THOMAS KNYVETT COLLEGE

Choices Booklet
2014-2016

choices@thomasknyvett.org

BRINGING OUT THE BEST

CONTENTS

COURSES

Core Subjects

GCSE and BTEC Options

CHOICE AND THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

The Department for Education (DfE) sets out a statutory National Curriculum requirement for core and "entitlement" subjects. This safeguards a broad curriculum and ensures that students are not disadvantaged by over specialised option choices.

The school recognises the importance of a broad and balanced Key Stage 4 programme. At the same time, we also recognise the importance of choice and diversity and the need to promote students' interests and abilities.

The Core

All students must study English, Mathematics, Science (Double, Triple or BTEC), Religious Studies, Information Technology and Physical Education. We recommend that students should also study Geography or History and one Modern Foreign Language.

Your child has already begun courses in the core.

Religious Studies

This will be provided for all students through the GCSE course in Religious Studies which occupies two periods per week throughout Years 10 and 11.

Information Technology

All students will have the opportunity to obtain accreditation in Information Technology by following a BCS course in ICT for one period per week in Years 10 and 11. This qualification is equivalent to one full GCSE. This course is examined in 4 units.

Balanced Options

A typical, well balanced programme of studies will include English, Mathematics, Science and three options reflecting a balance of subjects across the curriculum as well as a student's particular aptitudes and interests. The recommended "balanced programme" should normally include:

- **a modern foreign language (French or Spanish)**
- **a humanity (History or Geography)**
- **a creative subject (Art, Music, Drama, PE, Catering, Resistant Materials, Textiles)**

THE GCSE EXAMINATION

The GCSE examination provides a common examination at 16+ awarding grades from A*-G. The examinations will be at the end of courses which can mean students having to sit several examination papers on one day. It will focus on intensive revision programmes being necessary to facilitate the examination and for our students to have to maximise their learning techniques and memory recall skills. We will offer classes in these skills to students and parents. It will also mean that students must keep good notes and be supported by a range of learning guides to enhance the subject content.

Controlled Assessments

One of the requirements of the Key Stage 4 courses is that a proportion of the examination grade should be dependent upon work done by the student during the two years of the course. The amount of coursework/controlled assessment varies from subject to subject. The principle of differentiation also applies to coursework, in that students wishing to achieve the highest grades will need to undertake coursework studies at a greater depth. This work is independently completed in controlled conditions meeting exam board criteria. Some research and preparation can take place at home but the final write up will be in school.

BTEC COURSES

BTECs are run by the Edexcel Exam Board. These are vocational qualifications that can be studied at different levels. All BTECs require an element of external examination – details are in the booklet.

Subject Choice

In choosing a suitable programme of subjects for Key Stage 4, students will need to consider the following aspects:

- The requirements of a balanced curriculum
- Subjects in which they have a keen interest
- Subjects in which they have experienced a measure of success (show aptitude). The most recent report and subject evening should give an indication of this.

In the case of new subjects, not available during Key Stage 3, students should seek advice from subject teachers.

Subject choices will be confirmed during the Summer Term. Students will be contacted earlier if there are difficulties with the options chosen.

Viability of Groups

If a small number of requests are received for a subject, making the teaching group size non-viable, the school reserves the right not to offer that subject. Similarly, the teaching group size and the number of teaching groups offered in a given subject will depend entirely on the requests of the students.

Preparation for Your Appointment

Appointments will be booked with SLT week commencing 24 February 2014 at which you will be able to discuss preliminary option choices.

Please take the time to discuss future aspirations and potential careers with your child. All students will be expected to continue in college or employment with training until the age of 18.

Please reference the information sheets that follow on both core and option subjects.

Select possible subject combinations from the following 3 blocks, one subject from each block can be selected.

Option 1	***Option 2***	***Option 3***
BTEC Art	*Res materials*	*Art*
History	*History*	*BTEC SPORT*
French	*Catering*	*GCSE PE*
Drama	*Music*	*Geography*
Geography	*Spanish*	*Textiles*

CURRICULUM

CORE

EXAMINED

MATHS

ENGLISH

SCIENCE

RE

ICT

NON – EXAMINED

PE

OPTIONS – 3 CHOICES FROM THE FOLLOWING:

GCSE Art

Art & Design – BTEC

Drama

French

Geography

History

Hospitality & Catering

Music

Resistant Materials

GCSE PE

Spanish

Sport - BTEC

Textiles

DEFINITIONS

BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATES – run by Edexcel Exam board and are studied at Level 2. Courses are 75% coursework and 25% exam. Students achieve a Pass (C grade), Merit (B grade), Distinction (A grade) or Distinction* (A* grade).

CORE SUBJECT – a subject you must study to the end of KS4

COURSEWORK / CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT – exam work which you do during your course usually assessed by your teacher and often has to be done under controlled conditions

CONTROLLED CONDITIONS – Controlled Assessment that is completed in school, under exam conditions

FINAL / TERMINAL EXAM – an exam that is done at the end of the course

KEY STAGE 3 – Years 7, 8 & 9

KEY STAGE 4 – Years 10 & 11

LEVEL 1 QUALIFICATION – D to G Grade equivalent

LEVEL 2 QUALIFICATION – A* to C equivalent

OPTIONAL SUBJECT – a subject which you can choose to study to the end of KS4

EBacc

The following points are intended to help parents with any questions relating to the Government guidance regarding curriculum changes and the English Baccalaureate:

- The English Baccalaureate is not a qualification in itself – it is intended to recognise achievement across a core of selected academic subjects.
- There has been much debate about which subjects are / are not included e.g. why is Religious Studies not included as a humanity subject.
- We are confident that our Options programme offers all students the opportunity to select a curriculum that is broad and balanced, whilst also allowing students to select courses that are appropriate to them as an individual.
- The English Baccalaureate will cover achievement in English, mathematics, sciences, a language and a humanities subject..

