

Kesgrave High School

Your Choices
at Key Stage 4
2021 - 2023



Moving into Year 10 at Kesgrave High School

Your Choices at Key Stage 4

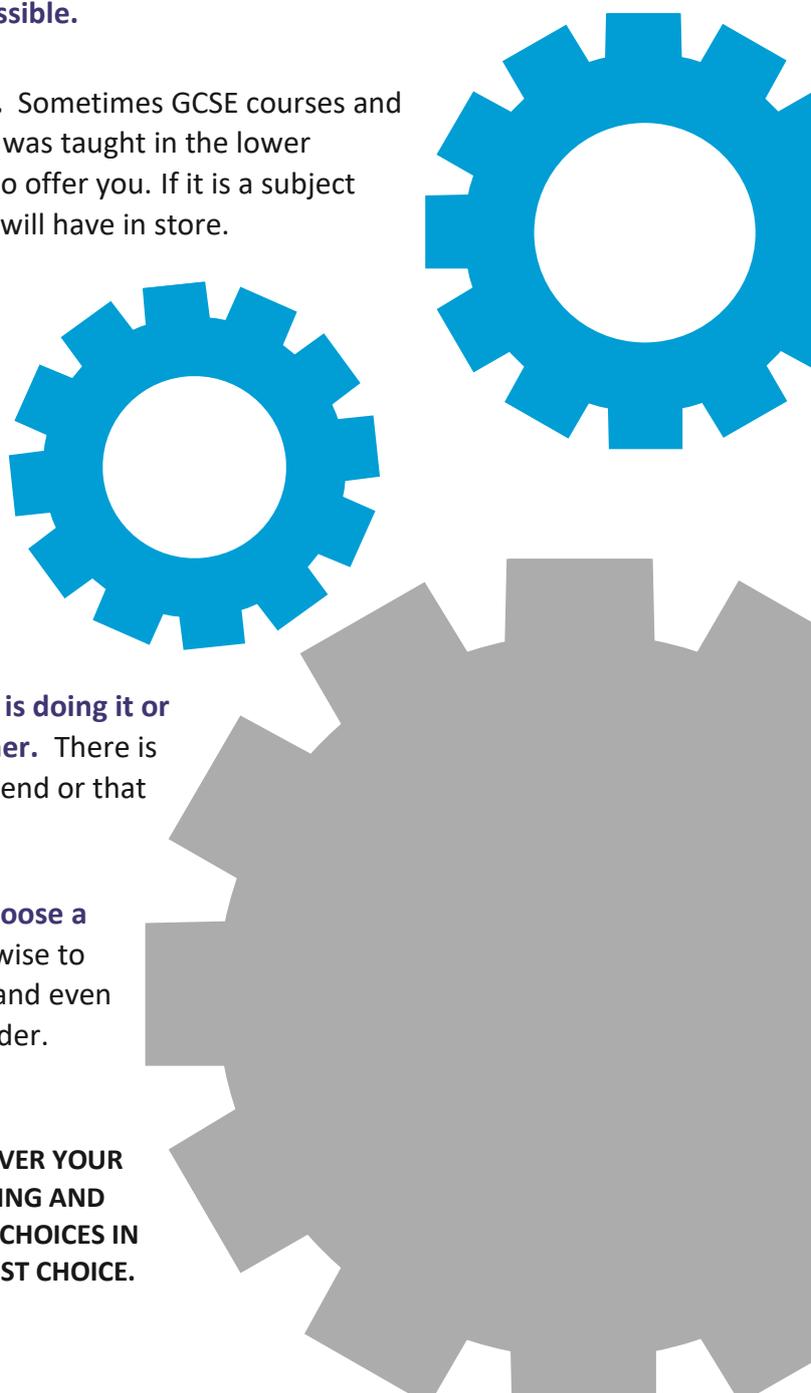
Dear Student

*Welcome to the fast-approaching world of young adulthood! Up until now, choices of study have been made for you by your teachers and parents, but you are now old enough to make important study choices for yourself. Of course you should make your choices after careful research and consideration, and should discuss those choices with teachers and your parents, but these are **your choices**. After all, **you** are the one who will have to work at your chosen subjects for two years. Choose well and you will have every chance of being happy in your studies for the next two years. You will have taken the first steps to success. Choose unwisely and you will have made success far more difficult for yourself than it need be.*

Your deadline for making your decisions is 16th March 2021

- **Choose subjects that suit your interests as far as possible.**
- **Read all the subject entries in this booklet carefully.** Sometimes GCSE courses and BTEC courses differ greatly from the way the subject was taught in the lower school. You may be surprised at what a subject has to offer you. If it is a subject that is new to you, ensure you understand what you will have in store.
- **Watch the videos.** Staff have made short videos to help you to understand more about their subjects.
- **Talk to staff about their subjects.** There will be an opportunity to do this at the Parents' evening.
- **All subjects will require hard work and regular homework.**
- **It is unwise to choose a subject because your friend is doing it or you hope you will be taught by your favourite teacher.** There is no guarantee you will be in the same class as your friend or that you will be taught by a particular member of staff.
- **The school continues to believe that you should choose a broad range of types of subject.** It is usually very unwise to specialise heavily at this stage. Your ideas of career and even of your own talents can easily change as you grow older.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO DELIVER YOUR CHOICES, BUT CANNOT GUARANTEE THIS DUE TO STAFFING AND ROOMING CONSTRAINTS. YOU CAN INDICATE RESERVE CHOICES IN THE RARE CASE THAT WE CANNOT OFFER YOU YOUR FIRST CHOICE.



Options 2021-23

This year the Options form is filled in online via an email link that students will be sent week commencing **1st March 2021**.

Only the students' will have a login to select their choices but we would encourage students to discuss the options that they are making with parents/carers at home and teachers at school too.

This online link is open for them until the **deadline of 16 March** and they can keep amending their choices as many times as they like until then. We ask that they check carefully that the choices are ranked in the correct order, where the subject most important to them is first.

We also encourage them to select two reserves – again in order of preference. We use reserve choices very rarely but occasionally have to in the event that a course hasn't sufficient applicants to run or a clash in timetabling makes a choice impossible. When this happens it will always be discussed with the student in person and parents will be informed.

The final choices for each student will be sent out in a letter to parents by Easter for return with your signature to confirm you consent.

The EBACC (English Baccalaureate)

The Department for Education recommends certain core subjects to help young people keep their options open. More information on this can be found on the DfE website

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-baccalaureate-ebacc/english-baccalaureate-ebacc>

Additionally a leaflet from the DfE is included in the Options Booklet.

Although we don't make Languages compulsory at KS4 at Kesgrave High School, they do form a part of the EBACC qualification and Universities and Employers often look favourably on applications from students who have a language qualification.

All students will study a Core Curriculum of:

English Language and English Literature GCSE

Maths GCSE

Science GCSE

Core PE

PSHE

Within Science there are two choices: either Combined Science or Triple Science

Students will then need to choose a further four subjects:

EBACC One choice from the following list:

Computer Science
French
Geography
German
History

OPEN BLOCK Three choices from the following list: (GCSE unless otherwise specified)

Art and Design	Health & Social Care BTEC
Business Studies	History
Child Development	IT BTEC
Computer Science	Life Skills (by invitation only)
Creative Media Production	Statistics & Further Maths
Dance	Media Studies
Design & Technology	Music BTEC
Drama	Music
Economics	PE
Engineering	Photography
Film Studies	Psychology
Food and Nutrition	Religious Studies
French	Sociology
Geography	Sport BTEC
German	Textiles
Graphics	

We encourage students to try and have a broad and balanced curriculum - where possible including a creative subject, a technology as well as a humanities subject too

We do not allow students to choose the following combinations together because they are the same/very similar qualifications.

- PE GCSE with Sport BTEC
- Music GCSE with Music BTEC
- Media GCSE with Creative Media Production BTEC
- Art with Textiles, Graphics or Photography
- Textiles with Graphics



Department
for Education

HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE THE BEST GCSE CHOICES

You and your child may currently be considering, with advice from their school, what GCSE subjects they should take next year.

The Department for Education recommends these core subjects, which make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), and help keep options for young people open:

- **English language and English literature**
- **Maths**
- **Science**
Combined science or 3 single sciences from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Computer science
- **History or Geography**
- **A language**
Ancient or modern

WHAT IS THE EBACC?

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right – it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

EBACC FUTURE PROOFS YOUR CHILD'S PROSPECTS

While your child may not have decided on their future career path yet, choosing the EBacc at GCSE gives them access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.

If they are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain's most prestigious universities.



The research found that students studying EBacc subjects for GCSE, were more likely to stay in education after 16.

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies,
August 2017

LANGUAGES GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE A COMPETITIVE EDGE

Languages are an important part of EBacc. Studying a foreign language can be extremely rewarding and exciting. They provide an insight into other cultures and can open the door to travel and employment opportunities. They can also broaden pupils' horizons, helping them flourish in new environments.

If your child finds languages difficult, don't forget that they will have been studying them for much less time than their other subjects and, while it can be a challenge, learning a language will greatly enhance their future opportunities.

What's more, we know that employers value languages, as they are increasingly important to make sure we can compete in the global market. Because of this, languages are increasingly becoming a requirement for many graduate schemes, such as those offered by Lidl.

"Having language skills under your belt will help make you stand out from the crowd, whether you're applying for an entry level position, a management role or an internal transfer."

Steve Cassidy, Senior Vice President & Managing Director, UK & Ireland, Hilton

The Russell Group has named languages as subjects that open doors to more degrees at universities.

(The Russell Group is a group of 24 universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement)

"Young people skilled in the languages of Europe, China and other key markets around the world, can look forward to exciting and rewarding careers."

Dr Adam Marshall, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce

WHAT ABOUT ARTS AND MUSIC?

While arts and music are not included in the EBacc, every child should still experience a high-quality arts and cultural education throughout their time at school as part of a balanced curriculum. If your child can take 9 GCSEs, they will have either 1 or 2 further options and can choose subjects based on their wider interests like art or music as well as others such as physical education or technology.

Schools where more pupils select the EBacc at GCSE maintain the number of pupils that select arts.

