



YEAR 8

CURRICULUM CHOICES

SPRING 2017

The Key Stage 4 Programme

All students in Year 8 will be embarking on their Key Stage 4 GCSE/Vocational programme in Year 9. We believe by shortening Key Stage 3 to two years we can give our students more time for their Key Stage 4 courses and more flexibility in terms of what they can do afterwards. As an Academy we are convinced that this initiative presents an excellent opportunity, with the increased time available, for our students to achieve the highest possible results.

Most students will complete their Key Stage 4 courses in three years, the extra time being used to help maximise the grades achieved across all subjects studied.

When students embark on a Key Stage 4 curriculum, they are faced with some important choices. There are more subjects available for them to study, some of which they have never been offered before, and unfortunately, they cannot choose to study all of them. Some subjects are compulsory for all students. Others are optional and these are grouped in three blocks. Students can study **one subject** from each of the three blocks, because all subjects in a given block are timetabled to take place at the same time. Careful consideration should be given to option choices in close consultation between parents/carers, staff and students.

This booklet is designed to help our students and parents to understand the Key Stage 4 curriculum and to help with the decisions that must be made to ensure that they study an appropriate balance of subjects.

As always, should questions arise from this booklet or the options process, please do not hesitate to contact your son / daughter's form tutor or subject teacher, who will be only too happy to help.

Barry Dedross
Assistant Principal

The Key Stage 4 Programme

Students are required to study a mixture of compulsory and optional subjects. The National Curriculum, in general, regulates the compulsory subjects. The optional subjects may also include National Curriculum subjects, as well as many others.

The Key Stage 4 compulsory subjects are as follows:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Physical Education

The subjects you must choose from are grouped into four blocks, as detailed below. Students will study **one subject** from each block. Every effort will be made to run the courses on offer, however, those subjects that are chosen by a small number of students will be deemed unviable and will not operate. If a subject is oversubscribed we will liaise with individuals to select an alternative option. To avoid this we have placed some subjects in more than one option block.

Block A	Block B	Block C
GCSE French	GCSE Spanish	GCSE Geography
BTEC Sport	BTEC Sport	GCSE History
BTEC Engineering	BTEC Engineering	
GCSE Product Design	BTEC Music	
BTEC Performing Arts	GCSE Catering	
BTEC Business	BTEC Business	
BTEC IT	BTEC IT	
BTEC Travel & Tourism	BTEC Art & Design	
IFS	GCSE Citizenship	
BTEC Health & Social Care	BTEC Health & Social Care	

These are all three year courses which are assessed at the end of Year 11.

Parents and students are advised to make their choices after consulting with staff; the Senior Leadership Team, Tutors, the Leigh Academies Trust Careers Co-ordinator (Mrs L Tannock) and subject teachers are all able to offer sound advice, which may assist in choosing the most appropriate options. Students are advised to choose subjects that they enjoy and in which they are likely to succeed.

Success in the subjects studied is measured in two ways. Firstly, students will undertake coursework tasks throughout the course. Coursework contributes to the final mark, depending upon the subject being studied. Secondly, all subjects will have written examinations at the end of the course. Spelling, presentation and grammar are important in all subjects, with marks being lost if work is poor, or errors are made. Success in Key Stage 4 subjects is dependent on hard work throughout the period of study. Failure to complete coursework, for example, will result in students failing the examination.

The Compulsory Subjects

GCSE English Language (Compulsory)

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in English Language is a linear course. It consists of two externally examined components and one endorsement for Spoken Language (graded separately).

Component 1 assesses students' ability to read for meaning and select and comment on the writer's use of language for effect. This component is unseen, however the reading text will be from texts of the 19th Century. The second section of the examination assesses students' ability to write imaginatively and to choose words for effect. The writing tasks will be closely linked to the reading extracts from section 1.

Component 2 assesses students' ability to develop skills to analyse, evaluate and compare non-fiction extracts. Section A of this examination is also unseen, but students will have access to a range of non-fiction extracts in their lessons covering the 20th and 21st Centuries. Section B of the examination is a transactional (functional) writing task which is also linked to the reading extracts from section A.

In Year 9 students will study a range of fiction and non-fiction texts in order to develop their analysis and appreciation of language. They will also have the opportunity to write for a variety of audiences and in a range of forms.

GCSE English Literature (Compulsory)

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in English Literature is a linear course. It consists of two externally examined components. English Literature is an exciting new course which has been carefully considered by the English Faculty.

