

2026

YEAR 9 OPTIONS

Option Choices and Information



Pride

Respect

Success

YEAR 9 OPTIONS | INTRODUCTION

Choosing your Key Stage 4 subjects is an important and exciting milestone. Over the next two years, the decisions you make will help to shape experiences, open up future pathways and allow you to develop your interests and strengths. At Penrice, our goal is to provide an ambitious, engaging and rich curriculum for every learner; one that combines strong academic foundations, rich character development and a broad range of opportunities.

This booklet is designed to guide families and learners through the options process with clarity and confidence. Inside, you will find information about each subject, the skills and knowledge they will develop, and how different combinations can support future education, training and careers. We encourage families to talk together, seek advice from teachers and leaders, and choose subjects that will both challenge and inspire you. Our commitment is simple: no learner is left behind, and every learner is supported to succeed.

Choosing your subjects is a personal decision. While friends may choose one pathway and family members may have their own experiences to share, the most important factor is that the choices are right for you, your strengths, your interests and your future aspirations.

At Penrice Academy, we are committed to ensuring that every learner is fully supported throughout the options process. You will receive guidance from subject teachers, tutors and senior leaders who understand your progress, your potential and the skills you need to develop next. We encourage you to ask questions, attend information events and take time to reflect carefully before making final decisions.



Tanya Coleman

Headteacher



YEAR 9 OPTIONS | THE TIMELINE

The options process is carefully structured to give learners and families time to explore subjects, seek advice and make informed decisions with confidence. This timeline sets out the key milestones — from the launch of the options booklet and information events, through to guidance meetings and the final submission of choices.

Each step is designed to ensure that learners feel supported, well-informed and clear about what happens next. We encourage families to refer to these dates carefully and engage fully at each stage so that every learner can make thoughtful and successful choices for the next phase of their education.

13th March

Publication of the Options Booklet

Digital and/or printed booklet shared with families, detailing subjects, qualifications and guidance.

26th March

Options & Progress Evening

Presentation from senior leaders explaining the process, followed by opportunities to speak with subject teachers about options.

27th March - 5th April

Options Form Available

Structured time for learners to reflect on strengths, interests and progress with a trusted adult.

1st June

Final Confirmation of Options

Written confirmation of allocated subjects shared with learners and families.

10th March

Options Launch Assembly

Introduction to the options process for learners, outlining expectations, key dates and available pathways.

17th March

Taster Lessons or Subject Showcases

Opportunities for learners to experience new subjects or qualifications before making decisions.

26th March - 5th April

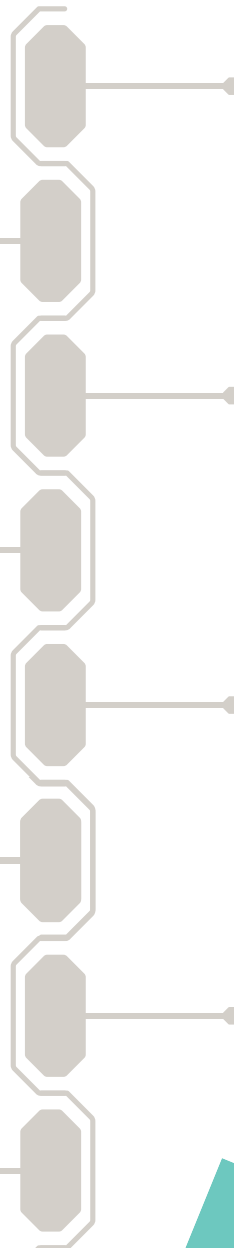
Individual Options Interviews

One-to-one meetings with a senior leader, careers advisor or progress leader to review suitability and ambition.

10th April

Options Form Deadline

Learners and families need to have submitted their options forms with their preferences



THE OPTIONS PROCESS

Each year, students in Year 9 complete their Options at Penrice, signalling the first time in their education where they have a say in what they study. Whilst this is an important milestone and some students will already be sure about what they want to choose, even what they wish to study beyond Penrice, others will be unsure and that is perfectly normal.

We are ambitious for our students, and we want to create every opportunity for them to be able to study a broad and balanced range of knowledge and skills, as well as be competitive in an everchanging world.

Please take the time to look through this booklet of all the available Options and make the most of opportunities to discuss your options selections during the Progress and Options Evening and Student-Teacher Personalised One-to-One Options Interviews.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

CORE Curriculum

All students will study Maths, English (both English Literature and English Language) and Combined Science. Students in the higher sets will study three separate Sciences: Chemistry, Physics and Biology. Final decisions about whether students will study combined or triple science will be made at the end of Year 9.

All students will study the Language they have studied in key stage 3. Learning a Language is a major life skill and benefits students both culturally and cognitively.

Students have the option to study Geography, History, or both subjects as part of the options process when selecting their GCSE courses. Geography and History help students understand the world around them by exploring how societies, environments and global events have shaped the past, present and future.

All students will participate in Core PE lessons to enhance fitness and promote healthy lifestyles. In addition to Core PE students can opt to study an additional option in Sport Science.

All students will also study CLASS (Culture, Lifestyle and Society Studies) as a non-examined subject, which includes the compulsory Religious Studies curriculum.

Open Options

Students choose two Open Options. These subjects will provide a broad and rich experience, developing interest and enjoyment as well as lifelong learning skills and knowledge that will be fundamental for further success. Initially students will choose 5 Open subjects and rank order them in terms of preference. Every effort will be made to allocate students their top two preferences, but this may not always be possible.



YEAR 9 OPTIONS | TYPES OF QUALIFICATION

There are a wide variety of qualifications available to students and it is important that you and your child understand the difference between the qualifications so that they can make informed decisions about which style of learning is best for them.

GCSE	General Certificate Secondary Education: GCSEs are academic qualifications which are graded 9–1, with grade 5 considered a good pass and grade 9 being the highest.
BTEC	This stands for Business and Technology Council qualification. BTEC qualifications are vocational and include links to industry. We have selected BTEC qualifications that have excellent progression routes to local colleges and links to high levels of employment in Cornwall, nationally and globally.
Cambridge National	Similar to BTECs, Cambridge Nationals are vocational qualifications, with a focus on applied learning and real world skills. They have clear links to careers or further education in the relevant fields.

YEAR 9 OPTIONS | WORDS FROM MR BEAUGIE

"I am incredibly excited to be a part of this journey with Year 9 and I look forward to meeting you as their parents/carers. Options Evening allows us, as a year group, to gain a deeper understanding into specific subjects. Additionally, it is an opportunity to discuss aspirations and how they may tie to individual subject areas.

As a year group, we pride ourselves on 'respect' and the core values that underpin success. The year group have built strong foundations for success through their daily interactions with staff and peers, as well as their relentless application in lessons.

This is yet another opportunity to discuss current progress with their core subject teachers and reflect deeply upon their current academic progression. Once again, I look forward to welcoming you all on the evening of the event."



H Beaugie

Head of Year 9



CORE

Qualifications

All Learners will study qualifications in...

English Literature	Maths	Science
English Language		

BREADTH

Qualifications

All Learners will study **two subjects** from the lists below, they must come **from two different groups**.

