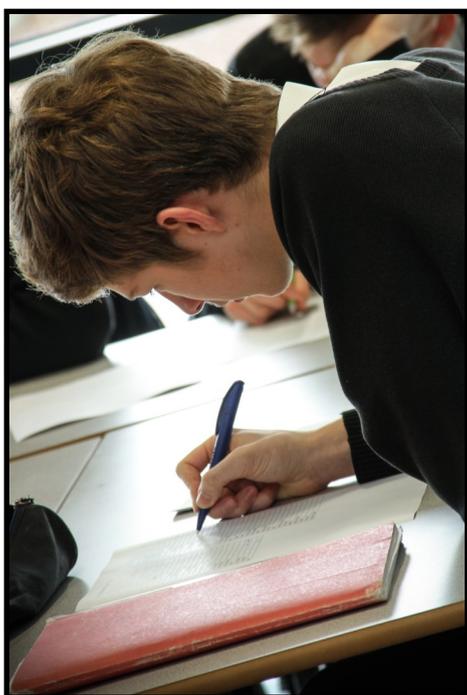




# Wyvern College



## St Edmund's Girls' School



### Curriculum Choices 2018—2020



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Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Welcome to Curriculum Choices 2018, the first step in personalising your curriculum.

The time has come to make important choices about the courses you will start in Year 10. We have done everything we can to extend the curriculum to support your skills and ambitions beyond Wyvern College and provide an interesting and varied mix of lessons for the remainder of your time here. We are proud of the breadth of option choices we are able to offer you through our collaboration with our Magna Learning Partner St Edmund's School.

In the past we would have referred to this process as "Options": at 14 students had a chance to choose radically different subjects that put them on a path towards a certain career or university course. However, over the years the government had reduced the number of choices available at this point and it is now at the age of 16 that students have real freedom to choose. What this means in practice is that all students follow a compulsory core curriculum with some additional choices.

Another recent change relates to the difficulty of the new-style GCSEs. You will be the second year group to study courses which are more difficult and cover more content than their predecessors. For this reason and to maximise the benefit students take from their courses we raise our expectations of them in years 10 and 11. We require even higher levels of motivation and maturity, than in years 7 to 9. We expect that students are organised, punctual and rarely away from school, and I feel sure that we have the full support of parents and carers to support their sons with this through what is a challenging and rewarding time.

### **Making your choices**

We have taken the time to consider each of you individually. We have looked at your strengths in certain subjects and your overall academic profile. Your booklet contains option choices so that you are choosing from a list of subjects that is most appropriate for you.

**To make your choices please complete the form at the back of this booklet.  
Return the form to your tutor by Thursday 22nd February.**

This booklet has been designed to give you the best chance of running the courses as advertised. However, please note that any course that does not attract sufficient numbers may not run, so it is important to choose a back-up option that you would be happy to study.

If you would like any further advice please do not hesitate to contact your son's tutor or myself.

Yours sincerely

**Andy Bazen**  
**Headteacher**  
**Wyvern College**

**Nicola Bull**  
**Headteacher**  
**St Edmund's Girls' School**

## The Curriculum

### Core Subjects

All students must study a Core Curriculum. The level of the courses that the students follow will be dependant on their performance in the different subjects and will be decided by the Subject Leader in consultation with the student and parents/carers. The aim will be to match the student's ability to the correct qualification to ensure that all students achieve their potential.

<b>English</b>	GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature
<b>Maths</b>	GCSE Maths
<b>Statistics</b>	GCSE Statistics
<b>Science</b>	GCSE Science
<b>Ethics</b>	GCSE RE
<b>PE</b>	An accredited PE Qualification
<b>CoFE</b>	Certificate of Financial Education

### Options Choices

In each of the option block choose one subject as your first and one subject as your second choice. Complete the form at the back of this booklet. Discuss your choices with your tutor, parents and subject teachers before completing this form.

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
French	Art and Design
Geography	Computer Science
History	Dance
	Design & Technology—Food and Cookery
	Design & Technology
	Drama
	French
	Geography
	Health and Social Care
	History
	Film Studies
	Music
	Photography
	Spanish

## **Core Subjects**

## G.C.S.E in English Language

**Awarding Body:** AQA

You will sit both GCSEs in English Language and English Literature.

### **The Course:**

The major change to GCSE English Language since 2015, is that it will be assessed entirely by examination at the end of the course. Students will draw upon a range of texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st century as reading stimulus, developing higher-order reading and critical thinking skills. Students will learn to write a range of texts effectively, demonstrating confident control of Standard English.

### **Assessment:**

**Exams—100% of the course, based on unseen texts**

#### **Paper One—Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing**

Section A: Reading—literature non-fiction—one single text, a mixture of short, longer and extended questions

Section B: Writing—descriptive or narrative writing—1 extended task, marked for content and technical accuracy

1 hour 45 minutes, 50% of GCSE

#### **Paper Two—Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives**

Section A: Reading—one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction—2 linked texts, a mixture of short, longer and extended questions

Section B: Writing—writing to present a viewpoint—1 extended task, marked for content and technical accuracy

1 hour 45 minutes, 50% of GCSE

**Non-examination assessment: Spoken Language**—assessed by teacher throughout the course, presenting, responding to questions and feedback, use of Standard English.

