



IPSWICH
HIGH
SCHOOL

WOOLVERSTONE HALL
ESTD 1878

GCSE Courses

IHS



Subjects

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Book A Private Tour

We always recommend a private one-to-one tour with either our Head Mr Browning, or our Head of Senior School Ms Extance. This allows us to get to know you and your future aspirations, and we can introduce you to the Head of Department for those subjects you are interested in studying.

For further information about the Senior School at Ipswich High School and to arrange your private tour, please contact our Registrar.

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Choosing your GCSEs

During Year 8, you were able to focus your subject choices from the broad curriculum you had studied to a more precise curriculum in Year 9. You have now reached the point in your schooling where you need to select the subjects that you are going to study at GCSE. This brochure outlines the GCSE courses in all subjects and the type of assessment involved. Your subject teachers will be happy to answer any questions you may have either in your lessons or during the Parents Evening appointments on Wednesday 22nd January.

Read this booklet carefully and make good use of all the resources that are available to you.



Number of GCSEs

In Years 10 and 11 most pupils will study 9 full GCSEs.

Selective universities in the Russell Group tend to look at the grades achieved, rather than the total number of GCSE subjects. Bristol University, for example, states that, "We will continue to expect applicants to take three A Levels and eight GCSEs ... and additional qualifications will not confer any advantage." University College London (UCL) state, "All courses at UCL require GCSE passes in English Language and Maths at Grade 5 or higher, and some courses may ask for higher grades in these subjects. There isn't an overall minimum number of GCSE passes you need, however the more you have at good grades the better.

Which subjects can I study?

All pupils study:

- Maths
- English Language
- English Literature

Either:

- Combined Science (worth 2 GCSEs) and 4 option subjects

Or

- Triple Science (3 separate GCSEs) and 3 option subjects

How will my choice affect my A-Levels?

It is important that you think carefully about your choice of subjects. Your choices now, may influence what you can study later on as in some subjects, studying it at GCSE is a requirement for Sixth Form courses. We also offer new subjects in the Sixth Form such as Business Studies, Economics and Psychology.

What other factors should I bear in mind?

When choosing, you need to consider what your future ambitions and aspirations are. It is, of course, important that you choose subjects which you enjoy and in which you will do well.

Choosing your GCSEs

Core Subjects

Maths
English Language
English Literature
Combined Science (two GCSEs)
Games (not examined)

Optional Subjects

Art & Design
Computer Science
Dance
Drama
Food Studies
French
Geography
History
Latin
Music
GCSE PE
Religious Studies
Triple Science
Spanish
Three Dimensional Design

Academic Enrichment GCSE

HPQ

How do I make my choice?

Read the information about each subject; discuss the courses with your subject teachers, form tutor and your parents. If you have a particular career or A-Level subjects in mind, you should make sure that your choices do not prevent you from that pathway. You can use the Morrisby platform and resources and materials delivered to you by Mrs Offord in assembly to support and help.

What happens next?

We will ask you to complete an online form detailing your Option Choices. The link to this form will be shared with you and your parents after the Year 9 Parents Evening on Wednesday 22nd January. The deadline for GCSE choices will be 3pm Wednesday 29th January. We will then use this information to block the optional subjects for timetabling purposes, aiming for the best possible match. In the rare occasion where we are not able to accommodate a pupil's exact choices, we will work with you to identify the best possible alternatives.

We shall endeavour to meet everyone's requests but there are rare occasions where we cannot accommodate a pupil's exact choices:

1. If very few pupils choose a particular combination of subjects and the minimum number of pupils required to run a course isn't met
2. A subject being heavily over-subscribed and we cannot accommodate every pupil,
3. We cannot timetable a specific options combination

In the above instances you may be asked to make another choice. In those rare occasion where we are not able to accommodate a pupil's exact choices, we will work with you to identify your best possible alternative.

Combined Science

Exam Board: AQA (Double Award)

GCSE Combined Science widens and deepens your understanding and appreciation of key processes in the natural and man-made environment. It never answers all the questions you could ask, but has the capacity to excite you to look towards further study and a life-long interest.

Science at GCSE will develop your powers of analysis and deduction, and help you to distinguish between scientific claims and false promises.



The Course

The aim of the GCSE Combined Science curriculum is to enable you to be confident exploring and understanding a range of fundamental and applied areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. You will gain two GCSEs studying this course. The course focuses on 'Working Scientifically'. It will equip you with the knowledge, skills and understanding required in order to fulfil your responsibilities in a technological world. From genetics to nuclear fusion, you need an informed perspective if you are to play your part in shaping the future.

As a minimum, each pupil will be expected to complete the Combined Science course which forms part of the core curriculum offer. This will comprise of Biology, Chemistry and Physics with each discipline being taught separately by specialist teachers. The units studied lead to two GCSEs. There are 16 required practicals determined by the exam board, although pupils will obviously engage with a wider range of practical activities throughout the course.

Exams and Assessment

Some of the Combined Science GCSE work will have been covered in Year 9 already. At the end of the course six examination papers will be taken; two in Biology, two in Chemistry and two in Physics, each exam lasting 1 hour and 15 minutes. There will be a variety of question types with a numeracy component to some of them. The 1 to 9 grading system will be used, allowing grades from 1-1 through to 9-9 to be achieved.

Combined Science provides the skills required for pupils to progress to study A Level Sciences in any of the Science subjects, although if you are keen to study science subjects at A Level choosing three sciences as separate GCSEs would provide a firmer foundation.