Group 1 Humanities GCSE	Group 2 Languages GCSE
History	Spanish
Geography	French

OPEN

Qualifications

All Learners will study **two subjects** from the lists below, they can be **from any category**.

History	Fine Art	Sport Science & PE
Geography	Drama	Design Technology
Mandarin*	Music	Engineering
Film Studies	Art and Design	Food & Nutrition
Sociology	Creative iMedia	Child Development
	Computer Science	Health and Social Care
	Business	Animal Care

*An available option for existing Mandarin students only.

We aim to give students their preferred choices of option subjects, however this is not always possible. Some subjects will not run, and others will be oversubscribed, so please ensure you carefully consider the order of your option preferences when completing the form. Preference one and two will be given priority when sorting groups.

C O R E

English



English Language

English Language is a vital subject that allows students to become lifelong learners. The subject fosters creativity, not just in the texts students study, but also in how they think and respond to them as well as thinking more critically about the world around them.

Throughout the course, students will develop their reading and writing skills in fiction and non-fiction as well as complete a Spoken Language element (non-examination assessment).

English Literature

English Literature is an important subject that enables students to grow into compassionate and empathetic people who have an ability to reflect more personally upon their life experiences.

During the course, students will study a range of texts and the context of them. The texts studied include a Shakespearean play, 19th-century novel, Modern Text and a range of poetry (including poems from the Power and Conflict section of the AQA anthology + unseen poetry).

Key Knowledge & Skills

English Language, will enable students to:

- read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts considering writers' craft
- respond analytically and critically to texts
- craft their own writing
- use Standard English appropriately
- use grammar correctly, punctuate and spell accurately
- acquire and apply a wide vocabulary
- present, listen and respond to spoken language

English Literature, will enable students to:

- develop skills in reading comprehension and reading critically
- evaluate writers' choices of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features
- explore context, considering writers' intentions
- compare texts from different eras and contexts

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Students will achieve two GCSEs; one in English Language and one in English Literature. These qualifications are assessed through examination only at the end of the course.

Progression and Careers

English skills are essential for every job or career. Students can progress to study English, English Language or English Literature at A level. There are many different degree options linked to English.

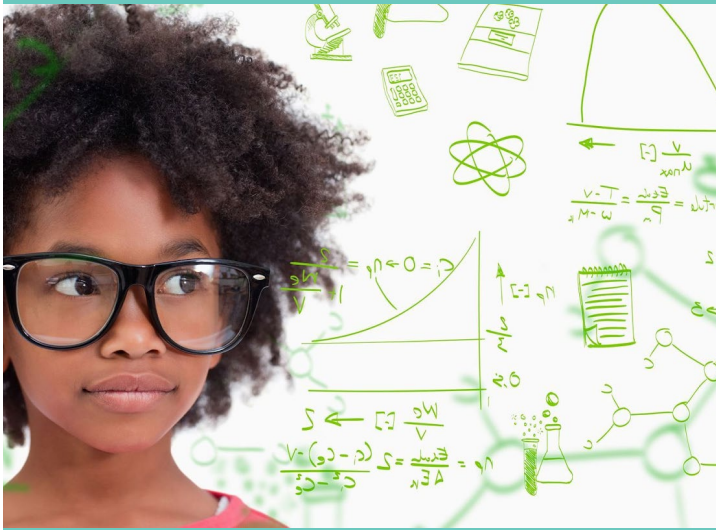
Possible careers linked to English include: administration; advertising; broadcasting; copywriting; editing; journalism; law; librarianship; media; proofreading; public relations; publishing; research; teaching; television; university lecturing; writing.

"As a Year 11 I am thoroughly enjoying English; I've studied both English Language and Literature."

"In English we cover things such as drama, poetry and Shakespeare which are all very interesting and fun subjects to be taught. English is a subject where there's something involved for everyone!"

C O R E

Maths



Our Maths curriculum has been designed with depth of student understanding, engagement and enjoyment at its core.

Through well structured and carefully sequenced lessons, students develop a positive mindset towards maths and gain confidence in their ability to reason and problem solve.

'Mathematics has beauty and romance.

It's not a boring place to be, the mathematical world.

It's an extraordinary place; it's worth spending time there.'

Marcus du Sautoy - British Mathematician

Key Knowledge & Skills

Throughout Key Stage 4, students are given opportunities to explore mathematics for fun and participate in extra-curricular activities such as the UK Maths Challenge. These experiences enrich students' learning, help them make links between maths and the world around them and ultimately prepare them for life beyond Penrice.

In Year 9, students' experience of maths is enriched as they begin to explore how to apply the fundamental principles secured through our mastery curriculum in Key Stage 3 to unlock the visible and invisible maths which permeates their lives.

As students progress through Key Stage 4, those demonstrating the potential of becoming our most promising mathematicians are given the opportunity to complete the Further Maths (Level 2) qualification in preparation for progressing their studies to further and higher education.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

EDEXCEL GCSE Mathematics Assessment of GCSE will consist of three (equally weighted) 90-minute exams, broken down into one non-calculator and two calculator papers.

There are two tiers of entry; Higher (Grades 4 - 9), Foundation (Grades 1 - 5).

Progression and Careers

Astronaut, Accountant, Architect, Bank Manager, Data Analyst, Economist, Engineer, Financial Advisor, Market Researcher, Medical Researcher, Meteorologist, Programmer, Pyrotechnics Expert, Statistician, Surveyor, Systems Analyst, Teacher.

C O R E

Science



Combined or Triple Science?

The majority of our students will sit Combined Science, which will incorporate aspects of all three sciences (Biology, Chemistry & Physics) into two GCSE qualifications.

Our most able scientists will be selected to sit Triple Science and will take separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry & Physics towards the end of Year 9. Both pathways are very similar through Year 9 enabling us to make decisions on which students will be selected based on the attainment achieved in their assessments throughout Year 7, 8 and 9 in consultation with their science teacher.

The triple science pathway provides excellent opportunities to study some aspects of the science specification in more detail as well as additional modules such as Space.

In order to study triple science, students will be required to do an extra lesson one day a week during Year 10. This will be with a Science teacher and will run like a normal lesson from 15:15 to 16:30.

Key Knowledge & Skills

GCSE Science provides the foundations for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's prosperity and sustainability, all students should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. The course helps students appreciate the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world.

This is achieved by enabling students to:

- Develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding of biology, chemistry and physics.
- Develop scientific enquiry skills to help them answer scientific questions about the world around them.
- Apply observational, practical, modelling and problem solving skills, both in the laboratory and in the field.
- Develop the ability to critically evaluate scientific claims.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

All Science GCSE Courses are assessed through 100% terminal Exams. All exams will be taken at the end of Year 11 in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

All students sit 6 exams in total, 2 for each of the sciences. Exams in Combined science will be 75 minutes (1 hour 15 minutes). Exams in Triple science will be 105 minutes (1 hour 45 minutes).

Progression and Careers

Either combined or separate science enables students to progress onto single sciences at A-level or to further education courses in many scientific branches. Studying science opens up a wide variety of career opportunities.

