



WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Guided Choices

Year 9 Curriculum Choices Booklet

2017 - 2020

You must return your Guided Choices Form
to your form tutor by:

Friday 17 March 2017

CONTENTS	PAGE
Introduction	4
SUBJECTS	
French (GCSE)	9
Spanish (GCSE)	11
German (GCSE)	13
Russian (GCSE)	15
Art and Design (GCSE)	19
Business Studies (GCSE)	21
Computer Science (GCSE)	23
Design and Technology (GCSE) (Graphic Products Pathway)	25
Design and Technology GCSE) (Product Design Pathway)	27
Drama (GCSE)	29
Health and Social Care (OCR Cambridge National Diploma)	31
Information & Creative Technology (BTEC First Award)	33
Physical Education (GCSE)	35
Rooming information for subjects	38

CONTACT DETAILS

The best way to contact Mr Hogan is by email:
shogan@woodbridge.redbridge.sch.uk

You can also telephone 020 8506 5552. The most appropriate time for students to find Mr Hogan to discuss their choices is at the end of registration (8.55am) each day in his office near room M1.6.

INTRODUCTION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Early Choices Process?

At Woodbridge, students have a choice in year 9 of whether to continue with both of their languages or choose one language and one other subject.

The courses studied in year 9 are preparation courses for the GCSE or Technical Award to be taken in years 10 and 11. In most circumstances, the two choices made now will be two of the subjects that students continue with in years 10 and 11. They will make two further choices next year.

How is the year 9 curriculum organised?

There are three elements to the year 9 curriculum at Woodbridge:

Core Subjects	English Mathematics Science – as Biology, Chemistry and Physics in years 9-11 Life Studies Physical Education	All students must study these subjects in years 7-11
Foundation Subjects	History Geography RE Art Drama Music Computing Design & Technology	All students must study all of these subjects in years 7-9
Two Early Choices	French Spanish German Russian Art and Design Business Studies Computer Science Design and Technology - (Graphic Products Pathway) Design and Technology - (Product Design Pathway) Drama Physical Education Health and Social Care Information & Creative Technology	Students study two languages in year 7-8 and then pick two subjects from this list to study in year 9-11, <u>one of which must be a language</u> . These courses are preparation for GCSE or Technical Awards.

What proportion of the curriculum time is given to each subject in year 9?

The table below shows the subjects studied by students in year 9. The numbers indicate the number of lessons allocated in year 9 to the subject over the two-week timetable:

English	6 lessons	History	3 lessons	Drama	2 lessons
Maths	6 lessons	Geography	3 lessons	Computing	2 lessons
Science	6 lessons	RE	2 lessons	Design & Technology	3 lessons
PE (Core)	4 lessons	Art	2 lessons	Choice 1 (see above)	4 lessons
Life Studies	1 lesson	Music	2 lessons	Choice 2 (see above)	4 lessons

What will students study in the year 9 in their subjects they have chosen as their early choices?

Students will be preparing to study for the GCSE or Technical Award (BTEC or Cambridge National) in the subjects they have chosen. A special preparation course has been created for them. They will then, in most circumstances, go on to study these two subjects as two of their choices in years 10 and 11. The information in this booklet is about the GCSE or Technical Award course in each subject because, in most cases, the choice made now will be continued to the end of year 11 when students will sit these exams.

What is the difference between a GCSE and a Technical Award?

There is no difference between the difficulty or amount of subject content for GCSEs and Technical Awards. The difference is in how the student's knowledge and understanding of the subject is assessed. Technical Awards always have a greater proportion of non-examination assessment (coursework) than GCSEs. GCSEs are assessed chiefly by means of written examinations at the end of the course. There are various different types of Technical Award (BTEC or Cambridge National), but all follow the same pattern of a greater proportion of non-examination assessment.

Does my son / daughter have to continue to study their early choices in years 10 and 11?

In most circumstances, yes. The Y9 early choice course will lay an excellent foundation for the Y10 and Y11 courses. We strongly recommend that all students continue with their early choice subjects to GCSE or Technical Award as they will have had excellent preparation to do well in year 11.

Does my son / daughter have to study one language in year 9?

Yes. At least one language is compulsory for all students in year 9 as part of the National Curriculum. Students should choose the language that they feel they enjoy most and have been most successful at in years 7 and 8. They can, of course, choose both their languages if they wish. Most students will continue to study the language(s) they choose in years 10 and 11 to GCSE level, although a small number of students will be allowed to discontinue study of languages at the end of year 9.

Why should my son / daughter do two languages?

The opportunity to study two languages to GCSE is a unique feature of Woodbridge High School. Having two languages at GCSE is something that is common for students from grammar schools or independent schools, but rare for students who have studied in a comprehensive school. It allows our students to compete with students from these other types of school when applying to universities. The fact that students are dual linguists makes them stand out from the crowd.

The UK is really in need of young people with a greater range of language skills. Business leaders often talk about the problems they have finding native English speakers who are able to communicate in more than one language. They pay these people more than they pay those who do not have language skills.

Languages make travel easier and they make understanding other cultures easier. They broaden the mind and help us to understand how others see the world. This is increasingly important in today's world.

If the languages department has recommended that your son / daughter studies two languages, it will be because we recognise them as an able linguist and someone who could genuinely gain a lot from studying two languages. We strongly suggest that this is what they do.

The languages department have said that my son / daughter should study two languages, but I don't think this is right for them. What can I do?

Studying two languages is not compulsory, even if we strongly recommend it. Please talk to the languages department about their reasons for recommending it. If your son / daughter would, however, prefer another subject, then that is fine. All students must study one language in year 9.

What if my son / daughter wants to study two languages and other(s) subjects from the list?