### **Career pathways:**

GCSE English Language at the equivalent of grade 5 or above is a minimum requirement for many employers or college courses, regardless of whether you intend specifically to study English or not.

GCSE English Language prepares you equally well for AS English Language or Literature and has some links with subjects such as Media Studies, Psychology, Sociology or Philosophy.

Traditional career paths include journalism, advertising, and the media as well as areas such as teaching, proof reading and writing.

## G.C.S.E in English Literature

**Awarding Body:** AQA

### **The Course:**

In studying the set texts students have the opportunity to develop the following skills - literal and inferential comprehension,, critical reading, evaluation of a writer's choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features, comparing texts, producing clear and coherent texts, writing effectively about literature for a range of purposes, using accurate Standard English.

### **Assessment:**

**Exams—100% of the course**

#### **Paper One—Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel**

Section A— Shakespeare—one question on a play students have studied. Students will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B—The 19th-century novel—one question on a novel students have studied. Students will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the play as a whole.

1 hour 45 minutes, 40% of GCSE

#### **Paper Two—Modern texts and poetry**

Section A—Modern texts—students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B—Poetry—students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C—Unseen poetry—Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

2 hours 15 minutes, 60% of GCSE

### **Possible Texts -**

Macbeth, Romeo & Juliet, Much Ado about Nothing, The Merchant of Venice.

Great Expectations, Frankenstein, The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

An Inspector Calls, Blood Brothers, The History Boys

Lord of the Flies, Animal Farm

Poetry on the theme of Love and Relationships, or Power and Conflict.

### **Career pathways:**

GCSE Literature prepares you specifically well for AS English Literature and has some links with subjects such as Media Studies, Psychology, Sociology or Philosophy.

Like English, traditional career paths include journalism, advertising, and the media as well as areas such as teaching, proof reading and writing.

## G.C.S.E in Mathematics

**Awarding Body:** EdExcel

### **The Course:**

Students will follow a three year linear GCSE in Mathematics.

The course aims to improve oral, written and practical skills and develop knowledge and understanding. We seek to encourage confidence, enjoyment and perseverance. Your son will use textbooks which are specifically designed to cope with different abilities and levels of learning.

He will meet aspects of number, algebra, shape and space and handling data. Coursework is no longer applicable.

He will use Information Communication Technology where appropriate to enhance his own learning of Mathematics and to improve the quality of his work. He will have the opportunity to broaden and consolidate his knowledge, skills and understanding of I.C.T. in a mathematical context.

Your son will be entered for one of the following tiers of the GCSE examination.

<b>Tier</b>	<b>Grades</b>
Foundation	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Higher	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

### **Assessment:**

Three equally weighted papers to be assessed at the end of the course

Candidates will be entered at a level appropriate to their ability and rate of progress following discussion between teachers, students and parents if necessary.

### **Career pathways:**

Gaining a grade 5 at GCSE Maths will provide a foundation for progression onto many other courses and future employment. Many colleges and apprenticeships expect a minimum grade 5 on entry. With a grade 8 or 9, there is an option of completing an A level in Mathematics. This in turn would enhance opportunities when applying for a university place.

## G.C.S.E in Statistics

**Awarding Body:** EdExcel

**The Course:** The qualification has been designed to have an assessment structure with two papers of equal size and weighing. This assessment structure supports a wide range of delivery models that allow teaching in a flexible manner (2 Year Vs 3 Year Cycle). The assessment objectives are targeted equally in both papers, the statistical enquiry cycle assessment is integrated with the statistical methods supporting an integrated approach to statistics teaching, learning and exam preparation.

**Tier:**

Foundation

Higher

**Content Changes:**

- Increased depth at both tiers, with some increase of breadth at both tiers
- Increased emphasis on the mathematics of statistics and use of formal notation
- Students are expected to know and be able to use a range of statistical formulae expressed in formal notation

Students must have access to Scientific Calculators and are expected to be familiar with the statistical function keys on their calculator.

**Assessment:**

The Pearson Edexcel level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9—1) in Statistics consists of two equally weighted externally examined papers.

Students must complete all assessment in May/June in any single year, and students can only be entered for either Foundation or Higher tier.

**Assessment Changes:**

- Removal of controlled assessment—now 100% examination
- Tiering is retained, but the classification of content into three categories reflects the approach used in GCSE Mathematics where Foundation students are assessed on 'standard' and 'underlined' type, while Higher students are assessed on all content

**Career pathways:**

This qualification provides a basis in statistics for students who wish to progress to further study of the subject at Level 3 within related disciplines.