C O R E

Geography



'Geography is the tapestry that weaves the world together.'

Gil Grosvenor

Subject Overview

You will take part in a field trip to Plymouth and to Fistril Beach where you will develop a wide range of fieldwork skills such as evaluation and data collection techniques.

You will also learn more about past climate change and current climate change and how we mitigate against this. We will also study global and local connections such as the Middle East, Mumbai and Nigeria alongside studying local places such as Plymouth, St Austell and Dartmoor National Park.

CORE 1: CHANGING PHYSICAL AND HUMAN LANDSCAPES

Unit 1: Landscape and Physical Processes
Unit 2: Rural-Urban Links
Unit 3: Coastal Hazards and their management

This unit looks at important physical changes in the world, and their impact on people.

CORE 2: ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Unit 1: Weather, Climate and Ecosystems
Unit 2: Development and Resource Issues
Unit 3: Social Development

This unit supports students to understand our very recent environmental and social challenges that face us on this ever-changing world, and the solutions in place to become a sustainable planet.

CORE 3: APPLIED FIELDWORK ENQUIRY

This includes the work from Plymouth and an additional fieldtrip to Fistril Beach. You will also develop the skills to make geographical decisions based on a current geographical issue. The focus will be on applying geographical skills whilst undertaking two pieces of fieldwork research.

Key Knowledge & Skills

Geography develops independent, enquiring learners who understand our changing world, appreciate diverse perspectives, act as responsible global citizens, and apply their knowledge through real-world skills such as fieldwork, GIS, statistics and map work.

GCSE Geography Assessment

There is no coursework for this qualification. Core 1, 2 will be assessed by written examinations, each of 1 hour 30 minutes. Each paper is worth 35% of the total grade.

Core 3 Will be assessed by a 1 hour 30 minute written examination which is worth 30% of the final grade.

Progression and Careers

Geography is an education for life. Colleges and employers value the board range of written, analytical and verbal skills that geography delivers.

A GCSE in Geography is an excellent foundation for many careers e.g. Geology, Engineering, Tourism, Business and Commerce, Nature Conservation, Civil Aviation, Astronaut & Local Government.

History



Why study History?

History helps us understand our place in the world, it helps us make sense of shared experiences and struggles.

It also helps develop critical thinking, analysis of evidence and evaluation of opinions. It helps you win arguments. It helps you fight for what is right. It opens doors, whether that is the door to college, university, or employment.

Subject Overview

In Years 7-9 you developed an understanding of History and built the skills needed for your GCSE. What you studied throughout those years was designed to prepare you for History at GCSE. For your GCSE course, you will study:

Paper 1: Medicine through time, 1250–present. The progress and development of medicine from medieval beliefs to the introduction of the NHS

Paper 2, part 1: Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88. A depth study that asks what challenges did Elizabeth I face? Why did England go to war with Spain? What was it like to live in Elizabethan society?

Paper 2, part 2: The American West. C1835-c1895. This topic study is about the settlement of the American West. You will

learn about conflict between Indigenous People of the Great Plains and settlers from the USA, how life changed in America between 1835 and 1895.

Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39. A source-based depth study that is about engaging in historical debate and challenging the views of historians. Were the Nazis chosen by the people of Germany? Did the Nazis persuade Germans through propaganda, or did they rule through terror?

Key Knowledge & Skills

- You will improve your skills in critically analysing sources and spotting fake news.
- You will develop your ability to argue persuasively.
- You will learn about some of the most important moments in the History of Humanity.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

You will sit three exams which cover the four topics that you will study. We have developed your writing ability over the last three years, so you can be confident in your ability to excel in these assessments.

Progression and Careers

A GCSE in History gives you life skills...

It is very highly regarded by colleges, universities and professions.

Studying history is of great benefit to many careers, but is especially linked to jobs in the media, government, education, academia, museums, tourism, law and public service.



C O R E

French



Subject Overview

French at GCSE offers an invaluable opportunity for students to hone their language skills and become confident French speakers. Over the next three years, you will have the chance to really immerse yourself in both the language and culture of France and French-speaking countries around the world, building on your current knowledge and discovering a wealth of new skills.

Year 9 focuses on bringing the language to life as we sponsor a child in Madagascar and get to discover more about them, their country and their experiences. We also delve into the captivating culture and history of France and discover the opportunities available to us as French speakers when we visit.

All lessons focus on natural and spontaneous language use, enabling students to adapt to a range of scenarios from everyday conversations and holiday exchanges, to writing articles on the global issues that concern you the most.

Key Knowledge & Skills

Year 9 broadens your understanding of French history, culture and language, consolidating prior learning and taking your linguistic knowledge to a much higher level.

Throughout Years 10 and 11, we continue to build on this, covering a wide range of linguistic and grammatical structures to ensure that students are confident communicators, who are fully prepared for the GCSE and future study.

By the end of Year 11, you will have thoroughly explored the 5 key themes included in the GCSE exams - identity and culture; local area, holidays and travel; school; future aspirations, study and work; as well as international and global dimensions.

All lessons focus on building your confidence in using the language for a wide range of purposes incorporating the key skills that you will need when using French abroad, taking the GCSE and in preparing for further study at A-level.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

You will complete 4 GCSE exams; one for each of the 4 key skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing. These are equally weighted and are designed to assess spontaneous, creative language use.

Progression and Careers

French is an integral part of the EBacc route and as such is highly valued by all colleges and universities. It can be studied at A-level or through the International Baccalaureate at the colleges of Truro, Callywith and Plymouth, with the opportunity of taking it on to further study at university level.

There is a wide array of opportunities at many universities across the country, including studying it in combination with law, business studies, management, politics, linguistics, sciences, humanities and music. Careers in international law, the diplomatic service, air travel, retail, merchandising and buying, digital marketing, recruitment consultancy, customer relations and sales are among the many exciting opportunities for holders of post-16 qualifications in French.

C O R E

Spanish



Subject Overview

Spanish at GCSE offers an invaluable opportunity for Spanish students to hone their language skills and become confident Spanish speakers. Over the next three years, you will really immerse yourself in both the language and culture of Spain and Spanish-speaking countries around the world, building on your current knowledge and discovering a wealth of new skills.

Year 9 focuses on bringing the language to life as we sponsor two children (one in Ecuador and one in Colombia) and get to discover more about them, their country and their experiences. We also delve into the captivating culture and history of Spain and discover the opportunities available to us as Spanish speakers when we visit.

All lessons focus on natural and spontaneous language use, enabling students to adapt to a range of scenarios from everyday conversations and holiday exchanges, to writing articles on the global issues that concern you the most.

Key Knowledge & Skills

Year 9 broadens your understanding of Spanish history, culture and language, consolidating prior learning and taking your linguistic knowledge to a much higher level.

Throughout Years 10 and 11, we continue to build on this, covering a wide range of linguistic and grammatical structures to ensure that students are confident communicators, who are fully prepared for the GCSE and future Spanish study.

By the end of Year 11, you will have thoroughly explored the 5 key themes included in the GCSE exams - identity and culture; local area, holidays and travel; school; future aspirations, study and work; as well as international and global dimensions.

