



GCSE Guided Choices Booklet

2020 – 2023

February 2020

Dear Learner

Welcome to your 'Guided Choices' booklet. This booklet contains information on all the courses at Honywood and will help you make some of the important decisions necessary for your future success.

This booklet is designed to inform you about the GCSE curriculum that you will study between September 2020 and June 2023. On the following pages you will find information about all the courses that are available to you, both

- the compulsory ones, which we call **Core** and
- the ones from which you will make your choices, that we call **Guided Choices** subjects. These are under four headings – Liberal Arts, Creative and Liberal Arts, Science & Industry and Free Choice.

It makes sense to read about all the subjects mentioned in this booklet and not just the optional ones. It will help you understand what is expected of you next year and will make the transfer to formal examination courses easier.

At Honywood we feel that it is very important that you make well informed and appropriate choices for your GCSEs. The next three years are perhaps the most important in your school career. Your success in the examinations you will sit are a major contributory factor to your overall life chances. Making the right choices for you now is the first step on this path.

You should think very carefully about your choices and aim for a balanced curriculum, one that avoids too much specialisation in any one area. When making your decisions think about what you may want to do later in life – each subject entry has a section about progression to other courses or careers to help you with this. You should also talk to your teachers about your choices. They will be able to tell you more about the course and what you will be studying. To aid you in having these discussions each Subject Leader has included their email address.

Attainment 8 (Best 8)

You may be aware that the Department for Education introduced a process by which all secondary schools' progress and attainment is measured. This measure is known as Attainment 8 and Progress 8. It may well be the case that these measures of a school's performance will eventually become a measure of success for individual learners. We will refer to this as your **Best 8** (Attainment 8).

This measure will be based on your progress measured across eight subjects: English, mathematics; three other English Baccalaureate or (EBACC) subjects, which are science, computer science, geography, history and languages; and three further subjects which can be from the range of EBACC subjects, or can be any other arts, academic or vocational qualification. It is therefore important that you are able to show progression in **eight subjects** that you study (previously it has been five subjects, this no longer applies).

The eight subjects are categorised into three groups below:

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| Group 1 | English and Mathematics | English Mathematics |
| Group 2 | Three other English Baccalaureate (EBacc) subjects | Trilogy Science or Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) French, German, Spanish, History, Geography and Computer Science |
| Group 3 | Three further subjects, which can be from the range of EBacc subjects, or can be any other GCSE or vocational qualifications that you study. | Art & Design, Business Studies, Computer Science, Dance, Drama, Food Preparation & Nutrition, Geography, Health & Social Care, History, Latin, Media Studies, Music, Physical Education, Philosophy and Ethics, Design and Technology: Graphics or Resistant Materials or Textiles. |

Guided Choices Evening

Over the last few weeks you will have seen subject presentations during Learning Sessions and you will have the opportunity to book into Cohort 9 and Cohort 10 Guided Choices subject learning sessions to experience the real environment.

To give greater detail and information to your parents/carers regarding the curriculum changes there will be a Guided Choices Evening on **Wednesday 11th March** (starting at 6.00pm). The evening will commence with information regarding the curriculum followed by an opportunity for parents/carers to attend up to six subject presentations.

If you or your parent/carer have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me either by coming in to see me, telephoning school or email me at: jmunro@honywoodschoo.com

James Munro
Deputy Headteacher

THE GCSE CURRICULUM

What subjects can I study at Honeywood?

The Curriculum comprises the following areas of study:

CORE EXAMINED SUBJECTS

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science

OTHER CORE SUBJECT

- Physical Education

GUIDED CHOICES SUBJECTS

- Art
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Design and Technology
Graphics, Resistant Materials and Textiles
- Expressive Arts
Dance, Drama and Music
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Health & Social Care BTEC
- Humanities
Geography, History and Religion & Philosophy
- Languages
French, German, Latin, Spanish
- Media Studies
- PE GCSE or Vocational

Therefore courses for individual learners are put together to ensure continuing coverage of this broad curriculum. Everyone needs to follow the **Core Curriculum in the first box in the table on the next page**. You have **some** choices to make in **Columns A, B, C and D**.

All courses in columns A, B, C, and D will lead to a GCSE, BTEC or vocational qualification and will be allocated 4 x 75 minutes of teaching time per fortnight. When completing your Guided Choices Form you will be asked to choose three subjects by selecting one choice in columns A, B and C. You will then have a fourth subject that you can choose from any of the three columns A, B or C. Please rank this fourth choice in your order of preference.

Further choices may be made available during the next three years to learners whose needs will be best met by some alternative provision.

THE GCSE CURRICULUM

What subjects can I study at Honywood? (cont)

| Core Curriculum | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| English Language GCSE English Literature GCSE (7 sessions per 2 weeks studying these two English subjects) Mathematics GCSE (7 sessions per 2 weeks) | | Science GCSE (8 sessions per 2 weeks) Physical Education Non assessed (2 sessions per 2 weeks) | |
| One choice to be made from each of the following columns: | | | |
| A | B | C | D |
| Liberal Arts (EBacc) (4 sessions per 2 weeks) | Creative and Liberal Arts (4 sessions per 2 weeks) | Science & Industry (4 sessions per 2 weeks) | Free Choice (4 sessions per 2 weeks) |
| French German Spanish Geography History | Art Drama Dance Latin Media Studies Music PE GCSE or Vocational Religion & Philosophy French German Spanish Geography History | Triple Science* Computer Science Business Studies Food Technology and Nutrition Graphic Design Health & Social Care BTEC Resistant Materials Textiles * If you should choose triple science you will study 3 separate sciences - Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with 12 sessions per 2 weeks (8 sessions in core science and 4 sessions in this column) | Any subject from the previous 3 columns: Science & Industry Liberal Arts (EBacc) Creative & Liberal Arts |

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

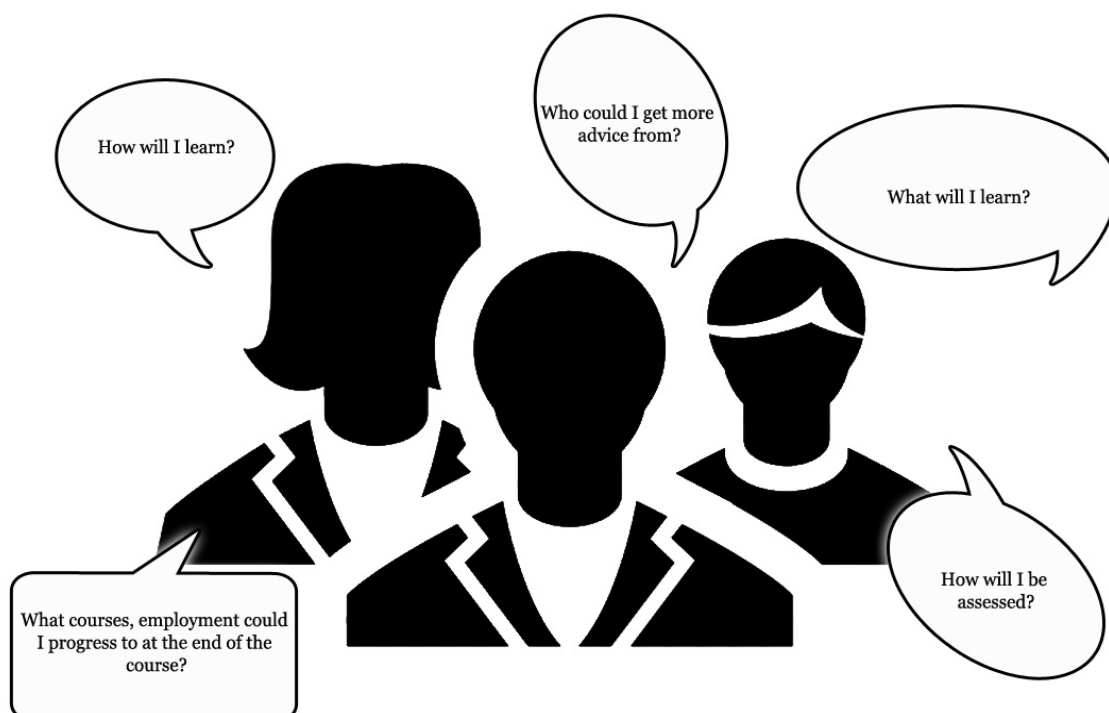
You will be given a form on which to make your choices – this form must be submitted to your LGL by Monday, 23rd March 2020.

BEFORE DOING ANYTHING ELSE, you and your parent/carers should again read carefully through the following pages which give brief details of the course descriptions for each subjects.



How do I decide what to study?

For each subject consider:



ENGLISH LANGUAGE & ENGLISH LITERATURE

What will I learn?

Your studies in English in Cohorts 9, 10 and 11 will follow a course leading to two GCSE qualifications studied in a combined course of English Language and English Literature. The course will develop your abilities to communicate effectively in speech and writing and to listen with understanding. Learners' experiences in English are designed to enable you to become an enthusiastic, responsive and knowledgeable reader. You will develop these skills through writing for different purposes and audiences. In addition, you will analyse a range of literature from different periods and from a range of cultures. A key part of the course is the development of critical and analytical skills in your study of literary, language and media texts.

How will I learn?

The English Language and English Literature courses all involve learners using a variety of skills both in group and individual situations. Class discussions, independent reading and research, group and paired work are all employed within learning sessions. You will engage your imagination and your analytical skills in order to access texts and various stimuli. Theatre trips, film, radio and television also provide opportunities for learners to experience plays or texts in performance.

Who is the course for?

The study of English is compulsory at GCSE. The syllabi we now offer are designed to be accessible to all learners. Learners will follow the separate study of English Language and English Literature GCSE course. The landscape for English and English Literature is constantly adapting and improving. We will communicate any updates with you as soon as they are published.

What is the structure of the course?

At Honeywood we follow the **AQA** examination course. During Cohort 9 we will begin to consider a range of GCSE texts such as novels, plays, poetry, media and non-fiction. We will focus on the further development of vital consolidation skills such as Writing for a range of purposes and contexts, and Reading for meaning.

The three-year Literature GCSE course will see learners undertake the study of poetry and make comparisons between poems for an examination at the end of Cohort 11. You will also study at least one Shakespeare play, a modern text (such as *An Inspector Calls*), and a 19th century novel (such as *A Christmas Carol*) to prepare for exams at the end of the course.

The language course will require the study of non-fiction texts (and one literary text) from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. These will require the reading skills of summary, inference, deduction and analysis. You will be expected to develop your skills in writing a range of different texts with different purposes such as writing to entertain, inform, argue, describe and persuade. All exams for this course will take place at the end of Cohort 11.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & ENGLISH LITERATURE

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed on your reading and writing skills. In particular, your accuracy of work including spelling, punctuation and grammar will be assessed considerably. You will also be assessed on speaking and listening, although this will not count towards the final grade in English Language. There are no tiers of entry. All learners sit the same exams.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

If you do well in your final examinations and achieve a grade 5 or better, you can go on to study A Level English Language and/or English Literature. Successful A Level grades in these can lead on to a variety of interesting and challenging degree courses and careers in teaching, journalism, publishing, public relations, media, theatre and law. Colchester Sixth Form College are asking for a grade 5 in at least one 'written' subject – English Language and Literature both qualify. If you do not achieve at least a grade 4 in English Language you will have to study the GCSE again in years 12 and 13.