Full GCSEs at grades A*-C and Double Award GCSEs at grades A*A*-CC will count towards its achievement. The subjects you can study at The Howard that are included in the EBacc are:

- GCSE in English
- GCSE in English Language
- GCSE in Mathematics
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics GCSEs (achieve grades A*-C in two of them)
- Science and Additional Science GCSEs
- Science GCSE Double Award
- GCSE in History
- GCSE in Geography
- GCSEs in Modern Foreign Languages

For a list of all qualifications counting towards the English Bacc, including the Awarding Organisations offering them, go to WWW.EDUCATION.GOV.UK/SCHOOLS/TEACHINGANDLEARNING

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GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

CONTACT: MRS S BOLSH

Why study English Language?

The skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening are of vital importance. Not only are they essential in many careers, they also underpin successful study at all levels and a proficiency in them can also add immeasurably to an individual's general quality of life. This course should prepare learners to make informed decisions about further learning opportunities and career choices and to use language to participate effectively in society and employment.

The course will cover:

- Unit 1 Studying written language – Reading: non- fiction texts (30%).
- Unit 2 Using written language – Writing: information and ideas (30%).
- Unit 3 Literary reading and creative writing – Studying written language: extended literary text (15%).
- Using language: creative writing - two assignments – descriptive and narrative (15%).
- Unit 4 Spoken language – Studying spoken language: Variations, choices, change in spoken language (10%).
- Using language: Speaking and Listening - Communicating and adapting language; interacting and responding; creating and sustaining roles (reported separately).

Assessment over the 2 years:

This is a linear specification with assessment over the 2 years and an examination at the end of the course.

Enrichment Opportunities:

Students will be able to get involved in writing competitions both inside and outside of school which might result in getting their work published. They will also have the opportunity to become involved in the school newspaper, as a writer, a proof reader or an editor.

AWARDING BODY: WJEC 500/7910/4	EXAM = 60% (30% AND 30%)	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 40%

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

CONTACT: MRS S BOLSH

Why study English Literature?

The study of Literature can greatly enhance a student's writing skills and practising writing skills can lead a student to increased enjoyment of and success in reading.

English literature requires that learners become critical readers of fiction and non-fiction prose, poetry and drama. They should experience different times, cultures, viewpoints and situations as found in literary texts and explore how texts from different cultures and traditions may reflect or influence values, assumptions and sense of identity.

English literature requires learners to connect ideas, themes and issues, drawing on a range of texts; it requires them to understand that ideas from the English literary heritage have been influential and significant over time and need exploring their meaning today.

The course will cover:

Unit 1 — Different Cultures Prose – Of Mice and Men (Steinbeck) or Anita and Me (Syal) or to Kill a Mockingbird (Lee) or I know Why the Caged Bird Sings (Angelour) or Chanda's Secrets (Stratton)

Contemporary – unseen poetry comparison the preparation for which will include the study of at least fifteen contemporary poems.

Unit 2a — English/Welsh/Irish Literary Heritage Drama - Othello (Shakespeare) or Much Ado About Nothing (Shakespeare) or An Inspector Calls (Priestley) or Hobson's Choice (Brighthouse) or a Taste of Honey (Delaney)

Contemporary Prose – Paddy Clarks Ha Ha Ha Ha (Doyle) or Heroes (Cormier) or Never Let Me go (Shiguro) or About a Boy (Hornby) or Resistance (Sheers)

OR

Unit 2b — Contemporary Drama – The History Boys (Bennett) or Blood Brothers (Russell) or A View from the Bridge (Miller) or Be My Baby (Whittington) or My Mother Said I Never Should (Keatley)

English/Welsh/Irish Literary Heritage Prose - Silas Marner (Elliot) or Pride and Prejudice (Austen) or A Christmas Carol (Dickens) or Lord of the Flies (Golding) or Ash on a Young Man's Sleeve (Abse)

Unit 3 — Poetry and Drama – (literary heritage), stipulated poetry from the WJEC GCSE poetry collection and a play by Shakespeare chosen by the centre (but not Othello or Much Ado About Nothing)

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

CONTACT: MRS S BOLSH

Assessment over the 2 years:

Unit 1 Prose (different cultures) and poetry (contemporary)

Unit 2a Literary heritage drama and contemporary prose

Unit 2b Contemporary drama and literary heritage

Unit 3 Poetry and drama

Enrichment Opportunities:

Visiting Theatre groups

Visits to the Theatre

Visiting Authors

External and Internal poetry competitions

AWARDING BODY: WJEC 600/9507/6	EXAM = 75% (35% AND 40%)	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 25%

GCSE ENGLISH

CONTACT: MRS S BOLSH

Why study English?

The skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening are of vital importance. Not only are they essential in many careers, they also underpin successful study at all levels and a proficiency in them can also add immeasurably to an individual's general quality of life. This course should prepare learners to make informed decisions about further learning opportunities and career choices and to use language to participate effectively in society and employment.

The course will cover:

- Unit 1 English in the daily world (reading) – reading non-fiction texts
- Unit 2 English in the daily world (writing) – writing information and ideas
- Unit 3 English in the world of the imagination – reading literary texts (2 assignments 10% each), heritage poetry and Shakespeare, different cultures prose – Writing open writing 2 assignments 10% each) 1st and 3rd person narrative
- Unit 4 Speaking and Listening reported separately – speaking and listening communicating and adapting language, interacting and responding, creating and sustaining roles

Assessment over the 2 years:

This is a linear specification with assessment over the 2 years and an examination at the end of the course.

Enrichment Opportunities:

Visiting theatre groups
Visits to the theatre
Visiting authors
External and internal poetry competitions

AWARDING BODY: WJEC 500/7913/X	EXAM = 60% (30% READING, 30% WRITING)	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 40%

GCSE MATHEMATICS

CONTACT: MRS J DILLAWAY

Why study Mathematics?

This linear GCSE course encourages students to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards mathematics. It helps students recognise the importance of mathematics in their own lives and to society. The qualification prepares students to make informed decisions about real-life issues e.g. money and provides a foundation for learning opportunities in other subject areas e.g. science, geography and further career options.

