



LYDIARD PARK ACADEMY

Year 9 Options 2021-23

Course Information Booklet




The Park
Academies Trust



LYDIARD PARK ACADEMY

Year 9 Options Process

I hope you find this booklet useful in obtaining information about the Year 9 options. The process is designed to allow our year 9 to study up to four subjects of their choice and to have a broad and balanced curriculum.

This booklet goes through our core curriculum, the subjects which year 10 have to study (English, Maths and Science) and general PE. Then students can choose their humanities subject and a free choice up to 5 subjects which will be ranked from first to fifth. The top three will be used as the main subjects and the 4th and 5th will be reserve subjects.

We had 99% success rate last year giving almost all students their top three choices but sometimes, due to staffing or timetabling constraints, some subjects cannot be taught at the same time, which is why we ask for reserves.

In the circumstance that a student cannot do any of their subjects, I will contact the student directly and discuss their options and allow them to change if necessary.

The deadline for the option forms will be communicated to you in a separate email and I would like all MS forms completed. Please contact your child's tutor if you have difficulty in entering the options. Do be careful when submitting your form and ensure the choices are correct as changes will not be able to be made once the form has been submitted.

Once the forms are in, I will be working hard to allocate students to classes, classes will be checked by our curriculum leaders and then in term 6, we will be ready to inform you of the final option choices.

If you have any queries about the subjects, please speak to a member of the subject team on parent consultation evening or if you have a query about the submission of the form, please contact me directly.

Kind regards,

Miss S. Hesten
Vice Principal

Mr M. Carter
Data Manager, Assessment and Timetable Coordinator

THE PARK ACADEMIES TRUST
**SIXTH
FORM**
*Don't be anonymous...
...be remarkable*

Progression beyond GCSE and into Sixth Form

We offer an excellent sixth form choice for Post-16 Education. We have a high expectation that the majority of our Year 9 pupils will continue their learning and to work with staff who know and understand their needs very well.

While you are considering your future options for Year 10 and Year 11, it would also be a good idea to think about the routes into further education. We feel we are able to offer clear guidance for post-16 education and we wish to ensure you make the right choices now, to ensure future success.

As a part of this process, please consider current sixth form subjects on offer and the subjects you would like to see being offered when you select your A Levels.

Current A Levels on offer from 2021

Art - Fine
Art - Photography
Art - Textiles
Biology
Business
Chemistry
Computer Science
Drama & Theatre
Economics
English Literature
English Lit. & Lang.
Geography

History
Mathematics
Mathematics - Further
Media Studies
Music
Physical Education
Physics
Politics
Psychology
Sociology

L3 Vocational Qualifications

Applied Diploma in Tourism
BTEC Diploma in Sport
CTEC Business
CTEC Digital Media
CTEC IT

Further Qualifications

Extended Project Qualification
(EPQ)

Careers Support

During Year 10, all pupils have access to Careers based information and Local Labour Market Information to help them identify possible options to support them with their Post 16 choices.

There will be a number of Careers based activities, including CV planning, Mock Interviews, external guest speakers from industry and raising awareness of University options.

In order to offer further support, each pupil will have a dedicated careers meeting with Mr Godley, our Careers Advisor, in order to discuss their thoughts and ideas regarding their future plans.

Careers based learning is a focused support programme during both Year 10 and Year 11 and will align to our KS4 delivery of 'Careers in the Curriculum'.

What options should I choose?

Choose subjects

- You can do well in.
- You enjoy or are interested in.

Get advice from;

- Parents.
- Teachers.
- Tutors.
- Older pupils who currently do the subjects you like.
- Don't just choose the option your friend does.

The future

Some subjects may put you in a more favourable position when you are applying for university or give you better career opportunities. English Baccalaureate subjects are subjects considered the gold standard in education. They are;

English and Maths (Remember if you do not achieve a 4 or above in these subjects you have to continue them at LPA 6th form or college)

Geography or History

Science and Computer Science

Spanish, French or another MFL

The academy would encourage all pupils that are considering going to university to opt for **Spanish or French**.

There are also extra curricular activities that can give your CV the edge over others in the future e.g. Duke of Edinburgh.

Changes to Options Process for 2021—23

Students now have 4 choices of subjects. The first choice is between either Geography or History (this will be section B of the option form). The remaining three choices will be from all of our subjects on offer.

If a student would like to do both history and geography, they can now select one humanity in section B and one in section C.

Section C subjects are all now on offer and there is now no choice between a language and IT as in previous years. You will have to pick three subjects and then pick two reserves.

Reserves are subjects you would like to study if you cannot be offered any of your top three choices.

We are recommending students wanting to go onto A levels and university to seriously consider an MFL as one of their three choices.

Choosing options

Pupils choose their options on the personalised option choice form which will be emailed as an MS Form. Please complete the form by 12th February 2021.