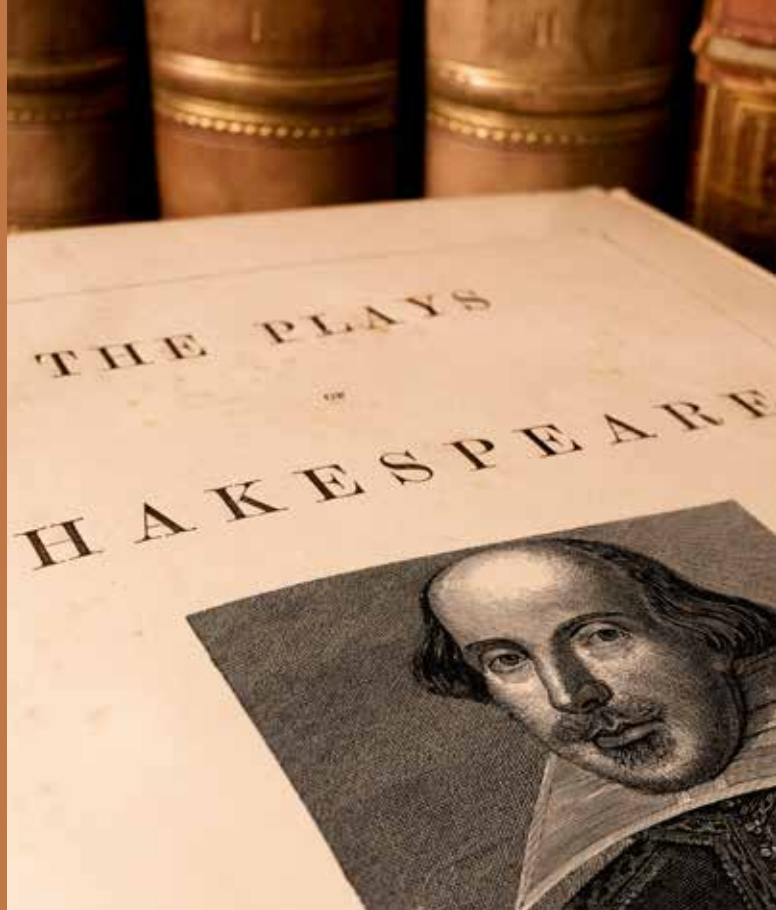
A Level, University Courses and Careers

Science based courses and careers range from Astronomy to Zoology, with a long stop at nearly every letter of the alphabet. A short internet search will reveal an incredible range of choices of degree subjects, and each of these can be the key to a wide range of potential careers. Surprise yourself and look ahead – where could your science take you?

English Language & Literature

Exam Board: AQA

This course prepares you for English at A Level and for successful communication throughout life. The GCSE course introduces you to new and more sophisticated texts, and a variety of extra-curricular trips and competitions. You will study drama, prose, poetry and non-fiction in detail which allows a much richer understanding of representations of the world around us.



The Course

All pupils study a two-year course in both English Language and Literature, which will be examined at the end of Year 11. The aims of the course are to develop your ability to:

- Communicate effectively in both speech and writing
- Understand and respond perceptively to what is read, heard and experienced
- Enjoy and appreciate the reading of literature, learning to read in depth and understanding the context in which texts were written.

Exams and Assessment

English Language - The course is assessed in two ways. Pupils will sit two exam papers as follows:

Exams	Content
Paper 1	Creative Reading and Writing - An unseen literary extract focusing on pupils' comprehension skills and understanding of writer's techniques. This is followed by a creative writing task. 80 marks, 50% of GCSE English Language.
Paper 2	Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives - Two unseen linked sources from different time periods and genres assessing pupils' exploration of how each presents a perspective or viewpoint to influence the reader. There will also be a written task with a specific genre, audience and purpose for pupils to write on a topic related to the unseen source texts. 80 marks, 50% of GCSE English Language.
Spoken Language Presentation	A short individual presentation on any chosen topic followed by a question and answer session, recorded during Year 11. <i>This is awarded a separate certificate and does not affect the GCSE grade for English Language.</i>

English Literature - Pupils will sit two exam papers as follows:

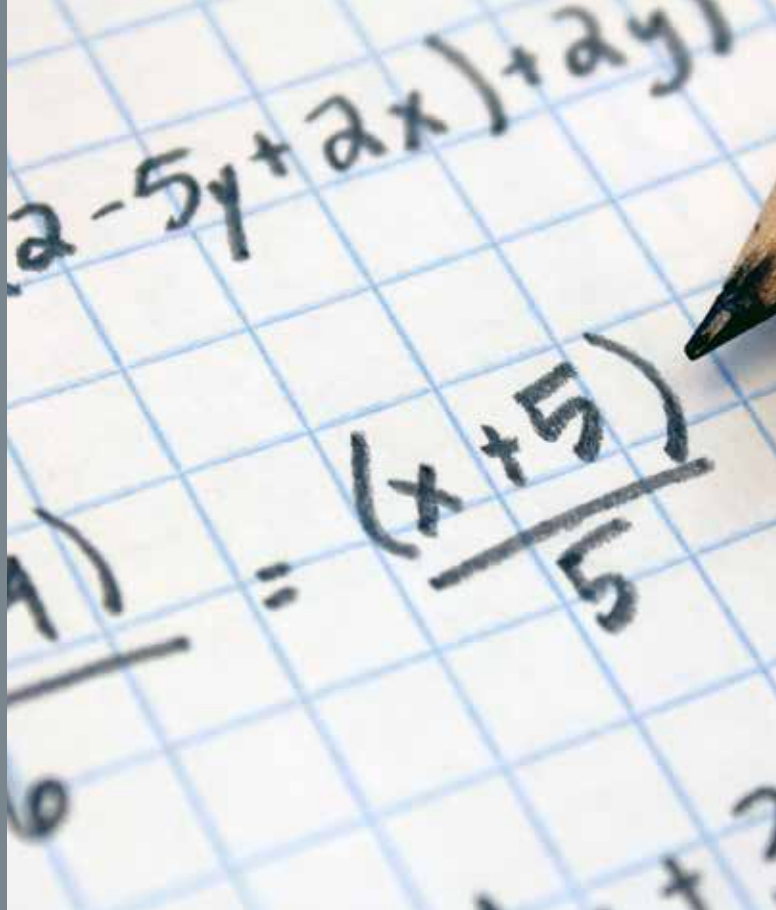
Exams	Content
Paper 1	Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel - We will study <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , as well as <i>The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i> by Robert Louis Stevenson 64 marks, 40% of GCSE English Literature.
Paper 2	Modern Texts and Poetry - This will test pupils' knowledge of <i>An Inspector Calls</i> , the <i>Worlds and Lives</i> poetry anthology and the analytical skills of unseen poetry. 96 marks, 60% of GCSE.

