



Gold Standard English Baccalaureate option choice
GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE



Why study...

A complete knowledge based GCSE about the understanding of how computers work.

Computer Science develops valuable programming and computational skills.

Subject Fact File

Lessons per week: 2.5

Assessment: 80% Written examination & 20% Controlled Assessment

Examination Dates: Summer 2019

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

Subject leader: Mr Sands

Course Outline

The course coherently covers various aspects of computing, from computer hardware and the social impact of computing; to binary logic and the use of algorithms to solve problems within computer programs. Students will gain an in-depth knowledge of computer systems and will learn to apply creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of IT in a range of contexts.

Students will get the chance to study and learn Python programming language and apply this to code a solution to a given problem.

Where do pupils go next?

A Level Computer Science or A Level Computer Studies at a range of local colleges and Sixth Forms.

Points to note

You will need a good level of literacy, strong analytical skills and an interest in logical problem solving as the course requires a high level of computational thinking.

Career opportunities

1. All A Level Computer Science courses.
2. Careers in the IT industry.
3. Software development or system administration career paths.



Gold Standard English Baccalaureate option choice
GCSE FRENCH



Why study...

“It is one of the qualifications which makes up the EBacc and used by many universities as an entry requirement. Studying French also shows that you are adaptable, flexible and open-minded; all skills which are highly appreciated by today's employers.”

Subject Fact File

Lessons per week: 2.5

Assessment: 4 skill areas assessed: Listening 25%, Reading 25%,
Speaking 25%, Writing 25%

Examination Dates: Summer 2019

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

Subject leader: Ms Reynolds

Course Outline

The GCSE course builds on the foundations laid in KS3. Pupils will follow the AQA course, along with other relevant materials. They will also have use of the computer suite on a regular basis to access relevant programmes and websites. The speaking element is externally assessed at the end of Year 11, with the listening, reading and writing elements assessed through the external examination. All four of the assessments require thorough preparation and memorisation. The themes covered are Identity and Culture; Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest and Current and Future Study and Employment

Where do pupils go next?

Pupils can continue with the study of French at AS or A2 level at the sixth form colleges in the area and would be made very welcome by these institutions.

Points to note

The study of a foreign language is a very positive attribute to offer with many employers regarding it as a sign of flexibility and good communication skills. You should be self-motivated and prepared to learn and apply grammatical rules and commit vocabulary to memory.

Career opportunities

It does not have to lead to a career directly connected with languages (i.e. translator) but is always welcome in the business sphere. Languages also play a large part in the sales, marketing and export departments of many firms.



Gold Standard English Baccalaureate option choice
GCSE GEOGRAPHY



Why study...

- To increase your knowledge of places and processes in the world.
- To improve and extend your range of transferable skills.
- To understand that human actions can have a beneficial as well as a detrimental effect on the environment.

Subject Fact File

Lessons per week: 2.5

Assessment: Three papers - 100% examination

Examination Dates: Summer 2019

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

Subject leader: Mr Nichols

Course Outline

The course focuses on the critical importance of Geography for understanding the world and for stimulating an interest in places. It will inspire pupils to become global citizens by exploring their place in the world, their values and responsibilities to other people and to the environment. Pupils will study natural hazards, UK physical landscapes, living world (including ecosystems and tropical rainforests), urban issues and resources and food. Pupils will also be involved with issue evaluation and geographical skills work. Fieldwork will be included in the study of at least two of the topics studied.

Where do pupils go next?

All local colleges provide a range of Geography based courses. All providers value GCSE geography as it shows great special awareness.

Points to note

This course is suitable for anyone with an interest in the world and the environment. You have been studying the real GCSE throughout year 9. Use your assessment data to help you choose!

Career opportunities

Studying Geography at GCSE will help to develop many of the abilities and skills employers are looking for. It is recognised as a valuable subject for a range of jobs which require a knowledge of the world in which we live.



Gold Standard English Baccalaureate option choice
GCSE HISTORY



Why study...

The benefits of studying History are two-fold: 1. You get to study the past and therefore get a better understanding of the world we live in today; 2. You develop critical skills that will allow you to fully explain, argue and interpret different situations.

Subject Fact File

Lessons per week:	2.5
Assessment:	Two papers - 100% examination
Examination Dates:	Summer 2019
Level of qualification:	1 GCSE (Level 1 & Level 2 - grades 9 - 1)
Subject leader:	Mrs Cranston

Course Outline

A GCSE qualification in History places a great deal of emphasis on the development and application of historical skills (i.e. what you can do), rather than the memorisation of facts and dates. The AQA GCSE History qualification features the following elements; one period study (Germany 1890 - 1945), one wider world study (International Relations 1919 - 1945), one British depth study (Elizabethan England 1568 - 1603) and one thematic study (Britain - Power and the people).

Where do pupils go next?

All local colleges provide a range of History based courses.

Points to note

Pupils must be prepared to work hard. The course includes note taking, regular homework and reading.

Career opportunities

Qualifications in History provide crucial skills that are useful for a very wide range of careers including; Teaching, Police Force, Military Careers, Journalism and Law.