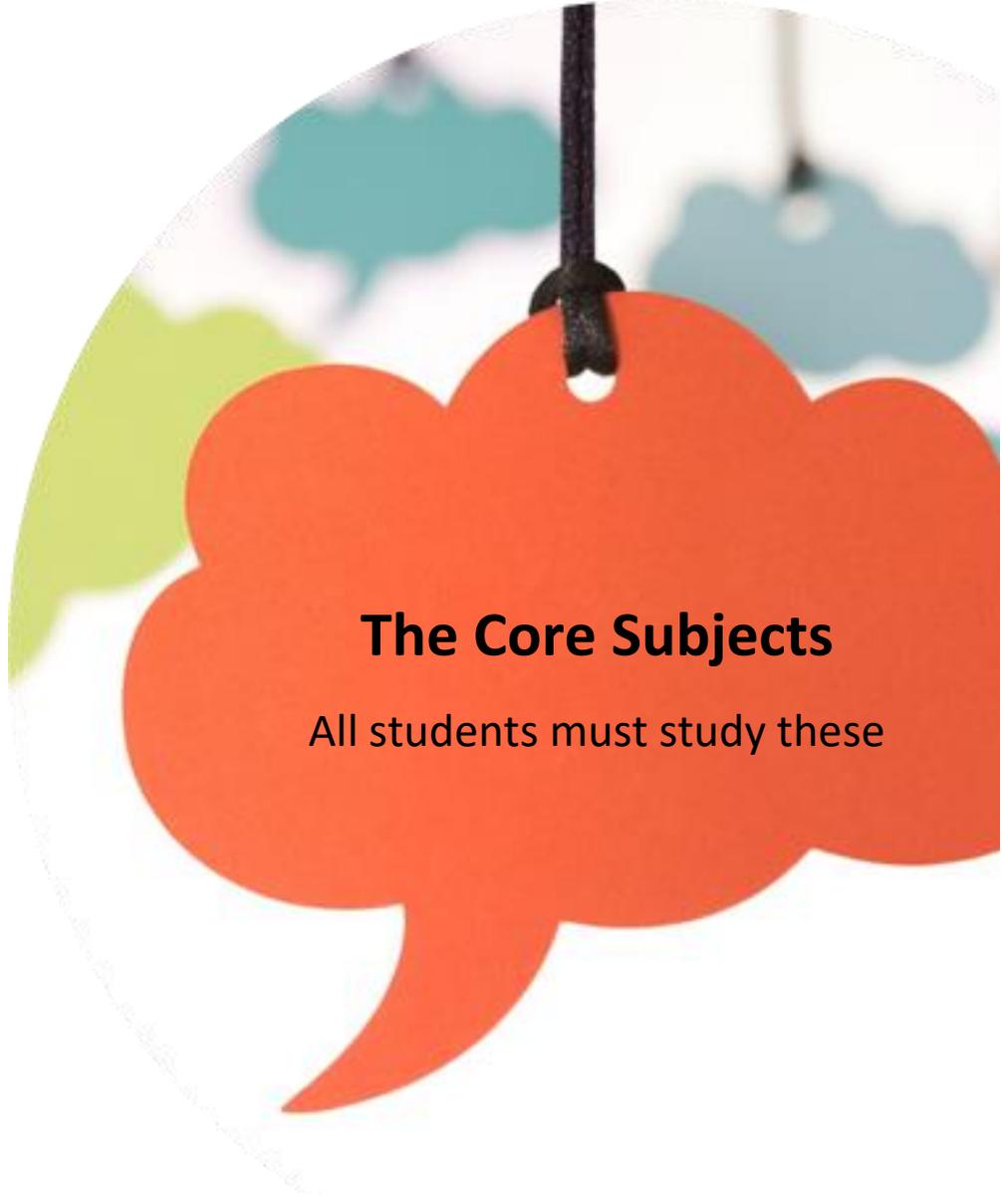
Trends in arts subjects in schools with increased EBacc entry July 2017



Further Information

Search EBacc on GOV.UK for more information.

You should also get in touch with your child's school directly — they will be able to tell you about their specific GCSE and EBacc offer and explain all of your child's options.

A red speech bubble with a black string hanging from its top center. The background is a stylized globe with green and blue continents. The text is centered within the speech bubble.

The Core Subjects

All students must study these

GCSE English Language and English Literature



Exam board and specification code:

English Language: AQA 8700

English Literature: EDUQAS C720

All students will study both English Language and English Literature (2 GCSEs).

Overview

English Language	English Literature
Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	Paper 1: Shakespeare and Poetry
<p>Section A: Students study a range of extracts from 20th and 21st century literary fiction to respond to unseen texts in the examination.</p> <p>Section B: Students study how to write descriptive and narrative texts.</p>	<p>Section A: Shakespeare. Students study for one extract question and one essay based on the reading of 'Macbeth'.</p> <p>Section B: Poetry from 1789 to the present day. Students study to answer two questions based on poems the EDUQAS anthology, one of which involves comparison.</p>
Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	Paper 2: Post-1914 Drama, 19th Century Prose and Unseen Poetry
<p>Section A: Students study a range of extracts from 19th, 20th and 21st century non-fiction to respond to unseen texts in the examination.</p> <p>Section B: Students study how to present a viewpoint through non-fiction writing.</p>	<p>Section A: 'An Inspector Calls' (Priestley) Students study for one source-based question.</p> <p>Section B: 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' (Stevenson) Students study for one source-based question.</p> <p>Section C: Unseen poetry from 20th /21st century Students study for two questions on unseen poems, one of which involves comparison.</p>
Non-examination assessment: Spoken Language	
Students study how to give a formal presentation on their chosen topic.	

Assessment

English Language	English Literature
Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	Paper 1: Shakespeare and Poetry
External examination 50% 1 hour 45 minutes	External examination 40 % 2 hours
Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	Paper 2: Post-1914 Drama, 19th Century Prose and Unseen Poetry
External examination 50% 1 hour 45 minutes	External examination 60% 2 hours 30 minutes
Non-examination assessment: Spoken Language	
Internal assessment 0% A separate endorsement is awarded	

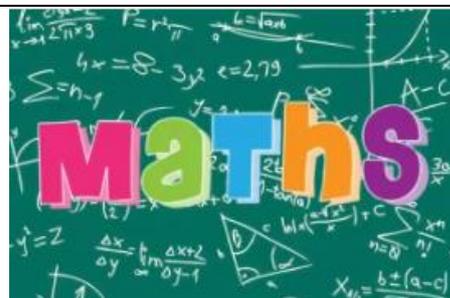
Please note for the English Literature exam students are not permitted to take a copy of the set texts into the examination.

What can you do next with this subject?

- Post-16 Level 3 course providers will require a good grade at GCSE English whatever the subject or subjects studied (It is a national requirement that if Grade 4 is not achieved students must retake GCSE English alongside other studies).
- Both GCSEs lead to A Level English Language and English Literature or the combined A Level
- English Language and English Literature can lead to a range of different careers, including journalism, law, media and business.

For more information contact: Mr M Wheatley mwheatley@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Mathematics



Exam board and specification code:

AQA 830

All pupils will follow a linear Mathematics course which aims to develop their mathematical skill, application and problem solving techniques. Pupils must be able to solve problems with little structured guidance, and must be able to communicate effectively to explain their reasoning and answers.

Overview

There are six separate topics for Foundation and Higher tier of entry: Number, Algebra, Ratio, Geometry, Probability and Statistics. The course will be delivered as a 3-year course starting at the beginning of Year 9. As part of the course students will develop the skills to learn and apply their knowledge to answer complex multi-step problems.

Assessment

GCSE Mathematics has two tiers of entry Foundation tier (grades 1-5) and Higher Tier (grades 3-9). Students can only take one tier of entry either Foundation or Higher. The 8300 GCSE course is examined through three papers, each of which can assess any part of the course curriculum. The weighting and timing of all the papers is equal with only one non-calculator paper. All three papers must be taken with the same tier of entry. The pupils will sit all three examinations in the Summer of 2023.

Paper	Length	Weighting	Calculator?	Marks
Paper 1	1 hour 30 minutes	33%	No	80
Paper 2	1 hour 30 minutes	33%	Yes	80
Paper 3	1 hour 30 minutes	33%	Yes	80

The topics will have the following weightings for each tier.

Topic	Foundation	Higher
Number	25%	15%
Algebra	20%	30%
Ratio	25%	20%
Geometry	15%	20%
Probability & Statistics	15%	15%

There is no controlled assessment component in GCSE Mathematics.

What can you do next with this subject?

Mathematics is an essential GCSE qualification for all pupils which is required by many employers. It is now compulsory for all pupils to continue studying Mathematics until they achieve their Mathematics GCSE Grade 4 or reach the age of 18.

For more information contact: Mr G Davenport gdavenport@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk
or visit <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300>

GCSE Science

Exam board and specification code:

Triple Science: AQA Biology 8461
 AQA Chemistry 8462
 AQA Physics 8463

Combined Science: AQA Trilogy 8464



Science is a compulsory subject at Key Stage 4 and students may choose between triple science and combined science.

Overview

TRIPLE SCIENCE

At the end of the course the student gains separate grades for biology, chemistry and physics (three GCSEs). Students interested in a science-orientated career or post-16 Science options should seriously consider this option. Students who enjoy the challenge of science will also find this option rewarding.

We are following the AQA 9-1 science specifications in biology, chemistry and physics for triple science.

COMBINED SCIENCE

Less content is covered across biology, chemistry and physics. Examinations equivalent to two GCSEs are taken in Year 11 and a dual grade is awarded (worth 2 GCSEs). The pace of lessons for this option allows for more consolidation and reinforcement as less content has to be delivered. This option will suit students who do not wish to take science beyond GCSE or find science more demanding.

We are following the AQA 9-1 science specifications called 'Trilogy' for combined science.

Detailed information about the content can be found at: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science>

Assessment

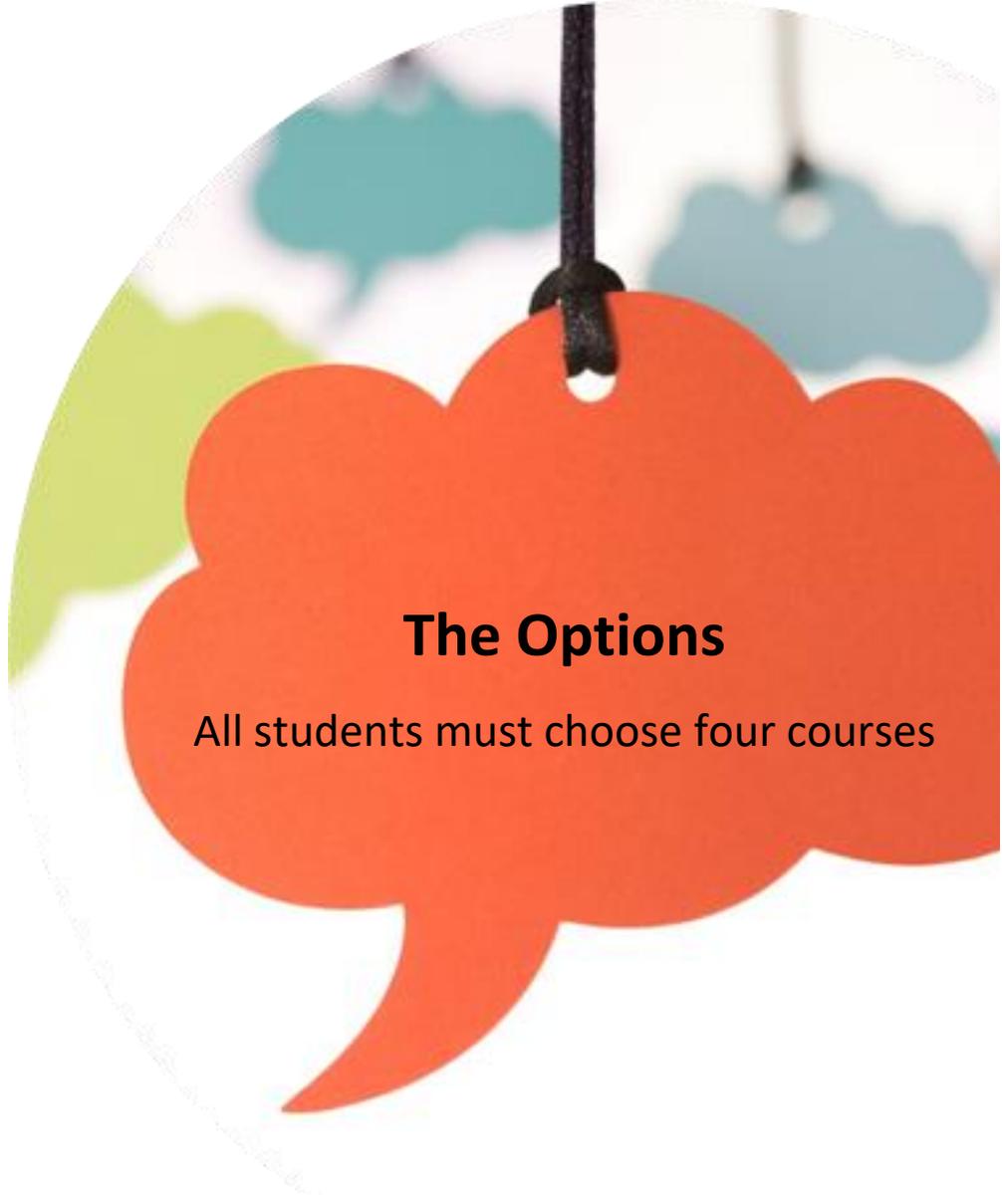
Triple science: There are two examinations for each subject. Each exam is 1hour 45min long and is worth 100 marks. Separate grades are awarded for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Each subject can be taken at Foundation (grades 1-5) or Higher (grades 4-9) level.