The course will cover:

- Developing knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts in number, algebra, geometry, measures, statistics and probability.
- Using knowledge and understanding to make connections between mathematical concepts.
- Applying the functional elements of mathematics in everyday and real-life situations.

Assessment over the 2 years:

- Externally assessed
- Two written papers: one non-calculator paper, one calculator paper
- Each paper lasts: 1 hour 45 minutes
- Tiered papers: Foundation Tier grades C – G available
  Higher Tier grades A*- D available (E allowed)

- Each paper assesses the functional elements of mathematics: 30-40% on Foundation papers and 20-30% on Higher Tier papers

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL SYLLABUS 1MAO	**EXAM = 100%**	

GCSE SCIENCE A

CONTACT: MR S COPE

Why Study GCSE Science A?

GCSE Science A enables you to provide a Key Stage 4 science course for learners of any ability, whether they intend to study science further or not. The specification presents biology, chemistry and physics in separate teaching and learning units, with a choice of two routes for assessment and Controlled Assessment Unit. This course provides a firm foundation for progression to AS and A-level Science. It can be used for the Science component of the English Baccalaureate if grades A*- C are achieved in both Science A and GCSE Additional Science.

The course encourages candidates to:

- Develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of How Science Works
- Develop the 3 sections of substantive content, Biology 1, Chemistry 1 and Physics 1
- Develop and complete the Controlled Assessment (Unit 4)

STEM subjects are integral to the UK's success: the UK is the world's sixth largest manufacturer, engineering turnover is around £800 billion per year, and whilst the UK makes up only 1% of the world's population, we produce 10% of the world's top scientific research. Despite this, it is remarkable to note that even though STEM graduates have the potential to earn amongst the highest salaries of all new recruits, employers are finding it difficult to recruit STEM skilled staff. It is predicted that STEM based employment will triple in the UK in the next decade. The science and skills you learn will enable you to embark on a range of different options at 6th form or college, whether that be scientific courses or not; employers and recruiters appreciate the value of a science GCSE and the skills that it brings.

The skills you will learn and develop include:

- Understanding about science and the world around us by developing your knowledge and understanding of the material, physical and living worlds, the nature of science, its applications and the interrelationships between science and society
- Develop and apply your knowledge and understanding of the scientific process through hypotheses, theories and concepts
- Develop your understanding of the relationships between hypotheses, evidence, theories and explanations
- Develop your awareness of risk and the ability to assess potential risk in the context of potential benefits
- Develop and apply your observational, practical, enquiry and problem-solving skills and understanding in laboratory, field and other learning environments
- Develop your ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions
- Develop your skills in communication, mathematics and the use of technology in scientific contexts.

GCSE SCIENCE A

CONTACT: MR S COPE

Assessment:

See below (Route 1 of GCSE Science A is followed).

How you are assessed:

The course will consist of separate exams in biology, chemistry and physics, together with the Controlled Assessment. ***Note * = Dependent on tier***

Unit 1: Biology 1, B1

- Written paper – **1 hour**
- 60 marks – **25%**
- **Structured questions**
  One/Two* longer response question(s) assessing Quality of Written Communication in a science context.

Unit 2: Chemistry 1, C1

- Written paper – **1 hour**
- 60 marks – **25%**
- **Structured questions**
  One/Two* longer response question(s) assessing Quality of Written Communication in a science context

Unit 3: Physics 1, P1

- Written paper – **1 hour**
- 60 marks – **25%**
- **Structured questions**
  One/Two* longer response question(s) assessing Quality of Written Communication in a science context

Unit 4: Controlled Assessment, ISA

- Investigative Skills Assignment – 2 written assessments plus one or two lessons for practical work and data processing
- 50 marks – **25%**

- Controlled Assessment: Teacher chooses the controlled assessment. Learners complete in science lessons. Marks are verified externally after internal moderation.

AWARDING BODY: AQA SYLLABUS 4405	EXAM = 75%	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 25%

GCSE ADDITIONAL SCIENCE

CONTACT: MR S COPE

Introduction

GCSE Additional Science enables the provision of a Key Stage 4 science course for learners of any ability, whether they intend to study science further or not. The specification presents biology, chemistry and physics in separate teaching and learning units, with a choice of two routes for assessment. The model of Controlled Assessment, Investigative Skills Assignments (ISAs), is straightforward and the previous version proved popular with teachers. This course, when combined with GCSE Science A or GCSE Science B, provides a firm foundation for progression to AS and A-level Science. It can be used for the Science component of the English Baccalaureate if grades A*- C are achieved in both Science A and GCSE Additional Science.

The course encourages candidates to:

- Develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of How Science Works
- Develop the three sections of substantive content, Biology 2, Chemistry 2 and Physics 2
- Develop and complete the Controlled Assessment (Unit 4)

Why should you study this?

STEM subjects are integral to the UK's success: the UK is the world's sixth largest manufacturer, engineering turnover is around £800 billion per year, and whilst the UK makes up only 1% of the world's population, we produce 10% of the world's top scientific research. Despite this, it is remarkable to note that even though STEM graduates have the potential to earn amongst the highest salaries of all new recruits, employers are finding it difficult to recruit STEM skilled staff. It is predicted that STEM based employment will triple in the UK in the next decade. The science and skills you learn will enable you to embark on a range of different options at 6th form or college, whether that be scientific courses or not; employers and recruiters appreciate the value of a science GCSE and the skills that it brings.

The skills you will learn and develop include:

- Understanding about science and the world around us by developing your knowledge and understanding of the material, physical and living worlds, the nature of science, its applications and the interrelationships between science and society
- Develop and apply your knowledge and understanding of the scientific process through hypotheses, theories and concepts
- Develop your understanding of the relationships between hypotheses, evidence, theories and explanations
- Develop your awareness of risk and the ability to assess potential risk in the context of potential benefits
- Develop and apply your observational, practical, enquiry and problem-solving skills and understanding in laboratory, field and other learning environments
- Develop your ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions
- Develop your skills in communication, mathematics and the use of technology in scientific contexts.