All lessons focus on building your confidence in using the language for a wide range of purposes; incorporating the key skills that you will need when using Spanish abroad; taking the GCSE and in preparing for further study at A-level.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

You will complete 4 GCSE exams; one for each of the 4 key skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing. These are equally weighted and are designed to assess spontaneous, creative language use.

Progression and Careers

Spanish is an integral part of the EBacc route and as such is highly valued by all colleges and universities.

It can be studied at A-level or through the International Baccalaureate at the colleges of Truro, Callywith and Plymouth, with the opportunity of taking it on to further study at university level.

There is a wide array of opportunities at many universities across the country, including studying Spanish in combination with law, business studies, management, politics, linguistics, sciences, humanities and music. Careers in international law, the diplomatic service, air travel, retail, merchandising and buying, digital marketing, recruitment consultancy, customer relations and sales are among the many exciting opportunities for holders of post-16 qualifications in Spanish.

C O R E

Core PE



All students participate in Core PE at Key Stage 4. Our curriculum offer aims to promote engagement, inclusivity and lifelong physical activity. All students get to participate in a broad range of sports and physical activity in line with the National Curriculum during their lessons. This is complimented by, the opportunity to continue participating in school sport and physical activity during our extra-curricular programme.

Students can:

- Continue to experience competitive situations, and be given the opportunity to evaluate and analyse performances of self and others, specifically, those who are club and school team players who have a passion for sport.
- Further develop to become more resilient, build their self-esteem, further progress their teamwork and practical skills, specifically, those who enjoy working with others, enjoy being active and trying new sports and activities and who like to develop themselves or level of physical activity.
- Develop understanding and knowledge on the key elements of health and well-being. Specifically, students can enjoy working at their own pace in activities with a clear focus on being active and enjoying their PE.
- Improve and build on their tactical knowledge, techniques, and strategies in a sporting environment as well as enhance understanding and application of the values of PE which we consider so important in the development of the individual.



C O R E

CLASS

Culture, Life and Society Studies



CLASS aims to equip you with essential skills for life. It intends to develop the whole you, through carefully planned and resourced lessons that develop your knowledge, skills and attributes that you need to be safe and enhance your well-being.

It covers three core themes: Health and Wellbeing; Relationships; and Living in the Wider World. Through lessons, you will learn how to understand and implement the key values of the PSHE/RSHE curriculum independently.

Lessons will use real-life scenarios, facts and figures which will allow you to discuss, debate and conclude what you believe the outcomes may be. We will also use experts and guest speakers to share their insight on chosen topics.

Unit Key

- Health and Wellbeing
- Relationships
- Living in the wider world

Year 9

Peer Influences, Substance Use and Gangs:

Healthy and unhealthy friendships, assertiveness, substance misuse, gang exploitation and criminal responsibility.

Setting Goals and Options: Abilities and interests, how to work towards aspirations and set meaningful goals for the future.

Respectful Relationships: Parenting, respectful relationships, conflict resolution and what happens when relationships end.

Healthy Lifestyle: Diet, exercise, lifestyle balance and healthy choices.

Intimate Relationships: Relationships and sex education including consent, contraception, the risks of STIs, and attitudes to pornography.

The Internet: Online presence and how to manage your online brand.

Year 10

Work Experience: Preparation and readiness for work experience, including applications and interview skills.

Mental Health: Mental health and ill health, stigma and safeguarding health. Reframing negative thinking, signs, strategies and signposting.

Healthy Relationships: Relationships and sex expectations, myths, pleasure and challenges.

Exploring Influences: The influence and impact of binge drinking, influence of others and role models.

Addressing Extremism and Radicalisation: Communities, belonging and challenging extremism.

Problem Solving: Managing practical problems and maintaining a positive personal presence online.

Financial Decision Making: The impact of financial decisions.

Year 11

Work Experience: Evaluation of experience.

Communication and Citizenship:

Personal values and relationship + ■ communication.

Healthy Relationships: Managing relationships and conflict.

Independence: Responsible health choices, safety in independent contexts, responsibility and tolerance.

Financial Decision Making: University and student loans, tax and mortgages.

Families: Marriage, pregnancies, help and support for relationships.

Assessment

There is no external exam accreditation within CLASS but progress is still assessed through student's interaction via classwork, discussions, debates and time for personal reflection. Students will also be set fortnightly homework challenges and in class tests to establish their learning from pre-set learning criteria which the students will be able to reflect on during their academic journey.

O P E N

Sociology



Sociology is the study of groups of people and their place in the world. Sociology shows us that society can be better understood by looking at social processes such as socialisation, culture and identity, and how these have an impact on social issues such as the gap between rich and poor, gender inequality or the rising crime rate.



Key Knowledge & Skills

Students studying Sociology will follow the AQA course GCSE Sociology. The course covers the following six units of study:

Families: This unit will enable you to identify and explain the various types of families and family diversity in Britain, such as nuclear,

extended, lone parent, even beanpole families. You will answer questions such as does the family still have the same function today as it did in the 1950s?

Education: This unit will examine the school system - topics such as behaviour in schools, types of schools like public and private, answering questions such as 'does school prepare children for all opportunities or for their allocated role in society?'

Crime & Deviance: This unit will examine why crimes are committed as well as analyzing debates such as should we consider someone who has tattoos or tells lies as a deviant? Why are 95% of inmates men? Do women commit crime? Is there such a thing as the 'gender deal' with crime?

Stratification: This unit will address questions about different groups of society and how society is grouped. You will answer questions like what is class? What is the caste system in traditional India? As well as examining theoretical approaches such as Marxist views on social stratification.

Research Methods: In this unit we will examine how sociologists conduct research. Students will also get the opportunity to conduct their own sociological project.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Assessment in Sociology is by 100% exam at the end of Year 11. Students will study two papers, each of which contributes 50% of marks towards the final grade awarded (1-9): Paper 1: The Sociology of Families and Education (1 hour 45 minutes). Paper 2: The Sociology of Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification (1 hour 45 minutes). Assessments consist of multiple-choice questions, short answers and longer essay style answers.

Progression and Careers

Sociology helps you develop a wide range of skills that are applicable to all areas of employment, apprenticeships, further study at college and university.

A critical understanding of society can be helpful in many careers, including teaching, journalism, social work, health care, psychology, law, the police, advertising, marketing, business and government.

O P E N

Mandarin*



Continuing with the Mandarin Excellence Programme into GCSE is a powerful investment in your future. Mandarin is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, and achieving a full GCSE sets you apart academically and professionally.

Universities and employers increasingly look for students who can demonstrate global awareness, resilience and the ability to thrive in challenging programmes - qualities that this course develops in abundance.

By staying on the programme, you continue benefiting from immersive language learning, cultural enrichment and unique opportunities that go far beyond the classroom. Your progress so far has already put you ahead; completing the GCSE allows you to fully realise that hard work and confidently showcase a valuable, modern language qualification.