If you want to study two languages, you must choose them both now. You cannot stop one for a year and then restart it. Most of the other subjects on the list will be offered again next year and students may choose them then for GCSE if they wish. The only exception to this is Health & Social Care.

Can my son / daughter choose two languages now and then stop one at the end of year 9?

Yes – this is possible. We would rather that students stuck with their early choices into year 10 and 11, but it is technically possible for students to stop one of their languages at the end of year 9 and choose another subject instead for year 10 and 11.

Who can help my son / daughter make the right decision?

Choosing subjects to study for the next three years is perhaps the most important life decision your son / daughter has had to make so far. Mr O'Driscoll and the Y8 tutor team are on hand to provide advice. Your son / daughter can always discuss their choices with their form tutor or Mr Hogan at school. If you would like Mr Hogan to meet with your son / daughter to discuss their choices, please contact him at school.

I am worried that my son / daughter's decision is not right for them. Will what they have chosen be checked?

Mr Hogan will check each student's choices carefully. Progress data and current effort data will be taken into account. Students may be asked to meet with Mr Hogan to discuss their choices.

Will all the courses and subjects run?

It is possible that courses may not run if there is insufficient take-up. Students are asked to make a reserve subject choice on their form and this may replace a subject that does not run.

Will all subject combinations be possible?

Not all subject combinations will be possible. Once all the choices are in, Mr Hogan will begin to construct the subject blocks. It may be at this stage that the student's reserve subject will replace one of their chosen subjects.

When will I find out what my son / daughter will be studying in Y9?

Mr Hogan will write to all parents with the outcome of the process in June 2017.

Can my son / daughter change courses after they have started?

No. You will not be able to change your courses after the start of Y9. You will be able to make changes until the end of Y8 but only if there is space and it fits with your other choices.

MODERN LANGUAGES GCSE COURSES

Students should choose their language option on the guided choices form.

Students may only choose the language/s which they have studied in Y7-8. All students are required to study a language in Y9.

FRENCH (GCSE)

What will I learn?

The aim of the course is to encourage you to build on the language skills already acquired during Years 7 and 8 and to enable you to communicate effectively in French. You will learn about the culture of Francophone countries and will be able to communicate with people from these countries. Your teacher will speak to you in French and you will be expected to respond in French as much as possible. Throughout the course, you will be practising the four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Grammar and vocabulary learning will also play an important role throughout the course.

Who is the course for?

GCSE French is a great choice, regardless of what your plans are for the future. Not only will you have the ability to communicate in a different language, but employers, colleges and universities will look favourably on your application as languages are perceived to be a more challenging GCSE subject. Learning a foreign language can build your communication, interpersonal, intercultural, and public speaking skills. GCSE French is for those who enjoy learning about other cultures, are willing to communicate their ideas and who have a desire to learn another language.

What is the structure of the course?

The exam board is Edexcel and the two-year course leads to a GCSE qualification. You will be taught by one specialist French teacher for five hours over two weeks. You will also have the opportunity to work in the ICT suites and have lessons with the Foreign Language Assistant.

There are foundation and higher tiers for all units.

There are five topic areas which you will study over the two years:

- Identity and Culture
- Local area, holiday and travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

How will I be assessed?

This GCSE is a linear course which means that all the examinations are taken at the end of year 11.

Speaking (25% of the overall mark) is assessed in a 10 minute exam (plus 12 minutes preparation time) with your teacher where you will take part in 3 tasks:

- 1) A role play (not prepared in advance)
- 2) Questions on a picture, also not seen in advance
- 3) Conversation based on 2 themes, prepared in advance

Listening (25% of the overall mark) is assessed in a 35 minute exam (45 minutes for higher tier) where you will hear short presentations, conversations and announcements and have to choose multiple choice answers or write short responses in English.

Reading (25% of the overall mark) is assessed in a 45 minute paper (1 hour for higher tier) where you will have to pick out key and detailed information from a range of texts, answer multiple choice and short answer questions.

Writing (25% of the overall mark) is assessed in a 1 hour 10 mins paper (1 hour 20 mins for higher tier) where you will have to complete one translation into French and answer extended response questions.

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	Edexcel
Specification	1FRO
Tiers of entry available	Foundation covering grades 5 to 1 Higher covering grades 9 to 4

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

After your Edexcel GCSE in French, you can choose to carry on and study French as an A Level subject, if you achieve the entry requirement of a grade 6. Having a language at GCSE and A Level will give you access to a wide range of jobs and further education in the future. Graduates in Modern Languages are amongst the most employable and the job opportunities are now far and wide across the world. Even having French at GCSE will make you stand out to certain employers. The job opportunities on offer to language graduates include tourism, government, politics, media, publishing, journalism, education, fashion or law!

Who do I contact for further information?

Ms S. Hancock, Head of French

SPANISH (GCSE)

What will I learn?

The aim of the course is to encourage you to build on the language skills already acquired during Years 7 and 8 and to enable you to communicate effectively in Spanish. You will learn about the culture of Spanish countries and will be able to communicate with people from these countries. Your teacher will speak to you in Spanish and you will be expected to respond in Spanish as much as possible. Throughout the course, you will be practising the four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Grammar and vocabulary learning will also play an important role throughout the course.

Who is the course for?

GCSE Spanish is a great choice, regardless of what your plans are for the future. Not only will you have the ability to communicate in a different language, but employers, colleges and universities will look favourably on your application as languages are perceived to be a more challenging GCSE subject. Learning a foreign language can build your communication, interpersonal, intercultural, and public speaking skills. GCSE Spanish is for those who enjoy learning about other cultures, are willing to communicate their ideas and who have a desire to learn another language.

What is the structure of the course?

