



**GCSE**  
**CURRICULUM**  
**OPTIONS**  
**2021 - 2022**  
**EMBRACING**  
**LEADERSHIP**



مدرسة جيمس متروبول  
**GEMS Metropole School**  
MOTOR CITY

**GEMS**  
EDUCATION



## INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Dear Parents and Students,

A warm welcome to you from the staff and community of Metropole School. I do hope that the information contained within this GCSE course choice booklet will help to introduce you to the happy, safe and inclusive community-based environment of our school, where every child is valued as a unique individual.

Metropole School provides excellent education for students from Foundation Stage 1 (age 3) to Year 13 (age 17), offering a variety of GCSE, BTEC and A-Level qualifications. The school also supports growth in Heritage subjects linked to the Ministry of Education subjects of Arabic, Islamic, Social Studies and Moral Education. These subjects help our students develop an understanding of the local and regional heritage, learn about the language of the country and its values.

As a National Curriculum for England School, our current Year 9 students have been following the broad and balanced curriculum that has been designed to inspire them to grow, develop and succeed. As students move into Year 10, the next stage of their learning journey to excellence and global citizenship requires them to make a number of decisions around the subjects that will define their learning journey for the next two years. We recognise that this is an important time for you and your child, and this booklet has been created to support you through the process.

The booklet provides information regarding the iGCSE and iBTEC Level 2 courses that we provide at Key Stage 4. It provides you with information on the examination subjects that are being offered to you, some specification information and how each subject is assessed. Each subject being offered has a full page of information in this booklet.

### Vocational Pathways

Offering iBTEC at Level 2 is a new curriculum development at Metropole School and one that allows us to broaden our curriculum further in the choices we offer our students. BTEC is a very popular applied learning qualification that gives students a clear route to employment or university. 95% of universities in the UK now accept BTEC Level 3 qualifications as entry into higher education universities and these courses are very popular with employers looking for candidates that are work-ready candidates who have the practical knowledge and technical skills that you get from a BTEC course. The majority of BTEC courses are assessed through assignments, whilst a small proportion of the course may contain some unit tests. This style of assessment may prove suitable to certain students who prefer continuous coursework throughout in place of end of year high stake exams. We are delighted that we can now offer these opportunities to our students and see this is a major improvement in the curriculum choices we offer our students. You will also find further information on iBTEC qualifications and how they match up to GCSE qualifications within this booklet.

Whilst I believe that academic success helps to give every child the best opportunities in life, I also believe there is a responsibility to help students develop strong character, apply skills learnt in school life to the wider world, and embrace leadership qualities to help prepare them for their future aspirations.

Metropole School is a warm and welcoming school which is happy to invite any prospective parents and students to visit the school and to meet the staff and students. Education is about making a real positive difference, providing every opportunity for all learners to be successful, helping them to achieve beyond their potential and developing life-long learning skills. We would be privileged to have you join our exciting journey.

**Ms. Daniella Aschettino**  
Secondary Headteacher (Prep and Senior)



## SECONDARY LEADERSHIP TEAM



Ms. Daniella Aschettino  
**Secondary Headteacher  
(Prep and Senior)**



Ms. Lauren East  
**Deputy Head of Secondary**



Mr. Kevin Conlon  
**Assistant Head  
of Secondary**



Ms. Kelly Lohe  
**Assistant Head  
of Secondary**



Mr. Martin Bother  
**Assistant Head  
of Secondary**

## WELCOME FROM THE HEAD OF YEAR 10

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 10 and the start of the two year GCSE journey. This year students will begin their very own curriculum pathway as they undertake the option choices made by them before the summer, alongside their compulsory subjects of Math, English and Science.

As you are well aware Year 10 is a very important year academically and students must strive to be the best they can be, grasping every learning opportunity with both hands to guarantee that they have the best possible chance to reach and exceed their potential.

All students in Year 10 are encouraged to be independent learners and critical thinkers who reflecting on their own learning. Each student is encouraged to problem solve and adapt to achieve any desired outcome. They must also be well organized and be prepared to do independent study away from the classroom to consolidate their learning in each of their subjects.

Throughout Year 10 students will develop examination technique within each of their subjects. They will improve skills such as; application, justification and evaluation within their responses. Students will also develop the way their answers are structure to enable them to maximise their marks.

Through their two year journey each student will have a network of support to develop the above qualities; academically through their specialist subject teachers and pastorally from their LEAD Teachers, Inclusion/Wellbeing team and Head of Year. At Metropole School we aim to create an open environment where students can talk about their worries/concerns and work together to resolve them. Happy students learn better!

I wish all students the very best of luck and I look forward to seeing many positive outcomes.

**Mr. Joseph Gannon**  
Head of Year 10





## KEY INFORMATION

### ENGLISH NATIONAL CURRICULUM SECONDARY EDUCATION

Key Stage 3:	Years 7, 8 and 9	Broad and balanced curriculum provided to all pupils
Key Stage 4:	Years 10 and 11	Introduction of personalised pathways in GCSE, iGCSE and iBTEC (Level 2) certificated courses
Key Stage 5:	Years 12 and 13	Focused career pathways in AS, A-Level and iBTEC (Level 3) certificated courses

### GENERAL CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION (GCSE)

There are different exam boards offering certificated courses in both GCSEs and International GCSEs. As an international school we have the opportunity to present students for either course from the range of exam boards.

Staff in MTS have carefully analysed course content and exam requirements to ensure that the selected board and course are right for our students, our school and our international context. As a result, we are currently presenting students for a mixture of GCSE and iGCSE exams with AQA and Edexcel exam boards.

As with all National Curriculum Courses the GCSE / iGCSE courses are undergoing change especially in light of the worldwide pandemic that we find ourselves in. For many families that are new to the English curriculum the grading system is one of the first things that is unfamiliar to parents and students. The diagram below from gives a comparison of the two grading systems.

G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

GCSEs at Grade A\* - C or 9 - 4 are often used as a benchmark for comparisons and entry into Key Stage 5, with many expecting English and Mathematics to be included.

Each GCSE/iGCSEs course is unique and has its own course requirements and examination procedures. Many require the submission of coursework, in the form of independent work or as a controlled assessment. Students cannot be presented for the final examination if the course work or controlled assessment has not been completed in the set time.

In some subjects students are entered for a "tier". The Foundation tier targets grades 5 to 1 and the Higher tier grades 9 - 4. The decision about the appropriate tier for assessment will take into consideration class work, assessment results and student ability. Pupils and parents will be made aware of the level of presentation when decisions are made.

Examinations will take place at the end of year 11. In a normal academic year, (Co-vid permitting) we are required to follow the UK examination timetable, which may result in GCSE exams on Fridays and during religious celebrations. Results will be published in August.

### COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

Physical Activity is extremely important in supporting our students and keeping them healthy and in a good state of mind. All Year 10 and Year 11 students will have 2 lessons of Physical Activity per week. This will be increasingly important in Key Stage 4, where academic demands on students are far greater than lower down in the school. Students interested in this subject can also select GCSE Physical Education as an option.