Mathematics

Exam Board: AQA GCSE

This qualification encourages you to develop confidence in Mathematics and to recognise the importance of Mathematics in your own life and in society. The topics introduced during the GCSE course range from the concrete mathematics used in everyday life to the more abstract algebra and geometry that provides a strong foundation to build into further study of Mathematics or other STEM subjects.

A good grade in GCSE Mathematics is often required for A Levels in other subjects such as Sciences, Economics and Geography.



The Course

This course involves work in areas that you have studied already in your Mathematics lessons:

- Algebra
- Geometry
- Measures
- Probability
- Statistics

By the end of the course you will have developed the ability to:

- Acquire and use problem-solving strategies
- Select and apply mathematical techniques and methods in everyday and real-world situations
- Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions
- Interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

Exams and Assessment

There are two tiers of entry - Higher (grades 9 - 4) and Foundation (grades 5 - 1). Students are entered for the tier to suit them to maximise their potential grade. This course is assessed by three equally weighted written papers, each 90 minutes in length, taken at the end of Year 11. The papers are externally assessed; the first paper is non-calculator and the other two papers are calculator papers. There is no coursework and no controlled assessment.

The examination questions fall into three categories:

1. Questions where you are required to demonstrate your knowledge and skills in number and algebra
2. Questions where you need to demonstrate your understanding and skills in shape and space
3. Questions where you need to interpret and analyse problems in data handling

Opportunities

There is an opportunity to attend some inspirational Mathematics lectures in Cambridge during the course of the GCSE. These will be of interest to those who may wish to study Mathematics or Physics at A Level.

Pupils in the top sets will be entered into the Intermediate Mathematics Challenge during Years 10 and 11. A team of four pupils will also enter the Year 10 Team Challenge competition held locally.

Games & PE

Not Examined

The Year 10 and 11 course is intended to extend your knowledge and skills in sports activities that you have already experienced and provide the opportunity to experience new sporting challenges. The aim of Physical Education at KS4 is also to promote enjoyment and to encourage participation in life-long physical activity.



The Course

The benefits you will gain from social interaction, co-operation and continued development in physical skill and self-confidence will help develop positive attitudes towards an active and healthy lifestyle and, hopefully, sport for life. Games and PE will provide a safe and challenging learning environment in which to develop. It is also the stage where you are able to have some choice in the sports that you wish to take part in.

You will have the opportunity to select the activities to participate in alongside Hockey and Netball (girls) and Rugby, Football and Hockey (boys). The types of sports that you may be involved in could include Athletics, Badminton, Cricket, Fitness, Rounders, Swimming, Tennis and Volleyball.

Representative Opportunities

We run teams in many sports across all age groups. Teams enter local competitions and national events. Pupils who demonstrate a talent or interest within a particular sport or achieve high performance standards will be encouraged to join local external clubs and enter county development pathways.

Art

Exam Board: AQA

Why choose this course?

This course builds on the foundation of the core elements of Art. It challenges students to question and evaluate as they progress their work.

Contextualising their own practice, the course provides the opportunity to develop analytical skills and knowledge of Art and Design.

Students who have chosen Art at GCSE have progressed to courses and careers in Architecture, Set Design, Fashion Communication and Marketing, History of Art, and Photography.



The Course

The GCSE syllabus encourages a full exploration of a range of disciplines and you will be able to experiment with painting, drawing, printmaking, collage, mixed-media, as well as three-dimensional work, photography and digital manipulation. You will learn how to develop through a project, reviewing your work as you investigate your ideas and respond to the work of others, informing your own practice. You will develop your practical and analytical skills as you explore techniques and processes, building on your visual literacy and appreciation of the work of artists and designers. The course culminates with an exhibition of your work at the end of June in Year 11.

Exams and Assessment

Assessment	Content
Unit 1 - Coursework Portfolio (60%)	Work is undertaken during lessons and at home. It will take the form most appropriate to your intentions, accompanied by sketchbook(s). You will be encouraged to challenge your practice, exploring many different approaches, whilst documenting the process to demonstrate self-reflection and communication. Briefs will be set to guide and direct you as you work to gain more confidence and independence with your personal investigation.
Unit 2 - Examination (40%)	Selecting a starting point from the question paper, you will produce a body of work which explores the theme, addressing the assessment objectives as you work towards the final outcome which is produced in a ten-hour exam. With teacher support leading up to the exam itself, you are able to work to your strengths and plan fully.

For both units the following assessment objectives underpin the work:

- **AO1:** Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources (analysing the work of other artists through written annotation and incorporation into your own work).
- **AO2:** Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes (ensuring you explore fully a range of materials to find the most appropriate).
- **AO3:** Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses (drawing and photography from primary source material, explaining ideas in a coherent and visual way).
- **AO4:** Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language (stating intentions and demonstrating how these are realised in outcomes).

Classical Civilisation

Exam Board: OCR

Why choose this course?

One of the best things about Classical Civilisation is how many different elements there are to study.

If you enjoy subjects such as History, English, Philosophy and Ethics then Classical Civilisation lets you do a bit of everything whilst studying two of the most important civilisations of the Western world (Greece and Rome).



The Course

Classical Civilisation focuses on the civilisations of Greece and Rome, and is a wide-ranging subject involving the study of literature, art, artefacts, archaeological sites, and the ancient historical context. You don't need to know any languages, all the texts are in English, and it doesn't matter if you haven't studied the Greeks and Romans before; all you need is an interest in the ancient world and its cultures.

The course will help you to understand the legacy of the classical world, whilst developing your knowledge and skills in preparation for further educational opportunities, including A Level Classical Civilisation.