Combined Science: There are six examinations each 1 hour 15 min long and worth 70 marks. There are two biology, two chemistry and two physics papers. The examinations can be taken at Foundation (grades 1-5) or Higher (grades 4-9) level but all papers must be at the same level. A double award grade worth 2 GCSE grades is given that does not differentiate between the subjects.

What can you do next with this subject?

At Kesgrave you can use your science GCSE to progress on to A Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science or Physics or if you want a more applied route, we have the BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science. A science GCSE is a requirement for more courses than you would think so if you have a career you want to follow its worth checking if you need a particular science qualification.

For more information contact: Mrs A Wynne awynne@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk



The Options

All students must choose four courses

Don't forget... at least one must be an EBACC subject:

- **Computing**
- **French**
- **German**
- **Geography**
- **History**

Art and Design	3
Business	4
Child Development	5
Computer Science	6
Creative Media Production BTEC	7
Dance	8
Design & Technology	9
Drama	10
Economics	11
Engineering	12
Film Studies	13
Food	14
French	15
Geography	16
German	17
Graphics	18
Health & Social Care	19
History	20
IT	21
Life Skills	22
Maths Statistics & Further Maths	23
Media Studies	24
Music BTEC	25
Music GCSE	26
PE GCSE	27
Photography	28
Psychology	29
Religious Studies	30
Sociology	31
Sport BTEC	32

GCSE Art and Design



Exam board and specification code:

Edexcel 1AD0

Overview

The GCSE course in Art and Design aims to develop the key skill areas which you have experienced in KS3 to a higher level. You will work on a series of projects where you develop your own ideas in consultation with your art teacher. You will be guided to produce high quality work which accurately reflects your level of ability. If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, Art and Design is a great choice.

The emphasis in this GCSE is on the process of developing both ideas and work. Central to this is the use of sketchbooks into which you will provide evidence for assessment. This will include research, supporting studies and work showing the development of your ideas leading to one or more final outcomes per project.

This course is a general Art and Design course which means that you will have opportunities to explore a wide range of techniques and materials in both two and three dimensions. You will be able to draw, paint, mono and block print, take photographs, use photo editing software, apply textile techniques, use clay and explore other sculptural approaches. You will be able to work on a variety of scales and will have the freedom to produce large scale work.

Assessment

The GCSE course is split into two parts: coursework and a final examination unit.

Component 1: Personal Portfolio

This component is worth 60% of your GCSE. You will produce a portfolio of work based on tasks agreed with your teacher.

This will consist of themed projects; each project will be based around a broad heading, eg "Places and Spaces". You will develop each of these over a monitored period.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment

This component is worth 40% of your GCSE. You will produce preparatory studies and personal outcome(s) based on a theme set by Edexcel.

The conclusion of this unit is a 10-hour controlled test during which you will produce a final outcome for the unit.

Both components are internally assessed and then externally moderated by Edexcel at our end of course exhibition. All your work will be marked according to how well you have met the four Assessment Objectives of Develop, Explore, Record and Present.

What can you do next with this subject?

The course will provide you with skills which will open up a variety of future career or educational options. The course is a good foundation for sixth form courses leading to degree qualification in related art and design careers; for example, graphic design, illustration, photography, painting, fashion design, fabric/textile design, printmaking, ceramic design, sculpture, product design, interior design, furniture design, media communications, theatre/stage design, animation, architecture, landscape design, television and film.

For more information contact: Mrs F Maitland fmaitland@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Business

Exam board and specification code:
OCR J204



Overview

Would you like...

- To be your own boss running your own business?
- To understand just what goes on in the world of work?
- To know what businesses look for when they recruit staff?
- To see how a business gets its money to operate?
- To know why so many adverts are aimed at teenagers?
- To understand why the same big businesses operate around the world?

GCSE Business is the course to take if you want the answers to these questions and many more.

When you leave school, you may be working for a business or other organisation. After studying Business, you will have an insight into just how businesses operate, including how to set up a business of your own.

What you will study in GCSE 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.
- Finance, including how businesses get the money to set up and operate and how they make a profit.
- Business operations, including how businesses produce the things we buy.
- Influences on businesses, including the environment and how many businesses are operating around the world.

Which should I choose – Business or Economics?

Business will appeal to someone who likes making decisions about how firms are run and how to solve the problems they come up against. Economics will appeal to someone who is logical, mathematical and is inquisitive about how the world around them works.

You can choose to study both courses, giving you a more rounded view of how business and the economy work together – however this will narrow your other options.

So why should you choose GCSE Business as an option?

You will be able to understand the business world which you will enter after finishing school/college/university.

You will be able to make informed decisions and put forward arguments to persuade others.

You will have the knowledge to help you set up a business of your own.

The skills you learn such as evaluation and problem solving will be useful in a number of other subjects.

Assessment

Two examinations, each 1hr 30 mins long, both at the end of Year 11. Paper 1 is based on the Year 10 content (Business structure, marketing and human resources) and paper 2 based on Year 11 content (Finance, operations and external influences).

Both papers have 15 multiple choice questions and three case studies.

What can you do next with this subject?

Business can lead on to many vocational qualifications and is a good stepping stone for you in A Level subjects, especially Economics, Accounting and of course A Level Business. Remember that you can study A Level Economics or A Level business without having studied the GCSE so you may want to put off one or the other until you get to 6th form!

For more information contact: Mr S Tingey stingey@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

BTEC Child Development



Exam board and specification code:
Pearson/ CDRT4

Overview

During this course you will have the opportunity to learn about aspects of child development, and the early years sectors (childminders, nannies, nurseries, crèches and preschools). Knowledge of child development is also important in a variety of healthcare roles such as paediatricians, psychologists, occupational therapists and speech and language therapists. You will develop a critical and analytical approach to problem solving within the sector. You will also examine issues which affect the nature and quality of human life, including an appreciation of diversity and cultural issues.

You will gain transferable skills which will be useful to you in any people-orientated career. You will access your learning in a variety of ways including group work, written work and practical tasks. You need to be an independent learner who is keen to succeed.

Level 2 Tech Award in Child Development is the equivalent of 1 GCSE (3 units including externally examined unit)

The structure of the course is as follows:

Component	Title	Content	Assessment method/when/weight
1	Children's growth and development	How children grow and develop from birth to five years old. · Understand the difference between growth and development · Learn about factors that affect growth and development	Assignment – internally assessed assignment (Year 10) 30%
2	Learning through play	How play influences children's learning. How types of play can support learning and progress across development. · Understand how play can be organised to promote learning. · How learning can be supported through play.	Assignment – internally assessed assignment (Year 11) 30%
3	Supporting children to play, learn and develop	How a child learns and develops – look at how to adapt activities to suit the needs of all children. Understand how individual circumstances can impact on a child's learning and development. · How a child learns, develops and adapts activities to support the inclusion of all children	External assessment – 60 marks and completed under examination conditions. (Feb Year 11) 40%

Assessment

The qualification is marked at Level 2 Distinction Star (8.5), Level 2 Distinction (7), L2 Merit (5.5), L2 pass (4), Level 1 Distinction (3), Level 1 Merit (2) and L1 Pass (1.25). GCSE equivalencies shown in brackets.

There is one resit opportunity of the external assessment.

What can you do next with this subject?

You should certainly consider taking this course if you are looking at a career in this sector, such as primary education, paediatric nursing or if you wish to complete further study in this area. You will gain transferable skills which will be useful to you in any people-orientated career.

For more information contact: Mrs N Driver ndriver@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Computer Science

Exam board and specification code:

Pearson Edexcel – GCSE (9-1) Computer Science



Overview

What is Computer Science?

Q: What do Facebook, Angry Birds, Google, Microsoft, Twitter, and Apple have in common?

A: They were all created by people with backgrounds in computing.

Computing is all about problem solving, thinking skills and creativity. It's about understanding how computers work. Computing is about making digital products instead of just using them.

Computing is more than programming. It is a rich and deep discipline in its own right, like physics and mathematics. It explores the principles and ideas that underpin how computers work, rather than training students in skills related to particular software. Computing involves concepts and questions that have the potential to change how we view the world.

Why choose GCSE Computer Science?

This is a course that has real relevance in our modern world. It will give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on "behind the scenes" including computer programming, which many learners find absorbing and fun.

The course will also develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life.

Assessment

This qualification consists of 2 externally examined papers, each paper is worth 50% of the overall grade.

Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science	This paper assessed computational thinking, data, and data representation, understanding computers (hardware and software), networks and network security and the issues and impact on using computer technologies	Written paper 1 hour and 30 minutes 50% of the overall grade
Paper 2: Application of Computational Thinking	The main focus of this paper is: understanding what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work in relation to creating programs, understanding how to decompose and analyse problems and ability to read, write, refine and evaluate programs	Onscreen examination 2 hours 50% of the overall grade

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/computer-science-2020.html> Click here for more information about the course

What can you do next with this subject?

The course would also be excellent preparation for those who want to study or work in areas that rely on problem-solving, logic and analysis, including engineering, finance, science, and medicine.

For more information contact: Mrs L Stenning lstenning@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

BTEC Creative Media Production



Exam board and specification code: Pearson – Qualification Number: 603/1238/5

Overview

What is Creative Media Production?

Have you watched TV today? Listened to a podcast? Surfing the internet? Used social media? Fast forwarded through the annoying adverts on catch-up? The media is all around us and you are a daily media consumer! The Creative Media Production course is equivalent to one GCSE and gives students the opportunity to learn about a range of media sectors, such as advertising, TV and film, and online publishing. You will learn how the media interacts with audiences, analyse existing media products and their impact on society and then can create your own media products in either print or audio/visual format.

Who should take Creative Media Production?

This course is great for anyone who is interested in learning about different media products and media sectors and then turning their hand at creating their own products using their new knowledge and understanding. This course is also perfect for anyone who likes to be practical, independent and creative. As two-thirds of the course is made up of coursework units, you must be able to work independently on your own coursework portfolio and keep to deadlines. The examination at the end of the course builds directly upon your coursework by applying your production skills to a real-life scenario in which you will plan and create a media product.

How is this BTEC in Creative Media Production different from the GCSE in Media Studies?

The BTEC course is much more focused on individual coursework and practical production, whereas the GCSE Media Studies course is focused on set texts and only has a single coursework unit, worth 30%, with two exams at the end of the course. Therefore, if you are not confident at writing long responses, learning content to recall or writing in timed exam conditions, then you are probably more suited to the BTEC course. The BTEC course is aimed at students who might struggle with the theoretical challenge of the GCSE Media Studies course, and provides students with an opportunity to succeed in areas of creative and technical production skill instead.

Can I study both Creative Media Production and GCSE Media or Film Studies?

- **Yes, it is possible to study both Creative Media Production and GCSE Film Studies.** The Creative Media Production course is much more focused on looking at a variety of media products from different media sectors, whereas Film Studies analyses film form only. There will be some crossover with the 'Digital Moving Image' unit which is based on creating a short film product.
- **No, it is not possible to study both Creative Media Production and GCSE Media Studies** as this would narrow down the breadth of your curriculum choices too much.

What extra-curricular activities can I join in?

The Media and Film department has run several trips in the past and there may be opportunities to participate in these again. Previously we have been to the Harry Potter Studio tour, the IMAX cinema at the BFI in London, the Bond Museum and visited Suffolk New College to use their editing facilities. We also work alongside local production companies so you can see production in a real-world sense.

Assessment

Whole Course Assessment:

- Coursework assessment: two units with portfolio work (60%). Component 1: Exploring Media Products and Component 2: Developing Digital Media Production Skills
- External assessment: one portfolio task, prepared over a 15-week window and then completed in 9 hours of exam conditions (40%). Component 3: Create a Media Product in Response to a Brief

What can you do next with this subject?

