



Gold Standard Core curriculum
GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE & ENGLISH LITERATURE



Why study...

Studying English at GCSE will help equip you with a vital set of life-skills, relevant both for further study and in the wider world of work. Colleges and most employers require GCSE English. Studying Literature will help you develop a critical standpoint. You'll also gain a deeper appreciation of English literature as you learn some of the techniques and devices used in poems, novels and plays.

Subject Fact File

Lessons per week:	GCSE course begins Summer term of Year 9. 3 lessons in Year 9, 3 in Year 10 and 4 lessons in Year 11
Assessment:	100% examination
Examination Dates:	Summer 2019
Level of qualification:	2 GCSEs (Level 1 & Level 2 – grades 9 - 1)
Subject leader:	Mr Williams

Course Outline

Pupils will study English Language and English Literature. The English Language course will give pupils the opportunity to read a wide range of texts critically, and use knowledge gained from wide reading of 19th and 21st century prose to inform and improve their own writing. It also enables pupils to use spoken Standard English effectively. The course is assessed at the end of Year 11 by two external examinations.

In English Literature, pupils will read a wide range of classic literature, including Shakespeare, modern drama, poetry from 1789 to present day and prose. Pupils will be encouraged to read with good understanding and make connections across their reading. The course is assessed in Year 11 by two external examinations.

Where do pupils go next?

Lots of our pupils go on to study English and English Literature at places such as John Leggott, New College Pontefract and York College.

Points to note

Pupils will have the opportunity to read classic and exciting texts and show their creative talents through writing.

Career opportunities

Most employers require English at GCSE and once you've got it you're free to head off in almost any direction. Creative writers could think about careers in journalism, advertising or publishing. Those who like grammar and travel might end up teaching English abroad!



Gold Standard Core curriculum
GCSE MATHEMATICS



Why study...

Mathematics is the axis around which the earth rotates, it impacts every part of your life and will be crucial to any future career choice.

Subject Fact File

Lessons per week: 3 in Year 9 & 10 and 4 in Year 11

Assessment: 100% examination

Examination Dates: Summer 2019

Level of qualification: 1 GCSE (Foundation & Higher - grades 9 -1)(Tiered entry)

Subject leaders: Mr Williams (Head of Faculty) & Ms Johnson (Achievement Leader, Key Stage 4)

Course Outline

The course is taught over 3 years starting in Year 9 and covers 6 topics; Number, Algebra, Ratio, Proportion and rates of change, Geometry and Measure, Probability and Statistics. All pupils must have a scientific calculator every lesson. The course is designed to enable pupils to; develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts, apply mathematical techniques to solve problems, reason mathematically and draw conclusions and interpret information in a variety of mathematical ways.

Where do pupils go next?

All local sixth form colleges offer good A level courses - particularly Pontefract, Selby and John Leggott. Many pupils use Mathematics in a more practical way through apprenticeships. For all a good qualification is essential.

Points to note

All pupils take this course.
Success in Mathematics is vital to all career paths, as well as a life skill which supports adult life.

Career opportunities

GCSE Mathematics is an entry requirement for the vast majority of jobs and careers. Higher level qualifications in mathematics are useful in careers such as Accountancy, Engineering, Economics, Business and most of the Sciences, particularly Physics.



Gold Standard Core curriculum
GCSE SCIENCE
(BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS)



Why study...

- Understand the world around you and your role in that world
- Understand the role of Science plays in our society
- Act responsibly when using scientific equipment and applying scientific knowledge

Subject Fact File

Lessons per week: 5 covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics

Assessment: 100% examination

Examination Dates: Summer 2019

Level of qualification: 2 GCSEs (Level 1 & Level 2 - grades 9 -1)

Subject leader: Mr Warrington

Course Outline

- Pupils will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics building upon their GCSE work in Year 9. Experimental skills are also taught and will be covered in the final exams.

Where do pupils go next?

Local colleges offer AS and A level courses in Applied Science Biology, Chemistry and Physics which can then lead to further study in Higher Education.

Points to note

This is a course which supports all pupils and develops a true enjoyment of Science. Through this course pupils will be very prepared for further study in Science at college. **If you wish to take triple Science you should include it as one of your option choices.**

Career opportunities

Most employers will require Science at GCSE level as a basic requirement for employment. There are also many careers that use Science at different levels - careers in Medicine, Veterinary Science and Veterinary Nurses, chemical and manufacturing companies, engineering as well as the food production industry and hair and beauty.