Who do I contact for further information?

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mrs Cording | English Subject Leader | (kcording@honywoodschoo.com) |
| Mrs Sparrow | English Subject Leader | (vsparrow@honywoodschoo.com) |

MATHEMATICS

What will I learn?

Mathematics equips learners with a uniquely powerful set of tools to understand and change the world. These tools include logical reasoning, problem-solving skills and the ability to think in abstract ways.

You will develop the skills and knowledge you will need in the future to tackle unfamiliar problems. You will become more aware of the connections between different areas of Mathematics and its application in the world around you. You will become increasingly capable in calculating fractions, decimals and percentages and using proportional reasoning. You will build on your understanding of number and make generalisations using letters by manipulating expressions and equations. You will extend your mathematical vocabulary to talk about numbers and geometrical objects. You will also use geometrical properties to find missing angles and lengths, explaining your reasoning. You will collect data, learn statistical techniques to analyse this data and display and interpret the results.

How will I learn?

Maths learning will be facilitated in classrooms, with a clear Maths skill identified, investigated and practised. Learning will occur either through independent discovery or by tutorial. Tutorial may be from your teacher, from a PowerPoint or from a video. In most cases you will have access to all three, so you can choose a resource suitable to your learning needs. Resources for each session are posted on Google Classroom and other resources are available on the school's Google Site Directory.

Who is the course for?

Mathematics is compulsory at GCSE. The course is designed to be accessible to all learners regardless of your level of understanding or prior knowledge.

What is the structure of the course?

At Honywood School we follow the **Edexcel** examination course. The table below illustrates the topic areas covered in this qualification and the topic area weightings for the assessment of the Foundation tier and the assessment of the Higher tier.

| Tier | Topic Area | Weighting |
|------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Foundation | Number | 22 - 28% |
| | Algebra | 17 - 23% |
| | Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change | 22 - 28% |
| | Geometry and Measures | 12 - 18% |
| | Statistics and Probability | 12 - 18% |
| Higher | Number | 12 - 18% |
| | Algebra | 27 - 33% |
| | Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change | 17 - 23% |
| | Geometry and Measures | 17 - 23% |
| | Statistics and Probability | 12 - 18% |

MATHEMATICS

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by sitting three exam papers each lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. One paper will be non-calculator and the other two will be calculator papers.

The Maths GCSE is split into two tiers: Foundation and Higher
The Foundation papers cover grades 1 to 5, the Higher papers cover grades 4 to 9
Your tier of entry will be decided leading up to Cohort 11 depending on your current attainment and your expected GCSE grade.

Throughout the course, there will be regular assessments to help you understand the standard required and to give you practice sitting exam-style questions.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

After you have taken your GCSEs you can continue by studying for an A Level in Accounting, Mathematics or Further Maths. A grade 5 is required to study Accounting, a grade 7 is required to study Mathematics, and grade 8 to study Further Maths.

Learners who gain good passes in GCSE Mathematics find the skills that they acquire very useful in many other subject areas, particularly Science (where you need a grade 6 in Maths), Business Studies, Computer Science, Geography and Psychology.

An A-Level in Mathematics can lead on to many different degrees courses or careers. It is particularly useful in Engineering, Accountancy or any of the Medical disciplines.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr N Powell Subject Leader for Maths (npowell@honywoodschoo.com)

SCIENCE

What will I learn?

Have you ever wondered:

- Are clones really like they are in the movies?
- How does my brain tell my body what to do?
- Which combination of chemicals makes the most violent explosion?
- How do we know black holes exist when they're completely black?
- Will a 240V electric shock kill you?

Both Triple and Trilogy combined science will give you the opportunity to develop your interest in, and enthusiasm for the topic. Both courses cover all three sciences but Triple gives you the opportunity to study more challenging topics in depth. They are designed to help you develop a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods, something that employers will value. You will have the opportunity to acquire and apply skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works and its essential role in society.

How will I learn?

Building on the skills developed during Cohort 7 and 8 you will explore science through a range of techniques. These include practical investigation, interpretation and analysis of data, and research into modern science and its real-world applications. Science teachers at Honywood use varied teaching techniques to promote enquiry, problem solving, teamwork, and an interest in science. We use music, video, animations, independent learning tasks and practical work on a regular basis to keep you motivated and on target.

Who is the course for?

GCSE Science is compulsory, however all of the science GCSEs are designed to teach you about the science you need in everyday life.

Option subject Triple science is a challenging but stimulating course and is aimed for those who want to study science further.

If sat at the higher tier both Trilogy Science and Triple Science will allow progress onto A-Levels in Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics.

What is the structure of the course?

At Honywood Community Science School we follow the **AQA 9-1** specification as we believe this fits the needs of our learners precisely.

During both courses you will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics concurrently developing your understanding as the course progresses. You will not only focus on scientific knowledge but also required practicals and mathematical skills. Triple science will have Biology, Chemistry and Physics separately on their timetable and Trilogy combined learners will have combined science.

SCIENCE

What is the structure of the course? (cont)

In Cohort 9 you will be put into your triple/trilogy groups and you will remain in those classes throughout the GCSE.

AQA Science covers all the Modules listed below:

| Biology | | Chemistry | | Physics | |
|---------|---|-----------|-----------------------------------|---------|--|
| 4.1 | Cell Biology | 5.1 | Atomic Structure | 6.1 | Energy |
| 4.2 | Organisation | 5.2 | Bonding, Structure & Matter | 6.2 | Electricity |
| 4.3 | Infection & Response | 5.3 | Quantitative Chemistry | 6.3 | Particle model of matter |
| 4.4 | Bioenergetics | 5.4 | Chemical Changes | 6.4 | Atomic structure |
| 4.5 | Homeostasis & Response | 5.5 | Energy Changes | 6.5 | Forces |
| 4.6 | Inheritance, Variations & Evolution | 5.6 | Rates of Chemical Changes | 6.6 | Waves |
| 4.7 | Ecology | 5.7 | Organic Chemistry | 6.7 | Magnetism and electromagnetism |
| | | 5.8 | Chemical Analysis | 6.8 | Space Physics (Triple Science) only |
| | | 5.9 | Chemistry of the Atmosphere | | |
| | | 5.10 | Using Resources | | |

Some content within each module is aimed at Triple science only.

How will I be assessed?

At the end of Cohort 8 you will undertake a Pre-GCSE course aimed at providing a transition between study undertaken during Cohort 7 and 8 and GCSE study

Throughout Cohort 9 to Cohort 11 you will complete regular assessments on the topics you have just learnt. At the end of Cohort 9 and Cohort 10 you will sit a mock paper and there is a mock exam in November/December in Cohort 11.

SCIENCE

How will I be assessed? (cont)

Each course offered is structured as the table shows below, the 9-1 GCSE rules have removed any controlled assessment and moved to 100% assessment via external exams.

| Paper | Triple Science - For each Science | | | In total 6 papers are sat, 2 for each of Biology, Chemistry & Physics | Combined Science - Trilogy | | | In total 6 are sat, 2 for each of Biology, Chemistry & Physics |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------------|---|----------------------------|-------|-----------------|--|
| | Length | Marks | % of Final GCSE | | Length | Marks | % of Final GCSE | |
| 1 | 1hr 45 | 100 | 50% | | 1hr 15 | 70 | 16.7% | |
| 2 | 1hr 45 | 100 | 50% | | 1hr 15 | 70 | 16.7% | |

You will not only be tested on scientific knowledge but also; mathematical skills in science (at least 10% of the Biology paper, 15% of the Chemistry paper and 20% of the Physics paper) and practical work (at least 15% of questions).

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

AQA Science is a concept led course designed to develop a deeper understanding of scientific ideas. The course focuses on scientific explanations and models, and gives an insight into how scientists develop scientific understanding of ourselves and the world we inhabit. You could go on to study A-level Biology, Chemistry or Physics, and this can lead on to working in the fields of medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, nursing, pharmacy, engineering and scientific research. You could also go on and study vocational based courses or work in industry.

What resources will I need?

In order to be well prepared we suggest that the following revision guides are purchased. These will last throughout the entire Key Stage 4 programme of study:

- Collins revision guides available from the School website

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss C Gamble, Subject Leader Science (cgamble@honywoodschool.com)

ART & DESIGN

What will I learn?

This course will give you the opportunity to work with a wide variety of two and three-dimensional media including drawing, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture. At first you will be asked to explore a series of key areas which will introduce you to a range of ideas and techniques.

You will begin to understand how to develop your own ideas from your research, looking at and commenting on artists' work to inspire your own. You will produce vibrant and individual sketch books that document your ideas and show how they have progressed. You will practise and improve your observational drawing and refine your technical control across a wide range of media. As you become more confident you will be able to choose how to structure your own ideas, working from a given theme and specialising more in your preferred media.

How will I learn?

You will learn through exploration and experience, undertaking practical tasks and developing your skills through practise. You will be taken on visits to art galleries and collect visual information by drawing and taking photographs. You will record your thoughts and annotate the work that you produce including written work related to your research and the work of other artists.

Who is the course for?

If you love designing, making, drawing, imagining and creating things, this is the course for you. You will do well if you are open to new ideas, like experimenting with materials and like to practise and perfect your work. You should be interested in looking at the work of artists, designers, architects and crafts people and are prepared to give your opinions. You should be keen to work independently in class and at home, and willing to commit to the 60% coursework requirement.

What is the structure of the course?

You will be taught in mixed ability groups allowing you to achieve the top grades if you work hard, whatever your skill level is at the start of the course. Each group has four learning sessions a fortnight in which you will begin to create your artwork. You will be expected to continue this process at home, using a minimum of an hour and a half each week to complete Independent Study.

Our examination board is **AQA** and we follow the Art and Design: Fine Art course. As part of the course you are expected to produce outcomes in at least 1 of the following disciplines:

- Drawing / painting
- 3-Dimensional studies
- Printmaking
- Alternative media

You will follow a project based course, completing approximately one project over two terms. Each project consists of a sketchbook of preparatory studies and a final piece. These combine to form your personal portfolio, which is followed, in Cohort 11, by an Externally Set Task.

ART & DESIGN

What is the structure of the course? (cont)

The Externally Set Task follows the same format as the personal portfolio, a sketchbook of studies and a final piece, which is created over a two-day controlled assessment period.

Your work will be graded as follows:

- Unit One – Personal Portfolio = 60%
- Unit Two – Externally Set Assignment = 40%

How will I be assessed?

After completing each project you will be assessed using the GCSE Art and Design assessment objectives to show you how you are progressing, to identify your strengths and to help you improve.

The four assessment objectives are:-

- Develop ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media materials, techniques and processes.
- Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- Present a personal, informed and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

Each assessment objective is worth 24 marks.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

A GCSE in Art and Design will allow you to access a large variety of courses and career options at post 16. Colchester School of Art at Colchester Institute, Colchester 6th form, Braintree 6th form and Suffolk One all offer post 16 Art courses.

