



KS4 Options Booklet 2019

For students in Year 9 2018 to 2019

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A message from The Headteacher

Welcome to a hugely significant moment in your education. The options process is a time of great possibility, of tough decisions, and of serious self-reflection. The latter is the most crucial – take the time to identify what you really want from your education – and treat these choices with care. Get them right, and they can go a long way to unlocking your academic potential and to ensuring you enjoy lessons and thrive at school.

Within your options, consider what you might need for your future. Many of you will be undecided about your future pathways at this stage – the best analogy is packing your bag before setting off on an adventure. What do you need to survive in any situation? The essentials: the torch, tent, sleeping bag, food, water. In many ways those essentials are taken care of. You will all study English, Maths, Science, PE, RE and PSHE. So the subjects you choose are your specialisms – your equipment that is specific to you and your future journey. Do you pack a rope, first aid kit, and camera? What kind of adventure are you going on? The truth is that none of us know – and you may not yet be able to predict the path you will follow.

The best advice is to pick as widely as possible, to be prepared for the widest range of possibilities. It's important to pick a language, to be able to communicate with others around the world, and to broaden your possibilities and your horizons. It's important to pick a subject that teaches you more about the world we live in - and how it came to be the way it is - subjects like History, Geography and RE. It's important to pick an Arts subject - to enrich your experience at school and develop your skills in the widest possible sense. Finally it's important to consider variety in your study - and to see each subject as offering you something unique in your education here. As Arthur C. Clarke, a famous author of the 20th century, put it "A well-stocked mind is safe from boredom".

What is also crucial, is that you pick based on valid criteria that makes sense to you. These could be from the following: do you have a particular strength or talent you want to really excel at? Are you interested in learning more about a specific subject? Is that subject a good route to a future career you want to pursue? Do you know older students who have already studied the course and given you some experience of what it is all about? Have you looked at the subjects that continue into Sixth Form? Have you listened to the advice around university admissions and which subjects they are looking for?

In short – there is much to ponder. One piece of advice would be to embrace this and treat it as an opportunity – and I know it's easy to become overwhelmed by the possibilities. The most important thing is that you pick the courses that make you happy, that make you love to learn, and wake up on Monday morning smiling to come to school. We all do our best when we are happy.

Mr Harrold Head Teacher

AN INTRODUCTION TO KEY STAGE 4.

Key Stage 4 covers Years 10 and 11 of a student's school life. At this point, to some extent at least, they can start deciding which subjects to continue and which to drop. Whilst some courses are compulsory, others are optional, and thus selecting the subjects to study is known as 'Options'.

Students should aim to make selections for Key Stage 4 which will support progression to Key Stage 5 AND for life beyond education.

Before making subject choices for Years 10 and 11, it is important to understand the following:

- Which subjects are compulsory at Key Stage 4
- Which subjects are available as optional courses
- What each of the optional courses covers and reasons why you may enjoy it
- Options restrictions and our recommendations

The pages in this document should provide you with the answers to these questions.

The bulk of Options information is available on-line. Students and parents can access it via the Blatchington Mill website.

A separate Careers information booklet is available which has links to many websites offering information on a wide range of post 16, post 18 opportunities and careers for later life. This is available for students on Firefly in the Year 9 area.

QUALIFICATIONS AVAILABLE AT Key Stage 4

All qualifications are referred to by a level. These levels are from <u>The National Qualifications</u> <u>Framework</u>, which is outlined below:

- Level 1 Qualifications equivalent to GCSE grades 4 to 1.
- Level 2 Qualifications equivalent to GCSE grades 9 to 5.
- Level 3 Qualifications equivalent to A Levels.
- Level 4 Qualifications equivalent to degree level.

The Key Stage 4 courses offered at Blatchington Mill are at levels 1 and 2; these are mostly GCSEs but a number of Technical and Vocational Awards are available too. It is possible that some students may take qualifications below Level 1 but this will be discussed with students and parents/carers if we think this is appropriate.

GCSEs

A new GCSE grading system has recently been introduced at GCSE to replace the A* to U system with a new 9 to 1 scale. Under the new grading system a low C grade equates to a grade 4 and a high C grade equates to a grade 5. Although the government has stated that a 'good pass' will be considered a grade 5 or above, they have currently set the benchmark as a grade 4 and entry requirements for Post 16 colleges have also been set at grade 4. Students in Year 9 will be awarded GCSEs using the new grading scale in all of their subjects.

All GCSEs are assessed through exams taken at the end of Year 11.

Technical and Vocational Awards

These are high quality qualifications, taught across Level 1 and 2, that provide applied knowledge and practical skills. The assessment is comprised of a combination of assignments and practical tasks carried out across Key Stage 4 and some external exams taken at the end of Year 11. We offer Pearson Edexcel BTEC, OCR Cambridge National Certificate and WJEC Vocational Award.

THE CURRICULUM

Courses Taken By All Students At Key Stage 4

All students will study the **CORE CURRICULUM** which is <u>compulsory</u>. The subjects which make-up the 'core' in Years 10 and 11 include:

- lacktrian
- English (English Language and English Literature)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education (PE)
- Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE)
- Religious Education (RE)

Optional Courses

In addition to the core-curriculum, students will be free to select four subjects from the following;

- Arabic GCSE
- Art & Design GCSE
- Art Photography GCSE
- Art Textiles GCSE
- Child Development Cambridge National Certificate
- Computer Science GCSE
- Dance GCSE
- Design and Technology GCSE
- Drama GCSE
- Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE
- French GCSE
- Further Mathematics GCSE and Statistics GCSE
- Geography GCSE
- History GCSE
- Hospitality and Catering Vocational Award
- ICT Cambridge National Certificate
- Latin GCSE
- Media Studies GCSE
- Music BTEC
- Music GCSE
- PE GCSE
- Prince's Trust Award
- Prince's Trust Certificate
- Religious Studies GCSE
- Sociology GCSE
- Spanish GCSE
- Sport BTEC
- Statistics GCSE
- Stage production BTEC
- Vocational Award in Tourism

RESTRICTIONS ON CHOICES

The optional courses are split into 2 blocks as shown below and students must select 2 from each block.

Block A	Block B
Art – Photography GCSE	Arabic GCSE
Art – Textiles GCSE	Art & Design GCSE
Dance GCSE	Child Development Cambridge National Certificate
Drama GCSE	Computer Science GCSE
French GCSE	Design and Technology GCSE
Further Mathematics GCSE and Statistics GCSE	Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE
Geography GCSE	French GCSE
History GCSE	Geography GCSE
Latin GCSE	History GCSE
Music GCSE	Hospitality and Catering Vocational Award
Music BTEC	ICT Cambridge National Certificate
Prince's Trust Award	Media Studies GCSE
Prince's Trust Certificate	PE GCSE
Spanish GCSE	Religious Studies GCSE
Statistics GCSE	Sociology GCSE
Stage production BTEC	Spanish GCSE
Vocational Award in Tourism	Sport BTEC

Students do need to comply with the following restrictions:

- 1. Art & Design GCSE, Art & Design Photography GCSE and Art & Design Textiles GCSE all count as the same qualification so only one of these courses may be selected.
- 2. Drama GCSE and Stage Production BTEC both count as the same qualification so only one of these courses may be selected.
- 3. Music GCSE and Music BTEC both count as the same qualification so only one of these courses may be selected.
- 4. PE GCSE and Sport BTEC both count as the same qualification so only one of these courses may be selected.
- 5. Food Nutrition and Preparation GCSE and Hospitality and Catering Vocational Award both count as the same qualification so only one of these courses can be selected.

Please note: Design and Technology GCSE can be taken alongside any of the Art and Design GCSEs.

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

We believe that a broad and balanced selection of courses, which students enjoy, is the most effective choice for students.

In 2011 the government introduced a qualification called The English Baccalaureate (or EBacc for short). This is not a stand-alone qualification, but an award given to students who achieve a grade 5 or above in a minimum of 5 subjects, which must include all of the following:

- English
- Maths
- A Science (which can include Computer Science)
- A Humanity (either History or Geography only)
- A Foreign Language (any recognised modern language, classical Greek or Latin)

The government is keen to ensure that the majority of students follow courses that make up the Ebacc, however, we do not feel it is necessary to tell students they must do it.

We do believe it is important to pick a language, to be able to communicate with others around the world, and to broaden your possibilities and your horizons. We also believe it is important to pick a subject that teaches you more about the world we live in - and how it came to be the way it is - subjects like History, Geography and RE. But we also believe it is important to pick an Arts subject - to enrich your experience at school and develop your skills in the widest possible sense.

So we ask you to consider whether your choice covers a variety of subjects and in order to support this, we ask that every student chooses at least one of the Ebacc subjects. Students are welcome to take more than one EBacc course if they wish, but this is an individual choice for each student and their parents / carers.