GCSE ADDITIONAL SCIENCE

CONTACT: MR S COPE

Assessment:

See Below (Route 1 of GCSE Additional Science is followed).

How you are assessed:

The course will consist of Separate exams in biology, chemistry and physics, together with the Controlled Assessment. ***Note * = Dependent on tier***

Unit 2: Biology 2, B2

- Written paper – **1 hour**
- 60 marks – **25%**
- **Structured questions**
  One/Two* longer response question(s) assessing Quality of Written Communication in a science context.

Unit 2: Chemistry 2, C2

- Written paper – **1 hour**
- 60 marks – **25%**
- **Structured questions**
  One/Two* longer response question(s) assessing Quality of Written Communication in a science context

Unit 3: Physics 2, P2

- Written paper – **1 hour**
- 60 marks – **25%**
- **Structured questions**
  One/Two* longer response question(s) assessing Quality of Written Communication in a science context

Unit 4: Controlled Assessment, ISA

- Investigative Skills Assignment – 2 written assessments plus one or two lessons for practical work and data processing
- 50 marks – **25%**

- Controlled Assessment: Teacher chooses the controlled assessment. Learners ***develop their own hypothesis*** ¥ and complete in science lessons. Marks are verified externally after internal moderation.

Note ¥ = Different from GCSE A Controlled assessment

AWARDING BODY: AQA SYLLABUS 4408	EXAM =75%	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 25%

GCSE FURTHER ADDITIONAL SCIENCE

CONTACT: MR S COPE

Introduction

GCSE Further Additional Science enables you to provide a Key Stage 4 science course for those students who excel in CORE and ADDITIONAL SCIENCE. This is an extra option that students complete in period 6 lessons, after school, from June of Year 10 until the end of Year 11. The course provides those students who wish to complete the triple science units an opportunity to do so and is geared towards those students who wish to study A-levels in Science.

Note: Students that complete Core and Additional Science, achieving a grade BB should* be able to progress onto Science A-levels without completing this course. Entry to this course will be based on a student's year 10 grade(s), effort and organisation as the course is taught off-timetable* in students' own time – therefore, we must select the right students that will be committed to completing the course.
(*Subject to change)

The course encourages candidates to:

- Develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of How Science Works
- Develop the 3 sections of substantive content, Biology 2, Chemistry 2 and Physics 2
- Develop and complete the Controlled Assessment (Unit 4)

Why should you study this?

The extra units studied will give you a more in-depth subject knowledge which is favourable (though not essential) to study A-levels in the sciences at 6th form or college. The course is only suitable to those that are committed to attend the two P6 lessons each week, starting in June Year 10 through to May/June of Year 11. Failure to attend will result in your de-registering from the course. However, what you gain will be an additional GCSE that will effectively allow you to cover all the units for biology, chemistry and physics – **equivalent to (but not equal to)** 3 GCSEs in separate sciences – but achieving 3 GCSEs in Core, additional and further additional science.

GCSE FURTHER ADDITIONAL SCIENCE

CONTACT: MR S COPE

How you are assessed:

The course will consist of separate exams in biology, chemistry and physics, together with the Controlled Assessment. ***Note * = Dependent on tier***

Unit 2: Biology 3, B3

- Written paper – **1 hour**
- 60 marks – **25%**
- **Structured questions**
  One/Two* longer response question(s) assessing Quality of Written Communication in a science context.

Unit 2: Chemistry 3, C3

- Written paper – **1 hour**
- 60 marks – **25%**
- **Structured questions**
  One/Two* longer response question(s) assessing Quality of Written Communication in a science context

Unit 3: Physics 3, P3

- Written paper – **1 hour**
- 60 marks – **25%**
- **Structured questions**
  One/Two* longer response question(s) assessing Quality of Written Communication in a science context

Unit 4: Controlled Assessment, ISA

- Investigative Skills Assignment – 2 written assessments plus one or two lessons for practical work and data processing
- 50 marks – **25%**

- Controlled Assessment: Teacher chooses the controlled assessment. Learners ***develop their own hypothesis*** ¥ and complete in science lessons. Marks are verified externally after internal moderation.

Note ¥ ***= Different from GCSE A Controlled assessment***

AWARDING BODY: AQA SYLLABUS 4410	EXAM = 75%	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 25%

BTEC Level 1/Level 2 first Award in Principles of Applied Science

Contact: Mrs G Oberai

Why study BTEC Science?

Vocational learning in science is critical to enabling technical roles in the STEM sector to be supported. STEM subjects are integral to the UK's success: the UK is the world's sixth largest manufacturer, engineering turnover is around £800 billion per year, and whilst the UK makes up only 1% of the world's population, we produce 10% of the world's top scientific research. Despite this, it is remarkable to note that even though STEM graduates have the potential to earn amongst the highest salaries of all new recruits, employers are finding it difficult to recruit STEM skilled staff. It is predicted that STEM based employment will triple in the UK in the next decade.

Studying the qualification gives you the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of science principles and practice a range of related skills and techniques that are essential for successful performance in working life, not just in a scientific environment. The qualification will also give you the opportunity to enter potential employment within a wide range of science sectors such as process, industrial, medical, or forensic. The qualification also gives you the opportunity to use ICT skills and to present research and model their evidence for the portfolio within a scenario-based context.

The course will cover:

The Principles of Applied Science Award delivers the Key Stage 4 Programme of Study for Science by covering the key scientific principles in applied and vocational contexts leading to an understanding of how the principles are applied in practice. It provides an engaging, robust, broad-based introduction to applied science principles. The underpinning knowledge, understanding and practical skills which make up this qualification reflect the needs of employers and higher and further education professionals. It presents knowledge, skills and understanding in a meaningful work related context to allow learners to understand theory and application.