You can explore some of the options at the following sites:

Colchester Institute (<http://www.colchester.ac.uk/courses/in/art-and-design/>)

Colchester 6th Form College (<http://www.colchsfc.ac.uk/departments/visualarts/>)

Braintree 6th Form (<http://www.braintreesixthform.com/courses/as-and-a-level-courses/as-a2-art-design-fine-art>)

Suffolk One (<http://www.suffolkone.ac.uk/courses/alevel-courses/fine-arts/>)

You may choose to study Art as one of your A-level choices, or you may prefer to specialise in Art straight away by selecting a UAL or BTEC Diploma. All of these courses will continue to develop your skills as well as helping you to produce a portfolio of work that will be required for degree level applications or interviews within the art and design industry. There are a huge range of careers within the industry. The National Careers service website is a great place to begin exploring some of the many options.

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobfamily/Pages/artscraftsdesign.aspx>

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss Ginn, Subject Leader for Art (hginn@honywoodschool.com)

BUSINESS STUDIES

What will I learn?

This course gives learners the chance to understand the dynamic environment in which business operates and appreciate the many factors which impact on business activity and business behaviour. Learners will develop and enhance a clear understanding of the issues facing UK businesses in the 21st century, as well as how businesses are required to constantly adapt in an ever-changing, competitive and increasingly interconnected environment.

The AQA Business Studies curriculum is built into six specific topics: *Marketing, Finance, Business in the Real World, Human Resources, Business Operations and Influences on a Business*, in which learners will be required to not only develop a secure understanding of, but to then apply that knowledge in order to solve various business problems largely through the lens of UK businesses.

To be successful in Business Studies learners should have a genuine interest in the world of business, how it works and how it impacts society as a whole. They should be prepared to problem solve, analyse and evaluate business options and then present well justified business decisions that are supported by both sound contextual knowledge and supporting primary and secondary evidence.

Computers are regularly used throughout the course in order to learn about business computing.

How will I learn?

Learners will work through a number of integrated lessons during each of the six topics, in order to develop and enhance a good contextual knowledge and understanding across each aspect of the course. Independent study tasks will be attached to most of these sessions and all lesson PDFs and resources across all topics can be accessed at any time via the Business Studies Google Site, which also includes quick links and useful video clips throughout. Following the completion of each topic learners will spend up to three sessions completing a small investigation, in which they'll apply the knowledge they've developed in the previous sessions, with the aim of consolidating and enhancing the depth of their understanding, as well as providing a platform to help develop their time management, organisational and problem solving skills. Learners will also sit an end of topic assessment for each of the units.

Who is the course for?

This course is for anyone who is interested in learning skills that they can use in everyday life such as managing people and budgeting. Learners must be eager to learn how businesses operate and how they themselves can become successful business people, and whilst the course will lay the foundations for those interested in pursuing higher education and/or a career in finance or business, it is certainly not a necessary requirement. That said, those that opt into the subject should have a passion for investigating the world of business, in order to make clear connections between the content delivered in the classroom and the ever-changing nature of business in the real world. It is also suited to anyone who has a 'can do' approach to learning, and a willingness to evaluate multiple options before making a clear and justifiable business decision of their own.

BUSINESS STUDIES

What is the structure of the course?

The course is currently divided into two parts – *'Influences of operations and HRM on business activity'* and *'Influences of marketing and finance on business activity'*.

'Influences of operations and HRM on business activity' – learners will develop their understanding across four key topics during this aspect of the course: *'Business in the Real World'*, *'Influences on a Business'*, *'Business Operations'* and *'Human Resources'*. These topics will offer learners the opportunity to analyse how businesses recruit their workforce, develop customer loyalty and choose the business structure that best suits their current aims and objectives. Learners will also develop entrepreneurial skills and have an opportunity to investigate existing entrepreneurs. There is a 1 hour 45 minute written paper that learners will sit at the end of C11 which will assess their understanding across these topics.

'Influences of marketing and finance on business activity' – learners will then explore the world of *'Marketing'* and *'Finance'*, as well as developing their understanding across the *'Business in the Real World'* and *'Influences on Business'* topics, but from the perspective of expanding a business, rather than just starting it. Learners will study how businesses apply different marketing strategies to try and secure a competitive edge, different ways to apply for and manage finances and how to conduct both primary and secondary research in order to develop an advantageous understanding of the current market and possible changes in trend. This aspect of the course is also assessed at the end of the course in a 1 hour 45 minute written paper.

How will I be assessed?

There will be two written examination papers, both worth 50%. Paper 1 – *'Influences of Operations and HRM on Business Activity'* (Business in the Real World, Influences on Business, Business Operations and Human Resources). Paper 2 – *'Influences of Marketing and Finance on Business Activity'* (Business in the Real World, Influences on Business, Marketing, Finance).

Both papers are divided into three sections. Section A has multiple choice questions and short answer questions worth 20 marks. Section B has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 34 marks. Section C has one case study/data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 36 marks.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

GCSE Business can be the basis for further study at A Level or BTEC. You may then go on to a degree or a professional qualification in accountancy, management science, marketing, the law or the media. Alternatively, you may set up your own business!

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr Williams, Subject Leader for Business Studies (jwilliams@honywoodschool.com)

COMPUTER SCIENCE

What will I learn?

On this course you will learn how computers and networks function, how to break down complex problems, how to design and develop computer programs and the impact that Computer Science has on society.

As part of your learning you will learn at least two different programming languages, exploring the similarities and the differences between them.

Importantly you will learn a range of transferrable problem solving skills that will apply to a range of different situations.

How will I learn?

You will learn through direct instruction, self-study and guided practice. Becoming a competent programmer and problem analyst requires regular practice and refinement. The more theoretical based areas of the course will be taught. Resources are available on the learning platform to support the course and these can be accessed from anywhere at any time.

Who is the course for?

If you have an interest in technology or simply love solving problems Computer Science is for you. Although having a good grasp of mathematics will be beneficial, you will be able to learn and practice the required maths as part of the course.

What is the structure of the course?

We follow the **AQA** GCSE Computer Science course. There are three areas of study within this specification:

1. Computational thinking and problem solving
2. Theoretical Knowledge (Computer Systems, Networks, Cyber Security and Computer Science in Society)

During the first year of study you will practice problem solving, designing and interpreting algorithms and also programming.

During the second year of study you will extend your programming repertoire and begin study of the theoretical topics.

The third year of study will complete your learning in the theoretical aspects and give you time to revise ahead of your Summer exams.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

How will I be assessed?

Throughout the course you will complete progress assessments to help you diagnose areas of strength and areas requiring additional study.

There are two formal assessments which directly contribute towards your GCSE grade in Computer Science:

Paper 1: Computation thinking and problem solving

Computational thinking, problem solving, code tracing and applied computing

Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes

80 marks (50% of the GCSE)

Paper 2: Theoretical assessment

Computer Systems, Networks, Cyber Security and Computer Science in Society

Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes

80 marks (50% of the GCSE)

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

Computer Science GCSE will enable you to operate confidently in today's digital world. It is a useful, real-world qualification, whether you see your future including university, training or going out to work.

Achievement in Computer Science GCSE offers a range of future opportunities. The skills and knowledge developed will support you in your future studies and employment. A grade C or above in Computer Science will enable you move on to an A Level or Vocational Level 3 ICT or Computing course or an Applied ICT course. These courses, in turn, can lead you on to a degree course in a computer related subject. You would then have the opportunity to take up a career as a programmer, software engineer, systems analyst, games developer, network manager, and technician and even develop new technologies of the future.

If you did not wish to progress onto a specialist Computer Science or ICT Level 3 course, the skills you have acquired at GCSE level (Level 2) will be of great benefit in any other subject area at Level 3, for example Mathematics, the Sciences, Technology or Business Studies.

What resources will I need?

All resources provided via online platform. Access to computer/laptop at home beneficial.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr White, Assistant Headteacher (mwhite@honywoodschool.com)

DANCE

What will I learn?

The course has been structured with an emphasis on a practical basis, however 40% is given to the written paper. You will develop the skills of performing as well as being a critic of a variety of dance styles but mainly Contemporary. You will also study different aspects of the world of dance looking at topics from choreography to whole performance cultural influences.

How will I learn?

You will have four learning sessions per two-week cycle, these will include both practical and theory content.

In each practical session you will be developing your dance skills, ability to analyse as well as broadening your individual knowledge of the subject. As part of the course you will regularly be expected to participate in dance performances. This includes solo work.

Theory will include research on practitioners, different works and the development of your own choreography.

Who is the course for?

Having a dance background is not a necessity, although it would be a great benefit. You will need an interest and enthusiasm for the subject and your development within it. You must be prepared to perform to live audiences. Please note there are two solo dances that are a requirement of the course.

The course can be tailored to help individuals excel in all areas of being a dancer, it will inevitably build on live performance ability and evaluative skills. There are many career choices that can be founded through Dance as well as skills learnt through the course that will help individuals be successful in life.

You will need to remember to bring kit in order to take part in practical sessions and you will also need to commit to additional rehearsals at lunchtimes and after school.

What is the structure of the course?

At Honywood we follow the **AQA** examination course. The course will begin with practical workshops where individual ability will be assessed, then move to studying of a range of different dance skills and genres, ensuring that learners gain a broad understanding of the context of styles. You will learn methods of choreography across a range of styles, in order to stand you in better stead for the GCSE.

DANCE

What is the structure of the course? (cont)

GCSE Dance is based on three areas:

Performance
Choreography
Dance Appreciation

Performance: 30%

- Learning choreography and performing it as a soloist
- Group choreography and performance

Choreography: 30%

- Solo dance and performance with detailed choreographic log
- Group dance and performance with detailed choreographic log

Dance appreciation: 40%

- Written exam paper

How will I be assessed?

You will be practically assessed throughout the course.

There are written elements to the practical such as evaluations, research and investigations. The main written assessment is through the written exam looking at dance appreciation.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

- To have a career in teaching PE/Dance/Performing Arts, the performing arts business.
- To access college or university.
- To keep fit and healthy.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Houghton, Subject Development Leader Expressive Arts (khoughton@honywoodschoo.com)

DRAMA

What will I learn?

Eduqas GCSE Drama

The Eduqas GCSE in Drama offers a broad and coherent course of study which enables you to:

- apply knowledge and understanding when making, performing and responding to drama
- explore performance texts, understanding their social, cultural and historical context including the theatrical conventions of the period in which they were created
- develop a range of theatrical skills and apply them to create performances
- work collaboratively to generate, develop and communicate ideas
- develop an independent and reflective approach to allow you to make informed choices in process and performance
- contribute to theatrical performances
- reflect on and evaluate your own work and that of others
- develop an awareness and understanding of the roles and processes undertaken in contemporary professional theatre practice.

How will I learn?

You will learn through a combination of practical and theoretical work, guided by specialist teaching. You will be able to develop the skills learnt through KS3 drama, and shape your learning in the direction you wish. There will be the opportunity to take part in workshops and trips that will extend and support the knowledge developed in the classroom.

Who is the course for?

This course is open to anyone who enjoys working as part of a team, and would like to build on their confidence through performing. It will help you to develop your understanding of how an actor, director and set designer approach theatrical performances and can really help alongside English Literature.

What is the structure of the course?

Component 1: Devising Theatre: internally assessed, externally moderated 40% of qualification
Learners will be assessed on either acting or design.

