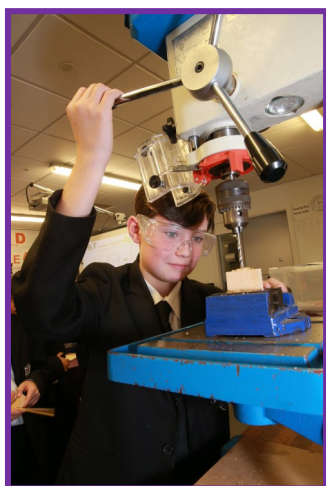




Year 9 Options: *Making the right choice*

2022



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Dear Parents and Students,

Year 9 Options Process

Having the opportunity to choose the subjects that will make up your curriculum in KS4 is an exciting one. It can also be daunting as it is important to make sure that your choices allow you to pursue interests and career aspirations in the future.

At Gateacre we offer an ambitious and 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 and progress onto the next stage of your educational journey. Therefore, you will study English Language and English Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science and choose one subject from Spanish **or** History **or** Geography. Further, you will have three other 'unrestricted' choices to make from a wide variety of subjects that include a range of GCSEs, BTECs, CIDA and Cambridge Nationals – all of which are L2 qualifications. However, the DfE highly recommend that students study a humanities subjects (History **or** Geography) along with a language thus achieving the English Baccalaureate—so bear his in mind when choosing your options.

As well as your compulsory and chosen examination subjects, you will also study: and PSHE/RSE (Personal Development), Citizenship, RS, PE and Computing as non-examination subjects to ensure you have a broad and balanced educational experience.

We will try and give you every help in making your decisions about your options. You will be take part in a dedicated careers programme during Academic Tutor Time. You will also attend a Careers & and Employability Fayre that will give you the opportunity to meet businesses, universities and other educational institutions to discuss different careers; as well as view a 'Step into the Future' theatre performance to give you even more ideas about your future choices. Also, you will complete a variety of online questionnaires about your preferences that will help you choose your options 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 (Core)
 GCSE English Language
 GCSE English Literature
 GCSE Mathematics
 PE (Core)
 Religious Studies (Core)
 GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy)

**Compulsory Subjects**

Choose **ONE** from:

Geography (GCSE) OR History (GCSE) OR GCSE Spanish (GCSE).

Unrestricted Choices—Choose three subjects from the following:

Art & Design (GCSE—L2)	Ar	Health & Social Care (BTEC—L2)	Hs	Separate Sciences	Ss
Business Studies (GCSE—L2)	Bs	History	Hi	Sociology (GCSE—L2)	So
Computing (Camb Nat. L1/L2)	Co	Hospitality and Catering (Technical Award L1/2)	Fd	Spanish	Sp
Design & Technology	Tc	Media Studies (GCSE—L2)	Md	Sports Studies (Camb Nat. L2)	Pe
Drama (GCSE—L2)	Dm	Music (GCSE—L2)	Mu	Statistics	Ms
Geography	Gg	Photography (GCSE—L2)	Pg		
Graphic Design (GCSE—L2)	Gd	Religious Studies	Re		



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: How many Option choices do I make?

A: In addition to core subjects, you will choose **one subject** from Geography **or** History **or** Spanish. You then have choose **three 'Unrestricted Choices'** and you must make **one** reserve choice.

Q Will I get all of my first choices?

A. While most students do get their first choices, we do have to allocate some back-up choices, so it is important that you select a reserve choice that you are willing and able to do.

Q: If there aren't enough students opting for a subject, that subject will not run. Is this true?

A: Yes. Unfortunately, we cannot run a course for a small number of students. If this happens, students will liaise closely with Ms Chapman to ensure that the next most suitable option is elected for.

Q: If I can't decide between 2 subjects, who should I talk to?

A: Talk to your teachers, parents, or form teachers. Remember to consider your own strengths, interests, needs and career plans in making your final choice.

Q: Can I change my mind later?

A: The subjects you choose are for the next two years. Therefore, it is very important that the right choice is made at the outset. It is only in exceptional circumstances (and only up to three week into the course) that students are permitted to change their courses once they have begun in September. Please bear this in mind and think carefully about your choices.

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

BTEC, CIDA 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).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (cont.)

Q. Can I do a mixture of BTEC, NCFE and Cambridge National and GCSE subjects?

A. Yes, that is absolutely fine.

Q. Can I do a mixture of BTEC, NCFE and Cambridge National and GCSE subjects?

A. Yes, that is absolutely fine.

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: If I want to go on to study at Gateacre Sixth Form, which subjects would be best?

A: There are no 'best' Options to prepare you for further study. Keep your Options broad and balanced. If you wish to study L3 (A Level, BTEC etc.) subjects at Gateacre, then you will need to gain a minimum of 5 GCSE passes grade 4 and above, with grade 5 passes in the subjects you wish to take. However, each individual case is considered carefully by Mrs Kinder (Assistant Headteacher, 6th Form).

