



Year 9 Options: *Making the right choice*
Success Pathway A 2022



Contents

Deputy Headteacher's Letter.....	3
Finding Your Way Around This Booklet.....	4
Questions & Answers	5
Why is High Attendance and Good Punctuality Important to my Child's Education?	6
Careers Advice.....	7

CORE CURRICULUM SUBJECTS

Computing (Core).....	10
Citizenship (Core).....	11
English Language (GCSE).....	12
English Literature (GCSE).....	13
Mathematics (GCSE).....	14
Personal Development (Core).....	15
PE (Core).....	16
Religious Studies (Core)	17
Combined Science (GCSE Trilogy)	18

OPTION SUBJECTS (you choose four)

Art & Design.....	18
Computing & IT.....	19
Graphic Design.....	20
Hospitality and Catering.....	21
Photography.....	22
Options: Key Dates	23
Notes.....	24

Dear Parents and Students,

Year 9 Options Process

Beginning KS4 is exciting one as you do fewer subjects but more in-depth. At Gateacre we offer an exciting range of options to suit all abilities, skills and interests. The courses on offer to you are designed to ensure that you are able to meet your full potential. The pathway you are on is the 'Success Pathway'; this means you will study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Combined Science (Trilogy) as GCSE exam subjects and PSHE/RSE (Personal Development), Citizenship, RS, PE and Computing as non-examination subjects.

Further, you will study four other GCSE subjects that include a range of GCSEs, BTECs, CIDA and Cambridge Nationals – all of which are L2 qualifications. The 'Success Pathway' is made up of linear examination subjects and a range of subjects that contain controlled assessments and 'seen' examinations - we feel this will lead to the very best outcomes for you. If, however, you show an aptitude or desire to do any other subject we offer on the ASPIRE pathway, please see Ms Chapman for advice.

We will try and give you every help in making your decisions about your options. You will have careers focussed sessions during Academic Tutor Time. You will also attend a Careers & Future Focus Fayre; a Future Focus Day that will give you the opportunity to meet businesses, universities and other educational institutions to discuss different careers. Also, you will complete a variety of online questionnaires about your preferences that will help you choose your subjects. In addition to this, you can approach your Head of Year, your Assistant Head of Year, your Academic Tutor, your subject teachers or Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Boyd, who coordinates our Careers Programme. You may also find it useful to discuss the matter with older students or the Careers Connect service in school.

Please be aware that whilst we will endeavour to provide the courses on offer in this booklet, we do reserve the right to amend or cancel courses that we feel are not viable due to low take up by students, cost, or logistical problems. We also have to work within changes which occur nationally; however, rest assured we always strive to provide you with the very best opportunities to ensure you are successful.

I hope that you will enjoy making these choices and coming to decisions about your future curriculum.

Yours faithfully

Ms C Chapman
Deputy Headteacher

Finding your way around this booklet.

In this booklet you will find information on all of the subjects available to you.

Core Curriculum (You have to study these subjects)

Computing (non-exam)
 Citizenship (non-exam)
 GCSE English Language
 GCSE English Literature
 GCSE Mathematics
 Personal Development (non-exam)
 PE (non-exam)
 RS (non-exam)
 Combined Science

**You will also CHOOSE 4 of the following subjects:**

Art & Design (GCSE—L2)	Ar
Computing (Camb Nat. L1/L2)	Co
Graphic Design (GCSE—L2)	Gd
Hospitality and Catering Technical Award L1/2)	Fd
Photography (GCSE—L2)	Pg

*Journey
to Success*



Extended Writing



Working with my Hands



Using Numbers



Performing Activities



Design & Create Projects



Using ICT (Not Gaming)



Short Written Tasks



Speaking in front of Others

Helping you make your choices

This key highlights the various skills and types of activity likely to be used in subjects. Use it to help you match your preferred ways of learning to different subjects.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. What is a BTEC or Cambridge National subject and what is the main difference between that and a GCSE?

BTEC and Cambridge Nationals are Technical Awards and are subjects that are partly assessed using coursework. Typically, it suits students who perform better in classwork than in examinations, providing they work to complete all the tasks set. Most GCSEs are examined at the end of the course.

Q. What is a Cambridge National qualification?

A These are broad and engaging level 1 and level 2 qualifications that equip students with applied knowledge and associated practical skills. Similar to a BTEC qualification, they will have a coursework element to them.

Q. What is a NCFE qualification?

A These are broad and engaging level 1 and level 2 qualifications that equip students with applied knowledge and associated practical skills. Similar to a BTEC, Camb. Nationals and CISA qualification, they will have a coursework element to them.

Q. Are BTEC, NCFE and Cambridge National subjects worth the same as GCSE subjects?

A. All subjects are worth the same: one GCSE, either at Level 2 (Grades 9-5) or L1 (Grades 4-1).

Q. If I do BTEC, NCFE and Cambridge National subjects, can I still get into Gateacre School Sixth Form?

A. Yes, as long as you have a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 4 (grade C) or above and grade 5s in the subject you want to opt for (see Mrs Kinder, Assistant Headteacher, for more information about 6th form).

Q. Will I have to do more homework and Independent study?

A. Yes. You will have to spend more on homework for each subject as the courses you are following involve more independent study. Regular work at school and home and good study habits will be essential to relieve the pressure and help you to achieve success.

We hope that these 'Questions and Answers'. If your question isn't answered here, please contact the school by email or directly to Ms Chapman (DHT) at c.chapman@gateacre.org



Why is high attendance and good punctuality important to my child's education?

As a parent/carer **you want the best for your child**. Having a good education is an important factor in opening up more opportunities in adult life. Did you know that:

- **poor school attendance** is also closely **associated with crime**; a quarter of school age offenders have truanted repeatedly
- at least 1 million children take at least one half day off a year without permission
- 7.5 million school days are missed each year through unauthorised absence
- **poor examination results limit young people's options** and poor attendance suggests to colleges and employers that these students are unreliable
- **Punctuality is as important as attendance**. If your child is **ten minutes late** for school every day they will have **missed 6.5 days** of school by the end of that year—see the graph below).
- a child who is absent **one day per week** misses an **equivalent of two years** of their school life
- **Only 26.7%** of students with absence rates **below 88%** achieve **five or more good grades of GCSE** compared to **96.7%** of students who have **good attendance (97%)**.