The options process is broken down into three sections;

Section	Details	Page
A	FIVE COMPULSORY SUBJECTS These are the compulsory subjects which pupils have to study in KS4 (English, Maths, Combined (Double) Science and PE).	7 to 11
B	GEOGRAPHY OR HISTORY All pupils must take either Geography or History. Pupils are unable to choose both subjects as these will be run at the same times.	13 to 15
C	THREE OPTION SUBJECTS Choose three subjects from these options and a further two options you would be happy to do but as reserves.	17 to 35

SECTION A

Section A
Compulsory subjects
(Pathways within these subjects are
decided at a later date)

Subject	Page
English (English Language +English Literature)	8
Maths	9
Sciences	10
Core PE	11

Qualification

GCSE: English Language and English Literature

Course Information

The dual award will mean that you will be awarded a GCSE qualification for English Language as well as English Literature.

The English Language course will involve studying non-fiction and fiction texts. Also, you will experience writing in a range of different styles and genres both fiction and non-fiction.

Speaking and listening is assessed by your teacher. It will involve you presenting an individual speech and responding appropriately to questions. Speaking and listening assessments will not be counted towards your final mark in GCSE English Language but will be reported separately on the qualification certificate.

The English Literature course gives you the chance to read and respond in detail to classical and modern novels, plays and poetry from Britain and around the world.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

WJEC EDUQAS exam board. English Language is assessed by two written exams
100% examination.

WJEC EDUQAS exam board. English Literature is assessed by two written exams
100% examination.

Progression Information

GCSE Band '5' or above is required to study the subject at A' level.
Possible career opportunities: journalism, writing, teaching, and many other professions.

Pupil Quote

“English helps you to look at things from different perspectives.”
“English broadens the mind and opens doors to opportunities.”

Qualification

GCSE: Mathematics

Course Information

You will have the opportunity to study Number, Algebra, Ratio & Proportion, Geometry, Statistics and Probability. During the course you will apply this in a range of context including looking at how maths is used in finance and real life situations. You will also apply your maths skills to other subjects you study such as Science and Geography.

During this course you will learn how to solve problems and to break tasks down into manageable pieces. This will enable you to think more logically, which will help you in a variety of real life situations. There will be an emphasis on solving problems in familiar and unfamiliar context in the GCSE exam.

To be successful in this course you need to be dedicated to your studies and being prepared to put the effort in with homework. Completing extra work on Mymaths and making an effort to understand how and why maths works would greatly benefit your progress in this subject.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Current Exam Board – Edexcel .There is no coursework element to the GCSE mathematics course.

Examinations will take place at the end of the 2 year course.

Progression Information

Most colleges require you to attain a good GCSE grade in Maths in order that you gain access to the course of your choice. It is particularly useful for courses involving finance or Sciences.

Pupil Quote

“GCSE at Maths is great because it’s relevant to our everyday lives. It can be challenging at times but you’ll be amazed what you have learnt to do.”

Qualification

GCSE: Combined (Double) Science

Course Information

All pupils will have the opportunity to study GCSE Combined Science. This is a double award GCSE, the equivalent of two GCSEs.

During this course you will learn the science behind our everyday lives. You will study aspects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics and develop skills needed to be a good scientist. The concepts you will learn will be the foundation for A Level Sciences and many other subjects. To be successful you will need a good work ethic and a natural curiosity for the world around you.

Our most able pupils will have the opportunity to study all three Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and gain 3 GCSEs. These pupils will be selected from our usual setting process at Key Stage 3. Separate Sciences will be taught in normal curriculum time and as such, pupils will not need to select this as one of their options.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

AQA

There will be 6 examinations of 1 hour and 15 minutes each for Combined Science. (There will be 2 examinations of 1 hour and 45 minutes each for Separate Science.)

There is no coursework element.

Progression Information

Gaining Band 6 in GCSE Combined Science will allow you access to A Level Sciences.

Pupil Quote

“...Science is really useful, you learn about how everyday stuff works...”

Qualification

Core PE

Course Information

Core PE is delivered as a compulsory subject for 2 hours a week.

SECTION B

Section B History and Geography subjects

Subject	Page
Geography	14
History	15

Extra Humanities: If you wish to study both Geography and History, we now offer both. You must make one humanities subject choice in section B of the option form and then select the other subject in Section C. This will limit your free choice of subject to just two free options.

Qualification

GCSE: GEOGRAPHY

Course Information

You will study a mixture of Physical and Human Geography. Physical Geography will include rivers, coasts, weather hazards (hurricanes and storms), tectonic hazards (earthquakes and volcanoes), climate change and ecosystems (tropical rainforest and cold environments). Human Geography will include urban challenges, economic development and resource management (food, water and energy). Fieldwork is a compulsory part of the course which will be examined in paper 3 (fieldwork skills & issue evaluation) and you will be offered two days of fieldwork in preparation for this.

We believe fieldwork and learning outside the classroom to be an essential part of learning geography and we will offer other visits to support your learning including coastal fieldwork and an activity to investigate ecosystems and biomes.

