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Wollaston School

YEAR 9 GCSE OPTIONS BOOKLET 2024



Nene Valley Partnership
Excellence in Education

CONTENTS

Options - Information & Guidance 4-10

The Curriculum	4
Options Process Timeline	5
The Grading System	6
Making Informed Decisions	7
Subject Outcomes	8

GCSE Option Subjects 11-30

GCSE Art	12
GCSE Computer Science	13
GCSE Dance	14
GCSE Design & Technology	15
GCSE Drama	16
GCSE Ethics & Philosophy	17
GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition	18
GCSE French	19
GCSE German	20
GCSE Geography	21
BTEC Health & Social Care Level1/2	22
GCSE History	23
GCSE Music	24
GCSE Physical Education	25
GCSE Psychology	26
GCSE Combined Science	27
GCSE Separate Science Biology	28
GCSE Separate Science Chemistry	29
GCSE Separate Science Physics	30

Evening Map 32

THE CURRICULUM

The purpose of this booklet is to help students and parents to choose the most appropriate combination of courses to follow at Key Stage 4. We are committed to offering students a broad and balanced curriculum that enables them to maximise their chance of success. Each student is considered as an individual and is guided and supported through a structured programme to ensure they make appropriate choices.

The Curriculum

The curriculum at Wollaston School contains core subjects which meet the requirements of the compulsory Key Stage 4 national curriculum.

Core subjects all students will study:

English Language	GCSE	5 lessons per week
English Literature	GCSE	
Mathematics	GCSE	5 lessons per week
Combined Science	2 GCSE grades	6 lessons per week
Core PE	Non-exam course	2 lessons per week
PSHE	Non-exam course	1 lesson per week

If a student opts to study Separate Sciences, this will total 3 Science grades and 9 lessons per week.

Choices are then made using the Options Selection Guidance Sheet.

Options Selection Guidance Sheet - 2024

(You should have received this document alongside the Options Booklet)

The Options Selection Guidance Sheet will be useful in discussions during the decision making process. This will also be the form with which you will submit your choices. The guidance sheet identifies any requirements or limitations you will need to consider when selecting your subjects.

When selecting your chosen subjects using the Options Selection Guidance Sheet you should allocate the numbers 1-4 plus a reserve R. This will identify your four options in order of preference as well as a fifth reserve option. When blocking all the students together on the school timetable we will prioritise your four preferred subjects in order, if a clash occurs, or a course is not suitable, then your reserve subject may be used.

Submitting your choices

When you are confident with your choices, you should submit your Options Selection Guidance Sheet to Mr Stevenson by the deadline. We do not operate a 'first come, first serve' policy so please use the time to make measured decisions.

Entries **MUST** be submitted to Mr Stevenson by 3pm on Thursday 2nd May

After this time, the process will close and the analysis and timetabling process will begin.

OPTIONS PROCESS TIMELINE

- 7th March:** **Year 9 Parents' Evening**
The focus for this evening is academic progress and securing success at Key Stage 3.
- 25th April:** **Year 9 Options Evening**
The focus for this evening is making well-informed curriculum choices in preparation for a broad and balanced experience at Key Stage 4.
- 25th April:** **Year 9 online selection process goes LIVE**
From this date, students should consider all information provided and guidance given. Using their 'Options Selection Guidance Sheet', students should record their subject preferences and submit within a week.
- 2nd May:** **OPTIONS PROCESS CLOSES AT 3PM**
All forms should have now been submitted to Mr Stevenson, analysis begins!
- Summer Term:** **Analysis and Timetabling**
There are two key priorities at this stage:
1. Assessing suitability of each students' chosen curriculum to ensure every student has the best chance of success.
 2. Forming a timetable to optimise the number of students who receive their preferred subject choices.
- This is a long process which may invoke further discussion and support with students where changes are deemed necessary.
- It is important that students continue in their efforts to complete Key Stage 3 successfully in each subject. The allocated Key Stage 4 subjects will be shared in the Summer Term.
- September 2024:** **Year 10 embark on an exciting journey as they begin Key Stage 4.**

THE GRADING SYSTEM

How are subjects graded?

Below is the grading system introduced by the Government 2017. Letter grades were replaced by a number scale. At the same time we adopted number grading through Key Stage 3 so students are familiar with the system.

There is no exact match between the letters and numbers. The approximate comparison between the previous grading system and the current grading system is shown in the chart below, which also shows the relationship between GCSE grades and the equivalent grades for Vocational courses.

All grades 1-9 are GCSE pass grades. Typically, a Level 2 Pass at KS4 leads into a Level 3 course at post-16, whereas a Level 1 Pass may only qualify for a Level 2 course at post-16.

Comparison of GCSE grading systems			
Previous Grades	Current Vocational grades		Current GCSE grades
A*	Level 2	Distinction*	9
			8
A		Distinction	7
			6
B		Merit	5
			4
C		Pass	3
			2
D	Level 1	Merit	1
E			Pass
F			
G			

MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS

When selecting your option preferences you should consider:

Subject outcomes:

These show how well students have performed in each subject, at Wollaston, over the last three examined years. They are guides to help you decide where you might have the best chances of academic success.

Please note - there were no Summer exams in 2020 or 2021 and therefore no published outcomes. Also, newer courses may not yet have outcomes to share.

Personal strengths:

Your skills, strengths, motivational factors and preferred methods of working are important to consider.

What is the balance of practical and theory in the course?

Is the outcome decided by exams, coursework or both?

Are you currently succeeding in the subject at Key Stage 3?

Engagement and ability:

What grades have you been achieving? What engagement scores have you received throughout KS3?

Which subjects do you put most effort into at the moment? It usually follows that the subjects where we are most engaged are the ones we perform best in.

Enjoyment:

Which subjects do you enjoy the most? You are about to embark on two further years of demanding study. It therefore makes sense to pick subjects that you will enjoy.

Progression:

Do you know what career path you want to take and what subject qualifications you are required to study? Have you looked into the GCSE requirements of potential careers?

See Mr Myers, our careers advisor, if you have any questions around career paths.

Further advice:

- Pick subjects not teachers.
- Pick your curriculum, not your friends'.
- There is no 'easy' option. All courses are demanding and require the same level of commitment we would expect from all of our students at Wollaston School.
- Consider the EBacc suite of subjects.

SUBJECT OUTCOMES

The following three pages show you the number of students entered for each course and the percentage achieving above given grade thresholds. For each year, the Wollaston outcomes are compared to National outcomes.

There were no Summer exams in 2020 or 2021, therefore we have reported on the three latest examined years of 2019, 2022 and 2023.

The BTEC Health & Social Care course that we offer was introduced in 2022, therefore there are no outcomes to report as yet.