The exam board is Edexcel and the two-year course leads to a GCSE qualification. You will be taught by one specialist Spanish teacher for five hours over two weeks. You will also have the opportunity to work in the ICT suites and have lessons with the Foreign Language Assistant.

There are foundation and higher tiers for all units.

There are five topic areas which you will study over the two years:

- Identity and Culture
- Local area, holiday and travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

How will I be assessed?

This GCSE is a linear course which means that all the examinations are taken at the end of year 11.

Speaking (25% of the overall mark) is assessed in a 10 minute exam (plus 12 minutes preparation time) with your teacher where you will take part in 3 tasks:

- 1) A role play (not prepared in advance)
- 2) Questions on a picture, also not seen in advance
- 3) Conversation based on 2 themes, prepared in advance

Listening (25% of the overall mark) is assessed in a 35 minute exam (45 minutes for higher tier) where you will hear short presentations, conversations and announcements and have to choose multiple choice answers or write short responses in English.

Reading (25% of the overall mark) is assessed in a 45 minute paper (1 hour for higher tier) where you will have to pick out key and detailed information from a range of texts, answer multiple choice and short answer questions.

Writing (25% of the overall mark) is assessed in a 1 hour 10 mins paper (1 hour 20 mins for higher tier) where you will have to complete one translation into French and answer extended response questions.

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	Edexcel
Specification	1SPO
Tiers of entry available	Foundation covering grades 5 to 1 Higher covering grades 9 to 4

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

After your Edexcel GCSE in Spanish, you can choose to carry on and study Spanish as an A Level subject, if you achieve the entry requirement of a grade 6. Having a language at GCSE and A Level will give you access to a wide range of jobs and further education in the future. Graduates in Modern Languages are amongst the most employable and the job opportunities are now far and wide across the world. Even having Spanish at GCSE will make you stand out to certain employers. The job opportunities on offer to language graduates include tourism, government, politics, media, publishing, journalism, education, fashion or law!

Who do I contact for further information?

Ms K. Crofts, Head of Modern Foreign Languages

GERMAN (GCSE)

What will I learn?

You will continue to build on the German language skills that you have already gained in school so that you can communicate with young people from German speaking countries and find out about their culture and interests. You will practise the four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing, as well as learning grammar and vocabulary regularly. By the end of your course you will have improved your fluency of the language and gained a valuable insight into a foreign culture. You will have the opportunity to write to a pen pal in a partner school, which will help improve both reading and writing skills.

Who is the course for?

GCSE German is a great choice, regardless of which career you may have in mind. You will add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many future employers and higher education providers look for. You will learn many skills which are useful in a wide range of future careers, such as the ability to communicate clearly, being confident about speaking in public, using problem-solving strategies, etc. German is a very popular option because of its widespread use in business.

What is the structure of the course?

During year 9, you follow a course which will prepare you for GCSE. You will begin to work at GCSE level towards the end of year 9 and then move to the GCSE course in year 10. The exam board is Edexcel and the two year course leads to a qualification called GCSE German. There are two tiers of entry – Higher Tier and Foundation Tier.

Over the three years of the course you will study a range of themes.

There are five themes, each broken down into topics and sub-topics:-

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday, travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

You will do many listening and reading activities as you work your way through the topic areas. For the listening paper you will mainly listen to messages, dialogues and narratives. The reading paper contains e-mails, letters, postcards, brochures, articles and narratives which will require you to read and extract relevant information. The answers for both the listening and reading exam are in English and in German.

Over the two-year course you will be taught by one German specialist teacher. You will also have the opportunity to work with the foreign language assistant. The lessons are taught over five hours in two weeks.

How will I be assessed?

Like all language GCSEs, German is assessed on the four skill areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Each skill carries 25% of the total marks.

- Unit 1 Listening and understanding in German: you will hear conversations, adverts and announcements and be required to write answers in English and in German that show your understanding.
- Unit 2 Speaking in German: the paper will test your ability to communicate and interact effectively for different purposes and settings across the themes studied.
- Unit 3 Reading and understanding in German: you will read e-mails, blogs, articles and extracts from short literary texts and will be required to write answers in English and in German that show your understanding. You will also have to translate a short German passage into English.
- Unit 4 Writing in German: you are assessed on your ability to communicate effectively through writing in German for different purposes and audiences e.g. writing e-mails, responding to a letter. You will also translate some sentences from English into German.

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	Edexcel
Specification	1GNO
Tiers of entry available	Foundation covering grades 5 to 1 Higher covering grades 9 to 4

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

After your German GCSE you will have the opportunity to continue your studies at Advanced level, if you gain the required grade at GCSE.

The A level course continues to develop your language skills in greater depth, and this will be assisted by visits to the Goethe Institute in London and the opportunity to practise your language skills by watching modern German films as well as spending two weeks work experience in Germany.

German is a very good subject to study as part of a degree course and can be combined with other subjects such as business. Jobs which you might choose include areas such as: International Business, Travel and Tourism, Publishing, Media and IT, Translation and Interpreting, Sales, Marketing, Teaching, Holiday Representatives, Tour Operators etc.

Who do I contact for further information

Mrs S. Turner, Head of German

RUSSIAN (GCSE)

What will I learn?

The year 9 pre GCSE Russian course is designed to give you an understanding of the Russian which is used in a variety of everyday situations. The course is divided into four skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing as well as learning grammar and vocabulary regularly. You will practise listening to Russian being spoken and will answer comprehension questions. For the reading you will be using as many authentic Russian materials as possible, with some articles coming straight from Russian newspapers. You will learn how to write longer pieces of Russian and how to describe past and future events using the correct grammatical structures to support your work. A key element to the course is developing a basic cultural awareness of Russian life and traditions. As a language student you will learn communication skills which can be transferred to all aspects of life.