You will need to use your knowledge of the location around you, current affairs and world events to consider human responses to the concerns of the 21st century and justify your solutions to the problems.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

AQA GEOGRAPHY
FINAL EXAM X 3
(Human Geography, Physical Geography, Fieldwork / Skills and Problem Solving)

Progression Information

Geography GCE AQA will follow on at LPA and this will form a foundation subject for many universities. There are many different degree pathways. The qualification can be specialised into scientific BSc or arts BA route -please refer to the Geographical Association website for additional information www.geography.org.uk for the many career options.

Pupil Quote

“I am glad that I studied Geography as I often find myself saying ‘ Ah.... that is why that happens’

Qualification

GCSE: HISTORY

Course Information

You will discover how Hitler came to power by exploring how Germany was affected by WWI and then go on to analyse what life was like in Germany under Nazi rule. A further part of the course will look at the development of the Cold War and evaluate the tensions and key turning point moments of the 20th century, such as the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Berlin Wall. You will also study the theme of medicine through time, which involves a fascinating exploration of how different factors such as technology, war, individuals and religion have changed medicine and health through the ages. The British History element of the course is the study of Early Elizabethan England, during this topic you will discover what life was like in Tudor England and develop knowledge of Elizabethan education, sport, theatre and exploration.

During this course you will learn about key developments over time and be able to explain reasons for changes. You will look at sources and be able to discuss reliability, usefulness, make inferences and judgements about evidence. To be successful in this course you need to be dedicated to your studies. There is a lot of information to learn and you will need to be able to show that you can spot patterns within topics. You need to enjoy History and finding out reasons for events in the past, and you need to be willing to work hard and be self-motivated. Lastly you need to be able to ask questions about everything!

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Edexcel GCSE History

100% examination

Three exams to be taken at the end of year 11

Progression Information

Further study at A level and many possible degree options that focus either on History in general or more specific aspects such as modern History or Medieval History.

History is a subject looked on favourably by both further education and employers alike

Pupil Quote

“I chose History because it is the most interesting subject”.

“History GCSE is hard work but its fun and you get to learn lots of new information....you get to learn things that you don't talk about in everyday life”.

Section C Optional subjects

Subject	Page
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Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE	24
MFL: French	25
MFL: Spanish	26
Media Studies GCSE	27
Music	28
Physical Education GCSE	29
Graphic Communication GCSE	30
Religion, Philosophy and Ethics	31
Sociology GCSE	32
Travel and Tourism BTEC	33
Art - Textile Design GCSE	34
Art: Photography GCSE	35

Qualification

GCSE: Fine Art

Course Information

The GCSE Fine Art course covers a wide range of skills and creative opportunities.

Students will be required to record observations, analyse images, develop ideas, study the work of other artists and create personal responses.

Throughout the GCSE students will experience a range of techniques such as Drawing, Painting, Printing, 3D and Ceramics. Students will use a wide variety of materials including pencils, paints, pastels, chalks, clay, paper, and card .

To be successful in GCSE Fine Art you must be dedicated and enjoy all aspects of Art. Homework and independent study are an essential part of the GCSE.

To achieve a good GCSE in Fine Art an aptitude for the subject is recommended.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Exam board-AQA

Pupils will complete a portfolio of work covering the four assessment objectives. It must contain at least one sustained project relevant to Fine Art and their selected area of study. Pupils will also complete an externally set task where they respond to a starting point provided by the examination board.

Component 1: Portfolio of work 60% marked out of 96 –completed in year 10 &11

Component 2: Externally set task: 40% marked out of 96-completed in yr11

Progression Information

GCSE Fine Art is an essential foundation for all further Art related courses. It can lead directly to A level as well as all other vocational course.

Pupil Quote

“Art is has made me see things in so many different ways.”

“ Art is creative and practical and I love what I have achieved”

Qualification

GCSE: Business

Course Information

You will have the opportunity to study the theories which relate to the way businesses operate.

During these courses you will learn about setting up a business, the business environment, uncertainty and risk, and the enterprise culture.

To be successful in these courses you need to be dedicated to your studies and show the ability to work independently. You will be expected to plan and review your work throughout the course.

You will be expected to utilise your English skills in writing and comprehension to a high standard.

Maths skills will be used throughout, especially when investigating business finance.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Exam Board: **Edexcel**

In Year 11 you will complete two exams, one based on year 10 content and one on year 11 content. They are equally worth 50% of the qualification.

Progression Information

Pupils to progress to higher-level, general qualifications such as: A-level Business Studies, A-level Economics, A-level Accounting and Cambridge Technicals in Business.

Pupil Quote

“We are enjoying the course as it’s exciting and a new experience. It helps us to learn new skills preparing us for the real world of work. Every lesson we carry out different tasks, from group work and presentations to computer-based activities”.

Qualification

GCSE: Computer Science

Course Information

This exciting GCSE gives you an excellent opportunity to investigate how computers work and to develop your programming skills along with your problem-solving and computational thinking skills.

You will create a range of Python programs which will be used to solve real-world problems. Your programming skills will improve significantly so that you will be able to confidently complete an onscreen Programming Exam (50%). The other half of the GCSE is a written paper that comprises of the first 5 units outlined below.