COURSE	% Results by grade				No. of students		
	1+	4+	5+	7+			
ART	2019	Wollaston	98	42	26	2	43
		National	100	73	56	20	
	2022	Wollaston	100	80	51	12	41
		National	100	80	64	27	
	2023	Wollaston	100	74	56	23	41
		National	100	76	60	24	
COMPUTER SCIENCE	2019	Wollaston	100	51	43	19	37
		National	97	61	48	21	
	2022	Wollaston	100	71	42	16	31
		National	98	75	63	34	
	2023	Wollaston	90	33	27	3	30
		National	97	65	52	24	
DANCE	2019	Wollaston	100	82	77	64	22
		National	99	71	55	22	
	2022	Wollaston	100	77	68	23	22
		National	99	81	69	36	
	2023	Wollaston	100	53	47	21	19
		National	99	74	60	26	
DESIGN TECHNOLOGY	2019	Wollaston	98	48	30	9	44
		National	98	61	46	17	
	2022	Wollaston	96	74	48	4	23
		National	98	72	58	27	
	2023	Wollaston	100	60	50	10	32
		National	98	65	51	21	

COURSE	% Results by grade				No. of students		
	1+	4+	5+	7+			
DRAMA	2019	Wollaston	100	75	64	25	44
		National	99	72	56	20	
	2022	Wollaston	100	69	31	17	29
		National	99	81	70	34	
	2023	Wollaston	100	63	50	5	40
		National	99	76	62	26	
ETHICS & PHILOSOPHY	2019	Wollaston	98	61	39	10	41
		National	98	71	59	29	
	2022	Wollaston	100	74	44	18	39
		National	98	77	66	35	
	2023	Wollaston	99	61	52	25	68
		National	98	72	61	31	
FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION	2019	Wollaston	100	74	65	4	23
		National	99	63	47	16	
	2022	Wollaston	100	64	51	13	39
		National	99	73	57	24	
	2023	Wollaston	100	67	51	23	38
		National	99	66	50	19	
FRENCH	2019	Wollaston	100	100	72	41	46
		National	98	68	52	22	
	2022	Wollaston	100	88	79	44	34
		National	99	78	68	32	
	2023	Wollaston	100	83	83	44	19
		National	98	70	55	26	
GERMAN	2019	Wollaston	100	92	77	42	26
		National	99	75	56	22	
	2022	Wollaston	100	89	86	46	28
		National	99	84	72	35	
	2023	Wollaston	100	95	68	42	19
		National	99	77	61	28	
GEOGRAPHY	2019	Wollaston	100	68	56	20	59
		National	98	63	50	22	
	2022	Wollaston	97	67	45	17	99
		National	98	72	60	30	
	2023	Wollaston	95	54	42	15	78
		National	98	65	52	25	
HISTORY	2019	Wollaston	97	62	53	27	114
		National	97	63	51	24	
	2022	Wollaston	97	75	58	22	102
		National	98	71	58	30	
	2023	Wollaston	98	61	45	23	129
		National	97	64	52	25	

COURSE	% Results by grade				No. of students		
	1+	4+	5+	7+			
MUSIC	2019	Wollaston	100	92	75	42	12
		National	99	73	60	28	
	2022	Wollaston	100	92	83	25	12
		National	99	83	73	44	
	2023	Wollaston	94	61	61	22	18
		National	99	76	65	33	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	2019	Wollaston	100	54	40	4	72
		National	100	71	55	20	
	2022	Wollaston	98	71	54	25	61
		National	100	82	70	34	
	2023	Wollaston	100	52	34	12	63
		National	100	72	58	23	
PSYCHOLOGY	2019	Wollaston	100	63	50	15	54
		National	98	63	48	19	
	2022	Wollaston	96	65	53	19	83
		National	98	72	60	29	
	2023	Wollaston	97	51	40	16	75
		National	98	65	51	20	
COMBINED SCIENCE	2019	Wollaston	98	67	43	5	172
		National	98	61	39	9	
	2022	Wollaston	100	61	30	6	163
		National	98	61	40	10	
	2023	Wollaston	99	56	28	7	160
		National	97	57	36	9	
SEPARATE SCIENCES BIOLOGY	2019	Wollaston	100	98	94	49	65
		National	99	90	80	42	
	2022	Wollaston	100	100	96	53	57
		National	99	92	84	50	
	2023	Wollaston	100	94	75	28	65
		National	99	89	79	42	
SEPARATE SCIENCES CHEMISTRY	2019	Wollaston	98	95	88	48	64
		National	99	90	78	43	
	2022	Wollaston	100	100	93	47	58
		National	100	93	83	50	
	2023	Wollaston	100	95	80	34	65
		National	99	90	79	44	
SEPARATE SCIENCES PHYSICS	2019	Wollaston	100	98	86	52	64
		National	99	91	79	43	
	2022	Wollaston	100	98	90	47	58
		National	100	94	85	50	
	2023	Wollaston	99	95	80	34	65
		National	99	90	80	43	



SUBJECT INFORMATION PAGES

ART (EDUQAS)

COURSE CODE: C650QS

WHAT IS GCSE ART?

When you study art at GCSE you develop your passion for enquiry, creativity and sense of self. The skills that you have learnt at KS3 will give you a firm basis to support this journey. You will learn through the investigation of a multitude of different art forms from more traditional ways of making art such as painting and drawing, to more experimental ways of working. By engaging critically with the work of others you will learn to be analytical and subjective. You will create work in and out of your sketchbook through the course.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Students will engage with 2 themes one in year 10 and the other in year 11, these themes will then tie together to develop a considered and extensive final outcome. This work will account for 60% of the GCSE. In the January of year 11 you will be given an externally assessed theme this will form the final 40% of the grade. Although art is mainly a practical subject students will be expected to record their opinions and explain their decisions of how they made their work through written feedback. The course although diverse in content and ways of working does however, require a high level of drawing.

WHAT THEMES WILL BE STUDIED?

Previous topics have included Identity, assembled, Location, Rural and Natural Forms. These can be subject to change and students should be ready to adapt to change if required

Techniques and subtopics:

- Analysing theirs and the work of artists, designers and craftspeople
- An ability experiment in a variety of media
- Valuing presentation and taking pride in outcomes by refining where necessary
- Develop their own ideas and part take in a creative journey
- An ability to create and develop a personal final response to themes

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Course code - C650QS

Unit 1 - 2 coursework produced across Year 10 and Year 11. Classwork and homework included, 60% of final grade.

Unit 2 - Externally Set Assignment, 40%. Includes prep for the exam in the form of a sketchbook with a final piece being completed in exam conditions across a 10 hour time period

EXTRA INFORMATION

Students should above all have a passion for being creative, have an enquiring mind and be open to explore many possibilities. Art is time consuming subject and students must be willing to work to deadlines set out by the department and their teacher. To be proactive in their learning and open to criticism and take on-board feedback.

WHAT NEXT?

Art opens the doors to a lot of different pathways whether you simply want to go onto study at sixth form or at college you might be interested in some of the different career pathways available.

Try these for starters (there are many more): • Fashion design • Graphic design • Theatre designer • Animator • Video game designer • Illustrator • Museum curator • Photographer • Architecture • Product design • Textiles design • Ceramics • Advertising • Publishing • Interior design • Fashion and media journalism • Hair and make-up design • Retail design • Exhibition design • Jewellery design • Artist • Visual media • Teaching New technologies are creating a whole new range of courses where art is being used in innovative ways.

In a competitive job market having the ability to create and enquire can allow you to stand out of the crowd!

For more information please contact Miss S Monsell
monsells@wollaston-school.net

COMPUTER SCIENCE (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8525

WHAT IS GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE?

Computer Science is not just about computers. Rather it is the study of computation and information, and is a subject which involves you in the very make-up of the world, and over the last 40 years it has transformed the way we run our everyday lives.