Please note that for some students it may not be appropriate to take an EBacc subject. In each case we will discuss with students and parents/carers.

FOR THOSE CONSIDERING STUDYING AT UNIVERSITY

Those considering the possibility of studying at university need to be aware of the entry requirements for the courses they may wish to study. These can be looked at using the UCAS information website, in conjunction with individual university websites. Clearly, a student hoping to study for a degree in Art needs to take Art at A Level and to do this, they need to select it as one of their GCSE options in Key Stage 4.

Many students may have the ambition to study at university, but may have little idea at present as to exactly what. Anybody in this position needs to select subjects now which offer breadth and balance in their curriculum. Some useful advice on A Level choices (many of which will be dependent upon having studied the subject at Key Stage 4) is available from The Russell Group in a document called "Informed Choices" http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/informed-choices/. The Russell Group is an association of the top 20 universities in the country and their advice is aimed at students hoping to study for a degree at one of the universities in the group. The document is important for both students who have a clear idea of the courses they might like to take and for those who aim to attend a good university but are unsure of their particular focus of study.

The Russell Group describes some subjects at A Level as <u>Facilitating Subjects</u>. This information is useful for those unsure of what they might like to study at university or even in Years 12 and 13. Facilitating subjects at A Level include:

- Mathematics and Further Mathematics
- Physics
- Chemistry
- History

- English (Literature)
- Biology
- Geography
- Languages (Classical and Modern)

This does not diminish the value and importance of other courses.

Students with an interest in a particular subject should still take it alongside others which provide breadth and balance to their curriculum. Students not wishing to attend university can decide for themselves how important "Informed Choices" is to them.

Some colleges are reluctant and others will not allow students onto an A Level course without them having studied the subject at GCSE previously. Please note, however, that the individual Science subjects listed can all be taken at A Level by students who have studied Combined Science in Years 10 and 11.

"Informed Choices" concludes with a section listing typical entry requirements for degree courses. It does this in terms of compulsory and recommended A Level qualifications. <u>Students interested in applying for courses at university</u> should take time now to look the entry requirements of different degree courses to satisfy themselves of the appropriateness of their Key Stage 4 choices.

Where, however, a student is unsure about or has many ideas of possible careers, they should select a broad range of courses to 'keep their options open'. Combining a mix of subjects should not close any doors to later study and will provide a varied Key Stage 4 curriculum.

And of course taking a subject they really enjoy, even if they don't see it as being a potential career route is always a good idea.

CHANGING COURSES LATER

Students must be aware that it is difficult and often impossible to change choices once the courses have started in September. If a particular course is full and a child requests moving onto it, this will not be possible. Every year a few students take courses for the wrong reasons and later ask to swap to an alternative; whilst we try to accommodate requests where students have genuinely misunderstood the nature of a subject, this is sometimes impossible and the student has to stick with the choice they made. Any requests made after the end of September will not be considered as it is difficult to start a new course after this point.

DROPPING SUBJECTS

All students are expected to complete every course they start. Students will not be allowed to drop courses simply because they no longer like the subject or they have changed their mind and no longer wish to study it. It is essential therefore when selecting courses that students read the subject information carefully, talk to teachers and opt for subjects which will support their career aspirations as well as interest them.

We will make every effort to ensure students get the courses they select. There are times, however, when another choice is offered in place of the selected first choice. Students and their parents / carers will always be consulted in these circumstances.

The following pages offer information on the courses offered at Key Stage 4. Details of 'Optional' courses follow 'Core' subject information.

THE CORE CURRICULUM

ENGLISH LANGUAGE - GCSE
ENGLISH LITERATURE - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

English Language GCSE AQA 8700 English literature GCSE AQA 8702

What does the course cover?

The English Language GCSE will focus on building key skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students will learn to write with clarity and purpose and become confident speakers. Students will study a range of literary and non-fiction texts to develop their reading skills.

How is the course assessed?

Students are assessed by exam only; there is no coursework.

In English Language GCSE there are two exam papers of 1 hour 45 minutes, each worth 50%. Paper 1 looks at fiction, while Paper 2 focuses on non-fiction and both assess students reading and writing skills.

In English Literature there are also two papers each worth 50%. Paper 1 (1 hour 45 minutes) looks at Shakespeare and the Nineteenth Century novel while Paper 2 (2 hours 15 minutes) assesses students on poetry and a modern text.

Spoken Language skills are assessed throughout the course by the teacher.

What homework will I be given?

1 hour 30 minutes per week, set weekly or fortnightly

What resources or equipment will I need?

Pens with an option to select a different colour of ink are ideal for student to colour code their work. Students may wish to purchase their own copies of texts set for examination, and study guides. Both are available from the RIC at discounted prices. Full details on texts your son/daughter will be studying will be provided by staff at the start of Year 10. A wide range of resources are available on Firefly, as well as links to recommended online revision sites.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

There are separate A-Level qualifications in English Literature and English Language, as well as a single combined A-Level in Language and Literature. The offer varies across Brighton and Hove. These courses equip students to study English Language and/or English Literature at university level. The analytical skills developed during the course would also prove useful for courses that require critical, objective consideration such as Media Studies, Psychology and Law.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Gaining GCSEs in English demonstrate that the student has acquired a range of communication skills that are essential in a wide variety of careers and post 16 courses. Students who move on to A level study may find the study of English Language or Literature at university especially appealing. This can lead to a range of varied careers in journalism, creative writing, lexicography and teaching. It can also contribute towards careers in advertising, public relations, law, marketing and librarianship.

MATHEMATICS - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Mathematics GCSE Pearson Edexcel

1MA1

What does the course cover?

This qualification encourages students to develop confidence and fluency in Mathematics and to recognise the importance of Mathematics in their own lives and in the real world. The course requires students to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts. It assesses their ability to recall and use their knowledge of the content, select and apply mathematical methods in a range of contexts and interpret and analyse problems. Content areas are:

- Number
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change
- Probability and Statistics

How is the course assessed?

Assessment of the course comprises three written exams taken at the end of Year 11. Each exam is equally weighted and will last for 1 hour 30 minutes.

Two tiers of examination paper are offered

Foundation tier (Grades 1–5) and Higher tier (Grades 4-9)

What homework will I be given?

Homework will be set regularly and will usually involve extra practice and reinforcement of work studied in class; it will also involve exam question practice. Students are expected to spend up to an hour per week on homework.

What resources or equipment will I need?

All students are expected to have their own scientific calculator, a pair of compasses, protractor, pen, pencil and ruler for use in class and at home.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Students can continue to study Maths beyond GCSE level in the form of Core Maths, A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics all of which are offered at colleges across the city. There is a very high demand from Universities and employers for these qualifications.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

There are a vast number of career opportunities requiring Mathematics qualifications. Career opportunities ranging from engineering to accountancy, from computing to financial or retail management, from statistical analysis to architecture are all supported by qualifications in Mathematics.

COMBINED SCIENCE - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Combined Science GCSE Pearson Edexcel

1SC0

What does the course cover?

Most students will study Combined Science GCSE which enables people to understand and take an active role in the technological society in which we live. The Combined Science GCSE course counts as two Science GCSEs. Students will study equal amounts of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Combined Science will allow students to get the very top GCSE grade, i.e. grade 9 twice. Success in Combined Science will allow students to go on to study Science A levels and allow them to go to any university including Oxford and Cambridge.

How is the course assessed?

At the end of Y11 Combined Science students take 6 exams of 70 minutes each.

What homework will I be given?

Students will get homework every week. This may be questions or other written tasks including planning for future lessons, reading, research, learning facts or spellings, or revision for tests and examinations. It will be useful if students can access the learning resources on the school's website from home.

What resources or equipment will I need?

Students need only normal writing equipment, which includes a calculator, all other materials are provided. The Science Department has written revision sheets which will be issued to students before every exam.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Yes, through separate science A levels and BTEC Applied Science courses across Brighton and Hove.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Aeronautics, bio-engineer, cosmologist, doctor, electronics engineer, field studies ranger, geologist, horticulturist, industrial chemist, journalist, kindergarten teacher, lawyer, marine biologist and we are only halfway to....... zoo management.

TRIPLE SCIENCE - GCSE

Some students will be able to take Triple Science instead of Combined Science. Triple Science comprises of separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and is studied in the same time as Combined Science. Triple Science students take 6 exams of 105 minutes each.

Students for whom the Triple Science course is considered appropriate will need to be able to manage this accelerated course. These students will be identified and sent a separate letter giving the option of Triple Science GCSE later in the year. There will be a limited number of places available.

CORE PE, RE, PSHE AND CITIZENSHIP		
These areas of the curriculum remain compulsory. Students will participate in Core PE lessons every week throughout Key Stage 4 although this is not an examined subject. Similarly, RE, PSHE and Citizenship education are not examined formally but are delivered as a part of the curriculum through a combined course taught in timetabled lessons which remain compulsory. These lessons cover a range of topics and themes designed to prepare students for life at and beyond school.		