Q. When do I find out which subjects I have been given from my choices?

A. You will find out which subjects you have been allocated in the summer term.

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

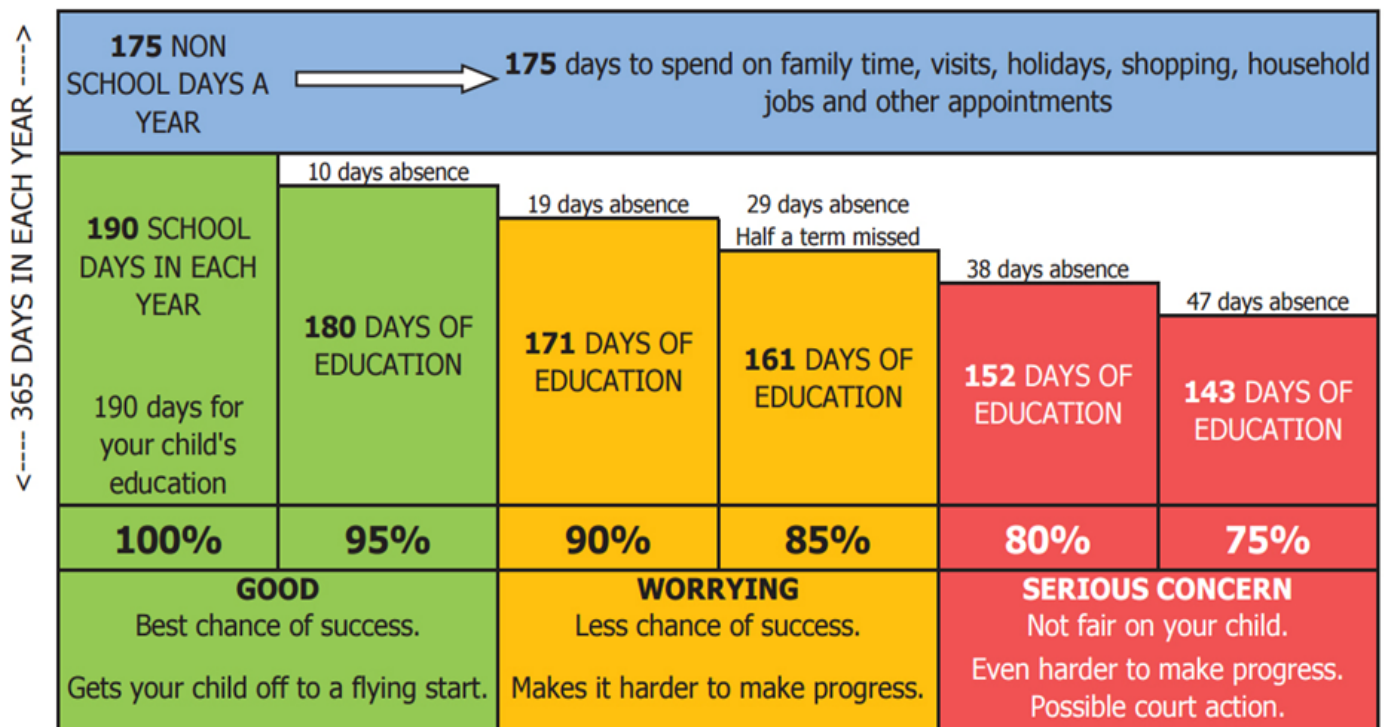
**IF YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL THEY CAN LEARN AND ACHIEVE
- IF NOT, THEY WILL UNDERACHIEVE.**

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 & Elish Crilley		

Access to independent careers advice is provided by Career Connect. Students at Gateacre receive impartial independent careers advice with qualified Careers Advisor, Carol Byrne and Elish Crilley who work 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; margin: 5px;">  <p>Extended Writing</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px;">  <p>Working with my Hands</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px;">  <p>Using Numbers</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px;">  <p>Performing Activities</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px;">  <p>Design & Create Projects</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px;">  <p>Using ICT (Not Gaming)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px;">  <p>Short Written Tasks</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px;">  <p>Speaking in front of Others</p> </div> </div>	<p>Proficiency in computing can enhance your job prospects.</p>



Citizenship

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.

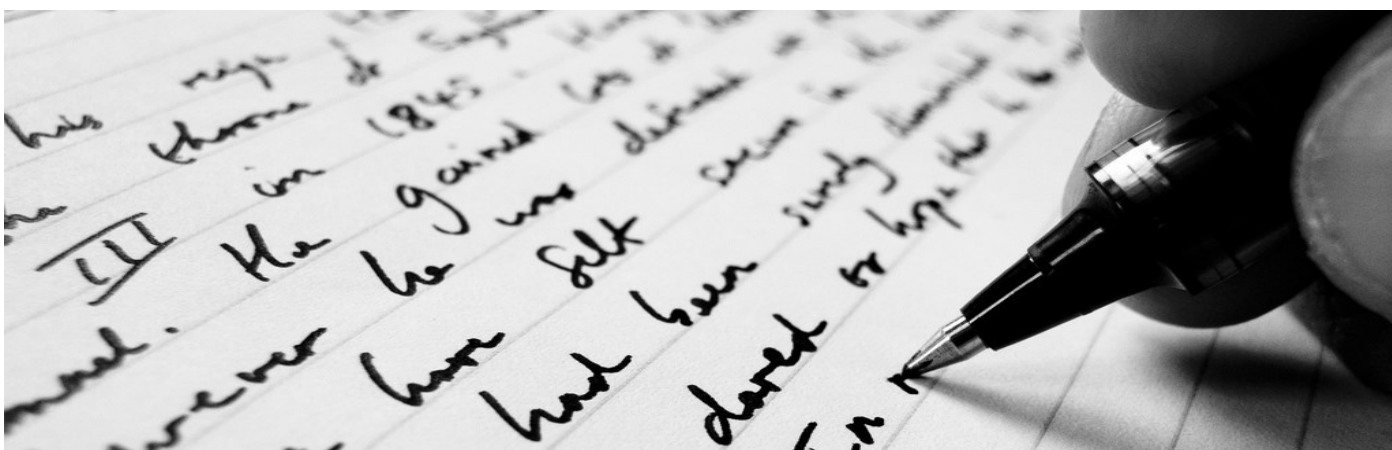
Knowledge and understanding of the role of law and the justice system in our society and how laws are shaped and enforced.

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%;">  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>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;"><i>Follow us on Twitter @GateacreEnglish</i></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?

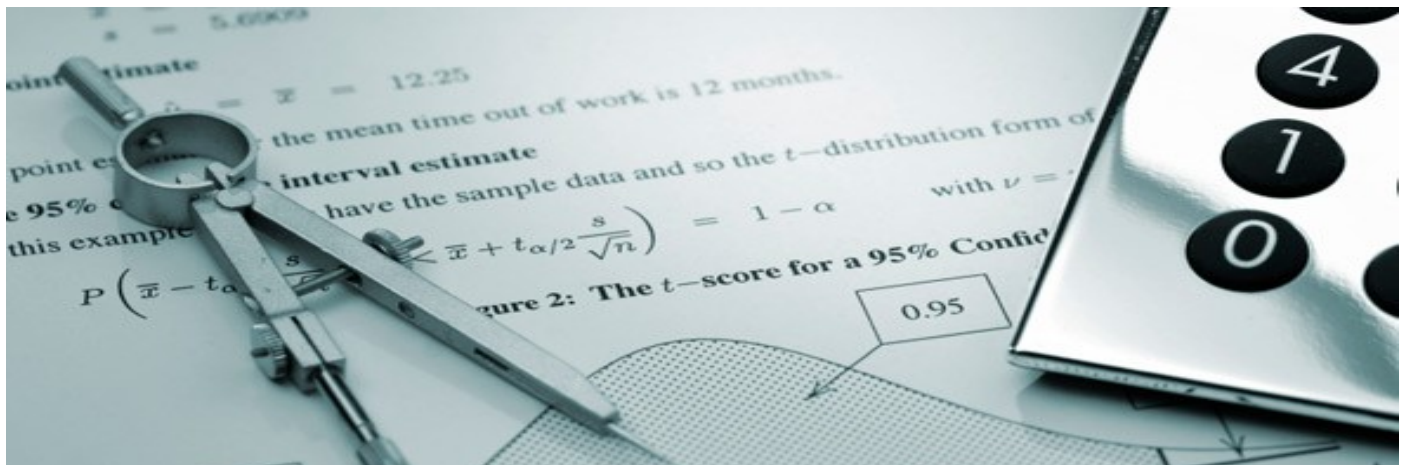
- Clearly structured papers which allow candidates to show what they know, understand and can do including opportunities for close analysis of texts and opportunities for extended writing.
- Questions that are designed to promote accessibility within an un-tiered qualification and allow all candidates 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; 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 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 students 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?