As the tables below suggest there is a DIRECT LINK between UNDERACHIEVEMENT at KS4 and POOR ATTENDANCE (below 97%) and POOR PUNCTUALITY

The Impact of Attendance on Attainment	
Attendance	Chances of gaining 5 GCSEs grade 9-4 (A*-C)
97+	96.7%
95%-96%	74.3%
93-94	60.4
92%-93%	53.1
88% and below	26.7

Punctuality to School is Vital	
Minutes Late Each Day	Days of Learning Lost
5	3
10	6.5
15	10
20	13
30	19

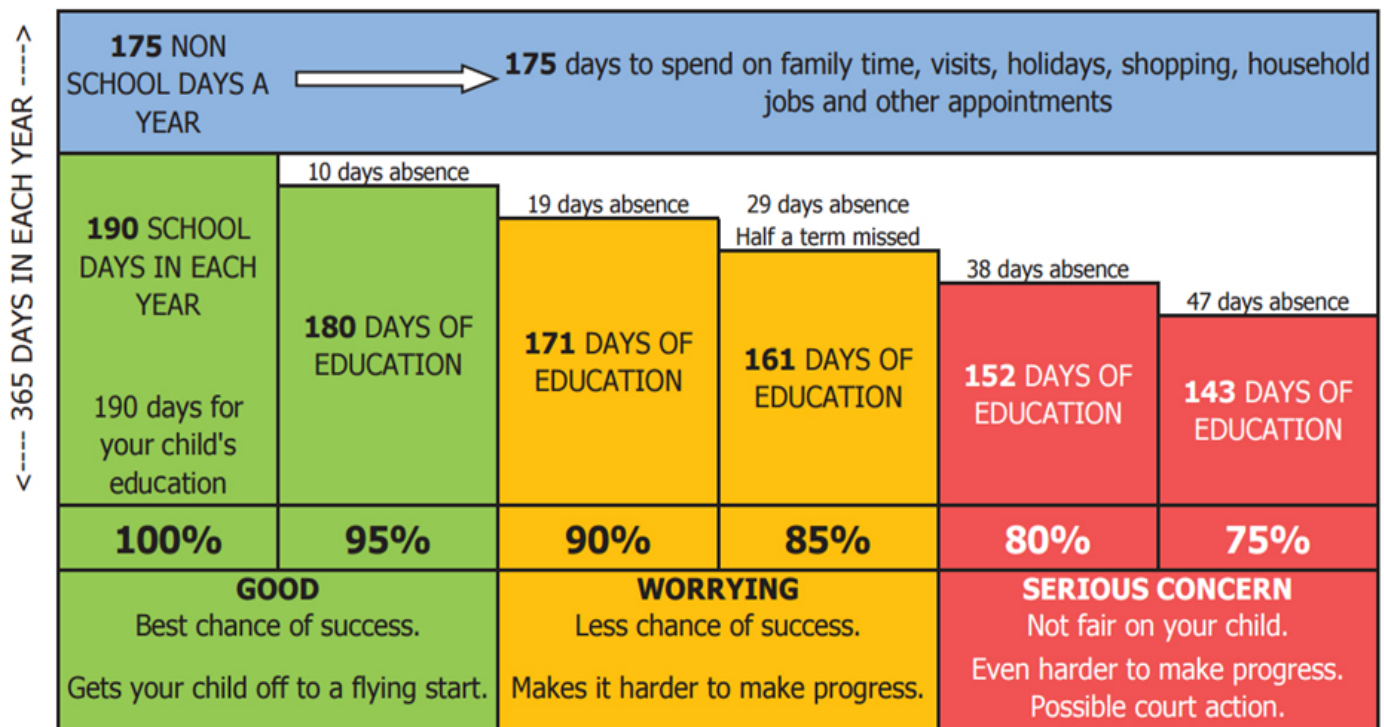
**IF YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL THEY CAN LEARN AND ACHIEVE
- IF NOT, THEY WILL UNDERACHIEVE.**

What You Can Do To Support Your Child

You can help prevent your child missing school by:

- making sure they understand the importance of good attendance and punctuality; taking an interest in their education - ask about school work and encourage them to get involved in school activities;
- discussing any problems they may have at school - inform Ms Darrer (HoY) or Ms Melling (AHoY) about anything serious;
- not letting them take time off school for minor ailments, particularly those which would not prevent you from going to work; and
- arranging appointments and outings after school hours, at weekends or during school holidays will help to prevent disruption to your child’s education and to the school.

As the graphic below depicts: students only attend school for 190 days per year so have a 175 days to do other things such as shopping, visiting family, holiday etc.



Support YOUR child in Achieving GCSE SUCCESS - make sure they are in school and on time EACH AND EVERY DAY.



Careers Advice

Gateacre have gained the Quality Award for Careers Guidance. Careers advice is available to students inside and outside of school. Careers advice is available every day at lunch time in the Atrium from Mrs Boyd (AHT) and in a careers clinic after school on a Thursday Evening. Independent careers advice is also available two days per week with Career Connect.

Careers staff at school

Careers Leader	Mrs J Boyd	Careers Admin Officer	Amanda Moore
Careers Connect Advisor	Carol Byrne		

Access to independent careers advice is provided by Career Connect. Students at Gateacre receive impartial independent careers advice with qualified Careers Advisor, Carol Byrne who works in school two days per week.

Our Students also have access to out of hours careers advice with a dedicated portal and helpline to help them when they are out of school. We also work with the National Careers Service and students are shown how to access the National Careers Services facilities so that they can speak to advisor and gain information on jobs, vacancies and up to date labour market information wherever they are.