Exams and Assessment

OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Classical Civilisation is designed to provide a broad, coherent and rewarding study of the culture of the classical world. It offers the opportunity to study Greek and Roman mythology (gods, heroes, monsters), religion (sacrifice, festivals, the underworld), and aspects of city life such as entertainment (theatre, gladiators, chariot racing).

Assessment	Content
Component Group 1: Thematic Study 50% of total GCSE (9–1) 90 marks	Myth and Religion - This component involves a comparative study of ancient Greece and Rome, and combines literary and visual/ material sources (such as vase paintings or remains of temples). 1 hour 30 minutes written paper.
Component Group 2: Literature and Culture 50% of total GCSE (9–1) 90 marks	Roman City Life - This component contains two elements - one cultural study (i.e. Roman city life) and one study of related literature (Roman texts about city life, e.g. Pliny's letters). 1 hour 30 minutes written paper.

Computer Science

Exam Board: OCR

Why choose this course?

Computers are changing every part of our lives at an ever increasing rate - why not be a driver of this future? The course develops critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills, which can be useful in further learning as well as in everyday life.

Computer Science is a good grounding subject in many fields, including science, finance, medicine and engineering as well as the many computing fields, such as programming, cyber-security, robotics and the internet.



The Course

The OCR GCSE Computer Science course is engaging and practical, encouraging creativity and problem solving. It encourages you to develop your understanding and application of the core concepts in computer science. You will also analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs. The course has been designed to give you a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works.

This an intensely creative subject that involves invention and excitement. The Computer Science qualification will value computational thinking, helping you to develop the skills to solve problems and design systems that do so. These skills will be the best preparation for pupils who want to go on to study Computer Science at A Level and beyond, but is also a useful grounding for many other subjects which require computational thinking and analytical skills.

Exams and Assessment

Assessment	Content
Component 1	Computer Systems - written exam (50% of the total GCSE) This unit is designed to cover the physical elements of computer science and the associated theory, and includes the following topics; systems architecture, memory and storage, computer networks, connections and protocols, network security, systems software and the ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology.
Component 2	Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming written exam (50% of the total GCSE) This unit is focussed on the core theory of computer science and the application of computer science principles and includes the following topics; algorithms, programming fundamentals, producing robust programs, Boolean logic and programming languages and integrated development environments.
Practical Programming	Pupils will be given an opportunity to undertake programming tasks during their course of study. Pupils will draw on some of the content in both components when engaged with practical programming.

Dance

Exam Board: AQA

Why choose this course?

GCSE Dance provides a route to A Level Dance, Performing Arts or PE, as well as vocational or professional training and community activities. It is also favourable for courses and vocations that require collaborative, creative and presenting skills as part of the common assessment or working practises. Outside of performing and teaching, pupils that have studied dance go on to degrees and careers in a variety of fields including business, management, movement therapy, dance science and project/education departments for dance and performing arts companies.



The Course

GCSE Dance is an exciting course which focuses on the aesthetic and artistic qualities of dance and the use of movement to express and communicate ideas and concepts through the processes of performance, choreography and critical appreciation.

This two-year GCSE Dance course will suit pupils who are committed to broadening their dance knowledge, both practically and theoretically. It is delivered through lessons divided into the following areas of study:

1. Performance
2. Choreography
3. Appreciation

Exams and Assessment

Pupils are required to complete two components:

	Assessment
Component 1	Performance and Choreography – 60% of GCSE, 80 marks • Performance – Set Phrases through a Solo performance (approx 1 minute) 15 marks • Performance – Duet/Trio performance (3 ½ minutes in length) 25 marks • Choreography – Solo or Group Choreography - Solo (2-2 ½ minutes), Group (3-3 ½ minutes) 40 marks
Component 2	Dance Appreciation – 40% of GCSE, 80 marks • Written Exam: one hour 30 minutes covering knowledge of own practice in performance and choreography and the GCSE Dance Anthology

Opportunities

As part of this course, you will work with and study professional dancers and choreographers. There will also be the opportunity to watch professional dance performances in London and surrounding areas, as well as the opportunity to perform in school based shows and local dance platforms. We will also look at possible careers related to the performing arts.

Drama

Exam Board: Edexcel

Why choose this course?

There are many personal, life and career enhancing skills to be gained through studying Drama, including creativity and imagination, co-operation, working to and meeting tight deadlines, communication and presentation skills, and an analytical approach.

If you have a passion for Drama and theatre, and an interest in how ideas are communicated through performance, then this is the course for you.



The Course

Designed to engage pupils through encouraging creativity, this course focuses on practical work which reflects twenty-first century theatre practice. You will look at developing skills that will support progression to further study of Drama and a wide range of other subjects. Drama GCSE requires candidates to show skills in devising, performance, evaluation and analysis.

Exams and Assessment

There are three components to the two-year course:

Assessment	Content
Devising (40%)	Devising a piece of drama from a given stimulus, analysing and evaluating the process by way of a portfolio (30%). Technical acting or design skills are assessed through public performance (10%). This is internally assessed and externally moderated.
Performance From A Text (20%)	Performing and/or designing for performance of two key extracts from a given text. This is assessed by a visiting examiner. Monologues, duologues and/or group pieces (three to six participants) are selected from the same play.
Theatre Makers In Practice (40%)	Understanding and interpreting a set performance text through practical and theoretical exploration. This is a written exam which is made up of two sections: Section A has six questions requiring both short and extended answers about a section of the set text (30%). Section B requires a response to a live theatre performance the pupils will have seen (10%).

Opportunities

Enrichment opportunities such as productions and showcase evenings, the Shakespeare Schools Festival and National Theatre Connections will enhance and support pupils in their development of skills and understanding. As well as enjoying school trips to the theatre and watching professional performances in our own Hayworth Theatre, pupils are encouraged to take up opportunities to see and be involved in live theatre performance in their own time. Seeing as many plays as possible, both locally and nationally, increases your understanding and appreciation of dramatic productions and twenty-first century theatre practice.