This is non—examined subject
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.

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 PD

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 .



PE









What does the course offer me?

Active Lifestyles 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 PE Core
<div style="display: flex; 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> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Using Numbers</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Performing Activities</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Design & Create Projects</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Using ICT (Not Gaming)</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Short Written Tasks</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Physical Activity</p> </div> </div>	<p>PE 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 about the ‘Compulsory’ Curriculum

Subjects—you MUST choose ONE from Geography OR History OR Spanish (Remember you can also choose any of the subjects from your unrestricted choices too)



Geography (Edexcel A)

What does the course offer me?

The GCSE Geography course aims to stimulate students’ interest in Geography; develop a sense of place and an appreciation of the environment; and help them to act in an informed and responsible way. Students acquire knowledge and understanding of a range of places, environments and geographical patterns, and develop their understanding of the physical and human processes, including decision-making, which affect their development. You will acquire a range of skills through field, map and atlas work using IT, graphic and presentational work, discussion and group work using a number of different resources.

What does the course involve?

Component 1: The Physical Environment

- Topic 1—The changing landscapes of the UK (including sub topics which students choose 2 from three: 1A: Coastal landscapes and processes, 1B: River landscapes and processes or 1C: Glaciated upland landscapes and processes)
- Topic 2—Weather hazards and climate change
- Topic 3— Ecosystems, biodiversity and management









Component 2: The Human Environment

- Topic 4—Changing cities
- Topic 5—Global development
- Topic 6— Resource management including sub-topics from which students choose 1 from 2: 6A: Energy resource management or Water resource management

Component 3: Geographical Investigations: Fieldwork and UK Challenges

- Topic 7—Geographical investigations—fieldwork
- Topic 8—Geographical investigations—UK challenges

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Environment exam paper: 1 hour 30 minutes worth 37.5% of grade • Human Environment exam paper: 1 hour 30 minutes worth 37.5% of grade • Geographical Investigations exam paper: 1 hour 30 minutes worth 25% of grade. 	

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND GCSE
 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
<p>Employers and universities value Geography for the generic skills it teaches students. Employers are looking for people who can make good decisions, solve problems and look at issues from more than one angles; these skills are at the centre of this course. GCSE Geography is a good foundation for ‘A’ Level Geography. It also involves a lot of skills that are of value across modules and other subjects. Geography is considered as both a science.</p>	



History (Edexcel)

What does the course offer me?

History will develop a depth of knowledge that links to the modern world. Importantly it allows students to deepen a range of highly valued skills that support many other areas of study and beyond. For example, studying history helps develop:

- A range of communication skills including debate and persuasion.
- The ability to organise and categorise.
- Decision making skills.

Students will have the opportunity to learn in a well resourced environment. In recent years there have been a number of enrichment opportunities. For example, before the pandemic, the History Department has conducted yearly trips to destinations linked to topics of study including Krakow and Amsterdam. We are very much looking forward to re-establishing a GCSE History trip as soon as it is possible and safe to do so.

Learning is supported by the fact that many students have found the topics to be interesting and relevant. Some questions raised studying the course include:

- Why did Elizabeth I have her cousin murdered?
- How has medicine enabled us to live so much longer than our recent ancestors?
- Why are there divisions in society?
- Why do countries get involved in conflict abroad?

What does the course involve?

In History we work in a variety of ways in order to develop core knowledge and subject skills. These include independent research, oral presentations, debate and discussion, ICT, and the study of filmed events including newsreels, documentaries and feature films.

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
The History course is divided into three units:	
Paper 1 British Thematic Study with Historical Environment (30%) (1hr 15min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicine in Britain, c1250 - present. • Medicine on the Western Front, 1914-18. 	
Paper 2 A period study and British depth study (40%) (1hr 45min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-91. • Early Elizabethan England, 1558—1588. 	
Paper 3 Modern Depth Study. (30%) (1hr 20min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The USA, 1954-75, conflict at home and abroad 	

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

History GCSE is an excellent foundation for A-level History but also provides skills which are transferable to many other subjects. It is an academic subject that is highly respected at colleges, universities and by employers.

The skills developed are highly desirable in a range of future careers. These include law, the media, journalism, the police, the armed forces, accountancy, management, administration, teaching, politics, banking and many others!



Spanish (AQA)

What does the course offer me?

Learning a language opens doors to lots of opportunities such as travel, work opportunities, promotion and further study. The course we offer gives students the chance to see progress quickly and gain the confidence to communicate effectively in a variety of situations. Successful linguists are good communicators, problem solvers and intelligent thinkers.

What does the course involve?

Topics covered are:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Health | Home and local area |
| Relationships and choices | Environment |
| Free time and the media | School and future plans |
| Holidays | Current and future jobs |

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<p>There are two tiers of entry: Foundation—grades 1-4 Higher—grades 4-9</p> <p>All four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) are assessed by terminal exam at the end of year 11. Each skill is worth 25% of the final grade.</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

Higher education and employers actively seek people with language qualifications and career opportunities are excellent.

If future career plans involve travelling abroad or working in the business sector, a language will be a real asset.



The following pages give you more information about the Option

Subjects you can choose. You can choose three subjects from this section.



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.



Business Studies (AQA)

What does the course offer me?