For component 1, students will study a Shakespeare play and either a British novel or play. This unit assesses students' ability to analyse how the language, form, structure and context of texts can create meanings and effects. The choice of Shakespeare text and play / novel will be at the teacher's discretion and the ability of the class.

For component 2, students will study a 19th Century novel and a selection of poetry from the Edexcel Anthology. The key aims for this component are to develop students' critical reading and comparison skills. The cluster from the poetry anthology will be decided at the teacher's discretion as will the choice of novel.

In Year 9 students will study a range of fiction and poetry in order to develop their critical reading and comparison skills.

Mathematics (Compulsory)

In Year 9 the students will begin their GCSE studies in Mathematics.

The assessments will cover the following content headings:

- 1 Number
- 2 Algebra
- 3 Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- 4 Geometry and measures
- 5 Probability
- 6 Statistics

Two tiers are available: Foundation and Higher (content is defined for each tier).

Each student is permitted to take assessments in either the Foundation tier or Higher tier.

The qualification consists of three equally-weighted written examination papers at either Foundation tier or Higher tier.

All three papers must be at the same tier of entry and must be completed in the same assessment series.

Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment and a calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3.

Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long.

Each paper has 80 marks.

The content outlined for each tier will be assessed across all three papers.

Each paper will cover all Assessment Objectives, in the percentages outlined for each tier as per below table.

Tier	Topic area	Weighting
Foundation	Number	22 - 28%
	Algebra	17 - 23%
	Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change	22 - 28%
	Geometry and Measures	12 - 18%
	Statistics & Probability	12 - 18%
Higher	Number	12 - 18%
	Algebra	27 - 33%
	Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change	17 - 23%
	Geometry and Measures	17 - 23%
	Statistics & Probability	12 - 18%

Each paper has a range of question types; some questions will be set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts.

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total mark across all three papers where 9 is the highest grade. Individual papers are not graded

Foundation tier: grades 1 to 5. Higher tier: grades 4 to 9.

Combined Science (Compulsory)

In Year 9, our students will start their GCSE Science studies. All students will be entered on the OCR Gateway Combined Science course which is a double award and therefore counts as 2 GCSEs. The specification is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts of biology, chemistry and physics, providing the foundation for understanding the material world. Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics and they are assessed through the written papers. This course will be examined at two levels and students will be targeted towards the level where they are most likely to achieve their highest grade. Revision guides are available at cost via Parent Pay.

Exams

Students will sit six written exams - two for biology, two for chemistry and two for physics. Each are weighted at 16.7% and each last 1hr 10mins

Modern Foreign Languages (Selected students only)

NB: Spanish and French are compulsory for all students graded as Advanced.

Why is learning a foreign language important? Currently universities and businesses are seeking applicants who can demonstrate they can speak a foreign language; knowing a foreign language opens doors and opportunities.



Therefore, to give our students a chance to compete in that new economic world, the Academy is dedicated to the teaching of foreign languages. We offer French and Spanish as a GCSE. The GCSE course follows the OCR new specification. It prepares students to understand written and spoken language and to communicate their own ideas when speaking and writing over a wide range of contexts. Translation is a new skill which will be assessed. In the reading exam, texts will be extracted from famous French or Spanish novels. The new specifications will give the students a wider cultural knowledge.

Students will be examined in listening (25%), speaking (25%), reading (25%) and writing (25%). The writing, listening, reading elements are exam based. The speaking is led by teachers but externally marked.

Within the course, pupils are given opportunities to develop their knowledge of grammar and expression in both languages and are encouraged to use every opportunity to apply this knowledge. Teaching also focuses on the variety of different countries and communities where the languages taught are spoken.

For more information visit www.ocr.org.



Humanities (Compulsory)

Students can choose either geography or history. The performance in the Year 8 examinations is a good indicator of success in these subjects.

Geography - AQA Syllabus A - a linear course made up of three components.

Paper 1: Living with the Physical Environment

A 1 hour 30 minute external examination paper based on three physical units and Geographical skill
35% - 88 marks

Paper 2: Challenges in the Human Environment

A 1 hour 30 minute external examination paper based on three human units and Geographical skill
35% - 88 marks

Paper 3: Geographical Applications

A 1 hour and 15 minute external examination paper based on Issue Evaluation, Fieldwork and Geographical Skills
30% - 76 marks

During the course, pupils will also gain a range of geographical skills including data collection and analysis, numerical manipulation, graphical and cartographical skills, problem solving, and literacy and numeracy. Such skills will equip them with not only a sound geographical base on which to pursue a further education in Geography, but will also provide a knowledge which can be applied to other subjects to enhance their learning. The course also involves a Field Study, so pupils will get the chance to put their geographical skills to great use.