Computer systems are part of our everyday lives, ranging from embedded systems controlling a fridge to bank systems handling billions of transactions each day. Many of these systems are very familiar, yet we take for granted systems that make things like mobile phones, planes and medical equipment possible.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

An interest in technology and solid logical problem-solving skills and, due to the demanding nature of this course, evidence of high ability in maths.

WHAT THEMES WILL BE STUDIED?

We study a range of themes relating to computer hardware and software, including how computers and networks work, operating systems, security and hacking and the ethical, social and legal aspects of computer use. We also study how sound, images and other data is stored using binary and hexadecimal code.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Paper 1: Computational thinking and programming skills — 2hour exam—50% of the final grade

How to read, interpret and write algorithms to solve problems.

Theory and practice of programming in a chosen language.

(The chosen language for this school is Python version 3)

Paper 2: Computing concepts —1hour 45minutes exam—50% of final grade

Fundamentals of data representation, computer systems, computer networks, cyber security, relational databases and SQL code and the ethical, legal and environmental impact of technology.

EXTRA INFORMATION

The qualification website can be found here: <https://qr.go.page.link/y2urQ> or you may use the QR code to find out more.



For more information please contact Mr S Foster

fosters@wollaston-school.net

DANCE (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8263

WHAT IS GCSE DANCE?

GCSE dance promotes fitness, a healthy lifestyle, team work, and creativity that develops students' skills, knowledge and understanding of a range of dance styles through the interrelated processes of **performance**, **choreography** and **dance appreciation**. Dance develops physical, technical and expressive skills through which students are able to; communicate choreographic intention, develop their individual qualities as performers, communicate ideas, thoughts and meaning drawn from a range of dance styles and develop a critical appreciation of dance in its physical, artistic, aesthetic and cultural contexts.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

- Participation in a range of practical work and tasks looking at a wide range of styles.
- Completion of theory tasks and the creation of a GCSE folder.
- Individual and small group work.
- Performance of solo, duo, trios and groups to the class.
- Choreography of your own dance material regularly.

THEMES STUDIED?

Through **performance**, **choreography** and **appreciation** students will explore a range of political, historical, social and cross curricular themes. Students will study six professional works that cover a range of styles and influences that will enable them to fully appreciate how dance has developed.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Component 1: Performance and Choreography.

Performance:

- Two set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration) **15% of GCSE**.
- Duet/trio performance (maximum of 3-4 minutes in duration) **15% of GCSE**.

Choreography:

- Solo or group choreography. **30% of GCSE**.

Component 2: Dance Appreciation

- Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills, critical appreciation of own work and critical appreciation of six professional works. 1 hour 30 minute written exam. **40% of GCSE**.

Both components are internally marked in a live setting by the teacher and then externally moderated.

EXTRA INFORMATION

You should have a genuine interest in dance performance, choreography, enjoy working hard physically and be willing to contribute towards a team atmosphere. You must be able to rehearse after school independently and with others to complete homework, coursework and participate in clubs.

WHAT NEXT?

Students who study GCSE dance may go on to study dance or performing arts at either A Level or on one of the vocational style courses. Dance students often demonstrate enhanced communications skills, initiative, working under pressure, leadership and team building. University courses in dance are wide and varied ranging from high level professional performance courses to degrees in dance that can lead to education, arts therapy, theatre based careers, arts journalism, arts management, costume design and choreography.

For more information please contact Miss H Seaton
saetonh@wollaston-school.net

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8552

WHAT IS GCSE DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY?

The GCSE design & technology course continues to build upon the detailed design work that students completed in Key Stage 3. Students are given the opportunity to investigate topics through a wide range of both teacher led and activity based student work. Students will use creativity and imagination to design and make *prototypes* that solve real and relevant problems. They will learn to use new analysis and designing techniques, equipment, a range of machinery and tools as well as the use of CAM (Computer Aided Manufacture), at the same time as developing existing skills, to further their understanding.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

You will investigate the wider world of design and problem solving, looking at key designers, movements, trends and the wider impact design can have on the environment we live in. Alongside this, you will use primary and secondary research sources to investigate various design tasks where you will design a number of products, using both hand drawn and computer-generated methods. These designs will be developed and improved to create models and prototypes using a range of materials and techniques. You will develop your sketching, presentation techniques and manufacture a variety of products.

Theory is taught through a combination of focused theory lessons as well as some practical based tasks that develop skills and understanding of materials and processes. This creative design course allows students to design and realise innovative, forward thinking products using a variety of materials and is suited to those who can work with creativity and originality. It also gives students opportunities to apply knowledge from other disciplines including mathematics, science, art and computing.

WHAT THEMES WILL BE STUDIED?

GCSE design and technology has a wide and varying subject content and you will study a variety of themes including:

- New and emerging technologies
- Energy, materials, systems and devices
- Materials and their working properties
- Common specialist technical principles
- Papers and Boards
- Timber based materials
- Metal based materials
- Polymers
- Textiles based materials
- Electronic systems
- Designing principles
- Making principles

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Course code - 8552 - The course is made up of 2 units

Unit 1 - Written exam (50%) which incorporates questions on the core subject content. The exam paper has 15% of the marks devoted to design related Mathematics calculation questions.

Unit 2 - Non-examined Assessment (50%) which involves the design and manufacture of a working prototype based on a contextual challenge **provided by the examination board**. This is broken down as 40% for the design portfolio and 10% is for the practical.

EXTRA INFORMATION

This academic subject prepares students for work as a designer in the modern world through links with mathematics, science, business and art and design. You should enjoy designing and solving practical problems using a range of materials and be prepared to work safely with all the equipment in the relevant workshops. The quality of your drawing skills are important in GCSE design and technology, supported by the ability to plan and explain how practical processes are used in production. In Year 11 students are required to purchase their own materials for the practical element of the course.

WHAT NEXT?

A good grade in GCSE design & technology enables students to progress onto a number of design based courses, including Wollaston School's Sixth Form A Level product design. A wide range of career paths stem from design. The most common areas include; product design, automotive design, interior design, marketing and advertising, architecture, furniture design, industrial design, a range of engineering fields; civil, automotive and mechanical.

For more information please contact Miss V Ayres

ayresv@wollaston-school.net

DRAMA (WJEC)

COURSE CODE: 601/84206

WHAT IS GCSE DRAMA?

The drama specification is designed to give learners a broad and balanced experience of drama. The course has been constructed to integrate knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed across a range of dramatic activities.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Across the three components learners will study:

- One complete performance text.
- Two extracts from a second contrasting performance text placed within the context of the whole text.
- Either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or the characteristics of a genre of drama.

WHAT THEMES WILL BE STUDIED?

- **Devising Theatre:** Study of theatre practitioners and theatrical genres, developing devising, performing and evaluative skills.
- **Performing from a text:** The study of two extracts of a text, developing acting skills.
- **Interpreting Theatre:** Analysing a set text from a choice provided by the exam board and evaluating live theatre.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

The course comprises of three components:

COMPONENT 1: Devising Theatre - 40% of qualification

Learners must produce:

- A piece of devised theatre.
- A portfolio of supporting evidence.
- An evaluation of the final performance or design.