Gold Standard Core curriculum
GCSE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Year 9 & Year 10)



Why study...

Religious Education teaches you the skills of weighing up different viewpoints and making decisions based on evidence. This is a key skill in many occupations.

Subject Fact File

Lessons per week: 2 (Years 9 and 10 only)
Assessment: 100% examination
Examination Dates: Summer 2018
Level of qualification: 1 GCSE (Level 1 & Level 2 - grades 9 - 1)
Subject leader: Mr Gardner

Course Outline

Pupils are currently following the Religious Education GCSE full course Route A. This is with WJEC/EDUCAS examination board. Pupils will study two religions in depth, Christianity (1 hour examination 25%) and Judaism (1 hour examination 25%) in year 9. In year 10 pupils will study 4 topics of Philosophical and Ethical Studies in the Modern World (2 hour examination 50%). Topics include Human Relationships, Issues of Life and Death, Good and Evil, and Human Rights. This course gives pupils the opportunity to further both their knowledge and understanding, but also gives them time to reflect upon their own beliefs, opinions and ideas.

Where do pupils go next?

There are opportunities to pursue Religious Education further at A level at Heythrop College, New College Pontefract, John Legott and Selby College.

Points to note

This course is compulsory for pupils. The course is designed to accommodate students of all religious and non-religious persuasions.

Career opportunities

Past pupils have gone on to enter the teaching profession, Law, social work or further study at degree level in Theology, Philosophy or Politics. Many employers value the critical thinking skills that RE offers.



Non-Gold Standard Core curriculum
PSHCEE
(Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship & Enterprise Education)



Why study...
PSHCEE provides pupils with the knowledge, skills and understanding to prepare them to play a full and active part in society.

Subject Fact File	
Lessons per week:	1
Assessment:	No external assessment takes place
Examination Dates:	Not applicable
Level of qualification:	Not applicable
Subject leader:	Mrs Hewitt

Course Outline

The course covers a wide range of topics including British values, democracy and the rule of law as well as financial education. In Year 10 pupils study behaviour in society, personal finance including budgeting, wages and payday loans, healthy lifestyles, sex education, UK and EU politics, crime and punishment, work related activities and careers education. In Year 11 pupils focus on preparation for work experience, revision and 'life after' The Snaith School, including the completion of the common application process (CAP) to Post-16 education and training, health education, first aid, Britain's role in the world and poverty.

Where do pupils go next?

There is no direct progression route from this non-externally assessed course. However, pupils are encouraged to develop and adopt safe and healthy lifestyles, empathy, an understanding of diversity and the ability to contribute economically.

Points to note

Career opportunities

Provides the opportunity to develop and enhance the skills essential to a successful life framed around the 'Every Child Matters' agenda (Be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution, achieve economic well-being).



Non-Gold Standard Core curriculum
PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Why study...

"PE is great. I love all of the practical work. I could do it every day...It's a good break from my examination subjects."

A former pupil

Subject Fact File

Lessons per week:	1
Assessment:	No external assessment takes place
Examination Dates:	Not applicable
Level of qualification:	Not applicable
Subject leader:	Mr Franklin

Course Outline

You will have already received a good grounding in the 'Core' PE activities. The programme in Years 10 and 11 allows you to develop individual expertise in other areas to encourage your continued participation after leaving school. Pupils are encouraged to develop positive attitudes towards participation. This encourages healthy attitudes and positive lifestyles. Representative teams continue to run for both boys and girls, with excellent results being achieved in the past. Those with exceptional ability have gone on to represent the District and County.

Where do pupils go next?

There is no clear progression route from this non-certificated course. However, pupils are encouraged to adopt healthy lifestyles that will stay with them into adulthood.

Points to note

It is expected in the Department that you continue to wear the regulation school kit, which must be named and kept clean.

The wearing of watches and jewellery during PE lessons is not permitted as it can cause injury to both the wearer and others. It is a government requirement that participation is mandatory.

Career opportunities

An interest in sport will enable pupils to lead healthy lifestyles into adulthood and should impact positively on any chosen career path.