The course will explore 6 different units:

1. Computational thinking (algorithms and problem solving)
2. Data representation
3. Computer hardware and software
4. Networks
5. Issues and impact
6. Problem solving with programming

Over the course of two years you will learn new and amazing things from how all the hardware and software components work together to create a computer system to learning about how data moves across the internet.

Computer science unlocks pathways in many different areas in the world of work and we are happy to also provide this course at A-level, giving anyone who wants a future in computer science a fantastic start here at Lydiard Park Academy.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Exam Board: **Edexcel**

100% Exam:

50%: Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science (Written exam)

50%: Paper 2: Application of Computational Thinking (Onscreen exam)

Progression Information

Pupils can progress towards an A-level in Computer Science and then further down the line study the subject at University.

Pupil Quote

“I love the feeling of writing my own code and creating something that actually works! It is the most interesting subject with a rewarding amount of challenge. This is definitely an option that I have not regretted choosing. I know it will be extremely beneficial on my CV and University application.”

Qualification

IT - Creative iMedia

Course Information

Do you enjoy image editing? Designing and creating multimedia products such as websites? Being hands on with computer software to develop a media product?

The Cambridge National Certificate in Creative iMedia qualification (equivalent to 1 GCSE) will equip learners with a range of creative digital skills and provide opportunities to develop, in context, desirable, transferable skills such as research, planning and review, working with others and communicating creative concepts effectively. Through the use of these skills, learners will ultimately be creating fit-for-purpose creative digital products.

The course will effectively challenge all learners, including high attaining learners, by introducing them to demanding material and techniques; encouraging independence and creativity and providing tasks that engage with the most taxing aspects of the Information Technology National Curriculum.

This qualification consists of 4 units which are worth 25% each. This includes a mandatory Creating Digital Graphics coursework unit and a 1¼ hour written exam unit on Pre-Production Skills.

The remaining 2 coursework units will be selected from a range of optional units but will link to the IT work students undertook at KS3. Possible units which may be offered are Creating a Multimedia Product/Website, Creating a Digital Sound Sequence, Developing Digital Games, Digital Animation, Comic Strip creation or Creating a Digital Video Sequence.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Examination board: OCR
75% coursework (3 units)
25% examination (1 written paper)

Progression Information

This subject could lead onto Level 3 qualifications and A Levels, such as:

- Information Technology
- Interactive Media
- Photography and other Art and Design related subjects
- Media Studies

Pupil Quote

"I enjoy learning new IT skills and I use lots of different apps to develop fun and exciting digital products for my coursework. I love how creative I can be in every lesson and I know the skills I'm learning will be really useful to my future."

Qualification

IT - Information Technologies

Course Information

The Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies qualification (which is equivalent to 1 GCSE) will provide pupils with a variety of transferrable IT skills.

The collection, storing and communication of data happens all around us. Technology underpins how it's collected and communicated nearly all of the time. It can be seen in all walks of life, from a wearable fitness tracker recording how many steps you have taken, to your mobile phone provider recording your usage to create your bill, or an online retailer being able to target you with specific promotions based on your purchase history. Knowing how and why data is gathered and being able to turn raw data into something meaningful using spreadsheets or databases are valuable skills to develop.

This qualification will teach learners what different technologies are available, why they should use them, and how to make best use of them to gather, store, manipulate and present data. They will learn about tools and techniques for use in different digital hardware and software technologies.

Pupils will also be taught what data and information are along with the legal, ethical and moral considerations when using technology to gather, store and present data and information. Cyber security concepts are taught including how to mitigate the risks of cyber attacks. Through this qualification learners will be able to select and use the most appropriate technology safely and effectively, to complete a data management task, such as a cable TV provider monitoring customers' viewing to make recommendations for additional packages in the customer's subscription.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Examination board: OCR

Grading: Level 1/2 Pass to Distinction*

1 x examination worth 50% and 1 x coursework unit worth 50%

Progression Information

This subject could lead onto Level 3 qualifications and A Levels, such as:

- Information Technology
- Digital Media
- Computer Science
- Business

Pupil Quote

"I hadn't realised just how much data companies can gather every time I use my phone! Being taught about cyber security and how to keep data safe and secure is really interesting. I also enjoy using spreadsheets for calculations and creating charts to display results. I know this course is teaching me useful skills for the future."

Qualification

Drama:
BTEC L2 Tech Award in Performing Arts

Drama:
GCSE AQA

Course Information

GCSE Drama is underpinned by practical exploration. Over the two years you will be given the platform to , and evaluate live performances.

Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts (30%)

- explore performance styles, creative intentions and purpose
- investigate how practitioners create and influence what's performed
- discover performance roles, skills, techniques and processes.

Outcome: Watching live/recorded theatre and performing a script.

Component 2: Developing skills and techniques in the Performing Arts (30%)

- take part in workshops, classes and rehearsals gain physical, interpretative, vocal and rehearsal skills
- apply these skills in performance and evaluate your success.

Outcome: Workshop different styles & practitioners, performing two contrasting scripts.