Food Preparation & Nutrition

Exam Board: Eduqas

Why choose this course?

This subject is a must for anyone who wants to develop their practical skills and develop a further understanding of nutrition and food science. You will be challenged to think independently, analyse and experiment.



The Course

This course is designed to give pupils an opportunity to extend and apply their skills, knowledge and understanding of food science, nutrition and healthy eating within a variety of contexts, while maintaining the coherence inherent in this subject area.

Pupils are given the opportunity to be imaginative, creative and show innovative thinking. This course allows pupils to gain a further understanding of nutrition, different food commodities, food preparation, food safety and storage, food provenance and the functional and chemical characteristics of food. You will be able to develop your food preparation and food handling skills by regular participation in practical sessions which will involve meal production, experimental work, food testing and modification of recipes.

Exams and Assessment

Work is assessed in two ways; practical controlled assessments and a written examination paper.

Assessment	Content
Component 1	Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition. Written examination 50% There will be one written paper which will be externally set and marked at the end of Year 11. This component will consist of two sections, both containing compulsory questions.
Component 2	Food Preparation and Nutrition in action. Non examination Assessment (NEA) 50% • Task 1: The food investigation assessment 15 % - (8 hours) • A scientific investigation supported by a 1,500-2,000 page report. • Task 2: The Food preparation assessment 35 % - (12 hours) • A 3-hour practical exam, supported by a 30-page report

Opportunities

Progression routes to careers and employment include; Food Technologist, Food Scientist, Chef, Product Developer, Consumer Research Analyst, Nutritionist and Dietician.

French

Exam Board: Cambridge IGCSE

Why choose this course?

By studying French further, you will find it easy to pick up other Latin languages like Spanish, Italian and Portuguese at a later stage. English has been influenced by French therefore a lot of terminology in different careers will be more easily understood having a French foundation.

If you like travelling further afield you will discover many other countries around the world where French is spoken.



The Course

In Years 10 and 11 lessons will be spent practising the four language skills – speaking, listening, reading and writing. The course covers topics already familiar to you such as the family, leisure activities and holidays, as well as issues relating to healthy living, school life and careers. We will use a wide range of resources, including DVDs and language software. You will receive one weekly conversation session in a small group with a native speaker, as part of your preparation for the oral test.

Exams and Assessment

We shall be following the specifications of the Cambridge IGCSE and International Certificate. The assessment of the two-year course consists of separate tests in each of the four language skills, taken at the end of Year 11. All four tests are equally weighted (25%).

Opportunities

French is the official language of the 29 countries that make up the community of French speaking nations. In Europe alone, these include France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Monaco and Switzerland. Used either as a first or second language in a further 25 countries on five continents, it is – after English – the language with the widest geographical spread, giving pupils of French the opportunity to access an incredible range of different cultures and experiences. Some of the most fascinating and beautiful places on Earth, such as Canada, Tahiti, Madagascar and Morocco speak French.

French is one of the main languages of the United Nations, European Union and NATO. It is used by a large number of international bodies and multinational companies from relief organisations such as Médecins Sans Frontières (the famous 'French Doctors') to pharmaceuticals, engineering, tourism and the fashion industry. It opens the way for you to really play your part on the international stage.

During the course of your studies, you will have the opportunity to take part in a study trip abroad, to a country where French is spoken.

Geography

Exam Board: AQA

Why choose this course?

Geography helps us to make sense of our complex and changing world by explaining how places and landscapes are formed and how people and environments interact. It asks questions and requires critical thinking about issues facing us today and tomorrow. The world is also explored through fieldwork, with opportunities to think spatially, using maps, images and ICT.



The Course

Geography is the study of people and places. At GCSE both Human and Physical Geography are studied under the following themes:

- Living With The Physical Environment: Natural Hazards, the living world and landscapes in the UK.
- Challenges In The Human Environment: Urban issues and challenges, the changing economic world and the challenge of resource management.
- Geographical applications and geographical skills.

Within these themes a range of topics are explored including Population Dynamics, Migration, Urban Settlements, Earthquakes and Volcanoes, Rivers, Coasts, Development, Industry and Tourism. In essence, Geography considers what happens when natural and human worlds collide. It explains the impact people have on places and considers how our world may change in the imminent and distant future.

Exams and Assessment

The course is assessed by written examination. There are three written examination papers:

Assessment	Content
Paper 1	Living with the physical environment (35%)
Paper 2	Challenges in the human environment (35%)
Paper 3	Geographical applications (30%) which assesses field study techniques. There will be two day trips to Southwold to support this.

Opportunities

Geography can lead to numerous career paths, including Surveying, Landscape Architecture, International Aid/Development Work, Environmental Law and Consultancy as well as Nature Conservation.

History

Exam Board: EDEXCEL

Why choose this course?

GCSE History enables you to extend your knowledge and understanding of key events, periods and of the wide diversity of human experience in the 19th and 20th centuries. You will develop as independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers as you ask questions about the past, investigate issues critically and make valid historical claims by using a range of sources in their historical context.

The skills you acquire will support your progression to further study of History and a wide range of other subjects.



The Course

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in History comprises two mandatory papers.

For Paper 1 you will study two topics in depth, while Paper 2 consists of one historical investigation and one breadth study in change.