OPTIONAL COURSES

ARABIC - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Arabic

1AA0

What does the course cover?

The content is structured across five themes with time for a focused revision period at the end of the course. The authentic situations and stimuli enable students to see language in context and learn about Arabic culture. The five themes are: Identity and culture, Local area, holiday, travel, School, Future aspirations, study and work and International and global dimensions.

Students will be expected to have some prior knowledge of Arabic language.

How is the course assessed?

There are 2 tiers of entry for all exams – Foundation (Grades 1-5) and Higher (Grades 4-9)

Skill	% of GCSE	Content	Timing
Listening	25%	Understanding and responding to spoken French	May/June year 11
			External exam
Speaking	25%	Communicating in spoken French for different purposes – role play,	April/May year 11
		photo card , conversation	Exam conducted by your teacher
Reading	25%	Understanding and responding to written French	May/June year 11
		Translation into English	External exam
Writing	25%	Communicating in written French for different purposes – structured	May/June year 11
		written tasks and translation into French	External exam

What homework will I be given?

Homework will be set weekly. A variety of tasks are set for homework & examples include:

- Learning vocabulary and grammar
- Reading texts in Arabic and answering questions on the text
- Written tasks including translations into English and Arabic

What resources or equipment will I need?

A bi-lingual dictionary would be useful.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Following successful completion of the GCSE course A2 (or AS) Arabic can be studied in KS5.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

The ability to speak and understand one or more foreign languages is very useful in many careers, such as: sales and marketing, tourism, international banking, secretarial work, administration, law, management consultancy, accountancy and the diplomatic service.

- You already know some Arabic and want to improve your language skills
- You want to learn about and communicate with people from Arabic culture
- You like discussing topics that affect you

ART AND DESIGN - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Art and Design

1FAO

What does the course cover?

This course offers an exciting opportunity to study and explore Art & Design in greater depth. Building on your Key Stage 3 experiences you will investigate themes, analyse and experiment with a wide range of 2D & 3D media including painting / drawing / sculpture / printmaking / photography and textiles. The creative process and development of ideas is documented in sketchbooks, which become personal and unique to each student. The course is directed carefully by specialist staff allowing students to gain the confidence and skills to express their own ideas, make their own decisions about their project responses, thereby allowing personal development.

How is the course assessed?

Personal portfolio (Unit 1) worth 60%. Externally set assignment (Unit 2) worth 40%. All work is assessed each term forming continuous and controlled assessment, with the final assessment conducted at the end of course exhibition in June.

What homework will I be given?

One and a half hours per week (variable depending on task). Activities will include observational studies (drawing/photography), research on artists and the development of ideas.

What resources or equipment will I need?

A4 sketchbooks and A1 folder, pencils, crayons, biro and fine liner pens, pastels, acrylic paints / watercolours / brushes which are all provided.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Courses at Level 3 include: BTEC Nationals in Art and Design, Specialist Diploma in Creative and Media, GCE A/S and A level Art and Design.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

There are many opportunities available through training in Art and Design, including amongst others; fashion designer, graphic designer, textile designer, illustrator, theatre set designer, architect, fine artist, product designer, photographer, interior designer, animator, conservationist, jeweller, teacher, hairdresser, make-up artist, computer game designer and museum curator.

- you enjoy responding to and creating visual imagery in an imaginative way
- you like experimenting with a wide range of 2D and 3D materials and you are interested in documenting the world you see around you
- you like coursework based tasks and responding to project titles from your own perspective

ART AND DESIGN - Photography - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

AQA Art and Design - Photography GCSE

8206

What does the course cover?

This course offers an exciting opportunity to study and explore Photography and Lens media. The course explores contemporary photographic techniques and artists. You will experiment with a wide range of approaches to photography including creative 2D studio techniques, experimental digital techniques including the use of Photoshop, 3D set constructions and costume designs that are used to create imaginative photographic outcomes. The creative process and development of ideas is documented in sketchbooks, which become personal and unique to each student. On this course students gain the confidence and skills to express their own ideas, thereby allowing personal development.

How is the course assessed?

Personal portfolio (Unit 1) worth 60%. Externally set assignment (Unit 2) worth 40%. All work is assessed each term forming continuous and controlled assessment, with the final assessment conducted at the end of course exhibition in June.

What homework will I be given?

One and a half hours per week (variable depending on task). Activities will include observational studies using lens media, research on artists and the development of ideas. After school clubs are available for KS4 students.

What resources or equipment do I need?

Needed – Digital Camera or a mobile phone with a good digital camera built in. Provided – A4 sketchbooks and A1 folders. Printing facility up to A3 size, but students will be expected to pay to enlarge their most successful work outside of school.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Courses at Level 3 include: Photography A- Level, BTEC Nationals in Art and Design, Specialist Diploma in Creative and Media, GCE A/S and A level Art and Design.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

There are many opportunities available through training in Photography, including amongst others; photographer, fashion designer, graphic designer, textile designer, illustrator, theatre set designer, product designer, interior designer, animator, conservationist, jeweller, teacher, hairdresser, make-up artist, computer game designer and museum curator.

- you enjoy responding to and creating visual imagery in an imaginative way using lens media
- you like experimenting with a wide range of 2D and 3D materials and you are interested in documenting the world you see around you
- you like coursework based tasks and responding to project titles from your own perspective

<u>ART AND DESIGN - Textiles</u> - <u>GCSE</u>

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

AQA Art and Design - Textiles GCSE

4204

What does the course cover?

This exciting course in art textiles helps students develop their creativity and will equip students with the knowledge, understanding and practical skills to make beautiful textiles products and outcomes. Students explore a range of textile media, techniques and processes, including both traditional and new technologies.

Students will develop their skills in a variety of areas, including:

- Being creative, using drawing in sketchbooks for different purposes and needs.
- Investigating methods to colour, print, decorate and stitch textile products.
- Working with a variety of textile methods such as applique, stencilling, fabric printing (lino printing, screen printing etc), tie-dye, batik, fabric construction, felting, free machine embroidery and fabric manipulation.
- How to use sewing machines and embroidery machines correctly and safely

How is the course assessed?

Component 1 (60%) A portfolio showing creative responses to subjects, themes or briefs including drawing, artist investigations, trials, experiments and making creative textile products.

Component 2 (40%) Externally set exam that consists of preparatory work and a 10 hour exam.

What homework will I be given?

This will be in the form of a variety of tasks such as research, making samples and artwork, looking at textiles artists and written evaluations.

What resources or equipment do I need?

Ruler, drawing pencils, colouring pencils, fine liner, a good pair of cutting scissors and embroidery scissors are an advantage but not essential. It would be helpful to have some basic art materials, such as a set of watercolour paints, at home too for independent homework.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Many Art Textiles courses are available at local FE colleges.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

Textiles or fashion designer, trend forecaster, fashion merchandiser, pattern maker or grader, fashion stylist, fashion editor, illustrator or photographer, costume designer, personal stylist and interior designer.

- you love making in textiles
- you are creative and like drawing and developing ideas
- you are well organised and able to keep to deadlines

CHILD DEVELOPMENT - Cambridge National Certificate

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

OCR Level 1/Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in Child Development

J818

What does the course cover?

This course provides knowledge, skills and understanding about the birth and development of children from conception to the age of 5 years. There will be single and double lessons. The first topic of study underpins all of the other learning in this qualification. You will develop the essential knowledge and understanding in child development, covering reproduction, parental responsibility, antenatal care, birth, postnatal checks, postnatal provision, and conditions for development, childhood illnesses and child safety. In the second topic of study, you will gain knowledge of the equipment needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered when choosing appropriate equipment to meet all of these needs. In the third topic of study, you will gain an understanding of the development norms from birth to five years and the stages and benefits of play.

How is the course assessed?

The OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Child Development qualification has one written exam and controlled assessments.

What homework will I be given?

One hour of homework will be set weekly in the form of research, worksheets, small projects and written investigations

What resources or equipment do I need?

Students are strongly recommended to purchase a GCSE Revision Guide from the department at the beginning of Year 10 (cost £4.00).

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

This Key Stage 4 is designed with both practical and theoretical elements, which will prepare students for further qualifications in Child Care or Health and Social Care, Psychology, Sociology and Biology.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

This is an ideal course for any student wishing to have a career in nursing, care services or child-related care.

- you want to work with children in any capacity
- you are interested communicating with children and want to understand how to help them make progress as they grow up.
- you want to develop knowledge, understanding and skills related to all aspects of child development

<u>COMPUTER SCIENCE</u> - <u>GCSE</u>

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

OCR Computer Science GCSE

J276

What does the course cover?

GCSE Computing will allow students to explore the basics of the computing world: What is a computer? How does it work? What is programming and data all about? How can a computer solve problems? This is where students learn about programming languages and learn to write code of their own.