Learners must produce:

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

Component 2: Performing from a Text: 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.

Component 3: Interpreting Theatre - written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of qualification.
Section A: Set Text A series of questions on one set text. Section B: Learners will also have to analyse and evaluate a piece of live theatre that they have seen during the course.

DRAMA

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through performance and written work that is internally assessed and a performance assessed by a visiting examiner. There is one 90-minute examination at the end of C11 that will assess your ability to analyse one set text and a piece of live theatre as an actor, designer and director.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

GCSE Drama could lead onto a variety of career paths as it develops social, teamwork and confidence skills to a high level. Specific courses at the next level could be in teaching, musical theatre, drama and performing arts. However, studying GCSE Drama is not just for those interested in pursuing a career in theatre, acting or drama, it can open the door to a huge range of opportunities.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr Philpott, Subject Leader for Expressive Arts (rphilpott@honywoodschoo.com)

For GCSE specification information, visit the Eduqas website.

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

What will I learn?

This GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition. Food preparation skills are integrated into five core topics:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food science
- Food safety
- Food choice
- Food provenance.

Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study, or embark on an apprenticeship or full time career in the catering or food industries.

How will I learn?

In Cohorts 9 & 10 you will complete six practical units, ranging from cultural foods to creating and profiling athletes. Within each unit you will follow a scheme of sessions that focus on the theory aspect and developing practical skills. During the unit you will be introduced to more complex and exciting techniques and skills ranging from butchery to sugar craft. During the unit duration you will be expected to complete class work in your books with each topic finishing with an end of unit test or assessment to test learning and comprehension of the new subject knowledge. There will be a number of opportunities to try the coursework style of assessment required from the course in a number of mini NEA (non Exam Assessment) tasks and exam practice as well as developing and refining practical skills.

You will develop your theoretical understanding of the equipment, ingredients, processes and wider issues related to the subject, and we will recommend a Textbook/revision guide to assist with this which can be purchased via the school website. Opportunity to revise each section of the course is also available on Seneca to develop recall.

Who is the course for?

This course is suitable for anyone who has an interest in food and nutrition and can help to lead to a career in the Food, Sport or Health Industry. You have all followed short courses in Food Technology at KS3 and you will build on those experiences for the GCSE. It can be a fun course, as long as you are prepared to take part in all planned practical activities and carry out the portfolio of paperwork which will accompany the practicals. There is a lot of theory and subject knowledge to learn which isn't often considered. Are you organised enough to remember ingredients for each practical session? This is also an important factor to think about.

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

What is the structure of the course?

You will learn all about the Food Industry. You will take part in practical activities and although the practical work plays an important part in the course, you need to be aware that many other topic areas are covered, including investigative and written reports.

The topics we explore include:

Diet through the Ages, You Are What You Eat, Assessment with a focus on the needs of athletes, Farm To Plate, Assessment focusing on enzymic browning, Around The World, All Things Sweet and Wonderful, Food Matters and Food Glorious Food. There are also written mocks in C9 and C10 and a 3 Hour Practical Mock in C10.

During Cohort 11 you will undertake two NEA (non Exam Assessments). The first focuses on developing quality practical outcomes for a set brief and is supported by a design folder. The second focuses on experimenting with ingredients to determine best solutions to problems and to gain a better understanding of function.

How will I be assessed?

The GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition course follows the requirements of the new **AQA** Specification. The work carried out in Cohorts 9 and 10 will build the knowledge needed to enable you to carry out the non-examination assessments and the final examination.

Non-Examination Assessment (NEA)

Task 1: Food investigation

Learners' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.

Practical investigations are a compulsory element of this NEA task. This will lead to a written or electronic report (1,5000 - 2,000 words) including photographic evidence of the practical investigation.

Task 2: Food preparation assessment

Learners' knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of food and application of nutrition related to the chosen task.

Learners will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

This will lead to a written or electronic portfolio including photographic evidence. Photographic evidence of the three final dishes must be included.

Paper 1: Food preparation and nutrition

- Written exam - 1 hour 45 minutes - worth 50% of the GCSE
- Multiple choice questions (20 marks)
- Five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks)

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE is a useful course for anyone to take as you build up an awareness of practical skills needed to make dishes.

Studying Food itself can lead to many varied careers within the vast umbrella of the Food Industry – dietitians, food technologists who develop new food products for companies, chefs and kitchen workers will all have basic background knowledge of the principles of working with food.

There is a strong link between aspects of Food and the Chemistry side of Science, which could be helpful if you wished to pursue a career as a Food Scientist. The new specification also has strong links to GCSE PE, where nutrition and fitness play a key part.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Howard, Subject Leader (choward@honywoodschoo.com)

Miss Lockett, Class Teacher (slockett@honywoodschoo.com)

FRENCH

What will I learn?

The aim of the course is to encourage you to build on the language skills already acquired from Cohorts 7 and 8 to enable you to communicate effectively and confidently in French in a range of situations. You will learn about the culture of Francophone countries and will be able to communicate with people from these countries. Your teacher will speak lots of French to you and you will be expected to respond in French as much as possible. Throughout the course, you will be practising the four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Grammar and vocabulary learning will also play an important role throughout the course.

How will I learn?

You will be assessed separately in speaking, listening, reading and writing. However, in practice, many tasks involve using two or more skills simultaneously, as in real life. Great emphasis is placed on encouraging confidence in speaking the foreign language and you will often be required to work in pairs and small groups.

The ability to communicate in everyday situations is the overriding aim for all learners, although those who show a greater awareness of language structure will be encouraged to produce more accurate spoken and written language.

Who is the course for?

Studying a language at GCSE is an important qualification offering the best opportunities post 16. At Honywood we are passionate about languages and strongly believe that as many learners as possible should study at least one language or more to GCSE. The French course is designed to be accessible to all learners regardless of their previous level of attainment in the subject, as many of the topic areas are revised over the course duration. The subject has proved a very popular choice in the past with a wide range of learners.

What is the structure of the course

The exam board is **AQA** and over the course you will be taught by a French specialist teacher. You will also use ICT and have access to authentic material such as film, newspaper and magazine articles etc.

There are two tiers of entry: Foundation (grades 1-5) and Higher (grades 4-9). Learners must enter for all 4 skills at the same tier, following the themes below:

Theme 1: identity and culture

- Me, my family and friends
- Technology in everyday life
- Free-time activities
- Customs and festivals in the target language – speaking countries/communities

Theme 2: local, national, international and global areas of interest

- Home, town, neighbourhood and region
- Social issues
- Global issues
- Travel and tourism

Theme 3: current and future study and employment

- My studies
- Life at school/college
- Education post-16
- Career choices and ambitions

FRENCH

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Listening –

What is assessed - Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language.

How it is assessed

Written examination:

- 35 minutes at Foundation Tier
- 45 minutes at Higher Tier
- Each exam includes five minutes to read the question paper before the listening recording is played
- 40 marks at Foundation and 50 marks at Higher
- 25% of the total GCSE marks

Questions - Foundation and Higher Tier:

- Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B – questions in the target language, to be answered in the target language or non-verbally

Paper 2: Speaking

What is assessed - Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes.

How it is assessed

Non-exam assessment

- 7 – 9 minutes at Foundation Tier (+ preparation time)
- 10 -12 minutes at Higher Tier (+ preparation time)
- 60 marks (for each of Foundation and Higher Tier)
- 25% of the total GCSE marks.

Questions - Foundation and Higher Tier:

The format is the same at Foundation and Higher Tier, but with different questions for the photo card and different stimulus materials for the role-play. The timings are different too:

- Role play – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 2 minutes at Higher Tier)
- Photo card – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 3 minutes at Higher Tier)
- Conversation – 30 marks (3-5 minutes at Foundation Tier; 5-7 minutes at Higher Tier)

Paper 3: Reading

What is assessed - Understanding and responding to different types of written language, including literary texts. There is no requirement to teach literary criticism, but learners will be expected to understand and respond to passages of literature as a stimulus text.

How it is assessed

Written examination:

- 45 minutes at Foundation Tier
- 1 hour at Higher Tier
- 60 marks (for Foundation and Higher Tier)
- 25% of the total GCSE marks

Questions - Foundation and Higher Tier:

- Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B – questions in the target language, to be answered in the target language or non-verbally
- Section C – translation from the target language into English (approximately 35 words at Foundation Tier and 50 words at Higher Tier)

FRENCH

How will I be assessed? (cont)

Paper 4: Writing

Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes.

How it is assessed

Written examination:

- 1 hour at Foundation Tier
- 1 hour 15 minutes at Higher Tier
- 50 marks at Foundation and 60 marks at Higher Tier
- 25% of the total GCSE marks

Questions

Foundation Tier:

- Q1 – list task (learner produces six nouns) – 6 marks
- Q2 – message (learner produces nine sentences in response to nine short tasks, approximately 60 words in total) – 18 marks
- Q3 – translation from English into the target language (approximately 35 words) – 10 marks
- Q4 – structured writing task (learner responds to 5 compulsory bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions – 16 marks

Higher Tier

- Q1 – structured writing tasks (learner responds to 5 compulsory bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions – 16 marks
- Q2 – open-ended writing tasks (learner responds to four compulsory bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions – 32 marks
- Q3 – translation from English into the target language (approximately 50 words) – 12 marks

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

After your GCSE in French, you can choose to carry on and study French at college as an A Level subject or to study on an IB course.

Having a language at GCSE and A Level will give you access to a wide range of jobs and further education jobs in the future. Graduates in Modern Languages are amongst the most employable and with the European Union the opportunities are now far and wide. The job opportunities on offer to Language graduates include Journalism, Translators, Tourism and Teaching.

'Did you know?...

72% of UK firms employ people with language skills

On average people earn 8% to 20% more after learning a language

94% of the planet do not speak English as their mother tongue. 75% do not speak English at all

Source: CILT – Government Language Agency.

Studying a language at GCSE will ensure you are best placed to access opportunities post 16 and for higher education.

Languages form part of the EBacc measure, a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers. The EBacc is made up of the subjects which the Russell Group says, at A Level, open more doors to more degrees.

FRENCH

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course? (cont)

Research shows that a pupil's socio-economic background impacts the subjects they choose at GCSE, and that this determines their opportunities beyond school.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and maths. The government's ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022, and 90% by 2025.

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

Therefore, studying a language to GCSE will provide you with the best qualifications to access further education, training and careers.

Who do I contact for further information

Mr P Bilby, Subject Leader for Modern Foreign Languages (pbilby@honywoodschool.com)

GEOGRAPHY

What will I learn?

Information about the Subject Area:

The world in which we live is likely to change more in the next 50 years than it has ever done before. Geography explains why, and helps to prepare you for those changes. Geography tackles the big issues such as environmental responsibility, our global interdependence, cultural understanding and tolerance, commerce, trade and industry. We also look at some of the classic ideas of natural hazards, maps, weather patterns, countries and landscapes. The GCSE course we chose has even more to do with UK Geography and learners will have the opportunity to really get to know their own country in great detail. Geographical study fosters these qualities and provides a firm basis for life-long learning. Geography is about the future and encourages **flexible thinking**.