All students who hold an Arabic passport must study Arabic MOE as this is compulsory.



## KEY INFORMATION *continued*

During Moral Education, Arabic MOE and Islamic Studies, students will be studying the ministry approved Curriculum. This is a requirement from the KHDA.

All Muslim students have to study Islamic. Non-Muslim students will use this time for Career's enrichment to help support decisions further in their education.

### KEY STAGE 4 IN GEMS METROPOLE SCHOOL

We understand that creating a focused curriculum at this early stage in education can be a difficult process. In MTS we believe that a broad and balanced education is still important in KS4 to prepare students for future studies in whichever system of education or career path they enter. We find that many students will change their career focus as they continue through education and want them to keep a variety of options open. We are proud to offer a wide range of courses to meet the interests and needs of our students.

**To ensure breadth and balance and to meet UAE requirements all students will study the following core subjects:**

- GCSE English – Language, or Language and Literature (depending on suitability), or 2nd Language English
- GCSE Mathematics – Foundation or Higher
- GCSE Science – Double Award or Triple Science Award
- Arabic A & B students will study the MOE course with the option of taking iGCSE examination
- Physical Education - core subject
- Islamic Studies for Muslim students
- UAE Moral and Social Studies are compulsory subjects

### OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Students are required to select 4 additional courses, which must include UAE Ministry of Education (MOE) Arabic A for all Arabic passport holders. They should select 1 subject from each option column. We will strive to meet the requests of students however there are limited spaces in each subject and option subjects will only run if there is sufficient uptake.

The option subjects we offer are:

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Arabic A                      | 12. History                            |
| 2. Arabic B                      | 13. ICT                                |
| 3. Art, Craft and Design         | 14. Modern Languages – French          |
| 4. Computer Science              | 15. Modern Languages – Spanish         |
| 5. Business Studies              | 16. Music                              |
| 6. Double Science                | 17. Physical Education                 |
| 7. Dance                         | 18. Psychology                         |
| 8. Drama                         | 19. iBTEC Sport (Level 2)              |
| 9. Economics                     | 20. iBTEC Business (Level 2)           |
| 10. Food Preparation & Nutrition | 21. iBTEC Travel and Tourism (Level 2) |
| 11. Geography                    |  |

In choosing a subject at GCSE students should think carefully about the following points:

- What subjects do you enjoy?
- What subjects are you good at?
- Have I selected a broad range of subjects?
- Which subjects are important for my chosen career path?
- How do I prefer to be assessed?  
(BTEC students will be assessed continuously with no final examinations)



## KEY INFORMATION *continued*

Key Stage 4 students will be expected to take full responsibility for their choices and learning. Throughout the two-year courses there will be great demands and expectations placed on students. To reach success, pupils have to be disciplined and committed to their courses. Submission deadlines will have to be met or qualifications will be at risk.

Compulsory Subjects	Additional & Alternative Courses	Option 1 (Science Option)	Option 2 (Pick 1 subject)	Option 3 (Pick 1 subject)	Option 4 (Pick 1 subject)
English Language (First Language iGCSE) English Language (Second Language iGCSE) Mathematics (iGCSE) Moral Education UAE Social Studies PE (Core) Arabic A & B (MOE) Islamic A & B (MOE)	English Literature* Arabic A * Arabic B* ASDAN Curriculum*	Double Award Science (2x iGCSE)	Art, Craft & Design	Art, Craft & Design	Business Studies
			Business Studies (iBTEC)	Business Studies	Music
			Computer Science or ICT	Travel & Tourism (iBTEC)	Food Preparation & Nutrition
			Sport (iBTEC)	Drama	History
			Dance	Computer Science or ICT	Psychology
			Spanish	Geography	PE (GCSE)
			Psychology	Economics	French
		Triple Science (3x iGCSE)			

- All students will take the compulsory subjects, English first and/or second language will be based on teacher recommendation in consultation with families.
- Students will pick 1 option from each option block (with a maximum of 3 options including either double or triple Science)
- \*Entry to English Literature iGCSE and Arabic A & B iGCSE will be based on student ability and the decision will be made by the student's teachers.
- All students have to catch up with MOE subjects in 2021, so Arabic B and Islamic B will be taught this year as well as Arabic A and Islamic A.
- Some subjects require pre-requisites to be considered for the courses.
- Students cannot do both Computer Science and ICT.
- If opting for Business and Economics a meeting with the Head of Business and Careers Counsellor is needed.
- All iBTEC's will be offered at Level 2 which is equivalent to a GCSE. Level 1 iBTEC also available where suitable.
- Courses will only be run where there is sufficient student uptake. Please consider back up options in each option block.
- The course choice structure may be subject to change at any time – full information will be given about this.
- Final decisions about options will be made after Options Evening and following an interview with a member of the Secondary Leadership Team and the student.



## KEY INFORMATION *continued*

### EXAMINATION FEES AND PAYMENT

Our school will be an independent examination centre for the British examination boards of Edexcel, AQA and Oxford AQA. We must follow the examination board regulations which will require our students to follow the Monday to Friday schedule and timings, even if this falls during Ramadan.

Pupils will be entered for course examinations at the end of the 2-year period. Families are expected to meet the costs of all examinations. Examination costs are published in prior to the examination series following release by the respective examination boards. All fees will be collected by our school cashier before students are entered for any examinations. **This will be the responsibility of each family to ensure that all examinations are paid for and up to date.**

Levels of presentation will be decided before entries are made. This decision will be made by teachers based on evidence gathered throughout the course and preliminary grades.

### FURTHER ADVICE

Students should make the most of opportunities to speak with their subject teachers, heads of departments, LEAD teacher, family and friends in order to gain a range of suggestions and support. Read through each course description, considering the course content and examination requirements. Consider all of the options and chose a combination that is right for you.

Links for further information:

Edexcel Examination Board [www.edexcel.org.uk](http://www.edexcel.org.uk) UK University Applications [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

AQA Examination Board [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

Curriculum support - bbc bitesize  
[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)

Career support <http://www.careers-gateway.co.uk>

Please note that exam boards are reviewed at the end of every academic year as part of our quality assurance process and may be subject to change.



## ADDITIONAL CURRICULUM INFORMATION

### MASTERCLASSES

As a school we value the importance of students engaging in enjoyable activities of choice. Part of this is to encourage a healthy active lifestyle and have in place comprehensive masterclasses and squads led by teachers, PE staff and outside sports agency providers. Throughout the school year, students have the opportunity to compete in national and international competitions as part of our provision if they wish

We design our activities to spark student imagination. We inspire them to try something new and to learn about leadership and teamwork. The talents and interests we cultivate now will nourish them in the future.

Students have the opportunity to engage in activities of their choice during masterclass. They may also be invited to intervention sessions during this time to support their academics.

### SKILLS IN SCHOOL

Students that do not study Islamic Studies will follow a 'Skills in School' programme at the same time our Muslim students attend their Islamic Studies lessons. This creative curriculum focuses on allowing students to consolidate their learning as well as providing opportunities that encourage them to engage in more cross-curricular and project-based learning and gain further accreditations.