Students taking this option will learn about computer systems, hardware, networks, Internet technology, and the design of websites. The great thing is, because the technology moves as fast as we can study it, there's always going to be new and interesting things to learn.

How is the course assessed?

There are 3 units of work over the 2 year course,

Computer Systems	1hr 30 min Exam Paper	40% of the GCSE course
Computational thinking, algorithms and programming	1hr 30 min Exam Paper	40% of the GCSE course
Programming project	20hrs Programming project	20% of the GCSE course

What homework will I be given?

This course will require some work to be carried out outside of the prescribed lesson times, in particular when students are studying the programming elements of the course. Homework will also involve further research into some aspects of the course materials.

The topics covered are based on things that are happening in the real world, and students will be expected to keep themselves up to date through their own interest in this area.

What resources or equipment do I need?

Many resources will be made available on the Computing section of Firefly, for access anytime, as will various applications from time to time during the course.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Students can continue to study Computing as an A level or BTEC at colleges across Brighton and Hove. They will study more advanced and complex aspects of computers, as well as learning Java programming.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

For anybody anticipating any kind of work in the computing industry - network engineer, computer programmer or software developer, systems analyst, graphics/games programmer/designer, forensic or medical scientist - then a Level 3 Computing course, such as the BTEC Subsidiary Diploma is highly appropriate. Students can also go on to university or college first to study a computer related course such as Computer Science, Computer Forensics or Digital Design.

- you have a keen interest in developing your understanding of programming
- you enjoy problem solving, and mathematical and logic puzzles
- you have the ability to be creative and devise solutions to real problems

DANCE - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

AQA Dance GCSE

8236

What does the course cover?

All students study a range of professional dance works covering contemporary, hip hop and jazz, learning research, analysis, presentation and essay writing skills in the process. Students then create their own choreography based on a range of themes and are also assessed on their dance performance. Performance opportunities are available through workshop performances and an evening of shared work.

How is the course assessed?

Component 1 60%	Component 2 40%	
Performance and choreography	Dance Appreciation	
 Performance: 30% Set phrases through a solo performance Duet/trio performance Choreography 30% Solo or group choreography 	 Knowledge and understanding of choreography and performance skills Critical appreciation of own work Critical appreciation of professional work 	
Internally marked and externally moderated performance	Written exam, 1 hour 30 mins	

What homework will I be given?

Written analysis of professional dance and of your own experiences in practical lessons.

What resources or equipment will I need?

Dance Kit: Black T-Shirt, jumper, shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms, trainers or jazz shoes and a ring binder folder.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

A Level and Level 3 BTEC Dance can be studies across Brighton and Hove. Dance can also be studied as part of a range of Performing Arts and Musical Theatre courses.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

Professional dancer, choreographer, teacher, arts administration, community dance leader, dance therapist, actor and singer.

- you enjoy performing and physically moving to music
- you enjoy being creative on your own or in a group
- you are interested in how dance and theatre can express ideas about the world

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

AQA Design and Technology GCSE

8552

What does the course cover?

This course is for students who enjoy design and making 3D products made from woods, metals and plastics. Students will be involved with market research and analysis of exciting products, the development of their own ideas for new products, manufacturing with a wide variety of materials using both hand and machine tools and testing and evaluating prototypes.

Along with practical making activities students will work with computers, write design proposals, evaluations and do theory work. Drawing skills are developed as a creative tool and method of communication. ICT including CAD (Computer Aided Design) and CAM (Computer Aided Manufacture) form an integral part of this course. Commercial production techniques are studied along with ethical design and sustainability.

How is the course assessed?

Non exam assessment (Deadline February) - 50%. One exam (June) - 50%.

What homework will I be given?

Theory and exemplar exam questions. Presentation of design process work.

What resources or equipment will I need?

Revision guide and workbook. All students must have an A4 folder to transport homework and an A4 flip folder for presenting their controlled assessment. Normal full school equipment e.g. pen, pencil, colouring pencils, sharpener, eraser, ruler.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

3D Design and Graphics A level is available for students with strong creative skills and Design & Technology A level is available for students interested in engineering. Both are available in colleges across Brighton and Hove.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

Career opportunities exist in product design, furniture or jewellery design, architecture, engineering, tool-making, boat and vehicle repair and maintenance to name but a few!

- you have a keen interest in making 3D objects.
- you enjoy handling and making artefacts in woods, metals and plastics with hand, machine and CAD/CAM tools.
- you enjoy designing problems using drawing and modelling

DRAMA - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

AQA Drama GCSE

8261

What does the course cover?

The AQA GCSE Drama course is a very popular option with students. The course is split 60% coursework which includes practical work and a written log and a 40% written exam taken at the end of the course. As part of the course students will be involved in at least two public performances as well as being given the opportunity to take part in our many extra-curricular productions. The written paper will ask students to reflect on their own work, demonstrate understanding of a studied text and write about a live production they have been to see. All lessons take place in our fully equipped Drama Studio.

How is the course assessed?

60% coursework – a group devised performance and rehearsal log is worth 40% and a performance of a published play is worth 20%

40% is a written response to work performed, live theatre seen and a play that has been studied.

What homework will I be given?

This will be a mixture of learning lines and rehearsing for performances. As well as this there will be two pieces of coursework set and students will be expected to keep a diary of practical work covered.

What resources or equipment will I need?

We will provide all material for the course and all practical resources will be supplied by the school.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

A level Drama and BTECs in Performing Art and Musical Theatre are both available across Brighton and Hove.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

Acting, Performing Arts and any career in which you deal with people or groups of people.

- You like working practically
- You like performing
- You like to communicate in an artistic and imaginative way

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

- GCSE

WJEC Eduquas GCSE in Food Preparation & Nutrition

601/8093/6

What does the course cover?

This exciting new GCSE course is perfect for students who enjoy cooking.

Students will make food products on a regular basis and develop good practical skills.

The course is designed to equip students with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook savoury and sweet food products. All food products will be made to a high quality and finish. Other areas of study include nutrition, healthy eating, special diets, equipment, food legislation and environmental concerns. Students will carry out food science experiments as well as study the importance of Food Hygiene and Safety.

How is the course assessed?

Component 1: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition (50% of qualification)

Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes

Component 2: Food Preparation and Nutrition in Action (50% of qualification)

Non-examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated.

Assessment 1: 8 hours

A scientific food investigation

Assessment 2: 12 hours

Prepare, cook and present a menu which assesses the student's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food.

What homework will I be given?

These include research on key topics, fact sheets, posters & cooking at home

What resources or equipment will I need?

Students will need to provide their own ingredients regularly.

They will need kitchen scales, measuring jugs and measuring spoons at home to weigh out ingredients.

Students are given the opportunity to purchase a Revision Guide

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Students can continue their studies locally by studying L3 Food Science & Nutrition. They could also choose to study catering courses which are available locally.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Catering, Food Designer, Food Demonstrator, Dietician, Health and Fitness careers, Environmental Health Inspector, Nursing and other Health related careers.

- You LOVE cooking
- You are an organised person who will manage time well
- You are creative and present things well

FRENCH - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

AQA French GCSE

8658

What does the course cover?

The GCSE course in French builds upon the knowledge and skills acquired in Key Stage 3.

The sub topics within each theme will enable students to understand and communicate information in French on subjects relevant to young people today as well as to equip them to deal with practical situations in French speaking countries.

How is the course assessed?

There are 2 tiers of entry for all exams – Foundation (Grades 1-5) and Higher (Grades 4-9)

Skill	% of GCSE	Content	Timing
Listening	25%	Understanding and responding to spoken French	May/June year 11
			External exam
Speaking	25%	Communicating in spoken French for different purposes – role play,	April/May year 11
		photo card , conversation	Exam conducted by your teacher
Reading	25%	Understanding and responding to written French	May/June year 11
		Translation into English	External exam
Writing	25%	Communicating in written French for different purposes – structured	May/June year 11
		written tasks and translation into French	External exam

What homework will I be given?

Homework will be set weekly. A variety of tasks are set for homework & examples include:

- Learning vocabulary and grammar
- Reading texts in the target language and answering questions on the text
- Preparation for assessments
- Written tasks including translations into English and French
- Listening tasks using the student portal or websites

What resources or equipment will I need?

AQA French text books provided through school on line subscription. A bi-lingual dictionary.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Following successful completion of the GCSE course A2 (or AS) French can be studied in KS5.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

The ability to speak and understand one or more foreign languages is very useful in many careers, such as: sales and marketing, tourism, international banking, secretarial work, administration, law, management consultancy, accountancy and the diplomatic service.

You will like this subject if

- you are open minded, enjoy travel, and learning about and communicating with people from other cultures
- you like discussing topics that affect you and voicing your opinions
- you're interested in finding out about how languages work, and want to learn to learn another in future

For more information concerning MFL courses, please see the later section – 'MFL Frequently Asked Questions'.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS and STATISTICS - 2 GCSE's

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Statistics (Please see GCSE Statistics for details on this course) 8360 1STO

What does the course cover?