The **OCR Geography B GCSE 9-1 for enquiring minds** course is the one we chose for its exciting and interesting content, which is a mixture of the more popular traditional elements of Geography, combined with new ideas and approaches which allow learners of the **21st Century** to understand the ever changing relationship between people and the environment in which they live.

Course Content:

The course will involve being able to learn about all the physical processes that shape our world and how humans interact with the world. This will include topics that will help you understand the weather, how earthquakes and other hazards occur, extreme environments, why some countries are richer than others, where we live, how we are changing our planet, glaciation and rivers and coasts. It is all centred around a set of key questions to facilitate the enquiry approach.

Controlled Assessment:

There will no longer be a controlled assessment submitted in its traditional form, instead learners will conduct two pieces of field work and write these up. Then the exams will contain questions that will check the learners understanding and knowledge of how to conduct geography field work.

How will I learn?

You will learn through case studies, discussions, field trips, using up to date geographical software, using sources, and geographical theory. There will be a focus on practising key skills that are transferable in the workplace like co-operating, empathy, problem solving and analysing information. We run a variety of fieldwork opportunities which help learners to pick up first hand data and information on all the units. We are required to visit two separate locations to study both Human and Physical Geography. For instance, at Happisburgh in Norfolk, Walton on the Naze, Westfield Shopping Centre Stratford, the Jurassic coast and urban areas of Weymouth.

Who is the course for?

The course is for learners who have an interest in the world around them and the ever changing environment. This course is for those who like geographical investigation, fieldwork and the study of the natural environment. You will enjoy this course if you like to learn in a variety of ways mixing issues you've seen or read about in the news with what you need to learn for the exam. Geographers are amazing problem solvers so if this is a skill you would like to learn or practise then Geography is for you.

GEOGRAPHY

What is the structure of the course?

From 2016 learners will study the **OCR B** course called Geography for Enquiring Minds. The course is divided into 3 sections:

- Our Natural World (Physical Geography)
- People and Society (Human Geography)
- Geographical Exploration (Skills)

Our Natural World is a Physical Geography section which covers exciting topics such as weather, plate tectonics, climate change and ecosystems.

People and Society is a Human Geography section which covers topics such as the UK, cities and urban areas, wealth and resources.

Within each of these sections you will carry out two pieces of fieldwork within the local area or on the optional residential. You will produce both a Human and Physical Geography project using field techniques which you will write about again in your final exams.

Geographical Exploration is an exam which checks development of learners' geographical skills such as statistics, cartography and enquiry skills. As well as your ability to think synoptically, which means linking topics or ideas together.

How will I be assessed?

The exams will be as follows:

- Our Natural World is 1 hour and 15 minutes and is worth 35% of the final grade.
- People and Society is 1 hour and 15 minutes and is worth 35% of the final grade,
- Geographical Exploration is 1 hour and 30 minutes and is worth 30% of the final grade.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

Many of our former learners have gone on to do A-levels in Geography, Geology and Environmental Science or have taken courses such as *Public Services* in order to pursue careers in the armed forces or the emergency services.

Geography has a long established reputation as a high value course to study. More employers are looking to employ geographers because the subject fosters **transferable skills**; an asset in the **complex world of employment** today. Many jobs need people who can organise information and who can make decisions in order to solve problems. You will learn how to justify these decisions, and to recognise how they will affect different people. You will learn how to minimise the damage caused by your decisions.

If you study Geography, you will find it challenging, interesting, enjoyable and very rewarding. You will have the opportunity to study issues first hand through **fieldwork**. You will have the opportunity to undertake geographical investigations along a coastline or urban area and closer to school at our local river or in our local village.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Brinkley, Subject Leader for Geography (kbrinkley@honywoodschool.com)

GERMAN

What will I learn?

The aim of the course is to encourage you to build on the language skills already acquired from Cohorts 7 and 8 to enable you to communicate effectively and confidently in German in a range of situations. You will learn about the culture and customs of the country and will be able to communicate with German speaking people. Your teacher will speak lots of German to you and you will be expected to respond in German as much as possible. Throughout the course, you will be practising the four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Grammar and vocabulary learning will also play an important role throughout the course.

How will I learn?

You will be assessed separately in Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing. However, in practice, many tasks involve using two or more skills simultaneously, as in real life. Great emphasis is placed on encouraging confidence in speaking the foreign language and you will often be required to work in pairs and small groups.

The ability to communicate in everyday situations is the overriding aim for all learners, although those who show a greater awareness of language structure will be encouraged to produce more accurate spoken and written language.

Who is the course for?

Studying a language at GCSE is an important qualification offering the best opportunities post 16. At Honywood we are passionate about languages and strongly believe that as many learners as possible should study at least one language or more to GCSE. The German course is designed to be accessible to all learners regardless of their previous level of attainment in the subject, as many of the topic areas are revised over the course duration. The subject has proved a very popular choice in the past with a wide range of learners.

What is the structure of the course?

The exam board is **AQA** and over the course you will be taught by a German specialist teacher. You will also use ICT and have access to authentic material such as film, newspaper and magazine articles etc. There are two tiers of entry: Foundation (grades 1-5) and Higher (grades 4-9). Learners must enter for all 4 skills at the same tier, following the themes below:

Theme 1: identity and culture

- Me, my family and friends
- Technology in everyday life
- Free-time activities
- Customs and festivals in the target language – speaking countries/communities

Theme 2: local, national, international and global areas of interest

- Home, town, neighbourhood and region
- Social issues
- Global issues
- Travel and tourism

Theme 3: current and future study and employment

- My studies
- Life at school/college
- Education post-16
- Career choices and ambitions

GERMAN

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Listening –

What is assessed - Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language

How it is assessed

Written examination:

- 35 minutes at Foundation Tier
- 45 minutes at Higher Tier
- Each exam includes five minutes to read the question paper before the listening recording is played
- 40 marks at Foundation and 50 marks at Higher
- 25% of the total GCSE marks

Questions - Foundation and Higher Tier:

- Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B – questions in the target language, to be answered in the target language or non-verbally

Paper 2: Speaking

What is assessed - Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purpose.

How it is assessed

Non-exam assessment

- 7 – 9 minutes at Foundation Tier (+ preparation time)
- 10 -12 minutes at Higher Tier (+ preparation time)
- 60 marks (for each of Foundation and Higher Tier)
- 25% of the total GCSE marks.

Questions - Foundation and Higher Tier:

The format is the same at Foundation and Higher Tier, but with different questions for the photo card and different stimulus materials for the role-play. The timings are different too:

- Role play – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 2 minutes at Higher Tier)
- Photo card – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 3 minutes at Higher Tier)
- Conversation – 30 marks (3-5 minutes at Foundation Tier; 5-7 minutes at Higher Tier)

Paper 3: Reading

What is assessed - Understanding and responding to different types of written language, including literary texts. There is no requirement to teach literary criticism, but students will be expected to understand and respond to passages of literature as a stimulus text.

How it is assessed

Written examination:

- 45 minutes at Foundation Tier
- 1 hour at Higher Tier
- 60 marks (for Foundation and Higher Tier)
- 25% of the total GCSE marks

Questions - Foundation and Higher Tier:

- Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B – questions in the target language, to be answered in the target language or non-verbally

Section C – translation from the target language into English (approximately 35 words at Foundation Tier and 50 words at Higher Tier)

GERMAN

How will I be assessed? (cont)

Paper 4: Writing

Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes.

How it is assessed

Written examination:

- 1 hour at Foundation Tier
- 1 hour 15 minutes at Higher Tier
- 50 marks at Foundation and 60 marks at Higher Tier
- 25% of the total GCSE marks

Questions

Foundation Tier:

- Q1 – list task (student produces six nouns) – 6 marks
- Q2 – message (student produces nine sentences in response to nine short tasks, approximately 60 words in total) – 18 marks
- Q3 – translation from English into the target language (approximately 35 words) – 10 marks
- Q4 – structured writing task (student responds to 5 compulsory bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions – 16 marks

Higher Tier

- Q1 – structured writing tasks (student responds to 5 compulsory bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions – 16 marks
- Q2 – open-ended writing tasks (student responds to four compulsory bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions – 32 marks
- Q3 – translation from English into the target language (approximately 50 words) – 12 marks

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

After your GCSE in German, you can choose to carry on and study German at college as an A Level subject or to study on an IB course.

Having a language at GCSE and A Level will give you access to a wide range of jobs and further education jobs in the future. Graduates in Modern Languages are amongst the most employable and with the European Union the opportunities are now far and wide. The job opportunities on offer to Language graduates include Journalism, Translators, Tourism and Teaching.

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- 94% of the planet do not speak English as their mother tongue. 75% do not speak English at all

Source: CILT – Government Language Agency

Studying a language at GCSE will ensure you are best placed to access opportunities post 16 and for higher education.

Languages form part of the EBacc measure, a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers.

GERMAN

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course? (cont)

The EBacc is made up of the subjects which the Russell Group says, at A Level, open more doors to more degrees.

Research shows that a pupil's socio-economic background impacts the subjects they choose at GCSE, and that this determines their opportunities beyond school.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and maths. The government's ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022, and 90% by 2025.

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

Therefore, studying a language to GCSE will provide you with the best qualifications to access further education, training and careers.

Who do I contact for further information

Mr P Bilby, Subject Leader for Modern Foreign Languages (pbilby@honywoodschool.com)

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

What will I learn?

This course is designed to provide learners with the information, knowledge and skills to allow them to work effectively in the health and social care setting. Learning about the impact of lifestyle, development in early years and effective communication will allow learners to feel equipped in creating a health plan for an individual requiring health and social care.

Health and Social Care also explores the rights of individuals and values of care and how good practice is essential in ensuring that vulnerable people feel they are listened to and respected and assured that all is being done to promote their health and well-being.

How will I learn?

This course will involve exploring case studies and scenarios of individuals accessing the health care services. Through discussions and scenario based learning, this course aims to provide learners with the skills and knowledge to feel confident in providing high quality care to those accessing the services.

Who is the course for?

Approximately 3 million people work in the health and social care sector and it is expected that the demand for such professionals will continue to rise, meaning that health and social care will continue to play a key role in our society.

Health and Social Care is aimed at anyone who has an interest in working with people in the health and social care setting. Health care roles include doctors, nurses, midwives, pharmacists and many more. Whilst social care roles include counsellors, occupational therapists and care assistants. This course aims to provide learners with the initial skills and knowledge to continue their journey in the health and social care professions.

What is the structure of the course?

Health and Social Care consists of internally moderated assessments along with an external assessment that is completed at the end of Cohort 11, following completion of the course learners will be awarded OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Health and Social Care

All components focus on the assessment of knowledge, skills and practices. Components that are explored within the Health and Social Care qualification include essential values of care, communicating effectively and understanding good health.

Knowledge and skills developed from one component will be transferred to another and therefore the course provides learners with the opportunity to build their confidence in understanding health and social care in context throughout the three years of study.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

How will I be assessed?

Assessment of Health and Social Care will be completed through internally assessed and externally moderated components (coursework) along with an external assessment that is completed during cohort 11.

The internal assessments are constructed and designed through realistic tasks and activities. Through this style of assessment, learners are able to demonstrate a connection between knowledge and practice.