Who is the course for?

Russian is not widely taught in UK secondary schools and even fewer teach the subject to GCSE. So, if you have a GCSE in Russian, future employers, colleges and universities will look favourably on your application as you will have a GCSE in a language which is perceived as difficult. This makes you special and shows that you enjoy a challenge.

In order to take the Russian GCSE course, you must have a good working knowledge of the Russian alphabet and be able to read and write in Russian confidently. You should speak to your teacher if you are unsure.

What is the structure of the course?

During year 9, you follow a course which will prepare you for GCSE. You will begin to work at GCSE level towards the end of year 9 and then move to the GCSE course in year 10. The exam board is Edexcel and the two year course leads to a qualification called GCSE Russian. There are two tiers of entry – Higher Tier and Foundation Tier.

Over the three years of the course you will study a range of themes.

There are five themes, each broken down into topics and sub-topics:-

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday, travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

You will do many listening and reading activities as you work your way through the topic areas. For the listening paper you will mainly listen to messages, dialogues and narratives. The reading paper contains e-mails, letters, postcards, brochures, articles and narratives which will require you to read and extract relevant information. The answers for both the listening and reading exam are in English and in Russian.

How will I be assessed?

Like all language GCSEs, Russian is assessed on the four skill areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Each skill carries 25% of the total marks.

- Unit 1 Listening and understanding in Russian: you will hear conversations, adverts and announcements and be required to write answers in English and in Russian that show your understanding.
- Unit 2 Speaking in Russian: the paper will test your ability to communicate and interact effectively for different purposes and settings across the themes studied.
- Unit 3 Reading and understanding in Russian: you will read e-mails, blogs, articles and extracts from short literary texts and will be required to write answers in English and in Russian that show your understanding. You will also have to translate a short Russian passage into English.
- Unit 4 Writing in Russian: you are assessed on your ability to communicate effectively through writing in Russian for different purposes and audiences e.g. writing e-mails, responding to a letter. You will also translate some sentences from English into Russian.

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	Edexcel
Specification	1RU0
Tiers of entry available	Foundation covering grades 5 to 1 Higher covering grades 9 to 4

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

After GCSE you can continue to A Level. This will of course depend largely on your final GCSE grade, your motivation in this subject and your effort.

The opportunities for further study in Russian after A Level are numerous. In the past five years many of our Year 13 students have gone on to study Russian at University. You can combine it with other subjects, such as Business, Economics, History, Law, Music or another language. There are jobs available as the Russian economy is growing in international importance. Direct career opportunities linked with Russian include business and finance, international banking, teaching, translating, the military and all aspects of the Diplomatic Service. Since Russian is not as widely taught or studied as some other languages at A level, this can sometimes make working with Russian more financially rewarding.

Even if you are not looking for a career in Russian, simply having an A level qualification can assist in your application to universities. Russian A Level is regarded as a “facilitating” subject by the best universities, the Russell Group.

COURSES

This section contains information about the subjects you could choose for years 9, 10 and 11.

All of these subjects lead to a single award GCSE or technical award qualification.

Some subjects are timetabled to have a mixture of double and single lessons whilst some subjects have only single lessons.

The subjects available are:

- Art and Design (GCSE)
- Business Studies (GCSE)
- Computer Science (GCSE)
- D&T: Graphic Products (GCSE)
- D&T: Product Design (GCSE)
- Drama (GCSE)
- Health and Social Care (CNAT)
- Information & Creative Technology (BTEC)
- Physical Education (GCSE)

ART AND DESIGN (GCSE)

What will I learn?

This course will give you the opportunity to work with a wide variety of two and three-dimensional media including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, graphics and textiles. At first you will be guided through a series of structured projects which will explore a wide range of ideas and many of these techniques.

You will learn how to develop your own ideas from your research, looking at and commenting on artists' work to inspire your own.

You will produce sketch books that document your ideas and show how they have progressed.

You will learn to improve your observational drawing and refine your technical control in all media to a high quality.

Later in the course you will be able to choose how you want to work from a theme and specialise more in your preferred media if you wish to.

Who is the course for?

If you love making, designing, drawing, imagining and creating things, this is the course for you. You will do well if you are open to new ideas; you like experimenting with materials and you are willing to work hard. You should be interested in looking at the work of artists, designers, architects and crafts people and are prepared to give your opinions.

What is the structure of the course

Our Examination Board is AQA and the course we do is called Art, Craft and Design. This means that we cover lots of different media rather than just painting and drawing. You will be taught in mixed ability groups, allowing you to achieve the top grades if you work hard, whatever your skills are now.

Each group has 4 hours of lessons a fortnight and homework will be set every 2-3 weeks and is an extremely important part of the course. The sketchbook is compulsory.

Two components of work make up the course:-

- Component 1 - Portfolio in Art and Design. This is three internally set projects = 60%
- Component 2 - The Externally Set Task = 40% of the marks. This is like a mini project with a shorter period of preparation time which will lead to a 10 hour exam. In the exam you will produce a final piece of work in response to the theme given by the exam board.

How will I be assessed?

You will be told, right from the start, the assessment qualities the examiners are looking for. As you go through a project individual pieces of class work and homework will be assessed. At the end of a project all the work is assessed together under the assessment objectives to show you your strengths and help you improve on your weaker points. At the end of year 11 you will apply all you have learnt to the exam project which is also marked against the same assessment criteria.

The 4 assessment objectives:-

- **Develop** ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- **Refine** work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- **Record** ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- **Present** a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	AQA
Specification	8201
Tiers of entry available	One tier of assessment, covering grades 9 to 1

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

After you have completed your GCSEs you can continue with Art in our 6th Form on our very successful course.