**Students can progress from this qualification to:**

- GCE AS or A Level Mathematics and GCE AS or A Level Further Mathematics
- Level 3 qualifications, such as GCE in Biology, Economics, Geography, Psychology, Sociology and vocational qualifications such as a BTEC in Business
- Training and employment where quantitative methods are used

## G.C.S.E in Science

**Awarding Body:** AQA Science

**The Course:** GCSE Science comprises of three subject areas: and is taught over three years.

The course is made up of Biology, Physics and Chemistry. Students study all three subjects until Year 11 when the appropriate route will be decided.

**Assessment:**

Combined Science is made up of 6 exams for each 1hr 15min.  
Biology, Physics and Chemistry each have 2 exams 1hr 45min long.

**Biology**

1. Cell biology
2. Organisation
3. Infection and response
4. Bioenergetics
5. Homeostasis and response
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution
7. Ecology

**Chemistry**

8. Atomic structure and the periodic table
9. Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
10. Quantitative chemistry
11. Chemical changes
12. Energy changes
13. The rate and extent of chemical change
14. Organic chemistry
15. Chemical analysis
16. Chemistry of the atmosphere
17. Using resources

**Physics**

18. Forces
19. Energy
20. Waves
21. Electricity
22. Magnetism and electromagnetism
23. Particle model of matter
24. Atomic structure
25. Space physics (physics only)

**Career pathways:**

GCSE science enables you to understand the world, so prepares you for any career. Traditional science careers include; medicine, veterinary science, engineering, research, the armed forces or teaching.

## G.C.S.E in Ethics (Full Course)

**Awarding Body:** AQA

### **The Course:**

The Ethics course follows AQA for GCSE Religious Studies, specification A. Students will be considering the varying attitudes towards religious and non-religious issues surrounding contemporary British society.

We will focus in on Christian and Islamic traditions and the impact that belief can have on daily decisions and ethical dilemmas ranging from animal rights to just wars and family life.

Over the two years students will develop their ability to construct well informed balanced arguments as well as to demonstrate their ability to refer to specific religious traditions as evidence.

### **Assessment:**

There is no course work.

There are 2 exams;

Both are 1 hour 30 minutes long and will take place at the end of year 11. They are evenly weighted and you will receive one overall grade for both Ethics exams.

### **Career pathways:**

As a legal entitlement, this course enriches students' experience, introduces them to critical issues in society and enhances our Church school status. It is universally acknowledged as a gateway qualification and as proof of the ability to engage in reasoned debate. It therefore supports a great many A' Level and other post 16 courses, especially those with significant written content. This course is of direct relevance to those working in many public and uniformed services and in careers which feature interpersonal skills highly.

## Physical Education

**Awarding Body:** Edexcel

### The Course:

#### Unit 1: The Theory of Physical Education (Exam)

60% of the Total GCSE

##### Overview of Content

- Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems (applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, physical training, use of data)
- Component 2: Health fitness and well-being, movement analysis, socio-cultural influences, use of data

##### Overview of Assessment

- This unit is assessed through two externally set examinations
- Component 1: Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes **(36% of qualification)**
- Component 2: Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes **(24% of qualification)**

#### Unit 2: Performance in Physical Education (controlled assessment)

40% of the Total GCSE

##### Overview of Content

- Component 3: Practical performance – Practical performance in one team activity - One individual activity and a free choice from the published list of the Department for Education
- Component 4: Personal exercise Programme (PEP) - Planning carrying out and monitoring and evaluating a personal training programme

##### Overview of Assessment

- This unit is assessed under controlled conditions internally assessed and externally moderated by an Edexcel examiner
- Component 3: Practical Performance across 3 activities: 105 marks 35 marks per activity **(30% of qualification)**
- Component 4: Written and performed Personal Exercise Programme: 20 marks **(10% of qualification)**

### Career pathways:

Gaining a C grade at GCSE Physical Education will provide a foundation for progression onto many other courses and future employment. Many colleges and apprenticeships expect a minimum grade C on entry, so this could assist your portfolio. There is an option of completing an A level or BTEC in PE or Sport. This in turn would enhance opportunities when applying for a university place.

## Certificate in Financial Education (CoFE)

**Awarding Body:** London Institute of Business and Finance

CoFE introduces the student to the impact of finance on the economy and encourages them to consider how this can affect business and the individual. Through this it develops knowledge and a valuable range of applied and transferable skills and provides a foundation for further study in business and finance-related disciplines.

The course is made up of 3 units;

Unit 1 Finance, the individual and society

Unit 2 Practices of managing money

Unit 3 Financial capability, work and enterprise

**Exam:**

**This course is made up of:**

- 1) two online multiple choice exams
- 2) One Case study written exam

Unit 1: 20 stand-alone multiple-choice questions and five sets of stimulus material each with three associated questions.

Unit 2: 15 stand-alone multiple-choice questions and five sets of stimulus material each with four associated questions.

Unit 3: Assessed by a pre-release case study requiring written responses to five associated questions. This component of the examination is to be completed in 1 hour.

### **Career Pathways:**

This course will provide students with a greater understanding of the financial world and also provide a potential platform for a level 3 business qualification.