In these lessons, students will be working on a combination of different activities that support learning across their subjects:

1. **Self-directed study time** - students will have the opportunity to consolidate their learning, complete extra work on topics they find more challenging and to focus on organising their homework. This will be monitored by the teacher in the class.
2. **Project based cross-curricular work** - students will be involved in projects that encourage creativity, innovation and collaboration in the classroom. Many of these projects will be linked to EXPO 2021.
3. **External accreditations** - students will be able to access external accreditations, such as Highfield qualifications. These qualifications cover a broad range of areas of interest to the students. *Please note that these courses are not mandatory and will come at an additional cost to parents/guardians should students wish to take them.*

All resources and information covered during the 'Skills in School' programme will be uploaded to Phoenix Classroom in order for our students who attend Islamic Studies to access in their own time, if they wish.

### EXTRACURRICULAR PROVISION

As a school we value the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle, and here at Metropole we have in place a comprehensive extracurricular programme with a wide range of squads that are led by teachers, PE staff and outside sports agencies. Metropole is developing a reputation for competitive sport and our students participate in a range of fixtures and competitions each year. Our sports squads are known as the Metropole Mustangs and our motto is 'Racing to Success' 'التسابق نحو النجاح'. We compete in both national and international competitions including DASSA, GEMS Sports Series and The World School Games, with over 70 Squads across a range of sports. The major sports at Metropole are athletics, basketball, football, netball, and swimming. Metropole also competes in aquathlon, badminton, gymnastics, rounders, tennis, cross-country and water polo. We are very excited about our growing number of extracurricular activities on offer, which we will continue to grow and develop.

## IGCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

OXFORD AQA Course code 9270

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This revised specification is designed to extend students' knowledge of English language by broadening and deepening skills through a range of engaging texts that include poetry and prose as well as literary non-fiction.

The texts studied are suitable for all students, and include a diverse range of writers enabling them to develop the ability to:

- read critically and use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing;
- write effectively and coherently using Standard English appropriately;
- acquire and apply a wide vocabulary alongside knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology, and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language;
- listen to and understand spoken language, and use spoken Standard English effectively.

This is a two-year, linear course: students will be formally assessed at the end of Year 11 through an external examination (60%) and an internally assessed (and externally moderated) NEA component (40%).

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper 1: Literary non-fiction and composition	60%	Exam of 2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Section A: literary Non-Fiction (Reading) – Students will be given a single text for close study. The text will be divided into sections with questions. At least one question will relate to the whole text.</li><li>• Section B: Composition (Writing) – There will be three tasks from which students choose one: descriptive, imaginative, argumentative and/or discursive</li></ul>
Component 2: Non-exam assessment project	40%	Internally assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NEA: Students will carry out independent research and utilize their findings for a written task in which audience, purpose and form are specified. This will be assessed alongside a commentary produced by the student. Both reading and writing skills will be assessed in this project.</li></ul>

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

On successful completion of the English as a First Language course, and providing that there are enough students interested in the further study of English Language, students will be able to undertake the two year International A Level English Language course from September 2022. The prerequisite for this course will be a Grade 6 at IGCSE English as a First Language.

Students who have studied English Language may go on to study English Language and work in fields such as translation services, copywriting, proof reading and campaigning due to their critical thinking faculties, eye for detail and sensitivity to the power and impact of language.



## IGCSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

OXFORD AQA Course code 9280

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This two-year course is designed for students for whom English is not their first language. The aim of the Oxford AQA International GCSE in English as a Second Language (ESL) is to inspire and motivate students, providing appropriate stretch and challenge whilst ensuring, as far as possible, that the assessments and texts are accessible to the full range of students. They will DEVELOP the skills they need to read, understand and analyse a variety of texts, styles and topics covering a wide range of subjects, including factual and literary texts. It will also give students the ability to be able to write and communicate clearly, coherently and accurately using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures.

Students will be expected to communicate formally and informally in a range of contexts, and to understand a wider range of texts, styles and registers than they can produce themselves. Reading, writing and listening skills are tested through two examination papers.

This qualification has been benchmarked to the CEFR, which is recognised globally. High achievement in this qualification is broadly equivalent to many of the benchmarks of Levels B1 to C1 of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework (CEFR) of Reference for Languages

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper: Reading	30 % of the total	Exam of 1 hour, 15 minutes	<p>Section A: Reading – This paper assesses students' understanding and ability to respond to different types of written language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The paper will be comprised of Short answer Questions and multiple choice questions in response to written passages – 60 marks</li> <li>Students are required to identify and understand the overall message, key points, details and purposes from items such as emails, instructions, public notices and advertisements, together with some material which will be longer, such as extracts from brochures, guides, letters, newspapers, magazines, literary texts, email and websites</li> <li>Students will also be required to collate relevant information across a text and draw inferences, make deductions, and recognise implicit meaning from a variety of written text</li> </ul>
Paper: Writing	30 % of the total	Exam of 1 Hour 15 minutes	<p>There are four tasks which test a range of writing skills. The tasks increase in level of challenge, as do the marks awarded. Three writing tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A short descriptive task based on a photograph</li> <li>A letter writing tasks for a specific audience</li> <li>An extended piece of writing, which may vary, e.g. diary or a blog entry, report, article</li> </ul>

International GCSEs enable successful progression onto level 3 qualifications (such as A Levels) and beyond in other subjects, as well as further study in English.



## IGCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE (9-1)

OXFORD AQA Course code 9270

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This two-year linear course is designed to developing students' comprehension, critical reading and comparison skills, as well as their ability to produce clear and coherent writing using accurate Standard English.

The set poetry, prose and drama texts are engaging, popular and suitable for all learners including a diverse range of writers and poets.

This course will help enable students to:

- engage with and develop the ability to read, understand and respond to a wide range of literary texts from around the world
- develop an appreciation of the ways in which writers achieve their literary effects
- to develop the skills needed for literary study
- explore, through literature, the cultures of their own and other societies
- find enjoyment in reading literature and understand its influence on individuals and societies

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper 1: Prose and Drama	40% of the total	Exam of 1 hour, 30 minutes Closed book	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Section A - Prose Fiction: Students will answer One question on their set text. There will be a Choice between an essay style question and a passage-based question</li><li>• Section B - Drama: one question on their set text. There will be a choice between an essay style question and a passage-based question</li></ul>
Paper 2a: Poetry and Unseen Texts	60% of the total	Exam of 2 hours and 15 minutes  Open book – Poetry anthology to be provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Section A: Poetry - Students will answer one question from a choice of two on the Oxford AQA Exams poetry anthology, 'People and Places'</li><li>• Section B: Unseen Poetry – Students will answer one question on a previously unseen poem</li><li>• Section C: Unseen Prose - Students will answer one question on a previously unseen prose passage</li></ul>

International GCSEs enable successful progression onto A-Level and beyond.