Further information about the course is available at www.aqa.org.uk

History

At Key Stage 4, students will be following the **2016 Edexcel GCSE History specification**. The course is comprised of four units, with three examinations at the end of Year 11. The proposed units include: Cold War 1945-1990, Germany, 1919-1939, Anglo-Saxon and Norman England c1060-88 and Medicine in Britain c1250-present. As a result of recent subject reforms, there will no longer be any coursework/controlled assessment in History at GCSE.

The History course aims to develop students' skills in research and investigation, source analysis, presentation and producing structured writing. History is a popular choice at GCSE and is highly valued by employers and Higher Education providers, especially now as it forms part of the English Baccalaureate qualification.

Further information about the course is available at www.edexcel.org.uk. Due to the recent reforms, the chosen topics outlined above are subject to change.

The Curriculum Choices

BTEC First in Information and Creative Technology

BTEC in Information and Creative Technology has been developed to: Inspire and enthuse learners to become technology savvy – producers of technology products and systems and not just consumers. Also to give learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the Information Technology sector and some aspects of the creative industries e.g. electronic publishing or multimedia production. Also a more focused understanding of Information and Creative Technology through the selection of optional specialist units and explore the fundamentals of technology and gain the practical skills, knowledge and understanding to design, make and review information technology systems and products.

Unit 1: The Online World (core) externally assessed - This unit will help you understand the main technologies and processes behind the internet and investigate how they come together to let you view websites and send information across the world. The internet and web of tomorrow will be even more powerful, more connected, more intuitive and a more important part of our lives.

Unit 3: A Digital Portfolio (core) internal - This unit is your chance to show off! A digital portfolio is an exciting onscreen way to showcase your achievements to potential employers or when applying for a course. You will learn how to create a digital portfolio that includes a series of web pages with links to content that you have created. You will learn how to make use of multimedia assets such as images, sound and video to make your portfolio appealing and engaging

Unit 6: Creating Digital Graphics (internally assessed) – This unit is designed to help you research the types and purposes of computer graphics. Then you will master professional software and make your creative ideas a reality based on feedback. You will need to create a portfolio to showcase your work.

Unit 9: Spreadsheet Development - In this unit you will understand the many uses for spreadsheets and the tools and techniques that are available and become skilled at using them. You will be able to apply some of your findings to your own spreadsheet solutions.

Further information about the course is available at www.edexcel.org.uk

BTEC Level 2 First Award in Travel and Tourism

Whether travelling into the UK from abroad, going on holiday or a business trip overseas, or visiting friends and relatives or taking a short break domestically, many industries work together to provide tourists and travellers with the products and services they need. On this course, you will gain an understanding of the range of organisations involved with different types of tourism in the UK, including their roles, how they work together and how they use technology to meet changing customer needs.

There are a number of units that students cover on a variety of topics. There are both mandatory and optional units that students will need to complete to show fully rounded knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Mandatory topics include: Unit 1, The UK Travel and Tourism Sector – this unit covers the main types of tourism in the UK, the contribution that travel and tourism makes to the UK economy and the different component industries that make up the UK travel and tourism sector and Unit 2, UK Travel and Tourism Destinations – this unit covers what the different types of UK destinations have to offer, as well as locating tourist UK destinations and routes. The optional units are more varied in content with titles including: International Travel and Tourism Destinations, Factors Affecting Worldwide Travel and Tourism, as well as the Travel and Tourism Customer Experience.

Assessment – 3 internally assessed units of work, 1 externally assessed examination.

Entry Requirements - Although there are no specific grade requirements for this course, it is imperative that students have a good aptitude to study and a willingness to succeed, as there is a lot of written assessment and coursework involved.

Further information about the course is available at www.edexcel.org.uk.

BTEC Level 2 First Award in Business

What is a business and what does it do? The term 'business' can cover anything from a sole trader in a local market to a multinational corporation selling products to millions of people all over the world. This course introduces you to the language and terminology used in business. It explores what businesses do, trends that affect them, how they operate and the factors that influence their success.