## **Curriculum Choices**

## G.C.S.E in Art and Design

**Awarding Body:** AQA

### **The Course:**

You will enjoy this course if you have an interest In Art and Design in all its marvellous forms. The range of materials and scope to develop high quality work is open to you should you choose Art. You should be willing to spend time outside the classroom on preparation, research and development of your work, but overall have a sense of enjoyment for the subject.

**This course** gives students the opportunity to experiment with a range of media and techniques including drawing, painting, printing, mixed media studies and a selection of 3D media. An important part of the course is the study of the work of other artists and students will use a variety of past and contemporary artists as a stimulus for their own work. Students are expected to keep a journal of work in progress and produce a personal portfolio.

Further information is available by the exam body below

### **Assessment:**

- Unit 1: Portfolio of work 60%

Students will choose a theme for their projects from a number of starting points. They will generate a range of work inspired by their theme including mood boards, drawings, paintings, media studies (2d and 3d), photography and Artist research, before designing and making their own 2d and 3d responses.

- Unit 2: Externally set task 40%

Students have unlimited preparation time in the weeks prior to the examination. They are given a time limit of 10 hours for a final examined piece, which is completed under supervision in school.

All work is assessed by the school and moderated by and AQA moderator.

### **Career pathways:**

Art and Design GCSE is a requirement if you want to continue with an Art related subject at a higher level such as AS, A2 or Degree level. It is also highly recommended if you are considering numerous careers such as Architect, Careers in Art Galleries/Museums, Art Therapist, Display/Window Designer, Exhibition Designer, Fashion Designer, Fine Artist, Florist, Furniture Designer, Graphic Designer, Hairdresser, Illustrator, Interior Designer, Landscape Designer, Make-up Artist, Packaging Designer, Painter & Decorator, Photographer, Costume/Set Designer, Art & Design Teacher, Careers in Advertising, Model maker, Jewellery maker, Web Designer, Nursery School/Early Years Teacher, Sign Writer, traditional Crafts Worker, Special/Visual Effects Designer, Textile Designer, Cartoonist, Cabinet maker, TV/Film Director, Technician, games designer.

Art is also of intrinsic pleasure to many people and shows that you are a creative person—a skill many employers value very highly.

## GCSE in Computer Science

**Awarding Body:** Edexcel level1/2 GCSE (9 – 1) in Computer Science (1CP1)

Computing is of enormous importance to the economy. Computer technology continues to advance rapidly and the way that technology is consumed has also been changing at a fast pace over recent years. The growth in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for employers and employees. For example, businesses today require an ever-increasing number of technologically-aware individuals. This course has been designed to engage students who are interested in careers in the gaming, mobile and web related industries.

### **What will you study on this course?**

The course has three components, Principles of Computer Science where students explore build and show understanding of the components required to create a computer system such as computer program, computer network and emerging computer technology. In the second component, the Application of Computational Thinking where students test their understanding of computer systems and a Project component where students will demonstrate their computational techniques using a programming language. Students will:

Decompose problems into sub-problems

Create original algorithms or work with algorithms produced by others

Design, write, test and evaluate programs.

### **What is the structure of the course?**

*Year 10 Areas of study will include;*

Components of a computer systems such as truth tables and logic statements.

Understand computer networks and the ability to construct web pages using HTML and CSS.

Understand algorithms, binary representation, data representation and the ability to use SQL to insert, amend and extract data stored in a structured database.

*Year 11*

Project exercises and testing

### **Assessment:**

The course is delivered through two externally assessed components and one non-examined assessment:

Principles of Computer Science:

Weighted 40% of the total qualification

A 100 minute Single tier examination paper set and marked by Edexcel.

## GCSE in Dance

**Awarding Body: AQA Full course**

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity, whatever their previous experience in the subject. This course recognises the role of dance in young people's lives and students will study a range of dance styles.

The practical component of the course enables students to study dance by 'doing' and the anthology of professional works provides a springboard for the development of creative practical tasks. The study of the anthology develops students' skills in performance and choreography as well as broadening their knowledge and understanding of dance and their ability to critically appraise dances of different styles and cultural influences.

The skills gained during the course are relevant to all subject areas, future employment and for progress to many Post-16 courses. This course will help any student interested in pursuing further studies in the Arts or performance based industries.

### **What will you study on this course?**

Develop skills, knowledge and understanding of dance as a performer, choreographer and critic;  
apply and adapt your skills in performance and choreography;  
create dances for a range of purposes and in response to different stimuli;  
develop your ability to analyse, evaluate and appreciate dance;  
learn to appreciate the contribution of dance to your personal and social health, fitness and wellbeing.

### **What is the structure of the course & how will it be assessed?**

The GCSE Dance course is 60% practical and 40% theory. It is split into two components.

#### Component 1

Performance (30%)

Set phrases in a solo performance

Duet/trio performance

Choreography (30%)

Solo OR group dance

#### Component 2

Written Exam (40%)

Questions based on students' own experience as performer and choreographer, and on the GCSE Dance Anthology – a collection of 6 professional dance works.