Component 3: Performing to a brief (40%)

- Devise a piece drawing on previous learnings
- Develop in class, workshops & rehearsal
- Review the process using an ideas and skills log
- perform a piece to their chosen audience and evaluate your performance

Outcome: Create a devised piece applying all skills developed throughout the course.

Component 1: Understanding Drama (40% Exam)

- Learn about theatre roles & responsibilities
- Study a play, stage it and write about it.
- Watch theatre performances, analyse & evaluate their success.

Outcome: At the end of the two years you will sit an exam.

Component 2: Devising Drama (40% Internal Practical & Coursework)

- Devise drama from a variety of stimuli in a group.
- When devising you will use skills developed in KS3 to keep a Devising log book.

Outcome: Demonstrate through performance & coursework your understanding of the process and development of drama.

Component 3: Texts in Practice (30% External Examiner)

- You will practically explore a variety of plays and perform two extracts

Outcome: Perform to a visiting assessor.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Pearson, Level 1/2 Pass-Distinction*
Document their learning through practical workshops, presentations and written work.

AQA. Bands 1-9. Practical & coursework 70%,
Written exam 30%

Progression Information

Level 2 leads directly to A Level and BTEC Performing Arts Courses. GCSE Drama leads directly to AS and A2 Theatre Studies, and BTEC Performing Arts Courses. Further options are Degree courses in Theatre and Performing Arts, as well as Stage School.

Pupil Quote

“Drama has inspired me and taught me how to be more confident in my everyday life. I have chosen to take drama further by staying at LPA to study A level Drama and Theatre Studies, a decision I will never regret!”

Qualification

L2 BTEC First in Sport

Course Information

The Edexcel BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport has been developed in the sport and active leisure sector to:

- encourage personal development through practical participation and performance in a range of sports and exercise activities
- give learners a wider understanding and appreciation of health-related fitness, sports and exercise through selection of optional specialist units
- encourage learners to develop their communication, planning and team working skills by having the opportunity to select from optional generic units available in the qualification structure
- provide education and training for sport, leisure and recreation employees

This course is made up of two mandatory units

Fitness for Sport and Exercise (online examination)

Practical Sport Performance (internally assessed)

And a selection from the following units

The Mind and Sports Performance

The Sports Performer in Action

Training for Personal Fitness

Leading Sports Activities

The accreditation is mainly coursework made up from work based on theory and practical experiences. The ‘Fitness for Sport and Exercise’ unit will be assessed through an online exam

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Edexcel administer the course – Each unit is assessed through assignments set by the staff. One unit, ‘Fitness for Sport and Exercise’ is examined on line. The other units will be assessed through written projects and some practical work. After completion of all units points will be added up to give an overall BTEC Award Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Progression Information

The Edexcel BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport provides a good foundation for learners in post-16 education, or to entry level job roles within the for sport, leisure and recreation employees.

Pupil Quote

“It’s enjoyable and interesting to learn about sport. There is practical and theory but there is no exam, all assessment is through coursework. I enjoyed leading a group of younger pupils and learning about the body, sports injuries and legislation. You do not have to be good at sport **physically** to do this course”.

Qualification

GCSE: FOOD PREPARATION and NUTRITION

Course Information

Food Preparation and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook, enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

Areas of Content

1. Food commodities
2. Principles of nutrition
3. Diet and good health
4. The science of food
5. Where food comes from
6. Cooking and food preparation

You will be required to bring in ingredients and cook each week. This will tail off towards the end of the course, when we concentrate on course work and exam preparation. You will prepare dishes using a wide variety of ingredients, using a range of methods and skills. Dishes will be prepared using fresh, seasonal ingredients - carbohydrate staples; fruits and vegetables; meat and fish; eggs, beans and pulses; butter/margarine; flour; herbs and spices. Cooking methods – baking; grilling; frying; boiling; steaming; roasting. You will also study theory lessons, covering the main areas of content, in readiness for course work and the final examination.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Course work 1: The Food Investigation Assessment. A scientific food investigation which will assess the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to scientific principles underlying the preparation and cooking of food.

Coursework 2: The Food Preparation Assessment. Prepare, cook and present a menu which assesses the learner's knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking and presentation of food.

Year 11 Written exam: Principles of Food Preparation and Nutrition . 1 hour 45 minutes. 50% of qualification.

This component will consist of two sections and will assess the six areas of content as above.