Upon completion of the BTEC Creative Media Production course, students might consider progression to:

- A Level Media Studies as preparation for entry to higher education
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Creative Digital Media Production, which is equivalent to 1 A-Level and prepares students to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the media sector.

For more information contact: Mrs L Tighe LTighe@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Dance



Exam board and specification code: AQA 8236

Why Dance: Are you passionate about dance? Does hearing music make you want to move? Do you like making up dances? Do you like watching professional dance works and writing creatively about choreography? If so, then this course is for you! It's practical, fun and challenging: be prepared to work hard, be creative and to try things that are outside of your comfort zone!

Opportunities: There are many opportunities to improve your dance skills further including workshops, Dance Clubs, Dance Jams and Shows. All GCSE Dance students are expected to perform in the Dance Show, Summer Festival and termly Dance Jams as this always proves to be a fun, valuable learning experience for the students. Regularly run theatre trips also prove to be very popular and are an excellent way to make connections between practical and theory.

The Course: GCSE Dance builds seamlessly upon the good practice that the students encounter in their PE/Dance lessons throughout KS3. We look to teach our students in a practical environment and have a purpose-built studio with mirrors to aid our teaching. It is a skill-based curriculum that seeks to develop the dancers' ability to move, communicate ideas, styles, feelings and emotions creatively through dance. Through a variety of stimuli, we actively encourage pupils' interest, appreciation and enjoyment of dance. We also study the art of composition; equipping dancers with the necessary skills to choreograph and devise their own solo and group dances.

Who can take GCSE Dance: Dance is for everyone, both male and female! Students who dance outside of school and have ballet, tap, jazz, street or modern training will thrive on this course. Equally, many students without any formal training have gone on to achieve some amazing results and thoroughly enjoyed the practical learning experience. With a positive attitude, enthusiasm, the desire to learn and ability to work co-operatively with staff and other dancers, success is possible. We look forward to teaching you and hope that you enjoy the course.

How is the course assessed?

COMPONENT 1 – Practical - Total component 60%

Performance - 30% - 40 marks (15marks for solo and 25marks for duet/trio performance)

- Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration)
- Duet/trio performance (three and a half minutes in duration)

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). Question set from exam board.

COMPONENT 2 – Theory - Total component 40%

Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes - 80 marks

- Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills
- Critical appreciation of own work
- Critical appreciation of professional works

What can you do next with this subject?

Dance is an Art. Students can study A Level Dance at Kesgrave Sixth Form and many students from the school have gone on from this step to study dance at University and Performance School. Careers on the stage, in teaching, working with young people, in therapy, theatre and sport are all avenues that can be pursued through these qualifications.

For more information contact: Miss L D Warfield lwarfield@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Design & Technology

Exam board: AQA
Specification code: 8552



Overview

Did you enjoy Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), Practical Skills and Communicating Ideas in Key Stage 3? If the answer is yes, then GCSE Design and Technology is for you.

Design and Technology is an area of study that focuses on planning, designing and creating things (called "products") which people use.

Think about your toaster (stay with us). Someone had to spend a great deal of time thinking about how to make it look good while also making it work. That is what design and technology is all about!

While studying this subject, you can learn how to design and make anything from furniture, textiles, gym equipment, electronics and even computer programs. By studying design and technology, you will be able to build up your creativity, problem solving, planning, and evaluation skills. You will also gain communication and teamwork skills!

Design and Technology goes well with Art, but also Science and Technology subjects, including Physics, Maths, Chemistry and IT. Geography also ties in well with the sustainability aspects of Design and Technology!

Assessment

Coursework (50%)

The coursework is 50% of your grade and carries 100 marks. It begins in June of Year 10 when the exam board release a series of design contexts. You chose the one which appeals to you most and then spend approximately 2 terms producing a design portfolio and a prototype product.

Examination (50%)

The examination is at the end of Year 11 – it is 2 hours long, carries 100 marks and is worth 50%. For most of Year 10 you will work through a series of short units, most of which have a practical focus. These will develop your knowledge of materials and manufacturing processes, as well as designing methods and social/moral/cultural issues. All of this is covered in the exam. At the end of Year 11 we will revisit these topics to help you prepare for the exam.

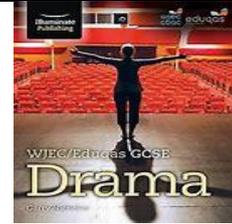
What can you do next with this subject?

Design and Technology can set you up for a career in a wide variety of industries such as Product Design, Engineering, Architecture, Information Technology, Graphic Design and Education.

Popular careers for people with design and technology qualifications include product designer, architect, software engineer, civil engineer, carpenter, graphic designer (there are even a few teachers!)

For more information contact: Mr A Girling agirling@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Drama



Exam board and specification code:

Eduqas C690QS

Qualification Accreditation Number: 601/8420/6

Overview

Drama at GCSE is all about honing the skills you have learned at KS3 and learning new ones to help you be the best Drama and Theatre student you can be. It is not just about the performance, (although this may be the main reason you are choosing the subject as it does underpin the requirements of the course), you will also learn to appreciate the technical side of theatre. You may even wish to be more of a designer than a performer; and this is certainly an option on the course. We advise students who desire to pursue the design route, that they will need prior knowledge, practical skills and training in the elements of costume, lighting, sound and set/props making. Please discuss with your Drama teacher should this be an option you were thinking of doing.

The work you will complete will build on your analysis and evaluation skills, enable you to become more observant of performance and develop your skills in practical problem solving. Drama GCSE develops your knowledge and understanding of your own performance work and the work of others.

Year 10 will be very much about developing the variety of skills and knowledge in the drama classroom such as exploring practitioners and theatre style, performing and developing scripted and devised drama work and evaluating our process and the work of others (including Live Theatre performances).

Year 11 will be more the business end of the course – completing of the assessment components, preparing for both the practical and the written exams.

We aim to see three external performances throughout the course, but regularly manage to see more. This all helps with the understanding and development of the theatre of our time.

Assessment

Component 1: Devising Theatre non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated 40% of qualification.

Learners will be assessed on either acting or design. Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or a genre, in response to a stimulus set by WJEC. Learners must produce:

- a realisation of their piece of devised theatre
- a portfolio of supporting evidence
- an evaluation of the final performance or design.

Component 2: Performing from a Text non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner 20% of qualification.

Learners will be assessed on either acting or design. Learners study two extracts from the same performance text chosen by the school. Learners participate in one performance using sections of text from both extracts.

Component 3: Interpreting Theatre written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of qualification

Section A: Set text for assessment

A series of questions on one set text from a choice of five.

Section B: Live Theatre Review

What can you do next with this subject?

A qualification in Drama at GCSE (Level 2) can allow you to head in many different directions:

- A great stepping-stone to A Level Drama and Theatre or to college courses that follow Performing Arts at Further Ed level (Level 3)
- Any performance-based job or anything that needs an understanding of the events and arts industry
- Any courses or jobs where interaction, communication and presentations are key to success – the police/military forces, events management, PA or secretarial work, teaching or Early Years development to name a few.

For more information contact: Mrs C Close cclose@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Economics

Exam board and specification code:

OCR J205



Overview

Economics is about people and their economic choices. The GCSE in Economics shows students that we are all part of the economy and that economics relates to every aspect of our lives - from the decisions of individuals or families to the structures created by governments and producers. It develops your understanding of how economic issues affect choices about resources and markets and vice versa.

Economics will...

- Explore how consumers, producers and governments interact in market
- Get you learning how to use economic data from a range of sources
- Help you make informed judgements and communicate them in a clear and concise way
- Help you evaluate economic problems and possible solutions
- Help you to think like an economist, developing a logical approach to thinking and reasoning
- Help you gain transferrable skills that will benefit you in your further study and employment

A GCSE in Economics enables students to become better-informed and more responsible citizens, consumers and producers, by developing an awareness of the importance of the economic dimension to our lives. Economics will appeal to someone who is logical, mathematical and is inquisitive about how the world around them works. Business will appeal to someone who likes making decisions about how firms are run and how to solve the problems they come up against.

Which should I choose – Business or Economics?

You can choose to study **both** courses, giving you a more rounded view of how business and the economy work together – however this will narrow your other options.

So why should you choose GCSE Economics as an option?

- ★ You want to understand the world around you, which you will enter after finishing school/college/university.
- ★ You want to understand economic data and how it influences the success of the economy.
- ★ You have an interest in global economic issues, for example the price of oil, levels of unemployment, government policy at home and abroad.
- ★ The skills you learn such as evaluation and problem solving will be useful in a number of other subjects.

Assessment

OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Economics is a fully linear course and consists of two mandatory exams that are externally assessed.

Each question paper will have 20 multiple choice questions and short case studies with related short and medium response questions, as well the opportunity for extended writing; Both papers are 1 ½ hours each.

What can you do next with this subject?

Economics can lead on to many post-16 routes and is a good stepping stone for you in A Level subjects, especially Business, Government & Politics, Maths (statistics), Accounting and of course A Level Economics. Remember that you can study A Level Economics or A Level Business without having studied the GCSE so you may want to put off one or the other until you get to 6th form!

For more information contact: Mr S Tingey stingey@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Engineering



Exam board and specification code:

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Engineering
(Qualification Number: 603/0829/1)

Overview

During this course, you will have the opportunity to learn about the key engineering sectors, the skills and knowledge involved in producing a solution to an engineering problem as well as the development of your practical and technical skills.

Level 2 Tech Award in Engineering is the equivalent of 1 GCSE (3 units including 1 externally examined unit). The structure of the course is as follows:

Component	Title	Content	Assessment Method
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploring engineering sectors and design applications 	The role of design in the production of engineered products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the engineering industry and the different sectors Understand the role that design applications play in the creation of products 	Assignment – internally assessed assignment 30%
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigating an engineering product 	Investigate the selection of materials, components and disassembly of a product. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand materials components and processes involved in an engineered product. Investigate a product using disassembly techniques Plan the manufacture and be able to reproduce, inspect and test an engineered component. 	Assignment – internally assessed assignment 30%
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responding to an engineering brief 	Investigate and create solutions to problems. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how to respond to a brief Develop skills and techniques in response to an engineering brief. 	External assessment – 60 marks 40%

Assessment

The qualification is marked at Level 2 Distinction Star (8.5), Level 2 Distinction (7), L2 Merit (5.5), Level 2 pass (4), Level 1 Distinction (3), Level 1 Merit (2) and L1 Pass (1.25). GCSE equivalencies shown in brackets. There is one resit opportunity of the external assessment

What can you do next with this subject?

You should certainly consider taking this course if you are looking at a career Engineering or if you want to gain transferable skills such as problem solving, analysis, independent working and being an active member of a group. There is also an option to progress into our Sixth Form with a BTEC Extended Certificate in Engineering, which is a Level 3 qualification. This qualification will prepare learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in an engineering area.

For more information contact: Mrs C Smith cesmith@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Film Studies



Exam board and specification code:

EDUQAS: C67OQS

Overview

This course is perfect for anyone who has a passion for film and is interested in not only analysing a range of films but learning about the film industry too. It is ideal for analytical, creative and independent students who are enthusiastic about all types of film. Film Studies is suitable for any level of ability and can provide students with skills for the workplace and will contribute towards your Sixth Form or college entry requirements.

Component 1: Key Developments in US Film

Students study three American films including both mainstream Hollywood films and American Independent films. Films cover different time periods in American film, looking at the influence of technology in the modern era. Current texts covered on this unit are 'Rebel Without a Cause', 'Ferris Bueller's Day Off' and 'Juno'.

Component 2: Global Film – Narrative, Representation and Film Style

Students study three films that were produced outside America: one global English Language film, one global non-English language film and one contemporary UK film. Current texts covered on this unit are 'District 9', 'Tsotsi' and 'Skyfall'.

Component 3 Non-examination assessment

The coursework allows student to apply their understanding of film in their own practical production work. Students can produce either a screenplay or a film extract.