Careers Information Advice and Guidance focus events

During year 9 students explore careers software and IAG websites to support them in their transition to Key Stage 4. Prior to choosing options our young people have the opportunity to spend time focussing on future career paths in order to help with their choices. Also, students have access to a variety of different software tools to explore the world of work and employment. Further, students work with other year 9 students and are supported through the process by their Academic Tutor.

Students carry out job studies looking at the skills and qualities required and the entry routes into careers of their choice to help them make informed decisions. They will also have the opportunity to work with staff and other students to look at ways of making informed decisions about their options.

career connect



The Career Connect Service has a personal advisor available in school to help students with their career choices. Carol Byrne is our personal advisor and is available to give information and guidance on subject choice, qualifications and future careers. Students can request to see her and have a quick chat or a more in depth face to face interview; students can speak to Mrs Boyd (AHT) to make the appointment. Carol is available in school each Monday.

All year nine students are invited to the careers fair on February 12th, they also will participate part in a careers and future focus morning where they will explore different career paths. Over the next few weeks students will receive instructions on how to register on to the 'connected portal', this is a quality assured web portal where you and your parent/carer have access to the latest relevant information on career paths and choices. All year 9 students will follow a 'Reach for The Future' programme to raise aspirations later this year. All students receive their own personal login which can be used in school or at home with parents/carers.

Email: Personal.Adviser@careerconnect.org.uk

Telephone Number : 0800 0126 606



**The following pages give you
more information about the
'Core'
Curriculum
Subjects—you study all of
these subjects.**



Computing (Core)

What does this lesson offer me.









- As part of the Computing National Curriculum at Key Stage 4, you will learn about the following:
 - Staying safe online and learning how to use modern technology, apps and various hardware and software safely.
 - Understanding how changes in technology can affect your safety, including new ways to protect your online privacy and identity, and how to identify and report a range of concerns.
 - Developing your skills and understanding in computer science, digital media and information technology.
 - Developing your analytic, problem-solving, design, and computational thinking skills.
 - Investigating various careers in Computing and developing your transferable skills that are valued by employers

What does this series of lessons involve?

- **What you will study:**
 - Online safety, Computer Science, IT and Careers.

*NB You will do this lesson once per fortnight.

Core (GCSE)
<p>HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This series of lessons will NOT give you a qualification at the end of Year 11. • If you wish to gain a qualification, you will need to choose it as an option subject. • You will be checked on your progress and understanding throughout the year on the range of topics studied and work produced in lessons.

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND Core Computing
<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Extended Writing</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Working with my Hands</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Using Numbers</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Performing Activities</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Design & Create Projects</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Using ICT (Not Gaming)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Short Written Tasks</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Speaking in front of Others</p> </div> </div>	<p>Proficiency , skills and understanding in computing can enhance your job prospects.</p>



What does the course offer me?

Our citizenship curriculum helps to provide students with knowledge, skills and understanding to prepare them to play a full and active part in society, in particular, fostering an awareness and understanding of democracy, government and how laws are made and upheld. We work towards equipping students with the skills and knowledge to explore political and social issues critically, to weigh evidence, debate and make reasoned arguments.

The curriculum also aims to promote British values, encouraging respect and tolerance across different cultures. Citizenship is covered within the RESPECT Programme and across the curriculum subject areas such as History and Social Sciences and Religious Studies

Overview









How the United Kingdom is governed, its political system and how citizens participate actively in its democratic systems of government.

Knowledge and understanding of the role of law and the justice system in our society and how laws are shaped and enforced.

Money on a day-to-day basis, and plan for future financial needs.

Understand British values to include respect and tolerance towards others

Core
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?
<p>This is non—examined subject</p> <p>Whilst there is no formal examined assessment for this subject, there are some opportunities for in class assessment and self-evaluations. The skills of critical thinking are actively encouraged with a great emphasis on debate, justification of choices and evaluation.</p>

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND Core Citizenship
<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">  <p>Extended Writing</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">  <p>Working with my Hands</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">  <p>Using Numbers</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">  <p>Performing Activities</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">  <p>Design & Create Projects</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">  <p>Using ICT (Not Gaming)</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">  <p>Short Written Tasks</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">  <p>Speaking in front of Others</p> </div> </div>	<p>Citizenship Studies is about how people take an active part in democratic politics and work together for a better society, locally, nationally and globally. Citizenship can be studied at Level 3 and at university. The knowledge and skills you learn can be applied to many careers in law, policing and Civil Service.</p>



English Language (EDUQAS)









What does the course offer me?

- Clearly structured papers which allow candidates to show what they know, understand and can do.
- Tasks covering a range of writing skills.
- Prose reading from the 20th century.
- Thematically linked 19th and 21st century non-fiction reading tasks which are accessible whilst offering appropriate stretch and challenge.
- A focused approach to spoken language.
- This skills-based specification allows breadth of study and flexible teaching approaches, and offers excellent co-teachability with GCSE English Literature.
- A course that helps students develop skills, knowledge and understanding they will need for further study, work and everyday life.

What does the course involve?

The Eduqas GCSE in English Language specification builds on Eduqas’s long experience of assessing reading and writing skills in a variety of contexts.

Core (GCSE)
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?
<p>Component 1: 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing. Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes. 40% of qualification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section A (20%) - Reading • Section B (20%) - Prose writing
<p>Component 2: 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading and Transactional/Persuasive Writing. Written examination: 2 hours. 60% of qualification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section A (30%) - Reading • Section B (30%) - Writing
<p>Component 3: Spoken Language. Non-exam assessment: Unweighted One presentation/speech, including responses to questions and feedback.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Follow us on Twitter @GateacreEnglish</p>

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND GCSE
<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Extended Writing</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Working with my Hands</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Using Numbers</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Performing Activities</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Design & Create Projects</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Using ICT (Not Gaming)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Short Written Tasks</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Speaking in front of Others</p> </div> </div>	<p>English Language is a core subject in the National Curriculum. It can therefore be studied at a higher level as a subject in its own right. The school offers an extremely popular course in A Level English Language as well as English Literature A Level.</p> <p>A qualification in English continues to be demanded in all walks of life, and skills acquired in this subject can be put to positive use in almost all areas of employment.</p>



English Literature (EDUQAS)









What does the course offer me?

