

St Mary's High School

Key Stage 4 Prospectus



www.stmarysnewry.com

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Welcome

Dear Student



Over the next few weeks, you will be making very important decisions regarding your future. This booklet is designed to help you make decisions about the subjects you would like to study for the next two years.

The decisions you make now will affect your future, so you should consider your options thoroughly and not rush your decision. Consult your parents and teachers and together choose the subjects you will enjoy studying in Year 11 and 12.

Some people know which career they want to go into, while others do not. We are all different, so don't worry if you're not sure which career you would like to do after you've finished studying. It's important that you choose a subject for the right reasons. You should genuinely enjoy a subject and want to develop your skills in it, with a view to progressing into further education or a career in that area. Before you make your decisions, you should consider:

- What career you are interested in?
- What subjects do you **need** to study?
- What subjects do you like best and which ones you are best at?

Your Key Stage profile is a significant factor in determining which degree course and indeed which Higher Education Institution you will be offered a place at in future years.

When selecting your subjects, be aware that whilst many degree and higher education courses do not require specific subjects, others do. For example, many of the allied health professions require a science at A level while many Nursing courses with require Single Award or Double Award Science at GCSE.

Please ensure you check the University entrance requirements for any courses you are currently interested in. This will ensure the choices you make now will enable you to access your ideal profession. Please consider the above information carefully before making your decision and please do not hesitate to contact your Careers Teacher or myself if you require any further information. I hope that after reading this booklet many of you will know what courses to study next year and realise that in St Mary's you will have the opportunity to be guided and supported.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Kidd
Head of KS4 C.E.I.A.G & Geography



Careers Education And Guidance

Careers Education and Guidance is a very important part of the curriculum in St Mary's. During dedicated careers classes students will investigate all the career pathways open to them after completing two years of GCSE study.

Students will:

- ❖ Explore their personal skills and attributes
- ❖ Investigate appropriate career opportunities
- ❖ Complete a CV and Letter of Application
- ❖ Complete a personal statement
- ❖ Discover what employers are looking for
- ❖ Investigate Recruitment & Selection Procedures
- ❖ Research Post 16 Study Options
- ❖ Complete a Personal Career Plan following an interview with the DEL Careers Advisor in Year 12



Personal Development

Student welfare is very important and throughout your studies you will be supported as you grow and develop in a learning environment that will allow you to reach your full potential.

Students follow a comprehensive Personal Development (PD) Programme which gives them the knowledge and skills to grow and develop into confident young adults ready to progress to higher studies or employment.

Over the two years of GCSE study students explore various aspects of their own personal development including relationships, parenting, self-awareness and much more.



GCSE

Art and Design

Subject Brief

Art and Design provides a great opportunity for pupils to communicate their ideas and feelings visually and exploit their natural curiosity about the world around them. It has a vital role to play in the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum and there are a wide range of career opportunities available for those with a creative mind.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Unit 1: Part A	Drawing and Mixed Media Exploratory portfolio 25%
Unit 2: Part B	Investigating the Creative and Cultural Industries. Portfolio Assessment 35%

Year 12

Unit 2: Part B	Continued, exploration of experimental media and production of a final outcome. Portfolio Assessment 35%
Unit 4	The Externally Set Assignment, Portfolio Assessment 40%

Career Opportunity

- ❖ Animator
- ❖ Advertising
- ❖ Architect
- ❖ Therapist
- ❖ Designer
- ❖ Fine Artist
- ❖ Illustrator
- ❖ Photographer



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Component One PART A Drawing and Mixed Media	The Exploratory Portfolio This unit gives pupils the opportunity to work on and improve their drawing and experimental media skills. Pupils will be introduced to the work of artists and craftspeople, identifying how they can influence their work and they will explore all the 'Visual Elements' through a series of creative workshops, introducing Ceramics, Textiles, Print-Making, Painting and Sculptural form.	Portfolio Assessment 25%
Component One PART B Textiles and Printmaking	Investigating The Creative and Cultural Industries Pupils will complete either: An investigation into an artist, designer or art movement leading to a final personal response in either 2 or 3 dimensions A response to a design brief or visual Arts commission Participation in a collaborative Arts Project with a clearly defined role leading to a final outcome that is presented for individual assessment. Students will build upon the knowledge, skills and confidence gained during Part A of the course. They will engage with and demonstrate an understanding of the varied roles within the creative and cultural industries.	Portfolio Assessment 35%

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Component One PART B Completion of This Module	Students will explore and experiment with relevant media, materials, techniques, processes and technologies in response to their task. They will develop and refine their skills as their project progresses. They will produce a personal final outcome which will showcase their creativity contextual understanding and independent thinking.	Portfolio Assessment Part A + B Coursework 60%
Component Two THE EXAM PAPER 2 & 3 Dimensional	Pupils will receive their exam paper in term 2 of year 12 and will respond to the given theme through the areas covered through the course content. They will create a final outcome in either 2 or 3 dimensions.	External Assessment 40%

Why Study it?

- ❖ You have a creative mind.
- ❖ You enjoy exploring and experimenting with new materials.
- ❖ You want a career in an Art related area.
- ❖ You can work independently and with others.

GCSE Business & Communication Systems

Subject Brief

Business and Communication Systems is an exciting and practical subject that recognises how ICT is central to all businesses. Students investigate how businesses are set up and explore how they market/sell their products and manage staff. The course allows students to develop their ICT skills.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Unit 1	Software Applications for Business External Exam
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Year 12

Unit 2	The Business Environment: External Exam
Unit 3	Developing Digital Solutions: Coursework

Careers Opportunity

Many Students progress to study Business at 'A' Level. This subject is relevant to the following jobs:

- ❖ Business Management
- ❖ Accountancy
- ❖ Website Designers
- ❖ Marketing
- ❖ Human Resources
- ❖ Teaching
- ❖ Law
- ❖ Systems Analyst



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Topic 1 Software Applications for business	Students develop their ICT skills using the following software packages: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Word processing❖ Spreadsheets❖ Charts❖ Databases❖ Presentations❖ Using the Internet & E-mail❖ Web Design	Assessment 2-hour computer based test – student's complete tasks using a range of software Applications - 40%

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Topic 2 The Business Environment	Students investigate how to set up a business including the marketing of products / services and the management of staff as well as the implications of digital technology for business.	Assessment 1-hour written Paper – 35%
Topic 3 Developing Digital Solutions Coursework	Students project manage and develop a digital solution for a given problem within a business context. Controlled Assessment – 3 tasks, set by CCEA and reviewed each year.	Assessment Coursework - 25%

Why Study it?

- ❖ You have an interest in the world of business.
- ❖ You want to develop your ICT skills.
- ❖ You are interested in website design.
- ❖ You are interested in business and the world of work.
- ❖ You enjoy working with computers.