The qualification is appropriate for the learners of all abilities who will benefit from a practical and applied approach to learning in a vocational context. It has been developed to:

- exemplify scientific principles in vocational contexts, leading to an understanding of how those principles are applied in practice/in the workplace.
- give learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of science principles and practice.
- give learners the opportunity to develop a range of related skills and techniques that are essential for successful performance in working life.
- give opportunities for learners to achieve a nationally recognised level 1 or level 2 science qualification
- support progression into a more specialised level 3 vocational or academic course or into an apprenticeship

BTEC Level 1/Level 2 first Award in Principles of Applied Science

CONTACT: MRS G OBERAI

Assessment over the 2 years:

This is taught over 120 guided learning hours. It has 4 mandatory units. You must complete all mandatory units, at the appropriate level, to achieve the qualification.

This BTEC First Award has units that your centre assesses, internal and a unit that Edexcel sets and marks, external.

- Unit 1 – Principles of Science External, 30 GLH external exam 1 hour
- Unit 2 – Chemistry and Our Earth Internal, 30 GLH, internal
- Unit 3 – Energy and Our Universe Internal, 30 GLH internal
- Unit 4 – Biology and Our Environment Internal, 30 GLH internal

How you will be assessed:

Internal Units:

Each internally assessed unit will be broken down into 3 or 4 assignments. The assignment will be given to you at the start of each learning aim. There are 3 or 4 learning aims per unit. This corresponds to the number of assignments completed by the learner.
Each internally assessed unit has specific assessment criteria that your teacher will use to judge your work in order to arrive at a grading decision for the unit as a whole
For internally assessed units, the assessor judges the evidence that you have presented to determine whether it meets all the relevant criteria and then awards a grade at the appropriate level
The evidence you will produce will be in a variety of forms, such as Power point, practical experiment and/or write up conclusion and evaluation, observation records, presentation, report, model and field work.

The criteria are arrived at with reference to the following:

- Applying knowledge and understanding in vocational and realistic contexts, with reference to relevant concepts and processes, to achieve tasks, produce outcomes and review the success of outcomes.
- Developing and applying practical and technical skills, acting with increasing independence to select and apply skills through processes and with effective use of resources to achieve, explain and review the success of intended outcomes
- Developing generic skills for work through management of self, working in a team and the use of a variety of relevant communication and presentation skills, and the development of critical thinking skills relevant to vocational contexts.

External Units:

The externally assessed units are assessed using a marks-based scheme. For each external assessment, grade boundaries, based on learner performance, will be set by the awarding organisation.

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL SYLLABUS 600/4787/2	EXAM = 25%	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 75%

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CONTACT: MS L STRACHAN

Why study Religious Studies?

"All religions, arts and sciences are branches of the same tree" Albert Einstein. This is an issues-based course which is balanced in terms of breadth and depth giving all students, of any religious persuasion or none, the opportunity to demonstrate their attainment and further their thinking. The course encourages candidates to:

- Adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion
- Explore religions and beliefs, reflect on fundamental questions and engage with them intellectually and respond personally
- Enhance their spiritual and moral development and contribute to their health and wellbeing
- Enhance their personal, social and cultural development, their understanding of different cultures locally, nationally and in the wider world and contribute to social and community cohesion.
- Develop their interest in and enthusiasm for the study of religion and relate it to the wider world
- Reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes in light of their learning.

The course will cover:

In Year 10 study of Unit 1 Religion and Life and in Year 11 progressing onto Unit 8 Religion and Society. Both units are based on a study of Christianity and one other religion; Islam.
Some example sections of the course are – Life and Death, Marriage and the Family, religion and community cohesion, environmental and medical ethics, peace and conflict, and crime and punishment.

Assessment over the 2 years:

- Each unit is assessed through a one and a half hour examination, divided into four sections.
- Students choose one of two questions set for each section – four questions in total.
- There are 84 raw marks in total for each paper. Of the 84 raw marks available, up to 4 raw marks will be awarded for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG)

Now that this is a linear course both units' exams will occur in the summer of 2016

Enrichment Opportunities:

There is a Year 10 trip to the Victoria and Albert Museum to explore the Islamic and Christian galleries. Learning is linked to current new stories, music, TV and film to investigate how beliefs influence action.

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL **SYLLABUS: 2RS01**	**EXAM = 100%**	

ICT – BCS LEVEL 2 IT USER SKILLS

CONTACT: MRS S BALRAI

Why study BCS Level 2 Certificate in IT User Skills?

The subject provides students with skills that they will need for the rest of their lives. The course encourages students to:

- Raise the general level of competency in IT
- Improve productivity at work
- Ensure that the best practice and quality issues are understood and implemented

The aim of this qualification is to recognise the application of a range of IT user skills and knowledge in the workplace, meeting employer workforce demands.

ECDL Extra is a fixed combination and promotes the efficient use of popular office application software including word processing, spread sheets and presentations.

The course will cover:

The course is broken down into 4 modules – word processing, spreadsheet, presentations and improving productivity using IT.

- **Word Processing**: This unit develops the learner's ability to create word processed documents – entering text, editing and formatting work, using graphs, tables and pictures for a professional finish. The learner will also understand how to work more effectively using tool such as the spellchecker and mail merge.

- **Spreadsheet software**: This unit helps learners to develop a working knowledge of spreadsheets, from entering data and formatting worksheets, through to creating charts and producing high quality documents.

- **Presentation software**: The presentation software unit introduces the learner to this important means of business communication. Upon completion, learners will be capable of producing high quality presentations using a variety of tools, including charts, graphs and drawn object.

- **Improving productivity using IT**: This unit build the learner ability to work more effectively with IT. This unit looks at using tools to save time and effort when producing word-processed documents, presentation and spreadsheets.

Assessment over the 2 years:

The course is 100% exam. The students will set 4 online exams in total.

AWARDING BODY: BCS	EXAM = 100%	

GCSE ART

CONTACT: MRS M LISTER

Why study Art?

Studying Art can lead to the following careers:

- Graphic design
- Window dressing
- Fashion design
- Public artist
- Computer graphics
- Hairdressing
- Set designing
- Prop design
- Draftsperson

The course will cover:

Students will explore both themes, surfaces and reflections, and make preparation work to complete final pieces based on each theme. Work will be produced inspired by research of other artists. Materials both in 2D and 3D are explored in depth and final personal responses are made from research.