You can continue onto A level Art and Design which can lead onto foundation and degree courses at Art College.

A level Art and Design and the portfolio of Art work you will produce (which is needed for interviews) is essential for careers in the Art and Design industry such as graphic design, fashion and textiles, 3-D design, architecture and fine art.

Who do I contact for further information

Ms C. Ward-Mills, Head of Art

BUSINESS STUDIES (GCSE)

What will I learn?

This course gives students the chance to understand the dynamic environment in which business operates and appreciate the many factors which impact on business activity and business behaviour. Students will try to gain an understanding of the issues facing UK businesses in the 21st century.

Areas of business which are studied include marketing and enterprise – the idea of individuals having a ‘can do’ approach to business and being rewarded for hard work and risk taking. We also investigate how businesses interact with their employees and the financial aspect of business operations – profits, cash flows and breaking-even. Under the new specification students will study the businesses in the context of current issues such as globalisation.

To be successful in business, people have to be able to work well with others and in business studies students have the chance to work in teams with other students.

Who is the course for?

This course is for anyone who is interested in learning how businesses operate and how they themselves can become successful business people. You will need to enjoy carrying out business orientated research and working independently as well as completing tasks with others. Students who have a keen interest in the current business environment tend to be well suited to the course.

What is the structure of the course

Students will begin by studying Business in the real world-where they will gain an understanding of how business ideas are put in to practice.

In Year 9 students will have the opportunity to cover a bespoke curriculum that equips them with exam skills and business knowledge to access the highest possible grades at GCSE.

They will then move on to the many influences on business before studying business operations- such as how products are made at the end of Year 10.

In Year 11, content will include Human resources such as recruitment and training, Marketing and Finance before preparing for both examination papers 1 and 2.

How will I be assessed?

Students will study the course linearly, with all content assessed at the end of Year 11 in two written exam papers worth 50% each.

Paper 1: Influences of operations and HRM on business activity

Paper 2: Influences of marketing and finance on business activity

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board

AQA

Specification

8132

Tiers of entry available

One tier of assessment covering grades 9 to 1.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

GCSE Business can be the basis for further study at A Level or BTEC. You may then go on to a degree or a professional qualification in accountancy, management science, marketing, the law or the media. Alternatively you may set up your own business!

Who do I contact for further information

Miss B. James, Head of Business

COMPUTER SCIENCE (GCSE)

What will I learn?

On this course you will:

- The qualification will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills established through the Computer Science elements of the Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 programmes of study.
- Develop understanding of current and emerging technologies, understanding of how they work;
- Acquire and apply a knowledge, some technical skills and an understanding of the use of algorithms in computer programs to solve problems using programming;
- Use knowledge and understanding of computer technology to become an independent and discerning user of ICT, able to make informed decisions about its use, and be aware of the implications of different technologies;
- Develop computer programs to solve problems, through the introduction of computational thinking, algorithms and programming, this course will help learners develop their problem solving skills

Who is the course for?

This course is for those who are seriously considering a career in computer system development, computer programming or computer game development, and wish to study the subject to GCSE and A Level. This will assist students to gain the solid background knowledge of Computing skills and knowledge required for the course.

The course has been structured so that the first year will prepare learners by covering some content of the GCSE Computer Science course. This will provide a firm foundation before progressing onto the GCSE Computer Science course in Year 10.

The GCSE course is designed to provide learners with a broad understanding of the world of Computer Science and encourage them to develop computational thinking, algorithm and programming skills.

What is the structure of the course?

The course has two elements:

Written Examination (80% of the final mark)

There are two written examinations at the end of the course each worth 40%. These examinations are intended to test the knowledge and understanding acquired during the period of the course. One exam is undertaken at the end of year 11 covering a wide range of computer science theory and concepts.

Non-exam assessment (20% of the final mark)

The non-exam assessment element consists of a practical programming project. Students are required to create a programming solution to a set brief provided by the exam board. The controlled assessment is completed in the second half of Year 10.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment for the non-exam assessment element is continuous throughout the course. While projects are being developed there is an iterative development process. Support and advice are given to prepare students to achieve the best possible mark for this component. Several smaller tasks and a practise project is taught and assessed against the same criteria. Once they have demonstrated their readiness, students are then required to complete the assessed task with only limited support.

Knowledge and understanding is assessed through two written examinations and throughout the course there are regular tests to ensure that the required knowledge and understanding is being acquired. Two final written examination papers are externally assessed by the examination board.

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	OCR
Specification	J276
Tiers of entry available	One tier of assessment covering grades 9 to 1.

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

Achievement in the GCSE in Computer Science offers a range of future opportunities. The skills and knowledge developed will support you in your future studies and employment.

A good grade at GCSE Computer Science will help you move on to an A Level Computer Science course. These courses, in turn, can lead you on to a degree course in a computer related subject. You would then have the opportunity to take up a career as a programmer, software engineer, systems analyst, games developer, network manager or even help to develop the technologies of the future.

If you did not wish to progress onto a specialist Computer Science A Level course, the skills you have acquired at GCSE level will be of great benefit in any other subject area at A Level, for example Mathematics, Physics, Technology, Chemistry and Modern Foreign Languages. You would be able to create systems that would help you with your studies.

Who do I contact for further information?

Miss Surujpaul, Head of Computing and ICT, Ms Mistry and Mr Brock-Carey

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (GCSE)

(Graphic Products Pathway)

What will I learn?

Year 9 Early Entry Design and Technology is a creative and practical year. During year 9 you will learn about the subject and gain the necessary practical skills through a range of 'focused practical tasks' and design projects. You will also improve your skills through projects such as innovative modelling projects (using both CAD modelling and 3D modelling). In D&T: Graphics you will make products such as point of sale displays and creative packaging from lightweight materials such as modelling foam, foam board, card and thin plastics. Your focus will be on creating high quality surface graphics combined with innovative structures.