**Please note that Mandarin is only available to select as an option for those students who are already enrolled on our Mandarin Excellence Programme.*

£2,803

Average monthly salary of Mandarin-speaking jobs in the UK (Talent.com)

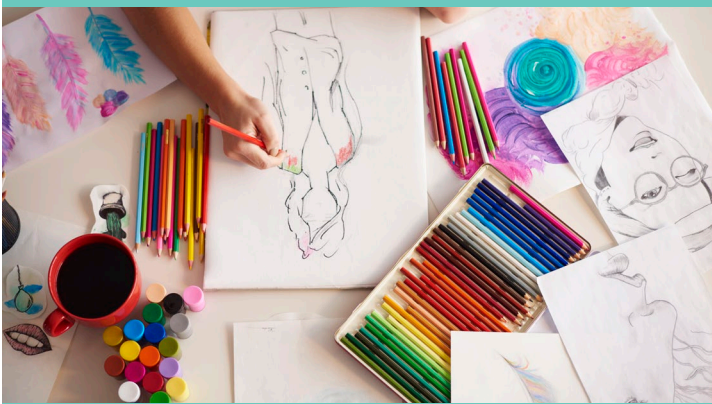
2nd

Most spoken language in the world.



O P E N

Art & Design



Within GCSE Art you can choose one of the two options of study:

Option 1 - Fine Art

Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Ceramics & Digital Art

Option 2 - Art & Design

Mixed Media, Printmaking, Photography, Ceramics & Sculpture

GCSE Art is a broad-based course, that allows students to explore and experiment, using a variety of processes, materials, media and techniques. We believe it is important for our students to have this opportunity, to gain a greater understanding of the disciplines of Art.

Throughout the course students will develop and enhance their creative skills, using their imagination and gaining confidence to take risks. Students are taught to increase independence when refining and developing ideas within projects and personalised outcomes, with the opportunity to add meaning to their work. As the course progresses students can choose whether to focus more on sculptural 3-D orientated work or 2-D media, within their own creative practice and course structure.

Students will be fully immersed into the Art world, where they will be introduced to a multitude of artists' craftspeople and designers, from both the historical and contemporary era, researching various art movements, art exhibitions and museums, to enhance student's cultural capital experience.

Key Knowledge & Skills

- Use of drawing to inform their processes, including learning how to effectively record and draw from observation
- Extend contextual understanding through research, analytical thinking and by working in the style of artists being studied
- Accurate use of specialist technical terminology
- Understanding the possibilities of media being used, through an imaginative and creative approach to learning
- Refinement of ideas as work progresses, through experimentation
- Written evaluative reflection
- How to work to an Art theme and develop ideas through a personal journey
- Understanding how to visually structure and present their Artwork.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Component 1 Coursework - 60%

A portfolio is produced during Year 10 and 11. Students will conclude their coursework project, by creating a personalised outcome.

Component 2 Exam - 40%

An externally set assignment. Year 11 students have a preparatory period followed by a 10-hour exam, sat over two days, where students will produce a final piece of artwork, in response the exam theme.

All classwork and home learning set is assessed as part of the student's coursework, exam work and overall grade.

Progression and Careers

Employers from across many different industries actively look for creative thinkers and people who can problem solve an original solution. GCSE Art provides a strong foundation for a wide range of future opportunities in both the creative and professional worlds. It enables students to pursue studies further in A-Level, T-Level or Diploma and University, in subjects such as Architecture, Games Design, Graphic Design, Textiles & Fashion.

There are many Creative Careers within in the Arts. Some examples of these are; Animator, Architect, Illustrator, Fashion Designer, Interior Designer, Photographer, Jewellery maker, Florist, Advertising, Teacher, Art Historian, and Film Director.

O P E N

Drama



Drama gives you the chance to explore creative performance styles and to investigate how theatre practitioners create and influence what is performed. You'll discover performance roles, skills and techniques. You will have the chance to take part in practical performance workshops and rehearsals, gain physical, vocal and rehearsal skills, and apply these skills in scripted and devised performances. You'll also reflect on your skills and progress and create plans to improve so that you can become an outstanding performer and theatre practitioner. Forming your own theatre company at the start of Year 9 will immerse you in the world of theatre creation and give you a chance to explore how theatre connects us all. This will then lead to in depth exploration of theatre and developing your own performance skills through assessments in Years 10 and 11.

"I genuinely think choosing Drama has been one of the most valuable decisions I have ever, and will ever make - I don't think any other subject can rival the breadth and wealth of knowledge and skills it will give you."

Key Knowledge & Skills

Learn about:

- The skills needed to be a successful actor
- The world of theatre and all of the roles and responsibilities that contribute to successful theatre
- Key practitioners and performance styles
- How to study scripts and develop characters
- How to devise theatre for target audiences and in response to key themes
- Applying set, costume, lighting and sound to create engaging and exciting theatre

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Component 1 - Exploring the Performing Arts - practical exploration and written assignment.

Component 2 - Developing skills in the Performing Arts - practical development of key performance skills, a scripted performance, and tracking the development of skills.

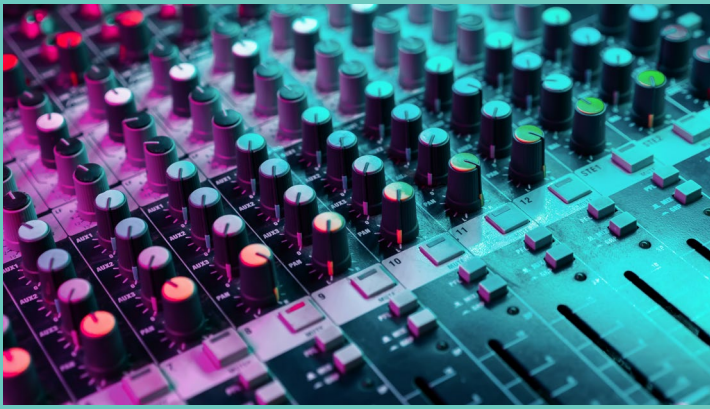
Component 3 - Responding to a brief - devising a performance in response to an externally assigned brief, and recording the development of the performance.

Progression and Careers

- Level 3 BTEC Performing Arts
- A Level Theatre Studies
- University degrees in theatre and stage design, stage management, Drama or acting
- Professional acting, directing, stage design, stage management
- Arts administration
- Education

O P E N

Music / Music Technology



Music is an important part of many people's lives and is something we encounter on a day-to-day basis. As times have changed, so has music, and the ability to use Music Technology has become an important factor in the careers of musicians. At Penrice we have already been exploring different styles and genres of music and different ways of creating music and we will continue to develop this further. All students have gained the background knowledge and skills in Years 7, 8 and 9 to be successful should they choose to continue studying Music. There is no pre-requisite to have advanced ability on an instrument – Music and Music Technology as an option is accessible to all.

In Year 9 we have been exploring Music and Music Technology in more detail, building on the practical instrumental skills that were developed in Years 7 and 8. Students have had the opportunity to use computer software to build their musicality and musicianship.

Moving into Year 10, students will decide whether they want to focus mainly on Music Technology Production or Music Performance skills, whilst also maintaining some focus on the other skill.