COMPONENT 2: Performing from a text - 20% of qualification

- Learners will be assessed on **either** acting or design.
- Learners study **two** extracts from the **same** performance text chosen by the centre.
- Learners participate in **one** performance using sections of text from both extracts.

COMPONENT 3: Interpreting Theatre - 40% of qualification

Learners will be required to sit a written exam of 1 hour 30 minutes.

Section A: Set Text

A series of questions on ONE set text from a choice of five chosen by the centre and studied throughout the course.

Section B: Live Theatre Review

One question from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.

EXTRA INFORMATION

Students wishing to take GCSE drama should be prepared to perform in every lesson, to contribute to discussions and challenge themselves to take on new roles in drama. You will also be required to visit the theatre.

WHAT NEXT?

Students who complete the course can go on to study drama and theatre studies at A Level or BTEC National performing arts. Future opportunities include journalism, media, theatre, arts administration, teaching along with the more obvious career choices for drama students.

For more information please contact Mrs V Paltridge or Mr Peter Jardine Wight
paltridgev@wollaston-school.net jardinewightp@wollaston-school.net

ETHICS & PHILOSOPHY (EDUQAS)

COURSE CODE: C120P3

WHAT IS GCSE ETHICS & PHILOSOPHY?

GCSE Ethics and Philosophy encourages students to think and learn about the world around them. We aim to present students with a good understanding of two of the world's major religions and then explore topical moral issues in the world today and ask them to express their opinions and develop informed opinions regardless of moral, social, religious backgrounds. Above all students are given a forum in which to face up to the realities of the world we are preparing them to enter so that they are better equipped to deal with the variety of dilemmas and issues they will face as they grow.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

We look at two religions - Christianity and Islam, looking at their beliefs and teachings and how they follow their religion in practice. Alongside this, we ask the questions we often ignore. When does life begin? Who has the right to take a life? When is it right or wrong to go to war? Should we explore the world of genetic engineering for the advancement of humankind? Is it right to judge others by their actions and beliefs? Should we help those in need and why/why not? Why do some people believe in God?

WHAT THEMES WILL BE STUDIED?

We study four themes 1. Relationships and Families (looking at the purpose of marriage, same sex marriage, cohabitation, divorce, equality and contraception) 2. Life and Death (looking at the origin of the universe, afterlife, environmental sustainability, euthanasia and abortion). 3. Good and Evil (good/evil, forgiveness, free will, morality, punishment and suffering). 4. Human Rights (looking at censorship, discrimination, extremism, prejudice, poverty and social justice).

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Course code - C120P3

The course consists of 3 exam papers.

Paper 1 = 50%, Paper 2 = 25% and Paper 3 = 25%.

EXTRA INFORMATION

You do not have to be religious to enjoy the course and achieve a top grade GCSE. You need to be willing to engage with moral issues and listen to other points of view.

WHAT NEXT?

It is highly regarded by employers, colleges and universities. It may lead to A level Philosophy or even a degree in Philosophy.

This course also helps students develop marketable skills and aptitudes including:

- analytical and strategic thinking
- research skills
- critical judgment
- the ability to work with abstract, conceptual ideas
- an ability to 'understand both sides' and negotiate and resolve conflict
- problem-solving skills
- leadership skills
- understanding of the impact of conflicting ideologies
- an appreciation of human diversity, belief systems, cultural and spiritual experiences.

Skills particularly useful for careers in Law, Education, Social Work, Politics, Medicine, Administration or the Media.

For more information please contact Mr I Lewis

lewisi@wollaston-school.net

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8585

WHAT IS GCSE FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION?

The GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition course continues to build on work that students study at Key Stage 3.

Students will be given the opportunity to investigate topics through a wide range of both teacher led and student activity based work. Students will investigate a range of food topics and will learn to use a range of different equipment and tools to further their understanding.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

By studying this course, you will learn about ingredients and methods used to make nutritious food products. You will learn about the function of ingredients used, the nutritional properties of the foods used, the effects of combining different ingredients during the preparation and cooking of foods. You will need to demonstrate that you are able to use a range of different food preparation skills to produce high quality products.

WHAT THEMES ARE STUDIED?

The GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition course has a wide and varying subject content. You will study a variety of topics including:

- Food preparation skills including general practical skills, use of equipment, cooking methods, making sauces, setting mixtures, making dough mixtures.
- Food, nutrition and health including making informed choices for a varied and balanced diet, energy needs and carrying out nutritional analysis of food products.
- Food science including the cooking of food, heat transfer, the functional and chemical properties of food. Food safety including food spoilage, food contamination and the principles of food safety.
- Food choice including factors affecting food choice, food labelling and marketing influences, British and International cuisines and the sensory evaluation of foods.
- Food provenance including food sources, environmental issues associated with food, sustainability of food, food production and technological developments associated with better health and food production.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

There are two components to the assessment for this course.

Unexamined assessment worth 50% comprising of two tasks and a single examination paper worth 50%:

Task 1: The Food Investigation (15%) Recommended time: 10 hours.

An example of the type of task you may do is: (a) investigate which type of flour is the best for making bread; or (b) investigate the type of raising agent used to make baked products.

Task 2: The Food Preparation Task (35%) - is an opportunity to showcase your practical skills Recommended time: 20 hours and will include an extended 3 hour practical to allow you time to demonstrate your practical skills. An example of the tasks you may do for this assessment is: (a) plan, prepare, cook and present a range of dishes, using a variety of skills, from the Mediterranean culinary tradition and present three final dishes or (b) plan, prepare, cook and present a range of dishes, using a variety of skills, which would be suitable for vegetarians and present three final dishes.

Single examination paper 50%. This will comprise a paper of 1 hour and 45 minutes. Section A is worth 20 marks and will be Multiple Choice Questions and Section B is worth 80 marks and you will have to answer five questions. There will be a mixture of short and long answer questions from any part of the specification.

EXTRA INFORMATION

You will do practical work on a regular basis and you must therefore be prepared to bring ingredients for this. When we do experimental work, school will provide the ingredients for you to do these investigations. You will learn a lot of the theory through practical activities. It is vital that students' theory and written work is of a high standard at KS3 to support the knowledge required for this course.

WHAT NEXT?

Success in Food Preparation & Nutrition can lead on to a number of varied and interesting careers in, for example, Catering, Nutrition, Teaching and Product Development.

For more information please contact Mrs N Thomson
thomsonn@wollaston-school.net

FRENCH (EDEXCEL)

COURSE CODE: 1FR1

WHAT IS GCSE FRENCH?

This course is designed to develop students' knowledge of French and their ability to use it in a range of contexts and situations. Students are taught the skills to use and understand both spoken and written language with accuracy and confidence. This GCSE forms part of the English Baccalaureate, a measure of achievement in core academic subjects, and an indication of a young person's general potential to study at a higher level (e.g. A-Level, University). A GCSE in French will certainly give you 'the edge'.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The course builds on language learnt at Key Stage 3. Students engage in group and individual speaking and comprehension tasks, as well as producing their own creative responses. Written and learning homework is set regularly and is central to students' preparation for termly teacher assessments. These are in the style of the real exams and check that at least expected progress is being made. Students are also set weekly vocabulary to learn to support their comprehension.

WHAT THEMES WILL BE STUDIED?