Choosing this option will provide opportunity for you to do 2 GCSE's. This is a challenging qualification and we advise that you speak with your current Maths teacher or Mr Colwill, (Head of Maths) who will advise on whether this is the right course for you.

The Further Maths GCSE offers the opportunity for stretch and challenge building on the Key Stage 4 curriculum and is intended as an additional qualification to the GCSE Mathematics, rather than as a replacement. The content covers areas of algebra and geometry, crucial to further study in the subject, in greater depth and breadth. This qualification places an emphasis on higher order technical proficiency, rigorous argument and problem solving skills.

How is the course assessed?

Assessment of the Further Maths course comprises two written exams taken at the end of Year 11. Each exam is equally weighted and will last for 1 hour 45 minutes.

It is an un-tiered Level 2 linear qualification which awards grades from 5 to 9.

What homework will I be given?

Homework will be set regularly and will usually involve extra practice and reinforcement of work studied in class; it will also involve exam question practice. Students are expected to spend up to an hour per week on homework.

What resources or equipment will I need?

All students are expected to have their own scientific calculator, a pair of compasses, protractor, pen, pencil and ruler for use in class and at home.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

This option is the ideal preparation if you want to study Maths or Further Maths at A-Level.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

There is high demand from Universities and employers for Maths qualifications. A vast number of career opportunities require Mathematical qualifications, examples of these include stock brokers, actuarial work, accountancy, financial and retail management, architecture and many more careers – many of which probably don't yet even exist!

- You're good at Maths
- You are likely to progress to A-level study in Maths or Further Maths
- You enjoy problem-solving and decision making

GEOGRAPHY - GCSE

Qualification name and examination board

Specification number

OCR Geography GCSE

J384

What does the course cover?

In Geography the course we follow will inspire young people to investigate and explore the varied and fascinating world they live in. Geography is a dynamic, diverse and exciting subject. It exists in a unique position to teach core skills such as literacy, numeracy, the sciences and ICT as a means to study and investigate the world, giving them purpose and life through Geography.

How is the course assessed?

Fieldwork is a mandatory part of the course with one trip focussed on Coastal Processes and Sustainable Urban Planning and another focussed on Urban Regeneration and Green Spaces. The learning outcomes from this research are used to help students gain a thorough understanding of fieldwork and enquiry and contribute to two written exams which each account for 35% of the final grade. Within these exams students will be assessed on their understanding of the syllabus 'Our Natural World' and 'People and Society'. The third written exam 'Geographical Exploration' accounts for the other 30% of the final grade. There is also an optional residential course which allows students the opportunity to develop research skills linked closely to the exam syllabus.

What homework will I be given?

Homework is set weekly and involves a minimum of one hour of study per week, although this may vary from time to time. Homework may involve research, written short or extended questions, preparation for a presentation or extended tasks. Work will often involve ICT either for research or for writing up.

What resources or equipment will I need?

The School has a basic range of standard fieldwork equipment. More advanced equipment is available on field trips from field centres. Specialist clothing and footwear can also be hired for such visits.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Students may wish to go onto study A –Level Geography which is seen by many universities as a facilitating subject. It also gives students a strong context to study most social sciences further and will support them with their understanding of global issues.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Geography has links to many careers. These include direct links to jobs in meteorology, environmental conservation and planning, surveying, construction and teaching alongside employment in international aid and charitable organisations. In an increasingly globalised world there is increasing demand for "geographically aware" employees in global companies and organisations.

- you enjoy investigating the environment and the way in which people interact with it
- you enjoy discussing the issues and challenges involved in life in the 21st century
- You enjoy writing researched and structured answers to questions

<u>HISTORY</u> <u>GCSE</u>

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in History

1Hi01

What does the course cover?

Students study four topics that will be assessed in three external exams.

Paper 1 – British Thematic study with Historic environment (30%)

Students will study the history of medicine in Britain between 1000AD to the present.

Paper2 – British Depth Study and Period Study (40%)

Section A gives an overview of the origins, development and end of the Cold War between 1941-91.

Section B offers the opportunity to analyse Anglo-Saxon England and the short-term impact of the Norman conquest of 1066.

Paper 3 – Modern Depth Study (30%)

This offers the opportunity to analyse the Communist takeover in Russia. The unit places particular emphasis on the nature of dictatorship in the Soviet Union under Stalin and the political, social and economic consequences of his rule.

How is the course assessed?

Assessment for Papers 1, 2 and 3 consist of a written exam at the end of year 11.

What homework will I be given?

There will typically be around 1 to 1½ hours homework per week involving written tasks, preparation for discussion work, individual research and the use of ICT for presentation work.

What resources or equipment will I need?

All text books and materials will be provided. However, independent research is strongly recommended as a way of getting to grips with the subject.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

A level History courses are offered at a variety of institutions around the city. GCSE History also provides a good foundation for the further study of subjects such as Law and Government & Politics.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

GCSE History will support students in all aspects of future life and most jobs including: law, journalism, teaching, police work, the civil service, many aspects of business, social work and careers involving the arts, to name but a few.

- you like finding out about the past and the people and events that shaped the world we live in today
- you are able to cope with significant amounts of reading and extended writing tasks

HOSPITALITY AND CATERING

Vocational Award

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

WJEC Level 1/Level 2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering

601/7703/2

What does the course cover?

The hospitality and catering course includes learning about businesses that provide food, beverages, and/or accommodation services. This includes restaurants, hotels, pubs and bars. It also includes airlines, tourist attractions, hospitals and sports venues. A Level 1/2 Vocational Award enables students to gain knowledge, understanding and skills relating to Hospitality and Catering. In addition, they will develop knowledge and understanding of food and hospitality.

How is the course assessed?

There are two mandatory units to be completed by students on the course. <u>Unit 1</u> - The Hospitality and Catering Industry - On screen, 90 minute e-assessment. Short and extended answer questions based around applied situations. Students will be required to use stimulus material presented in different formats to respond to the exam questions. <u>Unit 2</u> - Hospitality and Catering in Action - This is an internally assessed project.

What homework will I be given?

Homework will be set regularly in accordance with the schools homework policy. Homework tasks are usually research tasks but students can also be expected to finish class notes and read around the subject. This will ensure that students have a good foundation of knowledge.

What resources or equipment will I need?

Students will be able to purchase a student guide to the course. Furthermore, students will need to provide ingredients to prepare and cook food.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Students can continue their studies locally by studying Level 2/Level 3 Hospitality and Catering. They could also explore entry onto the popular WJEC Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition course.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

The qualification provides students with a broad look at work in the hospitality and catering sector and has wide opportunities for progression into further education, employment or training. Students will develop:

- Skills required for independent learning and development
- A range of generic and transferable skills
- The ability to solve problems
- The skills of project based research, development and presentation
- The fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals, in a professional environment

- you are interested in a career in the hospitality and catering sector
- You are keen to learn about the day to day operations in a range of hospitality businesses.
- You want to develop your food preparation and cooking skills.

ICT - Cambridge National Certificate

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

OCR Level 1/Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in ICT

J810

Course description and content

The Cambridge national Certificate in ICT is a **practical** introduction to life and work in the ICT industry. You will be able to explore the ICT sector while:

- exploring the role ICT plays in business and the world around us
- <u>developing key technical/practical skills</u> to meet specific user needs
- putting what you have learned into practice.

Assessment

There are 2 mandatory units (Units 1 and 2) and 2 optional units which all contribute 25% to the final mark;

Unit	Assessment Type
Unit 1 – Understanding computer	Externally assessed short answer
systems	test (60 minutes)
Unit 2 – Using ICT to create	Internally assessed assignment
business solutions	
The optional units may be selected	These are all assessed by
from a number available and in	internally assessed assignments
order to best suit the students.	

What homework will I be given?

Short written or research based tasks will be set.

What resources or equipment will I need?

All resources are provided although students are given the opportunity to purchase a revision guide in Year 11 for the external assessment.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

The BTEC Tech Award in Information Technology and A level Information Technology are available across Brighton and Hove.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Many apprenticeships and traineeships are available in the IT industry.

- you would like to explore current and emerging technologies in the IT sector
- you enjoy being creative and developing practical systems and interactive products
- you would like to develop independent research and analysis skills linked to designing IT systems

<u>LATIN</u> - <u>GCSE</u>

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

WJEC Eduquas GCSE in Latin

601/7811/5

What does the course cover?

Latin GCSE offers you the opportunity to study a fascinating new language and literature, whilst also learning more about how Roman people lived, what they believed and how this connects with our lives in the modern world. We do this by following the Cambridge Latin course and their very interesting books and online resources.