GCSE Business Studies

Subject Brief

Business Studies provides students with a unique insight into the world of work. Students discover how businesses are set up and operate in the local and global economy. Business Studies is a very popular subject at GCSE and students throughout their two years of study take part in a range of industrial visits and investigate local businesses.

Business Studies is a stepping stone to a whole range of future opportunities. The skills you develop will support you in future studies and/or employment and for future roles as active citizens.

Studying Business Studies will help students gain knowledge and understanding of businesses, how they operate and the roles of various stakeholders. Students will learn how businesses start up, what is required to keep them going and the challenges they face.

Awarding Body



Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Starting a Business Exam	Exam 40%
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Year 12

Developing a business Exam	Exam 40%
Controlled Assessment Coursework	20%



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Topic 1 Starting a Business	Unit 1 is assessed in an external written examination. The unit introduces students to the fundamentals of starting a business, resources needed, stakeholders, marketing, e-business, m-business and business operations.	Exam at the end of Year 11 40%

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Topic 2 Developing a Business	Unit 2 is assessed in an external written examination. Students examine human resources, including recruitment and selection, appraisal, training, motivation, business growth and finance.	Exam at end of Year 12 40%
Controlled Assignment	Unit 3 Is assessed in a controlled assessment task. Students carry out a research task and examine and evaluate a business plan, communicating their findings in a structured report writing task.	Coursework 20%

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Advertising
- ❖ Banking
- ❖ Retail
- ❖ Human Resources
- ❖ Law
- ❖ Marketing
- ❖ Public Relations
- ❖ Management
- ❖ Marketing
- ❖ Self-Employment
- ❖ Teaching

OCN Extended Certificate in Early Years, Learning, Care & Development

Subject Brief

The Extended Certificate in Early Years, Learning, Care and Development gives learners the opportunity to gain a broad knowledge and understanding of child development and growth, learning through play and how meeting the needs of individual children will support their overall development. Learners will apply their knowledge and skills required for working in the area of early years and develop essential skills and attributes valued by employers and further or higher education.

Awarding Body **edexcel** 

Course Structure and Assessment

Unit 1	Health and Safety in an Early Years Setting
Unit 2	Safeguarding Children
Unit 3	Child Development – Birth to 5 years
Unit 4	Children's Social and Emotional Development
Unit 5	Developing Language and Communication Skills in Children
Unit 6	Food and Nutrition for Young Children
Unit 7	Mindfulness and Reducing Anxiety in Children
Unit 8	Understand the Principles and Values within Early Years
Unit 9	The Importance of Play in a Child's Development
Unit 10	Understanding Pregnancy and the Newborn Baby
Unit 11	Working withing an Early Years Setting

Career Opportunities

- ❖ Crèche / Nursery Assistant
- ❖ Counsellor
- ❖ Early Years Teacher
- ❖ Teaching Assistant
- Social Worker
- Childminder
- Children's Nurse
- Paediatrician



Subject Guide

TOPIC	CONTENT
Health and Safety in an Early Years Setting	In this unit we study the different responsibilities relating to health and safety in an early years setting as well as the role of adults in preventing accidents and reducing the spread of infections.
Understanding Pregnancy and the Newborn Baby	Students will learn about the signs, stages and possible complications during pregnancy as well as the importance of maintaining a healthy diet and lifestyle. Students will gain an understanding of the purpose of antenatal care and the role of health professionals.
Food and Nutrition for Young Children	Students will understand the importance of a healthy balanced diet for children's growth and development. They will examine how adults can encourage children to make healthy food choices. Pupils will explore a range of food allergies and intolerances that require special dietary requirements.

Why Study it?

- ❖ This qualification provides opportunities for learners to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities and attributes essential for success in the Early Years sector.
- ❖ Provides a good progression route to more advanced qualifications e.g. BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Children's Play, Learning and Development.

GCSE Drama

Subject Brief

This subject gives the student the opportunity to enjoy Drama in all its forms, Acting, Mime, Dance and improvisation. Students will develop their acting and performance skills in a practical performance.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Practical Skills developed in Acting, Mime, Dance and Improvisation work throughout the two years.
Devised performance and rehearsal log 25%
Performance in acting based on a set play. 35%
Written Exam 40%

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Progress to 'A' Level in Performance Studies
- ❖ Progress to BTEC in Performing Arts
- ❖ Teaching - Primary & Secondary
- ❖ Script Writer
- ❖ Director
- ❖ Theatre Work – Technical & Lighting
- ❖ Actor
- ❖ Barrister
- ❖ Play/Film critic



Subject Guide

Year 11/12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Devised Performance	Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Present a group performance❖ Submit a written log of rehearsals	25%
Scripted Performance	Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Study a play of their choice. Then they present a group performance of their interpretation of it.	35%
Written Paper	Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Answer three questions using one set text.	40% External Exam at the end of Year 12

Why Study it?

Increases your self-confidence.

Develops your ability to express ideas and emotions.

Develops negotiation skills and improve concentration

Appreciate and understand live theatre and dramatic texts.

Advance team working and performance skills

Gain an opportunity to complete a Level 2 Certificate in Performance Skills

Level 2 Performance Skills

This subject gives the student the opportunity to enjoy Drama and Music in all its forms. It allows pupils to examine the Professional Acting and Music World as well as developing their acting and performance skills in a practical performance.

Awarding Body CCEA

Course Structure and Assessment: 100% Portfolio Based Assessment

A pass in this qualification is equivalent to a grade B at GCSE

This is a coursework based qualification with three units of work making up the coursework folder. A practical performance is also required to gain the Level 2 Qualification.

English Language

Subject Brief

In English Language you will continue to participate in a variety of reading, writing, talking and listening activities. You will continue to develop your writing skills incorporating creative, personal and functional writing for a varied audience. You will also study literature including prose, poetry and plays.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Unit 1	Writing for purpose and audience and Reading to Access Non Fiction and Media Texts.
Unit 2	Speaking and Listening
Unit 3	Studying Spoken and Written Language
Unit 4	Personal or Creative Writing and Reading Literary and Non Fiction texts

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ English Teacher
- ❖ Barrister
- ❖ Actor
- ❖ Journalist
- ❖ Researcher
- ❖ Script Writer
- ❖ Press Office
- ❖ Librarian
- ❖ Primary School Teacher
- ❖ Information Officer
- ❖ Secretary



Subject Guide

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 1	Writing for Purpose and Audience and Reading to Access Non - Fiction and Media Texts	Year 12 Examination 30%
Unit 2	Speaking and Listening	Controlled Assessment (throughout years 11 and 12) 20%
Unit 3	Studying Spoken and Written language	Controlled Assessment 20%
Unit 4	Personal or Creative Writing and Reading Literary Non - Fiction Texts	Year 12 Examination 30%

Why Study it?

- Compulsory GCSE for all students.
- Required for future studies and employment.
- Develops essential communication skills in reading, writing, talking and listening.