### **Where can I find out more?**

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/dance/gcse/dance-8236/introduction>

## VCert in Food and Cookery (Design and Technology)

**Awarding Body:** NCFE level 2 Certificate /Ofqual

This qualification is designed for students who have an interest in food and cookery. It will provide learners with experience of using different cooking techniques and methods to enable them to use these within further education or apprenticeships. It will give them a basic understanding of the skills required for a career in food. A VCert is a vocational qualification which has been accredited by Ofqual.

### **What will you study on this course?**

This course will teach you how to...

Use tools and equipment safely and accurately

Understand factors which affect food choice

Understand the nutritional functions of food

Understand the function of ingredients in recipes

Explore balanced diets and specific needs

Develop dishes for specific briefs

### **What is the structure of the course?**

Year 10: Develop skills, knowledge and understanding through a range of practical and written tasks. All work is kept in a portfolio and used as evidence of achievement.

Year 11: Students select from briefs which are set by the examination board each year to create an outcome. Sit written exam in November, with the option of a re sit the following spring.

### **How will it be assessed?**

There are 4 units, one of these is an external exam which is 2 hours long and usually sat in the Autumn term of Year 11. the exam covers balanced diets, nutrition and adapting recipes and counts for 40% of the overall qualification.

The three remaining units are made up of portfolio evidence built up over the course which are internally moderated.

Due to the nature of the course where students carry out practical session, we ask for a parental contribution of £50.00 per annum to be paid at the beginning of course. This will cover all regular cooking ingredients.

**Career pathways:** This course encourages the student to cook and to make informed decisions about a wide range of further learning and career pathways as well as developing vital life skills.

The student may choose to work part time within the local catering industry. Many students who have studied practical cookery at Wyvern have second employment within the local area on both a full time and part time basis.

## G.C.S.E in Design & Technology

**Awarding Body:** Eduqas

Design and Technology develops thinking skills leading towards invention and design innovation, to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, preparing you to become a critical and creative designer, engineer and consumer of the future.

Inspiring a love of design and technology—drawing on authentic design practice and contemporary technologies you will be able to engage in a variety of contexts to understand and appreciate the design and manufacture of existing products, making you a more empathetic designer and more discriminating purchaser.

A focus on iterative designing—you will learn to deliver your thinking and design skills through iterative design processes that allow you to 'explore, create and evaluate' following practices and strategies used by the creative, engineering and manufacturing industries.

### **How you will study in this course:**

Year 10—Develop skills, knowledge and understanding through a range of design and making tasks in a range of material areas.

Year 11—You will be given a design problem by the exam board that will form the NEA element of the course, this will be a design and make activity.

### **Assessment**

To achieve a grade in the subject you will need to complete the following elements of assessment in Year 11:

NEA—50%, a 30-35 hour extended piece of work

Written exam—50%, a 2 hour paper

### **Career pathways:**

The study of design and technology can lead to future careers in product design, engineering, architecture, fashion and graphic design; it will develop your design and thinking skills that open up a world of possibility, providing the tools to create the future.

## G.C.S.E in Drama

**Awarding Body:** AQA

GCSE Drama students need to enjoy performing and taking part in the creative process, so being a team-player is a must. GCSE Drama is a good option for people considering a career in performing arts, the media or in arts administration. However, it is also valuable in developing presentational skills, communication, group management and creative problem solving.

### **What will you study on this course?**

Drama students develop their skills through creating, performing and evaluating live performance. You will learn the skills required to create an effective devised performance as well as learning how to perform effectively from a published script. You can also choose to study technical theatre e.g. lighting or sound as an alternative to acting in your practical units.

You will also develop your analysis of drama and will need to be able to evaluate performances in great detail, showing an understanding of how drama is constructed and the impact it has on an audience. As part of your training you will also attend several live theatre performances which you will assess as part of your written exam at the end of Year 11.

### **What is the structure of the course?**

The course is assessed in three parts: a devised performance, a scripted performance and a written exam. In year 10 and 11, students complete devised performances with written portfolios, the highest grade will be selected from these. There will also be a performance of scripted drama in each year but with only the year 11 performance being assessed by an examiner.

As well as practical lessons there are fortnightly 'desk lessons' in which students will complete their written portfolios and develop their evaluative skills for the written exam.

How will it be assessed?

The weighting of the units is as follows:

Devised Unit and an accompanying written portfolio (40%), assessed in school.

Scripted Performance (20%) assessed by a visiting examiner

Written exam (90mins) questions on a scene from a set text, and a review of a live performance seen during the course (40%)

For more information visit the [AQA GCSE Drama Website](#)

**Career pathways:** GCSE Drama could lead on to further study in Drama, Theatre Studies, Performing Arts and Expressive Arts at A-level and above, or other related subjects such as English, Music, Dance, Art and Design.

Career opportunities for students who study Drama at a higher level include: the media, theatre, television, radio, the film industry, arts administration, drama therapy, education.