Progression Information

Band 6 GCSE required for 'A' level Home Economics
GCSE pass required for Catering Course at Swindon College

Pupil Quote

"Nutrition information will help me to stay healthy for the rest of my life"

Qualification (MFL)

GCSE: French

Course Information

Pupils have fun learning how to build on the basic language they acquired in KS3 and extending it to topics they enjoy and care about such as fashion, technology, the environment and the media. They also benefit greatly from the excellent online resources available which help them improve their reading and listening skills both at home and in the classroom. Pupils have the opportunity to work independently at their own pace and are greatly encouraged when they see the steady progress they make over time when accessing these skills regularly. The course also boosts personal confidence as it develops many other transferrable skills such as oral presentations and excellent listening abilities but always in a caring and supportive environment. Pupils receive lots of one to one support to bring on their speaking and writing skills and marvel at ultimately achieving what they would not have thought possible at the beginning of the course. All pupils need to succeed in this course is an 'I can' attitude to their own learning, the determination to succeed in acquiring this essential life skill. They may also have a strong desire to use French in their future business or social lives and thus stand out from the crowd in what they will be able to bring to their own portfolio of skills for the future.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

The GCSE course examines all 4 skills as follows :-

- 25% for SPEAKING via a series of internal controlled assessments
- 25% for WRITING via a series of internal controlled assessments
- 25% for READING and 25% for LISTENING via final examination

Progression Information

A good grade in GCSE French could enable you to access Level 3 courses in French such as AS or A level, Apprenticeships, NVQs or business-related language qualifications. A good MFL A level enables access to all university language courses in which you get to spend a life changing year in France or a Francophone country and the university does all the organising to get you a teaching or study placement there! Graduates with some language skills, even only at GCSE level, are amongst the most marketable with a very high level of employability and higher earnings than those with no language qualifications to offer employers.

Pupil Quote

“You get such a different response from local people when you go to France and when you try to speak to them in French. They become much friendlier. “

Qualification (MFL)

GCSE: Spanish

Course Information

Pupils have fun learning how to build on the basic language they acquired in KS3 and extending it to topics they enjoy and care about such as fashion, technology, the environment and the media. They also benefit greatly from the excellent online resources available which help them improve their reading and listening skills both at home and in the classroom. Pupils have the opportunity to work independently at their own pace and are greatly encouraged when they see the steady progress they make over time when accessing these skills regularly. The course also boosts personal confidence as it develops many other transferrable skills such as oral presentations and excellent listening abilities but always in a caring and supportive environment. Pupils receive lots of one to one support to bring on their speaking and writing skills and marvel at ultimately achieving what they would not have thought possible at the beginning of the course. All pupils need to succeed in this course is an 'I can' attitude to their own learning, the determination to succeed in acquiring this essential life skill. They may also have a strong desire to use Spanish in their future business or social lives and thus stand out from the crowd in what they will be able to bring to their own portfolio of skills for the future.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

The GCSE course examines all 4 skills as follows :-

- 25% for SPEAKING via a series of internal controlled assessments
- 25% for WRITING via a series of internal controlled assessments
- 25% for READING and 25% for LISTENING via final examination

Progression Information

A good grade in GCSE Spanish could enable you to access Level 3 courses in Spanish such as AS or A level, Apprenticeships, NVQs or business-related language qualifications. A good MFL A level enables access to all university language courses in which you get to spend a life changing year in Spain or South America and the university does all the organising to get you a teaching or study placement there! Graduates with some language skills, even only at GCSE level, are amongst the most marketable with a very high level of employability and higher earnings than those with no language qualifications to offer employers.

Pupil Quote

“You will be challenged in a fun way but the results are fantastic. GCSE Spanish is your ticket to the world. I’m SO glad I decided to carry on with Spanish, I can see already what a help it will be to me in my future life and I’m excited about that!”

Qualification

GCSE: Media Studies

Course Information

If you enjoy films and TV, magazines and music, then why not consider Media Studies GCSE?

The course gives you the opportunity to be both analytical and creative. You will study existing media texts such as trailers, websites and advertisements, and learn how to produce your own.

To succeed, you will ideally already have an interest in various media forms; you will enjoy studying texts in depth; and you will have some creative ideas of your own. We can teach you the tools to understand more fully the fascinating world of audio-visual, print and digital media, and help you develop the practical skills to produce your own.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Eduqas – Controlled Assessment = 30%; Examination = 70%

Progression Information

GCSE Band 5 or above required at GCSE to study at A' level, then degree level.

We now offer Media Studies AS and A level at LPA Sixth Form.

Possible career opportunities: journalism, games design, film production, magazine publishing, teaching.

Pupil Quote

“Media Studies reveals how things work behind the camera, and makes you think about why.”

“Media Studies has given me a deeper understanding of what society considers important.”

”The creative production and group work side is also great fun!”

Qualification MUSIC

BTEC First Award in Music

GCSE MUSIC

Course Information

To be successful in this course you need to be dedicated to your studies and you must be able to offer at least one instrument or voice at a minimum of grade 2 standard. You should enjoy learning about all types of music; including classical, popular and world music, performing and creating music in your own time and be learning an instrument or having singing lessons.

BTEC Firsts in Music can help you take your first steps towards a career in the music industry. You'll learn essential skills from performing and composing to putting on a music event and learning about jobs in the industry.

- During this course you will learn how to improve your performing skills having plenty of opportunities to perform to others and develop techniques on your instrument.
- You will find out about the music industry and all the roles and responsibilities involved.
- You will organise a music event in a team, each taking a significant part in the process.
- You will develop your composition and music technology skills in the final unit.

