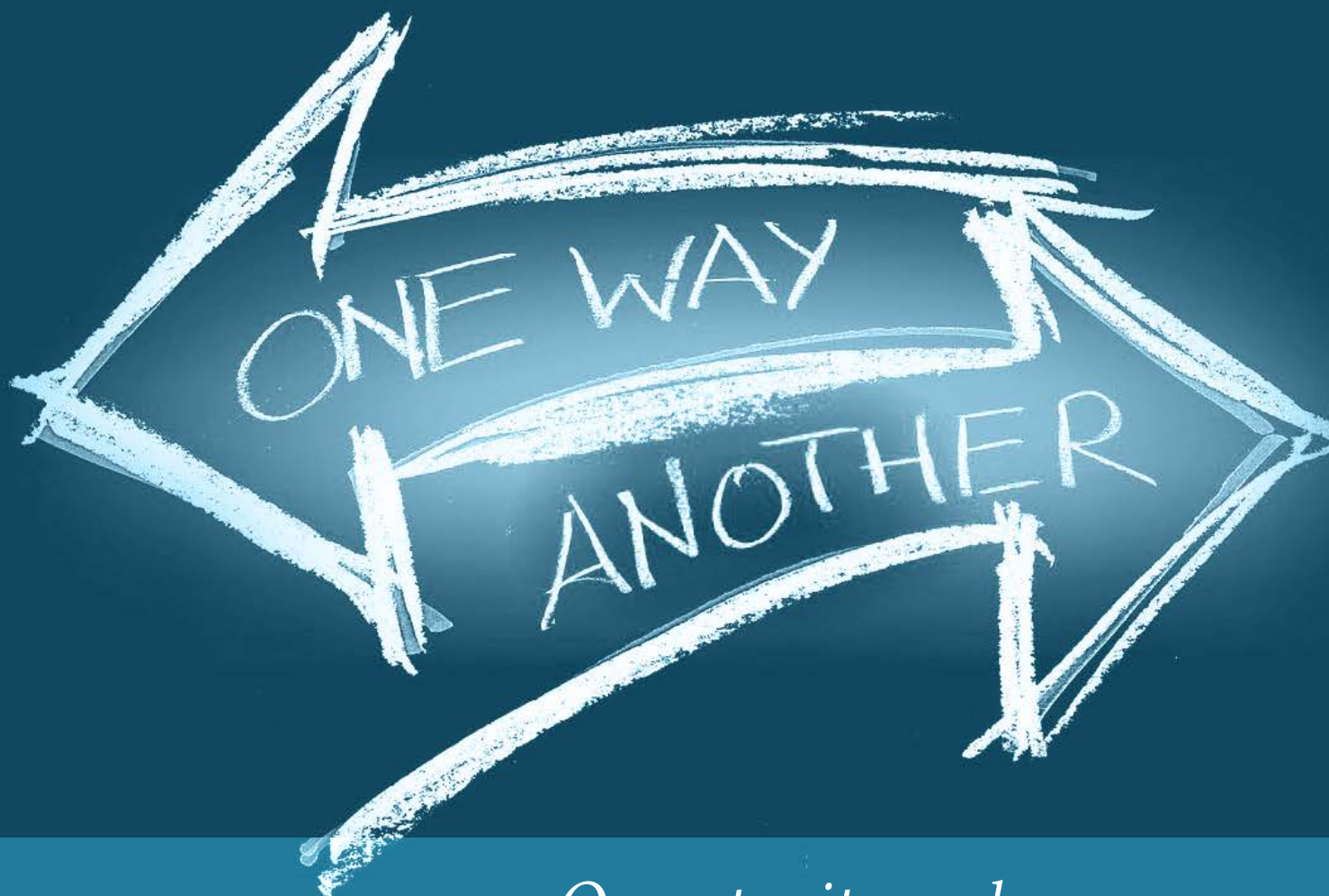




King's Academy  
Easthampstead Park



*Opportunity and success on a global stage*

Year 9 Subject Preferences 2026



[www.kgaeasthampstead.uk](http://www.kgaeasthampstead.uk)

# Contents

*Information about the wide range of subjects open to you at King's Academy Easthampstead Park to help you make the right choices*

## Introduction

- 2 Contents
- 3 How to follow a pathway

## Core Subjects

- 5 GCSE English Language
- 6 GCSE English Literature
- 7 GCSE Mathematics
- 8 GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy)
- 9 GCSE Biology
- 10 GCSE Chemistry
- 11 GCSE Physics

## Options

### Humanities

- 13 GCSE Geography
- 14 GCSE History
- 15 GCSE Religious Studies

### Creative

- 17 GCSE Art & Design: Fine Art
- 18 GCSE Art & Design: Photography
- 19 GCSE Art & Design: Textiles
- 20 GCSE Art & Design: 3D
- 21 GCSE Dance
- 22 GCSE Drama

### Languages

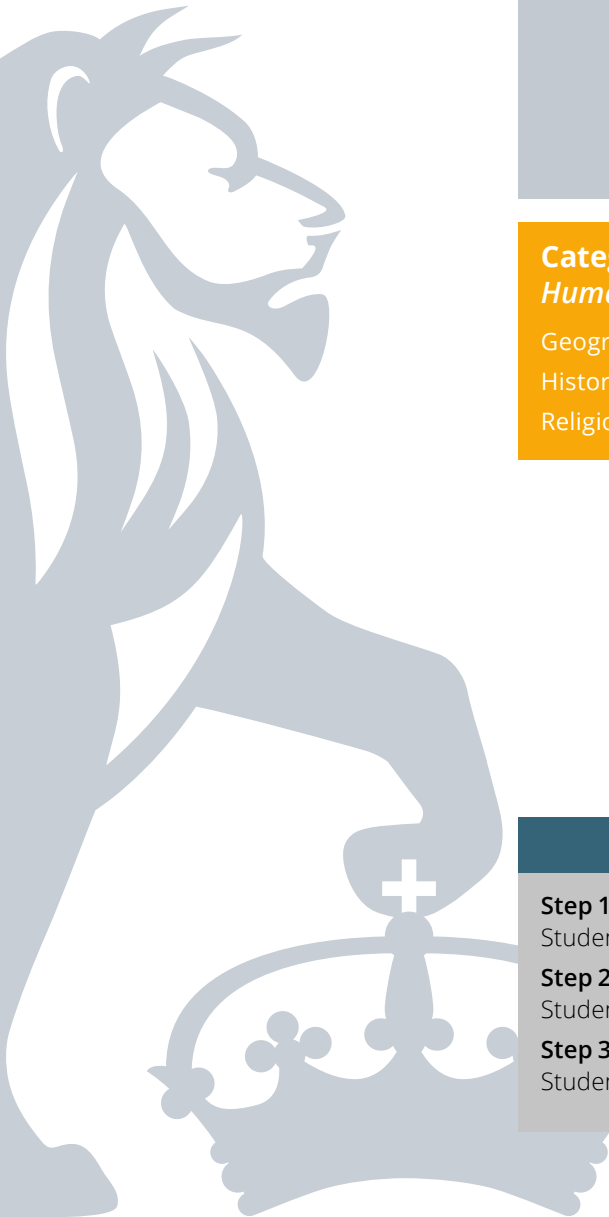
- 24 GCSE German
- 25 GCSE Spanish

### Other preference subjects

- 27 GCSE Business
- 28 OCR Child Development
- 29 GCSE Computer Science
- 30 OCR Creative iMedia
- 31 GCSE Film Studies
- 32 NCFE Health and Fitness
- 33 Hospitality and Catering
- 34 GCSE Media studies
- 35 BTEC Music

- 36 Careers Guidance at King's Academy Easthampstead Park
- 37 Careers partnership programmes
- 38 Useful websites
- 39 KAEP6 – 'Stay Close to Go Far'





## EVERYONE HAS TO DO THE FOLLOWING CORE SUBJECTS

Maths  
English Literature  
English Language

Science  
(Combined or Triple)  
PSHE (Non-examined)  
PE Core (Non-examined)

### Category A *Humanities*

Geography  
History  
Religious Studies

### Category B *Creative Subjects*

Art & Design  
Fine Art  
Textiles  
3D Design  
Photography  
Drama  
Dance

### Category C *Languages*

German  
Spanish

### Category D *Other Preferences*

Business  
Child Development  
Computer Science  
Creative iMedia  
Film Studies  
Health and Fitness  
Hospitality and Catering  
Media studies  
Music  
PE

## PATHWAY STEPS

### Step 1

Students will need to choose one subject from category A or B or C

### Step 2

Students will need to choose one subject from a different category A or B or C chosen in Step 1

### Step 3

Students choose a subject from category D or a different subject from category A, B or C and two reserve subjects.



King's Academy  
Easthampstead Park

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Core curriculum information

*Opportunity and success on a global stage*



# GCSE English Language

CORE SUBJECT COMPULSORY FOR ALL

## What is the course about?

The course will enable students of all abilities to develop the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts covering the 19th, 20th and 21st century time periods as well as to write clearly, coherently and accurately using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures. The course also aims for students to listen to and understand spoken language and use spoken Standard English effectively.