## G.C.S.E in French

**Awarding Body:** AQA 8658

**The course:** You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that offers a range of skills and a variety of activities with topics that include media, entertainment & youth culture, education, training & employment and social activities, fitness and health. It will appeal to all types of students including those interested in travel, culture and people from different countries, as well as those who always have something to say!

You have developed important language skills and knowledge at Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) based around the skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The GCSE course will build on this and introduce you to a wider range of language structures and vocabulary. You will learn to recognise these and to apply your new knowledge to different contexts.

Website: [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

### Themes and topic areas

1. **Identity and culture**
  - Self, family and friends
  - Technology in every day life
  - Free-time activities
  - Customs and festivals in French-speaking countries
2. **Local, national, international and global areas of interest**
  - Home, town, neighbourhood and region
  - Social issues
  - Global issues
  - Travel and tourism
3. **Current and future study and employment**
  - My studies
  - Life at school/college
  - Education post-16

**Career pathways:** With greater emphasis on EBACC subjects languages are growing in popularity once again. Studying a language encourages you to express yourself, your likes, dislikes, ideas and opinions and develops self-confidence. Learning another language can enhance your employment and mobility prospects whether you want a career in business, engineering, fashion or world class football! GCSE Languages offers a progression route to further study of Languages at AS, A2 level or as an option within Vocational A levels, BTEC First or National awards. A GCSE Language confirms your ability to learn a foreign language and facilitates the learning of other languages. Employers are always asking for candidates with language skills and a GCSE in a modern foreign language will place you in a strong position for interesting employment with plenty of career opportunities. Examples of employment where language skills are particularly valued include journalism and media, law, engineering, business and marketing, ICT, sport and leisure, travel and tourism, customer service, civil service (Immigration, Customs and Excise, Diplomatic Service) and teaching (UK and abroad). Many University degree courses often still require students to have studied a language at GCSE.

## GCSE in Geography B

**Awarding Body:** WJEC Eduqas, **Qualification Accreditation Number:** 601/8153/9

### The Course:

#### Why choose this course?

Are you interested in how the natural and human worlds work? Are you interested in gaining a qualification which will open doors? By studying geography GCSE you will be able to show future colleges/universities and employers that you are an independent creative thinker. This GCSE syllabus has been deliberately chosen with Wyvern pupils in mind as it encourages questioning and fieldwork enquiry, as well as applying geographical skills, knowledge and understanding to the real world. You will be given the opportunity to represent geographical data using a range of cartographical and graphical techniques and therefore it fits in very well with science and maths GCSEs.

#### Course content:

The content of the specification is organised into three broad themes:

**Theme 1: Changing Places - Changing Economies** (Urbanisation in contrasting global cities; Urban and rural processes and change in the UK; Global perspective on development issues)

**Theme 2: Changing Environments** (Coasts and coastal management; Rivers and river management; Weather and climate; Climate change - cause and effect)

**Theme 3: Environmental Challenges** (How ecosystems function; Ecosystems under threat; Water resources and management; Desertification)

#### Assessment:

**Component 1: Investigating Geographical Issues** **Written Exam: 1 hour 45 minutes (40%)**

Three structured data response questions base on the three themes. The final part of each question will require an extended response.

**Component 2: Problem Solving Geography** **Written Exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (30%)**

This component will assess content from across the themes using a variety of structured data response questions. Part A will introduce an issue and set the geographical context. Part B will outline a number of possible solutions to the issue. Part C will provide an opportunity for you to choose a solution and justify your choice in an extended response.

**Component 3: Applied Fieldwork Enquiry** **Written Exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (30%)**

A written examination in three parts using a variety of structured data response questions some of which will require extended responses. Part A will assess approaches to fieldwork methodology, representation and analysis. Part B will assess how fieldwork enquiry may be used to investigate geography's conceptual frameworks. Part C will assess the application of broad geographical concepts to a wider UK context and assess the ability to make and justify a decision.

#### Career pathways:

Upon successful completion of geography GCSE you can choose to study geography at A level and ultimately follow a university degree course. This is an entry point to many careers. For example: town and transport planning, chartered surveying, land and water management, sustainability, environmental consultancy, development, tourism, conservation, demography, housing and social welfare. Geography graduates are not limited to specific fields, however, and many work in industries as diverse as the financial sector, marketing, research, and industry and manufacturing.

**Further Information:** <http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/geography/gcse-b/>

## Cambridge Nationals Level 1/2 Certificate in Health and Social Care

**Awarding Body:** OCR

This course is ideally suited to those who enjoy practical and theoretical learning. This qualification can lead to the entry requirements for colleges or 6<sup>th</sup> forms and at Level 2 is equivalent to one GCSE. The Certificate can lead to either Level 1 or Level 2 dependent on the final grade.

This course is designed for students who have an interest in Health and Social Care and wish to develop the practical skills and learn the theory that can prepare them for further study and employment within this sector.

The Certificate is divided into 4 units;

- One written exam
- 3 separate coursework assignments

Each of these 4 units contribute 25% towards the final grade.