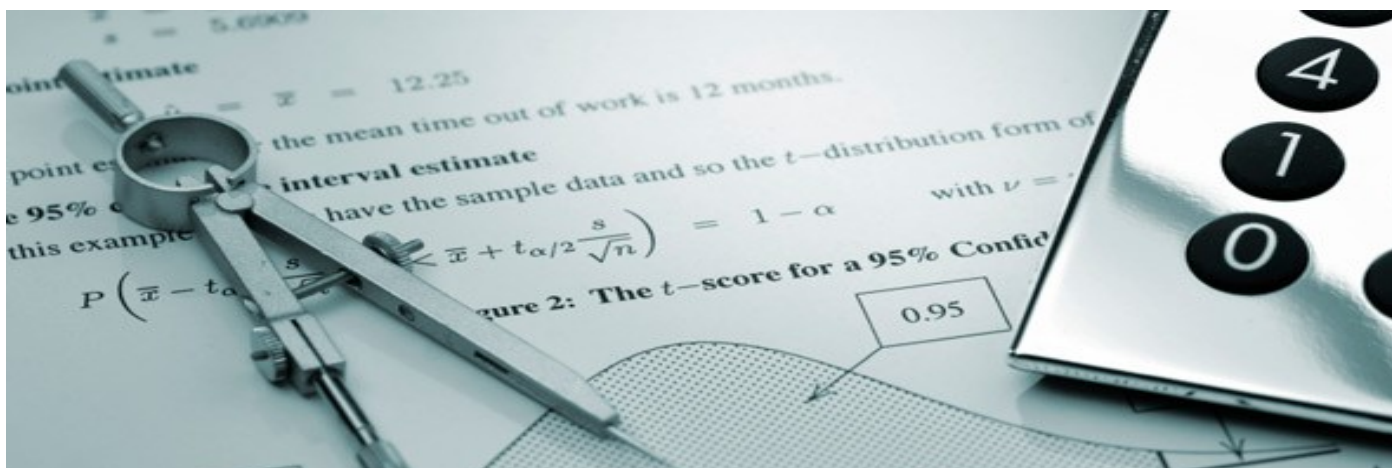
- Clearly structured papers which allow candidates to show what they know, understand and can do including opportunities for close analysis of texts and opportunities for extended writing.
- Questions that are designed to promote accessibility within an un-tiered qualification and allow all candidates a chance to succeed.
- A wide choice of novels and plays, from Shakespeare to contemporary fiction that gives centres a great deal of flexibility when they are choosing texts to be studied.
- An exciting poetry anthology that covers poetry from 1789, including Romantic poetry, and includes some of Britain’s best loved poems alongside some less well-known works.
- Thematically-linked unseen poetry which draws on Eduqas’ long experience of accessible but differentiating assessment of this kind.
- A skills-based approach which allows for breadth of study and flexible teaching, and offers excellent co-teachability with GCSE English Language.

What does the course involve?

The Eduqas GCSE in English Literature will help students develop the skills, knowledge and understanding they will need for further study and to take a general pleasure in reading.

Core
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?
<p>Component 1 Shakespeare and Poetry Written examination 2 hours 40% of qualification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section A—20% - Shakespeare • Section B—20% - Poetry from 1789 to present day <p>Component 2 Post 1914 Prose/Drama, Century Prose and Unseen Poetry Written examination 2 hours and 30 minutes 60% of qualification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section A—20% Post 1914 prose/drama • Section B—20% 19th century prose • Section C—20% Unseen poetry from the 20th/21st century

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND GCSE
<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;">  Extended Writing </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  Working with my Hands </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  Using Numbers </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  Performing Activities </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  Design & Create Projects </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  Using ICT (Not Gaming) </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  Short Written Tasks </div> <div style="width: 50%;">  Speaking in front of Others </div> </div>	<p>English Literature is a core subject in the National Curriculum. It can therefore be studied at a higher level as a subject in its own right. The school offers an extremely popular course in A-Level English Literature.</p> <p>A qualification in English Literature is highly rated by Higher Education institutions and employers alike and skills acquired in this subject can be put to positive use in most areas of employment.</p>



Mathematics (EDEXCEL)

What does the course offer me?

This course will enable students to appreciate the uses of Maths in society and with an increased emphasis on the functional aspects of the subject, whilst enabling them to acquire skills essential for advancement in their chosen path after leaving school.

Here at Gateacre we follow the Edexcel GCSE Specification. This involves a linear approach to GCSE with the pupils completing two exams at the end of year 11. As with other GCSE math's courses there are two tiers of entry, higher and foundation.

What does the course involve?

The Maths course will cover the following areas:

- Using and Applying Mathematics
- Number and Algebra
- Geometry Measure
- Statistics

Core (GCSE)

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are two tiers:

- Higher 4–9
- Foundation 1–4

A final decision on tier of entry will be made after the mock examination in November of year 11. It is very important that students regard the GCSE as a two-year course as it is very difficult to catch up if they fall behind in year 10.

The final grade awarded will be based on the 3 exams all **1hour 30 minutes** in length.

SKILLS INVOLVED



Extended Writing



Working with my Hands



Using Numbers



Performing Activities



Design & Create Projects



Using ICT (Not Gaming)



Short Written Tasks



Speaking in front of Others

BEYOND GCSE

GCSE Maths is a required qualification for further study in many areas. For those wishing to study mathematical, scientific, economics based subjects, a good GCSE grade is essential. Grade B is often a requirement for entry to Maths related A-Level subjects such as AS/A2 Maths/Further Maths etc.

Elements of Maths are used in all careers. Some fields require daily and skilled use of mathematical concepts.



Personal Development (RHSE, Careers ,Enrichment)

What does the course offer me?