GCSE English Literature

Subject Brief

GCSE English Literature involves reading and studying a variety of texts in depth, including prose, drama and poetry. This is a very intensive GCSE that requires a great deal of independent work, dedication and attendance at after school classes.

Pupils must be keen readers and have a flair for and love of English.

Awarding Body



Course Structure and Assessment

Unit 1	The Study of Prose
Unit 2	The Study of Shakespeare
Unit 3	The Study of Drama and Poetry

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ All Careers
- ❖ Teacher
- ❖ Journalist
- ❖ Secretary
- ❖ Writer
- ❖ Solicitor
- ❖ Researcher
- ❖ Web Author
- ❖ Press Officer
- ❖ Librarian
- ❖ Information Officer



Subject Guide

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 1	The Study of Prose	Year 11 Examination 30%
Unit 2	The Study of Shakespeare	Year 12 Controlled Assessment 20%
Unit 3	The Study of Drama and Poetry	Year 12 Examination 50%

Why Study it?

- ❖ You enjoy reading widely.
- ❖ You want the opportunity to study Literature in depth.
- ❖ To develop writing skills.
- ❖ To progress to study 'A' Level

GCSE FRENCH

Subject Brief

GCSE French is a 2 year course which develops the benefits and joys of learning to speak a language. French is spoken in 52 countries in the world and is ranked the second most influential language in the world. Learning a language not only helps you to get to know about other countries, it opens your mind to new ideas and ways of looking at the world. Learning a language helps you understand your own and increases your employability.

Awarding Body



Course Structure and Assessment

Identity, Lifestyle and Culture

Local, National, International and Global Areas of interest

School life, studies and the World of Work

Unit 1	Listening paper Exam	25%
Unit 2	Speaking exam Exam	25%
Unit 3	Reading paper Exam	25%
Unit 4	Writing paper Exam	25%

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Leisure and Tourism
- ❖ Teacher
- ❖ Translating and Interpreting
- ❖ Law
- ❖ Business/international Business
- ❖ Diplomatic Service
- ❖ International Agencies
- ❖ Journalism



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Relationships and Choices	Me, my family, my friends, what I like to do	1 Written and 1 Speaking Task
Leisure	Free time and the media, new technology, hobbies, music, TV, dance.	1 Written and 1 Speaking Task
Home and Environment	My home town, neighbourhood and region, including my house and bedroom	1 Written and 1 Speaking Task
Leisure	Shopping, fashion, making plans and special occasions, customs and celebrations	1 Written and 1 Speaking Task
Work and Education	School, part time job and work experience, future plans and career. Extra-curricular activities.	1 Written and 1 Speaking Task

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Tourism	Holidays, weather and holiday plans	1 Written and 1 Speaking Task
Lifestyle	Healthy / unhealthy choices and keeping fit Social and global issues. Community involvement.	1 Written and 1 Speaking Task
The Environment	The world in danger, problems facing the Environment and solutions.	1 Written and 1 Speaking Task

Students should be able to investigate, understand, describe, discuss and give opinions on topics.

Why Study it?

- ❖ Increases problem solving skills, memory and self-discipline.
- ❖ It is the official working language of many international organisations such as the United Nations.
- ❖ The Department invites a French Theatre Company each year.
- ❖ We use interactive software.
- ❖ Course to download on our VLE Materials available.

GCSE Further Mathematics

Subject Brief

Further Maths involves studying Mathematics beyond GCSE Higher Tier.

Students who intend to study Mathematics at A-Level are strongly advised to choose Further Mathematics at GCSE. The specification provides a sound basis for further study of Maths at AS/A2 Level and related subjects at a more advanced level.

Students will use real life scenarios to help see how Further Mathematics is relevant to other subject areas, the world of work and to wider society.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Unit 1 <i>Pure Mathematics</i>	External written examination with calculator – 2 hours	50%
Unit 2 <i>Mechanics</i>	External written examination with calculator – 1 hour	25%
Unit 3 <i>Statistics</i>	External written examination with calculator – 1 hour	25%

Career Opportunities

Many students progress to study Mathematics at A-Level.

This subject is relevant to the following jobs:

- ❖ Finance
- ❖ Accountancy
- ❖ Maths Teacher
- ❖ Quantity Surveyor
- ❖ Architect
- ❖ Teaching
- ❖ Engineer
- ❖ Computer Programming



Subject Guide

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Pure Mathematics	Unit 1: Pure Mathematics Students investigate Algebra, Trigonometry, Differentiation, Integration, Logarithms and Matrices.	External written examination in with calculator 2 hours
Mechanics	Unit 2: Mechanics Students explore Kinematics, Vectors, Forces, Newton's Laws of Motion and Moments.	External written examination in with calculator 1 hour
Statistics	Unit 3: Statistics Students will have opportunities to gain understanding of using Statistical Terminology, Measures of Central Tendency and Dispersion, Probability, Bivariate Analysis, Binomial and Normal distributions.	External written examination in with calculator 1 hour

Why Study it?

- ❖ If you have an interest in Mathematics and enjoy studying it.
- ❖ Maths teaches you logical thought.
- ❖ If you enjoy solving problems and analysing situations.
- ❖ Maths is a highly desirable subject and is becoming increasingly important within employment and in Higher Education.
- ❖ The skills developed in Further Mathematics can be applied to any area of work.

GCSE Geography

Subject Brief

Geography offers a diverse range of learning opportunities for students to continue to develop as individuals and as contributors to society, as well as to the economy and the environment.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Living in Our Natural World

Population and Migration
Changing Urban Environments
Contrasts in world development
Managing Our Environment
40% Exam

Year 12

Understanding Our Natural World

River Environments
Coastal Environments
Our Changing Weather & Climate
The Restless Earth
40% Exam

Field Work

20% Exam

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Teaching
- ❖ Surveying & Planning
- ❖ Landscape Architecture
- ❖ Recreation
- ❖ Computing
- ❖ Land Management
- ❖ Tourism
- Business Management
- Export Marketing
- National Trust
- Geology
- Meteorology
- Environmental Studies
- Cartography (Map Making)



Subject Guide

Year 11 – Living in Our Natural World

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Population and Migration	In this unit you will study population, people and where they live. You will have the opportunity to investigate topical issues such as migration streams within the EU, and reflect on the consequences of population change.	
Changing Urban Environments	This unit investigates how our urban environments change and the issues faced in MEDCs and LEDCs across the world.	
Contrasts in World Development	This unit enables you to reflect on the differences in world development across the world, and consider strategies which have been put in place to lessen this divide.	
Managing Our Environment	You will explore the impact of our growing reliance on resources. You will evaluate potential solutions to this growing problem.	External Examination (40%)

Year 12 – Understanding Our Natural World

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
The Dynamic Landscape	In this unit you will study, the Drainage Basin, the Water Cycle, River processes and features for e.g. Waterfalls, meanders and floodplains.	
Coastal Environments	You will also study Coastal Processes and Features and Sustainable Management of Rivers and Coasts.	
Weather and Climate	You will study elements of the weather, weather systems and interpret synoptic charts and satellite images as well as the causes and consequences of climate change.	
Restless Earth	This unit covers basic rock types, plate type tectonics, crustal movements and plate margins, You will study earthquakes, volcanoes and their effects.	External Examination (40%)

Fieldwork

Fieldwork accounts for 20% of the total GCSE. A field study will be carried out in Year 12 and understanding tested in a 1-hour external examination

Why Study it?