Is it possible to study both Film and Media Studies or BTEC Creative Media Production?

Yes, it is possible to study Film alongside other Media courses and at A Level we have many students who successfully do a combination of these. Both courses complement each other and employ transferable skills such as textual analysis, understanding of representation, understanding of the film and media industries and the practical application of learning.

Assessment

Component 1: Key Developments in US Film

External examination 35%
1 hour 30 minutes.
Four compulsory questions.
Focus on film comparison, film industry, the rise of digital technology and independent film.

Component 2: Global Film – Narrative, Representation and Film Style

External examination 35%
1 hour 30 minutes.
Three compulsory questions on each film.

Component 3 Non-examination assessment

Internal assessment 30%
Two tasks. Task one: Either the production of a genre-based film extract or the production of a screenplay. Task two: An evaluation of your own work.

What can you do next with this subject?

- The course is a natural foundation for any creative or analytical post-16 course.
- The GCSE can be the start of a path into the film, media or creative industries and we have a wide alumnus in the field.

For more information contact: Mr M Wheatley mwheatley@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition



Exam board and specification code:
OCR - J309

Overview

Why should I take GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition?

"The great thing about cooking is it engages all of the senses" "Can you think of another subject that can encapsulate every other subject you study in school? It covers history, it covers maths, it covers chemistry, physics, biology, English." Heston Blumenthal

This is a theory and practical course suitable for pupils who are enthusiastic about Food and Nutrition. You will develop practical cookery skills, an understanding of nutrition and food science. The course is divided into four sections:

Section A – Nutrition - Includes the Eat well guide, relationship between diet and health, key nutrients and water, nutritional and dietary needs of different groups of people.

Section B – Food: food provenance and food choice - food processing and production, food security, technological developments, British cuisine and international cuisine, food choice.

Section C – Cooking and food preparation - Scientific principles of preparing and cooking food, sensory and nutritional properties, and food safety principles.

Section D – Skills requirements: preparation and cooking techniques - meat, poultry, fish and alternatives, fruit and vegetables, and eggs and dairy. Sauce making, pastry making, bread making, cake & biscuit making, pasta making, presentation and food styling.

Course Structure

In Year 10 your lessons will be a combination of practical and theory lessons to cover the course content. Practical lessons include Viennese biscuits, vegetable soup and croutons, pasties, lemon meringue pie, chocolate yule log, apple turnovers, profiteroles, burgers, fishcakes, salmon en croute, bechamel sauce, tagliatelle, chicken Kiev, chicken curry and flat bread, Chelsea Buns, mayonnaise, tarte tatin, vol au vents and souffles. There will also be opportunities to make 'free choice' dishes in line with a theme.

Assessment - All assessment for the GCSE is completed in Year 11

Food Investigation Task - 15% of total GCSE. Released on 1 September of Year 11. Through practical experimental work, investigate and evaluate the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. Produce a written report of 1500-2000 words.

Food Preparation Task – 35% of total GCSE. Released on 1 November of Year 11. Prepare, cook and present three dishes within 3 hours, and plan, how this will be achieved.

Exam Paper – 50% of total GCSE. Theory paper sat at the end of Year 11

What can you do next with this subject?

This subject would be a good option for anyone considering a career working in the catering industry, healthcare, with children or where an understanding of nutrition and cooking is required such as Dietician, Food Technologists, Nutritionists, Food teacher, Home Economists. If you want to learn to cook, understand where our food comes from and the effect it has on the body, then this is the course for you.

For more information contact: Mrs C Purnell cpurnell@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE French



Exam board and specification code:
Edexcel / 1FRO

Overview

A GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language aims to develop in all students the ability to use language effectively for the purposes of practical communication in the four main skills areas: LISTENING, SPEAKING, READING & WRITING. These mirror the development of languages in Years 7-9.

The course looks at the detailed study of a range of topics that deal with everyday life both in the UK and the countries in which the chosen language is spoken. These include family and friends, social media and free time, social issues in the local and international world, travel and tourism, and work and education. There will be a stronger emphasis on grammar as well as cultural identity and as such the biannual trip to France will therefore continue to run, allowing pupils to use their language skills in a real-life context.

If you think learning a language is hard, don't worry – it's not as hard as you think! You're probably already doing a lot of the skills in Key Stage 3!

Language learning is skills-based; use of verbal and non-verbal communication, thinking on your feet, problem solving using gist and inference and multi-tasking are just a few skills that you will develop every lesson in order to overcome language barriers.

Assessment

The study of these topics will be divided up over the 2-year course. Assessment will take place in the four skills of LISTENING, SPEAKING, READING AND WRITING with each skill having an equal 25% weighting. All skills are assessed by final examinations in Year 11.

There are tiers of entry for all four exams, however students have to be entered at the same tier for all skills. The speaking exam is conducted by the class teacher and sent off for marking.

What can you do next with this subject?

- A language pass is a component of the “English Baccalaureate” and is thus a benchmark of a more rigorous programme of academic study.
- Future employers will require those with “all-round” qualifications, not just specialists in one area, so language skills are advantageous as they provide you with a range of cross-curricular skills and knowledge.
- A GCSE in a language is a highly valued skill, a requirement for entry to some universities and an essential tool for study of a language at A Level.
- Most employers are not looking for employees to be fluent in a foreign language, but to have conversational ability, which will give a good impression, help to build relationships and make new contacts. The GCSE course is perfect for this.

Did you know?

“Modern linguists earn more than graduates from any other discipline except medics, architects and pharmacologists.”

“72% of UK international trade is with non-English-speaking countries.”

“More than 30% of UK businesses want people specifically for their language skills.”

“77% of British exporters believe they lose business because they can't speak other languages.”

“Exporters who use language skills achieve on average 45% more sales.”

“75% of the world's population speak no English at all.”

For more information contact: Miss E Leoni eleoni@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Geography



Exam board and specification code:

AQA - 8035

Overview

Geography is a highly respected academic subject recognised by employers and universities. It also counts towards the EBacc qualification. Geography at GCSE level looks deeper into issues and relationships between the physical and human worlds that you have begun to study over the past three years. You should already have started to see the world in a different way, extending your knowledge and understanding and learning the skills a geographer needs. Using these, along with those you will learn at GCSE, many options are open to you.

Assessment

Paper 1 Challenges in the Physical Environment 35% 1½ hrs Exam

- The challenge of Natural Hazards- tectonics, weather & climate
- The Living World- ecosystems & rainforests, cold environments
- Physical landscapes in the UK- coasts & rivers

Paper 2 Challenges in the Human Environment 35% 1½ hrs Exam

- The changing economic world
- Urban issues and challenges
- Resource management

Paper 3 Geographical Applications 30% 1¼ hrs Exam

- Section A: Issue evaluation
- Section B: Fieldwork

Over the two-year course, students will experience two full day trips. One will be a Physical Geography trip to Walton-on-the-Naze where coastal processes will be studied in Year 10. The second will be a Human Geography trip to the Waterfront, Ipswich. Here students will study sustainability and urban issues.

What can you do next with this subject?

Perhaps you would like to eventually work in one of the following industries: travel, tourism, transport, meteorology, agriculture, civil engineering, marketing, cartography, mining, banking or planning? There are so many to choose from. Geography is also a good general qualification to have and can help you with employment in most types of job, A Levels and entrance to college and university. There are graphical and analytical skills which can be applied to almost all subjects.

For more information contact: Miss C Leak cleak@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE German



Exam board and specification code:

Edexcel / 1GN0

Overview

A GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language aims to develop in all students the ability to use language effectively for the purposes of practical communication in the four main skills areas: LISTENING, SPEAKING, READING & WRITING. These mirror the development of languages in Years 7-9.

The course looks at the detailed study of a range of topics that deal with everyday life both in the UK and the countries in which the chosen language is spoken. These include family and friends, social media and free time, social issues in the local and international world, travel and tourism, and work and education. There will be a stronger emphasis on grammar as well as cultural identity and as such the annual exchange to Germany will therefore continue to run, allowing pupils to use their language skills in a real-life context.

If you think learning a language is hard, don't worry – it's not as hard as you think! You're probably already doing a lot of the skills in Key Stage 3!

Language learning is skills-based – use of verbal and non-verbal communication, thinking on your feet, problem solving using gist and inference and multi-tasking are just a few skills that you will develop every lesson in order to overcome language barriers.

Assessment

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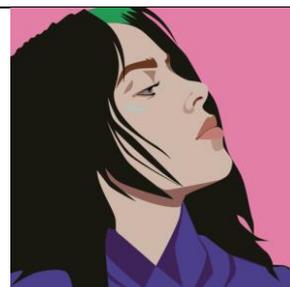
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“75% of the world's population speak no English at all.”

For more information contact: Mrs T Gwilliam tgwilliam@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Graphics



Exam board and specification code:
AQA, Component 1: 8203/C, Component 2: 8203/X

AQA Art and Design: Graphic Communication is an exciting and stimulating course which allows you to respond to the contemporary visual world: the work of contemporary graphic designers, game designers, illustrators and design for print media such as magazines.

A passion for visual imagery, communicating ideas and being creative with materials and techniques is essential to the course. However, enthusiasm is also vital: skills and techniques will be taught in lesson workshops; practice and commitment that will bring positive results.

The GCSE Graphic Communication course is split into two parts: coursework projects and a final examination project. It is a two-year course, although in reality, you have four terms in which to complete the coursework.

Course Outline:

During Years 10 and 11 students follow several coursework projects, this is called the 'Portfolio' which accounts for 60% of your final GCSE grade. Each of the coursework projects is based around a broad heading such as 'Music Promotion' (an example of student work for this project is shown at the top of the page), enabling students to develop their skills and understanding of graphic techniques whilst also giving the students creative freedom to explore their own ideas.

During the course you will explore a wide range of subject specific skills and techniques, building upon those you have developed in Year 7-9 and learning new techniques and processes. Graphics specific workshops in class will include photo editing, vector artwork, printmaking such as lino, screen-print and mono-printing, stencils and papercutting, drawing, painting and mixed media work.

Why take Graphic Communication?

The Graphic Communication course will develop your visual communication, creative and practical skills, allow you to respond to the work of visual artists and graphic designers, whilst also supporting you to explore your own personal design ideas.

Assessment

The coursework 'Portfolio' accounts for 60% of your final GCSE grade.

You will produce an examination project during the Spring term of Year 11 which accounts for 40% of your final grade. The theme is set by the exam board and you will choose appropriate graphic artists and designers, explore materials, techniques and personal ideas for your work. This will lead to the 10-hour practical examination under controlled conditions, during which you will produce your final pieces.

What can you do next with this subject?

The course will equip you with the skills and understanding to pursue a range of careers within the graphic design, game design, illustration and visual communication industries. The course provides an excellent foundation for A Level courses leading to apprenticeships or a degree in areas such as graphic design, games design, illustration, animation and film and video editing.

For more information contact: Miss H Dodgson hdodgson@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

BTEC Health & Social Care



Exam board and specification code:

Pearson/ CXWZ1

Overview

About 3 million people work in health and social care. Health care roles include doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives and healthcare assistants, while social care roles include care assistants, occupational therapists, counsellors and administrators. Together, they account for nearly one in ten of all paid jobs in the UK. Demand for both health and social care is likely to rise, so they will continue to play a key role in UK society and the demand for people to carry out these vital roles will increase.

During this course you will have the opportunity to learn about aspects of personal development, and the health, social care and early years sectors. You will develop a critical and analytical approach to problem solving within the health and social care. You will also examine issues which affect the nature and quality of human life, including an appreciation of diversity and cultural issues.

You will access your learning in a variety of ways including group work, written work and practical tasks. You need to be an independent learner who is keen to succeed.

Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care is the equivalent of 1 GCSE (3 units, 1 externally assessed examined unit)

The structure of the course is as follows:

Unit	Content	Assessment method/when/ weighting
Component 1 – Human Lifespan Development	How do people grow and develop through their lives? How can factors such as lifestyle choices and relationships affect our lives?	Internal assignment Year 10 30%
Component 2 – Health and Social Care Services and Values	Providing good health and social care services The importance of care values	Internal assignment Year 11 30%
Component 3 – Health and Wellbeing	Factors that have a positive or negative influence on health and well-being. Interpreting lifestyle data	External examination Feb year 11 40%

Assessment

The qualification is marked at Level 2 Distinction Star (8.5), Level 2 Distinction (7), L2 Merit (5.5), L2 pass (4), Level 1 Distinction (3), Level 1 Merit (2) and L1 Pass (1.25). GCSE equivalencies shown in brackets. There is **one** resit opportunity of the external assessment.

What can you do next with this subject?

You should certainly consider taking this course if you are looking at a career in health and social care. You will gain transferable skills which will be useful to you in any people-orientated career.

It is a valuable subject if your destination is a career within health and social care including counselling, social work, teaching, nursing, midwifery, occupational therapy, physiotherapy.

For more information contact: Mrs N Driver ndriver@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE History



Exam board and specification code: 1H10FM

[https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/History/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/GCSE_History_\(9-1\)_Specification_Issue_2.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/History/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/GCSE_History_(9-1)_Specification_Issue_2.pdf)

Overview: What units will you study?

Thematic study and Historical investigation: Medicine in Britain c1250 - present

This looks at one topic over the long term and focuses on how things have changed. The students will study the times when rapid progress was made and also when little seemed to change for hundreds of years. We will consider what factors, such as technology, led to periods of change and times of stagnation. Medicine is a fascinating topic, full of many eye-watering facts. For example, Middle Ages physicians would taste patients' urine to try to assess their health. If they were diagnosed as having too much blood, leeches were used to remove it. Also, operations were performed on people who were wide-awake until 1848! The picture above shows people waking up during an early 'experiment' with chloroform - one of the first anaesthetics. As part of this unit, you will also learn about the treatment of the soldiers' injuries in the British trenches on the Western Front during World War One.

British Depth Study: Early Elizabethan England. 1558 – 88

In this unit we will study how Elizabeth managed to keep the English throne, even though her mother had been beheaded by her father the King! We will look at the problems Elizabeth faced, for example the attempted invasion by Spain with the Spanish Armada. This was a time of great exploration and we will study the discovery of the 'New World' and the journeys undertaken by people such as Sir Francis Drake. We will also study the lives of ordinary people and aspects like sports and school - where children were routinely beaten for producing poor work!

Period study: The American West c.1835-c.1895

Here we focus on the dramatic changes that shaped one of the most powerful nations in the world. We will investigate how the West was 'won' by Americans and what happened to the American Indians when groups of farmers, cattle barons and gold miners crossed and settled on their land. We will study the wars between the US army and the American Indians and consider whether the US government committed genocide against the American Indians. We will also look at specific events such as the terrible fate of the Donner Party who unsuccessfully tried to migrate to the far West, and why the Mormons became such a powerful force in America.

Modern depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918 – 39

In 1918, Germany was in chaos and people were starving. Different political parties tried to restore order while simultaneously paying compensation demanded by Britain and France after World War One. We look at the birth of the Nazi party and how and why a party with such extreme and unpopular views managed to gain control over Germany. We look at the consequences of the Nazi policies for those living in Nazi Germany, for example for young people and the Jews. We will also look at brave attempts by Germans e.g., Martin Niemöller to oppose the Nazis.

Is History for you?

Students of all abilities could choose this subject as long as they are genuinely interested in History. However, there is a lot of reading to be done and you will need to complete extended writing tasks in lessons and in the exams. A willingness to try hard and an enthusiastic approach will be essential, but your teacher is always there to help.

Assessment

Your work will be assessed through three written and externally marked examinations which together will decide your final grade. There is no coursework assessment in GCSE History.

Paper 1 30% 1 hour 15 minutes. Thematic study and Historical investigation (see above).

Paper 2 40% 1 hour 45-minutes. Period Study and the British Depth study (see above). A separate booklet on each is to be answered in this time. The period and British study are worth equal marks on the paper.

Paper 3 30% 1 hour and 20 minutes. Modern Depth Study (see above).

What can you do next with this subject?

GCSE History is a highly regarded qualification so it would be valuable if you were applying to 6th form or colleges. It is obviously excellent preparation for anyone wishing to do A Level History but the extended writing skills you learn would also be good preparation for studying any A Level or vocational course.

History is a widely respected subject and both employers and Universities recognise it as a demanding academic discipline that helps people think for themselves rather than simply following the opinions of others. In addition, it is impossible to make sense of contemporary society without understanding how that society evolved over time.

For more information contact: Mr M Watson mwatson@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

BTEC Technical Award in Digital Information Technology (IT)



Exam board and specification code:

Pearson Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Technical Award: Digital Information Technology (IT) - 603/270/6

Overview

The digital sector is a major source of employment spanning all industries and almost all jobs in the UK today require employees to have a good level of digital literacy. This course gives students a real insight into the modern fundamentals of IT and is ideal for learners who want a career in IT or want to get a broad taste of digital skills. Students will learn a strong mix of creative design and technical knowledge.

The technical skills students will gain will give them an edge when progressing beyond secondary education.

Assessment

There is one externally marked examination which makes up 40% of the qualification. The remaining 60% is assessed internally through a series of course work assignments.

Component 1 Exploring user Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques	Learners will develop their understanding of what makes an effective user interface and how to effectively manage a project. They will use this understanding to plan, design and create a user interface.	Internal Assessment 30%
Component 2 Collecting, Presenting, and interpreting Data	Learners will understand the characteristics of data and information and how they help organisations in decision making. They will use data manipulation methods to create a dashboard to present and draw conclusions from information.	Internal Assessment 30%
Component 3 Effective Digital Working Practices	Learners will explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications associated with their use.	Written paper 1 ½ hours 40% of overall grade

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-tech-awards/digital-information-technology.html>

Click here for more information about the course.

What can you do next with this subject?

Progression to a digital/ICT Apprenticeship or BTEC Level 3 National/A Level in IT or Computing.
Progression into IT careers such as IT Project Management, Technical Support, Cyber Security, App Design, Web Design, Video Game Design, Digital Marketing/Advertising and more...

For more information contact: Ms J Summers jsummers@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

Life Skills



Exam board and specification code:

Various accreditations/portfolios/assessments

What can the student expect to attain?

The student will over a two-year period aim to develop a wide and varied understanding of life skills post-16 and to use skills relevant to the 'World of Work'.

It is anticipated that throughout this time students will complete modules of work from courses such as the ASDAN Award Programme, V-Certs, iDEA digital enterprise award and AQA Unit Awards in order to develop skills appropriate to their development needs.

What are the expectations of the students?

The student is expected to be enthusiastic and motivated towards all areas of study with a positive attitude to learning. It is aimed at supporting students to become confident individuals who are physically, emotionally and socially healthy and responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society and embrace change.

Our vision

All students are multi-talented and have different areas of strength. To acknowledge that diversity we seek to:

- Encourage, engage and motivate learners
- Promote active and experimental learning
- Raise the expectations of the learner
- Reward a range of learning styles and contexts
- Use assessment to further learning
- Make learning relevant and transferable
- Promote the worth and value of the qualifications

It is important to recognise that this course of study is especially suited to those that are more vocationally minded. Limited places are available.



Assessment

Various accreditations/portfolios/assessments

What can you do next with this subject? You will leave school better equipped with skills for life.

For more information contact: Miss R Coe rcoe@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Statistics Maths

GCSE Further Maths



Exam board and specification code:

Statistics: Edexcel 1STO

Further Maths: AQA 8365

Overview

This option choice will allow students to achieve qualifications in both GCSE Statistics and GCSE Further Mathematics.

GCSE Statistics

Are you interested in seeing how Mathematics is woven into other subjects and the fabric of our technological and data driven society? The Statistics course gives you the option to broaden your knowledge and application of Mathematics to a range of other subjects: Business Studies, Psychology, Sociology, and Geography.

What you will study in GCSE Statistics:

Designing experiments and understanding hypothesis, Issues in collecting data and possible remedies, How to sample from a population, Analysis of data and the calculations involved, Probability and knowledge of particular probability distributions, Knowledge of index numbers and RPI, CPI, GDP

GCSE Further Mathematics

The Further Mathematics course broadens your mathematical skills into areas related to engineering, physics and problem solving. This course is designed for those students looking at achieving a grade 7,8 or 9 in GCSE Mathematics and is suitable for students in Mathematics set 1 or 2. This course leads to an AQA Level 2 qualification in Further Mathematics. Please contact me if you would like advice on the suitability of this course for your child.

What will you study in GCSE Further Maths:

This course will cover a number of the more challenging topics from the GCSE Higher tier curriculum such as Circle Theorems, Surds, Trigonometry, Index Laws, Simultaneous Equations and Geometry. This course will also look at some of the areas from the A Level Mathematics course including Matrices, Pascal's triangle, Differentiation, Factor Theorem, Number Theory, Trigonometric Identities and Geometry.

Assessment

Statistics

- 2 Written exams: 1hr 30 minutes in length and worth 80 marks each (50% each)
- Each exam tiered at either Higher (grades 3 – 9) or Foundation (grades 1-5)

Further Maths

- 2 Written exams: 1hr 45 minutes in length and worth 80 marks each (50% each)
- Exam tiered at grades 3 - 9

What can you do next with this subject?

It is applicable to a variety of careers including Weather forecasting, Biological Sciences and Engineering.

It will also benefit those students thinking of studying Social Sciences, Geography, Psychology, Sciences and Mathematics at Advanced Level

For more information contact: Mr G Davenport gdavenport@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

or visit <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/aqa-certificate/further-mathematics-8360>

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/statistics-2017.html>

GCSE Media Studies

Exam board and specification code: WJEC Eduqas GCSE Media Studies
Specification code: C680QS



Overview

What is Media Studies?

The media plays a central role in 21st century society and culture. The media shapes our perceptions of the world through how they represent people, issues and viewpoints. On average we spend more hours a day interacting with the media than anything else: watching TV or films, using social media, streaming music and surfing the net. With the media experience impacting so heavily on our lives, it is essential to be critically aware and be able to analyse and evaluate its production and impact. Students will cover the basics of analysing how media texts communicate to their audiences as well as how the media industry works. Through this study, students can then begin to question and explore aspects of the media, as consumers themselves, across different media forms from different time periods to understand how the industry is ever changing and adapting.

Who should take Media Studies?

This course is perfect for anyone who has an interest in any type of media form and is a consumer of media themselves – which is unavoidable! It is ideal for analytical, creative and independent students who are enthusiastic about the great variety that media offers us. Media Studies is suitable for any level of ability and can provide students with skills for the workplace and will contribute towards Sixth Form or college entry requirements.

How is Media Studies different to Film Studies?

Although these two GCSE courses might sound similar on the surface, there are several differences between them. Media Studies covers a broad spectrum of media forms, such as TV, music marketing, newspapers, radio, magazines, video games, social media and vlogging, whereas Film Studies only focuses on the medium of film. In the coursework production unit, Media Studies allows students to pick the media format they want to produce in, whether that is TV, music advertising or magazines, whereas in Film Studies the coursework is based solely on film production.

How is the GCSE Media Studies course different to the BTEC Creative Media Production course?

The GCSE Media Studies course is more academic and based on critical thinking and analytical writing skills. You need to be able to write essays in a coherent way and use media terminology confidently. Another aspect of the GCSE is learning about media theory and applying it when you analyse a new media product. The BTEC course is much more practical and designed for students who like to show off their creative and technical skills in making media products. The GCSE does have one element of coursework which is worth 30% of the GCSE.

What extra-curricular activities can I join in?

The Media and Film department have been able to offer trips and extra-curricular activities in the past, such as trips to the Harry Potter Studio tour, the IMAX cinema at the BFI in London, the Bond Museum in London and visited Suffolk New College to use their editing facilities.