The external assessment builds on the internally assessed components and requires learners to apply performance skills and techniques in response to a brief or stimulus provided to them.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

Health and Social Care studied at key stage 4 allows learners with the qualification to study the subject post- 16. Health and Social Care is offered at Colchester Sixth Form College as an A level.

The qualification also leads to studying of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as the Cambridge Technical in Health and Social Care. Qualifications such as this prepare learners to enter employment, or to move into higher education by studying a degree in aspects of health and social care.

This award studied at key stage 4 also complements the learning of other subjects. The theoretical aspects of this course are complemented by GCSE Biology in particular.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss Girling, Subject Leader Health and Social Care (agirling@honywoodschoo.com)

HISTORY

What will I learn?

You will investigate the following intriguing areas of History:

- A 1000-year development study on Medicine and Surgery through Time
- Weimar and Nazi Germany
- The Cold War and Vietnam
- A British Depth Study on the Norman Conquest or the First Crusade
- A Study of the Historic Environment of Norman England

How will I learn?

Throughout the course you will be given the opportunity to learn in a choice based model. We are keen to develop the key skills that you will need in later life. All historians will have the opportunity to work in groups and/or individually. We ensure that learning sessions have a variety of activities that suit individuals. Possible options for working are producing videos/films, debates, through ICT, extended writing, role play etc. You will learn a lot about the units through the detailed analysis of both primary and secondary sources of information.

Who is the course for?

The course is open to everyone who enjoys learning about the past and wants to develop their understanding of the present. You have studied History in Cohort 7 and 8 and have a good idea of what to expect in the learning sessions. If you enjoy learning about the past and relish a challenge, then this course will be suitable for you.

History is a very popular subject at GCSE and A Level. The syllabus that we study will broaden your understanding of the modern world. The skills that you will develop in analysing and interpreting evidence, using sources and creating persuasive arguments are all vital skills. History is a very rigorous subject and all work is extended essay writing, so take this into consideration when choosing this option.

What is the structure of the course?

The structure of the course is currently provisional. The areas that we focus on in Cohorts 9, 10 and 11 are outlined below.

Cohort 9

Medicine and Surgery through Time

- What was ancient Medicine like?
- Did Medicine go backwards during Medieval times?
- Was the Renaissance a new start for Medicine?
- Was there a revolution in Medicine during the Industrial Revolution?
- A study of modern Medicine

HISTORY

What is the structure of the course? (cont)

Germany 1918 - 1945

- Was the Weimar republic doomed from the start?
- What impact did the Treaty of Versailles have on Germany?
- Why was Hitler able to dominate Germany by 1933?
- How did the Nazis control Germany 1933 - 1945?

Cohort 10

The Cold War, Korea and Vietnam

- How did the Cold War start?
- The Korean War
- The Vietnam War

Cohort 11

British Depth Study

- The Norman Conquest
- A Study of the Historic Environment (including a potential trip to a site of Norman history, such as a castle or cathedral)

How will I be assessed?

Learners will sit two exams. All work is extended essay writing, so take this in to consideration when choosing this option. We are studying AQA GCSE History.

Paper One - Cold War and Germany

Paper Two - Medicine and Surgery and the Norman Conquest

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

Parents, 6th Form recruiters, colleges, universities and employers regard History as a challenging and worthwhile subject. It will, obviously, allow you to continue with History at A Level and beyond. History is the most common subject amongst lawyers and barristers, due to the skills you use with sources and evidence. It is also very useful for a variety of careers including the media, banking, libraries, teaching, civil service and journalism to name but a few!

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr Wood, Subject Leader for History (mwood@honywoodschoo.com)

MEDIA STUDIES

What will I learn?

This course is designed to give you an introduction into the various methods of communication that exist in today's society. Every day you are exposed to television, bloggers, magazines, newspapers and the internet, but how do these methods of communication operate and just how much are you influenced by them?

Media Studies at GCSE allows us to explore a variety of media products, looking at how they communicate messages to us successfully and how the media industry has evolved.

How will I learn?

This course will involve group and discussion based work as well as working independently on computers and by hand to create new designs for the non-exam assessment. Please do not presume that Media Studies is simply about watching films – it is not and some learners have been previously surprised by how much theoretical and written work is involved.

Who is the course for?

Media Studies GCSE is designed to be accessible to all learners, but those learners who have a particular skill or interest in arts or creative subjects may be more suited to it. Writing about other peoples' work and your own will also make up a large part of the course – so you must be prepared to write some longer pieces of work. Media Studies also complements subjects such as English, Art, Drama, Graphics, Psychology, IT and Business Studies particularly well.

What is the structure of the course?

The Media Studies **Single GCSE** course consists of:

- Component 1** – written paper (35% of GCSE grade) an examination that will be taken at the end of Cohort 11.
- Component 2** – written paper 2 (35% of GCSE grade) an examination that will be taken at the end of Cohort 11.
- Component 3** – non-exam assessment (30%) individual practical production completed during Cohort 10 and 11.

MEDIA STUDIES

How will I be assessed?

Your work will be assessed and graded throughout the year in conjunction with two exams at the end of Cohort 11, a mock exam in the first term of Cohort 11, as well as the final exam/s in the Summer Term. There are no tiers of study for Media Studies, everyone sits the same papers.

The non-exam assessment requires a practical (creative) piece of work with a small amount of written accompaniment demonstrating research, planning and evaluative skills.

You will be assessed on your knowledge and understanding of the key concepts in Media Studies; representation, audience, language and institution, as well as your planning skills and practical ability. You will gain an insight into your ability level with regular marks from independent study as well as coursework grades and learning conversations.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

Media Studies is offered as an A-Level at Colchester Sixth Form College, learners obtaining at least a 4 at GCSE English or Media are encouraged to take up this option.

Media Studies continues to be a very popular subject both at GCSE and A level. There are many options and combinations available at university or college. As well as a Media Studies degree, there are courses offered in Film Studies, Communications, Cultural Studies, Journalism, Desk Top Publishing, Camera Operating and Directing.

This subject has been available to learners at Honywood School for some time now and every year it has proved to be very popular. It is important to remember that this course will require you to be creative and analytical.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Stoneman, Subject Leader for Media Studies (Istoneman@honywoodschool.com)

MUSIC

What will I learn?

By taking GCSE music, learners will learn a variety of musical skills such as performance, composition, theory and how to develop their general musical awareness. They will also have the opportunity to develop a variety of teamwork, leadership, social and organisational skills.

The course will offer learners the opportunity both to expand on the knowledge they already have, as well as learning and developing knowledge of new areas of music.

How will I learn?

You will learn through a combination of practical and theoretical work, guided by specialist teaching. You will be able to develop the skills learnt through KS3 music, and shape your learning in the musical direction they wish. There will be the opportunity to take part in workshops, extra-curricular sessions and trips that will extend and support the knowledge given in the classroom.

Who is the course for?

This course is open to anyone who plays an instrument (including voice) to a confident standard. The course is quite heavily theory based therefore having a basic music theory knowledge and/or a commitment to developing this is essential.

If you have a passion for music and are open to learning about a wide variety of musical styles and practices, you will enjoy this course.

What is the structure of the course?

The GCSE course itself is split into 4 units:

Area of Study 1: My Music

- Study of genre of own choice, for candidates chosen instrument

Area of Study 2: The Concerto through time

- the Baroque Solo Concerto
- the Baroque Concerto Grosso
- the Classical Concerto
- the Romantic Concerto

Area of Study 3: Rhythms of the World

- India and Punjab
- Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East
- Africa
- Central and South America

Area of Study 4: Film Music

- Music composed for films
- Music composed as a soundtrack for a video game

Area of Study 5: Conventions of Pop

- Rock n Roll of the 1950's and 1960's
- Rock Anthems of the 1970's and 1980's
- Pop Ballads of the 1970's, 1980's and 1990's
- Solo Artists from 1990 to the present day

MUSIC

How will I be assessed?

The coursework element of the GCSE accounts for 60%
The Listening exam accounts for 40%

Coursework consists of two performances, two compositions and written elements including writing musical scores for a range of instruments to support the practical work. The listening exam draws on knowledge studied through Area of Study 2, 3, 4 and 5.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

GCSE music could lead onto courses in music, music technology, and performing arts. Career opportunities include teaching, performing, composing, studio technician/work, musical theatre, music therapy – the list is endless!

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr Philpott, Subject Leader for Expressive Arts (rphilpott@honywoodschoo.com)

For GCSE specification information, visit the OCR website.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

What will I learn?

Over the three years, you will cover a wide variety of topics both practically and theoretically to make up the syllabus. You will learn about health and fitness for sport and exercise, training principles for improving fitness, the body's adaptations to exercise and long term effects, sports psychology, the analytical process for improving a sporting performance and the use of data to improve performance.

How will I learn?

You will have four learning sessions per cycle in Cohorts 9, 10 and 11, three of which are a classroom based theory session and one which will be practical. When appropriate 'theory in practice' lessons will take place. These sessions will be designed to build on the theory covered in previous learning sessions and may cover things such as fitness testing and training, use of data, analysing sports performances and developing specific sports skills. The practical sessions will develop sports specific skills in a variety of sports.

Who is the course for?

If you have a genuine love for sport and want to expand your theoretical knowledge then PE is for you. The course is not an extension of core PE and is very different to the PE sessions that you will have had experience of in Cohorts 7 and 8.

What is the structure of the course?

During C9 learners will cover a combination of GCSE PE units and vocational style units. Practical and theory assessments will be completed during the winter term and learners will be guided into either GCSE PE or vocational PE depending upon which is most suitable.

At Honywood we follow the **Edexcel** examination course. We will cover key theoretical modules every half term and you will be expected to apply your knowledge to exam style questions throughout. This will form the basis of the theoretical knowledge required to sit your final exam in Cohort 11.

- a) Two theory papers:
 - Component 1 Fitness and Body Systems (1 hr 45 mins) – 36%
 - Component 2 Health and Performance (1 hr 15 mins) – 24%
- b) Practical Performance in 3 sports – 30%
- c) Personal Exercise Programme (including 6-week fitness training plan) – 10%

The vocational course covered is the OCR level 1/2 Cambridge National certificate in Sports Studies. There are four units: Contemporary issues in sport, Developing sports skills, Sports leadership, Sport and the Media

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

How will I be assessed?

GCSE PE will be assessed as follows:

- a) Two GCSE written exam papers – (60%)
- b) Two-day Practical Exam – moderated (30%)
- c) Personal Exercise Plan including 6-8 week Fitness Training Plan – written assessment (10%)

For the practical side of the course, you choose three sports in which to be assessed in Cohort 11. The three sports chosen by the learners must include one individual sport and one team sport.

The chosen sports must be recognised by the exam board in order for you to be assessed. Anyone participating in obscure, minority sports should check the availability of their sport with the PE subject team prior to taking up the course. Sports which are unable to be taken in school but are recognised by the exam board can be chosen and video evidence must be provided in order to be assessed eg horse riding, skiing etc.

Please note Rounders, Fitness and all martial arts are currently not permitted. However Futsal has been added this year but may not be taken in conjunction with football.

Vocational PE will be assessed as follows:

- a) Unit 1 – 60 minute written exam
- b) Unit 2 – Practical assessment
- c) Unit 3 – Combined practical and word processed assessments
- d) Unit 4 – Assignment based word processed assessments

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

There are many career opportunities in sport and recreation including physiotherapy, sports medicine, sports science, nutrition, sports psychology, sports centre management, sports therapy and sports coaching.