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

On successful completion of this course, students can continue their study of Literature by undertaking the two year International A Level English Literature course. The prerequisite for this course is a Grade 6 at IGCSE English Literature.

Students who have studied English Literature may go on to study and work in fields such as law, journalism, marketing, performing arts, media and social services due to their critical thinking faculties, their practised ability to build alternative arguments and an empathetic approach to the human condition.



## IGCSE MATHEMATICS

Pearson Edexcel Course Code 4MA1

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Mathematics qualification enables students to:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts and techniques
- Acquire a foundation of mathematical skills for further study in the subject or related areas
- Enjoy using and applying mathematical techniques and concepts, and become confident in using mathematics to solve problems
- Appreciate the importance of mathematics in society, employment and study

### COURSE OVERVIEW

The course covers the following content headings:

- Number
- Ratio
- Proportion and Rates of Change
- Algebra
- Geometry and Measures
- Statistics
- Probability

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Students will sit two examinations at the end of Year 11.

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
<b>Paper 1 Calculator</b>	50%	Written exam 2 hours	Number Ratio, proportion and rates of change Algebra
<b>Paper 1 Calculator</b>	50%	Written exam 2 hours	Geometry and measures Probability Statistics

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

On successful completion of this course, students can continue their study of Mathematics by undertaking the two year International A Level Mathematics course, the prerequisite for this course is a Grade 7 at IGCSE.

Students who have studied Mathematics may go on to study and work in fields such as engineering, statistics, financial markets, research, teaching and economics due to their strong understanding of number and acquired problem solving skills.



## IGCSE DOUBLE AWARD SCIENCE

Pearson Edexcel Course code 4SD0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Science (Double Award) comprises of three externally-assessed papers: Biology Paper 1 - Chemistry Paper 1 - Physics Paper 1

The course starts in Year 9 and continues through to Year 11.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Biology Paper 1	33.3% of the total International GCSE	2-hour written examination	All units
Chemistry Paper 1	33.3% of the total International GCSE	2-hour written examination	All units
Physics Paper 1	33.3% of the total International GCSE	2-hour written examination	All units

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Upon successful completion of this course Students may continue their study of the Sciences by undertaking the 2 Year A Level Courses of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The prerequisite for these courses is a Grade 8 at IGCSE.

Students will need to consider career ideas when deciding on whether to take Double or Triple Science



## IGCSE BIOLOGY

Pearson Edexcel Course code 4BI1

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This International GCSE qualification prepares students for further study in biological sciences and provides a thorough grounding in the practical skills needed to be a working scientist. Students undertaking this qualification will study aspects of:

- The nature and variety of living organisms
- Structures and functions in living organisms
- Reproduction and inheritance
- Ecology and the environment
- Use of biological resources

The course starts in Year 10 and continues through to Year 11. The course covers all work students have learned since Year 7.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Biology	61.1% of the total International GCSE 38.9% of the total International GCSE	2-hour written examination (Paper 1) 1-hour and 15-minute (Paper 2)	All units

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Students attaining a GCSE grade 6 or above can progress onto A Level Biology in Year 12.



## IGCSE PHYSICS

Pearson Edexcel Course code 4PH1

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Physics qualification includes key concepts from Physical Science allowing students to gain a sound base of knowledge and develop scientific skills through investigation style practical work and research activities. The GCSE course includes:

- Forces and motion
- Electricity
- Waves
- Energy resources and energy
- Solids, liquids and gases
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Radioactivity and particles
- Astrophysics

The course starts in Year 9 and continues through to Year 11. The course covers all work students have learned since year 7.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

IGCSE Physics has its own exam paper which does not directly affect the outcome of any other Sciences sat at GCSE.

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Physics	61.1% of the total International GCSE	2-hour written examination ( Paper 1 )	All units
	38.9% of the total International GCSE	1-hour and 15-minute (Paper 2)	

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Students attaining a GCSE grade 6 or above can progress onto A-level Physics.



## IGCSE CHEMISTRY

Pearson Edexcel Course code 4CH1

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Chemistry qualification includes key concepts allowing students to gain a sound base of knowledge and develop scientific skills through investigation style practical work and research activities. Students will cover:

- Principles of chemistry
- Inorganic chemistry
- Physical chemistry
- Organic chemistry

The course starts in Year 10 and continues through to Year 11. The course covers all work students have learned since year 7.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Chemistry	61.1% of the total International GCSE	2-hour written examination (Paper 1)	All units
	38.9% of the total International GCSE	1-hour and 15-minute (Paper 2)	

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Students attaining a GCSE grade 6 or above can progress onto A-level Chemistry in Year 12





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## IGCSE ARABIC FIRST LANGUAGE (ARABIC A)

Pearson Edexcel 4AA1

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Edexcel IGCSE in Arabic (First Language) qualification enables students to:

- develop their ability to read, understand and respond to material from a variety of sources
- develop their ability to communicate accurately in writing, matching style to audience and purpose
- develop their understanding of the structure and variety of language
- further their personal development, and an understanding of themselves and the world around them
- appreciate the richness, beauty and diversity of the Arabic language

Key features and benefits are:

- assessment through two compulsory written papers
- the choice of writing tasks in Paper 2 allows students to demonstrate a range of writing styles
- the qualification encourages reading of both contemporary and classical Arabic, fiction and nonfiction language awareness and usage assessed through grammatical exercises

All Arabic A pupils will sit a compulsory MOE credited exam. This IGCSE will be in addition to this subject according to subject capability and teacher's discretion.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper 1	70%	Externally Assessed. 2 hours 15 minutes, which includes 10 minutes' recommended reading time.	Reading, Writing, and Grammatical Usage.
Paper 2	30%	Externally Assessed. 1 hour 30 minutes	Two pieces of continuous writing.

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Following this course students can opt to continue studying Arabic at A Level. Having a qualification in a student's first language is commended by Universities across the world.



## GCSE ARABIC B

Pearson Edexcel 1AA0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course consists of four units-based speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The course enables students to develop:

- an understanding of Arabic in a variety of contexts
- a knowledge of Arabic vocabulary and structures
- transferable language learning skills
- the ability to communicate effectively in Arabic
- an awareness and understanding of countries and communities where Arabic is spoken.

The papers for listening and reading skills refer to the generic content areas specified below and feature scenarios set in a country where Arabic is spoken.

- Out and about
- Customer service and transactions
- Personal information
- Future plans, education and work

For speaking and writing units, content will relate to the following broad themes:

- Media, travel, and culture
- Sport, leisure, and work

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Listening	25%	External Assessed. 45 minutes (plus 5 minutes' reading time)	A number of passages or interactions in Arabic with a variety of question types. The spoken material will include both formal and informal speech.
Speaking	25%	External assessed. 4-5mins per task	1. Focused, picture-based discussion or presentation (with follow-up questions related to a chosen theme). 2. A general conversation related to a chosen theme.
Reading	25%	External Assessed. 55 minutes.	A number of short texts, notices or short news reports in Arabic which include a range of settings and styles both formal and informal.
Writing	25%	External Assessed. One hour	Students will produce two pieces of Arabic writing in response to a choice of questions that relate to the prescribed themes of this specification.

### CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS/ COURSEWORK

No Controlled Assessments/Coursework.  
Graded 9-1



## GCSE ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN

Pearson Edexcel 1AD0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Art and Design consists of two internally assessed and externally moderated components. Component 1: Personal Portfolio (internally set) Component 2: Externally Set Assignment.

The GCSE in Art, Craft and Design is a broad and flexible course that requires students to develop an appreciation of the creative process through a practical response, using a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media, materials, techniques and processes. Students should explore critically how artists, craftspeople and designers from diverse cultures, times and societies have arrived at solutions and communicated meaning using the formal elements. Students should use this knowledge when developing new ideas, recording observations and creating outcomes which fully realise their personal intentions.

**Areas of study:** Students undertaking the Art, Craft and Design title are required to create work associated with areas of study chosen from at least two of the five endorsed titles for Component 1. For Component 2, Art, Craft and Design students are required to create work associated with at least one area of study. This ensures that in the qualification as a whole, there is a breadth and flexibility in content and approach commensurate in demand with other titles.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Component 1: Personal Portfolio	60%	Final outcome(s) produced during a 10-hour period of sustained focus	In Component 1, students must work within at least two of the endorsed titles. Students create a personal portfolio of work that demonstrates their knowledge, understanding and skills. Students investigate and develop their ideas through sketchbook work. Through exploration of materials and techniques pupils develop and refine their ideas, creating a final outcome(s).
Component 2: Externally Set Assignment	40%	Practical Exam of 10 hours	In Component 2 students must work within at least one of the endorsed titles. Students create a personal portfolio of work that demonstrates their knowledge, understanding and skills. Students investigate and develop their ideas through sketchbook work. Through exploration of materials and techniques pupils develop and refine their ideas, creating a final outcome(s).

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

This course will prepare students who wish to pursue a career in the arts. Progression from GCSE into Art and Design A Level, apprenticeships, further and higher education



## IGCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE

Pearson Edexcel 4CP0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Understand and apply fundamental principles of computer science, including abstraction, decomposition, and logic, algorithms, and data representation
- Understand, write and debug a range of coding languages
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- Understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- Understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society
- Apply mathematical skills relevant to computer science.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Paper number and unit title	Assessment information	Weighting
Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science	Assessed through a 2 hour examination set and marked by Pearson. This paper consists of multiple-choice, short open-response, open-response and extended open-response answer questions	The paper is weighted at 50% of the qualification and is out of 80 marks
Paper 2: Application of Computational Thinking	Assessed through a 3 hour practical examination set and marked by Pearson. The paper consists of multiple-choice, short open-response, open-response, extended open response answer and task-based questions. The task-based questions will be carried out using a computer system under supervision. All other questions requiring a written response will be answered in the paper	The paper is weighted at 50% of the qualification and is out of 80 marks

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Computer Science is a great way to develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills, which can be transferred to further learning and to everyday life. Pupils who want to go on to higher study and employment in the field of computer science will find it provides a good stepping stone. This subject provides a good foundation for those pupils who wish to choose a computing A-Level such as Software Systems Development.



## IGCSE BUSINESS STUDIES (2017)

Pearson Edexcel 4BS1

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Edexcel International GCSE in Business Studies qualification enables students to:

- develop an interest in, and enjoyment of, business subjects that will be sustained in later life
- use relevant terminology, concepts and methods to understand the business world.
- develop and apply knowledge, understanding in a wide range of appropriate international and UK contexts.

### The course will cover 5 units

1. Business activity and influences on business
2. People in business
3. Business finance
4. Marketing
5. Business operations

Pupils will undertake a number of practical projects and will be continuously assessed as part of the course. Pupils will sit end of year and mock examinations before the final exam.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Assessed Content
Paper 1: Investigating small businesses	50%	Exam of 1 hour and 30 minutes	Paper 1 will focus on a small business of up to 49 employees that has a local/national market.
Paper 2: Investigating large businesses	50%	Examination of 1 hour and 30 minutes	Paper 2 will focus on a large business of more than 250 employees that has a multinational/global market.

Both papers consisting of four compulsory questions, each worth 20 marks – total of 80 marks in Paper 1. The sub-questions are a mixture of multiple-choice, short-answer, data-response and open-ended questions.

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

It has been designed to give students a wider understanding and appreciation of a broad range of business specialisms. You will develop the skills needed to move onto A Level Business Studies.



## BTEC INTERNATIONAL LEVEL 2 BUSINESS

Pearson Edexcel

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Pearson BTEC International Level 2 Certificate qualifications in Business have been designed to address the needs of Level 2 learners (GCSE) in key areas, including interpersonal skills and customer service. They are specialist work-related qualifications, combining practical learning with subject and theory content.

Specialist areas include:

- finance, both personal and business, together with bookkeeping, which supports development of basic financial principles
- working in business teams and team leading
- Business support or administration, which supports development of practical administration skills including office systems and equipment, meeting support and filing systems
- Personal selling, which helps learners to understand the personal selling process
- Aspects of business online and how this can support businesses to develop opportunities
- Aspects of retailing such as promoting, branding and visual merchandising
- Consumer rights
- Business ethics

### Key Information

Pearson BTEC International Level 2 Certificate in Business	
Minimum total Notional Learning hours (NLH)	150 (including 90 Guide Learning Hours (GLH))
Minimum qualification value (NLH/10)	150
Assessment	This qualification is internally assessed
Unit grading information	Pass / Merit / Distinction
Overall qualification grading information	Pass / Merit / Distinction / Distinction*

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
1. Business Processes 2. Business Organizations 3. TBC*3	Each Unit is worth 33.3% of the total grade.	Continuous Assessments for all Units.	All Units

Unit 3 will be selected from a range of options during the course of the two years by the BTEC Team.

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

This qualification is designed for learners who wish to explore a work-related vocational qualification or specific industry area. International Level 2 BTEC offers learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment. On successful completion of a Pearson BTEC International Level 2 qualification, learners can progress to continued study in the same or related vocational area and/or within employment. Students will gain experience in real business that can lead to apprenticeships and internships within businesses.