Assessment over the 2 years:

There are two units to this course:

Unit 1 – Coursework over 2 years made up of two themes – 'surfaces' and 'reflections'.

Unit 2 – Externally set assignment worth 40% of overall mark. This is where students have 10 school weeks to create preparatory work for a 10 hour exam. A question is set by the Exam Board.

Enrichment opportunities:

School props for Drama productions.

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL	EXAM = 40%	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 60%

BTEC Design & Technology: Art and Design

Contact: Miss M Lloyd-Smith

Why study Art & Design?

If you enjoy developing your visual skills, being creative, enthusiastic and imaginative along with experimenting and taking risks with your work then GCSE Art and Design is the ideal subject for you.

You will ideally have some experience of using art materials and processes, together with some knowledge of contemporary and historical art and design. More importantly, you should have a commitment to and love of, the subject and feel motivated to develop your visual skills and express your ideas in working through projects and assignments.

The course will cover:

Art and Design covers a range of activities and in-depth assignments. You will have the opportunity to experiment with different media techniques such as painting and drawing, ceramics, photography, textile design, collage, 3D sculpture and computer graphics.

You will build a comprehensive portfolio of work to progress to further courses or employment. There may be opportunities to work for example, in local design offices, graphic companies and retail or you may choose to be self-employed.

Assessment over the 2 years:

- Unit 1 – Personal Portfolio in Art and Design.
  Internally set and marked, and assessed through controlled assessment.

- Unit 2 – Externally Set Assignment in Art and Design
  Externally set theme and internally marked.

Each unit is assessed separately out of 80 marks. You will be assessed using 4 assessment objectives of develop, review/experiment, record and present.

Enrichment Opportunities:

Visits to galleries, museums, workshops and studios.

Awarding Body: Edexcel Syllabus 5AD01	**Exam = 60%**	**Controlled assessment = 40%**

GCSE Design & Technology: Resistant Materials

Contact: Miss M Lloyd-Smith

Why study Resistant Materials?

The purpose of studying Design and Technology as a subject is to give you an understanding of the way in which people change the world around them to make life easier or more comfortable. This is done by understanding the environment we live in by inventing, designing, adapting, improving and then again re-designing much of what has gone before.

The course will cover:

You will be developing your ability to solve the sort of problems you might meet if you were working in one of these areas:

- **Engineering Design:** Mechanical, Electronic, Automotive
- **Industrial Design:** Product Manufacture
- **Construction Industry**

Resistant Materials' 2 year course allows you to gain knowledge in design and making skills and ICT, particularly computer aided design and computer aided manufacturing. You will be using a wide range of different materials and manufacturing techniques. You will work primarily with a variety of plastics, woods and metals to realise your own designs which will be to a commercial standard

During Year 10, you will complete a series of small projects including a storage system, bookends, birdhouse and pewter casting for trophies/jewellery or key fob.

Assessment over the 2 years:

The GCSE award for D & T: Resistant Materials has only one tier of assessment based on the following:

Controlled Assessment project – the major controlled assessment task requires a single design and make project which should be selected from a list of tasks provided by AQA. The preparation of this is started towards the end of the third term in Year 10. The controlled assessment task will be completed during the first two terms in Year 11. This major controlled assessment task will take up to 45 hours to complete and include a design folio and a finished commercially ready product.

Examination – students will sit one formal external examination by the exam board at the end of Year 11, which contributes to 40% of the over final grade.

Awarding Body: AQA Syllabus 4562	Exam = 40%	Controlled assessment = 60%

GCSE Design & Technology: Resistant Materials

Contact: Miss M Lloyd-Smith

GCSE Design & Technology: Textiles

Contact: Miss M Lloyd-Smith

Why study Textiles?

This exciting course will allow you to work in both areas of fashion and interior design. This will equip you with valuable skills for working in a range of careers including: fashion design, clothing manufacture, textile design and fashion retail and buying.

The course will cover:

During the first two terms you will complete a number of short projects. This will involve designing and making textile products to specified briefs. You will select, test and use a wide range of different textile materials to create desired effects for fashion and interior design. The main emphasis of the projects will be to develop designs that will serve their intended purpose. You will explore materials, the making process and other aspects of technology including the use of CAD/CAM.

By the end of the course you will have developed a range of new skills including:

- Pattern Cutting
- Printing and painting onto fabric
- Designing for fabric
- Garment construction
- Fabric decorative techniques

Assessment over the 2 years:

The GCSE award for D & T: Textiles has only one tier of assessment based on the following:
The major controlled assessment task requires a single design and make project which should be selected from a list of tasks provided by AQA. The preparation of this project starts towards the end of the third term in Year 10. The controlled assessment task will be completed during the first two terms in Year 11. This major controlled assessment task will take up to 45 hours to complete and include a design folio and a finished commercial ready product.

Awarding Body: AQA Syllabus 4570	**Exam = 40%**	**Controlled assessment = 60%**

GCSE DRAMA

CONTACT: MISS E RAZZELL

Why study Drama?

Actor, singer, dancer, writer, director, camera man, producer, critic, work in film and TV, make-up artist, costume designer, composer, journalist, presenter, teacher, agent, public speaker, stage design, lighting, sound, radio, creative writing, drama/dance therapy – these are just some of the directions that drama can take you. It can unlock your inner creativity and imagination as well as helping you build skills such as confidence which can then help you for the rest of your life.

The course will cover:

The course is made up of 3 units:

- Unit 1 – Drama exploration/you need to explore a theme, topic or issue through the use of explorative strategies, drama mediums and dramatic elements
- Unit 2 – Exploring Play Texts/you will look at a play written for the theatre. You will learn how to interpret a play and understand how it works in performance
- Unit 3 – Drama Performance/you will demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of practical drama skills to a live audience. You will create practical work in groups; this could include script work, devised work or a mixture of both.

Assessment over the 2 years:

- Unit 1 - 30% - 6 hour practical work in lessons / 2000 word evaluation of your work
- Unit 2 - 30% - 6 hour practical work in lessons. 1000 word evaluation of your work/2000 word theatre review
- Unit 3 - 40% - externally assessed unit of work. An examiner will visit school to watch your performance.