Any science related courses/careers will benefit from the biological topics within PE A-level.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Jones, Subject Leader for PE (fjones@honywoodschoo.com)

RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY

What will I learn?

In Religion and Philosophy you will learn to:

- Adopt a critical, enquiring and comparative approach to the study of Christianity and Islam
- Explore key ethical concepts, reflecting on fundamental questions, engaging with them intellectually and evaluating commonly-held views
- Enhance your spiritual and moral development, learning how to look at both sides of an argument objectively and considering the impact and significance of commonly-held beliefs in a world-wide context
- Enhance your personal, social and cultural development, developing your awareness of divergent world cultures and the common values of all religions and belief systems
- Develop your awareness of and interest in religious, philosophical and ethical questions, and relate these to the real world
- Reflect on and develop your own values, opinions and attitudes in light of what you learn
- Be more open to different ideas and attitudes and see how people's beliefs have changed over time.

How will I learn?

The Religion and Philosophy team make extensive use of ICT and interactive learning, and there is an emphasis on developing your oracy skills through class discussion and debates. There is also a strong focus on essay writing, as this is the medium of the final GCSE exams.

After-school revision clubs are available throughout the year, open to all year groups, where help is offered in small groups and tailored specifically to individual needs.

All information for this course is produced in an interactive format that can be accessed on your iPads, through Google Classroom, and Independent Study is structured to encourage you to understand the exam technique from the start.

Who is the course for?

Are you someone who likes to express their opinions? Do you wonder about the big questions of the universe that humanity keeps returning to? Are you interested in the process that informs people's rational, emotional and moral decisions?

Are you interested in learning how people across the world live their lives and investigate why they make the choices they do? Do you want to look into current affairs from around the world and understand the reasons behind them? Do you want to develop and strengthen your ability to express your ideas both in speech and writing, supporting your ideas with evidence and examples and explaining why they are relevant? If so, Religion and Philosophy is for you.

RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY

| What is the structure of the course? | | |
|---|---|-------------------|
| Content overview | Assessment Overview | |
| Beliefs and Teachings & Practices Learners will be required to study 2 religions Christianity Islam | Christian Beliefs, Teachings and Practices 63 marks 1 hour written paper | 25% of total GCSE |
| | Islamic Beliefs, Teachings and Practices 63 marks 1 hour written paper | 25% of total GCSE |
| Religion, Philosophy and Ethics in the modern world from a religious perspective Learners are required to study this component from the perspective of Christianity. Four themes to be studied are <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships and families • The existence of God, and the ultimate reality • Religion, peace and conflict • Dialogue between religious and non-religious beliefs and attitudes. | Religion, philosophy and ethics in the modern world from a Christian perspective 126 marks 2 hour written paper | 50% of total GCSE |
| <p>The course covers the following topics:</p> <p>Theology – The study of ideas and concepts about God. Why do some believe God exists and others do not? How does the Christian concept of God differ from the Islamic concept of Allah?</p> <p>Philosophy – The study of ideas and fundamental problems related to reality. What is real? How do we know?</p> <p>Spirituality – Is there more to life than material things? Do we have souls, and if so, what does that mean for us? Does life have meaning? What is the conscience? How do people experience God?</p> <p>Morality and ethics – What is moral? What is immoral? Who decides, and how? Why are there different views on what is ethical and what is not? How do people decide what is right and what is wrong? What is meant by the sanctity of life?</p> <p>Contemporary issues – What new ethical problems have arisen in the modern world? Should people have a right to die? Is genetic manipulation wrong? Do humans have a responsibility towards the planet, and animal species – is climate change immoral? Is it right to go to war to kill terrorists? Is it right to murder terrorists covertly? Is it fair to use drone strikes? What is the point of nuclear weaponry?</p> | | |

RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY

How will I be assessed?

Exam Board: OCR Grade range for each paper: 1 – 9 (9 being the highest grade available)
You will begin learning the course content in Cohort 9, studying a mixture of philosophy, ethics and religious studies. A lot of your Independent Study will be skills-based, and focussed on exam technique. This might include planning and writing responses to 3-, 6- and 15-mark questions. In learning sessions you will develop your skills in forming balanced arguments and supporting your own opinions around ethical issues and theories with evidence and appeals to authority. You will develop enquiry skills, empathy and the ability to argue from multiple viewpoints. Significantly, you will develop your awareness and understanding of the Christian faith – the core beliefs, the key teachings and common practices associated with it, as well as the ethical standpoints associated with its stances on interpersonal relationships, families and equality. At the end of each module of study you will face a short assessment based on the same format as the GCSE exams; there will be a mock at the end of the year.

In Cohort 10 you will study Christian views on the existence of God, and approaches to peace and conflict. You will then study the core beliefs, key teachings and common practices associated with Islam, developing your understanding of how Islam is practiced in different ways worldwide. As in Cohort 9, each module will end with a brief assessment comprised of 3-, 6- and 15-mark questions, and at the end of the year will again face a mock paper.

In Cohort 11, having explored all the content, you will be given time to review all the modules and consolidate your knowledge and understanding through a combination of examination question workshops, independent research-based tasks and revision workshops. In November you will face your official GCSE mock, which will comprise indicative versions of all three papers.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

Although not a Baccalaureate subject, there is no denying that Religious Studies GCSE is looked upon very favourably by Sixth Form colleges, due to its strong focus on essay-writing, research, analysis and the structuring of clear arguments. Being able to hold opposing views in one's head also shows a clarity of thought that is undoubtedly sought after. One ancient scholar stated "Philosophy, rightly defined, is the love of wisdom"; a major high street computer games retailer told their recruitment teams "when employing staff look out for students of Religious Studies and Philosophy – they are usually very solid, reliable, thoughtful people who are likely to have good logical skills and also be able to empathise with and motivate others."

Religion and Philosophy develops the skills of literacy, oracy, argumentation, and research; it requires a good eye for detail and the skilful application of logic, and promotes open-mindedness and empathy.

Possible occupations linked to Religion and Philosophy:

Lawyers (both barristers and solicitors), doctors, psychologists, police detectives, forensic investigators, public services, civil services, management, teaching, social work, youth work, childcare, archaeology, fine art, museum work, conservation /natural history, and architecture.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr A Tolhurst, Subject Responsibility for Religion and Philosophy (atolhurst@honywoodschoo.com)

SPANISH

What will I learn?

The aim of the course is to enable you to communicate effectively and confidently in Spanish in a range of situations. You will learn about the culture of Spanish speaking countries and will be able to communicate with people from these countries. Your teacher will speak lots of Spanish to you and you will be expected to respond in Spanish as much as possible. Throughout the course you will be practising the four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Grammar and vocabulary learning will also play an important role.

If you choose to study Spanish you must show a high level of motivation, as the fast pace of the course allows learners to progress from near beginners to GCSE level.

How will I learn?

You will be assessed separately in speaking, listening, reading and writing. However, in practice, many tasks involve using two or more skills simultaneously, as in real life. Great emphasis is placed on encouraging confidence in speaking the foreign language and you will often be required to work in pairs and small groups.

The ability to communicate in everyday situations is the overriding aim for all learners, although those who show a greater awareness of language structure will be encouraged to produce more accurate spoken and written language.

Who is the course for?

Studying a language at GCSE is an important qualification offering the best opportunities post 16. At Honywood we are passionate about languages and strongly believe that as many learners as possible should study at least one language or more to GCSE. Spanish makes an excellent choice at GCSE for keen and proven linguists who want the challenge of learning a new language from scratch. The subject allows learners to further develop their language skills and will offer an exciting new opportunity to gain a Spanish GCSE.

What is the structure of the course?

The exam board is **AQA** and over the course you will be taught by a Spanish specialist teacher. You will also use ICT and have access to authentic material such as film, newspaper and magazine articles etc.

There are two tiers of entry: Foundation (grades 1-5) and Higher (grades 4-9). Learners must enter for all 4 skills at the same tier, following the themes below:

Theme 1: Identity and culture

- Me, my family and friends
- Technology in everyday life
- Free-time activities

Customs and festivals in the target language – speaking countries/communities

SPANISH

What is the structure of the course? (cont)

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

- Home, town, neighbourhood and region
- Social issues
- Global issues
- Travel and tourism

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

- My studies
- Life at school/college
- Education post-16
- Career choices and ambitions

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Listening –

What is assessed - Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language

How it is assessed

Written examination:

- 35 minutes at Foundation Tier
- 45 minutes at Higher Tier
- Each exam includes five minutes to read the question paper before the listening recording is played
- 40 marks at Foundation and 50 marks at Higher
- 25% of the total GCSE marks

Questions

Foundation and Higher Tier:

- Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B – questions in the target language, to be answered in the target language or non-verbally

Paper 2: Speaking

What is assessed - Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purpose.

How it is assessed

Non-exam assessment

- 7 – 9 minutes at Foundation Tier (+ preparation time)
- 10 -12 minutes at Higher Tier (+ preparation time)
- 60 marks (for each of Foundation and Higher Tier)
- 25% of the total GCSE marks.

Questions

Foundation and Higher Tier:

The format is the same at Foundation and Higher Tier, but with different questions for the photo card and different stimulus materials for the role-play. The timings are different too:

- Role play – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 2 minutes at Higher Tier)
- Photo card – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 3 minutes at Higher Tier)
- Conversation – 30 marks (3-5 minutes at Foundation Tier; 5-7 minutes at Higher Tier)

SPANISH

How will I be assessed? (cont)

Paper 3: Reading

What is assessed - Understanding and responding to different types of written language, including literary texts. There is no requirement to teach literary criticism, but students will be expected to understand and respond to passages of literature as a stimulus text.

How it is assessed

Written examination:

- 45 minutes at Foundation Tier
- 1 hour at Higher Tier
- 60 marks (for Foundation and Higher Tier)

25% of the total GCSE marks

Questions

Foundation and Higher Tier:

- Section A - questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B - questions in the target language, to be answered in the target language or non-verbally
- Section C - translation from the target language into English (approximately 35 words at Foundation Tier and 50 words at Higher Tier)

Paper 4: Writing

What is assessed - Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes.

How it is assessed

Written examination:

- 1 hour at Foundation Tier
- 1 hour 15 minutes at Higher Tier
- 50 marks at Foundation and 60 marks at Higher Tier
- 25% of the total GCSE marks

Questions

Foundation Tier:

- Q1 - list task (student produces six nouns) - 6 marks
- Q2 - message (student produces nine sentences in response to nine short tasks, approximately 60 words in total) - 18 marks
- Q3 - translation from English into the target language (approximately 35 words) - 10 marks
- Q4 - structured writing task (student responds to 5 compulsory bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) - there is a choice from two questions - 16 marks

Higher Tier

- Q1 - structured writing tasks (student responds to 5 compulsory bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) - there is a choice from two questions - 16 marks
- Q2 - open-ended writing tasks (student responds to four compulsory bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total) - there is a choice from two questions - 32 marks
- Q3 - translation from English into the target language (approximately 50 words) - 12 marks

SPANISH

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

After your GCSE in Spanish, you can choose to carry on and study Spanish at college as an A Level subject or to study on an IB course.