Our Personal Development curriculum covers PSHE and the statutory programmes of study for Relationships, Sex and Health Education. PSHE supports individual young people to make safe and informed choices. Sessions are based around three core themes relationships, health and wellbeing and living in the wider world.









Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) focuses on providing young people with the information and the skills and attitudes they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds including: Families; respectful relationships including friendships; Online and Media; Being safe; Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health.

Health Education provides young people with the information they need to make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing, to recognise issues in themselves and others, and to seek support as early as possible when issues arise. Students will learn about mental wellbeing; internet safety and harms; physical health and fitness; healthy eating; drugs, alcohol and tobacco, health and prevention , basic first aid and the changing adolescent body

Overview

PSHE ,Relationships, Sex and Health Education is taught as part of our RESPECT Personal Development Curriculum. It is delivered by our Personal Development tutors . Our curriculum aims to support individual young people to make safe and informed choices and to equip them with the skills to have happy healthy relationships throughout their lives . Key topics are also covered across the curriculum in computing , Active lifestyles, Science and Food Technology

Core
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?
<p>This is non—examined subject</p> <p>Although this is not examined ,there are opportunities for in class assessment and self-evaluations. Skills and attitudes acquired through PSHE education have a significant impact on students' academic achievement, employability and future life chances.</p>

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND Core PD
<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center; width: 45%;">  <p>Extended Writing</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; width: 45%;">  <p>Working with my Hands</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; width: 45%;">  <p>Using Numbers</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; width: 45%;">  <p>Performing Activities</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; width: 45%;">  <p>Design & Create Projects</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; width: 45%;">  <p>Using ICT (Not Gaming)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; width: 45%;">  <p>Short Written Tasks</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; width: 45%;">  <p>Speaking in front of Others</p> </div> </div>	<p>Personal development helps you to develop character, confidence resilience and knowledge of how to keep yourself healthy and have respectful relationships. These skills and attributes will support your learning throughout school and beyond. Personal development subjects can be studied further and link closely with careers in counselling , health and social care , recruitment , education and training .</p>



PE (Core)









What does the course offer me?

PE will allow all students to undertake a range of activities which will allow students to develop practical skills in their chosen field as well as develop and maintain a healthy and active life style through their participation in a physical activity.

What does the course involve?

Students will be given a choice of activities which they will be able to undertake for a double lesson per week in order to keep themselves both physically and mentally fit given the increasing emphasis on healthy lifestyle and establishing good habits for life. This is not optional at year 10 and 11 but will not be formally assessed.

Core
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?
There will be no formal assessment in this subject.

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND Core PE
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p> Extended Writing</p> <p> Using Numbers</p> <p> Design & Create Projects</p> <p> Short Written Tasks</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p> Working with my Hands</p> <p> Performing Activities</p> <p> Using ICT (Not Gaming)</p> <p> Physical Activity</p> </div> </div>	<p>Active Lifestyles (PE) Education is a core subject in the National Curriculum. It will help you learn about how to stay healthy and fit.</p>



Religious Studies (Core)

What does the course offer me?

This once a week lesson is an opportunity to explore ethical and moral debates. **It encourages you to consider an issue from many sides and understand the beliefs and experiences that lie behind people’s opinions.** It will give you an insight into the choices that people make and help you to reflect on, evaluate and justify your own beliefs and opinions.

Skills learnt in Religious Studies provide a good foundation for many careers, particularly within healthcare, law or the media. The course helps you develop the ability to consider a range ideas and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of your conclusions.

What does the course involve?

Topics will include:

- Animal Rights
- Crime & Punishment
- Life after Death

We will investigate the topics from a range of ethical and religious perspectives using debates, questioning and reflective activities.

Core

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There will be a mixture of self assessment, peer assessment and whole-class feedback but no formal exams.

SKILLS INVOLVED



Extended Writing



Working with my Hands



Using Numbers



Performing Activities



Design & Create Projects



Using ICT (Not Gaming)



Short Written Tasks



Speaking in front of Others

BEYOND Core RS

This is not a GCSE but employers, Colleges and Universities value Religious Studies as a ‘thinkers’ qualification which develops **reasoning and debating skills** and shows a **balanced knowledge** of the modern world. The skills you learn can be applied to many careers in law, policing, the media and health and social care. It also compliments and builds on the skills you learn in GCSE subjects such as **English, Sociology and History.**



Combined Science: Trilogy (AQA)

What does the course offer me?

- The opportunity to study a core subject in the National Curriculum.
- Knowledge and understanding of the Universe.
- A combination of a practical and academic subject.

A qualification in Science continues to be highly desirable to employers and is part of the English Baccalaureate qualification that universities and employers now consider to be an important indicator of a fully rounded student.

What does the course involve?

Biology: Study of human biology, organisms, evolution and the environment.

Chemistry: Study of the nature of substances and how they react together, how chemistry is used in business and industry and how our use of fuels affect the local and global environment.

Physics: Study of the use and transfer of energy, as well as an insight into the nature of waves, radiation and space. They'll also learn about the application of physics in the real world they live in.

Core (GCSE)

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Combined Science: Trilogy GCSE will count as 2 GCSEs and will be examined in 2020 across **6 x 75 minute** papers each worth **16.7%**.

Investigational skills will be examined across all 6 papers and is worth **15%**.

There are two tiers:

Foundation: 1-5

Higher: 4-9

SKILLS INVOLVED



Extended Writing



Working with my Hands



Using Numbers



Performing Activities



Design & Create Projects



Using ICT (Not Gaming)



Short Written Tasks



Speaking in front of Others

BEYOND GCSE

GCSE Combined Science gives students a good knowledge of science and provides a firm foundation for further study at A level.

Continue to:

A Level Sciences (Grade 6 minimum)

BTEC Level 3 Science

Science related courses, e.g. Nursing



The following pages give you more information the subjects you can choose from. You must choose 4 of them.



Art & Design (AQA)

What does the course offer me?

Is art something you enjoy? Do you like practical activities that allow you to show off your individuality? If so you would be choosing the right option in Art. Art as an option is fantastic as it allows you to creatively express yourself. It gives you the chance to experiment with new media, learn and develop new skills and produce personal responses along the way. Ultimately Art provides you with a creative outlet.

