><li>• Structured writing task</li><li>• Open-ended task (Higher Tier only)</li></ul>

#### Guides / Support Materials / Websites

Course book: AQA GCSE exercise book.

Each student will be expected to bring a dictionary to each lesson and a verb book.

We recommend:

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/Oxford-School-Spanish-Dictionary-](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Oxford-School-Spanish-Dictionary-Valerie/dp/019911529X/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1394023816&sr=1-2&keywords=oxford+school+spanish+dictionary)

[Valerie/dp/019911529X/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1394023816&sr=1-2&keywords=oxford+school+spanish+dictionary](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Oxford-School-Spanish-Dictionary-Valerie/dp/019911529X/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1394023816&sr=1-2&keywords=oxford+school+spanish+dictionary)

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/Pocket-Book-Spanish-Verbs-Language-Learning/dp/0071421629/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1394023966&sr=1-1&keywords=333+spanish+verbs](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Pocket-Book-Spanish-Verbs-Language-Learning/dp/0071421629/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1394023966&sr=1-1&keywords=333+spanish+verbs)

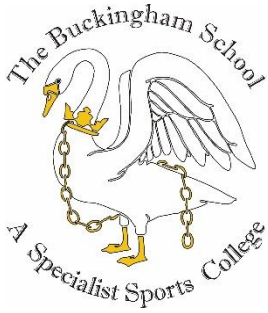
<http://www.spanishrevision.co.uk>

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## Your Options 2017/18

## Notes



We are proud to be an Ofsted  
Graded Good School.

It is our mission to be an  
**Outstanding** school  
of choice in the community.

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