The course focuses on issues relating to young people (their interests, future plans, relationships and wellbeing) as well as broader issues relating to the wider world (media and culture, sport and leisure, travel, the environment, business and employment).

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Students are assessed by exam at the end of Year 11 in:

- **Listening (25%)** - candidates listen to a range of short passages in the language relating to GCSE topics, and then answer questions about them. Questions are in English. They also complete a dictation task.
- **Reading (25%)** - candidates read a range of passages in the language, topic-based and literary, and answer questions about them in both English. There is also a short translation into English.
- **Speaking (25%)** - candidates complete a short read aloud task focusing on pronunciation, a transactional task and a picture description with a follow on conversation. Candidates are given time to prepare for this before the assessment.
- **Writing (25%)** - candidates write a total of 200 - 250 words across a range of tasks e.g. a short letter, a topic essay, a short translation into French.

EXTRA INFORMATION

Students may be offered the chance to correspond with a native French speaker of a similar age and exchange letters and videos with a French speaking class. We also hope to be able to offer a trip to spend some time in France.

Learning a language develops interpersonal skills as well as developing resilience and critical thinking whilst furthering a student's ability to communicate and work in a team.

Students with languages skills are in high demand in today's society. Linguists are needed in business, the travel and tourism industry, the media, teaching, or indeed in any area of life where the UK is working in co-operation with overseas partners. It is therefore no surprise that colleges, universities and employers have a high regard for candidates with a languages qualification.

WHAT NEXT?

The world is your oyster with a language qualification!

If you have any questions about the course, your suitability for it, or the many career paths for students with languages skills, please talk to your French teacher. Further information and sample assessment tasks can also be found at <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/subjects/languages.html>. For some reasons for studying a language

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dyj8WzuxXxo>

For more information please contact Mrs H Berry

berryh@wollaston-school.net

GERMAN (EDEXCEL)

COURSE CODE: 1GN1

WHAT IS GCSE GERMAN?

This course is designed to develop students' knowledge of German and their ability to use it in a range of contexts and situations. Students are taught the skills to use and understand both spoken and written language with accuracy and confidence. This GCSE forms part of the English Baccalaureate, a measure of achievement in core academic subjects, and an indication of a young person's general potential to study at a higher level (e.g. A-Level, University). A GCSE in German will certainly give you 'the edge'.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The course builds on language learnt at Key Stage 3. Students engage in group and individual speaking and comprehension tasks, independent research using authentic materials and online resources, and creative writing assignments. Written and learning homework is set regularly and is central to students' preparation for termly teacher assessments. These are in the style of the real exams and check that at least expected progress is being made. Students are also set weekly vocabulary to learn to support their comprehension.

WHAT THEMES ARE STUDIED?

The course focuses on issues relating to young people (their interests, future plans, relationships and wellbeing) as well as broader issues relating to the wider world (media and culture, sport and leisure, travel, the environment, business and employment).

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Students are assessed by exam at the end of Year 11 in:

- **Listening (25%)** - candidates listen to a range of short passages in the language relating to GCSE topics, and then answer questions about them. Questions are in English. They also complete a short dictation.
- **Reading (25%)** - candidates read a range of passages in the language, topic-based and literary, and answer questions about them in both English. There is also a short translation into English.
- **Speaking (25%)** - candidates complete a short read aloud task focusing on pronunciation, a transactional task and a picture description with a follow on conversation. Candidates are given time to prepare for this before the assessment.
- **Writing (25%)** - candidates write a total of 200 - 250 words across a range of tasks e.g. a short letter, a topic essay, and a short translation into German.

EXTRA INFORMATION

Students will be offered the chance to spend some time in Germany and be partnered with a student in a German school.

Learning a language develops interpersonal skills as well as developing resilience and critical thinking whilst furthering a student's ability to communicate and work in a team.

Students with languages skills are in high demand in today's society. Linguists are needed in business, the travel and tourism industry, the media, teaching, or indeed in any area of life where the UK is working in cooperation with overseas partners. It is therefore no surprise that colleges, universities and employers have a high regard for candidates with a languages qualification.

WHAT NEXT?

GCSE German is regarded highly as an academic subject and will open up many doors to you in the future.

If you have any questions about the course, your suitability for it, or the many career paths for students with languages skills, please talk to your German teacher.

Further information and sample assessment tasks can also be found at <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/subjects/languages.html>. For more reasons to continue learning German go to www.goethe.de/ins/gb/en/spr/wdl.html

For more information please contact Mrs H Berry

berryh@wollaston-school.net

GEOGRAPHY (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8035

WHAT IS GCSE GEOGRAPHY?

GCSE geography is concerned with the study of places, the human and physical processes which shape them and the people that live in them. It helps students to make sense of their surroundings and the wider world.

Geography has a unique position in the curriculum to help students develop up to date knowledge and understanding of current events on a variety of scales. In addition, it gives students the opportunity to understand the complexity of human and physical environments and make connections between natural, economic, social, political and technological systems. Through fieldwork students have the opportunity to develop first-hand investigations of places, environments and human behaviour. All these features can provide a meaningful context for developing transferable skills such as literacy, numeracy, ICT, problem solving, team work, thinking skills and enquiry whilst stimulating an interest in, and a wonder of the world around us.

GCSE Geography would be suitable for students keen to continue with academic and vocational course. It is an engaging and rewarding subject which truly develops learners for an every changing world.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE AND HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Course code - 8035

1. Living with the physical environment:

- Exam 1 hour 30 minutes, worth 40% of GCSE
- The challenge of natural hazards
- Physical landscapes in the UK
- The living world

2. Challenges in the human environment:

- Exam 1 hour 30 minutes, worth 40% of GCSE
- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management

3. Geographical applications:

- Exam 1 hour 15 minutes, worth 20% of GCSE (based on pre-released material)
- Issue evaluation
- Fieldwork
- Geographical skills

WHAT NEXT?

Geography provides students with a range of skills and knowledge which supports progression into a wide range of careers such as cartography, transport, the oil industry, ecology and education.

For more information please contact Mr A. Litchfield

litchfielda@wollaston-school.net

BTEC LEVEL 1/2 TECH AWARD IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

COURSE CODE: 603/7047/6

WHAT IS BTEC LEVEL 1/2 TECH AWARD IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

The BTEC Tech Award in health & social care at level 1/2 is designed for those who may wish to enter a caring profession or work with children. It allows students to gain an understanding of the health and social care sector and builds on and uses the knowledge and skills you learn in your GCSEs, such as English. It will complement the more theoretical aspects covered by GCSE biology or GCSE Psychology by allowing you to apply your knowledge and skills practically in a vocational context.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

To achieve the Level 2 Award students must achieve 120 credits over the two years. The credits are obtained through three components that all students must complete in order to gain the BTEC qualification. The components provide a variety of teaching and learning methods designed to meet the needs of all students'.

WHAT THEMES ARE STUDIED?

- **Component 1 Human Lifespan Development** (*Within this unit students will explore how people grow and develop throughout their lives and the factors which affect this growth and development*) **36 credits.**
- **Component 2 Health and Social Care Services and Values** (*Within this unit students look at the different services and care values that contribute to the delivery of effective health and social care practice*) **36 credits.**
- **Component 3 Health and Wellbeing** (*This exam will allow students to build on prior knowledge learnt for component 1 and 2 in order to answer short questions and create a person-centred health and wellbeing improvement plan*) **48 credits.**

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

The qualification consists of three components that give learners the opportunity to develop broad knowledge and understanding of health and social care at Levels 1 and 2.