## SCIENCE DOUBLE AWARD IGCSE

Pearson Edexcel 4SD0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Double Award Science course includes key concepts across Biology, Chemistry and Physics allowing students to gain a sound base of knowledge and develop scientific skills through investigation style practical work and research activities. Students will cover:

#### Biology:

1. The nature and variety of living organisms
2. Structures and functions in living organisms
3. Reproduction and inheritance
4. Ecology and the environment
- 5 Use of biological resources

#### Chemistry:

1. Principles of chemistry
2. Inorganic chemistry
3. Physical chemistry
4. Organic chemistry

#### Physics:

1. Forces and motion
2. Electricity
3. Waves
4. Energy resources and energy transfers
5. Solids, liquids and gases
6. Magnetism and electromagnetism
7. Radioactivity and particles
8. Astrophysics

The course starts in Year 9 and continues through to Year 11. The course covers all work students have learned since Year 7.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Biology 1 Chemistry 1 Physics 1	33.3% of the total International GCSE 33.3% of the total International GCSE 33.3% of the total International GCSE	2-hour written examination 2-hour written examination 2-hour written examination	All Units



## GCSE DANCE

AQA 8236

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

GCSE Dance helps students to develop technical and expressive skills as well as knowledge and understanding of dance through performance, choreography and critical appreciation. This specification focuses on the aesthetic and artistic qualities of dance and the symbolic use of movement to express and communicate ideas and concepts through the interrelated processes of performance, choreography and appreciation. Dance is a powerful and empowering form of nonverbal communication and it is both physical and expressive, which makes it similar to and different from other art forms and physical activities. Dance develops creative, imaginative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacities. Covering multiple styles of dance allows students to create a skill base of movement that has logical progression routes including AS and A- level. The study of the anthology of professional works will develop their ability to critically appraise professional dance works and provide a springboard for engaging in practical tasks.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Students must complete both assessment components.

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Component 1: Performance and choreography	60% Practical	Performance: 30% of GCSE 40 marks  Choreography: 30% of GCSE 40 marks  Non-exam assessment (NEA) marked by the centre and moderated by AQA.	<b>Performance</b> Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration)  Duet/trio performance (three minutes in a dance which is a maximum of five minutes in duration)  Solo or group choreography – a solo (two to two and a half minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (three to three and a half minutes)
Component 2: Dance appreciation	40% Theory	Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes 80 marks	Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills  Critical appreciation of own work  Critical appreciation of professional works  <b>Questions</b> Based on students' own practice in performance and choreography and the GCSE Dance anthology.

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

GCSE Dance offers clear, logical progression to AS and A Level.



## GCSE DRAMA

Pearson Edexcel 1DR0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Drama students will learn how to apply their own knowledge, understanding and experience to a range of tasks around devising, rehearsing, refining, performing and critiquing pieces of theatre. They will explore popular performance texts in both written and performance form whilst working on their own theatrical offering. These tasks make use of applied skills that require a strong base of knowledge in theatre conventions as well as a solid grasp of social, cultural and historical contexts. Drama students will aim to develop a range of theatrical skills and apply them to the creation and critique of a range of performances. They will develop as creative, effective, independent and reflective students developing the confidence to perform, with collaboration skills to work effectively with others to produce and refine work.

Students may complete Components 1 and 2 as a performer, designer, or a combination of both whilst ensuring they are able to conscientiously document their creative process in an extensive portfolio/projects that will help extend their range as dramatists.

### Progression:

Students can progress from this qualification to an AS and A-Level qualification, BTEC or extended Level 3.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Component	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Devising 1DR0/01	<b>40%</b> 60 marks 45 marks portfolio 15 marks devised performance/realisation	Performance or Design. Portfolio and performance are internally assessed, externally moderated.	Create and develop a devised piece of theatre from a stimulus. Performance of this devised piece or design realisation (costume, lighting, set or sound).  A portfolio of evidence, is required between 1500- 2000 words. This can be hand written/typed/recorded.
Performance from text 1DR0/02	<b>20%</b> 48 marks	Performance or Design. Externally assessed.	Perform and/or design for 2 key extracts from a published and performed text.  <b>24 marks</b> for each key extract
Theatre Makers in Practice 1DR0/03	<b>40%</b> 60 marks	Written examination of 1 hour 45 minutes	<u>Bringing text to life</u> : unseen extract from a class studied text. <b>45 marks</b>  <u>Theatre evaluation</u> : analysis and evaluation of a live theatre performance they have seen <b>15 marks</b>



## IGCSE ECONOMICS (2017)

Pearson Edexcel 4EC1

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

A new, two paper model: To ensure the assessment meets the standard required for the new International GCSEs, the assessment has been split into 2 papers. The two papers are identical in structure and provide more opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding, analysis and evaluation skills. It mirrors the Edexcel IAL and A level Economics assessment

Students will:

- Read sources to interpret and evaluate economic information.
- Write extended responses.
- Respond appropriately to a range of question types, including multiple-choice, short-answer, data response and extended writing questions.
- Develop an understanding of economic concepts and apply these concepts to real-life situations

Pupils will undertake a number of practical projects and will be continuously assessed as part of the course. Pupils will sit end of year and mock examinations before the final exam.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content	
Paper 1: Microeconomics and Business Economics	50%	Examination of 1 hour and 30 minutes,	The Market system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The economic problem</li> <li>• Economic assumptions</li> <li>• Demand, supply and market equilibrium</li> <li>• Elasticity</li> <li>• The mixed economy</li> <li>• Externalities</li> </ul>	Business Economics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production</li> <li>• Productivity and division of labour</li> <li>• Business costs, revenues and profit</li> <li>• Business competition</li> <li>• The labour market</li> <li>• Government intervention</li> </ul>
Paper 2: Macroeconomics and the Global Economy	50%	Examination of 1 hour and 30 minutes,	Government and the economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Macroeconomic objectives</li> <li>• Government policies</li> <li>• Relationships between objectives and policies</li> </ul>	The Global Economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Globalisation</li> <li>• International trade</li> <li>• Exchange rates</li> </ul>

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

This course prepares students for further study in AS and A Level Economics. As well as obvious careers in economics this course can also support careers in finance, business, politics and public relations. Pupils with an interest in how economies work and the social impact will enjoy going on to study IAL Economics. This opens doors in the future for working in the financial world as well as for governments looking at policy and markets.



## GCSE GEOGRAPHY

AQA 8035

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- travel the world from their classroom, exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs), newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs).

Topics of study include:

- climate change
- poverty
- deprivation
- global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use

Students are also encouraged to;

- understand their role in society by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper 1: Living with the physical environment	38%	1hr 30minutes	The challenge of natural hazards, The living world, Physical landscapes in the UK, Geographical skills
Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment	38%	1hr 30minutes	Urban issues and challenges, The changing economic world, The challenge of resource management, Geographical skills
Paper 3: Geographical applications	24%	1hr	Issue evaluation, unseen fieldwork questions, Geographical skills

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Environmental consultant, Town planner, Geographical information systems officer, Conservation officer, Teacher/lecture.



## IGCSE HISTORY

Pearson Edexcel 4HI1

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Develop and extend their knowledge and understanding of specified key events, periods and societies in history; and of the wide diversity of human experience
- Engage in historical enquiry to develop as independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers;
- Develop the ability to ask relevant questions about the past, to investigate issues critically and to make valid historical claims by using a range of sources in their historical context
- Develop an awareness that different people, events and developments have been accorded historical significance and how and why different interpretations have been constructed about them
- Organise and communicate their historical knowledge and understanding in different ways and reach substantiated conclusions

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper 1: Depth Studies	50% of the total International GCSE	written examination 1 hr 30 min	Topic 1: Germany: development of dictatorship, 1918-45 Topic 2: A divided union: civil rights in the USA, 1945-74
Paper 2: Investigation and Breadth Studies	50% of the total International GCSE	written examination 1 hr 30 min	Topic 3: The Vietnam conflict, 1945-75 Topic 4: Changes in medicine, c.1848-c.1948

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Law, Academic librarian, Archaeologist, Broadcast journalist, Civil Service administrator, Editorial assistant, Human resources officer, Information officer, Marketing executive.