Studying Business will allow you to develop a broad range of skills and explore a variety of topics including:









- How businesses are run, considering both internal and external influences
- An awareness of the opportunities and needs of different markets
- The skills to create your own business in the future or study further business related courses in the Sixth Form
- Development of practical and logical thinking skills
- Development of a skillset that employers see as essential

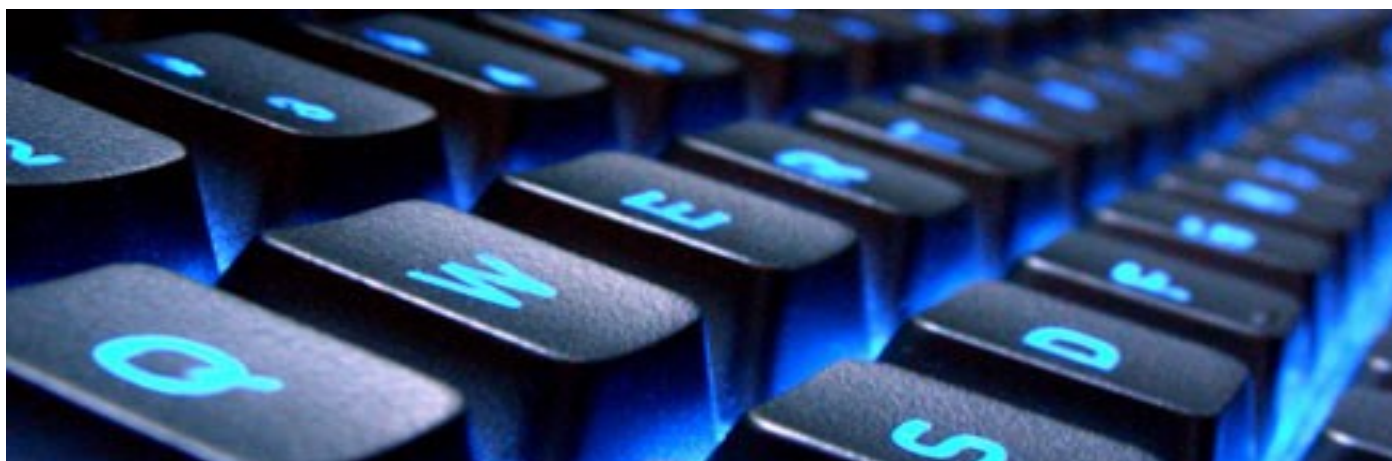
What does the course involve?

The course will involve studying all aspects of a business, and will develop your analytical and evaluative skills through the study of real life business examples. The course is split into six units of study:

- Unit 1: Business in the real world** looks at enterprise and being an entrepreneur, reasons for starting a business along with the basic functions of a business, types of ownership and aims and objectives
- Unit 2: Influences of business** identifies the importance of external factors and how businesses change in response to these.
- Unit 3: Business operations** looks at how businesses make products including the production and quality control process.
- Unit 4: Human Resources** identifies organisational structures and the role of recruitment and selection in a business along with training and development
- Unit 5: Marketing** investigates the 4Ps, market research and the importance of market segmentation.
- Unit 6: Finance** looks at the purpose of finance and its role in business activity

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
2 Written examination papers	
AQA Examination Board	
Component 1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business in the real world • Influences on business • Business Operations • Human Resources 	
Written Exam: 1 hour 45 minute written exam 50% of GCSE	
Components 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business in the real world • Influences on business • Marketing • Finance 	
Written Exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of GCSE	

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND GCSE
 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
<p>Business Studies allows students to progress through a variety of pathways. Many students choose to attend Sixth Form and complete further study in Business Studies at A Level.</p> <p>Business Studies is also one of the most sought after qualifications by employers, who value the qualification as a key employability indicator.</p>	



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



Working with my Hands



Using Numbers



Performing Activities



Design & Create Projects



Using ICT (Not Gaming)



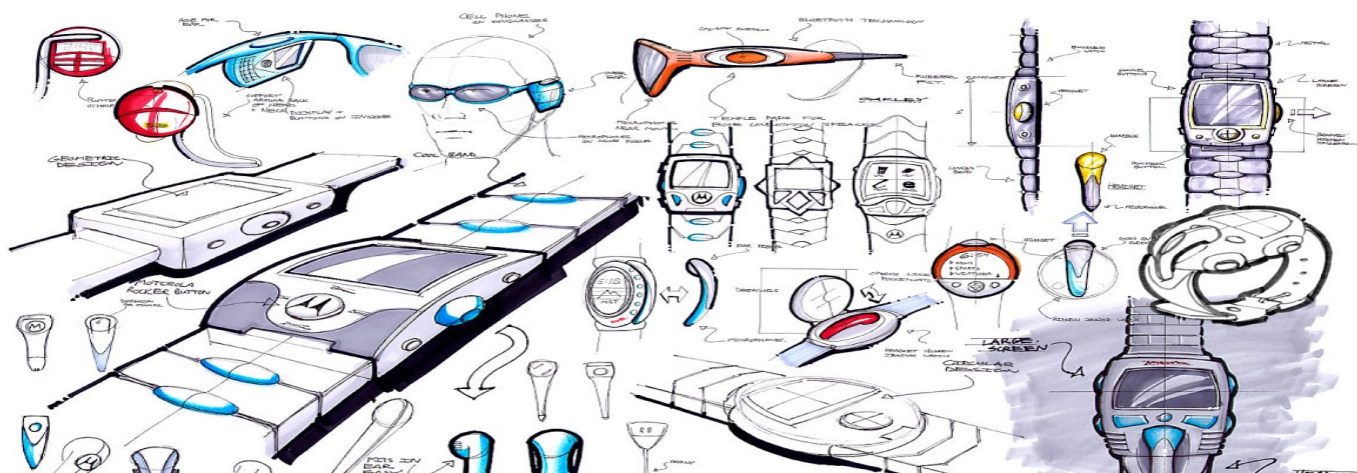
Short Written Tasks



Speaking in front of Others

BEYOND GCSE

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.



Design and Technology (AQA 8552)

What does the course offer me?

Design and technology (D & T) has massive scope. It offers you a wide range of career paths: from engineering to manufacturing to the creative industry.

- You'll design and make products with many different materials and in many different ways.
- You'll get the opportunity to solve real, relevant problems by considering people's wants, needs and values – including your own.
- You'll get to apply your knowledge of mathematics, science, art, computing and the humanities – and see the satisfying results.

Ultimately, you will use your imagination and ideas to convert raw materials into the kind of products and services that we need and use every single day.

For more on the importance of studying a D&T course, watch the video on our subject page at www.gateacre.org

"Design and Technology is a phenomenally important subject. Logical, creative and practical, it's the only opportunity students have to apply what they learn in Maths and Science."

Sir James Dyson
 Founder and Chairman of Dyson and Patron to the D&T Association

What does the course involve?