There are a number of units that students cover on a variety of topics. There are both mandatory and optional units that students will need to complete to show fully rounded knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Mandatory topics include: Unit 1, Enterprise in the Business World– this unit covers the legal issues and practical aspects of setting up and running a successful business as well as looking and the economic climate and the impact this has on business, and Unit 2, Finance for Business – you will explore the types of costs and revenues that businesses have, from the initial start-up costs and running costs to turnover and profit a business makes as well as examining how businesses plan for success. The optional units are more varied in content with titles including: Recruitment, Selection and Employment, Promoting and Branding and Principles of Customer Service.

Assessment – 3 internally assessed units of work, 1 externally assessed examination.

Entry Requirements - Although there are no specific grade requirements for this course, it is imperative that students have a good aptitude to study and a willingness to succeed, as there is a lot of written assessment and coursework involved. There is an expectation that students are following the news on a regular basis, whether it is through watching the news on TV or reading the latest newspaper articles and/or surfing the internet. Having knowledge of current affairs is essential for this subject.

Further information about the course is available at www.edexcel.org.uk.

IFS Level 2 Certificate in Financial Education

The Certificate in Financial Education (CeFE) provides an introduction to public finance and the economy, financial management skills and enterprise. Through developing this knowledge and a valuable range of applied and transferable skills, CeFE provides a foundation for further study in business and finance-related disciplines, as well as a wide range of other fields.

When considering this course it is worth noting the close ties between both business studies and citizenship as these are fundamental to the way the economy works and how people manage their money effectively.

Key Topics:

Public finance and the economy, including how these relate to:

- social, political and cultural factors,
- political institutions and processes,
- impacts on individuals, businesses and society

Financial management, including:

- financial planning,
- budgeting and financial management tools for managing money,
- spending and borrowing.

Enterprise and business, including how these relate to:

- financial management,
- benefits to, and consequences for, businesses, individuals and society

This qualification develops initial knowledge, skills and understanding of financial management and enterprise, which are valued in the financial services sector and most industries across the globe.

Assessment – externally assessed examinations consisting of three units of study. Two units are assessed as e-tests with each consisting of 35 multiple choice questions. The third unit is assessed by a pre-release case study requiring written responses to five associated questions.

Entry Requirements - Although there are no specific grade requirements for this course, it is imperative that students have a good aptitude to study and a willingness to succeed, as there is a lot of exposure to new terminology that will require regular revision. There is an expectation that students are following the news on a regular basis, whether it is through watching the news on TV or reading the latest newspaper articles and/or surfing the internet. Having knowledge of current affairs is essential for this subject.

Further information about the course is available at <http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk>.

BTEC Health and Social Care

Btec Health and Social Care encourages students to understand aspects of personal development and the health, social care and early-years sectors through investigation and evaluation of a range of services and organisations. They will examine issues which affect the nature and quality of human life including an appreciation of diversity and cultural issues. Students are encouraged to develop themselves as independent learners and actively engage in the process of analysing a range of health care sectors. Students are introduced and develop an awareness of the influences on an individual's health and well-being and an understanding of the importance of motivation and support when improving health.

This course is suitable for learners who want a vocationally focused introduction to the vast area of study as they will have the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the health and social care sector as a whole.

This course has progression into a more specialised level 3 vocational or academic course or into an apprenticeship for those wishing to pursue a career in this wide-ranging sector.

The course comprises of one written external exam and three assessed units, broken down into unit assignments.

Unit 1: Human lifespan development

Unit 2: Health and Social values.

Unit 3: Communication in Health and Social Care

Unit 6: The importance of nutrition to health and well being

GCSE Citizenship

Examination Board: AQA

Brief Course Description:

The Citizenship GCSE provides you with an opportunity to explore the world around us. Are you interested in looking into the issues that really matter? Do you want to gain a deeper understanding of your society? Do you want to build the skills to challenge and make changes to your community? If yes then the Citizenship GCSE is right for you.

Modules/Topics to be studied:

Over the course of the course students will study the following:

Unit 1 – Citizenship Studies including:

- Rights and responsibilities,
- Power, politics and the media
- The global community

Unit 2 – Participating in Society

Unit 3 – Citizenship in Context including one of the following options:

- Environmental change and sustainable development
- Changing communities: social and cultural identities
- Influencing and changing decisions in society and government

Unit 4 – Citizenship Campaign

GCSE Citizenship is a good foundation for further study in the areas of law, sociology, government and politics, history or psychology as well as supporting the transition to GCE A level Citizenship at Post 16.