Each of the 3 coursework assignments consist of two written elements and two practical elements.

Of these 3 coursework units, one is mandatory; a unit based solely on communication and the other two units will be selected from a choice of 8 provided by the exam board.

The overriding theme that spans this course is developing communication skills and students will regularly participate in talks, presentations and practical exercises to and in front of others to develop key skills and qualities in this area.

All students cover the same syllabus and final grades will be awarded based on the grades for the 4 units:

- Level 1 (Pass / Merit / Distinction)
- Level 2 (Pass / Merit / Distinction / Distinction\*)

Further information can be found at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/82369-specification.pdf>

## G.C.S.E in History

**Awarding Body:** AQA

### **The Course:**

#### **AQA History**

History continues to be one of the most respected qualifications available at GCSE. Not only does it develop your knowledge of past events but it will also teach you skills of analysis, argument, evaluation and judgment. You will learn how to express yourself clearly and how to write effectively. You will have the opportunity to carry your own research and in doing so will not simply be studying History, but actually doing it.

**There are two papers and no course work.**

**[www..aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)**

### **Assessment:**

**Paper 1: Understanding the Modern World. Written paper of 1 hour 45 minutes. 50% of the overall mark.**

You will study the development of Germany during the first half of the twentieth century, including Kaiser Wilhelm and his difficulty in ruling Germany, the impact of WWI on the German people, the effect the depression had on Germany, the rise of Hitler and the Nazi party and how the Nazis kept control of the German people.

We will also learn about WWI in greater detail as part of a wider world depth study.

**Paper 2: Shaping the Nation. Written paper of 1 hour 45 minutes. 50% of the overall mark.**

Paper two includes the study of the changes to power and government in Britain over a period stretching from 1170 to the present day, this will include looking at Feudalism, the Magna Carta, the Civil War, the extension of the right to vote for all people during the nineteenth and the campaign for women's rights, and those of minority groups in the twentieth century.

You will also study in depth Elizabethan England 1568 – 1603 this will include looking at court life, fashion, the Spanish Armada, the problem of Mary Queen of Scots, and much more.

Students will also be assessed on their knowledge of a specific historical site, eg a castle, stately home, cathedral etc.

### **Career pathways:**

History trains enquiring minds and teaches you how to construct effective and clearly expressed arguments and essays. At GCSE level History is a good support to any A-level that involves writing and analysis.

There are many careers open to historians, such as, business, law, journalism, the armed forces, teaching and many more.

## GCSE in Film Studies

**Awarding Body:** Full GCSE following the WJEC Curriculum

### Who should choose this course?

GCSE Film Studies students should firstly enjoy watching films, thinking about films and how they communicate with an audience. They should be interested in analysing films and learning how films are made. This course would particularly suit students thinking about considering courses in media studies at Key Stage 4. The course is assessed mainly on students written work and written projects- the practical aspect of the course only accounts for 20% of the final grade.

### What will you study on this course?

Film Students learn how to analyse films in detail, by studying how film makers use the tools and techniques at their disposal to convey meaning to an audience. We study six set films from the exam board and look at the filming techniques used as well as analysing other areas such as narrative and aesthetics. Students learn how directors and writers turn ideas into finished films and have the opportunity to create their own film project.

### What is the structure of the course?

Year 10

- Key technical language
- 3 set films- British, Global English Language, and Global Non-English Language.
- Film project part 1- students create a pitch, screenplay and shooting script of an original idea
- Students who complete Film project p2 can film their projects for submission

Year 11

- 3 set films- Hollywood studio past and present, US independent.
- Revision and two written exams

### How will I be assessed?

The weighting of the units is as follows

- **Written exam 1** US film comparison and independent film focusing on 3 set films, technical advances in film making- 35% of qualification
- **Written exam 2** Global cinema focusing on 3 UK and global set films- 35% of qualification
- **Production** students are assessed on an original screenplay and shooting script or, when complete, their filmed version of the project.

For more information visit the WJEC Film Studies GCSE website

### Career pathways:

This GCSE lays the foundation for a career in working in T.V., film, animation and other media careers. It prepares students for studying both Communications, Media Studies and Film Studies AS and A2 level courses.

## GCSE in Music

**Awarding Body:** AQA

### **The Course:**

This course is open to anyone who enjoys performing and creating their own music. It is a challenging new course and pupils would benefit from already playing an instrument or having singing lessons, however this is not essential as time is built into the course to develop these skills.

What will you study on this course?

You will have the opportunity to improve your individual performing skills as well as develop your ability to perform with others. You will learn compositional techniques, with the option of using technology, to allow you to compose in a variety of different styles. You will be introduced to a wide variety of music and learn to listen with a critical ear as well as analyse set works.

What is the structure of the course?

There are 3 components in this course.