UNIT 1—The Music Industry—1hr Exam

UNIT 2—Managing a Music Product—
coursework assignments

UNIT 4—Composition—coursework assignments

UNIT 5—Performance—coursework assignments

GCSE MUSIC. During this course you will learn how to improve your performing skills and, through your work in composing, gain an insight into how music is constructed from initial ideas through to the finished product. You will also learn how to analyse music in a variety of styles and discover the social and historical context in which music has been composed over the last 400 years.

Performing (30%)

Performing (Solo and Ensemble)

Completed and marked to exam standard throughout the course.

Composing (30%)

There are 2 Compositions:

1—Composition to a set brief

2 - Free composition.

Listening and Appraising

(40% 1hr 30min Exam)

You will analyse set works and be questioned on your understanding of these as well as other unfamiliar pieces of music.

You will need to read musical notation and use high level subject specific terminology.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Pearson, Level 1/2 Pass-Distinction* One exam in Year 10. Document their learning through practical workshops, presentations and written work.

AQA. Bands 1-9. Practical & coursework 60%,
Written exam 40%

Progression Information

Level 2 leads directly to A Level and BTEC Music Courses. such as BTEC level 3 courses in Music Performance and Music Technology. To take A Level Music you will need to take GCSE Music or have a high standard of External qualifications e.g. a minimum of Grade 4 Piano.

Pupil Quote

“The music course is fun, its really exciting to be able to play your favourite instrument in class. It’s interesting to be learning about new music and musical techniques”.

Qualification

GCSE: Physical Education

Course Information

GCSE PE is suitable for pupils that have gained **at least a band 5** in Physical Education in Key Stage 3.

Theory — 60% on two written exam papers.

Paper 1—1hr 35 Fitness and Body Systems (36%)

Paper 2— 1hr 15 Health and Performance (24%)

Some of the questions are for 1 – 2 marks, whereas others are for 6 marks. Pupils will have 2 hours a week in a classroom

Practical — 30% of the final grade is based on the assessment of **three practical activities**. Pupils can offer sports that they compete in to a high level outside of school, alongside those that we offer through our broad and balanced curriculum. The nature of the course requires the pupil to have good practical skills and strengths in at least 2 different sporting areas. Pupils that represent the school in a variety of sports are more suited to this course. Pupils will have to offer at least one team and one individual sport

Analysing and Evaluating Performance (AEP) - 10% of the final grade. Pupils will undertake an AEP in one of their selected activities. They are required to demonstrate their ability to analyse and evaluate their own practical performance or that of a peer in order to analyse aspects of personal performance. They will evaluate the strength and weaknesses of the performance. They will also produce an action plan which aims to improve the quality and effectiveness of the performance.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Milestone assessments will occur throughout the two years and will be graded as a GCSE to monitor progress. After each major unit, pupils will complete an exam paper collated from previous papers.

Progression Information

Pupils will go to sixth form to study either an A level in Physical Education or BTEC Level 3 course. Both courses will support applications to university or into the sport and leisure industry.

Pupil Quote

“Learning about the body and how it helps sporting performance, is really enjoyable. The theory is hard, but as it is related to sport it is really interesting. The 6 week AEP we did went really well, I really improved my CV fitness at the end of it. I also love the practical side of the course as I am a regional level athlete”.

Qualification

GCSE: Graphic Communication

Course Information

Graphic communication is the process of designing visual material to convey information, ideas and meaning in response to a brief.

The skills developed during this GCSE

- communication graphics
- design for print – Magazines, newspaper.
- advertising and branding
- illustration
- package design
- typography
- multi-media
- motion graphics - animation
- signage
- exhibition graphics

To be successful in GCSE Graphic Communication you must be creative and enjoy all aspects of designing. Including digital work. Homework and independent study are an essential part of the GCSE.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Exam board-AQA

Pupils will complete a portfolio of work covering the four assessment objectives. It will contain between 2 and 4 projects relevant to Graphic Communication and their selected area of study. Pupils will also complete an externally set task where they respond to a starting point provided by the examination board.

Component 1: Portfolio of work 60% marked out of 96 –completed in year 10 &11

Component 2: Externally set task: 40% marked out of 96-completed in yr11

Progression Information

GCSE Graphic Communication can lead directly to A level and vocational courses. It also provides a good foundation for advertising, marketing and digital design.

Qualification

GCSE Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

Course Information

This course looks at the philosophy of religion, looking at questions such as what is the purpose of life and what happens when we die? It also discusses ethical questions such as should euthanasia be legalised?

Topics covered

- Relationships and families
- Equality
- The nature of reality
- The existence of God
- Challenges for religion
- Violence and conflict
- View on medical ethics

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

OCR (J625)- Full Course GCSE

This GCSE will be assessed by examinations. All exams will take place at the end of Year 11.

2 x1 Hour papers on Beliefs and Teachings and 1 x2 hours paper on Philosophy and Ethics in the modern world.

Progression Information

This subject can lead onto many varied career pathways including law, teaching, politics, medicine and can be a key skill for any job that requires a person to use critical thinking skills.

Pupil Quote

‘This subject gives you the chance to express your own opinion and reflect on your learning ‘

Qualification

GCSE: Sociology

Course Information

Sociology is exciting, interesting and relevant to pupils' lives. They will develop a wide range of knowledge and understanding about society, and how sociologists study and understand the different social structures, processes and issues.

The units that are studied are:

Unit 1: The sociology of families and education; social theory and methodology

Unit 2: The sociology of crime and deviance; and social stratification

Essential Skills:

- Pupils will be required to interpret a variety of different sources and comment on their relevance and accuracy.
- Pupils will need to be able to use sociological theories to compare and contrast social issues, construct reasoned arguments and draw substantiated judgements and conclusions.
- An interest in current issues in British society is essential.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

AQA 8192

Unit 1: Written paper – 1 h 45m 50%

Unit 2: Written paper – 1 h 45 m 50%

Linear –all examinations taken at end of Year 11

Progression Information

This course can take you onto A level Sociology and degree level and is compatible with A level Psychology. Employment opportunities are many and varied for example the police, the law, administration, public relations, public services, marketing, social work, personnel and teaching.

Pupil Quote

‘Sociology is my favourite subject. I’m going to do it in 6th form next year. It really makes you think about lots of issues that affect society, like changes in the family, how the media influences us and how Britain is not really a very equal society.’

Qualification

BTEC: Travel and Tourism

Course Information

Tourism is one of the world's biggest employers, with excellent and exciting career opportunities available. This is a two year course examining a variety of Travel and Tourism sectors which will develop your knowledge and understanding of the industry.

On successful completion it will prepare you for employment within this sector, or you may be able to progress onto the Level 3 Travel and Tourism with Lydiard Park Academy.

Modules

- Customer Service
- World destinations
- UK destinations
- UK travel Industry
- Retail travel services
- Holiday representatives and Travel planning.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

You will have a mix of internal and external assessments, including: formal written assessments, role-plays, practical work, group work, direct observation and tests.

Progression Information

This qualification can lead onto a Level 3 Travel and Tourism. The employment opportunities include cabin crew, travel representatives, sport organisers or instructors, arts and entertainment managers, countryside management, home based leisure opportunities, travel and transport operators.

Pupil Quote

'That education advisor at Thorpe Park, when we visited, said that he would give me a job as I was just what they were looking for, bright, sociable and had a good understanding of what was needed in the Leisure industry'

Qualification

GCSE: Art - Textile Design

Course Information

The GCSE Art Textiles course covers a wide range of skills and creative opportunities.

Pupils will be required to develop ideas, record observations, analyse images, and study the work of other artists. All pupils will create final personal responses to the unit starting points. Throughout the GCSE course, pupils will study a range of techniques such as drawing, designing, fabric painting and dyeing, weaving, hand stitch work, machine stitch work, embroidery, bead work, printing and layering. Pupils will use a wide variety of materials including a wide range of fabrics, wools, beads, threads, fabric paints and dyes.

To be successful in GCSE Art Textiles you must be dedicated and enjoy working with fabrics. Home work and independent study are an essential part of the art GCSE. To achieve a good GCSE in Art textiles an aptitude for the subject is recommended.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Pupils will complete a portfolio of work covering the four assessment objectives. It must contain at least one sustained project relevant to Textiles and their selected area of study. Pupils will also complete a controlled test where they respond to a starting point provided by the examination board.

Component 1: Portfolio of work 60% marked out of 96 –completed in year 10 & 11

Component 2: Externally set task: 40% marked out of 96-completed in year 11

Progression Information

GCSE Art Textiles leads directly into A level and is recommended as a foundation for all further textiles and fashion linked courses.

Pupil Quote

“ I really enjoy textiles, it’s totally inspiring.”

Qualification

GCSE: Art -Photography

Course Information

The GCSE Photography course covers a wide range of skills and creative opportunities producing images using light sensitive materials and digital methods of production and development.

Pupils will be required to develop ideas, record observations, analyse images and study the work of artists and photographers. All pupils will create final personal responses to the unit starting points. Throughout the GCSE course, pupils will study different Photography techniques which include a range of hand and digital manipulation.

To be successful in GCSE Photography you must be dedicated and enjoy all aspects of Art and Design. Homework and independent study are an essential part of Photography GCSE. To achieve a good GCSE in Photography an aptitude for the subject is recommended.

Examination Board and Expected Assessment

Pupils will complete a portfolio of work covering the four assessment objectives. It must contain at least one sustained project relevant to Fine Art and their selected area of study. Pupils will also complete a controlled test where they respond to a starting point provided by the examination board.

Component 1: Portfolio of work 60% marked out of 96 –completed in year 10 & 11

Component 2: Externally set task: 40% marked out of 96-completed in year 11

Progression Information

GCSE Photography leads directly to A level and BTEC courses. It can also lead to apprenticeship and vocational courses

Pupil Quote

“I like Photography because it challenges me but when I achieve what I want I feel great.”

Please make sure you have completed the MS
Forms Option Form by Wednesday 29th January
2021.

If you have any enquiries about the Options
please contact Miss Hesten
HestenS@lydiardparkacademy.org.uk