Having a language at GCSE and A Level will give you access to a wide range of jobs and further education jobs in the future. Graduates in Modern Languages are amongst the most employable and with the European Union the opportunities are now far and wide. The job opportunities on offer to Language graduates include Journalism, Translators, Tourism and Teaching.

'Did you know?...

- 72% of UK firms employ people with language skills
- On average people earn 8% to 20% more after learning a language
- 94% of the planet do not speak English as their mother tongue. 75% do not speak English at all

Source: CILT – Government Language Agency

Studying a language at GCSE will ensure you are best placed to access opportunities post 16 and for higher education.

Languages form part of the EBacc measure, a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers.

The EBacc is made up of the subjects which the Russell Group says, at A Level, open more doors to more degrees.

Research shows that a pupil's socio-economic background impacts the subjects they choose at GCSE, and that this determines their opportunities beyond school.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and maths.

The government's ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022, and 90% by 2025.

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

Therefore, studying a language to GCSE will provide you with the best qualifications to access further education, training and careers.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr P Bilby, Subject Leader for Modern Foreign Languages (pbilby@honywoodschoo.com)

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – GRAPHIC PRODUCTS FOCUS

What will I learn?

During Cohort 9 you will learn about the subject and gain the necessary skills through a range of design and make projects using paper based materials and decorative techniques to develop your knowledge and understanding.

You will learn about a variety of materials and processes including smart materials, CAD/CAM and image processing with programs such as Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop. You will design and make models of your products using a range of equipment and understand how to be innovative and problem solve.

Our GCSE course allows learners to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. You will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles focusing on Paper & Board in greater depth. We will recommend a textbook/revision guide to assist with this. The course is heavily weighted towards those skills associated with designing, creativity, originality, flair and imagination.

How will I learn?

In Cohorts 9 and 10 you will complete projects in both 2 and 3 dimensions, for example a creative packaging project looking at perfume and game packaging design, re-branding and marketing Colchester Zoo using the laser cutter, a Festival marketing project that incorporates T-shirt graphic design and promotional keyrings as well as a variety of 3D printed stand alone projects and professional design programs to realise ideas and outcomes.

In Cohorts 10 and 11 you will work on your non-examination assessment task and begin revision for your exam.

Who is the course for?

The course offered in Graphic Products is open to all learners who have a keen interest and passion for designing and making projects using the materials and equipment detailed above.

Over the duration of the course, you will develop basic skills so that you are able to complete your major projects, to the highest possible standard.

This course is aimed at anyone who is interested in graphic products. If you enjoy being creative, designing and working with materials and media this is the course for you.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – GRAPHIC PRODUCTS FOCUS

What is the structure of the course?

Here at Honywood we follow the **AQA** examination course. During Cohorts 9 and 10, attention is given to learning and developing skills via a variety of smaller projects using different materials / resources. Alongside this, learners will also be shown how to set out their design folder and given techniques to best prepare them for the exam at the end of Cohort 11.

During Cohorts 10 and 11 you will begin completing the non-examination assessment task.

How will I be assessed?

There will be a 50/50 split between exam and non-examination assessment (NEA)

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

You can go on to study for A-Levels in Graphic Design, Art Design and Media, Digital Applications, Media Print Publishing, Photography or Product Design.

A range of apprenticeships are also available.

This could lead on to a degree and career in a variety of areas such as product design, graphic design, industrial design, interior design, computer design, furniture design, jewellery design or architecture.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Howard, Subject Leader (choward@honywoodschool.com)

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - RESISTANT MATERIALS FOCUS

What will I learn?

During the Resistant Materials course, you will learn to design and make products with creativity and originality using a range of materials, mostly wood, metal and plastic, and will have the opportunity to use a wide variety of tools and equipment to manufacture quality products.

During the course you will also learn about computer-aided design (CAD) and computer aided manufacturing (CAM), quality control, environmental issues and sustainability of physical resources.

Our GCSE course allows learners to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. You will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles focusing on Paper & Board in greater depth. We will recommend a textbook/revision guide to assist with this. The course is heavily weighted towards those skills associated with designing, creativity, originality, flair and imagination.

How will I learn?

In Cohort 9 you will complete a number of 'design and make' projects to improve your knowledge and understanding of materials and processes. In the past these have included a CAD games console controller project using the laser cutter, a wooden pull along toy, a metal toffee hammer and a small wooden box.

In Cohorts 10 and 11 you will work on your non-examination assessment task that will account for 50% of the final GCSE grade.

Who is the course for?

The course offered in Resistant Materials is open to all learners who have a keen interest and passion for designing and making projects using the materials and equipment detailed above.

Over the duration of the course, you will develop your basic skills so that they are able to complete your major projects, to the highest possible standard.

What is the structure of the course

Here at Honywood we follow the **AQA** examination course. During Cohort 9, attention is given to learning and developing skills via a variety of smaller projects using different materials / resources. Alongside this, learners will also be shown how to set out their design folder and preparation for the exam.

During Cohort 10 learners begin the non-examination assessment task which will continue into Cohort 11. They will then complete various tasks to support their theory knowledge ready for the Summer exam.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - RESISTANT MATERIALS FOCUS

How will I be assessed?

There will be a 50/50 split between exam and non-examination assessment (NEA).

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

At the end of the course, learners can move on to study A-Levels in Product or Industrial Design, Electronics or Engineering. This opens the possibility of studying for a degree in a related subject and the development of a career in Electrical or structural Engineering, Architecture, Furniture design or specialised engineering field.

Learners could continue their education in related courses such as Construction, Carpentry, Electronics or complete an apprenticeship.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Howard, Subject Leader, (choward@honywoodschoo.com)

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – TEXTILES FOCUS

What will I learn?

During Cohort 9 you will learn about the subject and gain the necessary skills through a range of design and make projects using a variety of textile materials and decorative techniques to develop your knowledge and understanding.

You will learn about a variety of materials and processes including smart materials, CAD/CAM using 2D design and the laser cutter and pattern making/printing with Photoshop and the heat press. You will design and make products using a range of equipment and understand how to be innovative and meet different clients' needs.

Our GCSE course allows learners to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. You will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles focusing on Textiles in greater depth.

We will recommend a textbook/revision guide to assist with this. The course is heavily weighted towards those skills associated with designing, creativity, originality, flair and imagination.

How will I learn?

In Cohort 9 you will complete a variety of projects including surface decoration and its application on accessories, a polymer bag project looking at sustainability and a garment project with a focus on one of the designers you will need to analyse and use the work of past and present designers to aid your own designing.

In Cohorts 10 and 11 you will work on your non-examination assessment task and begin revision for your exam.

Who is the course for?

The course offered in Textiles is open to all learners who have a keen interest and passion for designing and making projects using the materials and equipment detailed above.

Over the duration of the course, you will develop basic skills so that you are able to complete your major projects, to the highest possible standard. Learners who like to express their individuality and produce original items will enjoy the opportunities offered by this course.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – TEXTILES FOCUS

What is the structure of the course?

Here at Honywood we follow the **AQA** examination course. During Cohort 10, attention is given to learning and developing skills via a variety of smaller projects using different materials / resources. Alongside this, learners will also practice how to set out their design folder and prepare for their examinations.

Upon reaching Cohort 11, learners will undertake a NEA (non- examination assessment), where they will follow the design process; researching, designing, planning and making a final outcome, before finally evaluating it. They will also complete various tasks to support their theory knowledge ready for the summer exam.

How will I be assessed?

There will be a 50/50 split between exam and non-examination assessment (NEA).

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

Design & Technology Textiles is a good place to start for learners who wish to go into fashion design, surface pattern design, fashion journalism, fashion or interior buying for retail stores, fashion retail, interior design. This GCSE can lead onto other textile courses at Year 12 and 13, and degree level, as well as other creative fields. It can also be a complementary subject for those wanting a career in theatre and dance.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mrs Howard, Subject Leader for Technology (choward@honywoodschool.com)

Post-16 GUIDANCE

How does Honeywood help you to get to where you want to be? You may have a good idea of what you want to do, you may have lots of ideas or you may have none at all! What do you need to know? What options should you take? How do you decide? What happens next?



At Honeywood we give you careers guidance in lots of different ways so that you get a really good understanding of different careers and what you would need to do to give yourself the best chance of achieving your goals! We want you to understand what you are good at and what you like, and so in Cohorts 7 and 8 you will have the opportunity to reflect on yourself and your attributes and personal qualities and how these may affect your career choice. We will help you to be

more aware of the world of work and how careers relate to the subjects/courses you choose to study so you can make an informed decision about GCSE options, A-levels, International Baccalaureate (IB), BTEC Diplomas, NVQs/Apprenticeships or Traineeships, and University. For example, in Cohort 8 you will have the opportunity to drop into lessons you think you might like to study at GCSE, you will be able to speak to past learners about their courses, you will have targeted time to think about your ambitions for the future, using a database of information to research useful careers websites, and to discuss the skills and aptitudes required for particular jobs.

Career related sessions continue into Cohorts 9, 10 and 11 to help prepare you for the future and you will be able to reflect on your strengths and weaknesses and think more about careers and courses you can study when you leave school. We will help prepare you for the world of work by helping you with practical tasks such as writing a CV, interview experience, guidance on your personal statement, visiting universities and careers fairs, giving you an insight into industry by talking to visiting employers and speakers from colleges, including current Colchester 6th Form students, universities, apprenticeship provider and so on.



In the summer term the focus for Cohort 10 is on progression routes which includes presentations about post 16 options from local colleges and a Futures Evening for Cohort 10 parents and carers to enable reflection and discussion of post 16 choices over the summer holiday. These are followed up in the autumn term (Cohort 11) with one to one interviews with college representatives to discuss course options.



During Cohort 10/11 you will have a one-one interview, with our CEIAG Officer Mr Ramsay, who is always happy to help you - email: mramsay@honywoodschool.com, his office is opposite HU1.

WORK EXPERIENCE

We ask all of Cohort 10 to undertake a period of work experience during the second half of the summer term. This is because work experience can help you with your future career choices. We know from feedback from employers and from learners that actual experience at work is extremely beneficial in helping you to acquire workplace skills, for example working with adults as part of a team, gaining a sense of business and customer awareness, relating your school curriculum and qualifications to the workplace, becoming more confident in your abilities. To make sure that everyone understands the procedures for work experience and can help with choices, assemblies are held for Cohort 10 and we will invite your parents/carers to a meeting.



To enhance the chances of achieving a positive work experience placement, we will encourage you to find your own work placement preferably related to your career aspirations but if this is not possible, be assured that work experience is highly valued by employers, however unrelated the placement may be to your final career choice; it is the performance over the two weeks and the inputs you make which are important.



Tutorials are arranged prior to work experience to support you in the work placement and you will complete a journal during your work experience to help you chart your progress and the skills you develop. The school will ensure that your placement is checked for health and safety and a teacher will visit you whilst you are on placement to ensure that both you and the employer are happy with your performance. The employer will also provide a report at the end of the placement for you to keep and use in the future.

Some of you might be thinking of following the Apprenticeship pathway when you leave school and securing a work placement in your chosen occupational sector is a good introduction.