Can I study both GCSE Media and BTEC Creative Media Production or GCSE Film?

- **Yes, it is possible to study both GCSE Media Studies and GCSE Film Studies** - at both GCSE and A Level we have many students who successfully do this. Both courses work well with each other as they use the same skills such as text analysis, understanding of representation, considering how audiences will consume a film or media product and looking at film and media industries.
- **No, it is not possible to study both GCSE Media Studies and the BTEC Creative Media Production course** as this would narrow down the breadth of your curriculum choices too much.

Assessment

- External assessment: two written exams (70%). Component 1: Exploring Media Language and Representation and Component 2: Understanding Media Forms and Products
- Coursework assessment: two pieces (30%). Component 3: Creating Media Products

What can you do next with this subject?

Upon completion of the GCSE course, students might consider progression to:

- A Level Media Studies or BTEC Level 3 Creative Digital Media Production course as preparation for entry to higher education
- College courses linked to the study of media or employment and apprenticeships in some media sectors

For more information contact: Mrs L Tighe Ltighe@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

BTEC Music

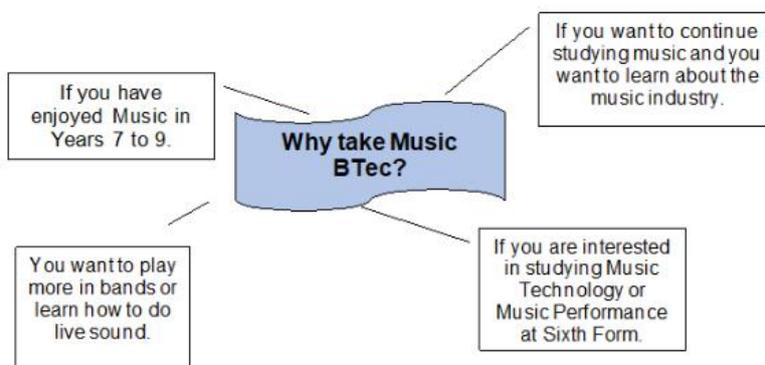


Exam board and specification code:
Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 First Award in Music 600/6818/8

Overview

This course provides excellent continuity from Key Stage 3 schemes for students who have enjoyed the practical or music technology projects. Students can opt from music technology or music performance modules so it is not essential for you to be able to play an instrument to a high standard.

Students who choose the performance modules will play in bands and as soloists throughout the course. The main difference between GCSE Music and BTec Music is the written paper which examines knowledge of the music industry rather than concentrating on learning set works.



Assessment

There are three core units and one optional unit. All units have equal weighting and are worth 30 points.

Core unit: The Music Industry	Written exam	Written exam on the organisations and jobs in the music industry.
Core unit: Managing a music product	Coursework	Plan, deliver and promote a live concert, CD or other music product
Option 1: Music Composition	Coursework	Compose music for TV and film, for a band or soloist.
Option 1: Recording	Coursework	Learning how to set up and use recording equipment and mixing software to produce a final mix.
Option 2: Live Sound	Coursework	Learning how to set up and use microphones, mixing desks and PA equipment at a gig.
Option 2: Music Performance	Coursework	Improve your playing skills on your chosen instrument via band and solo projects.

All coursework will be completed during lesson times, marked by your teacher and then externally moderated. The written exam is externally marked. Pupils will achieve a grade at the end of the course including Distinction, Merit and Pass.

What can you do next with this subject?

Music is an important part of many media and entertainment industries. Job opportunities could include broadcasting, publishing, copyright, arts administration, teaching, performing, Music Therapy, composing and recording.

For more information contact: Mr J Woodley jwoodley@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

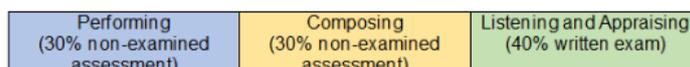
GCSE Music



Exam board and specification code:
WJEC Eduqas

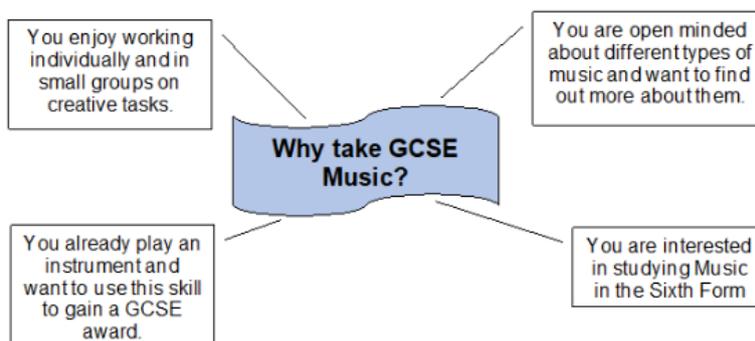
Overview

GCSE Music continues from the work which is studied in Year 9. There are three main topics in the syllabus:



The taught elements of all of the courses follow similar approaches. Students will be taught how to compose music in various styles (including rock/pop, musicals, blues and classical styles) using a number of different approaches (including musical pastiches, ICT, group and solo composition). There will be formal lessons on music theory and the various “Areas of Study” that are included in the syllabus (these include Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music, Popular Music). These areas of study are taught through the analysis of set works – pieces that will form the basis of part of the listening and appraising exam in the summer of Year 11.

Music software such as Garage Band and Sibelius are formally taught during class times. Solo and ensemble performances are completed throughout the two years during class times.



Assessment

For the Eduqas GCSE in Music, you will be asked to compose two pieces. One free composition and one based on a brief set by the examination board. You must also perform a solo and an ensemble piece – one piece to be linked to an area of study. Finally you complete a listening examination based on the areas of study that you have been taught during the course, this includes set works and unfamiliar. The composition and performance work are each worth 30% of the final exam and the listening exam is worth 40%. Non-examined assessments are marked by your teacher and then moderated by an external examiner. The written paper is marked externally.

What can you do next with this subject?

There are many careers in which GCSE Music can be an integral starting point. These vary from the most obvious careers such as teaching and performing, to others such as broadcasting, publishing, copyright, arts administration, Music Therapy, composing and recording. GCSE Music provides opportunities for pupils to develop a number of personal skills that are valued by employees including team-work, dedication, analysis and creativity.

For more information contact: Mr J Woodley jwoodley@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE PE



Exam board and specification code:

Pearson / Edexcel 1PE0

Link to the [GCSE PE Specification](#)

Overview

GCSE PE is an in-depth and challenging course which would suit pupils who are highly enthused, self-motivated, organised and hardworking. Although a practically focused subject, due to the weightings given to the final exams most of the work will be theory-based. Over the two-year course, pupils will have approximately two terms dedicated to practical development and 3 and a half terms to the theory. Link to [GCSE PE Yr9 information](#) page on Firefly.

Theory - This is the first step into the larger world of sports science, where pupils will study introductions into each component including; Anatomy and Physiology, Psychology, Sociology, Biomechanics and Kinesiology. Pupils will be challenged to apply their knowledge alongside their English language skills to communicate structured and in-depth responses to scenario-based exam questions.

Practical - A range of practical options will be studied and assessed throughout the course with pupils submitting their three highest scores to contribute towards their overall grade. Within lessons, pupils will be supported in taking ownership over their own development through planning and leading drills as well as analysing competitive situations. It is expected that students also attend extra-curricular club(s) to help develop their skills. Pupils are strongly recommended to regularly participate in at least one sport outside of school, to compliment what we can offer in school time.

If a pupil performs to a high standard in an activity which is not offered at school, they can be assessed externally by submitting film evidence.

Each sport has a detailed criteria where specific skills and competitive scenarios must be performed in to achieve a mark out of 35. Previous years have indicated that a regular participant at school representative standard would score around 25/35 which has been the expected level to gain a grade 6 in the practical component.

Project - Each pupil will be required to complete a "Non-examined assessment" (project) to plan, perform and evaluate a Personal Exercise Programme. This project links the theory work directly to practical performance and aims to allow each pupil to make improvements to specific areas of fitness relevant to one of their chosen sports. Pupils will need to adapt to the changes of classroom-based theory lessons and homework demands and show commitment towards independent development in their own time.

Assessment

Theory Assessment (60% of final grade)

Consisting of two exam papers (component 1 & 2)

Theory papers will consist of multiple choice, short answer and longer answer questions.

Practical Assessment (40% of final grade)

Consisting of 3 activity performances (component 3) = 30%.

A written project, the Personal Exercise Programme (component 4) = 10%

Please note that activities can only be assessed if they are included on the permitted list found in the current specification, (also included in the "GCSE PE Yr9 information" on Firefly).

What can you do next with this subject?

Employment opportunities where your skills will be particularly valued include; teaching, physiotherapy, nursing, fitness training, sports coaching and management.

For more information contact: Mr Roberts sroberts@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Photography



Exam board and specification code:

Edexcel 1PY0

Overview

GCSE Photography is a popular and exciting subject. On this course you will develop your creativity, imagination and knowledge through sustained projects. You will learn about a variety of photographic media, techniques and processes. You will also develop an awareness of critical analyses of other artists and photographers' work which will help you to develop your own personal ideas and outcomes.

This course is not about taking 'snaps', but exploring and developing creative and imaginative imagery through the use of a digital camera. The manipulation of imagery using photo editing software will be a central way of working. Above all you will need a keen eye and imagination. The main aim of the course is to make you look harder and better at the environment, people, places and objects around you so that you can create new images that reveal these things in new and exciting ways.

Students embarking on this course are encouraged to have their own digital camera if possible.

Assessment

The GCSE course is split into two parts: coursework and a final examination unit.

Component 1: Personal Portfolio

This component is worth 60% of your GCSE. You will produce a portfolio of work based on tasks agreed with your teacher.

This will consist of themed projects; each project will be based around a broad heading, eg "Places and Spaces". You will develop each of these over a monitored period.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment

This component is worth 40% of your GCSE. You will produce preparatory studies and personal outcome(s) based on a theme set by Edexcel.

The conclusion of this unit is a 10-hour controlled test during which you will produce a final outcome for the unit.

Both components are internally assessed and then externally moderated by the examination board at our end of course exhibition. All your work will be marked according to how well you have met the four Assessment Objectives of Develop, Explore, Record and Present.

What can you do next with this subject?

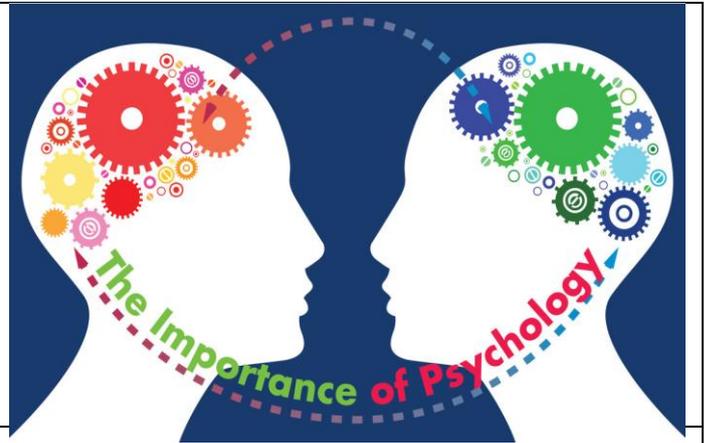
The course will provide you with skills which will open a variety of future career or educational options. The course is an excellent foundation for A Level Photography leading to a degree qualification in Photography or a Photography related field such as Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration, Animation, Film, Television and Media.

For more information contact: Mrs F Maitland fmaitland@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Psychology

Exam board and specification code:

Pearson Edexcel 1PS0



Overview

Psychology is the study of behaviour and the mental processes that cause this behaviour to happen. In GCSE Psychology we study two papers which cover a wide variety of topics.

At GCSE level you study some of the following themes.