Latin GCSE helps you to develop important thinking, analytical and communication skills, lets you understand your own language better, opens your eyes to a fascinating and important part of world history and is recognised as a challenging and rewarding GCSE choice.

N.B. As this is a very demanding GCSE course, we expect interested students to start the course early, by attending weekly after-school sessions for the last half of the Summer term 2019.

How is the course assessed?

- 1. Latin Language (50%): exam
- 2. Latin Literature (30%): exam (extracts from Ovid and Tacitus)
- 3. Roman Civilization (20%): exam (example topics are Roman leisure, entertainment & religion)
- We also have regular tests (to help learn vocabulary and check progress)

What homework will I be given?

Weekly homework: consolidating new language that you have learnt, practising translation and researching/revising Roman literature or civilization topics.

What resources or equipment will I need?

Cambridge Latin Course: four textbooks which you will borrow from school. There are also lots of really useful online resources (www.cambridgescp.co.uk) to help you.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

You can study Classical Civilization and often Latin at A level in local sixth form colleges.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

As Latin combines so many different skills from across different subjects, people may develop their interests in subjects such as Literature, Philosophy, Ancient History, Ethics, and Languages at university. Industry, journalism, the Services, television, law, publishing, translation, social services, computing, medicine, horticulture, veterinary science, teaching: these are just some of the careers that Latin can lead on to.

- You'd like to study a combination of a language, literature & ancient history at GCSE.
- You like independent learning & logically working things out.
- You're interested in how words work and where they come from.

MEDIA STUDIES - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

WJEC Eduqas GCSE in Media Studies

603/1115/0

What does the course cover?

Media Studies is the study of the mass media: film, TV, radio, the internet, magazines, newspapers, advertising, the music industry, video games, social media, etc. These forms of entertainment and information play a hugely important role in our society. We all use them, but how are they put together? And how do they affect our lives?

The GCSE Media Studies syllabus is designed to enable students to develop a critical understanding of the mass media. Theoretical understanding is closely related to the development of practical skills in desk-top publishing, digital and video photography and digital video editing.

Topics include: film industry/marketing (Spectre); TV crime drama (Luther, The Sweeney); music videos; music artists' use of social media; magazine/newspaper/advertisement/film poster design; video games industry/marketing.

How is the course assessed?

Two exams: Exploring the Media (40%) and Understanding Media Forms and Products (30%) Non exam Assessment: Creating Media Products: students choose one task such as creating pages for a new magazine or filming and editing a sequence for a new TV show (30%).

What homework will I be given?

Researching media products; audience surveys; developing practical work such as creating magazine pages and TV sequences.

What resources or equipment will I need?

The school also has its own green screen studio and digital editing suite for practical work. The school can loan out video cameras, although some students choose to use their own cameras/edit at home.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Both A Level Media Studies and A Level Film Studies are available at KS5. Media Studies and Film Studies are offered at degree level at many universities.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Lots! Possible careers in film, television, radio, advertising, desk-top publishing, multi-media companies, education, etc.

- You have an active interest in media such as film, TV, video games, magazines, newspapers, radio, music, etc.
- You are curious about how these media products are constructed and the role they play in our lives
- You like the idea of combining study with practical tasks like creating magazine pages and making short videos

MUSIC - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

OCR GCSE in Music

J356

What does the course cover?

The course covers a range of studies including performance, composition and musical understanding. The course follows 4 main areas of study:

- 1. My Instrument
- 2. The Concerto Through Time
- 3. Rhythms of the World
- 4. Conventions of Pop

How is the course assessed?

Music GCSE provides a more traditional route and consists of three units:

- Integrated Portfolio: Solo Performance and Free Composition (30%)
- **Practical Component:** Ensemble Performance and composition to a set brief (30%)
- Listening and Appraising: written paper with CD 1hr 30 mins (40%)

What homework will I be given?

Listening homework will be given to support your understanding of the genres you will learn throughout the course – this may include some analysis and written questions

You will be expected to practice on your chosen instrument – you will need to discuss performance options (solo and ensemble) with your instrumental / vocal teacher so that they can support you during the completion of your

What resources or equipment will I need?

You will need to play an instrument/sing at a good level (grade 2 / 3 standard at the start of the course) so your own instrument is necessary in order to practice at home.

It is also suggested that students buy a course revision guide (GCSE OCR Music – CGP Complete Revision and Practice Guide. Any other equipment can be used within school.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

There are a few options for continuing your Music studies at KS5, these include:

A Level Music or Music Tech and BTEC Music or Performing Arts

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Employers value skills achieved through music; team work, problem solving, confidence development, self-presentation etc. Actual jobs can include music therapist, performer, musical director, composer, teacher, film and television work and production / recording.

- you love music
- you want to explore your creativity through making your own music
- you play an instrument / sing at a good level and want to continue studying music at KS4
- you want to expand your knowledge of music, both through the study of musical genres and music theory

MUSIC - BTEC

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Music

600/6818/8

What does the course cover?

The Music Industry

You will learn how to survive in the music industry this is assessed by a one hour exam.

Introducing Music Performance

This will develop your practice and performance skills (both as a soloist and within an ensemble)

Introducing Music Composition

Creating your own music either using music software (logic / garageband) or a combination of live instruments.

How is the course assessed?

The majority of the course is coursework however there is 1 on line exam which will be completed during year 11 and is worth 25% of the total mark.

The final award grading will be either at a pass, merit, distinction or distinction* level.

Each unit is graded individually and a total of the marks will determine the final grade.

What homework will I be given?

Homework may be given based on the tasks set during lessons, this may include research, listening, preparation for performance or compositions (you will have access to the MAC room after school)

What resources or equipment will I need?

You will ideally need to play an instrument / sing at basic level, so your own instrument would be beneficial in order to practice at home. Any other equipment can be used within school.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

There are a few options for continuing your studies at KS5, these include:

BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music.

BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Performing Arts.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Employers value skills achieved through music; team work, problem solving, confidence development, self-presentation etc. Actual jobs can include music therapist, performer, composer, teacher, film and television work and production / recording.

- vou love music
- you want to explore your creativity by making your own music
- you would like to learn more about the music industry and how this works for example: music promotion, events management...
- you enjoy performing and would like to continue performing solos or as part of an ensemble
- you enjoy composing music either live instruments or music software

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE) - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 (9-1) GCSE in Physical Education

1PE0

What does the course cover?

Students will receive a well-rounded and full introduction to the world of PE, sport and sport science by developing an understanding of how the mind and body works in relation to performance in physical activity. Lessons vary between theory and practical. We expect all students to be participating regularly in sport, whether in the school teams or outside of school.

- Component 1 Fitness and Body Systems Anatomy and Physiology, Movement Analysis, Physical Training, and Use of Data.
- Component 2 Fitness and Body Systems Sports Psychology, Socio-Cultural Influences, Health Fitness and Well-Being and Use of Data.
- Component 3 Practical Performance 3 sports from the set list of approved activities 1 must be team and 1 must be individual, the third can be either.
- Component 4 6 Week Personal Exercise Programme

How is GCSE PE assessed?

Component 1 – Fitness and Body Systems Exam – 1hour 45 minutes – 36% of grade

Component 2 – Health and Performance Exam – 1 hour 15 minutes – 24% of grade

Component 3 – Practical Performance in 3 practical sports selected from a specified list - 30% of grade

Component 4 – Personal Exercise Programme – 10% of grade

What homework will I be given?

Homework is set regularly for approximately 60 minutes per week, in the form of answering set questions (some research required), tests, ILT projects and related worksheets. Students should also be playing their sports regularly outside of lesson time in clubs, either for school teams or outside school.

What resources or equipment will I need?

The P.E. department provide a textbook. A Revision Guide is available from the P.E. department (purchased from staff). Correct and appropriate P.E. kit is required and students will be given an option to purchase an exam PE t-shirt.

Can I continue to study this subject at Key Stage 5?

The course provides a suitable qualification for students to progress onto a range of higher level qualifications. The skills developed make excellent preparation for entry to colleges where students can study A Level PE or BTEC Sport Level 3.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

This course is designed to provide a broad base for further training, education or into employment within the sport & leisure industry. This course is the first 'rung of the ladder' into careers such as P.E. teaching, physiotherapy, sports psychology, sports journalism and sports coaching.

- you are a keen sportsperson and play sport regularly
- have an interest in a career in sport
- you prefer examination subjects to coursework based subjects

The Prince's Trust Qualifications in Personal Development and Employability Skills

What does the course cover?

The Prince's Trust qualifications in Personal Development and Employability Skills recognise a breadth of personal skills, qualities and attitudes required by employers across a range of sectors. They have been developed with the aim of progressing learners into further education and/or employment.

They give learners the opportunity to:

- Develop their own personal growth and engagement in, and through, learning
- Engage in learning that is relevant to them and support their development of personal skills and attributes that are essential for working life and employment
- Prepare themselves for progression into further education programmes, apprenticeships or other work based learning
- Develop their English and mathematics skills

What level does the course cover?