- **Components 1 and 2** are internally assessed by the school. These are completed in exam conditions with no access to the internet/ textbooks and rely on students learning and remember content for the assessments.
- **Component 3** is an external exam assessment where students will answer questions related to learning from components 1 & 2. This is marked externally by Pearson, the awarding body.

EXTRA INFORMATION

Students are required to have an interest in the health and social care sector and should be prepared to look at a range of service users during the two years. The course is exciting and rewarding and will allow any student interested in this area to fully understand and appreciate all aspects of health care.

WHAT NEXT?

College - a natural progression onto a Level 3 health and social care course in this area.

Sixth Form - Level 3 BTEC National in health and social care.

Employment in a variety of health care settings with training and qualifications to be continued whilst working.

For more information please contact Mrs M Dhmi

dhamim@wollaston-school.net

HISTORY (EDEXCEL)

COURSE CODE: 1H10

WHAT IS GCSE HISTORY?

This course will appeal to students who are interested in examining historical events that have an impact on all our lives. Students complete a study of the history of medicine, this involves looking at time periods from medieval medicine to modern medicine. Students will find out about the important developments in medicine that have led us to the healthcare we have today. There is also a focus study in the medicine exam on injuries and treatment in the trenches in World War One. For the British History element students will look at Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, 1060-88. This will include how the Normans gained and maintained power in England. For the in depth period study, students will learn about the American West, 1835-95, including the way of life for the Plains Indians and early settlement of the West. Students also study Germany 1918-39, this gives an insight into the dramatic rise of Hitler and the Nazis, how they were able to come to power and how they ran Germany. By looking at events that happened in the past we can understand better what is happening today and why things happen.

WHAT THEMES WILL BE STUDIED?

Four main themes are covered over the two years:

- Medicine through time, 1250– present. Also includes a focus on medicine in World War One
- Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, 1060-88
- The American West, 1835-95
- Germany, 1918-1939

Course requirements:

Most importantly, you must be interested in history. It is an academic subject and you need to be prepared for the volume of reading and writing you will need to do during each lesson and in the exam.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Course code - 1H10

The course is assessed by examination only. All students sit the same exam papers and there is no foundation paper option.

- **Examination (100%):**
- Paper 1- Medicine in Britain, also a focus on medicine in World War One, 1 hour and 15 minutes, 30%
- Paper 2 - Anglo-Saxon England and American West, 1 hour and 45 minutes, 40%
- Paper 3 - Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1 hour and 20 minutes, 30%

EXTRA INFORMATION

You will develop many skills for example:

1. Source analysis – looking critically at evidence to develop an understanding of historical events.
2. Explaining your answer and forming your own conclusions.

You will be learning to think for yourself, using evidence and applying what you have learnt to draw your own conclusions. These skills will be welcome in any career such as journalism, law, teaching, and also in business and industry.

Specification name and website link: Students will study the Edexcel GCSE History syllabus. More information can be found at <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html>

For more information please contact Mrs M Downs

downsm@wollaston-school.net

MUSIC (OCR)

COURSE CODE: J536

WHAT IS GCSE MUSIC?

GCSE music encourages musicians of all interests and range of abilities to further their knowledge and understanding of the subject through performance, composition and listening activities.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Students are required to:

- Perform one solo piece on their chosen instrument.
- Compose a piece which features their chosen instrument from the solo performance.
- Perform one piece as part of an ensemble.
- Compose a piece based on a brief set by the OCR exam board.
- Undertake listening activities throughout the course on a range of styles from the areas of study in preparation for a listening exam at the end of the course.

WHAT THEMES WILL BE STUDIED?

- **My Music:** Exploration of your chosen instrument through performance and composition.
- **The Concerto Through Time:** Exploration of the musical styles of the concerto and its development from 1650 to 1900 through Baroque Solo Concerto, Baroque Concerto Grosso, the Classical Concerto and the Romantic Concerto.
- **Rhythms of the world:** Studying traditional rhythmic roots from four geographical regions of the world: India and Punjab, Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East, Africa, Central and South America.
- **Film Music:** Explores music which has been specifically composed for a film, music from the Western Classical tradition which is used within a film and sound tracks for video games.
- **Conventions of Pop:** Studying a range of popular music from the 1950s to the present day. The focus being rock'n'roll, rock anthems, pop ballads and solo artists.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Compositions and Performances = 60% of the final GCSE.

Completed under controlled conditions during class time, assessed by the teacher and moderated by an external examiner.

Listening and appraising = 40% of the final GCSE.

An exam paper lasting 90 minutes where students hear music extracts from the styles studied during the course and identify musical features. This is assessed by an external examiner.

EXTRA INFORMATION

Any student wishing to take GCSE music should be able to play an instrument or sing with a good level of confidence and competence and will be required to complete a short performance audition to confirm they meet the required standard. Students able to perform to approximately Grade 3 standard or above should achieve well. GCSE music is a challenging but creative GCSE. It allows students to demonstrate and build on existing skills in performance as well as develop composition techniques and critical aural analysis skill. The course is delivered in a very hands-on approach with a focus on doing rather than observing. GCSE music students are also expected to participate in one of the school's many musical ensembles which take place at lunchtimes and after school on a weekly basis.

WHAT NEXT?

Students who complete the course may choose to go on to study music at A Level or BTEC Level 3. The subject can open many doors in performance, music technology, media, theatre, teaching, or the armed forces among many other careers.

For more information please contact Mrs E Hollis-Brown

hollis-browne@wollaston-school.net

GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (OCR)

COURSE CODE: J587

WHAT IS GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

The GCSE PE qualification, is an excellent way of building on the understanding and skills developed at Key Stage 3. It is a great opportunity for learners to become more competent, confident and expert in their sporting techniques, and apply them across different sports and physical activities. GCSE PE also helps students develop important transferable skills for progression to the next level of study. The blend of scientific and practical development, positions candidates well to access a range of qualifications in the future.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

There are two written examinations in GCSE PE, both of which are taken at the end of the course in Year 11. Paper 1 (worth 30% of the final grade) is based on scientific principles of PE including applied anatomy and physical training. Whereas Paper 2 is based around Socio-Cultural issues and sports psychology in PE (worth 30% of the final grade) Performance in Practical Activity and Analysis (worth 40% of the final grade)

WHAT THEMES WILL BE STUDIED?

Applied anatomy and physiology: Applied anatomy and physiology, movement analysis, physical training and data. **Physical training:** Learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of the components of fitness required for physical activities and sports and how each can be measured.

Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology. Learners will develop their knowledge of socio-cultural influences that impact on participation and performance in physical activities and sports.

Practical Activity Assessment: Skills in isolation and skills in competition, from three activity areas (at least one individual sport and one team sport).

Analysing and Evaluating Performance task (AEP): In addition to practical performances, learners will be assessed in an analysing and evaluating performance task (AEP).