You will learn about a variety of materials and processes including smart materials and CAD/CAM; ways to innovate and problem solve; and influences and trends in product design. You will design and make models of your products using a range of tools and equipment. In addition, you will learn to design and make using a range of software on our network of PCs and CAD/CAM equipment such as the Roland CAMM1 cutter, 3D CAD/CAM milling machine, laser cutter and 3D printer.

Who is the course for?

The course is aimed at anyone who is interested in designing and making quality products. If you are interested in pursuing a creative career such as product design, architecture or engineering, this course will support you well in your future studies.

If you are a creative thinker who enjoys coming up with unique ideas, likes drawing and working with materials to produce quality products, this is the course for you.

What is the structure of the course

You will have four early entry Design and Technology lessons per fortnight in year 9 that will increase to five lessons in year 10. The groups are mixed ability.

Year 9 is a skills based course to prepare you for the GCSE. The year is about equipping you with the skills and knowledge you will need to successfully complete the controlled assessment throughout year 10 and 11 with one exam at the end of Year 11.

In Year 10 and 11 the Non Exam assessment will be carried out in stages, with mini projects to refresh skills in-between sections. There will also be one theory lesson per fortnight during the Non Exam assessment to fully prepare you for the written exam paper at the end of the course.

How will I be assessed?

During Year 10 and Year 11 you will complete the following units:

- Unit 1 (written exam paper)
- Unit 2 Design and Make Non Exam assessment

The Non Exam assessment accounts for 50% of the GCSE grade. The remaining 50% of the grade comes from the written exam paper.

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	AQA
Specification	8552
Tiers of entry available	One tier of assessment covering grades 9 to 1

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

You can go on to study A Level Product Design at Woodbridge if you gain a grade 5 or higher at GCSE.

This could lead on to a degree and an exciting career in a variety of areas such as engineering, architecture, product design, graphic design, industrial design, interior design, computer design, furniture design, jewellery design, animation, software technician or construction.

Who do I contact for further information

Miss M. Rivers, Head of Design & Technology

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (GCSE)

(Product Design Pathway)

What will I learn?

Year 9 Early Entry Design and Technology is a creative and practical year. During year 9 you will learn about the subject and gain the necessary practical skills through a range of 'focused practical tasks' and design projects. You will also improve your skills through projects such as innovative modelling projects (using both CAD modelling and 3D modelling). In D&T: Product you will make innovative and original products such as chairs for children, lamps, storage and coffee tables from resistant materials (wood and plastics).

You will learn about a variety of materials and processes including smart materials and CAD/CAM; ways to innovate and problem solve; and influences and trends in product design. You will design and make models of your products using a range of tools and equipment. In addition, you will learn to design and make using a range of software on our network of PCs and CAD/CAM equipment such as the Roland CAMM1 cutter, 3D CAD/CAM milling machine, laser cutter and 3D printer.

During year 10 and 11 you will complete an assessed Design and Make task of your own choosing that will form 50% of the overall GCSE. You will complete the Non Exam unit in your lesson time. The course is heavily weighted towards those skills associated with researching, designing, creativity, originality, flair and imagination.

You will learn about a variety of materials and processes including smart, modern materials and CAD/CAM; ways to innovate and problem solve; and influences and trends in product design.

Who is the course for?

The course is aimed at anyone who is interested in designing and making quality products. If you are interested in pursuing a creative career such as product design, architecture or engineering, this course will support you well in your future studies.

If you are a creative thinker who enjoys coming up with unique ideas, likes drawing and working with materials to produce quality products, this is the course for you.

What is the structure of the course

You will have four early entry Design and Technology lessons per fortnight in year 9 that will increase to five lessons in year 10. The groups are mixed ability.

Year 9 is a skills based course to prepare you for the GCSE. The year is about equipping you with the skills and knowledge you will need to successfully complete the controlled assessment throughout year 10 and 11 with one exam at the end of Year 11.

In Year 10 and 11 the Non Exam assessment will be carried out in stages, with mini projects to refresh skills in-between sections. There will also be one theory lesson per fortnight during the Non Exam assessment to fully prepare you for the written exam paper at the end of the course.

How will I be assessed?

During Year 10 and Year 11 you will complete the following units:

- Unit 1 (written exam paper)
- Unit 2 Design and Make Non Exam assessment

The Non Exam assessment accounts for 50% of the GCSE grade. The remaining 50% of the grade comes from the written exam paper.

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	AQA
Specification	8552
Tiers of entry available	One tier of assessment covering grades 1 - 9

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

You can go on to study A Level Product Design at Woodbridge if you gain a grade 5 or higher at GCSE.

This could lead on to a degree and an exciting career in a variety of areas such as engineering, architecture, product design, graphic design, industrial design, interior design, computer design, furniture design, jewellery design, animation, software technician or construction.

Who do I contact for further information

Ms M. Rivers, Head of Technology

DRAMA (GCSE)

What will I learn?

Drama is all about exploration, discovery, creativity and communicating your ideas practically using the medium of theatre. It allows you to put yourself in somebody else's shoes and experience their life and responses. You will be given opportunities to interpret your own ideas and pieces of script, presenting these practically. You will investigate the different forms, styles, and contexts of drama and will learn to work collaboratively to develop your own, and others, performances.

Within the course you acquire new skills and expand your knowledge of drama. Drama promotes your involvement in and enjoyment of the subject as performers, devisers, directors and designers. We will push you to expand ideas in a practical and fun environment

Alongside the development of you as a performer, devisor and director drama aids your personal growth, self-confidence, ability to communicate, team work and analytical skills. It is an exciting and enjoyable course where you can let your imagination go wild and express yourself practically.