Enrichment opportunities:

Theatre trips
Workshops – inside and outside of school
Leadership opportunities
School Productions

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL SYLLABUS 2DR01	EXAM = 40%	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 60%

GCSE FRENCH

CONTACT: MRS I ALVAREZ

Why study French?

The study of a language at Key Stage 4 is a requirement for many Universities and further education courses; it promotes the development of communicative, interpersonal and presentational skills.
The ability to speak and understand a foreign language is a highly desirable skill, and sought after by future employers in today's international work place.

The course will cover:

The course will enable pupils to:

- Develop their understanding of the language in a variety of contexts
- Develop the knowledge of the language and language learning skills
- Develop the ability to communicate effectively in French
- Develop the awareness and understanding of French speaking countries and communities

The course develops all four language skills (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) through the study of various topics including:

- Media and culture: Music, Film, Reading, Fashion
- Sport and leisure: Free time, Lifestyle
- Travel and tourism: Holidays, Visitor information
- Home and Environment: Local area
- Future plans, education and work: School, Work experience, College

Assessment over the 2 years:

The GCSE in French consists of four units based on the following skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing.

The GCSE combines controlled assessment of speaking and writing skills (2 tasks per unit) with Foundation or Higher tier external assessments for the listening and reading skills.

Enrichment opportunities:

Study days, external speakers and trips may be organised to increase students' motivation, interest and confidence. This will lead to enhanced examination performance.

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL SYLLABUS 2FR01	EXAM = 40% (20% LISTENING – 20% READING)	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 60% (30% SPEAKING – 30% WRITING)

GCSE: GEOGRAPHY

CONTACT: MR N FOWLER

Why study Geography?

"Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future" – Michael Palin.

There has never been a better or more important time to study geography. With growing interest in issues such as climate change, migration, the environment and social cohesion, geography is one of the most relevant courses you would choose to study. Geographers are also highly employable.
Whatever your passion for the world – fascination with landscapes or concerns about inequality – geography will provide you with knowledge and transferable skills that will reward you personally and advance you professionally.

The course will cover:

It is divided into 4 main topics:

- **Rivers and Coasts: -** the features of rivers, the hydrological cycle and flooding. The ever changing coastal landscape and attempts to manage it.
- **Population and Settlement –** structure, change and management plus migration. Changing settlements including urban land use and the provision of goods and retail services.
- **Natural Hazards –** the distribution, cause and effects of earthquakes and volcanoes, tropical storms and drought. How people can affect and manage the impact of natural hazards.
- **Economic Development –** the development of countries and aid. The location of economic activities and how the environment is affected, including climate change.

Assessment over the 2 years:

- Controlled Assessment – 25% of the total GCSE fieldwork involving the collection of primary data and the production of a report.
- Sustainable Decision Making Exercise (SDME) – 25% of the total GCSE 1 hour 30 mins written paper
- Key themes Exam - 50% of the total GCSE 1 hour 45mins written paper.

Enrichment Opportunities:

Fieldwork – the students travel to Selsey Bill on the South Coast.

AWARDING BODY: OCRB WWW.OCR.ORG.UK/QUALIFICATIONS /GCSE-GEOGRAPHY-B-J385-FROM-2012/	EXAM = 75%	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 25%

GCSE: HISTORY

CONTACT: MISS E EDGE

Why study History?

Studying history provides a useful background and skills set for a wide range of jobs, including politics, journalism and law. This is achieved as the course encourages candidates to reflect on the ways in which the past has shaped our world today to help develop an understanding of international organisations that currently exist. Additionally the course is designed to develop high levels of literacy and critical thinking skills. These skills can also be used across the whole school curriculum. For example, history develops an understanding of how to structure essays under examination conditions which is a skill needed in other subjects such as English.

The course will cover:

Students begin with a depth study on life in Nazi Germany. During this unit students will learn the skills required for all the examination units. Students will learn about the Vietnam War, which will be assessed via a controlled assessment task. In addition students will undertake a crime and punishment through time course, looking at how these have changed over time. The final unit students will study is protest movements of the twentieth century.

Assessment over the 2 years:

The life in Nazi Germany and Crime and Punishment through time examinations are assessed through a range of essay style examination questions. The protest movements' paper is assessed by interpretation and evaluation of historical sources. The controlled assessment on the Vietnam War tests both the skills of essay writing and source interpretation and evaluation.

Enrichment Opportunities:

As part of their study of crime and punishment through time students will have the opportunity to visit the London Dungeons, to sample some ways in which punishments have changed over time.

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL SYLLABUS 2HB01	EXAM = 75%	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 25%

GCSE Design & Technology: Hospitality & Catering

Contact: Mrs W Grantham

Why study Hospitality & Catering?

This course gives students a good basic grounding in all aspects of the Catering industry. It covers a wide range of practical work where students develop a variety of cooking skills. Theory, which underpins the Catering industry and cooking skills, is also taught.

The course will cover:

- The industry – food and drink
- Job roles, employment opportunities and relevant training
- Health, safety and hygiene
- Food preparation, cooking and presentation
- Nutrition and menu planning
- Costing and portion control
- Specialist equipment
- Communication and record keeping
- Environmental considerations

What is needed for the course:

- Chef's whites – short sleeved jacket, apron and skull cap. This can be purchased directly from Nisbet.com or through the school. It costs between £16-18.
- A GCSE WJEC Catering Study and Exam Practice booklet £3.25
- A recipe book – provided by the school.
- Ingredients are supplied for every lesson except when students complete controlled assessment practicals. Each student has to provide the specific ingredients for their dishes.

Expectations:

- Be prepared for every lesson whether theory or practical work
- Keep a good record of work in the folder (s) supplied
- Complete all tasks to best of ability

Assessment over the 2 years:

- Unit 1 Catering skills related to feed preparation and service
  Controlled task, Two practical tasks selected from WJEC set tasks. Internally assessed using WJEC set criteria and externally moderated. Task 1 is in Year 10 and Task 2 is in Year 11.