This course can be taken at Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2. If selected as a single option you will complete up to six units and will be working towards the Prince's Trust Award. If selected as a double option you will complete up to twelve units and will be working towards the Prince's Trust Certificate.

What topics does the course cover?

The units which students will complete may include:

Managing Money

Preparing for a Healthy Lifestyle

Digital Skills

Participating in Exercise

Teamwork

Interpersonal and Self-Management Skills

Community Project

Presentation Skills

Customer Service

Practising Leadership Skills

Personal Project

Can I continue to study this course at KS5?

Post 16 students can continue to work towards further Prince's Trust Qualifications, such as the Diploma. This is available in some further education colleges within Brighton and Hove.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

These qualifications provide a platform for learners to progress onto many employment opportunities as they support personal development and employability skills.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Religious Studies GCSE AQA

8062

What does the course cover?

Section A - Beliefs, teachings and practices (2 from list below):

- Buddhism
- Christianity
- Catholic Christianity
- Hinduism
- Islam
- Judaism
- Sikhism

Section B - Thematic Studies (4 from list below):

- Theme A: Relationships and families.
- Theme B: Religion and life.
- Theme C: The existence of God and revelation.
- Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict.
- Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment.
- Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice.

How is the course assessed?

Section A and Section B will both have a written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes (each section worth 50% of final grade).

What homework will I be given?

There will be weekly homework issued including written work and research tasks.

What resources or equipment will I need?

All materials will be provided. Additional study guides will be available to purchase.

Can I continue to study this subject at Key Stage 5?

The course feeds well into A level Religious Studies and /or Philosophy, and then on to a range of Higher Education opportunities.

What career opportunities does this subject support?

There are a range of careers that value qualifications in Religious Studies, including journalism, politics, business, law, medicine, public services and teaching.

You will like this subject if you are....

- Curious
- Critical
- Open-minded

SOCIOLOGY - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Sociology GCSE AQA

8192

What does the course cover?

- 1. The sociological approach
- 2. Social structures, social processes and social issues
- 3. Families
- 4. Education
- 5. Crime and deviance
- 6. Social stratification
- 7. Sociological research methods

How is the course assessed?

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course. The course is assessed with two exams, each lasting for 1 hour and 45 minutes and each counting for 50% of the final grade

What homework will I be given?

Homework is set every week, usually a piece of work which should take approximately 45 minutes. The homework can cover a range of approaches; sometimes answering questions, doing individual research, revision, reading or other appropriate tasks.

What resources or equipment will I need?

The school provides all essential resources for the study of GCSE Sociology, but it is useful for students to read a quality newspaper regularly and to boost their general knowledge of current affairs when possible. Many TV documentaries are useful in building sociological awareness.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Study of Sociology at GCSE can obviously lead to the study of Sociology at A level but can also provide a basis for study in other social sciences, e.g. Psychology, Politics.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Careers which will be aided by studying Sociology could be any career which involves working with people. Previous students have gone on to work in: teaching, social work, law, media, personnel, journalism, nursing and many others.

- you are interested in people
- you are curious about the world around us and the way it influences us
- you are someone who understands that there may be different views about an area of study and can develop reasoned arguments to back up your point of view

SPANISH - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Spanish GCSE AQA

8698

What does the course cover?

The GCSE course in Spanish builds upon the knowledge and skills acquired in Key Stage 3.

Three broad themes will be studied: Identity and culture, Local, national and international areas of interest, and Current and future study and employment.

The sub topics within each theme will enable students to understand and communicate information in Spanish on subjects relevant to young people today as well as to equip them to deal with practical situations in Spanish speaking countries.

How is the course assessed?

There are 2 tiers of entry for all exams – Foundation (Grades 1-5) and Higher (Grades 4-9)

Skill	% of GCSE	Content	Timing
Listening	25%	Understanding and responding to spoken Spanish	May/June year 11
			External exam
Speaking	25%	Communicating in spoken Spanish for different purposes – role	April/May year 11
		play, photo card , conversation	Exam conducted by your teacher
Reading	25%	Understanding and responding to written Spanish	May/June year 11
		Translation into English	External exam
Writing	25%	Communicating in written Spanish for different purposes –	May/June year 11
		structured written tasks, translation into Spanish	External exam

What homework will I be given?

Homework will be set weekly. A variety of tasks are set for homework & examples include:

- Learning vocabulary and grammar
- Reading texts in the target language and answering questions on the text
- Preparation for assessments
- Written tasks including translations into English and Spanish
- Listening tasks using the student portal or websites

What resources and equipment will I need?

Access to AQA Spanish text books provided through school on line subscription. A bi-lingual dictionary.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Following successful completion of the GCSE course A2 (or AS) Spanish can be studied in KS5.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

The ability to speak and understand one or more foreign languages is very useful in many careers, such as: sales and marketing, tourism, international banking, secretarial work, administration, law, management consultancy, accountancy and the diplomatic service.

- you are open minded, enjoy travel, and learning about and communicating with people from other cultures
- you like discussing topics that affect you and voicing your opinions
- you're interested in finding out about how languages work, and want to learn another in future

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT ALL MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I take both French and Spanish?

YES. If you currently do two languages you can continue to study both to GCSE level.

2. I do two languages at present and am not sure which one to continue.

Firstly, talk to your teacher(s). He/she can advise you. Secondly, if you are good at both your languages, you should seriously think about doing both next year. It is much easier to learn languages while you are young!

3. Can I start French or Spanish if I have not studied it at KS3?

No. The GCSE course builds on the KS3 programme. We do not offer GCSE languages to beginners.

4. And can I do Arabic if I am already doing French and/or Spanish?

Yes but we do recommend choosing variety. Consider that taking three languages may make this difficult.

4. Will it be hard?!

Studying languages can be challenging, however it is also very rewarding and provides you with practical skills which can enhance your learning capacity and memory. Language learning also develops your resilience, a quality that employers and higher education establishments value highly. In order to be successful you will need to build on the knowledge you have gained at KS3 and put time into regular independent learning, before you know it you will be making great progress!

SPORT - BTEC

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Level 1/2 BTEC First Award in Sport Pearson Edexcel

600/4779/3

What does the course cover?

Each student has 6 lessons a fortnight; which vary between theory and practical. The course contains a lot of theory work, therefore sometimes all the lessons in a particular week could be theory based. We expect all students to be participating regularly in sport either within a school team or as part of a team out of school.

BTEC Units of work:

- Fitness for Sport and Exercise
- Training for Personal Fitness

- Practical Sports Performance
- The Sports Performer in Action

How is the course assessed?

Fitness for Sport and Exercise – Online Exam – 25% of final grade
Practical Sport – Assignment Based – 25% of final grade
The Sports Performer in Action – Assignment based - 25% of final grade
Training for Personal Fitness – Assignment based - 25% of final grade

What homework will I be given?

Homework is set regularly for approximately 60 minutes per week in the form of answering set questions (some research required), tests, assignment tasks and related worksheets. We expect all homework to be well presented and completed to a high standard.

What resources or equipment will I need?

The P.E. department provide a textbook. A Revision Guide is available from the P.E. department (purchased from staff) for the exam unit. Correct and appropriate P.E. kit is required and students will be given an option to purchase an exam PE t-shirt.

Can I continue to study PE at Key Stage 5?

The course provides a suitable qualification for students to progress onto a range of higher level qualifications. The skills developed make excellent preparation for entry to colleges where students can study A Level PE or BTEC Sport Level 3.

What career opportunities does BTEC Sport support?

This course is designed to provide a broad base for further training, education or into employment within the sport and leisure industry. This course is the first 'rung of the ladder' into careers in P.E. teaching, coaching, sports leisure and recreation management, fitness instructor or personal training.

- you are a keen sportsperson and play sport regularly,
- you have an interest in sport or careers in sport
- you prefer coursework based subjects to examination subjects

STAGE PRODUCTION - BTEC

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Performing Arts 3746

What does the course cover?

This course is a practical and exciting education in the backstage arts. With the Windmill Theatre as our base students will learn the ins and outs of working on live performances. Using state of the art professional equipment students will work on all areas of lighting, crewing, set, sound and stage management in the theatre. Students will have the opportunity to work on some of the many shows performed here as a chance to hone their practical skills in a professional environment.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed 60% practically through coursework and assessments of the skills you have been learning. There is a written exam at the end of the course which will test your knowledge on the backstage arts.

What homework will I be given?

There will be revision, evidence write ups and work on shows.

What resources or equipment will I need?

All course resources will be provided.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Yes. There are many options across the city and beyond to study stage management and live production.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Students who took this course in the past have gone on to some of the top stage schools and universities in the country to study. We have had students at RADA, Royal Central as well as Winchester and Northbrook. Students are now working as Foli Artists on professional films, as lighting technicians on live music tours or as theatre stage managers. The course opens many opportunities for a number of different careers working backstage for live events or in television and film.