Who is the course for?

The course is for anyone who enjoys practical exploration and presentation of their ideas. If you are willing to experiment with other, offer ideas, be creative, use your imagination and always try your best this course is for you. You will develop your devising and acting skills to create exciting, imaginative and original responses.

Being able to look imaginatively at the given stimuli or text and explore this to discover the dramatic potential is an exciting part of the course. We need people who are willing to take a risk and respond supportively to all involved in the practical process of creating performance. As both the written and practical research is essential when creating performances an ability to analyse and log this process is needed.

As you will work predominantly in groups to explore and develop ideas good attendance and attitude are essential You will be expected contribute ideas to aid the creation and perform this to an audience. You will also need to attend as many of extra-curricular activities as possible including organised theatre trips and rehearsals.

What is the structure of the course

Throughout the course we develop the needed skills to meet the demands all 3 components. You will develop skills as an actor, creator and reviewer. You create presentation in response to themes, issues and play texts. Your performances will apply the theories and techniques of a variety of practitioners from Stanislavski to Frantic Assembly creating original performances in a variety of styles. You will be expected to complete written tasks reflecting on the process of creating and evaluating the outcome.

Throughout we will analyse set texts and evaluate your work and live performances. All written work is connected to this practical exploration and aids your ability as a performer. Regular feedback will ensure you are able to track your progress towards the final assessment. You will also develop your skills as a reviewer of Live theatre.

All components are formally assessed at the end of Year 11. You will apply the developed knowledge to create assessed devised performances, written coursework, and performance of a text. You will also further study a set text in preparation for the written exam.

How will I be assessed?

The course is split into units. There are 3 components:

Devising Theatre (internally assessed, 40%)

You will participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or a genre in response to a stimulus set by the exam board.

Performing from a Text (externally assessed 20%)

You will be assessed on either acting or design. You will study two extracts from the same performance text.

Interpreting Theatre (written examination, 40%)

This is a written examination where you will be assessed in two sections:

Section A - a series of questions on one set text

Section B - Live Theatre Review

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	WJEC Eduqas
Specification	C690QS
Tiers of entry available	One tier of assessment covering grades 9 to 1

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

There are many career paths that stem from studying Drama at GCSE level such as Acting, Directing, Presenting, Lighting Design and Stage Management. Other careers use the skills we develop in Drama; Press Officer, Police Officer, teacher and Doctor are just a few.

Further study at A Level is possible such as Theatre Studies or Performing Arts, and onto Degree Level, with many Universities offering Drama and Theatre courses. Other degree courses welcome the skills developed during the course.

Key Skills are integral to the study of Drama. The following skills will be developed; Communication, Problem Solving, ICT, Team-work, presentation skills and evaluation to improve own and others Performance will be developed. These skills are very much needed in all future careers.

Who do I contact for further information

Ms L. Cranwell, Head of Drama

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE (OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL DIPLOMA)

What will I learn?

This course examines the rights of service users and the values of care used when working in this dynamic professional field. All good practice is based on these values and enables those who use and work in care settings to apply quality care. Students' communication skills will be developed and reflected upon as they learn how to communicate effectively in health and social care situations. They will also learn what personal qualities will contribute to the creation of a caring environment when working with individuals in a health, social care and early years setting. Through the choice of optional units, a further understanding of the human body and its development, pathways for providing care, issues related to child protection and nutritional needs can be developed.

Who is the course for?

The subject provides sound preparation for students planning to work in the Health Care or Social Care field or with young children. It is suitable for all students.

What is the structure of the course

Students will be taught in mixed ability groups. Over the course of 3 years, they will cover 8 units. The course includes 2 mandatory units:

R021: Essential values of care for use with individuals in care settings (Exam Assessment)

This unit investigates the rights of individuals and will instil the values of care to be used when working in a health, social care or early years environment. All good practice is based on these values and enables those who use and work in care settings to apply quality practice.

R022: Communicating and working with individuals in health, social care and early years settings (Coursework Assessment)

This unit will provide students with the knowledge and understanding of how to communicate effectively and what personal qualities will contribute to the creation of a caring environment when working with individuals in a health, social care and early years setting.

Optional Units:

In addition to the two mandatory units, 6 additional optional units must also be completed.

R023: Understanding body systems and disorders

R025: Understanding life stages

R028: Understanding the development and protection of young children in an early years setting

R029: Understanding the nutrients needed for good health

R030: Research – a project approach

R031: Basic First Aid Procedures

How will I be assessed?

Throughout Year 9, 10 and 11, students will be assessed by monitoring and marking of class work and home learning. 7 portfolios of coursework, 1 per unit, will be written and assessed internally. These units will be assigned a grade out of 60, equivalent to a mark of Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*. These coursework marks will be added together and account for 87.5% of the qualification grade.

All students will sit one external examination. The examination will have short answer and structured/free response questions based on case studies. The examination is worth 12.5% of the final mark.

Summary:

Examination - One exam - 12.5%

Coursework – Seven portfolios of coursework, 87.5% total

If students only complete enough coursework for a single GCSE equivalent (exam +3 units of coursework, the weighting of the exam increases to 25%)

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	OCR
Specification	J821
Tiers of entry available	One tier of assessment, covering grades Pass, Merit or Distinction

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

The Level 2 Cambridge National Diploma in Health and Social Care is equivalent to 2 GCSEs and can lead to progression onto the Level 3 Cambridge Technical Health and Social Care course. You could then go to university to train as a care professional (nurse, occupational therapist, paramedic, physiotherapist), social worker or teacher.