- ❖ You have an interest in what is happening in the world around you.
- ❖ You enjoy learning about a range of places and environments both
- ❖ local and global.
- ❖ You enjoy discussing and debating topical issues.
- ❖ You want to develop your research and ICT skills.

GCSE Health & Social Care

Subject Brief

GCSE Health and Social Care is an exciting subject which aims to increase your knowledge of the world of work in health, Social care, early years and children's services. You will study human growth and development through life stages and the factors affecting relationships.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Unit 1

Personal Development

External GCSE Exam in May/June - 1hr 30mins and worth 50% of overall GCSE

Year 12

Unit 2

Working in Health and Social Care

Internal Assessment involving three Controlled Assessment Tasks worth 50% of overall GCSE

Careers Opportunity

Many students progress to study Health and Social Care 'A' Level. This subject is particularly relevant to the following jobs:

- ❖ Nursing
- ❖ Classroom assistant
- ❖ Midwifery
- ❖ Social Work
- ❖ Teaching
- ❖ Crèche Assistant
- ❖ Occupational Therapist
- ❖ Dental Hygienist
- ❖ Veterinary/Dental Nurse



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 1 Personal Development	In this unit you will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study human growth and development • Examine factors affecting human growth & development • Identify different relationships you will meet in life • Build on self – esteem • Identify unhealthy relationships, (such as bullying and abuse) • Demonstrate the understanding of the term self-concept 	External Assessment 50%

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 2 Working in Health and Social Care	In this unit you will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study the main employment sectors in Health and Social Care, • Job roles in early years and children's services • How to provide quality care • How to recognise the physical and intellectual needs of different groups. • How to refer to other agencies 	Internal Assessment 3 Controlled Assessments 50%

Why Study it?

- ❖ If you have an interest in helping people
- ❖ If you have a caring nature
- ❖ If you like working with children, young people and senior citizens
- ❖ If you want to make a difference in the lives of others
- ❖ If you have an interest in self-development and awareness

GCSE History

Subject Brief

History is a thorough and exciting course which allows you to critically investigate the impact of significant events and ideas of the 20th century.

You will develop skills including critical analysis, communication, report writing and much more.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Unit 1	Nazi Germany 1933-45
Unit 2	Changing Relationships Britain and N. Ireland 1965-98

Year 12

Unit 3	Outline Study: International Relations 1945-2003
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Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Solicitor
- ❖ Journalist
- ❖ Barrister
- ❖ Historical Writer / Editor
- ❖ Museum Attendant
- ❖ Actor
- ❖ Teacher



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Life in Nazi Germany 1933-45	Section A: Students focus on the impact of the Nazi dictatorship on people's lives in Germany. Students explore the interplay of political, economic, social and racial forces in Germany at this time.	Exam Summer End of Year 11 External written examination 1 hour 45 minutes 30%
Changing Relations: Northern Ireland and its Neighbours, 1965–98	Section B: Students focus on the changing relationships between Northern Ireland, Britain and the Republic of Ireland, and among the different communities in Northern Ireland, against the backdrop of political and civil unrest. Students also explore the introduction of direct rule, the increase in paramilitary violence, the attempts to find a political solution and the impact on Northern Ireland and its neighbours.	Exam Summer End of Year 11 30%

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 2: Outline Study International Relations, 1945 – 2003	External written examination 1 hour 15 mins Students answer six questions. The paper includes source - based questions, a structured question and an essay question.	Exam Summer End of Year 12 40%

Why Study it?

- It provides you with a knowledge of the world around you and the factors that have affected our identity, culture and lifestyle.
- It helps you become a more critical thinker and make reasoned judgements.
- It is one of the subjects all employers desire.

GCSE

Home Economics

Food and Nutrition

Subject Brief

Home Economics in modern society is currently enjoying a very high profile. Health and money management issues are the central focus of this subject and are of great media and social interest. The health and well being of society depends on the knowledge and skills developed through the study of Home Economics. In the present social and economic climate, Home Economics emerges as a vital tool for positive improvements to health and society in general. Currently, career opportunities are important, extensive and exciting – at every level.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Formal Examination Paper 2 Hrs	50%
1 controlled internal assessment Task which includes: 1 Practical Exam – 3 hours	50%

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Home Economist
- ❖ Dietician
- ❖ Nutritionist
- ❖ Recipe Development
- ❖ Marketing
- ❖ Food Journalism
- ❖ Food Supply Management
- ❖ Microbiologist
- ❖ Teaching
- ❖ Chef
- ❖ Demonstrating
- ❖ Food Photography
- ❖ Hospitality and Tourism Management
- ❖ Advertising
- ❖ Restaurateur
- ❖ Environmental Health



Subject Guide

Students will follow the Northern Ireland GCSE course (CCEA) This new course gives students the opportunity to explore topics in depth such as:

- ❖ Current nutritional advice and implications for health.
- ❖ Diet related disorders.
- ❖ Practical cookery skills.
- ❖ Consumer rights and responsibilities.
- ❖ Food provenance and processing.
- ❖ Environmental and ethical issues.
- ❖ Budgeting for families and individuals.

Why Study it?

- ❖ You enjoy cooking and have good practical skills.
- ❖ You are willing to be adventurous with food.
- ❖ You are keen to investigate issues relating to Diet and Health.
- ❖ You are interested in Consumer Rights, environmental and ethical issues with regard to the food supply and health.
- ❖ You like leading and working with other people.
- ❖ There are many career and business opportunities linked to Food and Nutrition.

OCN NI Certificate in Information Technology Applications

Subject Brief

This course will provide students with an opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the Information Technology sector. Students will explore technology and gain practical skills, knowledge and understanding to design and implement information technology systems using a range of software applications.

Awarding Body  ocn
northern ireland

Course Structure and Assessment

100% Portfolio Based Assessment

There are a range of Assessment methods that may be used in the units you will study. Some are listed below:

- System Development
- Producing Documents
- Observations
- Interviews

Careers Opportunity

IT qualifications provide students with the technical knowledge, skills and understanding needed in a world increasingly dominated by computers.

The study of IT can also lead to careers in:

- ❖ IT & Computer Science
- ❖ Multimedia/Website Design
- ❖ Networking
- ❖ Business and Business Management
- ❖ Software Development



Subject Guide

“Nine out of ten new jobs require people with IT user skills”. OCN NI IT

So having a good grasp of Information and Communication technologies is not an **option** but an **essential** skill in today’s fast moving world.

This qualification has been developed to provide opportunities for pupils to acquire a solid grounding and practical skills in **IT**.

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
UNIT: Website Software	This unit, will enable the pupil to develop, test and a multimedia website. This unit develops skills in digital animation, graphics, video and audio.	Portfolio Assessment
UNIT: Database Software	This unit will enable the pupil to understand how to use database software. You will learn the components of database design Implement and evaluate a database.	Portfolio Assessment
UNIT: Spreadsheet Software	This unit will enable the pupil to learn how to use spreadsheet software. You will plan, present and format spreadsheet information effectively to meet requirements.	Portfolio Assessment
UNIT: Presentation Software	This unit will enable the pupil to learn how to use presentation Software to develop a collection of documents that shows evidence of progression and software knowledge with presentation software.	Portfolio Assessment
UNIT: ICT User Fundamentals	This unit will enable the pupil to understand the component parts that make up a computer system. This is a theoretical unit of study.	Portfolio Assessment

Why Study it?

- ❖ Computers are everywhere in today’s environment.
- ❖ Nine out of ten jobs require people with IT skills.
- ❖ IT skills are needed whatever career you want to choose.
- ❖ You can use your IT skills in other subjects as you become skilled in
 - ❖ using various hardware and software.
 - ❖ IT skills are valued and used in many university courses.
 - ❖ IT skills are required by employers.

GCSE LLW

Subject Brief

LLW is an exciting subject which embraces aspects of our personal/human development and social performance. It encourages maturity, fosters open mindedness and supports understanding and involvement in the political decision making process which affect us as individuals in a democratic society. More specifically it provides the tool with which we equip ourselves to cope with the challenges of living, working and participating positively in modern society.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

The Course is made up of 3 modules:

Personal Development
Employability
Citizenship

Each module will be examined individually over the 2 years of study. The course also includes a Controlled Assessment Task

Modules:

Personal Development

Employability

Citizenship

Total = 60%

CAT

Total = 40%

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Local Council
- ❖ Environmental Health
- ❖ Employment Recruitment
- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Media
- Public Office
- Public Relations
- Social Work
- Teaching
- Leisure & Tourism



Subject Guide

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 1	Local and Global Citizenship	External Examination 20%
Unit 2	Personal Development	External Examination 20%
Unit 3	Employability	External Examination 20%
Report 1	Controlled Assessment Task completed in school	40%

Why Study it?

- ❖ The subject material is most relevant to the real life of students.
- ❖ To become more curious of your society, its make-up and functions.
- ❖ To learn about the decision making processes that impact our lives now and in the future.
- ❖ To discover your individual responsibilities and potential to influence how society evolves.
- ❖ If you enjoy being a leader and working with others to change things important to you.
- ❖ To become an open minded independent and informed citizen.
- ❖ If you have an interest in health, the environment, your society or politics

GCSE Mathematics

Subject Brief

All Year 11 and 12 students follow a GCSE Mathematics course. We offer both Higher Tier and Foundation Tier Mathematics under the CCEA Examinations Board.

The Higher Tier is designed for pupils who are capable of achieving grades in the range A* – C and the Foundation Tier is designed for pupils who are capable of achieving grades in the range of C* – G.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Unit	M1 or M2 (Foundation Tier) – 1 hour 45 mins	45%
	M3 or M4 (Higher Tier) – 2 hours	
Unit Test	External written exam with calculator – 1 paper	

Students sit their Unit Test at the end of Year 11

Year 12

Completion Unit	M5 or M6 (Foundation Tier) – 2 hours	55%
	M7 or M8 (Higher Tier) – 2 hours 30 mins	
Completion Test	Two external written exams: Calculator – 1 paper Non-Calculator – 1 paper	

Career Opportunities

- ❖ Teacher
- ❖ Bank Officer
- ❖ Shopkeeper
- ❖ Quantity Surveyor
- ❖ Engineer
- ❖ Factory Manager
- ❖ Logistics
- ❖ Accountant
- ❖ Technician
- ❖ Computer Programmer
- ❖ Financial Advisor
- ❖ Craftsperson
- ❖ Nurse



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Module 1 Calculator Paper	A range of topics are studied in preparation for the first Mathematics Paper whether students are entered for Higher or Foundation. These topics include aspects of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number• Algebra• Geometry & Measures• Statistics	Module M1 or M2 (Foundation) M3 or M4 (Higher)

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Completion Test 1 Calculator Paper 1 Non-calculator Paper	A Range of topics are studied in preparation for the second Mathematics Paper whether students are entered for Higher or Foundation. These topics include aspects of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number• Algebra• Geometry & Measures• Statistics• Probability	Completion Test M5 or M6 (Foundation) M7 or M8 (Higher)

Why Study it?

- ❖ Mathematics is a very important skill used in all aspects of life.
- ❖ GCSE Mathematics is essential for progression to further studies or employment.
- ❖ It is used to analyse and communicate information and ideas, to address a range of practical tasks and real-life problems.
- ❖ It is vital that all pupils become life-long Mathematical learners to be successful in society and in the world of work.

GCSE Music

Subject Brief

If you have some basic skills in singing and/or playing an instrument you can take GCSE music. The course provides a good basis for students who wish to study music or related subjects at a more advanced level.

Pupils will develop skills in performing, composing and listening and appraising music.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11/12

You will study set pieces from four topics:

Western Classical Music 1600-1910

Film Music

Musical Traditions of Ireland

Pop Music 1980

You will be assessed in three skills:

Composing & Appraising	30%
Performing & Appraising	35%
Listening & Appraising	35%

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Musician
- ❖ Singer
- ❖ Music Therapist
- ❖ Sound Technician
- ❖ Radio Studio Manager
- ❖ Television Producer/Director
- ❖ Television/Radio Presenter
- Composer
- Music Teacher/Coach
- Recording Technician
- DJ
- Music Retailer
- Piano Tuner



Subject Guide

Year 11/12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Performing & Appraising	Students present one solo and one ensemble performance-no longer than 6 minutes. Students discuss and evaluate their performance with the visiting examiner.	External examination assessed by a visiting examiner. 35%
Composing & Appraising	You will create two compositions. One is in response to a pre-release stimulus and the other is free choice.	Controlled Assessment 30%
Listening & Appraising	Pupils study pieces of music from four areas of study: Western Classical Music Film Music Musical Traditions of Ireland Pop Music 1980-present day	External written examination. 1 hour 30 minutes Students answer questions based on familiar and unfamiliar music. 35%

Why Study it?

The course allows you to:

- ❖ Develop your knowledge, understanding and appreciation of a
- ❖ range of different kinds of music;
- ❖ Take part in music-making activities and communicate through music;
- ❖ Develop your creativity;
- ❖ Make informed judgements about musical quality;
- ❖ Develop a lifelong interest in music; and learn about music-related Careers.

Occupational Studies Business & Services

Subject Brief

This course will provide students with a basic knowledge and understanding of administration practice. Students will have the opportunity to use a range of technological equipment found in the modern office. They will develop their proofreading skills, ensuring all documents are produced to a high standard. They will also develop effective communication skills required to establish good working relationships in an office or business environment.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Unit 1

Using Office Technology (**Continuous internal assessment - 50%**)

Year 12

Unit 2

Communication in an Office or Business Environment
(**Continuous internal assessment - 50%**)

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Administrative Assistant
- ❖ Bookkeeper
- ❖ Executive Assistant
- ❖ General Office Clerk
- ❖ Office Assistant
- ❖ Receptionist
- ❖ Secretary
- Administrative Manager
- Call Centre Operator
- File Clerk
- Legal Secretary
- Office Manager



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 1 Using Office Technology	<p>Students will have the opportunity to use a range of technological equipment found in the modern office. They will develop their proofreading skills, ensuring all documents are produced to a high standard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The use of electronic equipment.• Consideration of health and safety issues when using office technology.• Environmental issues relating to the use of office technology.• Planning an event (Year 12 prize night).• Career opportunities in office administration.• Review and evaluate their performance.	<p>Continuous internal assessment</p> <p>50%</p>

Year 12

Unit 2 Communication in an Office or Business Environment	<p>Students will have the opportunity to develop the effective communication skills required to establish good working relationships in an office or business environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communicating effectively with customers.• Effective customer service in a business.• Meeting customer needs and dealing with queries and complaints.• Preparing and handling routine business documents.• Working as part of a team in a business.• Environmental issues in a business environment.• Career opportunities for customer service staff.• Health & safety issues in an office or business environment.• Review and evaluate their performance.	<p>Continuous internal assessment</p> <p>50%</p>
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Why Study it?

- ❖ You have an interest in the world of business.
- ❖ You want to develop your ICT skills.
- ❖ You want to develop your communication skills.
- ❖ You are interested in business and the world of work.
- ❖ You enjoy working with computers.

Occupational Studies Health & Social Care

Subject Brief

Level 2 Occupational Health & Social Care is an exciting new practical subject.

It focuses on occupation and employability with emphasis on learning by doing. This helps pupils to develop the transferable skills needed in a changing and dynamic work environment.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Unit 1

Working in a Care Environment

Year 12

Unit 2

Reminiscence with Individuals in a Care Environment

Careers Opportunity

Many students progress to study Health & Social Care at 'A' Level. This subject is particularly relevant to the following jobs:

- ❖ Nursery Teacher
- ❖ Midwifery
- ❖ Nursing
- ❖ Classroom Assistant
- ❖ Crèche Supervisor
- ❖ Primary Teaching
- ❖ Secondary Teaching
- ❖ Nursing Assistant
- ❖ Youth Worker



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
<p>Unit 1</p> <p>Working in a Care Environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and safety issues in a care environment-carrying out Risk Assessments • The role of the care worker in different care settings • How to administer basic First Aid • Planning fun activities for clients in a care environment • Creating a suitable care environment for clients • Consideration of environmental issues in a care environment • Learning about different careers within health and social care 	<p>Internal Assessment 100%</p>

Year 12

<p>Unit 2</p> <p>Reminiscence with Individuals in a Care Environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of the role of the social care worker • Consideration of the NISCC Code of Practice for Social Care Workers • Methods of communicating and communication difficulties • Reminiscence work with individuals in a care environment • Consideration of career opportunities within health and social care • Consideration of health and safety issues within health and social care • Consideration of environmental issues with health and social care 	<p>Internal Assessment 100%</p>
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Why Study it?

- ❖ If you have an interest in helping people
- ❖ If you have a caring nature
- ❖ If you like working with children, young people and senior citizens
- ❖ If you want to make a difference in the lives of others
- ❖ If you have an interest in First Aid

OCN NI Certificate in Religious Studies

Subject Brief

OCN Religious Studies aims to develop the pupil's relationship with God through the study of scripture and ethics. This course is coursework based with no external exam. Studying OCN Religious Studies allows students to apply their knowledge and understanding to real life situations which they may face.

Awarding Body  ocn
northern ireland

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Personal Identify and Faith
Addiction
Charity and Religious Charities
Exploring Religious Traditions within own community
World Faiths

Year 12

Life of a Famous Person of Faith
Prejudice and Reconciliation
Life and Death Issues
Marriage and Divorce



OCN Level 2 Certificate Religious Studies

Awarding Body  ocn
northern ireland

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
1	Exploring Personal Identity and Faith - 2 Credits	Continuous
2	Addiction- 1 Credit	
3	Charity and Religious Charities - 1 Credit	
4	Exploring Religious Traditions within own Community - 2 Credits	
5	World Faiths - 2 Credits	

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
1	Life of a Famous Person of Faith- 2 Credits	Continuous
2	Prejudice and Reconciliation - 2 Credits	
3	Life and Death Issues- 2 Credits	
4	Marriage and Divorce- 2 Credits	

The certificate is awarded on successful completion of all units (15 credits). It is considered to be the equivalent of grade B in GCSE.



OCN NI Certificate in Applied Science

Subject Brief

This Level 2 Certificate has been developed to focus on providing opportunities to acquire technical and Scientific skills, knowledge and understanding.

To achieve a 'PASS' in this qualification you will study 3 core Scientific Units in Year 11 and Year 12. These units must add up to 17 Credits.

A 'PASS' in this option is the equivalent to a B grade at GCSE.

Awarding Body  ocn
northern ireland

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Life Processes & Living Things
Materials & their Chemical Properties (half of this unit)

Year 12

Materials & their Chemical Properties (half of this unit)
Physical Processes

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Laboratory Technician
- ❖ Dental Nurse
- ❖ Health Care Assistant
- ❖ Beauty Therapist
- ❖ Career in Forestry
- ❖ Hairdresser
- ❖ Career in Agriculture
- ❖ Classroom Assistant
- ❖ Veterinary Nurse



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
1. Life processes & Living things	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cellular structure & functions• Transport of nutrients and gases in plants• Understanding genetics and Inheritance• Understand how organisms interact with the environment and each other• Enzymes and their role in living organisms and Industrial processes	Internally assessed
2. Materials & their Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding atomic structure and bonding• Periodic table	Internally assessed

Year 12 – A range of Evidence must be produced for the following:

2. Continued Materials & their Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the nature of chemistry and the main types of chemical reaction• Rates of Reaction	Internally Assessed
3. Physical Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renewable and Non Renewable Energy• How energy can be transformed• Efficient use of energy• Electricity	Internally assessed

Please note that this option is not suitable if you intend to study a Science at 'A' Level.

Why Study it?

- ❖ 100 % of marks are from assignments which your teacher marks-samples of pupil work are sent away to verify marks
- ❖ All the science you learn has a direct link with a vocation.
- ❖ Gives you a broad education over the 3 main scientific disciplines

Level 2 Preparation for Adult Life

Subject Brief

PAL is an exciting subject which helps pupils to develop personal skills such as self-awareness, personal health and relationships. It combines elements of local and global citizenship, personal development and employability. Pupils are given the opportunity to apply their learning in a practical context and explore the world around us. PAL is a Level 2 qualification. To achieve a 'PASS' you must complete all 13 units of work over the two years of study. A 'PASS' is equivalent to a C grade at GCSE.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

The course is made up of 13 units:

Unit 1-4	Citizenship
Unit 5-8	Employability
Unit 9 -13	Personal and Social Development

Each unit is worth one credit. A total of 13 credits are needed to be awarded Level 2 Certificate in PAL.

All work is assessed internally and externally.

There are no external exams for PAL.

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Local Council
- ❖ Public Office
- ❖ Environmental Health
- ❖ Public Relations
- ❖ Employment Recruitment
- ❖ Social Work
- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Teaching
- ❖ Media
- ❖ Leisure and Tourism



Subject Guide

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Citizenship	Unit 1: Diversity and Social Inclusion Unit 2: Democracy and Democratic Participation Unit 3: Human Rights and Social Responsibility Unit 4: Equality and Social Justice	Internally Assessed
Employability	Unit 5: Preparation for Work Unit 6: Business in the Community Unit 7: Effective Work Practice Unit 8: Globalisation and the Labour Market	Internally Assessed
Personal and Social Development	Unit 9: Self-Development Unit 10: Roles and Responsibilities of Parents Unit 11: Healthy Relationships Unit 12: Maintaining Personal Health and Well-Being Unit 13: Effective Financial Management	Internally Assessed

Why Study it?

- ❖ The subject material is most relevant to the real life of students.
- ❖ To become more curious of your society, its makeup and functions.
- ❖ To learn about the decision making processes that impact our lives now and in the future.
- ❖ To discover your individual responsibilities and potential to influence how society evolves.
- ❖ If you enjoy being a leader and working with others to change things important to you.
- ❖ To become an open minded independent and informed citizen.
- ❖ If you have an interest in health, the environment, your society or politics.

Physical Education

Subject Brief

Physical Education gives you the opportunity to develop your knowledge, understanding and skills for a balanced, healthy lifestyle as well as participating in a range of practical activities. As well as being the ideal preparation for the BTEC Sport and Exercise Sciences course. GCSE Physical Education allows for progression to related vocational qualifications and A Level Physical Education.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Component 1	Factors Underpinning Health and Performance Written exam 25%
Component 2	Developing Performance Written exam 25%
Component 3	Individual performance in Physical Activities and Sports Controlled assessment Practical 50%

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ P.E. Teacher
- ❖ Sports Instructor/Coach
- ❖ Sports Physiotherapist
- ❖ Health and Fitness Instructor
- ❖ Leisure/Sports Centre Manager
- ❖ Outdoor Pursuits Instructor
- ❖ Swimming Pool Lifeguard
- ❖ Professional Sports Person
- ❖ Children's Holiday Representative
- ❖ Sport & Exercise Scientist
- ❖ Sports Journalist/Commentator
- ❖ Sports Scientist



Subject Guide

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
<p>Component 1: Factors underpinning Health and Performance (EXAM)</p>	<p>The component will cover the key concepts of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Body and Work 2. Health and Lifestyle 3. The Active Leisure Industry 	<p>This is a written exam and will be 1 hour and 15 minutes long. The examination paper will have short response questions and answers that require extended writing.</p> <p>This examination (100 marks) is worth 25% of the overall GCSE qualification.</p>
<p>Component 2: Developing Performance (EXAM)</p>	<p>In this component you will develop knowledge and understanding of concepts of physical fitness and develop knowledge and understanding of the concept of skill.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Developing physical fitness for performance 2. Developing skilled performance 	<p>This is a written exam and will be 1 hour 15 minutes long. The examination paper will have short response questions and answers that require extended writing.</p> <p>This examination (100 marks) is worth 25% of the overall GCSE qualification.</p>
<p>Component 3: Individual Performance in Physical Activities and Sports (PRACTICAL)</p>	<p>This component has two parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You will have the opportunity to improve your skilled performance in selected physical activities. 2. You will have the opportunity to participate in three different physical activities from at least two of the categories below: Athletics activities; Dance activities; Games activities; Outdoor adventure activities; Specialist activities. For one of these activities you can be assessed in the role of event manager 	<p>Assessed on the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of performance in physical activity and sport. Perform in 3 sports (3x 50 marks)</p> <p>Assessed on quality of analysis and evaluation of their own and their performances (50marks)</p> <p>This component is worth 50% of the overall GCSE qualification.</p>

Why Study it?

If you enjoy:

- ❖ Sport and recreation
- ❖ Developing knowledge and understanding through practical involvement
- ❖ Learning about the benefits of sport and exercise
- ❖ Improving your own performance in a range of sports roles
- ❖ If you are considering a sports-related career

N.B You will be required to take part in sport after school on at least one afternoon per week. It would be an advantage to take part in sport outside of school as well. You must have a foundation of practical skills in at least 2 sports and show motivation and enthusiasm for physical activity.

GCSE Religious Studies

Subject Brief

The main aim of the GCSE Religious Studies programme is to develop the pupil's relationship with God through the study of scripture and ethics. Pupils will also gain the knowledge and understanding needed to gain a GCSE qualification.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Paper 5	St. Mark's Gospel
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Module at end of Year 11 50% of GCSE

Year 12

Paper 6	An Introduction to Christian Ethics
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Module at the end of Year 12 50% of GCSE

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Teaching
- ❖ Social Work
- ❖ Law
- ❖ Public Relations



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Paper 5 St. Mark's Gospel	The Gospel is studied under the following headings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Background to Mark's Gospel• The Identity of Jesus• Jesus the miracle worker• The Teaching of Jesus• The Death and Resurrection of Jesus• The Role and Nature of Christian Discipleship	End of Year Module 50%

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Paper 6 An Introduction to Christian Ethics	This unit introduces students to the study of ethical issues from a religious and other viewpoint. The topics for study are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal and Family Issues• Matters of Life and Death• Developments in Bioethics• Contemporary Issues in Christianity• Modern Warfare	End of year module 50%

Why Study it?

- ❖ It is a core subject on the school curriculum.
- ❖ It helps us understand more about our faith and Christian living.
- ❖ It promotes development of the whole person—academically, emotionally and spiritually.
- ❖ It could be taken further as an 'A' Level option.

GCSE Double Award Science

Subject Brief

This challenging course offers you the student a unique opportunity to study Science at a very high level. The course modules are available at both Foundation and Higher level.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Biology 1	Cells, Living Processes & Biodiversity
Chemistry 1	Structures, Trends, Chemical Reactions, Quantitative Chemistry and Analysis
Physics 1	Motion, Force, moments, Energy, Density, Kinetic Theory, Radioactivity, Nuclear Fission and Fusion

Year 12

Biology 2	Body Systems, Genetics, Microorganisms and Health
Chemistry 2	Further chemical reactions, Rates and equilibrium, calculations and Organic chemistry
Physics 2	Waves, Light, Electricity, Magnetism, Electromagnetism and Space Physics

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Food Technology
- ❖ Forensic Scientist
- ❖ Optometrist
- ❖ Dentistry
- ❖ Engineering
- ❖ Nursing
- ❖ Occupational Therapist
- ❖ Pharmacy
- ❖ Research Scientist
- ❖ Medicine
- ❖ Veterinary
- ❖ Teaching
- ❖ Physiotherapist

Why Study it?

- ❖ You have a genuine interest in Science.
- ❖ You are choosing a career in which a high level of scientific knowledge is essential.
- ❖ You have an interest in the world around you.



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Biology 1	Cells Plants & Photosynthesis Nutrition & Food tests Enzymes & Digestion Respiration Nervous system & hormones Ecological Relationships	External Modular Examination February 11%
Chemistry 1	Atomic Structure Bonding Structures & Ionic structures Nanoparticles Symbols, formula and equations Periodic Table Quantitative Chemistry Acids, bases and salts Chemical analysis	External Examination February 11%
Physics 1	Motion Force Density & Kinetic Energy Energy Nuclear physics	External Examination May 11%

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Biology 2	Osmosis & Plant transport Circulatory System Reproduction & Fertility Genetics Variation & Natural Selection Health & Disease	External Written Examination May 14%
Chemistry 2	Metals and the reactivity series Redox & rusting Rates of Reactions Equilibrium Organic chemistry Quantitative chemistry II Electrochemistry Energy changes Gas chemistry	External Written Examination May 14%
Physics 2	Waves Light Electricity Magnetism & Electromagnetism Space Physics	External Written Examination May 14%
Practical Skills Unit	Booklet A: 3 pre-release practicals-7.5% Booklet B: 3 written examinations on prescribed practicals-17.5%	External exam 25%

GCSE Single Award Science

Subject Brief

Single Award Science provides a good general grounding in Science as it consists of modules in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Being Science literate is becoming increasingly necessary in today's technological age and topical Science units are covered in this course. The course is available at Foundation and Higher Tier entry. It is not a suitable course to progress to A level Science.

Awarding Body  Rewarding Learning

Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Unit 1	Biology
Unit 2	Chemistry (half)

Year 12

Unit 2	Chemistry (half)
Unit 3	Physics
Unit 4	Practical Skills Assessment

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Laboratory Technician
- ❖ Dental Nurse
- ❖ Environmental Health Officer
- ❖ Health Care Assistant
- ❖ Career in Horticulture
- ❖ Career in Agriculture
- ❖ Career in Forestry
- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Veterinary Nurse
- Beauty Therapist
- Teaching

Why Study it?

- ❖ You are interested in a career which requires you to have a sound understanding of key scientific concepts.
- ❖ You have an interest in the world around you.



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 1: Biology	Cells Food & Diet Chromosomes & Genes Co-ordination & control Reproductive System Variation & Adaptation Disease and body defences Ecological relationships	External Examination February (25%)
Unit 2: Chemistry	Acids, bases and salts Elements, compounds and mixtures Atomic structure & Periodic Table Bonding Materials	

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Unit 2: Chemistry (continued)	Symbols, formulae and equations Metals & the reactivity series Qualitative analysis Rates of reaction Organic Chemistry	External Examination November (25%)
Unit 3: Physics	Electrical circuits Household electricity Energy Electricity generation Heat transfer Waves Road safety Radioactivity Earth in Space	External Examination May (25%)
Unit 4: Practical Skills	Booklet A: Practical skills assessment. Students will carry out TWO pre-release practical tasks Booklet B: External written exam on the prescribed practicals taught in Units 1,2 and 3.	External Assessment (25%)

Please note this option is not suitable if you intend to study a Science at A-Level

GCSE Design & Technology

Subject Brief

Design and Technology is a subject that reflects the progress and development that innovation and design has brought to society to improve the quality of our lifestyles. Pupils will study the properties and practical uses of woods, metals, polymers and textiles in applications relevant to project design. The GCSE course is very worthwhile and relevant to the world of work as it promotes the skills of problem solving, innovation, communication, ICT and self reliance. 50% of the GCSE mark is for the practical project. 50% of the GCSE mark is for the written test.

Awarding Body



Course Structure and Assessment

Year 11

Unit 1	Working with plastics and polymers, theory and processes.
Unit 2	Working with timber and textiles, theory and processes.
Unit 3	Working with metal, theory and processes.

Year 12

Development and making the GCSE project with portfolio

Careers Opportunity

- ❖ Interior Designer
- ❖ Fashion Designer
- ❖ Dressmaker
- ❖ Water Service Engineer
- ❖ Electronics
- ❖ Dental Technician
- ❖ Occupational Therapist
- ❖ Lighting/broadcasting Engineer
- ❖ Mechanical, Aeronautical, & marine engineering
- Product Designer
- Orthoptist/Prosthetist
- Costume Designer
- Civil, Electrical, Marine
- Set Designer
- Graphic Designer



Subject Guide

Year 11

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Plastics & polymers - theory and processes	Students use modern CAD CAM to design and manufacture in plastics while building up their theoretical knowledge and understanding of the nature of plastics and the processes involved in its use within manufacturing.	Practical and theory class assessment
Wood & textiles - theory and processes	Students use machines and hand tools to work with wood while building up their theoretical knowledge and understanding of the nature of timber & textiles and the processes involved in its use within manufacturing.	Practical and theory class assessment
Metals - theory and processes	Students use machines and hand tools to design and manufacture in metal while building up their theoretical knowledge and understanding of the nature of metals and the processes involved in its use within manufacturing.	Practical and theory class assessment

Year 12

TOPIC	CONTENT	ASSESSMENT
Controlled Assessment	This second year of the 2-year course is dominated by the controlled assessment (project). The majority of the time will be spent designing and making the controlled assessment under informal supervision.	External Moderation
Examination	Exam preparation should involve students undertaking research into the given theme for the examination together with revision of the theoretical work covered in year 11.	External Examination

Why Study it?

- ❖ 50% of the GCSE grade is awarded for the practical project/portfolio so it is possible to compensate even if theory is not your strongest aspect.
- ❖ Department GCSE success rate in the previous years has been excellent.
- ❖ Pupils who have completed the previous GCSE course have claimed it has been an enjoyable and fulfilling experience which has helped them by boosted their self-esteem, enabling them to feel much more confident when applying for jobs or further study.