Key Knowledge & Skills

You will learn;

- to develop your skills and confidence as a performer
- to develop use of DAW and Music Technology software
- to compose music using music technology software
- to have the knowledge and skills to express yourself musically in a diverse range of genres

You will develop your skills on Mixcraft and other Music Technology software to enable you to have the skills to write and edit your own music.

You will listen to a range of both live and pre-recorded music from different genres and develop your use and understanding of music theory.

In Year 10, you will decide whether you want to focus on Music or Music Technology or a mixture of the two. Students will follow the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice and will explore musical genres from 1600 – 2010s. Students will experiment performing and producing music from a range of styles and genres as well as creating their own music.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Students will be required to create coursework-based assessment over Years 10 and 11 and a musical product at the end of Year 11. This will be either a computer-based Music Technology project or a live performance. There is no written exam in this qualification.

Progression and Careers

Level 3 BTEC courses, A level Music or Music Technology. A range of music-based careers ranging from teaching, tutoring, performing, sound engineering and more.

O P E N

Child Development



Interested in a future career that requires you to understand the development of children and the ways in which children learn? Want to help them play and grow?

This subject allows you to develop key knowledge and includes analysing how parents, healthcare professionals and childcare providers support, care and stimulate the developing child from pre-pregnancy to 5 years.

In Year 10 and 11 this course requires commitment to coursework and deadlines. This is 50% of the grade so attendance and motivation is imperative. The students who most enjoy this subject use their classwork to underpin their coursework, can work independently and enjoy finding out more about the developing child. Some work experience placements are offered throughout the course for children who show excellent attendance and commitment to coursework, such as, supporting KS1 students at a local school and to Cornwall College for childcare experiences.

“I LOVE CHILD DEVELOPMENT it’s my favourite lesson, and I have learnt so much from this option”

Key Knowledge & Skills

You will learn:

- To appreciate how children learn and what affects 'normal' development
- To observe and support children's development
- Why childcare providers choose activities
- How development influences other areas
- How the body works and how babies grow and develop in utero
- The role of health care professionals
- How nutrition links to health and wellbeing
- To appreciate the complex challenges of parenthood
- The importance of strong, secure relationships in early childhood
- To develop the knowledge and skills to be part of a child's development
- To develop confidence in sharing ideas, thoughts and opinions
- To become independent, exciting learners

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Two coursework units (50%)

R058-knowledge of the equipment and nutritional needs of babies and young children and an understanding of the factors to be considered to meet all of these needs (4 tasks throughout Year 10).

R059- Physical, intellectual and social development from birth to 5 years. The importance of play. This unit includes a child study and you will need access to a child under 5 years (completed in year 11).

One written exam (R057) (50%) taken in Summer of Year 11.

Topics include:

- Pre-conception health and reproduction
- Antenatal care and preparation for birth
- Postnatal checks and postnatal care
- Conditions for development
- Childhood illnesses and a child safe environment

Progression and Careers

Child Development provides a strong base for progression to A levels, apprenticeships or BTECS and is a great choice for anyone thinking of a career in Nursing, Teaching, Midwifery, Speech and language therapists, Play therapist, Counselling or Social work.

O P E N

Engineering



The UK is regarded as a world leader in engineering, which covers a wide range of exciting and rapidly developing areas such as renewable energy, space, low carbon, aerospace, automotive, agri-food and bioscience. This course, which leads on from Design and Technology, offers a fantastic opportunity for anyone considering a career in engineering or who are just fascinated by the man-made world around them. Year 10 will immerse you in the subject through industry challenges, developing skills and understanding of how engineering impacts the world around us, before embarking on the assignments in Year 10 & 11.

This sector of work is ever expanding, with exciting opportunities and experiences to offer all over the world. Do you want to set your path to be a part of it?



Key Knowledge & Skills

Students will:

- Understand the principles of Engineering Design including the design process, types of drawings, influences on design and Computer Aided Design (CAD).
- Analyse real-world problems in design terms, solving problems, designing and modelling solutions.
- Evaluate designs through product disassembly and the process of using product analysis.
- Develop skills in model making to create prototypes of their design ideas

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Written Exam 40% testing knowledge of engineering design principles, drawing types and Computer Aided Design (CAD).

Controlled Assessment 60% in which students analyse design briefs, design solutions to problems, create sketches, detailed drawings, 3D models and prototypes.

Progression and Careers

People with engineering skills are always in demand. Learners who generally achieve at Level 2 across their Key Stage 4 learning might consider progression to:

- A Levels as preparation for entry into higher education in a range of subjects
- Study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Engineering, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in an engineering area.

O P E N

Hospitality & Catering



Ever fancied yourself as head chef in a 5* hotel? How about running your own catering van, driving between all the funkier summer festivals?

Hospitality and Catering is the course for you. The WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering offers a unique opportunity for you to develop your knowledge and extend your skills. It is an invaluable qualification for those who wish to progress into further education and a career within this sector.

The course encourages the independent investigation and study of catering skills and establishments within a variety of contexts and uses a variety of assessment techniques to allow you to respond through both practical and investigative theory work.

You will embed a wide range of practical skills to enable you to plan and prepare balanced, innovative dishes for a range of target markets. The first year of the course offers the opportunity to explore a range of enrichment practical cooking opportunities, which will then lead into further learning about the environment in which the hospitality and catering industry operates. Through research and independent planning tasks, you will also gain a broad understanding of factors affecting Hospitality and Catering businesses, finally completing a project that enables you to demonstrate the knowledge you have learned and show off your practical cooking skills.

Key Knowledge & Skills

You will learn:

- Nutrition and menu planning
- Customer Service
- Portion control
- Cooking methods
- Types of service
- Job roles
- Culinary terms
- Costing and profit margins
- Environmental and food hygiene considerations
- Packaging
- Specialist equipment
- Safety and hygiene legislation

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Hospitality and Catering in action - Internal assessment Year 10 and Year 11.

- An internal Non-Exam Assessment worth 60% of the overall grade. It focuses on nutrition, health, dietary needs of consumers, environmental factors of food products and packaging, designing dishes. The assessment also includes a practical element where you must plan and cook 2 dishes that you could serve in a professional environment.

The Hospitality and Catering Industry - External assessment Year 11.

- An external exam worth 40% of the overall grade. This covers different areas of the hospitality and catering industry, job roles and the legislation

Progression and Careers

- Level 2/3 Professional Cookery
- Level 3 Certificate in Catering and Hospitality Provisions
- Level 3 Diploma in Hospitality
- Supervision and Leadership Principles
- Head Chef
- Restaurant Manager
- Pastry Chef
- Food Nutritionist

"I love the Catering GCSE course. I enjoy the course as it has helped me to learn different techniques and taught me how to make many different dishes"

O P E N

Film Studies



Film is visual storytelling. Year 9 Film Studies explores how key elements within film are used to help construct meaning and drive these stories. This will involve students closely analysing the cinematography, editing, sound and the mise-en-scène used in a variety of films from different genres, time periods and countries of origin. These skills will develop through the course enabling students to explore how films are influenced by the social, cultural, political, technological and institutional contexts of when and where the films were made. Student's production experience of film will also be enhanced by giving them creative opportunities within the coursework component of the course.