What does the course involve?

What will you be studying for Art GCSE?

The course runs over two years and is comprised of three projects. During lessons, students are actively encouraged to explore a wide range of materials, techniques and processes which include clay, textiles, drawing, painting, printing, mixed media, digital and many more. Throughout the GCSE art course, students will develop confidence and independence by exploring and developing their art skills, creating a personal portfolio which showcases the artwork and projects they have completed.

Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to respond to a subject, theme or task in a creative and personal way, preparing them for the externally set which forms the third and final project.

Art is an irreplaceable way of understanding and expressing the world!

GCSE

Option

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

AQA- exam board

The course breakdown

60% coursework

This is broken into 2 main projects.

Project 1: Sweets and Treats

Project 2: Personal Response

Exam (Externally Set Assignment)

Students respond to an exam question set by AQA prior to the exam at least six-eight weeks before. The exam is then completed over 2 days and takes 10 hours to complete.

In the art department we pride ourselves on the excellent GCSE exam results achieved year upon year. If you are interested in further information about this, please feel free to speak to any member of staff and/or our GCSE students.

SKILLS INVOLVED



Extended Writing



Working with my Hands



Using Numbers



Performing Activities



Design & Create Projects



Using ICT (Not Gaming)



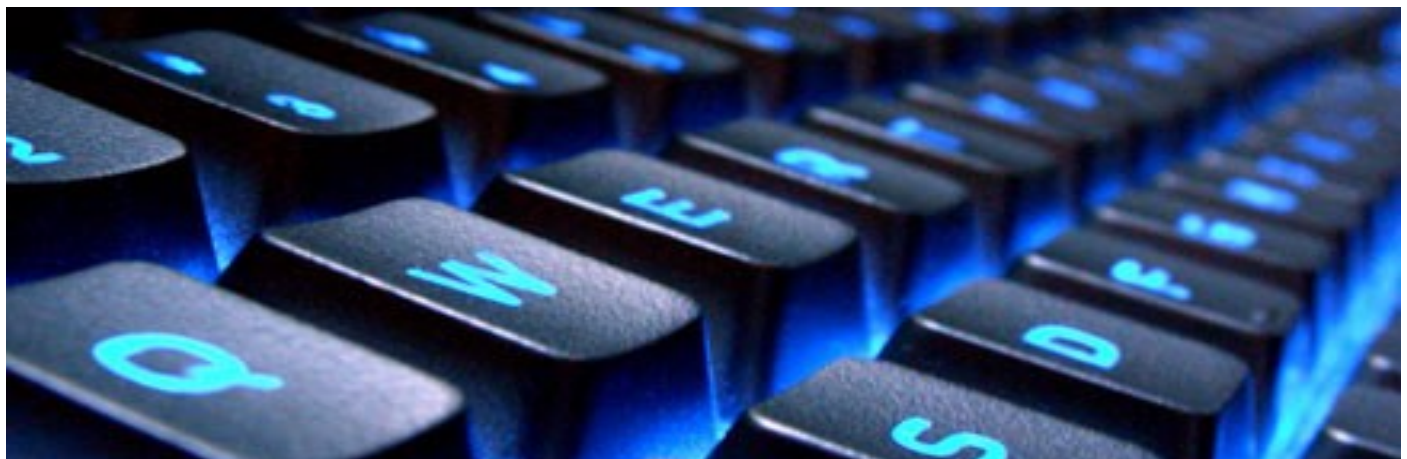
Short Written Tasks



Speaking in front of Others

BEYOND GCSE

If you chose to continue with Art, we fully prepare you for A Level Art and Design at Gateacre Sixth form as well as other creative avenues available at Post 16 Colleges. The creative industry is continuously growing and more jobs are formed in the creative sector than any other. Studying art can open so many opportunities from fashion design, architecture, illustrator, graphic designer, fashion buying and art directors, to name but a few. Additionally, skills developed in Art and Design can support you in all career paths by developing organisational skills, independence and presentation skills as well as confidence. Art gives you the perfect opportunity to develop personal expression.



Computing and IT - Cambridge National in IT (OCR L1/L2)

What does the course offer me?

This qualification will inspire and equip you with the confidence to use skills that are relevant to the IT sector and more widely. It covers the use of IT in the digital world, Internet of Everything, data manipulation, human-computer interface (HCI) and augmented reality. This is a new and engaging qualification where you will learn new IT skills in practical, real-life situations, such as:

- using different applications and tools to design, create and evaluate IT solutions and products
- create a data manipulation solution
- create an Augmented Reality prototype.



What does the course involve?

- R050 : IT in the digital world (written exam): Design Tools, Human Computer Interface (HCI) in everyday life; Data and testing, Cyber-security and legislation; Digital Communications, Internet of Everything (IOE - smart devices)
- R060 : Data manipulation using spreadsheets (coursework): Planning and designing the spreadsheet solution; Creating, Testing and Evaluating the spreadsheet solution;
- R070: Using Augmented Reality to present information (coursework): Understanding what Augmented Reality is (AR); Designing an Augmented Reality (AR) model prototype; Creating an Augmented Reality (AR) model prototype; Testing and Reviewing your Augmented Reality (AR) prototype

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam 40% - this is a written exam which is externally assessed by the exam board. (R050) • Centre-assessed 60% - this is marked by your teacher in class and checked by the exam board. (R060 and R070) • This course is equivalent to one GCSE. It is a brand new, engaging and practical IT course. • Our students results have been excellent. We take pride in being above the National Average each year.

SKILLS INVOLVED



Extended Writing



Using Numbers



Design & Create Projects



Short Written Tasks



Working with my Hands



Performing Activities



Using ICT (Not Gaming)



Speaking in front of Others

BEYOND GCSE

Skills acquired through this course will support entry into work or progression to further studies in 6th form or college. A qualification in IT is demanded by all employers and colleges and the practical nature of this course demonstrates ability to use Computing and IT competently.