You will build on your subject knowledge from Key Stage 3 - using your knowledge and understanding of different materials and manufacturing processes to design and make prototypes for real world problems and opportunities.

You'll learn how to take design risks – helping you become more resourceful, more innovative and more enterprising.

You'll learn about the many different practices and industries that D&T feed into.

You'll develop an understanding of D&T's impact on daily life and the wider world, and how high-quality D&T is vital to the creativity, culture, sustainability, wealth and well-being of our nation and the global community.

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
This course breakdown:	
50% Controlled Assessment	
A single design-and-make task consisting of a manufactured product, with accompanying evidence of its development	
50% Exam	
An end-of-course 2-hour written examination	

SKILLS INVOLVED		BEYOND GCSE
 Extended Writing	 Working with my Hands	DT students who continue with their studies beyond GCSE will find a world of opportunity. Experts predict that 1.8 million engineers will be required by 2023. The DT GCSE opens up a range of possible pathways such as A-levels (further education), collage, vocational courses, and full-time employment. Possible careers include Engineering, robotics, construction, 3D design, architecture, plumbing, fashion
 Using Numbers	 Performing Activities	
 Design & Create Projects	 Using ICT (Not Gaming)	
 Short Written Tasks	 Speaking in front of Others	



Drama (AQA)

What does the course offer me?

In our state of the art theatre, you will be taught how to:

- Express yourself in an active and exciting way;
- Work in a group;
- Contribute your ideas and take on board those of others;
- Explore ideas by putting yourself in other people’s shoes;
- Play many parts in different imaginary situations;
- Create your own drama work;
- Study plays written by other people.

GCSE Drama encourages students to develop critical thinking skills and become effective and independent learners. With the focus on working imaginatively, collaborating creatively and communicating effectively, GCSE Drama provides a solid foundation for further academic studies as well as vocational opportunities.

What does the course involve?

You will create and develop characters, explore fascinating themes and topics, devise your own plays and explore the importance of backstage roles.

You will learn how drama is created from an actor, director and designer perspective. You will learn how to create a character and put it into a performance. You will learn many skills that are very important in all walks of life and how to develop confidence and present yourself in public.

The department runs several theatre trips a year and regularly invites professional actors and theatre companies to come and work with our GCSE students. There is also the opportunity to participate in showcase events, school productions and theatre in education projects.

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
Component 1: Understanding Drama (40% of GCSE) —	
Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre —1hr 45 min exam	
Component 2 (40% of GCSE) —	
Process of creating devised drama; performance of devised drama (students may contribute as a performer or a designer); complete an analysis of own work—the resultant performance is marked by our teachers and moderated by the AQA.	
Component 3 (20% of GCSE) —	
Performance of two extracts from one scripted play (students may contribute as a performer or a designer)- marked by AQA	
<i>Follow us on Twitter and Instagram @GateacreDrama</i>	

SKILLS INVOLVED



Extended Writing



Working with my Hands



Using Numbers



Performing Activities



Design & Create Projects



Using ICT (Not Gaming)



Short Written Tasks

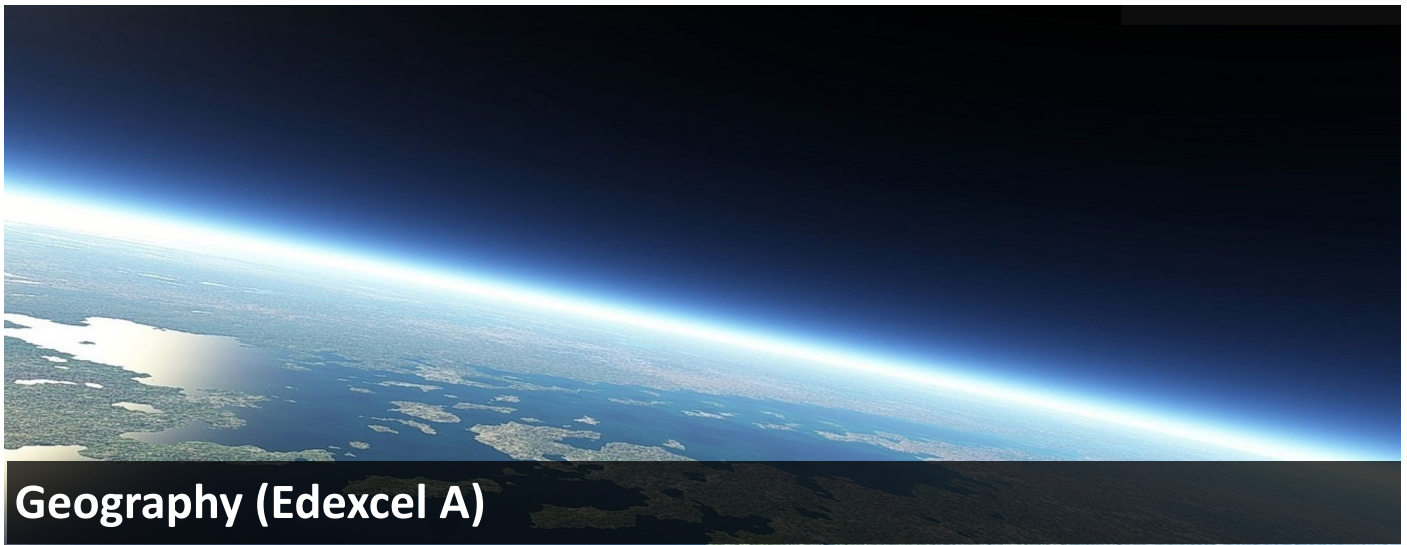


Speaking in front of Others

BEYOND GCSE

GCSE Drama could lead to further study in Drama, Theatre Studies, Performing Arts and Expressive Arts at A-Level and above, or other related subjects such as English, Music, Dance and Art and Design.

Career opportunities for students who study Drama at a higher level include: the media, theatre, television, radio, the film industry, arts administration, law, drama therapy and education, to name a few.



Geography (Edexcel A)

What does the course offer me?

The GCSE Geography course aims to stimulate students’ interest in Geography; develop a sense of place and an appreciation of the environment; and help them to act in an informed and responsible way. Students acquire knowledge and understanding of a range of places, environments and geographical patterns, and develop their understanding of the physical and human processes, including decision-making, which affect their development. You will acquire a range of skills through field, map and atlas work using IT, graphic and presentational work, discussion and group work using a number of different resources.

What does the course involve?