Other progression routes include CACHE (Childcare professional qualification). It is also suitable for those wishing to pursue a career in the caring professions via Apprenticeships in Childcare or Social Care.

Who do I contact for further information

Ms Liz Griffiths, Head of Health & Social Care

INFORMATION & CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY (BTEC FIRST AWARD)

What will I learn?

What does it take to be a successful software engineer, computer animator, graphic designer or help desk support manager? In our fast paced online digital world, there are many exciting opportunities in information technology, requiring a broad range of skills such as literacy, numeracy, technical, creativity, problem solving and team working skills.

The BTEC First Award in Information and Creative Technology provide a practical, real-world approach to learning and develop specific knowledge and skills learners need to work successfully in the industry, such as:

- Understanding the online world, services and communication, and the impact it has on business, social networking and online security
- Developing technical skills by learning about hardware, software, networking and data and the relationship between them all
- Using creative, communication and presentation skills when designing and producing a digital portfolio.

Learners will also be able to present their work in a variety of ways, including:

- Planning and developing a prototype product or system
- Taking part in professional discussions
- Verbal and visual presentations

Who is the course for?

This course is suitable if you would like to pursue a career or further studies in Information technology sector and appropriate parts of the creative industries, such as electronic publishing or multimedia production.

This has been designed for young people who wish to explore a vocational route throughout Key Stage 4.

What is the structure of the course

The course has four units:

- **Unit 1**
The Online World - 1 hour online exam
- **Unit 3**
A Digital Portfolio – Internal assessment – create a digital portfolio using an exciting onscreen way to showcase your achievements to potential employers or when applying for a course
- **Unit 4**
Creating a Digital Animation – Internal assessment - create different animation for different purposes
- **Unit 9**
Spreadsheet Development – Internal assessment - create a spreadsheet solution for a specific scenario

How will I be assessed?

Through coursework continuously throughout the course. Support and advice are given to prepare students to achieve the best possible mark for each unit. Once they have demonstrated their readiness, students are then required to complete the assessed task with only limited support.

Knowledge and understanding is assessed through one external exam which is a core unit. There are 3 units that are assessed by the use of coursework that is internally marked and moderated by the exam board.

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	Edexcel BTEC
Specification	BTEC Level 1/2 First Award in Information and Creative Technology
Tiers of entry available	One tier of assessment, covering grades Pass, Merit or Distinction

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

The skills learnt in studying a BTEC First Award will aid progression to further study such as a specialised level 3 vocational and prepare learners to enter the workplace in due course. Potential employment opportunities, such as an apprenticeship or a supervised role (depending on the specific job requirements) should be available in the Information Technology sector and appropriate parts of the creative industries, such as electronic publishing or multimedia production.

This BTEC First qualification provides learners with a taste of what these sectors can offer, enabling them to make informed choices about their future career. Students will be given the potential opportunity to enter employment within a wide range of job roles across the Information Technology sector and some aspects of the creative industries, such as Website Content Manager, Computer Animator and Graphic Designer.

Who do I contact for further information

Ms J. Surujpaul, Head of Computer Science and ICT or any Computer Science teacher

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (GCSE)

What will I learn?

For GCSE Physical Education there are five main areas of study:

- a) Practical performance three of chosen activities chosen from a list of team and individual sports.
- b) A verbal analysis of performance for an athlete from one of the activities.
- c) Exam 1 - Physical Factors Affecting Performance.
- d) Exam 2 - Socio-cultural Issues and Sports Psychology.
- e) Personal exercise programme – written non-examined assessment.

Who is the course for?

GCSE Physical Education is for students who have a love for physical activity and have a sound ability at practical work but who wish to develop their theoretical knowledge. Three out of five lessons are in the classroom. Students will be expected to improve their practical performance outside of school by being members of clubs.

What is the structure of the course

CSE Physical Education consists of:-

- a) Theory – 60% (2 exams)
- b) Practical – 30% (3 activities)
- c) Non-examined assessment – 10%

The pupils will have 4 lessons a fortnight which will be a mixture of practical and theory lessons. They will be required to buy GCSE PE practical kit for their practical lessons and for use in practical examinations. There will be opportunities to take part in various practical activities outside of the school timetable at various local sporting locations.

How will I be assessed?

- Practical Exam – 3 sports assessed against the practical criteria supplied by the examination board and then delivered in a practical exam in front of an examiner. One of the sports is a team sport, one individual and one is either team or individual. (30%)
- Theory Exam 1 – Physical Factors Affecting Performance (30%)
- Theory Exam 2 – Socio-cultural Issues and Sports Psychology (30%)
- Non-Examined Assessment – Analysis and evaluation of performance in one activity (10%)

Exam Board Specification and Exam entry details

Exam Board	OCR
Specification	J587
Tiers of entry available	One tier of assessment covering grades 9 to 1

What courses/employment could I progress to at the end of the course?

A GCSE in Physical Education at grade 9 to 6, in addition to four other 9 to 6 grades in other subjects, will enable students to study the Physical Education at A-level. You must also compete at a high level in one or more sports. Another opportunity is BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sports that can be studied at 6th form.

There are many career opportunities in sport and recreation. Careers now recognising PE as an important qualification include physiotherapy, sports medicine, sports science, sports psychology, sports centre management and sports therapy.

Any science related courses/careers will benefit from the biological topics within PE GCSE / A-Level.

Who do I contact for further information

Mr S. Jones, Head of Physical Education

Subjects can be found in:

WYNNDALE BUILDING	
W1	French/Spanish
W2	Russian
W3	Business Studies
W14	Health and Social Care
W15	Physical Education
W16	German
W18	Design and Technology
RODING ARTS CENTRE	
Performance Theatre	Art
Performance Theatre	Drama
R6	Computer Science Information and Creative Technology