## How is the course assessed?

### Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

### Reading (40 marks) (25%) – one single text

- 1 short form retrieval question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (language and structure) (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended evaluate question (1 x 20 marks)

### Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

### Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

## Section A: Reading

- one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text
- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

## Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

## Non examination assessment: Spoken Language

- Presenting
- Response to questions and feedback
- Use of standard English
- Assessed by teacher (0% of GCSE)

## Examination board

AQA



## Successful study of English language can lead to...

Research shows companies value communication, collaboration, critical thinking, independence, adaptability. English teaches all of these.

## Future careers include:

Academic librarian  
Magazine journalist  
Proof-reader  
Creative marketing assistant  
Administrative assistant  
Writer  
Public relations officer  
Publishing assistant  
Editor  
Editorial assistant  
Teacher  
Solicitor



# GCSE English Literature

CORE SUBJECT COMPULSORY FOR ALL

## What is the course about?

During the two-year course, students will develop the skills to analyse how language, form, structure and context of texts can create meanings and effects.

## How is the course assessed?

All assessments are **closed book**: any stimulus materials required will be provided as part of the assessment. All assessments are **compulsory**.

### Paper 1 Shakespeare and 19th century Novel

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 64 marks
- 40% of GCSE

### Paper 2 Modern Texts and Poetry

- written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

## What will be studied?

### Paper 1

- **Section A Shakespeare:** students will answer one question on Romeo and Juliet. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.
- **Section B The 19th-century novel:** students will answer one question on A Christmas Carol. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

### Paper 2

- **Section A Modern text: An Inspector calls:** Students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.
- **Section B Poetry:** students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the power and conflict cluster
- **Section C Unseen Poetry:** Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

## Examination board

AQA



## Successful study of English language can lead to...

Research shows companies value communication, collaboration, critical thinking, independence, adaptability. English teaches all of these.

## Future careers include:

Academic librarian  
Magazine journalist  
Proof-reader  
Creative marketing assistant  
Administrative assistant  
Writer  
Public relations officer  
Publishing assistant  
Editor  
Editorial assistant  
Teacher  
Solicitor



# GCSE Mathematics

**CORE SUBJECT COMPULSORY FOR ALL**

## What is the course about?

Maths is more than just using numbers and basic numeracy. There are also topic areas for algebra, shape, ratio and data. Maths allows students to build up and practise existing skills that are transferable to many other subjects that are studied at GCSE and skills that are used in real life.

### These skills are:

- Collecting, Sorting, Grouping, Ordering, Systemising
- Comparing, Spotting patterns, Checking
- Predicting, Generalising, Proving, Recalling
- Measuring, Orderly Communication
- Further investigating, Reasoning, Exploring logically
- Presenting logically, Logical thinking, Processing thoughts, Problem solving

Students may already think mathematically, or may use GCSE Maths to help become more mathematically minded. A mathematically minded person is very employable and these mathematical skills will be a great benefit to students for the future.

## How is the course assessed?

There are three external examination papers at the end of Year 11. Each paper is 90 minutes long and is worth 80 marks, giving a total of 240.

These papers cover the skills from the GCSE course and rely on key knowledge from Year 6 upwards. The first paper is non-calculator and the other two are both calculator papers.

We use 3 assessment points in each year to give students mock exams that mimic the real exam experience. Students have a chance to see real papers, real grade boundaries and real examiner's mark-schemes. This prepares them for the actual exam in year 11; developing their confidence step by step.

## What will be studied?

### Number and Ratio

Number properties: fractions, decimals, percentages, place value, estimation, rounding, negative numbers, number patterns, ratio, proportion, compound measures.

### Algebra

Solving, substitution, simplifying, rearranging and using formula, expanding, factorising, quadratics, graphs and sequences.

### Shape, Space and Measure

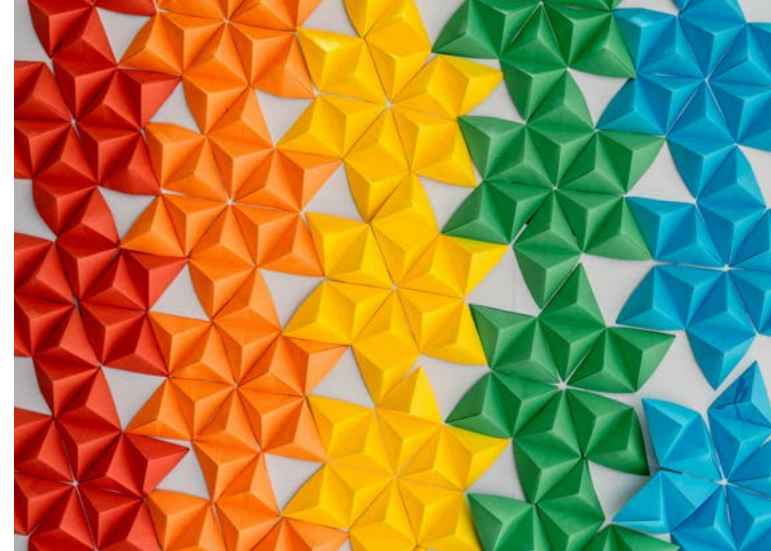
Area, perimeter, volume, Pythagoras' theorem, angles, measure, constructions, circles, surface area, 2D and 3D shapes, loci, similarity, transformations and compound measures.

### Handling Data

Probability and chance, representing data, comparing data and analysing data.

### Using and Applying

This combines the 4 areas above with real life problems and comparisons.



## Successful study of maths can lead to...

- Strong problem-solving and thinking skills
- Essential knowledge needed for further study, training or employment
- Improved confidence using maths in everyday life and future careers

Maths is a key subject that supports many pathways beyond school and is highly valued by colleges, universities and employers.

Sparx Maths is used as our homework platform and used for weekly homework

## Examination board

Pearson Edexcel



# GCSE Science

CORE SUBJECT COMPULSORY FOR ALL

## What is the course about?

The course studies the fundamental concepts of Biology, Chemistry and Physics; building upon what has been learned in KS3 to both increase the breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding in Science. Studying GCSE Science will help you to gain an understanding of the natural world (and beyond) as well as unlocking the links with technology, industry and our own bodies.

## How is the course assessed?

Combined Science	Triple Science
6 papers in total. • 2 Chemistry • 2 Biology • 2 Physics	6 papers in total. • 2 Chemistry • 2 Biology • 2 Physics
Each paper is 70 marks and 1 hour 15 mins.	Each paper is 100 marks and 1 hour 45 mins.
Each paper is 16.7% of the total mark.	Each paper is 50% of the total mark for that particular Science GCSE
You will gain two grades in <b>Science</b> that are an average of all 6 papers.	You will gain 3 grades in <b>Biology, Chemistry and Physics</b>

## What will be studied?

Please see the following pages which cover Biology, Chemistry and Physics in more detail.

## Examination board

AQA

## Other information

When you come to take your Science GCSE there are two routes available. Either "Combined" Science or "Triple" Science. Both options will mean that you study all three sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) but how the course is structured is a little different.

No matter which route you end up taking, you will have the same number of lessons, for the same amount of time. This means that if you are studying the Triple Science route, lessons and topics are covered at a faster pace due to a greater volume of content, which is naturally more challenging. We do, of course, allow enough time to cover the course in full and in detail.

Combined Science covers all three sciences, and you will come out with 2 GCSE grades in "Science." There is less overall content to study compared to Separate Science, but it is not necessarily easier.

Triple Science studies all three sciences, and you will come out with 3 GCSE's 1 in Chemistry, 1 in Physics and 1 in Biology.

For both routes there is the option to take the higher tier (more challenge, can obtain a grade 9-4) or foundation tier papers (more support, can obtain a grade (5-1.)



## Successful study of science can lead to...

Success in science can lead to a huge variety of options in further education and careers. Careers in science are genuinely some of the most exciting, interesting and significant out there.

We live in a time of huge scientific and technological advancement and there are huge issues that the entire world is facing that we turn to science (and scientists) for the answer to. If you want your job to make a difference to other people, the environment or the planet, then a career in Science is for you.

Thousands of specialisms exist, from astrophysics and marine biology to zoological sciences and pharmacology. So whether you think working in a lab using high tech equipment is for you, or if you see yourself working outdoors with animals, diving on coral reefs or digging up the bones of animals that lived millions of years ago; there is a career to suit you in science!



# GCSE Biology

CORE SUBJECT COMPULSORY FOR ALL

## What is the course about?

The course studies the fundamental concepts of Biology; building upon what has been learned in KS3 to both increase the breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding in Science. Studying GCSE Science will help you to gain an understanding of the natural world (and beyond) as well as unlocking the links with technology, industry and our own bodies.

## How is the course assessed? Separate Science

### Paper 1 – Topics 1–4: Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and Response; Bioenergetics

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response (max 6 marks)

### Paper 2 – Topics 5–7: Homeostasis and Response; Inheritance; Variation and Evolution; Ecology

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structure, closed short answer and open response (max 6 marks)

## How is the course assessed? Combined Science

### Paper 1 – Topics 1–4: Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and Response; Bioenergetics

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response (max 6 marks)

### Paper 2 – Topics 5–7: Homeostasis and Response; Inheritance; Variation and Evolution; Ecology

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structure, closed short answer and open response (max 6 marks)

## What will be studied?

The Biology course can be broken down into 7 major areas: Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, variation and evolution and finally Ecology.