Component 1: The Physical Environment

- Topic 1—The changing landscapes of the UK (including sub topics which students choose 2 from three: 1A: Coastal landscapes and processes, 1B: River landscapes and processes or 1C: Glaciated upland landscapes and processes)
- Topic 2—Weather hazards and climate change
- Topic 3— Ecosystems, biodiversity and management

Component 2: The Human Environment

- Topic 4—Changing cities
- Topic 5—Global development
- Topic 6— Resource management including sub-topics from which students choose 1 from 2: 6A: Energy resource management or Water resource management

Component 3: Geographical Investigations: Fieldwork and UK Challenges

- Topic 7—Geographical investigations—fieldwork
- Topic 8—Geographical investigations—UK challenges

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Environment exam paper: 1 hour 30 minutes worth 37.5% of grade • Human Environment exam paper: 1 hour 30 minutes worth 37.5% of grade • Geographical Investigations exam paper: 1 hour 30 minutes worth 25% of grade. 	

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND GCSE
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
<p>Employers and universities value Geography for the generic skills it teaches students. Employers are looking for people who can make good decisions, solve problems and look at issues from more than one angles; these skills are at the centre of this course. GCSE Geography is a good foundation for ‘A’ Level Geography. It also involves a lot of skills that are of value across modules and other subjects. Geography is considered as both a science.</p>	



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.	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>N.B. you cannot choose both Art & Graphics</p>	

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	



Health & Social Care (BTEC)

What does the course offer me?

To apply health and social values to everyday situations, and to develop an understanding of the part that health and social care plays to the world around us and how people should be treated fairly and equally. To solve problems, present solutions clearly and to demonstrate the ability to handle tasks with confidence. You will gain valuable skills such as communication, team and interpersonal skills, problem solving, planning and organisation as well as time management.

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:

- Human Lifespan Development—internal assessment
- Health & Social Care Services and Values— Internal assessment
- Health and Wellbeing—External assessment

BTEC	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<p>Coursework (60%): Coursework will be completed during lessons. Coursework assessment can take the form of posters, essays, presentations, photographs, observations, role plays and leaflets etc.</p> <p>Final examination (40%): You will be given two scenarios and questions relating to them. These are designed so that you can demonstrate and apply your health and social care knowledge to different situations. This exam will be taken in May of the final year, at the end of the course.</p> <p>We aim to have a variety to suit all learners.</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 BTEC

This course will enable you to do a Level 3 or A Level course in Social or Education courses or sectors of work.

The range of careers that this course links with are endless, as you will gain transferable skills that can be applied to any role.



History (Edexcel)

What does the course offer me?

History will develop a depth of knowledge that links to the modern world. Importantly it allows students to deepen a range of highly valued skills that support many other areas of study and beyond. For example, history helps develop:

- a range of communication skills including debate and persuasion.
- the ability to organise and categorise.
- decision making skills.

Students will have the opportunity to learn in a well resourced environment. In recent years there have been a number of enrichment opportunities. For example, GCSE History students in year 10 will be visiting Auschwitz in July 2018 to enhance their knowledge of the Holocaust.

A key to learning is the fact that many students have found the topics to be interesting and relevant.

- Why did Elizabeth I have her cousin murdered?
- How has medicine enabled us to live so much longer than our recent ancestors?
- Why did many Germans support a known extremist, Hitler?

What does the course involve?

In History we work in a variety of ways in order to develop student's subject skills. These include independent research, oral presentations, debate and discussion, ICT, role-play and the study of filmed events including newsreels, documentaries and feature films such as "The Pianist".

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<p>The History course is divided into three units:</p> <p>Paper 1— British Thematic Study with Historical Environment. (30%) (1hr 15min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicine in Britain c1250 - present. • Medicine on the Western Front 1914-18. <p>Paper 2— A period study and British depth study (40%) (1hr 45min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superpower relations and the Cold War 1941-91. • Early Elizabethan England, 1558—1588. <p>Paper 3— Modern Depth Study. (30%) (1hr 20min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918—39. 	

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

History GCSE is an excellent foundation for AS/A2 History. It is an academic subject that is highly respected at colleges, universities and with employers.

For example media, journalism, the police, the armed forces, accountancy, administration, teaching, politics and banking.



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.

Students 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 students 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 students 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 yet 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/analyst • Environmental health officer • Sports coaching and training



Media Studies (EDUQAS)

What does the course offer me?

- Media Studies course makes learning interesting, challenging, creative and fun.
- It develops skills of enquiry, critical thinking and decision making through consideration of issues that are relevant, real and important for understanding the world they experience.
- It also offers an appreciation and critical understanding of the media and its role in daily lives, whilst promoting the development of practical skills, through opportunities for personal engagement and creativity.
- The course promotes the use of ICT and software such as Adobe Photoshop.

What does the course involve?

As well as producing written examinations of media products, students will also be given the opportunity to develop their own projects, creating film, graphic products.

A variety of topics are covered through the course including music, television drama, advertising and gaming. As well as examining these topics production skills using photography, Photoshop and special effects production are introduced and developed through each student’s projects for controlled assessment.

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<p>Component 1: Exploring the Media: here you analyse media language and representation and media industries and audiences. 1hr 30 mins exam. 40% of final grade.</p> <p>Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products: this assesses all areas of media in relation to television and music. 1hr 30 mins exam. 30% of final grade.</p> <p>Component 3: Creating Media Products: An individual media production for an intended audience in response to a choice of briefs set by EDUCAS. 30% of final grade.</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

The UK leads the way worldwide in the study of media related subjects; globally media industries are worth £977 billion. Media Studies naturally leads to careers in journalism, film/TV, marketing, advertising or public relations, but an awareness of how the world of media can also support other careers, such as business, social work, law, medicine and education.

By knowing how the media operates you will be able to decode messages more skilfully and engage with topics that interest you.



Music (OCR)

What does the course offer me?









GCSE Music is suitable for all students with a love of and interest in music. Free instrumental lessons are provided in order to support students in the practical, performance-based elements of the course. The Department boasts some of the best facilities in the city and has a history of high achievement.