Graphic Design

Graphic Design (AQA)

What does the course offer me?

Do you consider yourself an “ideas” person? Do you like working towards a brief? Do you want to use your artistic skills in a business and industry environment? If so, opting for GCSE Graphic Design would be a perfect fit for you. Graphic Design allows you to use all of your creative thinking, art work and personal ideas to produce amazing, professional work that meets the needs of a client. Graphic Design could be a stepping stone onto many different career pathways. This option would fit perfectly with GCSE Photography.

What does the course involve?

What will you be studying for Graphic Design GCSE?









The course is run over 2 years and is comprised of a minimum of three projects. We complete two projects which are marked as coursework; these allow students to learn the basics of a wide variety of skills within Graphic Design including: Advertising, Logo Design, Multi-media, Interactive Design and Typography. Within the second project and the exam project we then encourage students to build on these skills and enhance their portfolio with illustration and layout design.

Students are given set briefs to respond to as they would in industry for a client; however students are encouraged to make this work personal and bring their own creative flair and ideas. As part of the course, students will have the opportunity to partake in trips to gather research for the set briefs they are responding to.

Why not pick an option where you are not only completing a GCSE qualification, but you are also building practical skills which can be used in industry and a portfolio of work to showcase your skills, ready for employment.

“Graphic Design is thinking made visible.”

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED? AQA Exam Board	
The course breakdown:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coursework 60% This is broken into 2 main projects: Project 1: “Music Festivals” Project 2: “Murals” • Exam 40% The exam is 10 hours and normally runs over 2 days. The exam generally takes place on computers, but would suit the skill set of the individual student. 	
The exam paper is given at least six weeks prior to the exam, to allow the students to complete prep work in the lead up to their exam.	
<i>Graphic Design is housed within the Art Department and we pride ourselves on the excellent GCSE exam results achieved year upon year. If you are interested in further information about this, please feel free to speak to any member of staff and/or our GCSE students.</i>	
N.B. you cannot choose both Art & Graphics	

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND GCSE
 Extended Writing  Working with my Hands	There are many options available to students who continue their study with Graphic Design. Students can go on to study AS/A Levels in: Graphic Design, Art & Design, Three-dimensional design or Photography. Alternatively, students can begin their Graphic Design career by entering into a Graphic Design apprenticeship where students work and study alongside one another. Aside from this, skills learned as part of the Graphic Design course include, but are not limited to: time management, attention to detail, working for a client, creative thinking, planning and computer skills. Students who have opted for Graphic Design have used these skills in a number of careers outside of Graphics, for example: Architecture, Engineering and Media.
 Using Numbers  Performing Activities	
 Design & Create Projects  Using ICT (Not Gaming)	
 Short Written Tasks  Speaking in front of Others	



Hospitality and Catering (Eduqas Specification A)

What does the course offer me?

Working in the hospitality and catering industry requires a passion for food, an understanding of how it impacts on the body and a wide range of culinary skills.

Pupils who study in this field will develop transferable skills such as planning, communication, problem solving and health and safety practices. Studying a qualification in Food and cookery and its related industries will help pupils understand the sector and work on their own skills in a practical, hands-on way.









What does the course involve?

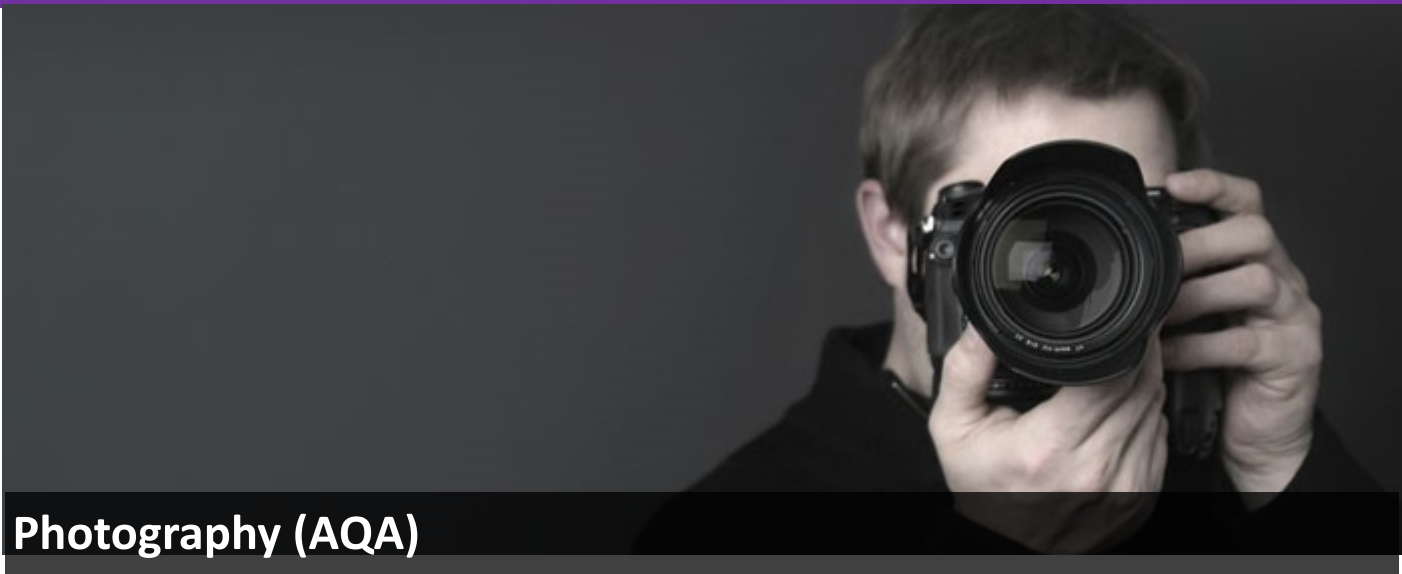
The course will involve you working individually, in pairs and in groups to research, present and demonstrate a wealth of knowledge about people and their roles and needs in our society.