Each of these topics can then be broken down further, please see Science staff for more details.

## Examination board

AQA





# GCSE Chemistry

CORE SUBJECT COMPULSORY FOR ALL

## What is the course about?

The course studies the fundamental concepts of Chemistry; building upon what has been learned in KS3 to both increase the breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding in Science. Studying GCSE Science will help you to gain an understanding of the natural world (and beyond) as well as unlocking the links with technology, industry and our own bodies.

## How is the course assessed? Separate Science

**Paper 1 – Topics 1–5: atomic structure and the periodic table; bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; quantitative chemistry; chemical changes; and energy changes**

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response (max 6 marks)

**Paper 2 – Topics 6–10: the rate and extent of chemical change; organic chemistry; chemical analysis; chemistry of the atmosphere; and using resources**

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structure, closed short answer and open response (max 6 marks)

## How is the course assessed? Combined Science

**Paper 1 – Topics 1–5: atomic structure and the periodic table; bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; quantitative chemistry; chemical changes; and energy changes**

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response

**Paper 2– Topics 6–10: the rate and extent of chemical change; organic chemistry; chemical analysis; chemistry of the atmosphere; and using resources**

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response

## What will be studied?

The programme of study in Chemistry can be broken down into 10 major topic areas. These are Atomic structure and the periodic table, Bonding, structure and the properties of matter, Quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, Energy changes, The rate and extent of chemical change, Organic chemistry, Chemical analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere and Using resources.

Each of these topics can then be broken down further, please see Science staff for more details.

## Examination board

AQA





# GCSE Physics

CORE SUBJECT COMPULSORY FOR ALL

## What is the course about?

The course studies the fundamental concepts of Physics; building upon what has been learned in KS3 to both increase the breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding in Science. Studying GCSE Science will help you to gain an understanding of the natural world (and beyond) as well as unlocking the links with technology, industry and our own bodies.

## How is the course assessed? Separate Science

### Paper 1 – Topics 1–4: energy; electricity; particle model of matter; and atomic structure

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

Foundation and Higher tier

- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response (max 6 marks)

### Paper 2 – Topics 5–8: forces; waves; magnetism and electromagnetism; and space physics

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 100 marks
- 50% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structure, closed short answer and open response (max 6 marks)

## How is the course assessed? Combined Science

### Paper 1 – Topics 1–4: energy; electricity; particle model of matter; and atomic structure

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response (max 6 marks)

### Paper 2 – Topics 6–10: forces; waves; magnetism and electromagnetism

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher tier
- 70 marks
- 16.7% of GCSE
- Questions: Multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response (max 6 marks)

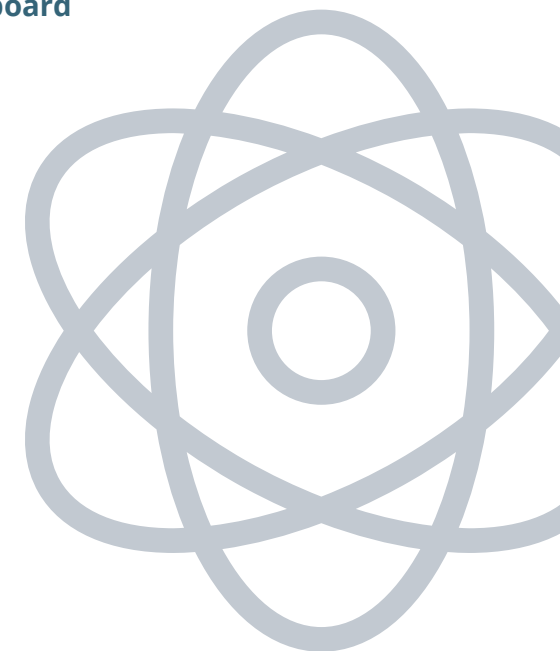
## What will be studied?

The programme of study in Physics breaks the subject down into 8 topic areas; namely Energy, Electricity, Particle model of matter, Atomic structure, Forces, Waves, Magnetism and Electromagnetism and Space physics.

Each of these topics can then be broken down further, please see Science staff for more details.

## Examination board

AQA





Humanities information  
CATEGORY A

*Opportunity and success on a global stage*



# GCSE Geography

## CATEGORY A: HUMANITIES

### What is the course about?

Geographers know the world better than anybody else! If students want a career that involves travel and people, then GCSE Geography is for them!

We explore the Thar Desert, investigate the coast of the UK, dive into rivers (not literally) and discover Rio and Nigeria, amongst so much more.

### How is the course assessed?

Three exams, all taken at the end of the course:

- **Paper 1**  
Living with the physical environment (35%)
- **Paper 2**  
Challenges in the human environment (35%)
- **Paper 3**  
Geographical applications (30%)

### What will be studied?

- The challenge of natural hazards
- The living world
- Physical landscapes in the UK
- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management
- Issue evaluation (based on pre-release material - released 12 weeks prior to the exam)
- Geographical skills
- Fieldwork – Trips to Bristol and Barton-on-Sea

### Is GCSE Geography right for me?

Students who take Geography will be:

- Interested in Geography and the world around them.
- Curious and someone who enjoys problem solving.
- Organised with course materials.
- Committed to regularly recap learning.
- Able to make decisions to solve problems that are posed!

### Examination board

AQA



### Successful study of Geography

This qualification is an EBacc qualification and can lead onto further study at A level.

Geography allows students to develop:

- Personalised independent learning
- Communication skills
- Technological skills such as ICT and Geographical information systems
- Interpersonal skills through debate and discussion
- Literacy, Numeracy and problem-solving skills



# GCSE History

## CATEGORY A: HUMANITIES

### What is the course about?

Everybody knows how interesting History is! From studying Medieval monarchs to 20th Century dictators, historians are the most knowledgeable and fascinating people you are likely to meet. In GCSE History, we investigate past politics, societies, cultures, health, money, conflicts and more. It is about developing an understanding of how we got to where we are today.

### What will be studied?

#### Year 10

- Medicine in Britain, c1250–present
- The reigns of King Richard I and King John, 1189–1216

#### Year 11

- Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939
- The American West, c1835-1895
- Revision and exams

### How is the course assessed?

Students are assessed through three written examinations, covering four topics. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

- **Paper 1**  
Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.  
(1hr 15 mins, 30% of qualification).
- **Paper 2**  
The reigns of King Richard I and King John, 118–1216 and The American West, c1835–c1895  
(1hr 45 mins, 40% of qualification).
- **Paper 3**  
Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39  
(1hr 20 mins, 30% of qualification).

### Is GCSE History right for me?

Students who take History will be:

- Interested in History and current affairs.
- Curious about societies and the world around them.
- Organised with course materials.
- Committed to regularly recap learning.
- Able to work with evidence to form opinions.
- Able to construct well-argued written opinions.

### Examination board

Edexcel



### Successful study of History

History is an academic subject that is highly valued within further and higher education, and recognised for its challenging content by businesses. It stretches our critical thinking abilities; combining analysis, research, essay writing and communication skills. Historians make judgements based upon evidence, directing individuals to become more organised and prepared.

There is no end to the list of jobs for which History can prepare you. In particular, careers in law, politics, journalism, marketing, economics, insurance, teaching, business and curation are amongst the most likely destinations.



# GCSE Religious Studies

## CATEGORY A: HUMANITIES

### What is the course about?

GCSE religious studies is about exploring life's big questions and considering a range of religious and non-religious perspectives.

Students are encouraged to form their own opinions and will also learn about the key role that religion plays in British society.

This course explores theistic and secular beliefs about contemporary British issues including areas like: crime and punishment, relationships and moral issues.

### How is the course assessed?

There are two written examination papers at the end of the course.

#### Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices.

- Written exam – 1 hour and 45 minutes.
- 50% of the GCSE

#### Component 2: Thematic Studies

- Written exam – 1 hour and 45 minutes.
- 50% of the GCSE

### What will be studied?

Students will study:

#### 1. The beliefs and practices of 2 British religions in depth:

- Christianity
- Islam/Hinduism

#### 2. A range of modern issues from the perspective of different religious and non-religious beliefs:

- Crime & Punishment
- Family and Relationships
- Religion & Life
- Existence of God and Revelation

### Is GCSE Religious Studies right for me?

Students selecting this GCSE will be:

- An enquiring personality who loves asking big questions & doesn't always accept the first answer
- Able to look at different perspectives
- Organised with course materials
- Committed to regular recap of learning
- Enjoy debating both verbally and in a written format.

### Examination board

AQA



### Successful study of Religious Studies can lead to...

Further study in these areas, as well as other A Level and degree options such as Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology & Law.

The skills and knowledge gained will be useful in a range of careers such as:

- Business (especially international)
- Counselling & social work
- Education
- Law
- Journalism
- Marketing
- Events planning



Creative information

CATEGORY B

*Opportunity and success on a global stage*



# GCSE Art & Design: Fine Art

## CATEGORY B: CREATIVE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of fine art media, processes and techniques. They will be made aware of both traditional and new media.

Students will explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales.

Students will be working in sketchbooks as they currently do to show their visual development & journey.

Students explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the historical & contemporary artists using various mediums & techniques to give students a range of skills.

Students' responses to these examples will be shown through practical and critical pieces of work that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions.

### How is the course assessed?

Students will be assessed on the four assessment objectives, ranging from research to the quality of outcomes. These are the four objectives that students have worked through and been assessed on in their art journey at King's so far

The coursework portfolio is worth 60% of their final grade and the end point will be their Year 11 Christmas mock exam. The externally set assignment is worth 40% of the final grade. Students will have directed time in lessons and in their own time to work on this. The final exam is a 10 hour practical exam. There is no written paper.

Students are assessed on the consistency of their work throughout the coursework and exam. Students are expected to show evidence of all four assessment objectives.

During the course, if any work is identified as needing improvement students are expected to work on this in their own time.

Annotation is required throughout the project to chart students decision making, successes & thought processes.

### What will be studied?

#### Component 1 – Portfolio

We will be studying two projects. Students will have an introductory project, to help them understand the expectations and workings of the GCSE course. We will then start our sustained project which will continue through to Christmas Year 11. Students will get to choose their own artist amongst others we will be studying and will produce a response for the sustained project. This forms a summer holiday project and is to encourage research finding artists and creative styles they want to investigate further.

#### Component 2 – Externally set assignment

This is an externally based paper where students choose from a selection of themes and they will be produce a portfolio of work within that theme, showing a personal & developed response.

The final piece will be the 10 hour exam over a course of 2 days.

Work has to be of a consistent standard throughout the course, so it is expected that students work independently to revisit and rework pieces to maximise their potential.



### Successful study of Art can lead to...

Fashion design, Graphic design, Theatre designer, Animator, Video game designer, illustrator, Museum curator, Photographer, Architecture, Product design, Textiles design, Ceramics, Advertising, Publishing, Interior design, Fashion and media journalism

### Is GCSE Art right for me?

This subject allows you to invest in your creative skills. You will be challenged to look at a range of creative people and photographers allowing you to develop your approach, style and creative thinking.

Art is not an easy option, and it allows you to develop your perspective of the world. You may need to commit time after school to complete work and this should be a factor in your decision making.

It also encourages self-expression and creativity and can build confidence as well as a sense of individual identity within students which is a key skill for young people to have.

### Examination board

AQA

### Other information

Your own basic equipment is desirable, as this allows you to work at home.

Homework will be given. This will involve various tasks from research to completing work from lessons.



# GCSE Art & Design: Photography

## CATEGORY B: CREATIVE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of photography, editing processes and techniques. They will be made aware of the basic functions of a DSLR camera enabling them to work independently in outside photoshoots.

Students will explore the use of photography and editing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and editing techniques based on a range of photographer scales. Students will be working in a computer based portfolio which will show their visual development and journey.

Students will explore relevant images and resources relating to a range of art and photographers, from the historical and contemporary context using various outcomes & editing techniques to give students a range of skills to allow them to have the core skills to study at higher levels.

Students' responses to these examples must be shown through practical and critical pieces of work that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions.

### How is the course assessed?

Students will be assessed on the four assessment objectives, ranging from research to the quality of outcomes.

The coursework portfolio is worth 60% of their final grade and the end point will be their Year 11 Christmas mock exam. The externally set assignment is worth 40% of the final grade. Students will have directed time in lessons and in their own time to work on this. The final exam is a 10 hour practical exam. There is no written paper.

Students are assessed on the consistency of their work throughout the coursework and exam. Students are expected to show evidence of all four assessment objectives.

During the course, if any work is identified as needing improvement students are expected to work on this in their own time.

Annotation is required throughout the project to chart students decision making, successes & thought processes.

### What will be studied?

#### Component 1 – Portfolio

We will be studying two projects. Students will have an introductory project to help them understand the expectations and workings of the GCSE course. We will start our sustained project which will continue through to Christmas Year 11. Students will get to choose their own artist amongst others we

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#### Component 2 – Externally set assignment

This is an externally based paper where students will choose from a selection of themes and they will be expected to produce a portfolio of work within that theme, showing a personal & developed response. The final piece will be the 10 hour exam over a course of 2 days.

Work has to be of a consistent standard throughout the course, so it is expected that students work independently to revisit and rework pieces to maximise their potential.



### Successful study of Photography can lead to...

Advertising art director, Film/video editor, Graphic designer, Magazine features editor, Medical illustrator, Photographer, Press photographer, Television camera operator.

### Is GCSE Photography right for me?

This subject allows you to invest in your creative skills. You will be challenged to look at a range of creative people & photographers allowing you to develop your approach, style and creative thinking.

Photography is not an easy option, and this subject allows you to develop your perspective of the world. You may need to commit time after school to complete work and this should be a factor in your decision making.

It also encourages self-expression and creativity and can build confidence as well as a sense of individual identity within students which is a key skill for young people to have.

### Examination board

AQA

### Other information

Own basic equipment is desirable as this allows you to work at home.



# GCSE Art & Design: Textiles

## CATEGORY B: CREATIVE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

Textile design is defined here as the creation of designs and products for woven, knitted, stitched, printed or decorative textiles that might have a functional or non-functional purpose.

### How is the course assessed?

Students are assessed using 4 specific objectives:

**AO1: Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.**

**AO2: Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.**

**AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.**

**AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.**

**Component 1: Portfolio** A portfolio that in total shows explicit coverage of the four assessment objectives. It must include a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work undertaken during the student's course of study.

- No time limit
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

### Component 2: Externally Set Assignment

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

- Preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time
- 96 marks
- 40% of GCSE

### What will be studied?

In Component 1 and Component 2 students are required to work in one or more area(s) of textile design, such as those listed below:

- art textiles
- fashion design and illustration
- constructed textiles
- printed and dyed textiles
- surface pattern
- stitched and/or embellished textiles
- soft furnishings and/or textiles for interiors
- digital textiles
- installed textiles.

They may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas.

Within the context of textile design, students must demonstrate the ability to:

- use textile design techniques and processes, appropriate to students' personal intentions, for example:
  - weaving
  - felting
  - stitching
  - appliqué
  - construction methods
  - printing.



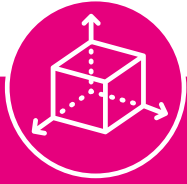
### Successful study of Textiles can lead to...

Fashion design, Textile artist, Surface pattern designer, Tailor, Screen printer, Graphic artist, Interior designer, Teacher, Art critic, Curator...

- use media and materials, as appropriate to students' personal intentions, for example:
  - inks
  - yarns
  - threads
  - fibres
  - fabrics
  - textile materials
  - digital imagery.

### Examination board

AQA



# GCSE Art & Design: 3D

## CATEGORY B: CREATIVE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

Our 3D Design course forms a perfect balance between Technology and Art and will suit students with a creative impulse to realise intentions away from the traditional 2D canvas, paper, pencil and paintbrush.

Operating within the security of the Design department, lessons are based in a designated 3D Design classroom and workshop in the DT dept where a number of skills and materials are explored.

Students will have the opportunity to further develop 3D construction skills explored through KS3 and will work in a variety of materials from wood and metal, plastic and clay to produce Artworks linked to revered 3D artists and designers. Homework tasks will include the use of photography, drawing and recording in a range of materials- in both 2D and 3D.

### How is the course assessed?

Students are assessed according to AQA Assessment objectives: AO1: Develop, AO2: Refine, AO3: Record, AO4: Present.

The course is graded based upon a 60% coursework, and 40% exam basis. Students will produce a 'Portfolio of work' and an 'Externally set task' for submission at the end of the course in Y11.

There will be approximately 12 weeks of preparation work which culminate in a 10 hour practical exam in April of year 11.

Students will produce a digital and physical sketchbook as preparation work and a final piece in

the practical exam. This makes up 40% of the final grade. Ongoing assessment will take the form of student/teacher dialogue via the Google drive system and physical sketchbooks containing design development.

### What will be studied?

#### Year 10

- 'Time, space and technology': 3D portraits linked to the work of Naum Gabo. Students will explore 3 dimensional design using sheet timber and acrylic to produce slotted sculptures in the workshop.
- 'An Engine for living': Exploring Le Corbusier, modernism and architectural design in technical drawing and model-making.
- 'Unnatural forms': Designing and building 'movie' monsters and alien forms in clay, mod-roc and wire inspired by the work of Phil Tippett, Brian Froud and Diane Martin Lubinski.

#### Year 11

- Completion of 'Unnatural forms': Designing and building 'movie' monsters and alien forms in clay, mod-roc and wire inspired by the work of Phil Tippett, Brian Froud and Diane Martin Lubinski.
- Exam preparation and development.
- Exam and final coursework review



### Successful study of 3D Design...

Studying of 3D Design provides an integral basis for any further study in practical trades, and the creative industries. Successful study can lead to Fine Artist, animator, Director, Art Director, Sculptor, Fashion designer, Set designer, Conceptual artist, model make... ..the list of lucrative and successful professions which begin with a GCSE in 3D Design is endless

### Is GCSE 3D right for me?

Students with any inclination towards creativity and cultural awareness should definitely consider studying 3D Design at GCSE.

### Examination board

AQA





# GCSE Dance

## CATEGORY B: CREATIVE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

GCSE Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity, whatever their previous experience in the subject. The combination of performance, choreography and critical appreciation develops students' creativity, critical thinking and enhances their overall artistic appreciation.

### How is the course assessed?

30% Performance: Practical coursework assessed by an external moderator

30% Choreography: Practical coursework assessed by an external moderator

40% Critical Appreciation of Dance: 1 hour and 30 minute written exam

### What will be studied?

#### Performance 30% (40 marks)

Solo performance of 2 set phrases (1 minute duration)

Performance in a duet/ trio (3-5 minutes duration).

Phrases not selected for assessment must be developed into duet/ trio performances.

Students will learn 4 set phrases and will spend time developing physical, technical and expressive skills.

2 phrases are chosen for assessment.

#### Choreography 30% (40 marks)

Solo or group choreography – a solo (two to two and a half minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (three to three and a half minutes)

Students will continually develop their ability to choreograph dance work. Students will work in groups and as individuals to develop their choreographic skillset and creativity throughout the course.

#### Critical Appreciation of Dance 40% (80 marks)

- 1 hour 30 minute written exam
- 6 anthology works are studied over 2 years.
  - Shadows – Christopher Bruce
  - A Linha Curva – Rambert
  - Infra – Wayne McGregor
  - Emancipation of Expressionism – Boy Blue Entertainment
  - Within Her Eyes – James Cousins
  - Artificial Things – StopGap Company

Students will also learn how to critically appreciate their own performance and choreography, through describing, analysing, interpreting, evaluating and reflecting

### Is GCSE Dance right for me?

GCSE Dance requires students who are:

- Have a love of dance! Both theory and practical
- Enjoy the performing arts - there will be some cross over with drama and music.
- Hardworking
- Dedicated
- Prepared to give up their own time to independent rehearsal
- Organised
- Critical thinkers



### Successful study of Dance can lead to...

A-Level dance & Level 3 performing arts courses & Creative & Humanities degree programmes,  
Careers in the dance and creative industries: Performer, teacher/ fitness instructor, Creative outreach, Community arts engagement, Creative business owner, Creative content creator, Director, Costume/Lighting designer, Front of House...

It is also advisable that students are having dance lessons outside of school to improve their performance skills and technique.

### Examination board

AQA

### Other information

Employers and universities often like students who have studied GCSE Dance as it demonstrates a significant level of independence, motivation and commitment which are vital qualities for the wider world of work or education.



# GCSE Drama

## CATEGORY B: CREATIVE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

The course develops performance and dramatic skill and technique. The course focuses on working collaboratively, analysing and critically evaluating live theatre.

### How is the course assessed?

Three components

- 1 hour 45min written examination  
Component 1 – 40%
- Devising and a written log book where Students create an original performance in groups – 40%
- Practical examination students perform two extracts from a published play – 20%

### What will be studied?

The course is made up of three components:

#### Component 1: Understanding Drama (40% – Written Exam)

- 1 hour 45 minute written examination
- Students study:
  - One set play chosen by the exam board
  - Live theatre production seen during the course
- Assessment focuses on:
  - Knowledge of drama terminology
  - Analysis of performance and design elements
  - Evaluation of live theatre
- Exam includes multiple-choice, short answer, and extended writing questions

#### Component 2: Devising Drama (40% – Practical & Written)

- Students create an original devised performance in groups
- Work is based on a stimulus provided by the exam board
- Assessed on:
  - Practical performance (group)
  - Devising process
  - A written devising log documenting ideas and development
- Performance is internally assessed and externally moderated

#### Component 3: Texts in Practice (20% – Practical Performance)

- Students perform two extracts from a published play
- Performed to a visiting external examiner
- Focuses on:
  - Acting or design skills
  - Interpretation of character and text
  - Communication of meaning to an audience



### Successful study of Drama can lead to...

A Level Drama and Performing Arts, Theatre, Performance and Creative Industries University Degrees.

A rewarding and exciting career in the performing arts industry including stage, TV and film or working as a teacher in performing arts institutions. There are many career options within the arts industry including: actors/ teachers/performers/ front of house/creative business owners/ marketing and creative content designer/ Creative outreach/ director/ producer/ tv and film crew.

### Is GCSE Drama right for me?

GCSE Drama requires students who are:

- Hardworking
- Dedicated
- Prepared to give up their own time to independent rehearsal
- Organised
- Critical thinkers
- Open to self expression and respectful of others
- Passionate about drama, performance and the arts
- Passionate about set/costume design and wanting to pursue a career in production
- Willing and able to explore challenging scripts and character work.

### Examination board

AQA



# Languages information

CATEGORY C

*Opportunity and success on a global stage*



# GCSE German

## CATEGORY C: LANGUAGES

### What is the course about?

This course builds on the MFL curriculum from DISCOVERY.

Students can use the specified vocabulary and grammar to listen to, read, speak and write about the following relatable and engaging topics:

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

### How is the course assessed?

Students are assessed on all four skills: LISTENING, SPEAKING, READING and WRITING at the end of Year 11.

#### Paper 1 – SPEAKING (50 marks 25%)

Foundation Tier – 7-9 minutes

Higher Tier – 10-12 minutes

- Task 1: Read aloud and two short unprepared questions
- Task 2: Role play in a transactional setting
- Task 3: Picture description, two short unprepared questions and follow-on conversation

#### Paper 2 – LISTENING AND UNDERSTANDING (50 marks 25%)

Foundation Tier – 45 minutes

Higher Tier – 60 minutes

- Section A: Listening: multiple-choice, multiple-response and short-answer open response questions
- All questions set in English
- Section B: Dictation

#### Paper 3 – READING AND UNDERSTANDING (50 marks 25%)

Foundation Tier – 45 minutes

Higher Tier – 60 minutes

- Section A: Reading: multiple-choice, multiple-response and short-answer open response questions.
- All questions set in English.
- Section B: Translation into English

#### Paper 4 - WRITING (50 marks 25%)

Foundation Tier – 1 hour 15 minutes

Higher Tier – 1 hour 20 minutes

- Picture task (Foundation tier only)
- Two writing responses (both tiers, with a choice of two options for each question)
- Translation into German (both tiers)

### Examination board

Pearson Edexcel



### Successful study of German can lead to...

- Meet people from different countries and find out more about them
- Learn many skills which are useful in a wide range of careers, such as the ability to communicate clearly, be confident about speaking in public, use problem solving strategies and write coherently
- Add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many employers and higher education providers want
- Have greater opportunities to work and/or study abroad, or work for companies in the UK with international links
- Discuss your interests, ideas and opinions with other people who speak the language
- Learn more about countries where the language is spoken, and the people who speak it.

People with language skills and knowledge usually have an advantage over people without them. They stand out as talented and successful people, with broad and exciting horizons. Taking GCSE German means you will:

- Add an extra dimension to your personal skills profile which will impress anyone who reads your CV
- Be in a stronger position to get a job in companies with international links or improve employability if you would like to work abroad
- Be able to work or study in a German-speaking country in later life
- Be able to study AS and A level German courses to further your knowledge of the language and culture
- Find it easier to learn other languages later if you want to



# GCSE Spanish

## CATEGORY C: LANGUAGES

### What is the course about?

This course builds on the MFL curriculum from DISCOVERY.

Students can use the specified vocabulary and grammar to listen to, read, speak and write about the following relatable and engaging topics:

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

### How is the course assessed?

Students are assessed on all four skills: LISTENING, SPEAKING, READING and WRITING at the end of Year 11.

#### Paper 1 – SPEAKING (50 marks 25%)

Foundation Tier – 7-9 minutes

Higher Tier – 10-12 minutes

- Task 1: Read aloud and two short unprepared questions
- Task 2: Role play in a transactional setting
- Task 3: Picture description, two short unprepared questions and follow-on conversation

#### Paper 2 – LISTENING AND UNDERSTANDING (50 marks 25%)

Foundation Tier – 45 minutes

Higher Tier – 60 minutes

- Section A: Listening: multiple-choice, multiple-response and short-answer open response questions
- All questions set in English
- Section B: Dictation

#### Paper 3 – READING AND UNDERSTANDING (50 marks 25%)

Foundation Tier – 45 minutes

Higher Tier – 60 minutes

- Section A: Reading: multiple-choice, multiple-response and short-answer open response questions.
- All questions set in English.
- Section B: Translation into English

#### Paper 4 - WRITING (50 marks 25%)

Foundation Tier – 1 hour 15 minutes

Higher Tier – 1 hour 20 minutes

- Picture task (Foundation tier only)
- Two writing responses (both tiers, with a choice of two options for each question)
- Translation into Spanish (both tiers)

### Examination board

Pearson Edexcel

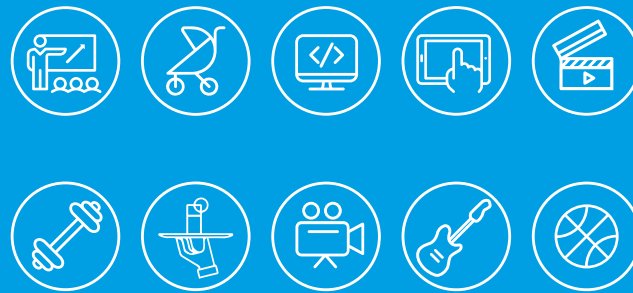


### Successful study of Spanish can lead you to...

- Meet people from different countries and find out more about them
- Learn many skills which are useful in a wide range of careers, such as the ability to communicate clearly, be confident about speaking in public, use problem solving strategies and write coherently
- Add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many employers and higher education providers want
- Have greater opportunities to work and/or study abroad, or work for companies in the UK with international links
- Discuss your interests, ideas and opinions with other people who speak the language
- Learn more about countries where the language is spoken, and the people who speak it.

People with language skills and knowledge usually have an advantage over people without them. They stand out as talented and successful people, with broad and exciting horizons. Taking GCSE Spanish means you will:

- Add an extra dimension to your personal skills profile which will impress anyone who reads your CV
- Be in a stronger position to get a job in companies with international links or improve employability if you would like to work abroad
- Be able to work or study in a Spanish-speaking country in later life
- Be able to study AS and A level Spanish courses to further your knowledge of the language and culture
- Find it easier to learn other languages later if you want to



# Preference subjects information

CATEGORY D

*Opportunity and success on a global stage*



# GCSE Business Studies

## CATEGORY D: PREFERENCE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

Business students will have an insight into just how businesses operate, including how to set up a business of their own. This is a practical course, using real businesses as examples. Students will learn skills to help in decision making and will be one step ahead in understanding how businesses operate.

### How is the course assessed?

Assessment is through two terminal exams at the end of Year 11. The exams consist of several multiple-choice questions, short answer questions and many essay-style questions designed to test the student's ability to justify their decisions and thoughts.

- Business (01)  
1 hour 30 mins (80 mark) exam paper = 50%
- Business (02)  
1 hour 30 mins (80 mark) exam paper = 50%

Both exams require a calculator

### What will be studied?

#### During Business (01) students will explore:

- The purpose and role of a business from spotting an opportunity through to the growth of an established business.
- Marketing, including advertising, development of products, setting the best price.
- Recruitment, including how businesses get the right staff and keep them working well.

- Business structures, including the different ways to set up a business.
- Students are introduced to business concepts and issues concerning the activities of a business.
- The role of marketing and human resources.

#### During Business (02) students will explore:

- Influences on businesses, including the environment and how many businesses are operating around the world.
- Students take a closer look at the role of operations and finance in business activity.
- Operations include production processes, quality of goods and services, customer service, and working with suppliers.
- Finance covers its role, its sources, costs, profit and loss, cash and cash flow.

They also explore how business responds to external influences, such as ethical and environmental considerations, the economic climate and globalisation, and the interdependent nature of business.

### Is GCSE Business Studies right for me?

This course suits students who may be interested in:

- Being their own boss and running their own business
- Understanding just what goes on in the world of work



### Successful study of Business Studies can lead to...

Business Studies can lead to a range of careers in business e.g human resources, marketing, finance or operations, but is also a subject that develops skills that are applicable in a range of future careers.

- Knowing what businesses look for when they recruit staff
- Seeing how a business gets its money to operate
- Knowing why so many adverts are aimed at teenagers
- Understanding why the same big businesses operate around the world

This course is suitable for students predicted target grades of a 5 or more in Maths and English as there is above average mathematical content and students require secure literacy levels.

### Examination board

OCR



# Child Development

## CATEGORY D: PREFERENCE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

Child Development will inspire and equip students with independence and confidence in using skills that are relevant to the childcare sector and more widely. It covers all aspects of child development, from conception to five years, as well as providing safe and nurturing environments.

### How is the course assessed?

- Examination paper (1 hour 15 minutes)  
Health and wellbeing for child development (50%).
- Controlled assessment (7-10 hours)  
Understand the nutrition and equipment needs of children from birth to five years (25%).
- Controlled assessment (7-10 hours)  
Understand the development of a child from birth to five years (25%).

### What will be studied?

#### Year 10

##### Childhood development.

- Reproduction and the roles and responsibilities of parenthood.
- Antenatal care and preparation for birth.
- Postnatal checks, postnatal provision and conditions for development.
- Child safety.
- Examination techniques.

#### Year 11

##### Controlled assessments.

- Practice controlled assessments.
- Completion of Controlled Assessment (understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years).
- Completion of Controlled Assessment (understand the development of the child from birth to five years).

### Examination board

OCR Cambridge National



### Successful study of Child Development

This course is helpful if students are interested in the following careers: nursery nurse, childminder, preschool and primary school teacher, nurse, midwife, GP, nutritionist, children's entertainer, psychologist and designer. It works well with all core subjects and Hospitality and Catering.



# GCSE Computer Science

## CATEGORY D: PREFERENCE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

Computer Science is engaging and practical, encouraging creativity and problem solving. It encourages students to develop their understanding and application of the core concepts in computer science. Students also analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs.

### How is the course assessed?

#### Computer Science

Exam (1hr 30 mins), (no calculators allowed)

#### Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Exam (1hr 30 mins)

### What will be studied?

#### Computer systems

Introduces students to the central processing unit (CPU), computer memory and storage, data representation, wired and wireless networks, network topologies, system security and system software. It also looks at ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with computer science.

#### Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Students apply knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. They develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators.

#### Practical Programming

Students will be given the opportunity to undertake a programming task(s) during their course of study which allows them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language (Python). Students will be assessed on these skills during the written examinations, in particular component 02 (section B) which looks at how students can apply their programming knowledge.

### Is GCSE Computer Science right for me?

Students should study this course if they want to understand and apply the fundamental principles of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms and data representation; AND analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs. Students will learn pseudocode and Python programming language as part of the course.

We will only accept students onto the course if they have a Maths prediction of 5 or above. This course is **NOT** suitable for students predicted below 6 as the mathematical thinking required is quite challenging.

#### Examination board

OCR

### Successful study of Computer Science can lead to...

The advantage of learning computer science is that computers are used in every sector of the job market. It is nearly impossible to find a job where a computer is not used. As a result businesses will always need software, and will always need someone to write it and maintain it. It will give you the opportunity to progress on to a more specialised computing course. Further study could allow you to go on to specialist careers such as web designer, IT consultant, game developer, database administrator. It can also be useful in careers such as IT sales, network engineers, teaching and IT training.



# Creative iMedia

## CATEGORY D: PREFERENCE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

The Level 1/Level 2 Cambridge National in Creative iMedia will inspire and equip students with the skills which are relevant to the media sector and more widely. They'll design, plan, create and review digital media products to meet client and audience needs.

### How is the course assessed?

- Creative iMedia in the media industry written paper, set and marked by OCR 1hr 30 mins
- 2 x Centre-assessed tasks on "Visual identity and digital graphics" and "Interactive digital media"

Students will be graded at Level 1 or Level 2 as Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction\* which are equivalent to GCSE grades.

### What will be studied?

The course consists of one externally examined piece and 2 centre-assessed (coursework) units of work. This is a course with high written and analytical aspects. Students will be expected to write extensively about a range of Creative iMedia topics.

#### **R093 Creative iMedia in the media industry (externally examined)**

Students will learn about the sectors, products and job roles that form the media industry. They will learn the legal and ethical issues considered and the processes used to plan and create digital media products. They will learn how media codes are used within the creation of media products to convey

meaning, create impact and engage audiences. They will learn to choose the most appropriate format and properties for different media products.

Completing this unit will provide students with the basic skills for further study or a range of creative job roles within the media industry.

#### **R094 Visual identity and digital graphics (coursework)**

In this unit, students will learn how to develop visual identities for clients. They will also learn to apply the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics which incorporate their visual identity to engage a target audience. This is a creative unit which students enjoy.

#### **R097 Interactive digital media (coursework)**

In this unit, students will learn to design and create interactive digital media products for chosen platforms. They will learn to select, edit and repurpose multimedia content of different kinds and create the structure and interactive elements necessary for an effective user experience.

### Examination board

OCR Cambridge National



### Successful study of Creative iMedia can lead to...

You may be interested in this if you want an engaging qualification where you will use your learning in practical, real-life situations, such as:

- developing visual identities for clients
- planning and creating original digital graphics
- planning, creating and reviewing original digital media products.

This will help you to develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the media industry.



# GCSE Film Studies

## CATEGORY D: PREFERENCE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

Film Studies takes you on a journey through films from different time periods, countries, and genres, allowing you to see the world through the lens of filmmakers globally. You'll learn to analyse films professionally, exploring why audiences connect with stories in various ways and uncovering the methods filmmakers use to create unforgettable moments. You'll also discover pathways into the film industry, opening doors to careers in this dynamic, creative field.

The course is highly analytical, requiring deep engagement with film, history, and techniques. It demands independent thinking, as students must draw conclusions and develop well-supported arguments. Extended writing tasks like essays and reviews help refine your ability to articulate complex ideas clearly and persuasively.

The most exciting part? You'll put your knowledge into action by creating your own original short film, showcasing your creativity and understanding of production. If you're ready to see movies in a whole new way and tell your own stories, Film Studies is the perfect choice!

### Component 1

#### (35%) Key developments in US film

- US Film - Comparative Study of two American films
- Key Developments in Film and Film Technology
- US Indie Films – Single Film Study

### Component 2

#### (35%) Narrative, Representation and Film style

- Contemporary UK Films – Single Film Study.
- Global Film (English speaking)– Single Film Study
- Global Film (non-English language) – Single Film Study

### Component 3

#### (30%) Non-exam assessment

In GCSE Film Studies, the coursework accounts for 30% of the final grade. Students must independently create an original short film lasting 2–2.5 minutes, focusing on a specific genre.

### How is the course assessed?

Film Studies consists of 30% coursework which involves students completing a 2-2.5 minute short film production which they will need to direct, film and edit themselves.

The final exam accounts for 70% of the total GCSE and consists of two exams (35% each and 90 minutes long), both require an analytical assessment of how the films studied, create meaning and generate audience response.

### Examination board

WJEC/EDUQAS



### Successful study of Film Studies can lead to...

Studying GCSE Film Studies opens up a range of exciting career opportunities in the creative industries. It provides a strong foundation for roles in filmmaking, such as directing, screenwriting, cinematography, and editing, as well as behind-the-scenes positions like production design and sound engineering. Additionally, it fosters critical thinking and analytical skills that are valuable in film criticism, marketing, and media research.

By exploring the art and business of film, students can also prepare for further study in media, journalism, or creative arts, paving the way for diverse careers in the ever-evolving world of film and media.



# Health and Fitness (PE)

## CATEGORY D: PREFERENCE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

The course will focus on how exercise impacts the different body systems, and how different training principles and methods can be employed to effectively improve performance. Students will then apply their knowledge and prepare to deliver a health and fitness programme.

- Understand and identify the main body systems and their functions.
- Understand the Principles of Training and FITT.
- Explore how physical activities affect the body in the short and long-term.
- Understand how relevant fitness tests can be used for specific health and skill components of fitness.
- Understand different lifestyle analysis tools and how to apply them.
- Create a health and fitness programme.

### How is the course assessed?

Students will complete two units over the duration of the course. These will be assessed through a 90 minute exam worth 40% of the course and a 22 hour controlled assessment (coursework) worth 60%. Students are awarded PASS, MERIT or DISTINCTION level.

### What will be studied?

#### Year 10

Work in Year 10 will focus on Unit 1 which is examined in the summer of Year 11. This will cover lifestyle, the body systems, the effects of exercise, health and fitness, fitness testing and training.

#### Year 11

Work in Year 11 will concentrate on Unit 2, a coursework based unit focusing on training programmes. This will also be completed in Year 11.

#### **There is no practical sports performance element within this course.**

Any practical content delivered is based around health and fitness activities only and will be required for the coursework element of the qualification.

**Students are NOT assessed on their sporting ability.**



### Successful study of Health and Fitness...

This course is suitable for students wishing to pursue an interest or career pathway into the health and fitness industry.

Students will develop core knowledge and understanding of various aspects surrounding health, fitness and sport. It can also help develop unexamined skills such as communication, teamwork and leadership which are essential for the job market and future career opportunities

### Is Health and Fitness right for me?

An interest in sport and health and fitness are important as you will study the following:

- Anatomy and physiology
- Principles of training
- Training methods
- Fitness testing
- Nutrition
- Lifestyle

### Examination board

NCFE Level 1 / 2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness



# Hospitality and Catering

## CATEGORY D: PREFERENCE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

This course concentrates on the hospitality and catering industry. Focusing on the knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering businesses, how they operate and what they have to take into account to be successful.

We will be cooking once a week or once per fortnight – dependent on timetable.

Students are expected to bring their own ingredients (£5.00– £10.00 per practical)

### How is the course assessed?

#### Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry

will be externally assessed with an online examination that lasts 90 minutes. You will be graded as follows:

Grading: Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction

#### Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action

is internally assessed: This involves completing a piece of controlled assessment in school under examination conditions.

A task will be set by the exam board and will have to include a safety plan, preparation, cook and presentation of nutritional dishes

### What will be studied?

#### Year 10

- Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in action focused on skills and knowledge to be utilised in their controlled assessment including nutritional needs, target markets and how to understand all requirements of the assessment.
- A practice assessment with personalised teacher feedback as well as have opportunities for self and peer assessment.
- A 7 hour practice assessment under controlled assessment conditions
- A controlled assessment over 10 hours including a 3 hour practical exam.

#### Year 11

- Completion of Unit 1



### Successful study of Hospitality and Catering...

This qualification will help develop the essential skills to move into employment, training and further education.

Students could move onto NVQ's, BTEC Hospitality and Catering courses, Level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition.

### Examination board

WJEC EDUQAS



# GCSE Media Studies

## CATEGORY D: PREFERENCE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

Media Studies takes you on an exploration of the diverse world of media, where you'll study a wide range of texts, from television shows and films to social media, advertising, music videos, and video games. You'll learn to critically analyse how these media products shape and influence society, exploring the ways they reflect cultural values, ideologies, and trends.

The course encourages independent thinking as you evaluate how media messages are constructed and how audiences interpret them. You'll also develop key skills in research, analysis, and creative production. Whether examining the impact of advertising, the evolution of digital media, or the role of social media influencers, Media Studies opens doors to various career pathways in journalism, marketing, public relations, and digital media. It's the perfect course for anyone eager to understand the power of media and its role in shaping the world around us.

### How is the course assessed?

Media Studies consists of 30% coursework which involves a completed audio visual or print media production.

The final exam accounts for 70% of the total GCSE and consists of two exams which require an analytical assessment of how audiences respond to a wide range of media products including: the news and newspapers, advertising, music videos, film promotional content, magazines and the television industry.

### What will be studied?

One of the most exciting aspects of Media Studies is the opportunity to apply your creativity through coursework, where you can produce your own media products like advertisements, music videos, or digital content. This hands-on experience allows you to experiment with different techniques and technologies, bringing your ideas to life while gaining valuable skills for future media-related careers.

#### Component 1 (40%) Exploring the Media

- Language, Representation, Industry and Audience
- A Study of the following industries:
  - Magazines, Radio, Video games, Film marketing, Newspapers, Advertising

#### Component 2 (30%) Understanding Media Forms and Products

- Media Language, Representation, Industry and Audience
- Section A: Television
- Section B: Music (music videos and online media)

#### Component 3 (30%) Non-exam assessment

An individual media production for an intended audience in response to a choice of briefs set by WJEC, applying knowledge and understanding of media language and representation

### Examination board

WJEC/Eduqas



### Successful study of Media Studies can lead to...

Media Studies students will develop good analytical and critical skills that will be valued by a wide range of employers.

Through the study of Media, students will be able to demonstrate they are critical and creative thinkers which many post-16 college and university courses will consider to be important.

Studying the Media could be the first step to a career in journalism, the music industry, radio, film or television production. It could also lead you into the fields of advertising, marketing, promotions or publicity.



# Music

## CATEGORY D: PREFERENCE SUBJECT

### What is the course about?

The Pearson BTEC Tech Award in Music provides students with the opportunity to explore the history of music, develop technical and creative skills, and gain hands-on experience in performance, composition, and production.

This Level 1/2 qualification equips learners with the knowledge and practical abilities needed for further study or careers in the music industry. We recommend that students are already competent or have music lessons outside of school on at least one instrument or as a vocalist.

A large section of the course is spent using our DAW, specifically Soundtrap, where we regularly compose, arrange and manipulate music.

The grades awarded are L1 Pass, L1 Merit, L1 Distinction, L2 Pass, L2 Merit, L2 Distinction and L2 Distinction\*.

### Course content and assessment

The course is divided into three components:

#### Component 1

##### Exploring Music Products and Styles

- Objective: Investigate music genres, styles, and products to understand their development and features.
- Assessment: Internally assessed coursework.
- Coursework Requirements:
  - Task 1: Genre and style research report (approximately 1,500–2,000 words).
  - Task 2: Practical exploration of musical styles through performance, composition, or production. Evidence may include:

- Supporting evidence: Listening and analysis logs (around 1,000 words).
- Focus Areas: Historical context, instrumentation, and production techniques.

#### Component 2

##### Music Skills Development

- Objective: Develop technical skills through rehearsal, practice, and feedback.
- Assessment: Internally assessed practical and written coursework.
- Coursework Requirements:
  - Practice log/journal (approximately 1,500–2,000 words).
  - Technical skill evaluation reports (around 500–1,000 words).
  - Final performance and production piece supported by rehearsal notes or creative documentation.

#### Component 3

##### Responding to a Commercial Music Brief

- Objective: Respond to an externally set brief by creating and presenting original musical work.
- Assessment: Externally assessed performance or production and log.
- Coursework Requirements:
  - Idea's development log (approximately 1,200–1,500 words).
  - Final evaluation report (around 800–1,000 words).
  - Submission of recorded performance, composition or production.



### Successful study of Music can lead to...

A rewarding and exciting career in the performing arts industry or in fact any industry. Colleges, Universities and employers like to see music on your CV because it shows you are capable of commitment, that you are creative, confident and willing to work hard to achieve. You are also a good team player and these are all important skills which take you further in life. Careers following studying music can range from working in the arts industry to being a doctor, lawyer, teacher or anything you want. You would be surprised how many successful people have a music qualification on their CV!

### Is Music right for me?

This course is ideal for you if you enjoy making, creating and composing music and expanding your horizons by exploring lots of different types of music.

### Examination board

BTEC Pearson/Edexcel

### Other information

Access to a musical instrument at home is compulsory.



# Careers Education

## FOR YEAR 9

Careers education in King's Academy Easthampstead Park starts with reflection on your strengths and areas for development. We encourage all of you to take an active part in your personal development, initially looking at your natural preferences whilst giving you encouragement to develop your talents. We encourage you to hold a growth mindset to understand that skills and abilities are not fixed, that we all have the capacity to develop and learn.

Government research shows that if you have 5 GCSEs grade 4–9 including English and maths, you will earn over £80,000 more in your lifetime than someone who hasn't.

We hold many opportunities to meet professionals from a diverse range of industries to inspire and guide your decisions. We provide easy access to well researched resources and offer impartial guidance from qualified careers advisers.

### Choosing your GCSE subjects / How do you decide?

It is a good idea to start thinking now about job areas that interest you, so that you can work out which subjects you will need to study.

Some of your GCSEs are compulsory – English, maths, science. This is because schools, employers and universities think these subjects are particularly important. GCSEs are a key part of your progression through education. If you wish to study for A-Levels, for example, you will need specific GCSEs as a foundation to build upon.

For different GCSE subjects, the skills that you will develop vary. For example, English language helps you communicate and express yourself in written and spoken forms; maths gives you important numeracy skills, but there are skills in other subjects you might not think of. GCSEs in technology, for example, involve long-term project work that helps with organisation and time management. History involves assessing and critically analysing different sources. Your GCSEs aren't just about learning a list of facts. Some

subjects, especially vocational subjects, might have a reliance on course work rather than exams.

It's important to take subjects that you enjoy, as you will find these more interesting and be motivated to work harder, so make use of the resources that explain the content of the subject you are going to study.

Bear in mind that universities and employers are going to be looking at your GCSE grades. Most people apply to university in year 13 before they have their A-Level results, and GCSE grades will be the only externally examined grades admissions tutors will have to go on. So, think about the subjects you're particularly good at now.

### Do your research!

Talk to subject leaders.

Talk to your parents.

Talk to anyone you know who has a job you think you might like.

**Talk to careers staff.**



# Careers Education

## KAEP PARTNERSHIPS

We hold partnership programmes with range of organistaions to inspire and guide your decisions.



### University of Surrey

University of Surrey continue to support the development and aspiration of Year 10 students through sessions on

- Post 16 study options and progression into post 18 pathways.
- Numeracy- 1 day Maths GCSE revision conference in Guildford
- Literacy - 1 day English GCSE revision conference in Guildford
- Surrey Scholars - 'Y 10 Realise Your Potential programme'

The annual Saturday programme takes place from January to March consisting of practical subject taster, career webinars, group research project and GCSE revision Masterclasses. This is available to all students



### Fujitsu Partnership Programme

CV skills writing, Mock interviews, Women in business breakfast meetings, Special operations tours and mentoring.

### Independent Careers Advice

A level 6 qualified careers advisor ensures every student in Years 10 & 11 receives at least 1 bespoke 1:2:1 careers appointment to offer advice and guidance along with a an Action Plan to move forward.



### Siemens Partnership Programme

Working with students in Year 9 to open up the world of engineering to all students and identify all the different pathways that are available within the STEM field.



### Elevate education

Elevate education support our students in identifying effective ways to plan, long term revision planning and getting ready for the exam seasons. Giving the best possible support to get the best results.



### Criss-Cross Challenges

Enterprise Days, STEM speakers and workshops supported by staff and external specialist



# Careers Education

FOR YEAR 9

## Do not worry about making the wrong choice – follow these steps:

1. Log into your unifrog account and explore what careers you might like to do and what subjects you need, or the other way around what subjects you might choose and what careers might this lead to.
2. Take part in some VWEX – the world is a global village – take the time to do some career-based learning.
3. Attend the information evening and ask questions! It is important to remember that you are also learning skills not just curriculum content.

## Useful websites

### For careers ideas

Use [unifrog](#).



### University

[www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)

[www.studentroom.co.uk](http://www.studentroom.co.uk)

[www.bestcourse4me.com](http://www.bestcourse4me.com)

### Apprenticeships/trainees

Remember these are now offered in many professional positions, where the company will pay for your degree and you receive a salary. Competition is fierce, so you need to ensure you are not only academic but have also taken part in extra-curricular activities such as work experience or voluntary work. Have a look at the requirements: [www.apprenticeships.gov.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk).

### For careers ideas

[www.gov.uk/student-finance/overview](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance/overview)

[www.scholarshippub.org.uk](http://www.scholarshippub.org.uk) – also covers sponsored degrees.





# Welcome to KAEP6

STAY CLOSE TO GO FAR



**As a Director of Sixth Form, I'm delighted to welcome you to our vibrant sixth form community.**

I have the pleasure of motivating and challenging students to reach their full potential, supporting students on their journey to achieving their future aspirations at KAEP6. You will join a team of dedicated staff and students who are determined to succeed, striving for excellence and motivating each other to be the best version of themselves. I look forward to welcoming you in the future.

*Mr S Puttick, Director of Sixth Form*

## KAEP6 Individuals

- KAEP6 individuals are honest to themselves
- KAEP6 individuals have faith in KAEP
- KAEP6 individuals have the courage to face the opportunities on a global stage.
- KAEP6 individuals are recognised, valued and have a sense of belonging.

## KAEP6 Pass rates

A Level Pass rate – 97%  
 A\* – C 70%  
 BTEC Level 3 Pass rate 100%  
 Distinction\* – Merit 88%

# 97%



## WHY CHOOSE KAEP6?

'Stay close to go far' Join a successful, vibrant learning community	No travel costs	No uniform
Small Classes	Taught by Experts	Excellent Results
Personalised Learning	Positive Relationships	97% A-Level Pass Rate
Feel supported in going far	Partnerships with employers and universities	70% A* - C Grades
		100% BTEC Level 3 Pass Rate
		88% Distinction* - Merit

## KAEP6 USP's

- **Small classes** (typically between 5–12 students) taught by experienced subject specialists who have been successfully preparing students for A-Level exams for a long time.
- **A personalised experience** - as a small sixth form, we offer advice, guidance and support carefully matched to your needs and aspirations.
- **A very high chance of achieving exceptional grades** – if you work hard! KAEP6 students achieve excellent outcomes year in, year out.
- **Exceptional pastoral care** – from an experienced Director of Sixth Form, teachers, tutors and an assigned professional mentor.
- **Wellbeing Support** – dedicated KS5 Wellbeing Lead, Drop in - feeling stressed, anxious, low? Workshops - self esteem, anxiety, stress. Help with signposting / referrals for agencies outside of KAEP6.
- **Challenges Abroad** – An opportunity to attend a heavily subsidised trip of a lifetime volunteering abroad. Students from KAEP6 have visited Cambodia, Thailand, Panama, and Peru supporting local schools and conservation projects. In 2026 they are going to India.
- **Enrichment** – First class opportunities for employer engagement, along with activities from cooking,



# Welcome to KAEP6

STAY CLOSE TO GO FAR

## KAEP6 Destinations

- 1 2025 88% of our students got their first choice university (students achieve contextual offers due to the KAEP6 profile)
- 2 Degree Apprenticeships – Finance, Engineering, Business Management
- 3 Universities – Oxbridge, Bristol, Edinburgh, Bath, Southampton, Manchester...
- 4 Subjects – Law, Psychology, Physics, Accountancy, Computer Science, Medicine...

## KAEP6 Support

- Peer mentoring
- Professional Mentor - tutors
- UCAS & Apprenticeships & Career Guidance
- Experienced Staff
- Wellbeing Room - Mental Health Support
- Small Intervention Events
- Personalised Study Skill Lessons

## Why KAEP6 is the right post-16 choice for you

- 1 **Excellent academic outcomes** – just under half of all grades at A\*- B in 2025.
- 2 A Sixth Form experience which provides a **carefully designed stepping stone to university** and the world of work. Dedicated Sixth Form study zone, bespoke mentoring programme, range of unique societies, trips and opportunities, Sixth Form coffee bar.
- 3 **Small classes**, taught exclusively by highly qualified and **experienced subject specialists**.
- 4 Opportunities to work with some of the **UK's top universities and employers** including Johnson and Johnson, KPMG, Deloitte, University of Surrey, University of Reading and Oxford Brookes University.
- 5 Due to contextual factors, students at KAEP6 are **more likely to get offers from top universities** and at that, lower offers than students attending other local Sixth Forms.
- 6 **Free loan of a personal device (laptop/ chromebook)** to every student joining KAEP6, to use both in school and at home for the duration of your time with us!

**We would love you to join us in the adventure of KAEP6 "Stay Close to go Far" and unlock your true potential. We look forward to welcoming you to our KAEP6 Open Evening in October.**

If you have any questions then please email: [info@kgaeasthampstead.uk](mailto:info@kgaeasthampstead.uk)