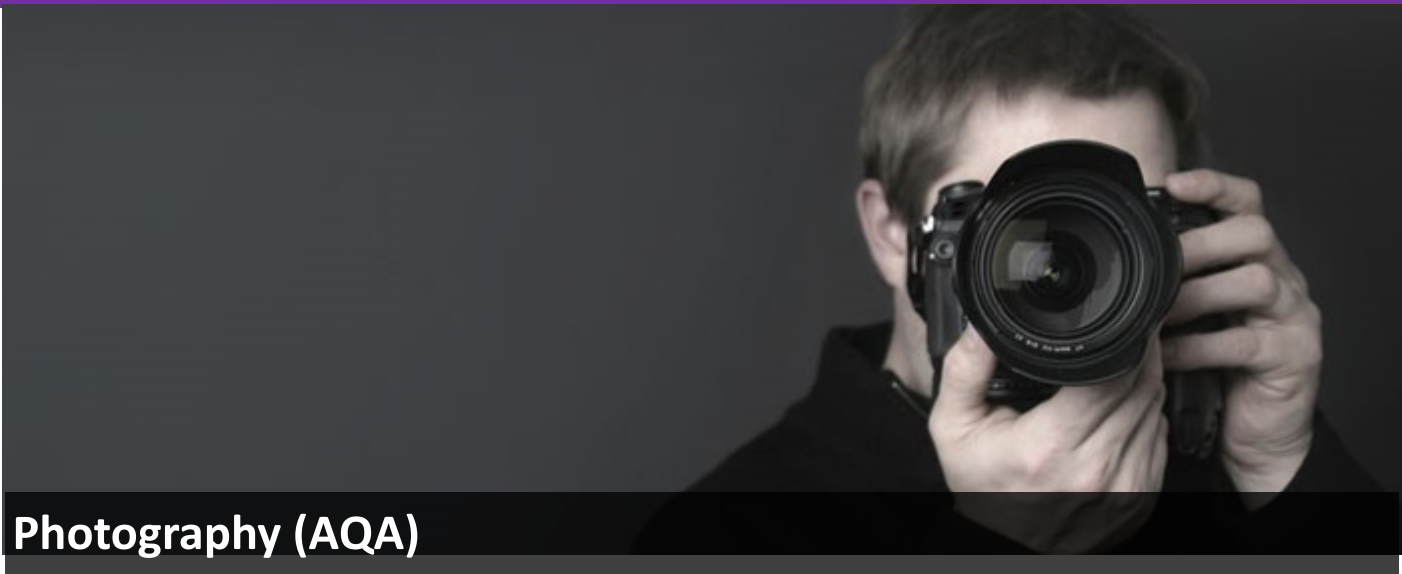
What does the course involve?

GCSE Music (OCR) focuses on the three key areas of Listening, Composing and Performing. Students will explore a wide range of musical styles and genres, including Popular music, Brazilian Samba, the concerto and film music. They will also compose and record their own pieces and improve their performance skills both as a soloist and as part of a group.

It must be stressed that the principal qualifications for success in this subject are enthusiasm and hard work. *It is not necessary to have started learning an instrument before starting the course* and whilst the school cannot provide instruments, free lessons with a peripatetic specialist are provided. It should also be noted that voice is regarded as an instrument, though you **do not** have to sing as part of the course. The GCSE course allows students to pursue their own musical interests-be it a particular instrument, a love of certain genre or musical style or an interest in composition using music ICT-and all GCSE students are actively encouraged to participate fully in this lively department and to take advantage of the many opportunities available.

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<p>Performing—30% Students select and record two pieces; one solo and one group performance. These may be recorded at any time during the course.</p> <p>Composing—30% Students compose two pieces; one piece of descriptive music using Music ICT and the other in a style or genre of their choice.</p> <p>Listening exam—40% 1 hour 30 minute listening exam covering a wide range of music. Students listen to musical excerpts and answer questions in a booklet.</p>	

SKILLS INVOLVED	BEYOND GCSE
 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	<p>Music qualifications are highly regarded by colleges of further education and employers alike as musicians are trained to work methodically and to be self-disciplined. You may wish to use GCSE Music as a basis for further study such as A Level Music or a BTEC course based on Music Technology or Performing Arts.</p> <p>Many Gateacre students have built successful careers in music as teachers, sound engineers, music therapists, commercial composers and session musicians.</p>



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 and even a dark room! 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 student 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.



Religious Studies (WJEC)

What does the course offer me?

If you are naturally curious and a little argumentative then this course should suit you, as it gives an opportunity to examine subjects which affect us all in a little more depth with discussions, research and a chance to evaluate the influence of the media on our understanding. **The course encourages you to consider an issue from many sides and understand the beliefs and experiences that lie behind people’s opinions.**

A qualification in Religious Studies is a good foundation, particularly if you are looking to work within healthcare, law or the media. It helps you develop the ability to consider a range ideas and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of your conclusions.

What does the course involve?

The course is based around two units which explore **ethical and philosophical themes**. This means you discuss the rights and wrongs and the meanings and beliefs around issues such as: **Good and Evil; Life And Death; Relationships and Human Rights**. Each of these topics is considered from a **secular, Christian and Muslim perspective** and you will gain a valuable insight into **the core beliefs and practices** of these religions. It’s also a good opportunity to address common misconceptions about world religions.

GCSE

Option

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

**Examination (100%)
(2hrs)**

You will sit two papers:

- Religion and Ethical Issues
- Religion and Philosophical Themes.

There is no coursework in this subject.

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

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 RS option is particularly useful to you if you’re thinking about a career in **Law** or the police (we look at the rights and wrongs of controversial issues), **journalism** or **media** (we examine big stories in the news), and **Medicine** (we debate ethical issues). It also compliments subjects such as **English** (you’ll learn to argue a point from a balanced perspective), **Sociology** (we study a broad range of social issues) and **History** (evaluating your sources and considering their impact). You will find these skills useful in many other careers.



Separate Sciences - GCSE Biology, Chemistry & Physics (AQA)

What does the course offer me?

- The opportunity to study three individual core subjects in the National Curriculum (Biology, Chemistry and Physics).
- Knowledge and understanding of the Universe.
- A combination of a practical and academic subject.

Separate qualifications in GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics 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.

Nb - The content required to cover the course will be taught across their regular Science lessons plus their option block lessons giving 7 lessons per week across the 3 disciplines.