- *Development – how did you develop? Piaget’s theory of development and growth mind-sets*
- *Memory – how your memory works.*
- *Psychological Problems – mental health problems of unipolar depression and addiction*
- *The Brain and Neuropsychology – parts of the brain and how they work*
- *Social influence – why you behave differently when in a group; the influence of obedience and conformity on behaviour.*
- *Two Applications: Criminal Psychology which explores causes of criminality and treatments. Sleep & Dreaming which explores why we need sleep and whether dreams are meaningful.*

Psychology is the subject for you if you enjoy looking into the many reasons why individuals behave the way they do. It is, however, important to understand that Psychology is a very technical and broad ranging subject, demanding a great range of skills such as analysis and evaluation as well as demonstrating knowledge of psychological theories. Psychology is a science so will therefore involve scientific skills as well as some human biology.

Psychology will help you to develop your evaluative and interpretive skills as well as giving you an awareness of the many applications and implications of Psychology in everyday life. A genuine interest in scientific enquiry will also help you if you want to study Psychology. When making the decision to take Psychology, don’t dismiss the subject as difficult, no matter what your ability, you will develop useful skills and maybe surprise yourself.

Assessment

You will be assessed through two external exams at the end of Year 11.

- Paper 1 is 1 hour 45 minutes and is worth 55% of your final mark
- Paper 2 is 1 hour 20 minutes and is worth 45% of your final mark.
- The exams have a variety of multiple-choice, short-answer and extended open-response questions, and there is no tiering - all students will sit the same examination.
- All examination papers will be taken in the summer of Year 11.
- Grades will be awarded on a scale of 9 to 1.

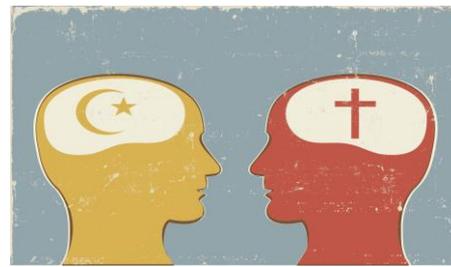
There is no coursework for GCSE Psychology, but you will be required to complete a number of short practical investigations throughout the course which will be internally assessed, helping you to develop skills to apply in the exam.

What can you do next with this subject?

Psychology allows you to understand individual behaviour and as a result is excellent for any career path which involves working with people. However, there are direct careers into the Psychology profession, such as Forensic Psychology, Child Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Health Psychology, Educational Psychology and Counselling/Therapy.

For more information contact: Mrs L Hands lhands@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Religious Studies



Exam board and specification code:

Edexcel 1RB0

Overview

This course allows you to study two world religions: Christianity and Islam. Both religions have a massive impact on the world we live in. Throughout the course you will: develop your knowledge and understanding of the beliefs, values and traditions of the chosen religions; consider religious responses to moral issues and investigate the fundamental questions of life raised by religion and human experience. You will also look at a non-religious response and develop your own opinions on many topics which affect us all today.

Although the course is looking at two particular religions, it is set up so that you study what they say through different topics so it is not expected that you should have any prior knowledge of either religion.

Year 10

Religion and Ethics- Christianity

- **Beliefs**- core Christian beliefs such as the trinity and salvation.
- **Marriage and Family**- debate around family both religious and societal views.
- **Living the Religious Life**- how Christians put their beliefs in practice such as worship.
- **Matters of Life and Death**- ethical and moral issues around abortion, euthanasia and life after death.

Year 11

Religion, Peace and conflict- Islam

- **Beliefs**- core Islamic beliefs looking at both Sunni and Shi'a Islam.
- **Crime and Punishment**- the ethics and aims of punishment in religion and society, including looking at capital punishment.
- **Living the Religious Life**- how Muslims put their faith in practice looking at the five pillars of Islam.
- **Peace and Conflict**- looking at the ethics of war, can it ever be justified and if pacifism is the correct view?

Link to complete specification-

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/religious-studies-b-2016.html>

Link to example materials- click on sample assessment material and then GCSE full course

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/religious-studies-b-2016.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments>

Assessment

This is a 100% examination-based course, there is NO coursework

You will be taking both examinations in Year 11 during the summer examinations. Each examination is 50% of your overall grade.

What can you do next with this subject?

Religious Studies is designed to help you develop your knowledge but also to gain skills in expressing a variety of opinions, understanding different concepts and ideas, encourage debating skills and encourage the ability to write a clear and coherent argument. It is a subject that can lead to many A Level options within humanities and is useful for jobs which involved working with the public as you have an understanding of the variety of viewpoints people hold. Religious studies is a subject which can be applied to jobs such as the public sector or law, as examples.

For more information contact: Mrs K Korbani kkorbani@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Sociology

GCSE Sociology @ KHS



Exam board and specification code:

[Eduqas - C200QS](#)

Overview

Sociology is the study of society and the way it shapes people's behaviour, beliefs and identities. It enables us to make better sense of a rapidly changing world and gives us the opportunity to question things we may currently take for granted. Moreover, it helps us better understand ourselves and how the way we think, behave and live are the result of our social environments. Key themes that run throughout GCSE Sociology focus on power, inequality, culture and identity; and these are considered in terms of how they intersect with issues such as class, gender, ethnicity and age. Still confused? [Listen to Mr Hewitson explain it](#) during an interview on *The Sociology Show* podcast.

[A variety of topics are covered at GCSE level.](#) These can be categorised and broadly summarised as:

- Key concepts and processes – identity, socialisation and culture
- Families – structures and patterns, sociological theory, social change, equality in relationships
- Education – sociological theory, processes within education, patterns of achievement
- Sociological research methods – methodologies, sampling, practicalities, ethics, analysis
- Stratification and differentiation – power, inequality and classic and modern sociological theory
- Crime and deviance – social control, sociological theory, data sources, crime and social groups
- Applied methods of sociological enquiry – research processes, data interpretation

Throughout studying GCSE Sociology you can expect to enjoy a variety of lesson styles that include teacher-led instruction, independent research, writing skills, group work, presentations and the occasional video.

Sociology is an engaging subject but one that is heavily essay-based. As such, we do not recommend Sociology for students who do not enjoy extended pieces of writing. However, if you are someone who doesn't necessarily follow the crowd (but are fascinated by their behaviour) and who enjoys finding out about what's really going on in the world, then Sociology will be for you!

Assessment

The GCSE Sociology course is 'linear', meaning you are assessed entirely on the examinations taken at the end of Year 11. There are two examinations, each worth 50% of the final mark and each lasting 1 hour 45 minutes.

[Exam 1](#): covers key concepts and processes, families, education, and sociological research methods.

[Exam 2](#): covers social stratification and differentiation, crime & deviance, and applied methods.

What can you do next with this subject?

Sociology particularly complements other GCSE subjects that are based around reading and writing. Specifically, it helps students develop key [transferable skills](#) such as written and verbal communication, critical analysis, empathy and independent thinking - all highly desirable skills in the contemporary labour market.

Sociology provides a firm grounding for a wide range of careers including those within the legal, political, marketing and teaching professions. It is also useful for those interested in social work, the emergency services and the media.

For more information contact: Mr B Hewitson bhewitson@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

BTEC Sport



Exam board and specification code
Edexcel QAN Code – 600/4779/3
Level 1 / 2 First Award in Sport

[Link to BTEC Sport Specification](#) [Link To Yr 9 BTEC Sport Firefly page](#)

Overview

What's great about this course?

This will be an ideal choice for someone who would prefer to complete coursework throughout the two years rather than have a final examination at the end. Only one of the four assessments is examination-based.

Within this course there will be a mixture of both practical and theory lessons in which pupils will need to learn information which will be used to complete assignments or prepare for the examination. The amount of theory within the course is similar to that within GCSE PE, but pupils will need to produce assignments and complete an online examination rather than complete an end of Year 11 examination.

This is not the course for you if you do not have a passion and interest in Sport!

Your examination will be studying the different types of fitness and how to train and test them. Your written assignments will be focussing on the rules and tactics of two different sports, sports coaching and how to devise and complete suitable training plans.

Due to the fact that 75% of the final grade is assessed through written assignments, the course places importance on literary skills therefore having a strength in English is desirable.

It is important that pupils understand there will be many classroom and computer room-based lessons.

BTEC Sport is a unit-based qualification, with all pupils having to complete 4 units to pass the qualification.

The students who will be most successful on this course are the ones who show:

- An interest and commitment towards sport
- Enthusiasm for classroom and theory lessons
- Be able to keep on top of weekly worksheets / planning sheets
- Hard work and good organisation
- Ability to work independently to meet deadlines

Assessment

The assessment is comprised of three Core units, that all schools must teach, and one optional unit (we have selected Unit Six to complete). It is mandatory for pupils to complete all four units. Each one is worth 25% of the final grade.

Core Units	Key Tasks
UNIT 1 Health + Fitness for Sport + Fitness (online Exam)	Learn the different types of fitness. Know how train and test these different types.
UNIT 2 Practical Sports Performance (Written assignment)	Discuss the rules, officials, and your own performance in two sports.
UNIT 3 Training for Personal Fitness (Written assignment)	Design and complete a 6 week Fitness Plan
Additional Unit	
UNIT 6 Leading Sports Activities (Written assignment)	Plan and Teach a PE lesson to Yr 7 pupils

Within the assignments, to progress from a Pass through to a Distinction, pupils must complete more written work in terms of quantity and detail showing an increasing level of understanding and analysis. The examination unit is assessed through an online 60-mark examination which includes short and long written answers.

What can you do next with this subject?

This course directly leads to BTEC Level 3 Sport. It can lead to A Level PE.

Sport is a very varied and wide field of study and has many career paths. This course will provide pupils with leadership skills, literacy skills and an understanding of personal training and testing. Many of our past pupils have gone on to complete additional officiating and coaching qualifications in various sports as a result of their enjoyment of BTEC Sport.

For more information contact: Mr S Simmons ssimmons@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk

GCSE Textiles



Exam board and specification code:
AQA GCSE Art and Design (Textile Design) 8204

Overview

AQA Art and Design: Textile Design is a vibrant, dynamic course which allows you to explore contemporary textile and fashion designers, a range of practical processes across two and three dimensions and explore your own personal interests.

A passion for the tactile nature of materials, techniques and surfaces is essential to the course along with good visual skills. However, enthusiasm is also vital: skills and techniques will be taught in lesson workshops, it is practice and commitment that will bring positive results.

During Years 10 and 11 students complete a number of coursework projects, this is called the 'Portfolio' which accounts for 60% of your final GCSE grade. Each of the coursework projects is based around a broad heading such as 'Structures', enabling students to develop their skills and understanding of textile techniques, whilst also giving the students creative freedom to explore their own ideas.

During the course you will explore a wide range of subject specific skills and techniques, building upon those you have developed in Year 7-9 and learning new techniques and processes. Textile specific workshops in class will include dye and resist processes such as Batik and Shibori, printmaking such as screenprinting, machine embroidery, quilting, hand embroidery, weaving, felt-making, construction techniques and the use of heat tools to fuse, emboss and distress fabrics.

Assessment

The GCSE Textile Design course is split into two parts: coursework projects and a final examination project. It is a two-year course, although in reality you have four terms in which to complete the coursework.

You will produce an examination project during the Spring Term of Year 11 which accounts for 40% of your final grade. The theme is set by the examination board and you will choose appropriate textile artists/designers, explore materials and techniques and personal ideas for your work. This will lead to the 10-hour practical examination under controlled conditions, during which you will produce the final piece.

What can you do next with this subject?

The Textile Design course will develop your visual communication, creative and practical skills, allow you to respond to the work of textile artists and fashion designers, whilst also supporting you to explore your own personal design ideas. The course will equip you with the skills and understanding to pursue a range of careers within the fashion, textiles and creative industries. The course provides an excellent foundation for A Level courses leading to apprenticeships or a degree in fashion design, textile design, printmaking, interior design and theatre/stage design.

For more information contact: Mrs S Lyons slyons@kesgrave.suffolk.sch.uk