Key Knowledge & Skills

Students will study and be examined on a range of different films from different genres and time periods. These include close analysis of: a 1950s 'coming of age' melodrama; the teen movies of the 1980s; a South African Science fiction film; a non-English Language film; modern American Independent Cinema and a modern UK film. In addition to this, an extensive range of film clips will be used over the three-year duration of the course to ensure that students are being exposed to a range of different films.

The main assessment objectives for GCSE Film Studies are:

AO1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of elements of film

AO2 Apply knowledge and understanding of elements of film, including to:

- analyse and compare films
- analyse and evaluate own work in relation to other professionally produced work

AO3 Apply knowledge and understanding of elements of film to the production of film or screenplay.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Component One: Key Developments in American Film. Written examination. 35% of qualification.

Component Two: Global Film: Narrative, Representation and Film Style. Written examination. 35% of qualification.

Component Three: Production coursework. Produce a genre-based film extract and a written evaluation of this production piece. 30% of qualification.

Progression and Careers

There are options for further study of Film Studies when students finish their GCSEs, which can then lead to a range of career opportunities linked to both film and television. Some of these opportunities include: television broadcasting; film directing; being a location manager; a camera operator; working on film set design; being a television/film/video producer etc. Studying Film Studies, and developing an appreciation of visual narrative and expression, can also steer students towards others careers, such as: advertising, sound design, digital animation and graphic design.

O P E N

Business Enterprise



This course is highly popular and successful at Penrice Academy for a reason - students find it simulates real life, its engaging, challenging and rewarding.

During the course you will develop important skills that are useful in any industry, such as problem solving, money matters, decision making, innovation, project management, team working and communication.

Learn about the workings of businesses and what makes or breaks an entrepreneur. Become an entrepreneur yourself by participating in national competitions aimed at buying and selling shares, making a viable product, turning a profit, marketing and branding skills, as well as market research and the influence of social and political factors leading to the success of enterprises.

“I really enjoy Business. Studying this subject has given me a path to aim for because I now know how to set my own business up”

Key Knowledge & Skills

To begin with you will undertake a wide variety of activities to develop knowledge, skills and understanding in all aspects of business. You will then apply this in real life scenarios and competitions such as Young Enterprise Company Programme and Tenner Challenge. Following popular business programmes such as The Apprentice, Dragons Den, Inside the Factory and many more.

You will learn about the ideas, mindsets and successes of enterprises and entrepreneurs. You will research local businesses and entrepreneurs to investigate why businesses are successful including the impact of customer service, marketing, market research, use of social media, overviews of politics, economics and law.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

60 % coursework and 40% exam; All coursework units are assessed internally with external moderation. There is one external set exam. This qualification is the same size and level as a GCSE and is aimed at everyone who wants to find out more about enterprise and entrepreneurship.

You will complete assignments at key points in the course. These will be marked by your teacher and externally marked so you will receive regular feedback as to how you are getting on. The assignments will show application of the knowledge, skills and techniques you have learned and will require you to contact local enterprises.

All of the work that you do throughout the course, including the tasks or projects, will prepare you for the final assessed tasks. As well as carrying out tasks, your knowledge and understanding of finance and aspects of business and enterprise will be assessed through an exam.

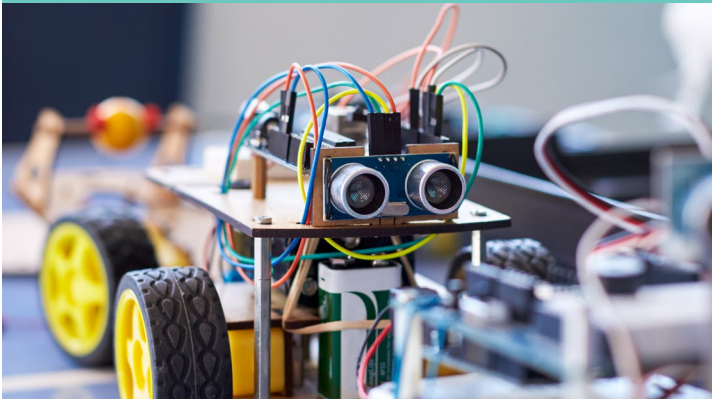
Progression and Careers

We work closely with local colleges for transition to Business at Level 3 and A Level Business allows progression to further education, provides employable skills and opportunities in employment across all sectors.

Enterprise is an important part of the business sector and plays a major role in the UK's global economic status. The role of entrepreneurs is to help create wealth for the nation and its citizens through the creation of enterprises that innovate and grow the economy.

O P E N

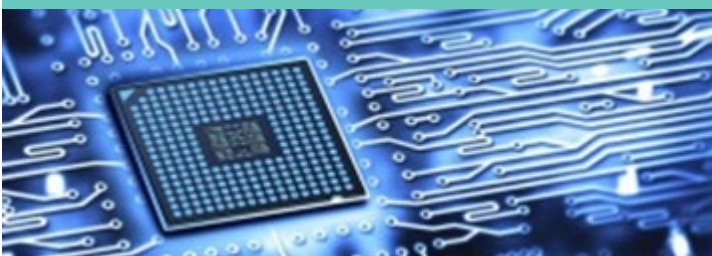
Computer Science



We are living in the Digital Age. Technology shapes almost every part of our lives – from the apps we use and the games we play to the systems that power hospitals, transport and global communication. Behind all of this technology are computer programs created by people with the skills to design and build them.

As artificial intelligence becomes more powerful and widespread, understanding programming is more important than ever. AI systems are built using algorithms, data and code written by skilled programmers.

GCSE Computer Science gives you the opportunity to understand how technology really works and to create your own programs to solve problems. By developing these skills, you will be preparing yourself to help shape the technology of the future and giving yourself access to a career in technology.



Key Knowledge & Skills

The course focuses on developing a strong understanding of how computer systems work and how software is created. You will learn key concepts such as algorithms, data representation, networks and cybersecurity. A central part of the course is learning to program using the Python programming language. Through Python, you will develop problem-solving skills by writing programs that solve a variety of real-world problems.

Component 1: Computer systems

- Systems architecture
- Memory and Storage
- Computer networks, connections and protocols
- Network security
- Systems software
- Ethical, legal, cultural environmental impacts of digital technology

Component 2: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

- Algorithms
- Programming fundamentals
- Producing robust programs
- Boolean logic
- Programming languages and integrated development environments

Assessment Year 10 & 11

This course is 100% exam based! There are two papers, both worth 50% of the grade: Paper 1 Computer Systems and Paper 2 Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming Concepts.

Progression and Careers

GCSE Computer Science provides a strong foundation for further study in technology and digital careers. Students can progress to A Level Computer Science, Level 3 IT courses, or apprenticeships in software development and digital technologies. The skills developed such as programming, logical thinking and problem solving are highly valued across many industries. Careers linked to computing include software developer, cybersecurity, data scientist, game designer, network engineer and AI specialist. Even in careers outside of technology, understanding how digital systems work is becoming increasingly important in today's modern workplace.