PRACTICAL

GCSE PE requires students to be assessed in three practical areas over the two year course. These activities need to come from the approved list of either Individual or Team activities. Pupils must select at least one individual activity and one team activity across their three activities.

It is an expectation that students who study GCSE PE are participating in at least one of these activities outside of School to ensure success in the subject. They must demonstrate competence in one Team and one Individual activity before starting the course. Students will attend performance masterclasses after school to ensure their skills can be honed. These sessions will be pupil and sport specific. Students will be informed well in advance of their sessions and attendance at these is compulsory.

Sports such as Golf, Horse-riding, Skiing, Climbing, can all be assessed from outside school via video evidence which must meet the boards criteria and be submitted by Christmas of year 11. Please note: Martial Arts are **not** accepted as assessed activities.

PROGRESSION ROUTES: Students who study GCSE PE are in an excellent position to transfer the skills learnt on the course across a wide-range of future areas of study. The course not only allows smooth transition into either A Level PE or OCR Sport at Level 3 but to all other academic courses available in the 6th form. GCSE PE assesses students physically and intellectually and is widely regarded as one of the most enjoyable and rewarding GCSE subjects.

For more information please contact Mr A Bennett

bennetta@wollaston-school.net

PSYCHOLOGY (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8182

WHAT IS GCSE PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology is the study of the mind and the processes behind behavior. Throughout Psychology GCSE you will;

- Develop an understanding of psychological issues, the contribution of psychology to individual, social and cultural diversity, and how psychology contributes to society, specifically in terms of mental health.
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of psychology, developing an understanding of the self and others, and how psychological understanding can help to explain everyday social phenomena
- Develop your reflective thinking skills by developing arguments and drawing conclusions from Psychological evidence provided.
- Develop an understanding of the relationship between psychology and personal, moral, social and cultural issues, and develop an understanding of ethical issues in psychology
- Understand how psychological research is conducted, including the role of scientific method and data analysis

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Psychology will teach you to think independently, to challenge concepts and apply theories to real life contexts and behaviours. The course will give you an insight into many things- some key questions answered are; How does perception differ between people? What happens if we don't form bonds with our parents? How can we forget things we have just seen? And, What causes psychiatric illness and how can it be best treated?

Overall Psychology teaches you to recall key concepts and details, interpret data and research, analyse studies in terms of their effectiveness and critically evaluate how psychological theories explain behaviour.

The skills you learn in Psychology will compliment many other GCSE subjects such as; Science, Maths, English, History, Geography, Sociology and Ethics and Philosophy. The course relies on skills across the curriculum such as; literacy skills for extended writing, mathematical reasoning and data analysis.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Course code - 8182

- **50% Cognition and behaviour- 1 hour 45 minutes exam:**

This unit consists of two multiple choice questions, short answer and extended answer questions about memory, perception, development and research methods.

- **50% Social context and behaviour- 1 hour 45 minutes exam**

This unit consists of two multiple choice questions, short answer and extended answer questions about social influence, language, thought and communication, Brain and neuropsychology & Psychological problems.

For more information, please contact Miss L Pickwick

pickwickl@wollaston-school.net

COMBINED SCIENCE (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8464

Combined Science will be studied as a core subject by all students, unless they opt to study Separate Science as an option. A student studying Combined Science will receive two GCSE grades.

WHAT IS GCSE SCIENCE TRILOGY?

Science is everywhere. For example, the school bus is a product of many areas of science and technology, including mechanical engineering and innovation. The system of roads, lights, pavements and other infrastructure are carefully designed by civil engineers and planners. The smartphone in your hand is a miracle of modern computer engineering that uses physics and chemistry. Outside the window, trees turn sunlight into stored energy and create the oxygen that we need to survive. Whether natural or man-made every aspect of your life is filled with science - from your own internal biology to the flat-screen TV in the living room.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Studying this course provides an opportunity to develop a firm foundation to go on to study science at level 3 and beyond. It will provide a good background to study other sciences, mathematics and engineering. The course is designed to give a good grounding in the science disciplines and to provide two science GCSE qualifications for students not wishing to take individual science subjects.

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Cell biology	Atomic structure and the periodic table	Energy
Organisation	Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter	Electricity
Infection and response	Quantitative chemistry	Particle model of matter
Bioenergetics	Chemical changes	Atomic structure
Homeostasis and re- sponse	Energy changes	Forces
Inheritance, variation and evolution	The rate and extent of chemical change	Waves
Ecology	Organic chemistry.	Magnetism and electro- magnetism
	Chemical analysis.	
	Chemistry of the atmosphere.	
	Using resources.	

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

There are six exams and you will gain two GCSE grades as a result of all six papers.

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 70 marks and 16.7% each. All papers have multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

Exam papers will assess both topic content required, practical skills and maths skills.

For more information please contact Mr E Pugh

pughe@wollaston-school.net

SEPARATE SCIENCE BIOLOGY (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8461

Separate Science is an option subject and will replace Combined Science, if chosen. Separate Science consists of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students studying Separate Science will receive a GCSE grade in each of the 3 Sciences.

WHAT IS GCSE BIOLOGY?

Biology plays an important role in the understanding of complex forms of life involving humans, animals and plants. Biologists study the structure, function, growth, origin, evolution and distribution of living organisms.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The course helps students develop a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods. It provides the opportunity to gain a good understanding across a broad range of rich and relevant topics in human biology, other living organisms, evolution and the environment.

WHAT ARE THE THEMES STUDIED?

Paper 1 - Topics 1–4

1. Cell biology: cell structure and transport, cell division.
2. Organisation: digestive and circulatory systems.
3. Infection and response: infectious diseases, immune system and non-infectious diseases.
4. Bioenergetics: energy transfer in organisms including photosynthesis and respiration

Paper 2 - Topics 5-7

5. Homeostasis and response: nervous and endocrine systems.
6. Inheritance, variation and evolution: reproduction, genetics and natural selection.
7. Ecology: adaptation, interdependence, competition, biodiversity and ecosystems.

In addition to the content, you will also complete Required Practicals (RPs) where you will learn how to use a range of apparatus or techniques while working scientifically (WS). 15% of the marks will cover different aspects of practical work through RPs and WS skills.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

You will sit two exams: Paper 1 and Paper 2 and the results of both papers will determine your GCSE biology grade.

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes each
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 100 marks and 50% of GCSE each
- Both papers have multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

Exam papers will assess both topic content required, practical skills and maths skills.

For more information please contact Mr E Pugh

pughe@wollaston-school.net

SEPARATE SCIENCE CHEMISTRY (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8462

Separate Science is an option subject and will replace Combined Science, if chosen. Separate Science consists of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students studying Separate Science will receive a GCSE grade in each of the 3 Sciences.

WHAT IS GCSE CHEMISTRY?

Chemistry is the study of matter, its properties, how and why substances combine or separate to form other substances, and how substances interact with energy. Chemistry is involved in everything we do, from growing and cooking food, to cleaning our homes and bodies, to launching a space shuttle. Chemistry is one of the physical sciences that help us to describe and explain our world.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Studying this course provides an opportunity to develop a firm foundation to study chemistry and other Sciences at A-Level and beyond. It helps to develop a critical approach of scientific evidence and methods. You will gain a good understanding of the nature of substances and how they react together, how chemistry is used in business and industry and how our use of fuels and raw materials can affect our environment.