- You enjoy working practically.
- You are interested in live events.
- You like working as part of a team.

STATISTICS - GCSE

Specification name and examination board

Specification number

Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 (9-1) GCSE in Statistics

1STO

What does the course cover?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to develop an awareness of statistics beyond the classroom enabling students to experience and practise statistical calculations using real-world data and learning how to accurately interpret the results. The course encourages fluency and understanding through:

- The use of statistical techniques using real-world data
- Identifying trends through analysis
- Application of statistical techniques across the curriculum
- Critically evaluating data, calculations and evaluations encountered in everyday life
- Understand how technology has enabled the collection, visualisation and analysis of large quantities of data to inform decision making
- Understand ways that data can be organised, processed and presented
- Applying appropriate mathematical and statistical formulae

How is the course assessed?

Assessment of the course comprises two written exams taken at the end of Year 11. Each exam is equally weighted and will last for 1 hour 30 minutes. Two tiers of examination paper are offered; Foundation tier (Grades 5-1) and Higher tier (Grades 9-4)

What homework will I be given?

Homework will be set regularly and will usually involve extra practice and reinforcement of work studied in class; it will also involve exam question practice. Students are expected to spend up to an hour per week on homework.

What resources or equipment will I need?

All students are expected to have their own scientific calculator, protractor, pen, pencil and ruler for use in class and at home.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Students can continue to study Statistics at A Level. It will also prove incredibly beneficial for students choosing to study A Level Mathematics where Statistics is a compulsory part of the course.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

There are a vast number of career opportunities requiring Statistical and Mathematics qualifications. Some of these include forensic and environmental statisticians, actuarial work, accountancy, financial and retail management and architecture.

- you are good at Maths!
- you enjoy subjects that have a clear relevance to the real-world
- you enjoy problem-solving and decision making

TOURISM - Vocational award

Specification name and examination board

Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Tourism WJEC

Specification number

600/9908/2

What does the course cover?

Tourism operates in many different contexts, from local bed and breakfasts, to national parks, from large multinational companies to small specialist transport operators and includes the private, public and voluntary sectors. This course covers the basics of the travel and tourism industry, giving students a taste of customer service and business operations in the travel sector alongside an in-depth look at the development of UK travel destinations.

How is the course assessed?

The course consists of a mix of controlled assessment and exam. The exam assess students' knowledge of business operations in tourism and equates to 25% of the overall grade. There are then two other units that are assessed through controlled assessment. These units cover the 'development of UK destinations' and 'customer service in travel and tourism' Students will be set tasks based on the content of the unit. These tasks will then need to be completed in controlled conditions within lessons.

What homework will I be given?

Homework will be set weekly and will include a range of tasks from industry research, to practice exam questions.

What resources or equipment will I need?

Revision Materials will be provided on-line through the school, however students may wish to purchase personal revision guides. Although all controlled assessment will be completed in school, it would be advantageous for homework and research if students have access to the internet.

Can I continue to study this subject at KS5?

Some students may wish to continue to study Travel and Tourism at L3; this course would also help prepare students for study in Business or a Higher National Diploma in Travel or Hospitality Studies. These vocational qualifications are of growing popularity as they give students a firm grounding in a growing industry and are increasingly aligned to skills for the 21st Century work environment.

What Career opportunities does this subject support?

Successful completion of the qualification could lead to learners starting a career in a junior role in a tourism organisation such as a trainee tourist guide or conservation assistant or an apprentice such as a Visitor Services Assistant. Alternatively, learners would be able to seek a more senior role such as a Museum Curator, Marketing and Brand Manager or Events Co-coordinator, if they go on to study travel and tourism at a higher level.

- You enjoy combining learning about places and applying this to a commercial setting.
- You prefer project/ portfolio assessment.
- You are interested in travelling and working in the tourism industry.

MAKING YOUR CHOICES - ADVICE FOR STUDENTS

THINGS TO DO

Take your time.

If you rush you could end up making choices you'll regret.

• Listen to advice.

There are many people who are able to talk the decision over with you, including your parents or carers, subject teachers, sixth form tutors, form tutors, senior leaders and the careers advisor.

Think about the following.

What you might want to do in the future as a career.

What skills and qualities you'll need to have for your career when you're older.

What you might want to do at sixth form college e.g. Blatch 6.

What you won't be able to do in the future if you don't choose certain subjects now.

What your preferred way of learning is; are you better with practical courses or very academic ones? What you like studying now, what you enjoy and what you're good at.

THINGS NOT TO DO

Don't get worried.

If something is unclear, ask for help and advice.

• Don't choose subjects because your friends do.

You will probably not end up in the same class.

Your friends may be much better / worse at the subject than you are.

You may not stay friends!

• Don't choose a subject because of the teacher.

You may like or dislike certain teachers but you might not be taught by them next year. Every year some teachers leave the school and new ones arrive.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

OPTIONS EVENING FOR PARENTS; Tuesday 15th January 2019.

This Options Evening provides an opportunity for parents, carers and students to ask questions about any aspect of the Key Stage 4 curriculum. Senior Staff, the Year Team Leader, Curriculum Team Leaders and Subject Heads will be in attendance. It will be from 6.30 p.m. at the school.

RETURN OF OPTION FORM;

It is very important to return the form on time. Students submitting it late may find the courses they choose are full.

Please submit all options forms to Form Tutors by FRIDAY 15th February 2019.

COMPLETING THE OPTIONS FORM

Please ensure the student's name and tutor group are written clearly on the form.

Please complete the section on the Options Form asking about career interests and priority subjects; this is useful in the event of timetable clashes and over-subscribed courses.

Select 4 subject choices on page one, but referring to the 'Restrictions' section on page 2.

Please ensure the form is returned to the student's Form Tutor on time.

THE OPTIONS FORM.

	e ensure you lete all basic details.	Please select from each blo		rses		I to ensure they I ne courses in bold	
Γ	BLATCHINGTON MAL SCHOOL					KEY STAG	E 4 OPTIONS FORM 2019
	Student Name:				se print early. Tutor group:	o: Tutor Room	NI
	Key Stage 4 Options Blocks 2 be selected (from either block		ect 2 courses fro		k. At least one course	highlighted in bold ita	alics must
	BLOCK A	Qualification	Choice	$\overline{}$	виоск в	Qualification	Choice
	Art and Design - Photography	GCSE	Choice	Arabic	DEOCK D	GCSE	Choice
		GCSE	 	Art and De		GCSE	+
	Art and Design - Textiles		 		7	GCSE Cambridge National	+
	Dance	GCSE		Child Deve		Certificate	
	Drama	GCSE		Computer		GCSE	
	French	GCSE	 	_	d Technology	GCSE	+
	Further Mathematics and Statistic Geography	cs GCSE GCSE	 	French	aration and Nutrition	GCSE GCSE	+
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	Prince's Trust Award		 	Media Stud	dies	GCSE	
	Princes's Trust Certificate Spanish	GCSE	 	PE Religious st	adia.e	GCSE GCSE	+
	Spanisn Statistics	GCSE	+	Sociology	rudies	GCSE	+
	Stage Production	BTEC	 	Spanish		GCSE	+
	Tourism	Vocational award	+ + +	Sport		BTEC	+
	Please list your top 3 subject prefe you want as a priority? (These can Subject 1: Subject 2:		subjects do	you're olde	3 possible careers choices y er.	ou think you would like to	do when
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	•						Page 1 of 2 pages.
		<u> </u>					
	ase list the subjects whi e; this helps in the even	=			sting career idea ourses being ove	•	
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restrictions list.			
BLATCHINGTON MILL SCHOOL		KEY STAG	GE 4 OPTIONS FORM
When complete, please return this form to the student's Form Tutor. The submission deadlin	ne is 15th February 2019.		
CURRICULUM RESTRICTIONS.			
Please check you haven't made prohibited choice combinations; read the notes below and tick	k each when checked.	Tíck below	Office use
The student has selected two courses from each block.			
The student has selected at least one course in bold text and italics.			
The students has NOT selected Drama GCSE and Stage Production BTEC. The student has NOT selected more than one from Art and Design, Art - Photography and Art	- Teytiles		+
The student has NOT selected more than one from Art and Design, Art - Priotography and Art The student has NOT selected Music BTEC and Music GCSE.	t - Textiles.	+	+ + +
The student has NOT selected PE GCSE and Sport BTEC.			+
The student has NOT selected Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE and Hospitality and Cater	ring Vocational Award.		
The courses chosen provide variety and balance for the student's curriculum.			
The same subject has not been selected twice.	_		
Please sign when complete	Date		
Parents / Carers	Date		
		\	
	Dlease sign	the form w	Page 2 of 2
	Please sign complete.	the form w	
SPACE FOR NOTES	complete.	the form w	
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