The areas you will study are:

- The Structure of the Hospitality and catering industry
- Job roles within the industry
- How a kitchen operates
- How a hotel operates
- Customer service
- Health and Safety
- Nutrition
- Menu Planning
- How to create meals
- How to present meals

Technical Award	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<p>Controlled assessment(60%):Students will plan and prepare and cook a range of dishes using advanced cooking skills meeting the requirements of a brief. Students will produce coursework .Coursework will be completed during lessons in allocated time d assessments . A portfolio based on a specification of pupils chosen dishes, focusing on nutrition, sensory analysis and practical skills.</p> <p>External examination (40%): Students will learn about the structure of the hospitality and catering industry. Students will look at the roles within the industry and different sectors of work. Students will learn about health and safety and understand how food can cause ill health. Students will look at the needs of customers and the factors which ensure the success of a business.**<i>please note this is subject to change alternative similar qualifications are in approval stages and the actual specification has not yert been released)</i></p>	

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND L1/2 Technical Award
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  Extended Writing </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  Working with my Hands </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  Using Numbers </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  Performing Activities </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  Design & Create Projects </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  Using ICT (Not Gaming) </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  Short Written Tasks </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  Speaking in front of Others </div> </div>	<p>This course will enable you to do a Level 3 or A Level course in Hospitality and Catering sectors of work.</p> <p>Level 3 FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION AND Level 3 hospitality and Catering (A Level equivalent).</p> <p>Career paths include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food scientist • Nutritionist/sports nutrition • Food technologist/analysist • Environmental health officer • Sports coaching and training



Photography (AQA)

What does the course offer me?

Do you love showing off your individuality? Do you like using new technology and media to create artwork? Do you love telling stories, in a visual way? If so, opting for GCSE Photography would be a perfect fit for you. Photography is so much more than taking photos, it is about independent work, your own ideas and working to deadlines. Photography unlocks a variety of doors in the creative job sector.

What does the course involve?

What will you be studying for Photography GCSE?

The course is run over 2 years and students will complete a minimum of three projects. We complete two projects which are marked towards coursework. Within these projects we give students opportunities to experiment with digital and light-based photography processes. Within school we have access to digital SLR cameras. Our second project and our exam project give students the opportunity to develop their skills and progress into a chosen specialism, for example; photo-journalism, landscape photography, editorial photography and moving image.

Students will have a range of stimulus materials to respond to and the course provides opportunities for each pupil to recognise and develop their own creative ability and to appreciate the relevance of Photography to everyday life and the wider environment. As part of the photography course, students can expect to partake in a variety of trips to various locations to obtain the best photographs possible.

Practical skills and creative flair go hand-in-hand with this option which is a perfect fit for you if you are creative, expressive and have lots of your own ideas. This option would fit perfectly with GCSE Art or GCSE Graphic Design.

“Photography is the only language that can be understood anywhere in the world.”

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
AQA Exam Board	
The course breakdown:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coursework 60% This is broken into 2 main projects: Project 1: “Covert and Obscure” Project 2: “Texture” • Exam 40% The exam is 10 hours and normally runs over 2 days. The exam generally takes place on computers, but would suit the skill set of the individual student. The exam paper is given at least six weeks prior to the exam, to allow the students to complete prep work in the lead up to their exam. 	
<p><i>Photography is housed within the Art Department and we pride ourselves on the excellent GCSE exam results achieved year upon year. If you are interested in further information about this, please feel free to speak to Miss Cullen and/or our GCSE students.</i></p>	

SKILLS INVOLVED



Extended Writing



Working with my Hands



Using Numbers



Performing Activities



Design & Create Projects



Using ICT (Not Gaming)



Short Written Tasks



Speaking in front of Others

BEYOND GCSE

There are many options available to students who continue their study with Photography. Students can go on to study AS/A Levels in: Photography, Graphic Design and Art & Design. Alternatively, some students will begin Photography careers by entering into an apprenticeship where students can work and study alongside one another.

Employment in the creative industries is growing at four times the rate of the UK workforce as a whole. Creative industries could be worth £128.4 billion by 2025 and help to create an extra 1 million jobs by 2030. Just in time for when you leave formal education.

OPTIONS PROCESS: DATELINE 2022	
Date	Activity
Monday 6th December- ongoing	Dedicated Careers Programme – using XELLO career mapping software
Thursday 6th January	Parents' Evening – Parents will be able to talk to Academic Tutors and discuss their child's progress and option choices.
Thursday 20th January 6:00pm	Y9 Parents Options Information Evening * (please note that if this takes place in school, this will in two sessions to allow for social distancing. If it takes place remotely it will start at 5:40 for all) 5:40 -6:00 & 6:40 – 7:20 Mr Jones, Ms Chapman, Mr Danson & Ms Bayly
Friday 21st January	Students' Option Meeting * ALL STUDENTS - Period 1 (Theatre with HoY, AHoY, CCH & JBo); SUCCESS PATHWAY STUDENTS – Period 5 (Library)
Monday 31st January – Friday 4th February	Option Assemblies for non-KS4 Subjects. *
Monday 31st Jan – Wednesday 9th Feb	Individual meetings with students/parents for SUCCESS Pathway students (A&B) – Ms Moreton, Ms Langton & Ms Chapman
Tuesday 8th February	'Step in to the Future' apprenticeship * performance with 'Be More' Apprenticeship
Tuesday 15th February	Gateacre Careers and Employability Fayre * – a chance to meet and talk to employers, further education and higher education institutions
Thursday 10th February	Option Choice Forms will be sent via Edu-Link to students. Students discuss options with parents, choose their options and submit their forms. Form Tutors to encourage completion of forms via Edu-Link throughout this process. Any questions or queries can be addressed to Ms Chapman or Mrs Boyd (Careers link)
Monday 14th February	Deadline for submission of option forms via Edu-Link
Friday 25th February	Option block format is decided.
Summer Term	Option allocations finalised Students and parents informed

NB these may be remote if COVID restrictions

Notes: