



KS4 Options Choices

2021 – 2023

Message from the Principal

March 2021

Dear students and parents/carers

Year 9 students at DACA have reached a very important stage in their education, where decisions need to be made about the courses they will follow in Years 10 and 11. These courses lead to public examinations, and will have a strong bearing on choices in Years 12 and 13 and beyond. Students now have to continue in education or training until the age of 18.

At this moment in time, students might not know what future career paths they would like to follow. It is therefore important to study a broad range of subjects. This will allow access to many careers in the future. Evidence shows that today's students will experience 13 changes of career in a lifetime.

This guide book, the options and parents' evening as well the advice and guidance that students will receive, are intended to help make decisions about the subjects students will study. It can seem quite daunting so it is important to be well informed and ask plenty of questions of subject staff and senior staff.

As you might have been aware, the Government introduced the English Baccalaureate (EBacc for short) some years ago. This is not a qualification, but a measure of how many students achieve good GCSE passes in maths, English, two sciences, (including computer science) history or geography and a modern language. Our options system has been adapted to reflect this and our commitment to providing a broad and balanced curriculum.

We want every student to achieve his or her full potential. Students do their best when staff and students work in harmony and partnership. In enabling students to make the right curriculum choices, we will make a significant step towards achieving our shared aim.

I hope you find this guidebook useful and I look forward to meeting you at options evening.

Ms L Dolan
Principal

Changes to GCSE Grades

Grades in all GCSE subjects are now graded 9-1; with 9 being the highest grade. Approximate grade comparator:

New GCSE Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Old GCSE Grade	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*	

Terminology that may help your child

Core	These are compulsory subjects: English, maths, science, PE
Options Choices	There is an element of choice about which of these subjects to study
Level 1	GCSE grades 3-1 or equivalent (grades 3-1 have replaced grades D-G at GCSE)
Level 2	GCSE grades 9-4 or equivalent (grades 9-4 have replaced grades A*-C at GCSE) with grades 5+ being classed as strong pass grades
Level 3	A Level grade A*-E or equivalent
GCSE	A course graded 9-1. These are assessed mainly or solely by examination (see individual subject guides for further information)
BTEC / OCR National / Technical Award	Vocational qualifications, graded pass/merit/distinction/distinction*, and equivalent to a GCSE. Mostly portfolio/coursework based, with an exam element (see individual subject guides for further information). Designed to equip students with applied knowledge and associated practical skills; and closely aligned with the world of work
Facilitating Subjects	The Facilitating Subjects are: maths, English, sciences (including computer science), geography, history and modern foreign languages. Please see link below regarding the value placed on these subjects
Full EBacc (EBacc = English Baccalaureate)	For students to achieve the Full EBacc they must attain GCSE grade 5+ in maths, English, at least two sciences, one of history or geography and a modern foreign language

<http://russellgroup.ac.uk/for-students/school-and-college-in-the-uk/subject-choices-at-school-and-college/>

What sort of future planning should students be doing?

Where possible, if students have a goal to aim for, this can help focus their choice of courses. Having said that, we fully understand that many students will either not have a career path planned out or may change their plans. Our curriculum has the flexibility to accommodate this and we would also encourage students to choose a broad range of qualifications over Years 10 & 11, to keep their future options open.

Attainment 8

The government has set a new Level 2 threshold measure called Attainment 8. Attainment 8 is starting to become part of the admissions criteria for some further or higher education establishments and employment; as previous measures have, for example 5+ A*-C. A student's Attainment 8 score not only indicates their average grade, it also demonstrates performance across a range of subjects. It expects students to have achieved best possible grades in:

- GCSE Maths and GCSE English
- Any three GCSE qualifications from the Sciences, geography, history or modern foreign languages
- A further three qualifications which can be either BTEC/OCR National/Technical Award, GCSE or other approved qualifications

We will therefore support students in the core curriculum and through their options choices to achieve this threshold.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if students cannot do their chosen course?

We build the options subject blocks based on student choices rather than ask them to pick from pre-determined blocks, so we hope that the courses offered will be available to all the students who want them but we will ask you to give us two alternative/reserve choices

Despite every effort to give all students their preferred choice, this may not always be possible. Alternatives may have to be considered if:

- Too many students opt for a particular course
- Too few students select a particular course
- We wish to advise a better range of courses to meet a student's needs
- Combinations of courses are chosen which don't work once the blocks have been created

We will write to you in the summer term to confirm your choices.

Can students change their mind?

We always do our best to ensure that all students' choices can be matched but please bear in mind that students who submit choices after the deadline may not find it possible to be placed on their first choice courses. As soon as the options deadline has passed, work begins on timetabling. Alterations to choices may not be possible from this point onwards.

Once a decision has been made and a course begun, it is extremely difficult to make any changes. It is therefore essential that time and thought be given to the combination of courses to be taken.

What support is available to help decide which options to take?

1. Faculty leaders and Subject staff will be available at the Year 9 Options Evening on Thursday 11th March from 4:00pm until 5:30pm to discuss courses
2. 6th form staff will be available on the evening to discuss progression and routes into post-16
3. Students are welcome to discuss course choices in relation to their future career plans and current level of performance with subject staff during the academy day, over the next few weeks

Filling in and submitting the form

When you fill in the form it is important to put your choice in order with your most preferred choice first and it is equally important to think about the order for your next choice of subjects. Your option choices are checked against what staff might recommend for you. If you do not fill in the form fully there may be a delay in your options being submitted.

Deadline for handing in the form

The deadline for completing the form is Friday 19th March 2021. You can complete your option form earlier and submit it before the deadline closes but this does not mean that your options choices will be considered ahead of anybody else. All options will be dealt with after the closing date.

What happens next?

We will collate your option choices and then confirm the choices you selected by letter in the summer term. If there are any problems with your choices we will speak to you as soon as possible.

Important dates

Friday 19th March – Deadline for submitting the options form

Careers Education & Guidance Programme

We want DACA students to develop in to successful, articulate, ambitious, resilient, courteous and confident individuals and when they leave us they will have experienced an outstanding and enjoyable education that prepares them fully for university, apprenticeship and the world of work. We want them to have a competitive advantage.

We want to ensure that all students at DACA make effective and ambitious decisions about the full range of options available to them at key transition points and as such have a progressive programme of careers and enterprise education and experiences for each and every student which allows our students to understand and be equipped for the 'ever-changing' world of work.

Key information about careers is provided to our students with a structured way within the school's programme of PSHE and the curriculum, because they need a realistic expectation of what each option entails and support to help them make decisions that reflect their ability, potential, aspirations and learning preferences.

Every student at DACA is encouraged to have high aspirations for their future, develop their enterprise skills and make the most of their academic ability and talents. We help our students prepare for the next stage of education and employment; applying for sixth form, college, university, apprenticeships and the world of employment by providing regular and timely careers guidance, development of enterprise and employability skills and encounters with local organisations and institutions.

Through DACA's partnerships with our Enterprise Co-ordinator and Enterprise Adviser, we have excellent links with leading local employers in all sectors. We regularly have visitors into the academy in curriculum areas, in assemblies or at events to inspire our students and provide them with crucial local labour market information.

All subjects provide specific subject related information at all key stages and all areas of the curriculum integrate the development of employability skills into their lessons. Local STEM providers such as BAE Systems are also invited regularly to offer students an overview of their progression pathways through interactive sessions.

During National Careers Week there is a whole school focus on promoting careers, with the theme of "The World of Work" in all lessons. The World of Work week showcases various careers, skill sector information and provides an opportunity for students to discover "a day in the life" of various roles in different career pathways this particularly supports the options process..

Our careers and enterprise provision is evaluated with students, teachers and employers. The school also measures how its careers education meets the eight Gatsby Benchmarks which are the national standard in this area.

1. A stable careers programme.
2. Learning from career and labour market information.
3. Addressing the needs of each student.
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers.
5. Encounters with employers and employees.
6. Experiences of workplaces.
7. Encounters with further and higher education.
8. Personal guidance.

Connecting GCSEs to Careers

To help you to start thinking long-term you will find information below that connects each GCSE option to some of the careers they relate to including the skills you will develop.

Remember - if you choose a GCSE it doesn't necessarily mean you'll end up with a career relating to it. It's never too early to start thinking where your skills and interests could lead you.

Subject	EBACC		Basket	EBACC Future Prospects	Careers	Skills
	Y	1				
English	Y	1		GCSE English is vital for a whole range of employment options, college and university courses. For most jobs, employers will look for good communication skills, both written and spoken, and the ability to read with insight and understanding.	Barrister Teacher Politician Solicitor Journalist Writer Actor / Actress Counsellor Social Worker Public Relations Officer Librarian Psychologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written and verbal communication Information handling Planning essays, reports and projects Persuasion Negotiation Presenting points of view Research
	Y	1		Just about everything! People with Maths qualifications can go into, accounting, medicine, engineering, forensic pathology, finance, business, consultancy, teaching, IT, games development, scientific research, programming, civil service, design, construction and astrophysics	Software Engineer Economist Aerospace Engineer Financial Advisor Accountant Quantity Surveyor Civil Engineer Architect Graphic Designer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calculation Problem-solving Budgeting Planning Research Interpreting statistics Analysing data
Science	Y	2		<p>All of these Science subjects - Biology, Physics and Chemistry - can be taken up to a higher level of education. Next steps include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AS/A2-Level in Biology, Physics and/or Chemistry BTEC Level 3 NVQ Levels 2 to 5 Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeships <p>You can pursue your preferred subject to a higher level or take a number of Science subjects alongside each other. Science subjects provide a good basis for further education and they develop a range of skills including analytical abilities, evaluation, planning and observational skills.</p>	Astronomer Physicist Chemical Engineer Midwife Doctor Biologist Forensic Scientist Veterinary Surgeon Zoologist Research Scientist Science Teacher Mechanical Engineering Geologist Meteorologist Surgeon Nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning Health and safety Data analysis Data interpretation Statistics Critical thinking Observation Attention to detail Problem-solving Communication IT

Geography	Y	2	There are a wide range of career options available to students who study Geography. Geography is a dynamic subject, which lends itself to most occupations. It is a relevant subject as it covers issues such as concern for the environment and the issue of sustainability. As an academic subject, employers are keen to employ students who have been successful in Geography.	Town Planner Geographer Travel Agent Logistics Manager Surveyor Humanitarian Environment Planner Conservation Officer Geospatial Analyst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Evaluation of evidence • Writing • Construction of reasoned arguments • Communication • Problem solving • Planning • Prediction • Record-keeping • Cataloguing • IT
	Y	2	History can open the door for many different careers such as Law, teaching and management roles. Often the ability to look at the past can help you to understand the present and employers will always favour this. History develops a wide variety of skills and abilities that are useful and relevant to many careers. It develops skills in reasoning and arguing your point, which are useful to people working in law and accountancy, so it is a subject that is highly valued by employers, colleges and universities.	Barrister Historian Museum Conservator Archaeologist Archivist Anthropologist Media Researcher Broadcast Journalist Politician Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Evaluation of evidence • Writing • Construction of reasoned arguments • Communication • Problem solving • Planning • Prediction • Record-keeping • Cataloguing • IT
	Y	2	Many professional and international companies seek employees who are able to speak a foreign language, and will often pay a higher salary for this skill. Almost all University courses include an option to add study of a foreign language and / or study abroad.	Translator PR Officer Reporter Journalist Speech Therapist Tour Guide Humanitarian Copywriter Diplomat Marker Researcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication in at least two languages • Translation and interpretation • Knowledge of grammar • Writing • Presentation • IT • Cultural awareness • Adapting to new surroundings • Team-working and working alone
	Y	2	Students studying this course will be well prepared to take an A Level or equivalent Computer Science qualification in further education and training. It is recognised as a high- quality academic subject and held in high regard by Colleges and Universities.	Video Game Tester IT Analyst Project Manager Web Developer Social Media Executive Video Game Designer Software Developer Web Designer Network Engineer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word processing, spreadsheets, email, database, internet • Programming • Network design • Multimedia design • Software development • Retrieving information • Teamwork • Numeracy • Report writing

Art & Design	N	3	<p>The creative industries in the UK contribute £80 billion to the economy and employ 1.4 million people. People with creative skills are highly valued in a rapidly changing world of work. There are hundreds of specialisms but it is competitive and you do need to work hard.</p> <p>A GCSE in Art & Design will allow you to explore and develop your creativity. There are related post-16 education opportunities available if you want to take your creative talents further, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS and A2-Level in Art & Design • BTEC Level 3 in Art & Design, Graphics, Fashion & Clothing and Photography • NVQ Levels 2 to 5 • Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeships in Arts, Media & Publishing 	<p>Artist</p> <p>Graphic Designer</p> <p>Crafts Designer</p> <p>Furniture Designer</p> <p>Illustrator</p> <p>Art Auctioneer</p> <p>Gallery and Museum Curator</p> <p>Film and Video Editor</p> <p>Landscaper</p> <p>Textile Designer</p> <p>Web Designer</p> <p>Games Designer</p> <p>Interior Designer</p> <p>Photographer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical abilities • Practical skills • Creativity • Communication skills • Design and craft skills • Decision Making • Collaborative working
			<p>The performing arts are a major part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. Overall, the industry contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy. There are 5,480 businesses and 101,593 people working in the performing arts sector. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will providing an opportunity for practical exploration and application alongside conceptual study, leading to strong opportunities to progress at post-16.</p> <p>GCSE Music develops teamwork, time management and reflection skills, all of which are crucial in many aspects of life and work</p> <p>Music is a very useful addition to any well- balanced set of qualifications. It gives students the many skills and qualities that universities, colleges and employers are looking for. If you enjoy the GCSE Music course then you can consider these post-16 further education opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS/A2-Level in Music, Music Technology and/or Performing Arts • BTEC Level 3 • NVQ Levels 2 to 5 • Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeships in Arts, Media & Publishing 	<p>Musician</p> <p>Event Manager</p> <p>Music Therapist</p> <p>Recording Engineer</p> <p>Composer</p> <p>Music Teacher</p> <p>A&R</p> <p>Talent Scout</p> <p>Music Promotor</p> <p>Audio Engineer</p> <p>DJ</p> <p>Singer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creativity • Written • Reading Musical Notation • Composition and Arrangement • IT • Music Theory • Performance technique and management • Team work • Meeting deadlines

Performing Arts (Drama)	N	3	<p>The performing arts are a major part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. Overall, the industry contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy. There are 5,480 businesses and 101,593 people working in the performing arts sector. Study of this sector at Key Stage 4 will providing an opportunity for practical exploration and application alongside conceptual study, leading to strong opportunities to progress at post-16.</p> <p>A BTEC in Acting shows an employer that a student has confidence and good communication skills and an ability to work independently. It is an excellent subject to take in order to show diversity of interest and creativity. With a BTEC in Acting you could continue your studies on any of the level 3 courses that Outwood offers. Acting graduates are statistically proven to be those who found employment the easiest after leaving university.</p>	<p>Actor Broadcast Journalist PR Manager Set Designer Film Producer School Teacher Screenwriter Film Director Drama Therapist Youth Worker Theatre Director Technical Theatre Design Drama Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of style, genre and social context • Performance techniques - interpretation, improvisation, voice, physicality, stage relationships with others • Design skills • Technical abilities • Practical skills • Collaboration and communication skills • Enquiring and reflective minds • Independent thinking and working
	N	3	<p>A qualification in food preparation and nutrition provides you with essential life skills and applied knowledge, designed to provide you with a choice of routes into employment, as well as further education. It is suitable for anyone with a career interest in food and nutrition.</p> <p>This course has been designed to provide you with a choice of routes into fur ther education. If you want to take this subject further, there are a range of post-16 education opportunities available, such as A Levels, NVQs or BTEC Level 3.</p>	<p>Chef Dietician Cake Decorator Health Promotions Officer Kitchen Manager Microbiologist Food Scientist Nutritionist</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cookery skills • Creativity • Team work • Time management • Analysing • Practical skills • Independent thinking and working
	N	3	<p>A GCSE in Religious Studies is a stepping stone to a wide range of future opportunities. The skills you develop will support you in further studies and employment.</p> <p>Religious Studies provides a good background for any career where understanding people is an asset. Employers like to know that applicants have thought a bit about themselves and their place in the world. They expect them to be able to work with a wide range of people - often from different cultures - and to treat them all with courtesy and respect. In helping you to develop such understanding and insights about yourself, Religious Studies has a real part to play. These skills are vitally important in all careers especially professions such as the police, retail, teaching, the law, the caring professions and the armed forces, in fact any profession that brings you into contact with other people.</p>	<p>Journalist Editor Politician Government/Civil Service Policy Manager Legal Services Police Service Charity sector Counsellor Marketing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, analysis and presentation skills • Critical thinking skills and the ability to interpret information, formulate questions and solve problems • Organisational and time management skills • Team-working and communication skills • Writing skills, including accurate referencing and the ability to construct a reasoned argument • IT skills • Empathy • The ability to work methodically and accurately • Independence and the ability to think for yourself

Design & Technology	N 3	<p>Design and technology is part of everyday life and is constantly evolving. The qualification will focus on developing practical skills within a particular material area, allowing students to manufacture high quality outcomes. They will learn about commercial processes and careers in related industries, as well as developing core transferable skills, such as collaboration and communication.</p> <p>GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise. The course allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment.</p>	<p>Creative director Graphic designer Illustrator Printmaker Production designer CAD technician Exhibition designer Interior and spatial designer Landscape architect Multimedia specialist Urban designer Automotive engineer Materials engineer Tailor Fashion Designer Pattern Cutter Architect</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking for detail • Hand-eye coordination • Creativity • Visual communication • Design • Digital manipulation • Understanding and using tools. • Effective technical skills • Problem-solving skills • Interpersonal skills • Verbal and written communication skills • Teamworking skills • Computer literate • Multimedia design • Resilience
		<p>This course is an appropriate gateway to a range of exciting careers and opportunities in the sporting industry. Successful completion of the course offers an appropriate foundation for level 3 Sports courses such as A Level Physical Education and BTEC National Diploma in Sport and Exercise Sciences. Candidates who successfully follow this pathway can look towards a career in a range of different professions.</p>	<p>Sport Professional Sports Coach Sports Development Officer Physiotherapy Biomechanist Sports Scientist Physiologist PE teacher Personal trainer Sports Coach Professional Athlete Sports Development Officer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teamwork • Presentation and oral communication • Time management and planning • Keeping to rules • Health and safety • Determination • Motivation - self and team • Resilience
		<p>This course is a fantastic foundation for developing skills that you can take with you into a wide range of careers. It aims to give you an understanding of the workings of business enterprise.</p> <p>The BTEC in Enterprise can prepare you for further and higher education courses in this subject, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS/A2-Levels • BTEC Level 3 • NVQ Levels 2 to 5 • Intermediate and Advanced Level <p>Apprenticeships in Business, Administration & Law</p>	<p>Office Manager Accountant Brand Manager Financial Adviser Bank Manager Business Analyst Quality Manager Solicitor Teacher Administration roles Human Resources Manager</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numeracy • Literacy • ICT • Finance • Communication • Presentation • Influencing • Persuasion • Leadership • Teamwork • Problem solving • Decision making

How to make your choice of options

1

- Read the booklet
- Consider all options on offer
- Think about the EBACC subjects
- Think about your strengths and how the subjects on offer will match these

2

- Discuss your ideas with parents/carers and staff
- Be prepared to change your mind based on advice from parents/carers and staff
- Make good use of the option booklet and discuss with staff before the options evening

3

- Attend the options information evening to discuss your options
- Staff will look at your option choices and make sure these are right for you
- Your choices will be passed to subject staff to confirm you are right for that specific course

4

- Complete the options form
- Make sure you list your choices in order of preference
- Make sure you have done this with your parent/carer
- Complete the form by 19th March 2021

5

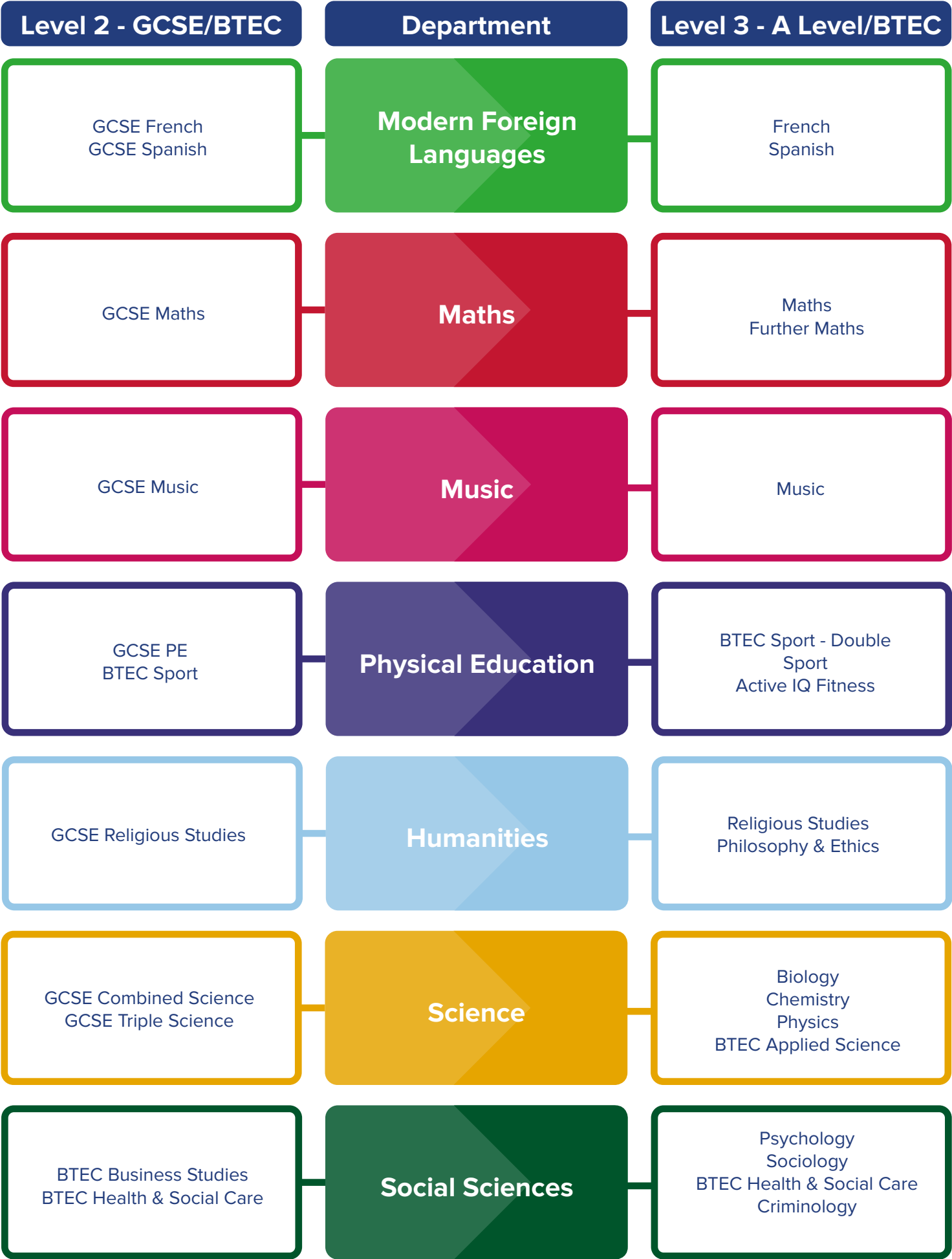
- The Academy will confirm your successful option choices
- This will be sent to you in the Summer term 2021

14 - 19 Pathways through DACA

The information below shows subjects grouped at GCSE and Post 16 courses. Not all GCSE and BTEC courses in each group lead directly onto the Post 16 course - more guidance on this should be sought from subject leaders.



14 - 19 Pathways through DACA



Core Subjects - English (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE English Language (8700) and GCSE English Literature (8702)

AWARDING BODY: AQA

Course Outline - What will you learn?

GCSE English is an exciting subject which enables young people to foster their intellectual curiosity. The courses offered will develop students as readers, writers and orators of Standard English. Throughout their studies, not only will students enjoy a diverse range of learning contexts, they will be stretched and challenged to nurture their ability to think critically and independently, therefore flourishing in the world around them.

GCSE English Language

We study GCSE English Language to encourage learners to read fluently, write effectively and communicate with confidence and conviction. Students of all abilities should be able to: demonstrate a confident control of Standard English; develop the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a wide range of different texts covering the 19th, 20th and 21st century time periods; write clearly, coherently and accurately using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures.

Assessment - Two, equally weighted written papers (50% each) one fiction and one non-fiction examination.

GCSE English Literature

We study GCSE in English Literature to encourage learners to develop knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. It provides opportunities to read widely for pleasure across a range of high quality texts in the genres of prose, poetry and drama and to develop an understanding of how literature, past and present, is both rich and influential. Students are encouraged to investigate the value of literature for traditional and modern day audiences, as well as how meanings change over time. In English Literature, there will be opportunities to study a range of texts including plays, novels and poems. Some texts are modern and others are from our literary heritage.

Assessment - Two written examinations. Paper 1 Shakespeare and 19th Century literature (40%) Paper 2 Modern Text and Poetry (60%)

Support Available

In addition to your timetabled lessons, you can attend after school sessions every other week where support will be available from the English Faculty. We also offer revision guides and workbooks, in addition to a range of intervention throughout Year 10 and 11 to support you in achieving the best possible grade. The qualification consists of three equally weighted written examination papers.

Progression & Career Opportunities

Success in almost any career in the modern, technologically diverse world is largely dependent on being functionally literate and numerate. Most progression pathways will necessitate students being equipped with the knowledge and skills taught and developed at GCSE level. Continuing with English related studies is an increasingly popular option in our Sixth Form, as it both challenges and rewards in equal measure. Current post 16 offers within the English Faculty are: A Level English Literature and A Level English Language. Various media related courses are also offered within the faculty, more details of these qualifications can be found in the Film Studies section of this document.

GCSE English is a very important qualification. Together with a similar grade in Maths, it is the gateway to many careers and courses of higher education. For some University courses, places are based on GCSE grades as well as A Levels.

Core Subjects - Maths (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Mathematics (1MA1)

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Course Outline - What will you learn?

The aim of the GCSE in Mathematics is to:

- develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences, and draw conclusions
- comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

Students will be entered for either the Foundation tier (grades 1-5) or the Higher tier (grades 4-9) depending on ability. There are three written papers; each contribute 33% of the final grade. All exams will be taken at the end of Year 11, one non-calculator paper and two calculator paper each lasting one and a half hours, four and a half hours in total.

Support Available

In addition to your timetabled lessons, after school sessions will be available from the Mathematics Faculty. We also offer revision guides and workbooks, together with a range of intervention programs and events to support you in achieving the best possible grade.

Progression & Career Opportunities

Post-16 Mathematics Qualifications including Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Core Mathematics.

Mathematics is a key skill required for a number of careers including Medicine, Statistics, Sciences, Engineering, Product Design, and Computer Programming. A good pass or better in GCSE Mathematics shows individuals are able to think logically and methodically which is a transferrable skill and very desirable by many further education courses.

Core Subjects - Science (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Biology (8461), Chemistry (8462), Physics (8463) or Combined Science (8464)

AWARDING BODY: AQA

Assessment

100% Examination, Combined Science 6 x 1hr 15min exams.

Biology, Chemistry and Physics 2 x 1hr 45min exams for each subject.

Course Outline - What will you learn?

There are two Science routes, worth two or three GCSEs at the end of Year 11. All students have begun learning GCSE content in year 9 and a variety of assessments in year 9, along with conversation with the students, will deduce the pathways the students take.

Route A GCSE Combined Science

Students will follow the AQA GCSE Combined Science qualification and will gain two GCSEs. Combined Science is a 2 year course which will be examined at the end of year 11 in the form of 6 x 1 hour 15 minute, so revision requires careful planning. All students will be entered for one of two tiers: Foundation Tier (F) covers grades 1-5, Higher Tier (H) covers grades 4-9. Combined Science contains elements of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Route B GCSE Triple Science (This will need to be chosen as an option)

Students will be following the AQA GCSE Triple Science qualifications and will gain 3 GCSEs. Students will be examined at the end of year 11 and will gain GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Each subject will have 2 examinations from the content that has been covered over the three years. This route has a total of 6 x 1hour 45 minute exams to be taken in year 11, so revision requires careful planning. All students will be entered for one of two tiers: Foundation Tier (F) covers grades 1-5, Higher Tier (H) covers grades 4-9.

Progression & Career Opportunities

Both these courses allow progression onto A-level Biology, Chemistry or Physics at Key-stage 5. Students need to gain grades of 6-6 in Combined Science or grade 6 in the subject they want to take at A-level (Biology, Chemistry or Physics). In addition, we ask for grades 6 in English and Maths to gain entry onto the A-level course. BTEC Applied Science is a further option at KS5 with entry requirements of 5-5 in Combined Science or one of the Separate Sciences along with a 5 in Maths and English to take this coursework rich course.

Science GCSEs are very important qualifications and two or more good GCSEs in science subjects demonstrate many transferable skills that are desirable to both Further Education providers and employers.

Computer Science (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Computer Science

AWARDING BODY: EDEXCEL

Assessment

100% exam – There are two exam papers which require high mathematical ability, plus good ability in using Python code and writing computer programs. There is no practical coursework element to the course.

Course Outline - What will you learn?

GCSE Computer Science seeks to teach you a wide range of skills in computer systems, programming and writing algorithms.

The course consists of 2 units which cover all areas of computer science and programming. Each unit is worth 50% of the final grade.

Paper 1 is a 1:30 hour written exam on the Principles of Computer Science. This will cover the topics of:

- **Topic 1:** Computational thinking – understanding of what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work
- **Topic 2:** Data – understanding of binary, data representation, data storage and compression.
- **Topic 3:** Computers – understanding of hardware and software components of computer systems and characteristics of programming languages.
- **Topic 4:** Networks – understanding of computer networks and network security.
- **Topic 5:** Issues and impact – awareness of emerging trends in computing technologies, and the impact of computing on individuals, society and the environment, including ethical, legal and ownership issues.

Paper 2 is a 2-hour onscreen exam on the Application of Computational Thinking.

This will cover the topics of:

Topic 6: Problem solving with programming.

- ability to read, write, refine and evaluate programs.
- understanding how to decompose and analyse problems
- understanding what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work in relation to creating programs.

Support Available

GCSE Computer Science text books, online resources, past papers and sample assessment material.

Who is this course for?

This course is for students who may be considering a career in the IT industry such as computer programmer, network engineer, software developer and web designer. This course has a clear progression to A Level Computer Science and BTEC Level 3 IT qualifications.

Progression and Career Opportunities

AS Computer Science; A2 Computer Science; BTEC ICT. Career opportunities are wide and varied as the skills learned by taking a Computer Science course equip you for a wide number of roles in the Computing industry. This could be in software development, web and app designing, computer network design or even setting up your own business.

Geography (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Geography B

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Assessment

100% Examination

Course Outline - What will you learn?

Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Geography B consists of three externally examined papers.

Component 1: Global geographical issues—hazardous Earth, development and challenges of an urbanising world.

Component 2: UK Geographical Issues—The UK's evolving physical landscape, The UK's evolving human landscape and geographical investigations on fieldwork such as rivers, coasts, rural and urban areas.

Component 3: People and environment Issues – making geographical decisions—people and the biosphere, forests under threat and consuming energy resources

Support Available

Using lesson time wisely and engage fully in lessons, after school sessions and targeted intervention.

Revision guides and workbooks that support the course content. Weekly practice of exam questions, skills and techniques.

Who is this course for?

The syllabus focuses on a wide variety of issues and builds on the knowledge and understanding that you have developed at Key Stage 3. Students who want to learn about what's happening in the world around you right now, and in the future would enjoy the chance to focus on real world examples. The emphasis of the course is on the understanding of physical, human and environmental geography.

Progression & Career Opportunities

Edexcel GCSE Geography links directly to our Edexcel AS and A Level geography course. Due to its skill and subject content it supports other A level subjects such as the Sciences, Mathematics, History, Business Studies, Sociology and Travel and Tourism.

Geography at GCSE and A level provides an excellent foundation for further study at university, either through a geography degree or as a supporting subject for other degrees. It can be combined with other subjects, for example a language. Qualifications in geography are highly sought after in a wide range of occupations such as Architect, Civil Engineer, Climatology, Law, Journalism, Surveyor, Teacher, translator, politics, the armed forces, the public services and anyone seeking to travel or work abroad.

History (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE History

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Assessment

100% Examination

Course Outline - What will you learn?

GCSE History requires students to study key events of British and World History. It includes a study of four units:

- The History of Medicine in Britain from 1250 to the present day. Students will also complete a depth study on how well the injuries faced by soldiers in World War One were treated
- Elizabethan England 1558-1588 considering the challenges facing a single woman ruling England
- Superpower Relations 1943-1991 examining the relationship between the USA and the USSR following the Cold War and considering how close the world has come to World War Three
- USA 1954-1975 focusing on the struggle for equal right for Black Americans and the American army's failure to defeat Vietnam

Support Available

Experienced and enthusiastic subject staff. Regular after school sessions give additional opportunities to learn about history. Useful revision material and reading is provided to support learning at home. Targeted one to one support and intervention are available if students require further individual support.

Who is this course for?

This course will suit anyone who is passionate about the past! Students will have the opportunity to develop their skills of extended writing and analysis of source evidence. There will be regular opportunities to discuss and debate issues to deepen understanding.

Progression & Career Opportunities

This course is excellent preparation for A Level History, yet the skills developed will also allow students to be well-developed for further study in any Humanities subject.

French (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE French

AWARDING BODY: AQA

Assessment

100% Examination

Course Outline - What will you learn?

The aim of the GCSE in French is to enable students to:

- develop their ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing, conveying what they want to say with increasing accuracy
- express and develop thoughts and ideas spontaneously and fluently
- listen to and understand clearly articulated, standard speech at near normal speed
- deepen their knowledge about how language works and enrich their vocabulary to increase their independent use and understanding of extended language in a range of contexts
- acquire new knowledge, skills and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to authentic spoken and written material, adapted and abridged, as appropriate, including literary texts
- make appropriate links to other areas of the curriculum to enable bilingual and deeper learning, where the language may become a medium for constructing and applying knowledge
- develop language learning skills both for immediate use and prepare them for further language study in school, higher education or employment

The course covers three distinct themes:

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 2: National, international and global areas of interest

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

Students will be entered for either the Foundation tier (grades 1-5) or the Higher tier (grades 4-9) depending on ability.

Exam Content

Listening: Examination (Foundation or Higher Tier) 25%

Speaking: Examination (Foundation or Higher Tier) 25%

Reading: Examination (Foundation or Higher Tier) 25%

Writing: Examination (Foundation or Higher Tier) 25%

Progression and Career Opportunities

GCSE French prepares students for AS level French. Studying an additional language will increase students' employability as many reports show that the UK needs linguists to secure economic growth by developing export. Although not an entry requirement for all the universities, it can be beneficial to applications. Career opportunities are wide and varied in most careers in business, media and culture and more traditionally careers as translator, interpreter and teacher.

Spanish (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Spanish

AWARDING BODY: AQA

Assessment

100% Examination

Course Outline - What will you learn?

The aim of the GCSE in Spanish is to enable students to:

- develop their ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing, conveying what they want to say with increasing accuracy
- express and develop thoughts and ideas spontaneously and fluently
- listen to and understand clearly articulated, standard speech at near normal speed
- deepen their knowledge about how language works and enrich their vocabulary to increase their independent use and understanding of extended language in a range of contexts
- acquire new knowledge, skills and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to authentic spoken and written material, adapted and abridged, as appropriate, including literary texts
- develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where Spanish is spoken
- make appropriate links to other areas of the curriculum to enable bilingual and deeper learning, where the language may become a medium for constructing and applying knowledge
- develop language learning skills both for immediate use and prepare them for further language study in school, higher education or employment

The course covers three distinct themes:

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 2: National, international and global areas of interest

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

Students will be entered for either the Foundation tier (grades 1-5) or the Higher tier (grades 4-9) depending on ability.

Exam Content

Listening: Examination (Foundation or Higher Tier) 25%

Speaking: Examination (Foundation or Higher Tier) 25%

Reading: Examination (Foundation or Higher Tier) 25%

Writing: Examination (Foundation or Higher Tier) 25%

Progression and Career Opportunities

GCSE Spanish prepares students for AS level Spanish. Studying an additional language will increase students' employability as many reports show that the UK needs linguists to secure economic growth by developing export. Although not an entry requirement for all the universities, it can be beneficial to applications. Career opportunities are wide and varied in most careers in business, media and culture and more traditionally careers as translator, interpreter and teacher.

Art and Design (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Art and Design

AWARDING BODY: WJEC

Assessment

40% Examination and 60% Non-Exam Assessment

Course Outline - What will you learn?

GCSE Art has been designed to develop student's skills in all areas of the arts and includes painting, drawing, photography, ceramics, 3 dimensional design, and fine art textiles. In the second year students will have the opportunity to specialise in the area of their choice. During the course students will work on a range of artistic disciplines focusing primarily on the drawing and painting process. This course has been designed to ensure students gain the general skills within the art and design subject band and is the key course required for subject specialism from architecture to ceramics and design. Students will work on 2 projects to form a body of coursework worth 60% (unit 1) and study a third topic cumulating in a 10 hour controlled test worth 40% (unit 2). Work is moderated in an exhibition of the students work in the summer of year 11.

Support Available

Extra-curricular activities are weekly; the department staff are all specialist within the art spectrum.

Progression and Career Opportunities

AS Art and Design, AS Photography, AS Graphics, AS Textiles and AS 3D Design. Career opportunities are vast and varied from fashion designer, architect, graphic designer to a creative director on an international board. The course is design to equip students with creative and problem solving skills for many jobs in professional occupations.

Business & Enterprise (BTEC)

SYLLABUS TITLE: BTEC Tech Award in ENTERPRISE

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Assessment

60% Coursework (Unit 1 and 2) & 40% Examination (Unit 3)

Coursework - Components 1 and 2 Exploring Enterprises and Planning for & Running an Enterprise are assessed through internal assessment. It is worth 60% of the overall qualification grade.

Examination: Promotion and Finance for Enterprise (Component 3) is an exam unit. The assessment must be completed in 2 hours and is worth 60 marks. It comprises 40% of the overall qualification grade.

Course Outline - What will you learn?

This is a BTEC Level 1 and 2 qualification and will enable you to acquire skills through vocational contexts by studying the knowledge, behaviours and skills related to researching, setting up, running and reviewing a business.

The qualification enables you to develop technical skills such as market research, planning, promotional and financial skills using realistic work scenarios, and personal skills, (such as monitoring own performance, time management and problem solving) through a practical and skills based approach to learning and assessment.

Component 1: Exploring Enterprises

In this component, you will have the opportunity to investigate the characteristics of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs and assess reasons for levels of success.

Component 2: Planning for and Running an Enterprise

You will individually select an idea for an enterprise to plan and pitch. You will work individually or as a small group to run a micro-enterprise activity and review the success of the enterprise.

Component 3: Promotion and Finance for Enterprise

This external component builds on knowledge, understanding and skills acquired and developed in Components 1 and 2 and includes synoptic assessment. You will be provided with a case study of a small to medium enterprise (SME), and a series of activities to complete.

Support Available

- Course textbook. Online resources, Sample assessment material.
- Students will be given relevant hand-outs throughout the course.

Progression & Career Opportunities

AS Business Studies, BTEC Business Studies and B TEC Health & Social Care.

Career opportunities are wide and varied as the skills learned by taking a business course equip you for any professional role. This could be in teaching, marketing and production or even setting up your own business. By taking a business studies course you are prepared for the real world around you.

Design & Technology (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: Level 1/Level 2 GCSE Design and Technology (1DT0)

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Assessment

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes - 50% of the qualification - Component 2 (Paper code: 1DT0/02)

Non-examined assessment - design and make assignment - 50% of the qualification

Course Outline - What will you learn?

The GCSE in Design and Technology enables students to understand and apply iterative design processes through which they explore, create and evaluate a range of outcomes. The qualification enables students to use creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes (together with evidence of modelling to develop and prove product concept and function) that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. It also gives students opportunities to apply knowledge from other disciplines, including mathematics, science, art and design, computing and the humanities.

Support Available

The Design and Technology faculty have a dedicated and passionate teaching and support team, offer their time and knowledge to help students to succeed. All Technology teachers run extra sessions after school to help students to develop and improve their work and support students through their GCSEs. The faculty has state of the art facilities which staff embed into their teaching so students can experience using industrial machinery and processes in a safe environment.

Who is this course for?

The Design and Technology GCSE is suitable for students who are independent learners, love to ask the questions why and how? They will have a passion to solve problems using both research and practical Investigation skills. Design and Technology students need to demonstrate independent learning, good design skills and have a good understanding of maths and science.

Progression and Career Opportunities

Students may progress to study one of the three Technology A Levels available in DACA's Sixth Form including 3D Product Design Graphics or Fashion and Textiles.

Students who are interested specifically in the textiles element of this GCSE course should indicate this on their options form.

Film Studies (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Film Studies

AWARDING BODY: WJEC Eduqas

Assessment

70% Examination / 30% Coursework

Course Outline - What will you learn?

If you love watching and talking about films, if you would like to learn more about how films are made, how they are sold and how they communicate, then this is the GCSE for you. If you would like the opportunity to experiment with the wide range of creative and technological processes involved in making and selling films, this course will offer you that. In terms of your other GCSEs, the study of film can enhance your understanding of subjects such as English, History, Business Studies, ICT, Art, Drama, Photography.

Support Available

Subject staff offer additional breakfast sessions. Revision material is available to all students.

Who is this course for?

This course is for students who may be considering a career in the any of the creative industries as well as working in the media.

Progression and Career Opportunities

Post-16 courses include BTEC Level 3 creative Digital Media Production and is an appealing and popular choice for 6th Form study. The skills developed at GCSE Film Studies are directly relevant to this course. The skills developed in studying film and media concepts, issues and theories, along with the production of film and other media artefacts, are vital for most occupations: creativity, teamwork, initiative and entrepreneurship. More specifically, the BTEC Level 3 creative Digital Media Production option equips students to deal with the modern workplace where media applications, communication, publicity and marketing are increasingly important components.

Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

AWARDING BODY: WJEC Eduqas

Assessment

This course is assessed by an exam which counts for 50% of the final grade (1 hour 45 min). The remaining 50% of qualification is assessed by 2 x controlled assessments; one which is a standard practical and one which is a food experiment.

Course Outline - What will you learn?

Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks.

Understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices.

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food. Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

Support Available

The Design and Technology faculty have a dedicated and passionate teaching and support team, who will offer their time and knowledge to help students to succeed. All Technology teachers will run extra sessions after school to help students to develop and improve their work and support students through their GCSEs. The faculty has state of the art facilities which staff embed into their teaching so students can experience using industrial machinery and processes in a safe environment.

Who is this course for?

The Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE is suitable for students who are independent learners, love to ask the questions why and how? They will have a passion to investigate the world of food using both research and practical investigation skills. Food Preparation and Nutrition students need to demonstrate independent learning, good catering skills and have a good understanding of maths and science.

Progression and Career Opportunities

This course will prepare students to continue on to further education or apprenticeship pathways in the catering and food industry.

Health and Social Care (BTEC)

SYLLABUS TITLE: Level 1 / Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Assessment

60% coursework 40% exam

Course Outline - What will you learn?

This course gives you the opportunity to study how people grow and develop over the course of their lives, from infancy to old age, and the factors that may affect this. You will learn how people adapt to these changes as well as the types of support available to help them.

You will also learn about the different health and social care services, and about 'care values' and their importance in making sure that the people who use these services get the care they need. You will be able to demonstrate these care values practically. You will develop skills in interpreting data about someone's state of health in order to design a plan that will allow them to improve their health and wellbeing.

The qualification has three components that focus on the assessment of knowledge, skills and practices. These are all essential to developing a basis for progression and therefore learners need to demonstrate attainment across all components in order to achieve the qualification.

The course consists of three components:

- Component 1 Human Lifespan Development. (Internal assessment)
- Component 2 Health and Social Care Services and Values. (Internal assessment)
- Component 3 Health and Wellbeing. (Synoptic External)

Support Available

Experienced and enthusiastic subject staff. Regular support is given to students in completing assignments, including morning after school sessions.

Who is this course for?

This course will suit any student who is interested in a career in any area of health and social care. In addition, it can support studies for those seeking a career in public services, the NHS and care systems.

Progression and Career Opportunities

Students can follow up this course by completing level 3 studies in Health and Social Care. This course is valued for those students entering careers such as nursing, midwifery and social work.

Music (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Music

AWARDING BODY: Eduqas

Assessment

40% Examination, 30% Performance, 30% Composition

Course Outline - What will you learn?

This course focuses on the three main components:

- Performing: You will record 4-6 minutes of you performing a range of pieces. At least one of these pieces must be an ensemble and last for 1 minute (30% of final grade).
- Composing: You will write 2 compositions lasting between 3-6 minutes, in total one of which must be in response to a brief set by the exam board (30% of final grade).
- Appraising: 1 hour and 15 minutes externally assessed listening exam paper (40% of final grade).

There are eight questions in total, two on each of the four areas of study:

- Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices
- Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble
- Area of study 3: Film Music
- Area of study 4: Popular Music

You are expected to listen to excerpts of pieces of music and answer questions about each one. Two of the eight questions are based on extracts set by the exam board. They are

- Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, Movement 3, Minuet: Mozart (1787)
- Since You've Been Gone: Rainbow (released 1979)

The course looks at the basics of music theory, the elements and conventions of music, basic musical analysis, how music has developed over time and musical interpretation, as well as performing and writing music.

The most important factor for any pupil wishing to take the music GCSE course is a willingness to want to learn and excel in their chosen instrument or voice. This can be piano, guitar, drum kit, voice... whatever you have a passion for making music with.

Students can perform on any instrument, in any style, but your class teacher will not have the time to teach you all the specialist techniques on each instrument. So, in addition to your timetabled class music lessons, each GCSE music student will receive a free 20-minute specialist instrumental lesson each week during school hours on their preferred instrument or voice.

Support Available

Experienced and enthusiastic subject staff are always available to support you in lessons, lunchtimes and after school.

Who is this course for?

We are seeking students who have a passion for music and want a creative outlet for their musicality. In GCSE music, you will be expected to perform, compose and write about music.

Progression and Career Opportunities

A Level Music or BTEC Music. University degrees are a popular progression route, including degrees in music, song-writing and music technology.

With qualifications in music, you could be a composer, arranger, orchestrator, instrumental teacher, film music editor, sound technician, producer, singer/songwriter, performer, session musician, répétiteur, musical director, accompanist, artist's agent... the list is endless. You don't even have to progress to a job directly related to music as many sectors purposefully recruit from the arts due to the wide range of skills people with an arts degree possess, such as good communication skills, analytical skills, critical listening, creative thinking, working to a deadline, working in a team and working independently.

Performing Arts (BTEC)

SYLLABUS TITLE: BTEC Tech Award Level 1/Level 2 in Performing Arts

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Assessment

100% Non-Exam Assessment

Course Outline - What will you learn?

Component 1—Exploring the Performing Arts. Get a taste of what it's like to be a professional actor or dancer.

Explore, investigate and discover performance styles. Skills and techniques. Internally assessed.

Component 2— Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts. Take part in workshops and gain new acting or dance skills then apply these skills in performance and reflect on your progress. Internally assessed.

Component 3—Performing to a Brief Work in a group to create a drama or dance performance based on a set brief to your chosen audience. Externally assessed

Support Available

Studio and rehearsal space is available for rehearsal after school each day. After school workshops are held as required. Performing Arts teachers are available for your support every day.

Who is this course for?

This course is for anyone with an interest in performance. You should be confident enough to perform on a weekly basis and have a genuine interest in all aspects of Performing Arts. You will be able to choose between Drama or Dance or may be able to use both disciplines in your assessments.

Progression and Career Opportunities

The transferable skills learnt in Performing Arts lend themselves to any career or any pathway of further study.

There is a natural progression into Level 3 Performing Arts courses but any course would welcome a student who has acquired the skills of a Performing Arts course.

Photography (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Art and Design: Photography

AWARDING BODY: WJEC

Assessment

40% Examination and 60% Non-Exam Assessment

Course Outline - What will you learn?

GCSE Photography is taught from a creative and artistic perspective and is designed to enhance students' conceptual understanding of the world around them. During the course, students will work with time-based media (photo, film, audio) to create a body of work experimenting with visual imagery. Work includes focused use of Digital SLR cameras, Apple Mac laptops and Photoshop editing. The students will enhance their creative skills and produce a professional portfolio to complement other creative courses or as a standalone portfolio ready for college interviews.

Students will work on three projects to form a body of coursework worth 60% (unit 1) and study an independently chosen topic cumulating in a 10 hour controlled test worth 40% (unit 2).

Work is moderated in an exhibition of the students' work in the summer term.

Support Available

Extra-curricular activities are weekly

Progression and Career Opportunities

AS Art and Design, AS Photography, AS Graphics, AS Textiles and AS 3D Design. Career opportunities are vast and varied from fashion designer, architect, graphic designer to a creative director on an international board. The course is design to equip students with creative and problem solving skills for many jobs in professional occupations.

Physical Education (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: Level 1 / Level 2 GCSE in Physical Education

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Assessment

60% Examination, 30% Controlled Assessment (Practical Sport) and 10% Controlled Assessment Task (coursework)

Course Outline - What will you learn?

Theory students will develop their knowledge and understanding of the theory behind sports performance. The course covers a wide variety of topics that conclude with two external examinations in Year 11.

Component 1

Examination 36%

Anatomy and Physiology
Physical Training
Movement Types

Component 2

Examination 24%

Health, Fitness and Well-Being
Sports Psychology
Socio-Cultural Influences

It is hoped that the introduction to these concepts will supplement and inspire both development of lifelong participation and elite success.

Practical (30%)

Students are taught and assessed across a variety of practical team and individual sports throughout the qualification. They are assessed in 3 sports which must be a combination of individual and team sports. Students who take part in sports outside of school, e.g. swimming, horse riding, will have the opportunity to be assessed in these activities.

Controlled Assessment (10%)

Students undertake a series of fitness tests to identify the strengths and areas of improvement in their personal fitness. They will then create and undertake a 6 week training programme where they will aim to improve their fitness. Finally they will review their fitness

Support Available

Additional support is available to all students selecting this subject in both breakfast and after-school sessions. In addition, we offer a personalised support programme to help students to secure at least their minimum expected target in the subject. Students on this programme will benefit from 1:1 support, peer coaching and smaller intervention sessions. A designated member of staff will be allocated as the student's mentor to provide weekly support and advice at mentoring meetings.

Who is this course for?

Students who have a passion for sport and who have a strong foundation knowledge of Science particularly Biology. Students are examined in three sports, a combination of team and individual therefore it would be beneficial that they are competent across a variety of sports and perform at club level in at least one sport.

Progression and Career Opportunities

A-Level in Physical Education; BTEC National in Sport; BTEC National in Public Services; Active iQ Level 3 Fitness Award. Career opportunities are wide and varied in the Sport and Leisure Industry including Sports Scientists, Physical Education Teachers, Sports Journalism, Sports Specific Coaches, Sports Development Officers and Leisure Centre Managers.

All students in Years 10 & 11 have one lesson of core PE each week. This is part of our curriculum offer. We understand the need for students to be physically active and the benefits that this brings. A healthy, active lifestyle helps to support students through the demands of the KS4 curriculum.

Sport (BTEC)

SYLLABUS TITLE: Level 1 / Level 2 BTEC First Award in Sport

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Assessment

25% Examination and 75% Controlled Assessment Task

Course Outline - What will you learn?

The BTEC First Award in Sport seeks to teach you a wide range of key skills in communication, organisation and team work as well as developing your knowledge and understanding of anatomy, physiology and fitness. Students will undertake the following:

External Online Exam (25%): Fitness for Sport and Exercise

Coursework Unit (25%): Practical Sports Performance

Coursework Unit (25%): Training for Personal Fitness

Coursework Unit (25%): The Sports Performer In Action

Coursework can be assessed through a variety of different formats including practical performance, written assessments, formal presentations, poster presentations and video footage.

Support Available

Additional support is available to all students selecting this subject in both breakfast and after-school sessions. In addition, we offer a personalised support programme to help students to secure at least their minimum expected target in the subject. Students on this programme will benefit from 1:1 support, peer coaching and smaller intervention sessions. A designated member of staff will be allocated as the student's mentor to provide weekly support and advice at mentoring meetings.

Who is this course for?

Students who have a passion for sport and fitness.

Progression and Career Opportunities

BTEC National in Sport; BTEC National in Public Services

Career opportunities are wide and varied in the Sport and Leisure Industry including Sports Scientists, Physical Education Teachers, Sports Journalism, Sports Specific Coaches, Sports Development Officers and Leisure Centre Managers.

All students in Years 10 & 11 have one lesson of core PE each week. This is part of our curriculum offer. We understand the need for students to be physically active and the benefits that this brings. A healthy, active lifestyle helps to support students through the demands of the KS4 curriculum.

Religious Studies (GCSE)

SYLLABUS TITLE: GCSE Religious Studies

AWARDING BODY: Pearson Edexcel

Assessment

100% Examination

Course Outline - What will you learn?

GCSE Religious Studies consists of two exams, examining two different religions: Christianity and Islam. Students will examine key ethical issues such as abortion, Euthanasia, marriage and the family. They will examine crime and punishment, peace and conflict discussing their opinions as well as others. They will examine the beliefs of Christianity and Islam and will get to experience their way of life through a visit to the places of worship.

Support Available

Experienced and enthusiastic subject staff. Regular session 5s give additional opportunities to learn. Targeted one to one support and intervention are available if students require further individual support.

Who is this course for?

This subject is for students who enjoy debate and discussions. Students will need to not only argue for their own opinions, but be prepared to consider other points of view.

Progression and Career Opportunities

As a well-respected qualification, GCSE Religious Studies allows students to develop a range of skills which will help students in their further studies. Whether continuing to explore religions, philosophical and ethical issues by studying A Level Religious Studies, or applying their knowledge and skills to other Humanities subjects, students will find their knowledge and skills will support further study.

KS4 Options Choices 2020 – 2022

Name:

Choose 1 of these (and a reserve option)	Choose 2 of these (and a reserve option)
Triple Science (GCSEs)	Art and Design (GCSE)
Computer Science (GCSE)	Business & Enterprise (BTEC)
Geography (GCSE)	Design & Technology (GCSE) or D&T (Textiles) (GCSE)
History (GCSE)	Film Studies (GCSE)
French (GCSE)	Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE)
Spanish (GCSE)	French (GCSE)
	Geography (GCSE)
	Health and Social Care (BTEC)
	History (GCSE)
	Music (GCSE)
	Performing Arts (BTEC)
	Photography (GCSE)
	Physical Education (GCSE) or Sport (BTEC)
	Religious Studies (GCSE)
	Spanish (GCSE)

I choose:	I choose
1.	1.
Reserve	2.
	Reserve

Signed:

(Student)

Signed:

(Parent/Carer)

Date:

This form will be sent to you via Edulink could you please return this form by Friday 19th March 2021. Thank you.