Modes of assessment:

Unit 1 - Externally assessed examination (20%)

Unit 2 - Internally assessed controlled assignment (30%)

Unit 3 - Externally assessed examination (20%)

Unit 4 - Internally assessed controlled assignment (30%)

Further information about the course is available at www.edexcel.org.uk.

Curriculum Team Leader – Ms S Stevens

Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Art and Design (NQF)

During year 9 students will advance their skills by completing mini projects using a range of different materials, techniques and media. They will explore observational drawing, elements and principles of art, composition, perspective, colour theory, 3D work, printmaking, and mixed media.

During years ten and eleven, they will complete a BTEC a Level 2 First Award in Art and Design. They will learn essential skills such as following briefs, meeting client needs and communicating ideas through art, design and discussion. They will experiment with and develop skills using a wide range of materials, techniques and processes.

The qualification gives students the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of a vocational sector; investigate areas of specific interest and develop essential skills and attributes prized by employers, further education colleges and higher education institutions. It provides opportunities for students to progress to either academic or more specialised vocational pathways.

Qualification structure

The Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Art and Design is taught over 120 guided learning hours (GLH). It has core and optional specialist units. It is graded at Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*, Level 1 and Unclassified.

Learners must complete the two core units, and a choice of optional units to reach a total of 120 GLH. The BTEC First Award has units that we assess internally and a unit that Edexcel sets, we mark and then Edexcel moderates.

Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Art and Design			
Unit	Core units	Assessment method	GLH
1	Introduction to Specialist Pathways in Art and Design	Internal	30
2	Creative Project in Art and Design	External	30
Optional specialist			
3	Communicating Ideas in 2D	Internal	30
4	Communicating Ideas in 3D	Internal	30
5	Developing an Art and Design Portfolio	Internal	30
6	Investigating Contextual References in Art and Design	Internal	30

Note: GLH = Guided learning hours

BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport

BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport is mainly a assignment based written course. Students provide evidence in a variety of ways both written and practically.

In selecting BTEC Sport it is essential that you: are committed to PE and Sport, always bring your kit, have a good idea what is expected of you as there will be written requirements, have an interest in Sport/PE outside of school, either playing or watching and have an interest in health and fitness.

What does the course involve?

You will complete assignments to meet the grading criteria that are based on real life situations which will develop your all round knowledge of sport. The assignments will require both written work and practical demonstrations applying what you have learnt.

You will study units from: • Practical Sports Performance • Fitness for Sport and Exercise • Training for Personal Fitness and Leading Sports Activities.

Key areas of Study

Unit 1: Fitness for Sport and Exercise

- Learning aim A: Know about the components of fitness and the principles of training.
- Learning aim B: Explore different fitness training methods.
- Learning aim C: Investigate fitness testing to determine fitness levels.

Unit 2: Practical Sports Performance

- Learning aim A: Understand the rules, regulations and scoring systems for selected sports.
- Learning aim B: Practically demonstrate skills, techniques and tactics in selected sports.
- Learning aim C: Be able to review sports performance.

Unit 5: Training for Personal Fitness

- Learning aim A: Design a personal fitness training programme.
- Learning aim B: Know about exercise adherence factors and strategies for continued training success.
- Learning aim C: Implement a self designed personal fitness training programme to achieve own goals and objectives.
- Learning aim D: Review a personal fitness training programme.

Unit 6: Leading Sports Activities

- Learning aim A: Know the attributes associated with successful sports leadership.
- Learning aim B: Undertake the planning and leading of sports activities.
- Learning aim C: Review the planning and leading of sports activities.

How will I be assessed? You will be required to do one online exam on the core unit Fitness for Sport and Exercise this will be sat in year 10 and will last 1 hour. For the other units you will complete a folder of written evidence, based on assignments studied over the two years, which will be assessed against the specification grading criteria. The quality of your work will determine the grade you will receive.

What qualification will I get? You will receive a BTEC Level 2 First Award at either grade Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*, these are equivalent to 1 GCSE grade A*-C.

Performing Arts (Acting)

BTEC Level 1/2 First Award in PERFORMING ARTS (ACTING)

- A **BTEC First Certificate** is a practical, work - related course. Students will learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations and activities.
- You learn how to take on both performance and technical roles within the performing arts industry and present your work to a live invited audience
- There is 1 element which is completed under controlled conditions; this is a letter of application responding to an annually released theme.
- A **BTEC First Certificate** is the equivalent to: **One GCSE grade A* - C.**

The qualification will be achieved over three years. The course is made up of **three** units:-

- **Unit 1 – Individual Showcase - The externally assessed unit**
- **Unit 2 – Preparation, Performance and Production**
- **Unit 3 – Acting Skills**

Core units will include:

Individual Showcase – The externally assessed unit

Learners will complete a letter of application and a presentation/audition in response to a selected progression opportunity. There will be a selection of four pre-released progression opportunities for each academic year. The assessment activity will take place under controlled conditions.

Preparation, Performance and Production

In this unit you will learn how to develop a performance piece as a member of a fictional performance company. You will take on a specific performing or production role and will prepare for, and produce, a performance by carrying out tasks that are appropriate to your role. No matter what role you undertake, you will also need to explore the performance piece you are working on.

The performers and production team will need to work together to explore, develop and shape ideas for the performance. You will need to take part in preparations for the performance that are appropriate to your role to ensure everything is ready for the opening night. This might include attending rehearsals, production meetings, making sessions and get-ins and fit-ups. All of your hard work will come to fruition when you present your performance to an audience.

Optional Specialist Unit they will cover:

Acting Skills

This unit is about starting you on your journey to becoming a professional actor. You will be introduced to important acting skills and will learn about the specific demands that acting makes on the body and mind. In particular, you will undertake a programme of regular exercises to help you master the techniques that will enable you to control and use your voice and body to communicate a character or role. As well as physical skills, you will need to use your imagination to create characters or roles.

The course includes both practical and written elements in lessons, which will be supported through homework. The course is mainly assignment based with 66% of the marks being awarded through completion of teacher-assessed assignments. The Individual Showcase unit is externally assessed using a 2 hour controlled written assessment and recorded performance/presentation which will be sent off. Progression after completion of the course could involve students going on to study either A Levels or BTEC Level 3, or further training in the Performing Arts Industry.

Further information about the course is available at www.edexcel.org.uk.

BTEC First Award in Engineering

This course offers the potential to prepare learners for employment in the appropriate vocational sector or to study further at GCE level as a Post 16 course in year 12. It is equivalent to a single GCSE.

The new BTEC firsts consist of 90 guided learning hours of practical and theoretical coursework, as well as 30 guided learning hours preparation for a 1 hour online exam.

Key features of the BTEC First in Engineering:

BTEC Firsts in Engineering provide a broad, solid foundation for progression to Level 3 and employment in the art and design sector. This new BTEC First qualification (120 GLH) will offer learners:

- The key skills required to work in the industry
- The key concepts and principles related to the world of engineering.
- The opportunity to enter employment in the engineering sector or to progress to vocational qualifications such as the Edexcel Level 3 BTEC Nationals in Manufacturing Engineering or Mechanical Engineering.
- The opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

The Edexcel BTEC First award in Engineering is a 120(GLH) qualification that is worth the equivalent to 1 GCSE and consists of two mandatory units **plus** optional units that provide for a combined total of 120 guided learning hours. Each unit consists of 30 guided learning hours (GLH). The first two units below are mandatory, with a further two taken from the remaining six available units:

Unit 1: The Engineered World	(Externally assessed online exam)
Unit 2: Investigating an Engineering Product	(Internally assessed coursework)
Unit 5: Engineering Materials	(Internally assessed coursework)
Unit 7: Machining Techniques	(Internally assessed coursework)

Over the three years at Key Stage 4, students will design and make their own usable screw driver, a working Remote control car and an electronic solar boat. They will also develop their CAD CAM, computer aided design and computer aided manufacturing skills using the 3D computer modelling software 'solidworks,' which is used in industry today.

Further information about the course is available at www.edexcel.org.uk.

GCSE Product Design

This course offers the potential to prepare learners for employment in several vocational sectors, including product design, architecture, graphic design, industrial design and fashion/textiles. It is also the recommended pathway to continue to study the subject further through the IBCP programme in Post 16. It is a single award GCSE.

The course is ideal preparation for those wishing to follow in the footsteps of design innovators such as James Dyson, responsible for the Dyson vacuum cleaners, or Jonathan Ive, the designer at Apple responsible for the iPod and iPhone, among other iconic designs.

Students will work with a range of materials including plastics, woods, metals, smart/modern materials and various modeling materials. They will develop many of their designs using CAD/CAM, computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacture.