O P E N

Creative iMedia



Top creative skills in industry include editing, illustration, screen writing, and video editing. These are the skills you will practise and learn in your Creative iMedia lessons, through their practical use.

This course provides you with essential knowledge and skill in Creative iMedia. The qualification will encourage independence, creativity and practice in digital manipulation using the Adobe Software and Microsoft suite, and awareness of the wider digital media sector. This course provides a great start for those looking to work in the sector or for those aspiring to be entrepreneurs.

You will experiment with a number of creative skills to prepare you to tackle controlled assessments. You will learn how to create a visual identity, develop ideas responding to a client's brief, and work as a team to create and promote products.

You will develop your photography skills, dabble in filming techniques and editing processes, explore app functionality and design, and experiment with printed media layout design.

Key Knowledge & Skills

The course provides you with desirable transferable skills such as research, visual planning, structuring time planning, and reviewing your designs, working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively. Through the use of these skills, learners will ultimately be creating fit-for-purpose creative media products.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

60 % controlled assessment completed digitally and 40% written exam. All controlled assessment units are assessed internally. There is one external written exam completed in Year 11 about the media industry.

For the controlled assessments you will complete two projects one in visual identity and digital graphics, in which you create a brand, and appropriately create a digital graphic using professional tools and techniques. The second is interactive digital media where you will learn to make your own website or app. The exam is all about how the media industry plans and create media and how to keep media workers safe.

Progression and Careers

This course provides a strong foundation for further study and allows progression to further education, providing skills and opportunities in employment across many sectors such as Advertising, Animating, Radio Broadcasting, Website Design, and Game Design.

You will learn essential knowledge, transferable skills using Adobe Suite and Microsoft package, and tools to improve learning in other subjects with the aims of enhancing their employability when they leave education, contributing to their personal development and future economic well-being.

O P E N

Health & Social Care



This course provides the opportunity for students to study the physical, intellectual, emotional, social (PIES) growth & development of individuals over time and factors/events that can affect this. It is a practical, work related course for those interested in progressing towards becoming; Doctors/Nurses, Midwives, Physiotherapists, Dieticians, Counsellors, Occupational therapists and Care Assistants.



Key Knowledge & Skills

You will learn how people develop over 6 life stages and adapt to lifestyle events. Health and social care services will also be studied along with their 'care values', to ensure that people receive the correct level of care and guidance when required. You will be given the opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge both practically and theoretically. Develop your skills in interpreting data and also have the opportunity of designing a personal health and wellbeing programme.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

(This qualification is equivalent to 1 GCSE)

Comp 1: Human Lifespan Development (30%: 4 x internal assignments)

Comp 2: Health & Social Care Services (30%: 5 x internal assignments)

Comp 3: Health & Wellbeing (External Exam - 40%)

Each unit is graded from Level 1 Pass (1/2) to a Level 2 Distinction (8/9).

Progression and Careers

About 3 million people work in the health and social care sector and they account for nearly 1 in 10 of all paid jobs in the UK, with a continuous rise in demand. There are over 350 careers in the NHS alone!

Post-16, you can opt to progress onto a Level 3 qualification which combines well with many subjects including PE, Biology and Psychology. You can also enter into an A' Level pathway, and progress onto Degree level.

This is just the first and exciting stepping stone to a valued and rewarding career!

O P E N

Sport Science



The study of either GCSE Physical Education or the Cambridge National in Sport Science provides learners with a foundation in both the theoretical and practical aspects of sport, physical activity, and health. Both qualifications equip students with the knowledge, understanding, and skills required to improve physical performance while developing an informed appreciation of the wider factors that influence participation in sport and exercise.

Students develop an understanding of the key principles that underpin physical activity and sport, including physiological, psychological, and socio-cultural influences on performance and participation. They explore how the body and mind respond to exercise, gaining insight into how factors such as fitness, motivation, and mental state can affect performance outcomes.

Students also learn how to conduct and interpret fitness tests, design and evaluate training programmes, and use data to inform performance improvements. They also explore key areas such as sports nutrition, performance enhancing drugs, the body's physiological responses to exercise, and the role of technology in monitoring and enhancing performance.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

Individual one hour exam of the theoretical content consisting of a mixture of objective response through short and long answers and multiple-choice questions.

Assessment of practical ability.

Submittal of coursework.

Progression and Careers

Students who complete a qualification in sport could progress onto further PE qualifications such as A Level Physical Education and various level 3 qualifications in Sport such as a BTEC National Diploma.

Sport is a high-profile and expanding industry and there is a growing need for qualified professionals and capable volunteers. There is a wide range of job roles to progress into such as Physiotherapist, Nutritionist, PE Teacher, Activity Leader, Sports Coach, and Fitness Instructor.

Achievement in Sport Science:

GCSE PE: 100% of students achieved Grade 4 or above.

GCSE PE: 82% of students achieved a Grade 6 or above.

Sport Science: 90% of students achieved a level 2 Pass or above.

Sport Science: 25% of students achieved a level 2 Distinction star.

O P E N

Animal Care



The aim of Animal Studies is to offer a curriculum that is focused on Learning Outside The Classroom (LOTC) and giving students the opportunity to learn and develop skills unavailable in a traditional classroom.

Objectives

- Develop confidence, self esteem, respect and responsibility as well as developing numeracy and literacy skills.
- Develop community links
- Develop links with other educational establishments
- Offer opportunities for work experience so students can access professional courses later in their education
- Offer opportunities to develop skills in a soon to be expanding industry

"I really enjoy the animal care course, it educates me on how to look after animals in the correct way. It teaches us how to handle them without harming them and also helps us understand how animals all have different needs. I find it helpful being around and caring for the animals as it keeps me calm and happy. I would like to continue at college with animal care to eventually go on to zoology."

Key Knowledge & Skills

The course comprises 4 units

- Animal health - Within this unit, students will be tested on their understanding of the essential signs of good and ill health in animals
- Animal handling - students will need to demonstrate that they understand safe handling and restraint techniques.
- Animal behaviour - students will learn all about animal behaviour patterns, how to monitor and check as well as how enrichment activities can be provided to different animals.
- Animal housing and accommodation - students need to show they understand how to select animal accommodation, be able to prepare and maintain animal accommodation and also be able to clean out animal accommodation.

Assignment writing - 75% of the course is assessed through written assignment. Students will be taught the skills to research, structure and complete written and practical projects, a useful skill for later life.

Assessment Year 10 & 11

The course comprises 4 units

- Animal Health - External set exam
- Animal Handling and Restraint- Internal written and practical assessment
- Animal Welfare - Internal written assessment
- Animal Housing and Accommodation - Internal written and practical assessment

Progression and Careers

Upon successful completion of this qualification, learners could progress onto further study in a related area, for example, the BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Animal Management, or more broadly to other land-based or animal based subjects at Level 3, such as Veterinary Science and Nursing, Zoology or Game keeping.

YEAR 9 | CLASS OF 2028
Options Brochure



Year 9 Options Lead |
Mrs L Johns

Head of Year 9 |
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