## IGCSE INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (2017)

Pearson Edexcel 4IT1

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an opportunity for your child to:

- acquire and apply ICT skills
- gain knowledge and understanding of ICT in a range of contexts
- develop ICT-based solutions to address challenges and solve problems
- develop an understanding and awareness of current and emerging technologies
- develop an awareness of the legal, social, ethical and environmental consequences of the use of ICT systems for individuals, organisations and society
- recognise potential risks when using ICT and develop safe, secure and responsible practice

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper 1: Written Paper	50%	Assessed through a 1 hour 30 minutes written examination set and marked by Pearson. The examination comprises a mixture of multiple-choice, short- and long-answer questions	Topic 1: Digital Devices Topic 2: Connectivity Topic 3: Operating online Topic 4: Online Goods and Services
Paper 2: Practical paper	50%	Assessed through a three-hour practical examination, set and marked by Pearson (includes printing time).	Topic 5: Applying Information and Communication Technology Topic 6: Software Skills

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

By studying ICT, you will develop skills that are highly sought after, you will gain hands on experience in a wide range of career linked skills, which support progression to the workplace or further education. The qualification is designed to help you develop personal skills in the areas of team working, career planning, communication and problem solving.



## GCSE FRENCH

Pearson Edexcel 1FR0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

French consists of four externally examined papers based on the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will complete their speaking assessment by April/May. The use of dictionaries is not permitted. The qualification will be graded on a nine-point scale: 1 to 9 – where 9 is the best grade. A student taking Foundation Tier assessments will be awarded a grade within the range of 1 to 5. A student taking Higher Tier assessments will be awarded a grade within the range of 4 to 9.

Themes and topics - Questions across all four language skills are set in common contexts, addressing a range of relevant contemporary and cultural themes. They are organised into three themes, each broken down into topics and sub-topics.

The three themes are:

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment

All themes and topics will be studied in the context of both the students' home country and that of countries and communities where French is spoken. For listening and reading assessments, the majority of contexts are based on the culture and countries where French is spoken. Students may also refer to the culture of French communities in the speaking and writing papers.

Students will be exposed to materials relating to French-speaking countries throughout the course.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Listening and understanding	25%	Written exam Foundation and Higher Tier	Listening to standard spoken French by one or more speakers in a range of public and social settings. Multiple choice and short answer questions paper. Each exam includes 5 minutes reading time before the listening stimulus is played.
Reading and understanding	25%	Reading exam with questions in English and French	Understanding of written French across a range of different tests including advertisements, email, letters, articles and literary texts.
Writing	25%	Written exam including sentences, short passage, translation and essay	Writing in different purposes and audiences. They are required to produce responses to express ideas and opinions in French.
Speaking	25%	Oral examination carried out in school, externally marked	Speaking in French for different purposes and in different settings – role play, questions and conversations. Foundation 8-10 minutes Higher 10-12 minutes

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Learning an additional language supports a variety of careers, especially those involving translation or communication with people from non-English speaking countries. This can include careers in tourism, government, politics, media, publishing, and journalism. You can also work in education, fashion or law.



## GCSE SPANISH

Pearson Edexcel 1SP0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Spanish consists of four externally examined papers based on the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will complete their speaking assessment by April/May. The use of dictionaries is not permitted. The qualification will be graded on a nine-point scale: 1 to 9 – where 9 is the best grade. A student taking Foundation Tier assessments will be awarded a grade within the range of 1 to 5. A student taking Higher Tier assessments will be awarded a grade within the range of 4 to 9.

Themes and topics - Questions across all four language skills are set in common contexts, addressing a range of relevant contemporary and cultural themes. They are organised into three themes, each broken down into topics and sub-topics.

The three themes are:

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment

All themes and topics will be studied in the context of both the students' home country and that of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken. For listening and reading assessments, the majority of contexts are based on the culture and countries where Spanish is spoken. Students may also refer to the culture of Spanish communities in the speaking and writing papers. Students will be exposed to materials relating to Spanish-speaking countries throughout the course.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Listening and understanding	25%	Written exam Foundation and Higher Tier	Listening to standard spoken Spanish by one or more speakers in a range of public and social settings. Multiple choice and short answer questions paper. Each exam includes 5 minutes reading time before the listening stimulus is played.
Reading and understanding	25%	Reading exam with questions in English and Spanish	Understanding of written Spanish across a range of different texts including advertisements, email, letters, articles and literary texts.
Writing	25%	Written exam including sentences, short passage, translation and essay	Writing in different purposes and audiences. They are required to produce responses to express ideas and opinions in Spanish.
Speaking	25%	Oral examination carried out in school, externally marked	Speaking in Spanish for different purposes and in different settings – role play, questions and conversations. Foundation 8-10 minutes / Higher 10-12 minutes

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Learning an additional language supports a variety of careers, especially those involving translation or communication with people from non-English speaking countries. This can include careers in tourism, government, politics, media, publishing, and journalism. You can also work in education, fashion or law.



## GCSE MUSIC

Pearson Edexcel 1MU0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Music at GCSE level combines performing, composing and appraising. Students are challenged both academically and practically, and there is an expectation to take part in the school Arts Weeks Parent Café and the school productions. Students should be able to sing or play an instrument to ABRSM grade 4 standard (or equivalent) before starting the course.

Students will demonstrate skills in aural perception, musical knowledge and understanding and communication through their analysis of the four areas of study: Instrumental Music 1700–1820, Vocal Music, Music for Stage and Screen and Fusions.

GCSE Music is divided into three components: Performing, Composing and Appraising. The GCSE caters for a wide spectrum of abilities and provides opportunities to use music technology, including music composition software. Students who opt for a GCSE in Music must be prepared to further upskill themselves.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
C3 Appraising Exam	40%	External Assessment	Written paper: 1 hour 45 minutes <b>Section A</b> - Areas of study, dictation, and unfamiliar pieces (68 marks) <b>Section B</b> - Extended response comparison between a set work and one unfamiliar piece (12 marks)
C1 Performing	30%	Centre assessed Externally moderated	Students need to perform for at least four minutes' combined duration. Including both: solo performance and ensemble performance
C2 Composing	30%	Centre assessed Externally moderated	Students compose two compositions, of at least three minutes' combined duration. One composition to a brief, of at least one minute in duration. One free composition set by the teacher, of at least one minute in duration.

### PREREQUISITES:

Students must be able to sing or play an instrument to take a GCSE in Music. A strong willingness to engage in events at school is required.



## GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Pearson Edexcel 1PE0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Pupils will be taught about the benefits of leading a healthy active lifestyle. They will learn about the key influences that have an impact on them.

The following two topics will be covered:

**Exercise and fitness as part of your healthy, active lifestyle.** This will involve learning about the components of health and skill related fitness.

**Physical activity as part of your healthy, active lifestyle.** This involves learning about the different methods and principles of training. Fitness testing, heart rates and training thresholds, aerobic and anaerobic activity.

The course will include the following:

- Applied anatomy physiology
- Use and application of data
- Health, fitness and wellbeing
- Movement analysis
- Sports psychology
- Practical performance
- Physical training
- Socio-cultural influences
- Performance analysis and evaluation

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Fitness and Body Systems 01	36%	Written Exam 1hr 45mins	Applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, physical training, use of data
Health and Performance 02	24%	Written Exam 1hr 15mins	Health, fitness and well-being, sport Psychology, socio-cultural influences, use of data
Practical Performance	30%	Internally assessed and externally moderated	Assessed in - 1 team, 1 individual and 1 additional activity. Assessment will be of skills in isolation and in a competitive / formal situation.
Personal Exercise Programme	10%	Submitted and internally assessed	Report should include an aim and planning analysis, a program carried out and monitored and an evaluation.

### FURTHER OPORUNITIES:

Students can progress onto University to study in subjects such as Sports Science, Physiotherapy and Strength and Conditioning.



## BTEC INTERNATIONAL LEVEL 2 EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN SPORT

Pearson Edexcel

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers a work-related vocational qualification that focuses on particular aspects of employment in the sport, leisure, recreation and fitness sector. It is a qualification that provides a vocational learning experience and prepares learners to progress to an appropriate level 3 programme. The course offers flexibility and choice to create a tailored learning programme suited to students.

Learners have the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

The course will include the following:

Mandatory Unit	Mandatory Specialist Unit	Optional Units
Learners must achieve a pass in the mandatory unit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fitness Testing and Training</li></ul>	Learners must achieve a pass in one of mandatory specialist unit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practical Sport</li><li>• Outdoor and adventurous activities</li></ul>	Learners will complete up to 5 teacher selected optional units.  Example units include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anatomy and Physiology for Sport</li><li>• Sport related injuries and illnesses</li><li>• Sports development</li><li>• Psychology for sports performance</li><li>• Nutrition for sports performance</li><li>• Business skills in sport</li></ul>

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

- Internally assessed
- Pass/ Merit/ Distinction grading

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

This qualification prepares students for progression to a Level 3 programme in the same or related vocational area, for example BTEC Sport Level 3.

Students can progress to further education, university, apprenticeship or employment in a related industry. Employment directly related to this area of study include Fitness Centre Manager, Personal Trainer, Sports Coach, Sports Therapist, Sports Administrator and Exercise Physiologist.



## BTEC INTERNATIONAL LEVEL 2 TRAVEL & TOURISM

Pearson Edexcel

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Travel and tourism has become an important part of how we live today. Most people travel regularly for work and leisure, and the world of travel and tourism is of interest to the majority of people. This interest has been stimulated through the media and in particular the many travel and tourism-related television programmes screened over the last few years. There has been rapid growth across all component industries of the sector and a rise in passenger and visitor numbers and those working within the industries. It is now one of the largest sectors in the world in terms of employment and income generation.

The Pearson BTEC International Level 2 (GCSE) certificate in Travel & Tourism focuses on particular aspects of employment in the Travel & Tourism sector. It is a qualification that offers learners the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

The course will include the following:

Mandatory Units	Optional Units
Learners must achieve a pass in the mandatory units: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The travel &amp; Tourism Sector</li><li>Understanding the Nature and Effects of World Travel</li></ul>	Learners will complete 1 teacher selected optional unit. Example units include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Worldwide holiday destinations</li><li>Holiday planning</li><li>Exploring Marketing in Travel and Tourism</li><li>Exploring Airports and Airlines</li><li>Developing Customer Service Skills in Travel and Tourism</li><li>Tourism Destinations</li></ul>

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

- Internally assessed
- Pass/ Merit/ Distinction grading

### FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES

This qualification prepares students for progression to Pearson BTEC National Level 3 in Travel and Tourism or the Pearson BTEC National Level 3 in Aviation Operations.

Students can progress to further education, university, apprenticeship or employment in a related industry. Employment directly related to this area of study include travel agency manager, hotel manager, holiday representative, air cabin crew, tour manager, tourism officer, conference centre manager.



## GCSE PSYCHOLOGY

Pearson Edexcel 1PS0

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to use specialist vocabulary, psychological concepts, terminology and convention to engage in the process of psychological enquiry, developing an understanding of self and others, and how psychological understanding can help to explain everyday social Phenomena. They will learn how psychological research is conducted, including the role of scientific method and data analysis, how to present information, develop arguments and draw conclusions through a critical approach to psychological evidence, developing as reflective thinkers. They will develop an understanding of the relationship between psychology and personal, moral, social and cultural issues, and develop an understanding of ethical issues in psychology and develop an understanding of psychological issues, the contribution of psychology to individual, social and cultural diversity, and how psychology contributes to society.

Students will gain knowledge and understanding of key features of the core areas of psychology through the study of the compulsory and optional topics in this specification, including research methods. These features biological, cognitive, social, developmental and individual differences.

Students will also gain knowledge and understanding of debates in psychology, including 'reductionism/holism' and 'nature/ nurture', how psychological knowledge and ideas change over time and how they inform our understanding of behaviour, the contribution of psychology to an understanding of individual, social and cultural diversity, the interrelationships of the core areas of psychology, how the studies for topics relate to the associated theory and research methods.

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper 1	55%	External Exam 1 hour 45 minutes	5 Sections of multiple choice and short answers 1 Section with 2 extended responses
Paper 2	45%	External Exam 1 hour 20 minutes	2 option topics Research methods

### FURTHER OPORUNITIES:

Future careers if carried onto University are Clinical Psychologist, Educational Psychologist, Advice Worker and Counsellor.



## GCSE FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

OXFORD AQA Course code 8585

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit their exam and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course.

The GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition specification sets out the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating.

The majority of the specification should be delivered through preparation and making activities. Students must be able to make the connections between theory and practice to apply their understanding of food and nutrition to practical preparation.

Topics and themes have been grouped to help you teach the specification, but these are not intended as a route through the specification, you can teach the content in any order. The topics are:

1. Food, nutrition and health
2. Food science
3. Food safety
4. Food choice
5. Food provenance

### HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper 1: Food preparation and nutrition	50%	1 hour 45 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multiple choice questions (20 marks)</li><li>• Five questions each with a number of sub questions (80 marks)</li></ul>
Component 2: Non-exam assessment project	50%	<b>Task 1:</b> Written (1,500-2,000 words) with photographic evidence <b>Task 2:</b> Written or electronic portfolio with photographic evidence	Task 1 – Food investigation (30 marks) Students' understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients.  Task 2 – Food preparation assessment (70 marks) Students' will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.