WHAT ARE THE THEMES STUDIED?

Paper 1: Topics 1-5

1. Atomic structure
2. Bonding, structure and the properties of matter
3. Quantitative chemistry
4. Chemical changes
5. Energy changes

Paper 2: Topics 6-10

6. The rate and extent of chemical change
7. Organic chemistry
8. Chemical analysis
9. Chemistry of the atmosphere
10. Using resources

In addition to the content, you will also complete Required Practicals (RPs) where you will learn how to use a range of apparatus or techniques while working scientifically (WS). 15% of the marks will cover different aspects of practical work through the RPs and WS skills.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

You will sit two exams: Paper 1 and Paper 2 and the results of both papers will determine your GCSE chemistry grade.

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes each
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 100 marks and 50% of GCSE each
- Both papers have multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

Exam papers will assess both topic content required, practical skills and maths skills.

For more information please contact Mr E Pugh

pughe@wollaston-school.net

SEPARATE SCIENCE PHYSICS (AQA)

COURSE CODE: 8463

Separate Science is an option subject and will replace Combined Science, if chosen. Separate Science consists of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students studying Separate Science will receive a GCSE grade in each of the 3 Sciences.

WHAT IS GCSE PHYSICS?

Many of the everyday technological inventions that we now take for granted resulted from discoveries in physics. Physics is a natural science based on experiments, measurements and mathematical analysis with the purpose of finding quantitative physical laws for everything from the nanoworld of the microcosmos to the planets, solar systems and galaxies that occupy the macrocosmos.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Studying this course provides an opportunity to develop a firm foundation to go on to study physics at A-level and beyond. It will provide a good background to study other sciences, mathematics and engineering. You will gain a good understanding of use and transfer of energy, waves radiation and space, together with a look at some of the applications of physics in our lives today.

WHAT ARE THE THEMES STUDIED?

Paper 1: Topics 1 - 4

1. Energy
2. Electricity
3. Particle model of matter
4. Atomic structure

Paper 2: Topics 5 -8

5. Forces
6. Waves
7. Magnetism and Electromagnetism
8. Space physics

In addition to the content, you will also complete Required Practicals (RPs) where you will learn how to use a range of apparatus or techniques while working scientifically (WS). 15% of the marks will cover different aspects of practical work through the RPs and WS skills.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

You will sit two exams: Paper 1 and Paper 2 and the results of both papers will determine your GCSE physics grade.

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes each
- Foundation and Higher Tier
- 100 marks and 50% of GCSE each
- Both papers have multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response.

Exam papers will assess both topic content required, practical skills and maths skills.

For more information please contact Mr E Pugh

pughe@wollaston-school.net

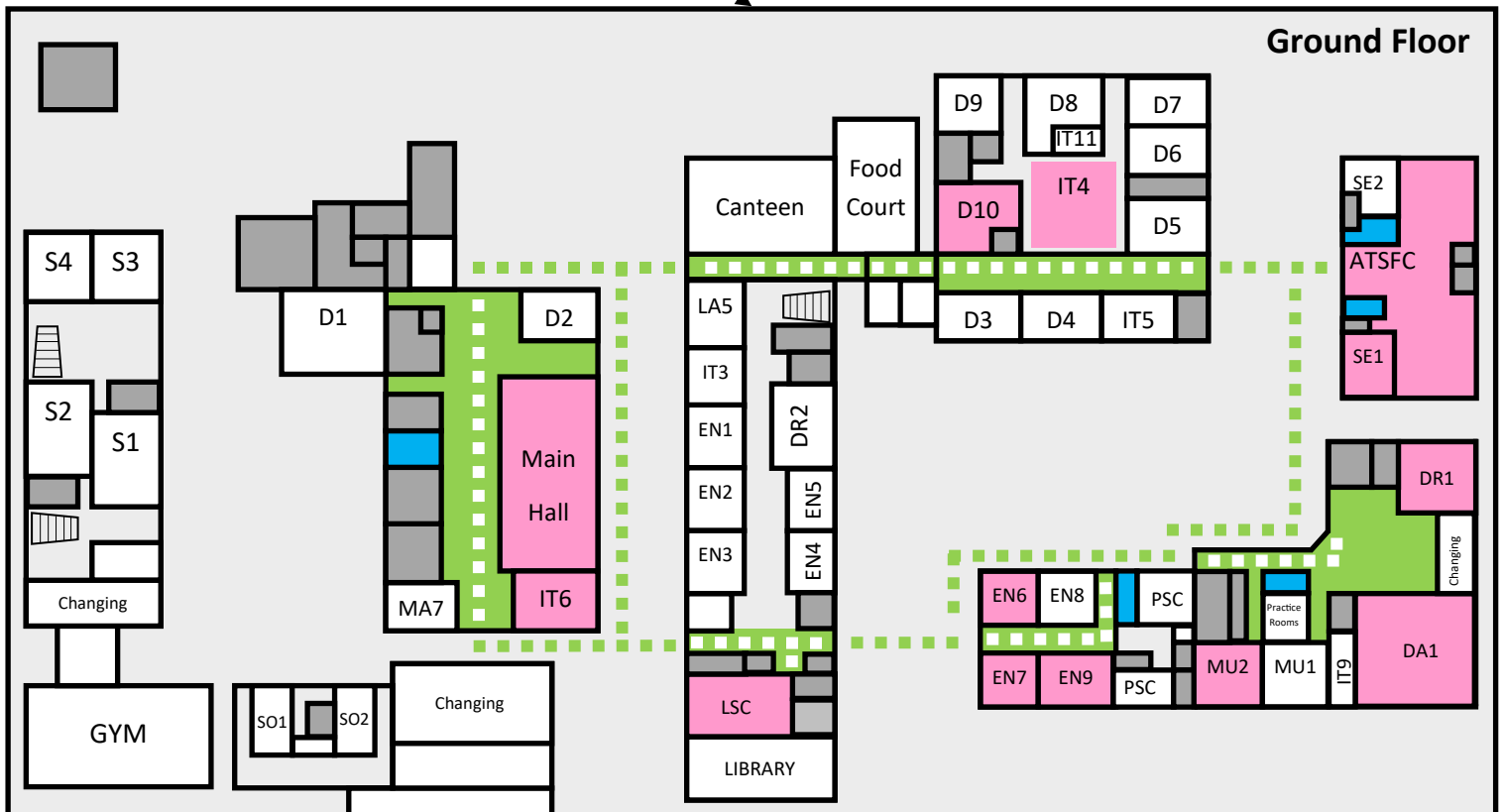


Year 9 Options Evening Map

Thursday 25th April 2024

Venues

Toilets



Please attend a short presentation in the Main Hall, starting promptly at

18:00 - 9BKS / 9CCL / 9CTO / 9HBN

18:45 - 9HRU / 9MAC / 9MCN / 9LYN

ROOM	SUBJECT
IT6	Computer Science
LSC	Psychology / Health & Social Care
EN6	Physical Education
EN7	Separate Sciences
EN9	French / German
MU2	Music
DA1	Dance
DR2	Drama
ATSF	Ethics & Philosophy / Geography / History
SE1	<i>Careers Advice</i>
IT4	Design Technology / Food & Nutrition
D10	Art