- Unit 2 Catering, food and the customer
  Written paper (1hr 15 min). One paper which will be externally set and marked. All questions compulsory and targeted at the full range of GCSE grades. The paper will contain short-answer, structured and free response questions drawn from the catering content. This examination will be available either as an electronic assessment or as a traditional paper copy.

Enrichment Opportunities:

All day at Brooklands College – catering experience
Silver Service lunch
TKC Masterchef
Rotary Youth Chef Competition

Awarding Body: WJEC Syllabus 0124	Exam = 40%	Controlled assessment = 60%

GCSE Music

Contact: Miss N Vernon

Why study Music?

In music you will enjoy and appreciate the benefits of being involved in playing music, making music and understanding music. You will become a capable and confident musician who is able to critique and appraise music from a wide variety of genres. You will have the opportunity to perform individually, as a member of an ensemble, and compose music. You should choose this course if you can already play an instrument, or if you are really interested in learning an instrument. This course will enable you to progress to music courses such as A Level, and continue music as in your own time.

The course will cover:

The course is made up of 4 units:

- Unit 1 – Listening to and Appraising Music – You will use the elements of music to describe the music we explore, which will cover a wide range of music from different times and places.
- Unit 2 – Composing and Appraising Music – You will compose one piece of music which is linked to the elements of music and styles of music we study in unit 1. You will also complete an appraisal to explain how you have composed your piece and evaluate the final outcome.
- Unit 3 – Performing Music – You will have the opportunity to perform on your own and as a member of a music ensemble. You perform music of your choice, focusing on developing your ability on your instrument.
- Unit 4 – Composing Music - You will compose one piece of music which is linked to the elements of music in unit 1. The style/genre of this composition is completely your choice!

Assessment over the 2 years:

- Unit 1 – 20% external exam (1 hour, 80 marks)
- Unit 2 – 20 % external assessment (10% composition, 10% appraisal, 40 marks)
- Unit 3 – 40% controlled assessment (20% solo, 20% ensemble, 60 marks)
- Unit 4 – 20% controlled assessment (30 marks)

Enrichment opportunities:

Involvement in extracurricular music activities in school.
Possible opportunities to attend concerts/workshops.

Awarding Body: AQA	Exam = 20%	Controlled assessment = 80% 20% externally assessed 40% internally assessed

GCSE PE

CONTACT: MR N ELLIOTT

Why study GCSE PE?

This course is for students who are practically able and are interested in the theory of physical education. The course is well regarded by colleges and universities alike due to its breadth of content and renowned difficulty. It may lead to a career in the sports industry but can also contribute to GCSE triple science, sociology and psychology. The course is well suited to students who are interested in pursuing a career in a range of industries form medicine to engineering.

The course will cover:

Reasons, benefits and influences on a healthy active lifestyle. Ethical and moral issues surrounding sport including recreational/performance enhancing drugs. Improving your physical and skill related fitness through a training programme. A broad range of sports in order to maximise your possibilities and potential grade

Assessment over the 2 years:

48% You will be assessed in 8 sports, the best 4 of which will be used for your final assessment grade.
12% Fitness programme and analysis of performance which directly relates to one of your four chosen sports
40% Exam which covers all theory elements.

Enrichment opportunities:

Annual climbing trip
Visits from professionals throughout the industry

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL	EXAM = 40% 2 HOUR	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 60% 4 SPORTS PLUS ANALYSIS OF PERFORMANCE & FITNESS PROGRAMME

GCSE SPANISH

CONTACT: MISS I ALVAREZ

Why study Spanish?

The study of a language at Key Stage 4 is a requirement for many Universities and further education courses. It promotes the development of communicative, interpersonal and presentational skills.

The ability to speak and understand a foreign language is a highly desirable skill and sought after by future employers in today's international work placet.

The course will cover:

The course will enable pupils to develop:

- understanding of Spanish in a variety of contexts
- knowledge of Spanish and language learning skills
- the ability to communicate effectively in Spanish
- the awareness and understanding of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken

The course develops all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) through the study of various topics including:

- Media and Culture: Music, Film, Reading, Fashion
- Sport and Leisure: Free time, Lifestyle
- Travel and Tourism: Holidays, Visitor information
- Home and Environment: Local area
- Future plans, education and work: School, Work experience, College

Assessment over the 2 years:

The GCSE in Spanish consists of four units based on the following skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing.

The GCSE combines controlled assessment of speaking and writing skills (2 tasks per unit) with Foundation or Higher tier external assessments for the listening and reading skills.

Enrichment opportunities:

Study days, external speakers and trips may be organised to increase students' motivation, interest and confidence. This will lead to enhanced examination performance.

EDEXCEL https://www.edexcel.com/QUALS/GCSE/GCSE09/MFL/SPANISH/Pages/default.	EXAM = 40%	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 60%

BTEC SPORT

CONTACT: MR N ELLIOTT

Why study Sport?

If you have an interest in sport but are not necessarily practically able, this course would suit you well. It can help you to enter a career in sport as a coach, athlete or even teacher!

The course will cover:

- Fitness for Sport and Exercise – an exam which tests your knowledge of training methods, fitness testing, components of fitness and principles of training.
- Practical Sports Performance – covering the rules, regulations and scoring systems of at least two sports. In addition to this you will also learn about how to coach and lead others in at least two sports.
- The Sports Performer in Action – you will learn about how the body adapts to exercise and how the different energy systems are used during sports performance.
- Training for Personal Fitness – here you will devise, carry out and evaluate a training programme which will improve your physical performance.

Assessment over the 2 years:

75% Coursework
25% Exam

Enrichment opportunities:

Opportunities to represent the school in extra-curricular activities.
Trips to the gym and visits from professionals throughout the industry.

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL SYLLABUS	EXAM = 25% ON LINE 1 HOUR	CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT = 75%

THOMAS KNYVETT COLLEGE

"Bringing out the best"

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Stanwell Road, Ashford, Middlesex, TW15 3DU

Tel: 01784 243824 Fax: 01784 240050

www.thomasknyvett.org