Paper	Topic	Content
Paper 1	Topic 1	A World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–72 • Reasons for the Cold War • Early developments in the Cold War, 1945–49 • The Cold War in the 1950s • Three crises: Berlin, Cuba and Czechoslovakia • The Thaw and moves towards Détente, 1963–72
	Topic 2	A Divided Union: Civil Rights in the USA, 1945–74 • The Red Scare and McCarthyism • Civil rights in the 1950's • The impact of civil rights protests, 1960–74 • Other protest movements: students, women, anti-Vietnam • Nixon and Watergate
Paper 2	Topic 1	The USA, 1918–41 • The Roaring Twenties • Increased social tensions in the 1920s • The USA in Depression, 1929–33 • Roosevelt and the New Deal, 1933–41 • The Opposition to the New Deal
	Topic 2	Changing Role of International Organisations: The League and the UN, 1919–2011 • Creation and Successes of the League, 1919–29 • The League Challenged, 1930–39 • Setting up the UN and its work until 1964 • The UN Challenged, 1967–89 • The UN at Bay, 1990–2011

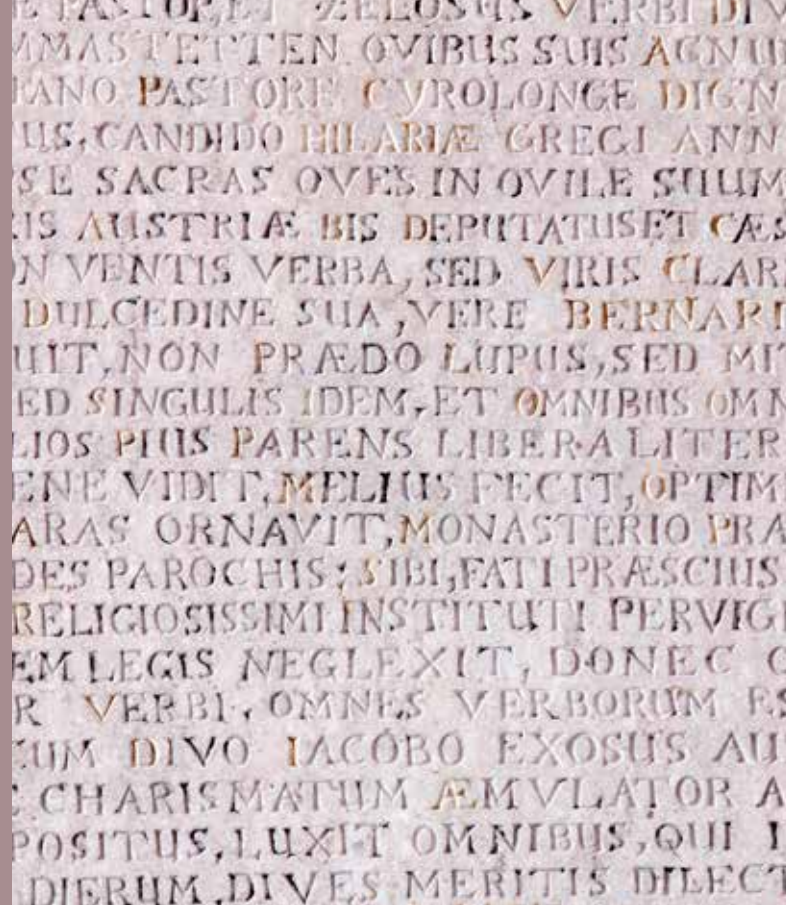
Latin

Exam Board: WJEC Educas

Why choose this course?

The best reason for taking Latin GCSE is to deepen your knowledge and understanding of the ancient Romans. If you have enjoyed Latin so far, you will continue to enjoy learning more of the language and culture of ancient Rome.

Latin has always been and remains a highly regarded academic subject. A GCSE in Latin is therefore very highly valued by university admissions tutors, as well as excellent preparation for further studies in a wide range of disciplines including History, Literature, Classics, Modern Languages, Linguistics and more.



The Course

As you continue your studies of the Latin language, you will be reading stories about Greek mythology and Roman history in Latin at the appropriate graded level. In this way you will develop your knowledge of grammar and vocabulary and acquire a greater ability to read Latin texts, while learning more about Greek and Roman civilisation. Along the way you will also develop skills such as problem solving and analytical thinking, as well as linguistic skills, which will give you a greater power over language and will help you with your studies of English, modern languages and even other ancient languages and computer languages.

The context of the Latin language – the Roman society in which it was used – is important in our teaching of Latin, but it is also important for the exam. The topic will be 'Daily Life in a Roman Town', meaning that you will be learning about daily routines for men and women, Roman houses, shops and businesses etc. This part of the exam is all in English.

You will also have the opportunity to read a bit of literature in the original Latin. Short texts from several different writers are read, and the texts share the same theme, such as 'travel by land and sea', or 'superstition and magic'.

Exams and Assessment

This qualification is assessed by three written examinations.

Component 1: Latin Language (50%)	Component 2: Latin Literature and Sources (30%)	Component 3: Roman Civilisation (20%)
Comprehension (55%) Translation from Latin (35%) Grammatical analysis (10 %)	Topic: Love and marriage	Topic: Roman family life

Opportunities

Latin develops the mental agility and analytical and problem solving skills needed in careers such as Medicine, IT, Management and Teaching.

Latin vocabulary is the basis of much of the terminology used in Law, Medicine, Science and Politics, as well as Academic and professional language generally. Professions such as Journalism and Translation, where close language analysis and linguistic awareness are essential, also benefit from the skills developed through the study of Latin.

Music

Exam Board: EDEXCEL

Why choose this course?

Music GCSE is most appropriate for those pupils who are around Grade 2-3 on their instrument or voice, and who will reach Grade 4 by the time they are in Year 11.

You will enjoy Music GCSE if you have an enthusiasm for learning about all styles of music and developing your composing, music technology and performing skills.

Studying Music allows pupils to develop skills not found in any other subject and employers value Music GCSE pupils highly.



The Course

The course has three parts which cover the key areas of Music; performance, composition and appraisal.

Exams and Assessment

Performance (30%)	Composition (30%)	Appraisal (40%)
You will have opportunities to perform as a soloist and ensemble member throughout the course. Two of your performances in GCSE (one as soloist and one as ensemble member) will be recorded, marked by your teacher and submitted to the exam board. There will be several opportunities to make the recordings and the best will be chosen.	In your lessons you will be taught how to compose to a given brief. You will compose one piece to a brief set by the board and one piece to your own brief. This is coursework, which takes place in lessons over the two years of the course. Your compositions will be marked by your teacher and submitted to the exam board.	There are four areas of study for the Appraisal part of the course and these cover a range of musical styles. The examination consists of listening tests and one extended piece of writing on a set work, and it also tests students' listening skills and ability to apply knowledge.