Component 1 – Understanding Music

Listening (Year 10 and 11)

Contextual understanding (Year 10 and 11)

Component 2 – Performing Music

Solo performance (Recorded in Year 11)

Ensemble performance (Recorded in Year 11)

Component 3 – Composing Music

Composition 1 - Composing to a brief (Year 10)

Composition 2 - Free composition (Year 11)

### **How will it be assessed?**

Component 1 is assessed at the end of the course with a written exam lasting 90 minutes. Both component 2 and 3 are internally assessed and then sent to the exam board for moderation. All performances are recorded in front of the teacher only.

### **Career pathways:**

GCSE Music is a good preparation for further musical study and an essential foundation for AS/A2 Music or Music Technology and later BA Hons Music/Music Technology degrees. Other career pathways include: the Vocational Performing Arts A level, BTEC National Diplomas – Music, Popular Music. This GCSE lays a suitable foundation for careers in the music industry, publishing, entertainment, teaching or any job which involves communication and expressive skills.

## GCSE in Photography

**Awarding Body:** AQA

Students who choose this course must have a real desire to learn Photography. To be able to pass the course with success, students have to be organised and dedicated to their coursework, complete work on time and be willing to extend learning after school to develop their understanding.

Completing homework on time is a vital part of passing this course. If you are organised and willing to go the extra mile with homework, you are an ideal student for this course.

### **What will you study on this course?**

Students will study a range of projects throughout the year, focusing on a range of digital and mixed media Photography skills.

What is the structure of the course?  
GCSE Photography is split into 2 units.

Unit 1 – Portfolio of work (Coursework) 60% This unit runs from September of year 10 and runs through to Christmas year 11. During this time students will study a range of experimental projects to develop skills.

Unit 2 – Examination 40%  
This is set by AQA and runs from January of year 11 where students will complete a 10 hour controlled assessment over 2 days in April.

### **How will it be assessed?**

Students will be assessed throughout the year based on these assessment criteria.

- A01- Research, demonstrating analytical and cultural understanding.
- A02- Experimentation and refinement throughout the development of projects.
- A03- Ideas presented based on learning and understanding.
- A04- Personal and meaningful final outcome from learning.

**NB. Students must have their own digital camera. Mobile phones cannot be used.**

### **Career Pathways:**

Photographer (Freelance/ Wedding/ School...), Teacher, Animator, Forensics / Police, Fashion Industry, Magazine/ Newspaper, Journalism, Graphic Designer, Illustrator, Interior Designer, Careers in Advertising, Web Designer, Visual Effects Designer, Cartoonist, TV / Film Director, Technician.

## G.C.S.E in Spanish

**Awarding Body:** AQA 8658

**The course:** You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that offers a range of skills and a variety of activities with topics that include media, entertainment & youth culture, education, training & employment and social activities, fitness and health. It will appeal to all types of students including those interested in travel, culture and people from different countries, as well as those who always have something to say!

You have developed important language skills and knowledge at Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) based around the skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The GCSE course will build on this and introduce you to a wider range of language structures and vocabulary. You will learn to recognise these and to apply your new knowledge to different contexts.

Website: [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

### Themes and topic areas

1. **Identity and culture**
  - Self, family and friends
  - Technology in every day life
  - Free-time activities
  - Customs and festivals in French-speaking countries
2. **Local, national, international and global areas of interest**
  - Home, town, neighbourhood and region
  - Social issues
  - Global issues
  - Travel and tourism
3. **Current and future study and employment**
  - My studies
  - Life at school/college
  - Education post-16
  - Jobs, career choices and ambitions

**Career pathways:** With greater emphasis on EBACC subjects languages are growing in popularity once again. Studying a language encourages you to express yourself, your likes, dislikes, ideas and opinions and develops self-confidence. Learning another language can enhance your employment and mobility prospects whether you want a career in business, engineering, fashion or world class football! GCSE Languages offers a progression route to further study of Languages at AS, A2 level or as an option within Vocational A levels, BTEC First or National awards. A GCSE Language confirms your ability to learn a foreign language and facilitates the learning of other languages. Employers are always asking for candidates with language skills and a GCSE in a modern foreign language will place you in a strong position for interesting employment with plenty of career opportunities. Examples of employment where language skills are particularly valued include journalism and media, law, engineering, business and marketing, ICT, sport and leisure, travel and tourism, customer service, civil service (Immigration, Customs and Excise, Diplomatic Service) and teaching (UK and abroad). Many University degree courses often still require students to have studied a language at GCSE.

## Choices Form 2018

**Student Name**.....**Tutor**.....

In each of the option blocks choose one subject as your first choice and one second choice. Discuss your choices with your tutor, parents and subject teachers before completing this form.

A	First Choice	Second Choice
French		
Geography		
History		

B	First Choice	Second Choice
Art and Design		
Computer Science		
Dance		
Design & Technology—Food and Cookery		
Design & Technology		
Drama		
French		
Geography		
Health and Social Care		
History		
Film Studies		
Music		
Photography		
Spanish		

**Please return this form to the main office by 22nd February**

Signed by:

Student.....Date.....

Parent/Carer.....Date.....

Tutor.....Date.....