

Our Curriculum Offer

Young people can change their minds a great deal between the ages of 14 and 19 about what direction they wish to take in life. Our curriculum ensures future career options are kept open for as long as possible; we operate a core curriculum for all students to help to achieve this, whilst allowing as much freedom as possible to allow the pursuit of personal interests. Please remember a good range of subjects is preferable.

Core Examined Curriculum

The mandatory core curriculum leads to externally assessed qualifications in English, mathematics and science. All students will study this.

Core Non-Examined Curriculum

These courses do not lead to an externally assessed and recognised qualification, but form a central part of a well-rounded education. They are also required by law and will be found in all UK school curricula.

Optional Examined Courses

We have kept the core quite small so as to allow a significant amount of flexibility for students in the curriculum time that remains; we want our pupils to have as much choice as possible as they move into upper school.

You must choose one of the following subjects in any block.

GCSE French or GCSE Spanish OR GCSE Geography or GCSE History.

Then three subjects, one from each, in the remaining three blocks below.

Block A

GCSE Business

GCSE Geography

GCSE History

GCSE Media

GCSE Photography

GCSE Physical Education

GCSE Psychology

Level 2 Award in Engineering Design

Level 2 CNAT in Creative iMedia*

BTEC Technical Award Level 2 in Performing Arts

Block B

GCSE Business

GCSE Design & Technology

GCSE French

GCSE Geography

GCSE History

GCSE Photography

GCSE Physical Education

GCSE Psychology

GCSE Religious Studies

Level 2 Award in Engineering Design

BTEC Technical Award Level 2 in Music Practice

Block C

GCSE Art, Craft & Design

GCSE Business

GCSE Geography

GCSE History

GCSE Photography

GCSE Physical Education

GCSE Separate Sciences

GCSE Sociology

GCSE Spanish

Level 2 Award in Hospitality & Catering

Block D

GCSE Art, Craft & Design

GCSE Computer Science*

GCSE Design & Technology

GCSE Geography

GCSE History

GCSE Physical Education

GCSE Separate Sciences

GCSE Sociology

GCSE Spanish

Level 2 CACHE in Child Development and Care

Level 2 Technical Certificate in Financial Education

^{*} Only one of these two subjects are permitted.

[♦] A target grade 6 is required and should come with a teacher recommendation.





Core Examined Curriculum

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Combined Science[§]
- ♦ Separate sciences are also available through the options system, a target grade 6 is required and should come with a teacher recommendation.



Core Non-Examined Curriculum

- · Physical Education
- Personal Development Programme



Core Non-Examined Curriculum

All students follow a common curriculum of mandatory subjects. These are not examined, but form an integral part of a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to develop the whole student, including an understanding of and appreciation for values and beliefs within our country's society.

The programme supports the aims of the school and in particular the creation of a social ethos which encourages students to feel secure, and to be tolerant and respectful towards each other, and to give students the maximum opportunity to develop all their abilities.

The teaching of discrete Personal Development is delivered to students across the school in tutor groups once every two weeks. Through this programme we aim to equip students with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to develop an understanding of and respect for themselves, to develop a healthy lifestyle, learning how to recognise and manage risks and how to make safe and healthy choices, to develop effective and fulfilling relationships and to respect the needs and rights of others, and to develop an understanding of our society and local community and learn how to play an active part in community life.

Identify the subjects that you like the sound of or particularly enjoy.

Identify your best subjects, asking your teachers how well you are likely to do in a GCSE examination if you are unsure.

Research any subjects you have not studied before by reading the pages in this guide carefully and talking to the subject staff.

Do you have a particular career in mind?

Look at university courses, sixth form prospectuses and online careers websites to find out what subjects, if any, are needed for this career. The Academy also has a University Programme. (See Year 9 Guide)

Keep your options broad and balanced. Consider booking a careers interview. Research possible careers online and use the guidance within this booklet.

Seek out and listen to the advice of your tutor, director of achievement, careers advisor, other teachers, parents, the senior leadership team, employers and any other internet research.

Think about the advice and guidance you have been given, consider the subjects you have identified and choose your options.

NB: If the options as provided do not permit you to take the course you require, please talk to us as soon as possible.