Opportunities

The GCSE Music course allows for a wealth of performance opportunities. As a Music GCSE pupil you will be expected to join one or more of the school's ensembles and it is generally found that those who participate in an ensemble achieve at least one grade higher than those who do not. Other opportunities include trips to concerts and musicals and Performing Arts trips abroad.

Physical Education

Exam Board: EDEXCEL

Why choose this course?

GCSE PE is an enjoyable subject that incorporates both theoretical and practical elements. If you want to know more about the science behind sport and want to gain a knowledge and understanding through practical involvement, GCSE PE is for you. The course supports other subjects such as sciences, particularly biology, and is ideal preparation for A Level PE.



The Course

GCSE Physical Education equips you with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values to develop and maintain your performance in physical activities and understand the benefits to health, fitness and wellbeing.

The course enables you to make the connections between theory and practice so you are able to apply your understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport to improve performance. You will be required to use the technical vocabulary, terminology and definitions associated with the study of Physical Education.

Exams and Assessment

	Topic	Content
Theory (60%) - This is assessed in two written examinations	Applied Anatomy & Physiology	Key body systems, musculo-skeletal and cardio- respiratory systems, anaerobic and aerobic exercise, short and long term effects of exercise.
	Movement Analysis	The basic principles of movement, lever systems and planes and axes of movement.
	Physical Training	The components of fitness, how fitness is measured and improved, the principles of training and their application to personal training programmes and how to optimise training and prevent injury.
	Sport Psychology	The psychological factors that can affect performers, the classification of skills, the use of goal setting and SMART targets to optimise performance, guidance and feedback on performance and the mental preparation for performance.
	Socio-Cultural Influences	Engagement patterns of different social groups, commercialisation of sport, ethical and socio-cultural issues.
	Health, Fitness & Wellbeing	Physical, emotional and social health, fitness and well-being, the consequences of a sedentary lifestyle, energy use, diet, nutrition and hydration.
Practical Performance (40%) - You will be assessed in three activities in the role of performer that will be selected from a pre-determined list. They will consist of one team activity, one individual activity and one more of either. In addition, there is a written task where you will be required to assess, analyse your strengths and weaknesses and suggest methods for improvement.		

Religious Studies

Exam Board: OCR

Why choose this course?

The study of Religious Studies at GCSE allows pupils to engage in debate and discussion about life in a modern pluralistic society, including developing an understanding of non-religious beliefs. Pupils are encouraged to develop and understand personal values and beliefs with the emphasis on an enquiring, critical and empathetic approach to the study of religion.



The Course

The GCSE in Religious Studies provides pupils with the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of two religions through the study of their beliefs, teaching and practices and to explore philosophy and ethical studies in the modern world.

The course will include a study of Christianity and Hinduism, examining questions including; 'What is God?', 'How did we get here?', 'Why do we suffer?' and 'What happens when we die'? Pupils will also follow a study of philosophical and ethical arguments and their impact in the modern world. This will include examining a range of topics including the 'family and relationships', 'the existence of God', 'peace and conflict' and 'dialogue between religious groups'.

Through this course, pupils will acquire a range of transferable skills which will benefit them in the study of other academic disciplines. These include in-depth debate, leading to critical evaluation and analysis in both oral and written form, and essay writing, which involves using a range of evidence to construct a coherent written discussion.

Exams and Assessment

Assessment is 100% written examination across three final papers.

Topic	Assessment	Proportion of Grade
Beliefs and Teachings & Practices of Christianity (J625/01)	63 marks (including 3 SPAG) One hour exam	25%
Beliefs and Teachings & Practices of Hinduism (J625/05)	63 marks (including 3 SPAG) One hour exam	25%
Religion, Philosophy and Ethics from a Christian view (J625/06)	126 marks (including 6 SPAG) Two hour exam	50%

Opportunities

The skills developed in Religious Studies are useful to a wide range of future careers, including those in Law, Education, Anthropology, Media, Social Work, Politics, Administration, Journalism, Human Resources and International Relations.

Spanish

Exam Board: Cambridge IGCSE

Why choose this course?

IGCSE Spanish is a springboard to A Level Spanish. It is a 'romance' language with Latin roots, which means there are many links between these three languages.

Spanish is a very accessible language because it has simple pronunciation rules. There are more than 20 countries that speak Spanish, and in the United States more people speak Spanish than in Spain! Studying Spanish will give you the skills to speak confidently in these countries and gain a rich understanding of the history and culture of Spain and Latin America.



The Course

In Years 10 and 11, lessons will be spent practising the four language skills:

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading
- Writing

The course covers topics already familiar to you such as leisure activities, school and holidays; as well as issues such as the environment, healthy living and careers. We will use a wide range of resources, including DVDs and language software. You will receive one weekly conversation session in a small group with a native speaker, as part of your preparation for the oral test.

Exams and Assessment

We shall be following the specifications of the Cambridge IGCSE and International Certificate. The assessment of the two year course consists of separate tests in each of the four language skills, taken at the end of Year 11. All four tests are equally weighted (25%).

Opportunities

Studying Spanish can give you great opportunities for your future if you want to study Spanish at A Level or later at university, or if you want to travel to Spanish-speaking countries.

It is one of the official languages of the United Nations and is spoken by over 400 million people in the world today. It opens a door to the fascinating cultures of Spain and Latin America and to a whole new world of information and entertainment such as books, music and cinema. Spain and the growing economies of the emerging markets of South America provide business opportunities and enhanced job prospects in international companies operating with many countries where your good Spanish language skills will be a valuable asset.

Separate Sciences

Exam Board: AQA

Why choose this course?

Studying GCSE Separate Science widens and deepens your understanding and appreciation of key processes in the natural and man-made environment. It never answers all the questions you could ask, but has the capacity to excite you to look towards further study and a life-long interest.