The qualification is made up of two parts, a single coursework project worth 50% of the overall grade, with a two-hour exam accounting for the remaining 50%. The coursework project is chosen from a range of 'design and make' tasks set by the exam board, completing a substantial design and make portfolio, which is assessed through identifying and investigating design possibilities, producing design brief and specification, generating design ideas, developing design ideas, realising design ideas and analysing and evaluating.

Full details

Qualification type: GCSE

Specification title: Design and Technology

Course type: Unitised, Full Course

Specification code: 8552

Further information about the course is available at www.aqa.org.

BTEC Hospitality and Catering

The hospitality and catering sector includes all businesses that provide food, beverages or accommodation services. This includes restaurants, hotels, pubs and bars. It also includes airlines, tourist attractions, hospitals and sports venues; businesses where hospitality and catering is not their primary service but is increasingly important to their success. Students will cook throughout the double lessons, learning skills and techniques using a wide range of commodity groups. The students will gain

an awareness of locally sourced products, ethnical and special diets, as well as developing their understanding of how to correctly plan balanced meals.

UNIT 1: The hospitality and catering industry

Coursework is based around a title that is given by the exam board, where the students will create their own restaurant. They will be required to plan, cook and serve food from their own menu, that they will design themselves.

(50%) This is internally marked and moderated

- Task setting
- Task taking
- Task marking

These are the 3 practical areas that will be assessed over a 4 hour controlled time

Written Paper – 90 minutes Short and extended answer questions, based around applied situations. Learners will be required to use stimulus material, presented in different formats to respond to each question.

(50%) Externally marked and graded out of 90

Grades are Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction and Level 2 Distinction*

Qualification- WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Hospitality and Catering

Course Type-WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Awards

Course Code -601/7703/2

GCSE Music



Edexcel BTEC Level 2 First Award in Music

Music is a constant in many of our lives and is quite extraordinary in its ability to connect us to each other and to ourselves. It is also extremely enjoyable and a great outlet for expression, creativity and imagination. It also has a variety of other benefits such as increasing academic achievement, relieving stress and anxiety, teaching discipline and improving motor skills.

The BTEC course is taught in a highly practical way with an emphasis on performance, composition and ensemble work. This allows students to work together to develop as musicians and as collaborative learners. The coursework portion within the units is used to develop reflective practice.

Unit	Description	Assessment
Unit 1: The Music Industry	Looking at how the music industry operates from the many different roles available to the companies and organisations involved in producing the development of musicians.	1hr Exam
Unit 2: Managing a Music Product	Creating and producing a music concert. They will be planned, developed and delivered by students, with a focus on promotion of their final product.	Coursework and Observation
Unit 4: Introducing Music Composition	Creating four pieces of music based on four different briefs. Two of these are extended, with one of these made into a full, final piece of music.	Coursework
Unit 5: Introducing Music Performance	Forming bands and ensembles to produce two performances; one song based and one instrumental based.	Performance, Coursework and Observation.

Please consider the performance aspect of this course when making a decision. You will be performing several times over the three years and must be committed to this.



Name:

Tutor Group:

Tutor:

This form should be returned to the **Main School Office** no later than **Tuesday 28th March 2017**. Please note options will **not** be allocated on a first come first served basis.

*The Option Blocks: You have to choose a **first choice and second choice** option from each of the option blocks below:*

Block A	Block B	Block C
GCSE French	GCSE Spanish	GCSE Geography
BTEC Sport	BTEC Sport	GCSE History
BTEC Engineering	BTEC Engineering	
GCSE Product Design	BTEC Music	
BTEC Performing Arts	GCSE Catering	
BTEC Business	BTEC Business	
BTEC IT	BTEC IT	
BTEC Travel & Tourism	BTEC Art & Design	
IFS	GCSE Citizenship	
BTEC Health & Social Care	BTEC Health & Social Care	

*Please write your option choices in the table below. You cannot choose a subject more than **once**. A **second choice** should be made in case your first choice is oversubscribed. We will do everything in our power to ensure that you get your first choices but sometimes the group sizes put a limit on this. When a subject is over-subscribed the Subject Leader will base their decisions on progress in their subject area in Years 7 and 8.*

Option A	Option B	Option C
1 st Choice:	1 st Choice:	1 st Choice:
2 nd Choice:	2 nd Choice:	2 nd Choice:

Please return to the main Administration Office by Tuesday 28th March 2017