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<p>Separate Sciences: Each separate GCSE will award a single GCSE (3 in total) and each will be examined in 2020 across 2 x 105 minute papers each worth 50%.</p> <p>Investigational skills will be examined across all 6 papers and is worth 15% of the questions.</p> <p>There are two tiers:</p> <p>Foundation: 1-5 Higher: 4-9</p>	

SKILLS INVOLVED



Extended Writing



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Short Written Tasks



Speaking in front of Others

BEYOND GCSE

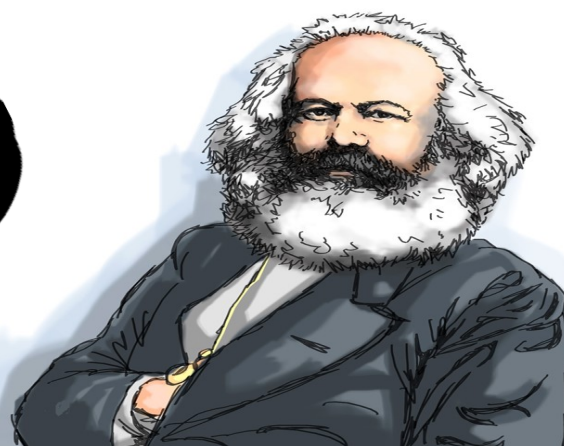
GCSE Separate Sciences give students a good knowledge of science and provides a strong foundation for further study at A level.

Continue to:

A Level Sciences (Grade 6 minimum)

BTEC Level 3 Science

Science related courses, e.g. Nursing



Sociology (Eduqas)

What does the course offer me?

Sociology is one of the most interesting and relevant of all GCSE subjects as it is the study of people and the world we live in. A sociologist seeks to explain why people think and act in the way they do.

In sociology, you will develop an understanding of society and how society works. You will be able to understand and reflect on your role in the society and will begin to understand how and why society changes over time e.g. the changing role of women in the last 30 years.

What does the course involve?

Cultural Transmission: You will study how we learn our culture and develop a sense of identity. You will question whether human behaviour is inherited through our genes or nurtured by our upbringing. You will examine children brought up by animals and analyse identical twin studies. We will also look at how sociologists carry out research.

Families: You will study the importance of the family and how it can shape a child's personality. You will look at how the family has changed over the years, the types of relationship we have and examine who holds power in the home - do we really have equality between men and women?

Education: You will examine why we have an education system and evaluate how successful and fair the education system has been. You will examine the impact of setting and labelling in school. You will also look at patterns of educational achievement (e.g. why do richer people do better than the poor and why do girls outperform boys in exams?).

Social Differentiation: Sociologists study inequality in society - its causes and consequences. You will study the way societies are divided by money, power and status. You will also examine forms of social difference in Britain (such as social class, gender, ethnicity and age) and how they can impact on a person's chances to do well in life.

Crime & Deviance: Sociologists investigate the causes of crime and deviance. You will study who commits crime and why. You will also study how the government and the police try to reduce the level of crime, how accurate official statistics on crime are and what factors affect your chances of becoming a victim of crime.

GCSE

Option

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are **two exams**. Both exams last one hour and thirty minutes. There is **no coursework**.

Unit 1 Exam (50%):

1 hour, 45 minutes

⇒ Cultural Transmission

⇒ Families

⇒ Education

Unit 2 Exam (50%):

1 hour, 45 minutes

⇒ Social Differentiation

⇒ Crime and Deviance

⇒ Research Methods

⇒ Crime and Deviance

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

GCSE Sociology students are often interested in jobs and careers associated with a social or welfare role. Many students go on to work in government, the media, education or the criminal justice system.

Many GCSE students go on to study Sociology at A Level.



Spanish (AQA)

What does the course offer me?

Learning a language opens doors to lots of opportunities such as travel, work opportunities, promotion and further study. The course we offer gives students the chance to see progress quickly and gain the confidence to communicate effectively in a variety of situations. Successful linguists are good communicators, problem solvers and intelligent thinkers.

What does the course involve?

Topics covered are:

- Health
- Relationships and choices
- Free time and the media
- Holidays
- Home and local area
- Environment
- School and future plans
- Current and future jobs

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<p>There are two tiers of entry: Foundation—grades 1-4 Higher—grades 4-9</p> <p>All four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) are assessed by terminal exam at the end of year 11. Each skill is worth 25% of the final grade.</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

Higher education and employers actively seek people with language qualifications and career opportunities are excellent.

If future career plans involve travelling abroad or working in the business sector, a language will be a real asset.



Statistics (Edexcel)

What does the course offer me?

There is considerable overlap between maths and statistics at GCSE level. This will greatly benefit those who want to achieve a '6' or higher at GCSE maths. Students will study topics covered in maths GCSE but will have the opportunity to extend these and to use them in real life situations.









What does the course involve?

The course will enable you to develop knowledge, skills and understanding in statistical methods and concepts and in probability, including an awareness of the potential and limitations of data and methods. Further it will help you to develop a critical appreciation of statistics that is increasingly important in a wide variety of careers and in everyday life.

You will study:

- Planning a Strategy
- Data Collection
- Tabulation and Representation
- Data Analysis
- Probability and Data
- Data Interpretation

GCSE	Option
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?	
<p>Unit One: Statistics Written Paper (75% of total marks)</p> <p>Unit Two: Statistics in Practice— controlled assessment worth 25% of total marks. This is broken down into investigation (12.5%) and written assessment (12.5%)</p>	

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>The course focuses on handling data, which is used in many A Level subjects and the wider world. You can go to study A2 Statistics, Degree in Statistics, Statistician, Researchers, work in public and private sector, data analysis.</p>

OPTIONS PROCESS: DATELINE 2022	
Date	Activity
Monday 6 th December- ongoing	Dedicated Careers Programme – using XELLO career mapping software
Thursday 6 th January	Parents' Evening – Parents will be able to talk to Academic Tutors and discuss their child's progress and option choices.
Thursday 20 th 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 21 st January	Students' Option Meeting * ALL STUDENTS - Period 1 (Theatre with HoY, AHoY, CCH & JBo); SUCCESS PATHWAY STUDENTS – Period 5 (Library)
Monday 31 st January – Friday 4 th February	Option Assemblies for non-KS4 Subjects. *
Monday 31 st Jan – Wednesday 9 th Feb	Individual meetings with students/parents for SUCCESS Pathway students (A&B) – Ms Moreton, Ms Langton & Ms Chapman
Tuesday 8 th February	'Step in to the Future' apprenticeship * performance with 'Be More' Apprenticeship
Tuesday 15 th February	Gateacre Careers and Employability Fayre * – a chance to meet and talk to employers, further education and higher education institutions
Thursday 10 th 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 14 th February	Deadline for submission of option forms via Edu-Link
Friday 25 th February	Option block format is decided.
Summer Term	Option allocations finalised Students and parents informed

NB these may be remote if COVID restrictions