Science at GCSE will develop your powers of analysis and deduction and help you to distinguish between scientific claims and false promises.



The Course

The aim of the GCSE Separate Sciences curriculum is to enable you to be confident exploring and understanding a range of fundamental and applied areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The course focuses on 'Working Scientifically'. It will equip you with the knowledge, skills and understanding required in order to fulfil your responsibilities in an ever more technological world. From genetics to nuclear fusion, you need an informed perspective if you are to play your part in shaping the future.

The Separate Science offer comprises the three science disciplines taught separately by specialist teachers, but leading to three GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The course consists of all of the Combined Science material, but with the addition of more topics. There is more theory and practical content in this option. There are eight practicals determined by the exam board for each Science subject, although pupils will engage with a wider range than this throughout the courses.

Exams and Assessment

Pupils will be assessed through examinations at the end of the course. There will be two in Biology, two in Chemistry and two in Physics. Each examination will last one hour and 45 minutes. There will be a variety of question types and a numeracy component to some questions. The GCSEs will be graded on the 1-9 system and pupils will receive three separate grades, one for each subject.

A Level, University Courses and Careers

If you know that you definitely want to study science subjects at A Level, this option will provide you with a more developed understanding of some key topics from which to build at A Level, so may be a useful choice for you.

Science-based courses and careers range from Astronomy to Zoology, with a long stop at nearly every letter of the alphabet. A short internet search will reveal an incredible range of choices of degree subjects, and each of these can be the key to a wide range of potential careers. Surprise yourself and look ahead – where could Science take you?

Three Dimensional Design

Exam Board: AQA

Why choose this course?

Studying Design helps to develop successful, confident pupils who are equipped with a variety of transferable skills. The design process will challenge you to think independently, analyse, self-evaluate, experiment and learn a range of practical making and computer skills that are useful for any future career.



The Course

This course provides pupils with a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities to explore their interests in design in ways that are personally relevant and truly developmental in nature. AQA Three Dimensional Design pupils will be set projects that require them to think independently and creatively. In Year 10 they will learn a range of design, making and computer skills which will enable them to start to be autonomous and use the laser cutter, 3D printer and workshop machinery in a creative and inspiring way. They will be set briefs that will challenge them to think innovatively and we will encourage pupils to bring their own interests and personality into their work.

Exams and Assessment

Work is assessed in two parts:

- A portfolio made up of one sustained project produced in Year 11 and experimental work produced during Year 10.
- An externally set task (practical exam) which will require them to complete a project inspired by a topic set by the exam board. They will then make their project in a ten hour exam over two days; it can be using the laser cutter, 3D printer or traditional machinery in the workshop.

60% weighting for the portfolio of work and 40% weighting for the externally-set task.

Opportunities

Pupils can go on to study anything from Medicine to Law to Product Development, and to all areas of the Creative Industries, including Set Design.

Career progression can include: Architecture, Engineering, Interior Design, Model Making, Animation, User Experience Design, User Interface Design, Games Design, Theatre Design and Sculpture.

HPQ

Exam Board: AQA

Why choose this course?

The Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) is an exciting opportunity to develop the skills required for an independent enquiry. It will allow you to explore something that you are passionate about in greater depth and gain invaluable skills, particularly in writing essays and delivering speeches and presentations.

As a Level 2 award, the qualification is equivalent to half a GCSE and will enhance work in other areas of the curriculum, as well as preparing you for the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in the Sixth Form.



The Course

The Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) is an exciting opportunity to develop the skills required for an independent enquiry. This qualification offers pupils the opportunity to investigate a topic of their choice, record their research, deliver a presentation and produce a written report or artefact. Taught elements will develop skills to help pupils complete the project successfully. These include research skills, critical analysis and project management.

Completing an HPQ is a commitment for the whole academic year and requires regular attendance at the HPQ enrichment sessions.

Exams and Assessment

The nature of the qualification requires you to work independently outside the taught sessions as well as also meeting with your assigned supervisor during the spring and summer terms. Your final piece of work may be a report, presentation, film or artefact.

Opportunities

Universities are increasingly positive about the benefits of studying an EPQ and some are adjusting the offers they make to those applying for higher education, so the HPQ is excellent preparation for studying the EPQ.

iGCSE ESL

IGCSE English as a Second Language

Exam Board: Cambridge

This qualification prepares school students for life, helping them develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. Learners will be presented with a variety of stimuli that will build up their skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language will enable learners to become independent users of English, and to be able to use English to communicate effectively in a variety of practical contexts.



The Course

Pupils study a two-year course in Cambridge IGCSE ESL. Listening, reading, writing and speaking skills will be examined at the end of Year 11. The aims of the course are:

- To develop learners' ability to use English effectively for the purpose of practical communication
- To form a solid foundation for the skills required for further study or employment using English as the medium
- To develop learners' awareness of the nature of language and language-learning skills
- To promote learners' personal development.

Learners will listen to a range of spoken material, including talks and conversations, in order to develop listening skills. Learners will engage in conversations on a variety of topics, and develop their skills in responding to different situations and audiences with a degree of accuracy and clarity. They will be presented with a range of stimuli to develop their writing and reading skills, and learn to select relevant details, understand the difference between what is directly stated and implied, and practise writing for different purposes and audiences.

Exams and Assessment

Pupils will sit the following three exam components:

Reading & Writing Exam	Listening Exam	Speaking Exam
2 hours. 70% 80 marks. Six exercises testing a range of reading and writing skills. Externally assessed.	Approximately 50 minutes. 30% 40 marks. Candidates listen to several short extracts and longer texts, and complete a range of task types, including short-answer questions, gap filling, matching, multiple choice and note making. Externally assessed.	Approximately 10–15 minutes. 30 marks. Following a 2–3 minute warm-up conversation, candidates engage in a 6–9 minute discussion with the examiner on a given topic. Internally assessed/externally moderated.



IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL

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