



STAR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIRDIF

SECONDARY
IGCSE/ GCSE/ BTEC
OPTIONS BOOKLET



PART OF
International[®]
Schools
Partnership

WE ARE PART OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

STAR International School Mirdif School is a part of the International Schools Partnership, a focused, growing and financially secure group of 56 schools located within 16 countries in Europe, The Americas, The Middle East and Southeast Asia. Being part of this group provides Star International School, Mirdif with outstanding international learning connections, quality assurance and excellent governance.

All our schools:

- Help children and students learn to levels that amaze them;
- Inspire children and students to be successful now and equip them to be successful later;
- Are truly international, working in partnerships within and across regions, cultures and languages;
- Aim to be the first choice for children, students and their families, wherever we are.

Life Changing ISP International
Learning Opportunities
beyond the classroom



Part of
International
Schools
Partnership

				
21	65,000	10,000	76	24
Countries	Students	Colleagues	Schools	Curricula

ISP PRINCIPLES

Our principles emphasise and underpin how we do what we do.

We:

- Begin with our children and students;
- Our children and students are at the heart of our business. Simply, their success is our success.
- Treat everyone with care and respect;
- We look after one another, embrace similarities and differences and promote the well-being of each other.
- Operate effectively;
- We focus relentlessly on the things that are most important and will make the most difference.
- Are financially responsible;
- We make financial choices carefully based on the needs of the children, students and our schools.
- Learn continuously
- Getting better is what drives us.

Message from the Head of Secondary

Welcome to Key Stage 4

Dear Students and Parents

This booklet contains the details of our world-class IGCSE, GCSE and Vocational option choices for study in Years 10 and 11 at Star International School Mirdif. Within these pages, you will find the skills and information around each course as well as possible future careers and pathways these subjects could lead you to in the future.

Whether you hold aspirations to be a Doctor, Engineer, Pilot, Teacher, or Artist we have qualifications to enable you to reach your aspirations. There is no pathway in the future that you cannot access while studying at Star International School Mirdif. We have ensured we offer qualifications available at top schools in the UAE and the UK. You may even find some courses more unique to our school such as IGCSE Economics and Food Technology.

You might be reading through this booklet as a parent or a student unsure of what the future holds. This is perfectly normal, as it is an ever-changing world out there and a balanced set of qualifications will provide you with everything you need to prepare for when you do decide what you really want to do in life. We have excellent pastoral support in place to help you make these important decisions around your subject option choices alongside a passionate and dedicated group of subject teachers who will support you every step of the way.

Remember that in the British curriculum, IGCSE/GCSE qualifications are studied until the end of Year 11 and from there you specialise in A Level choices or you may continue with vocational courses. This means you can choose a wide variety of qualifications so that you do not close off possible options in the future. It is also important to choose courses that you are interested in and will enjoy, not just those that are tailored to particular career options. It is also important not to choose subjects on the basis of friends' choices. This process must be seen as an individual exercise and selection.

Thank you for your time reviewing the options choices at Star International School Mirdif. We are confident you will find a broad range of world-class qualifications suitable for all future aspirations and phases of your education and future career.

I am available too, as Head of the Secondary School, to support in any way I can.

Best wishes,
Mr Allan



Core IGCSE/GCSE Subjects

Core Examination Subjects

The Key Stage 4 curriculum is made up of 'Core curriculum' subjects, and additionally, four 'Option' subjects.

All students will study the following subjects

- IGCSE English Literature
- IGCSE English Language
- GCSE Mathematics

And

- IGCSE Double Award Science (Worth 2 x IGCSE)

Or

- IGCSE Triple Science (Chemistry, Biology, Physics).
- Kindly note that IGCSE Triple Science will be invite-only due to the high academic demands of the subject. The Head of Science will invite those students who may choose to opt for this option choice. However, students are not required to opt for Triple Science they may still choose to stick with Double Award Science

Additional Information:

Students opting for Triple Science will gain GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics. They will have up to 8 Science lessons a week. These will be split across the three disciplines.

All students are required to study Arabic language as per KHDA regulations and the curriculum specified by the KHDA; for Arabic B students this is to the end of Year 10, and Arabic A students have to continue through Year 11. Students will have the option of sitting the Arabic IGCSE qualification as well as the MOE examinations.

Muslim students will study Islamic Education.

All students will also study Moral, Social and Culture studies and PE through to Year 11.

Making informed choices

There are 2 common approaches for students when selecting their options:

- IGCSE/ GCSE Route
- Blended Route with BTECs

IGCSE Route

Students taking an IGCSE route will choose from any of the IGCSE/ GCSE subjects on offer across all **four** option blocks.

Blended route

Students may also decide to choose BTEC subjects alongside their core options. BTEC subjects are vocational subjects that allow students to apply theory to real-world scenarios. Students can choose IGCSEs alongside BTEC subjects, as per the option blocks. The BTEC subjects help build interpersonal skills such as communication, teamwork and leadership. Furthermore, BTEC subjects are all assessed through coursework and help reduce exam pressure in Year 11.

UAE MOE Equivalency

- For students looking to study in UAE-based universities, equivalency depends on studying at **least five** IGCSE/ GCSEs considered equivalent by the UAE MOE.
- Core subjects are worth **four** of the **five** IGCSEs so students must choose **at least one** equivalent IGCSE/ GCSE from the options choices.
- Triple science is only worth **two** IGCSEs. Triple Science students must choose at least **one** additional equivalent IGCSE.
- Non-Equivalent IGCSEs/ GCSEs and BTECs are still internationally recognised and lead to A-Levels and Post-16 options. They, however, do not count as part of the **five** required IGCSE/ GCSE options for UAE study at University.

Key Stage 4 Examination Fees

GCSE/ IGCSE

Fees for external GCSE examinations are the responsibility of the parent. Parents will receive an invoice for each examination cycle their child is entered for, including re-sits.

BTEC

Registration fees for BTEC courses are paid in full at the beginning of Year 10 for the full duration of the two-year course. The fee charges will cover the entry fees for the course as well as moderator visits from the UK for each subject. Any re-sit of units within the course does not incur additional charges over and above the fee paid.

Other Costs

Students that require additional access arrangements during examinations, for example, the use of a reader or a scribe, will incur additional costs for invigilation. Certificates may be withheld if examination fees are outstanding and not cleared.

Examination Costs

All figures are based on current published exam fees and converted against current exchange rates.

Final entry costs will be shared by the exam boards before invoicing.



Meet Our Secondary KS4 Team



Ms Reena
Secondary Deputy
Headteacher



Mr Mark
Assistant Headteacher
(Data & Assessment)



Mr Dan
Assistant Headteacher
(Pastoral)



Ms Aisling
Assistant Headteacher
(Teaching and Learning)



Ms Zoe
Assistant Headteacher
(Curriculum)



Mr Mahmoud
Head of Arabic & Islamic



Mr Simon
Head of Upper School
(Pastoral)



Mr Luke
Head of Lower School
(Pastoral)



Ms Maggie
Head of French



Mr Jordan
Head of Maths



Ms Prab
Head of Science



Mr Yousuf
Head of Social Sciences



Mr Keelan
Head of DT & Food Tech



Mr Sam
Head of P.E



Ms Antonia
Head of Humanities



Ms Rihab Omer
IGCSE Arabic

For any queries regarding KS4 options, please reach out to Ms Reena via email at roates@starmirdif.com, current students can also reach out to teachers via Epraise



CORE IGCSE/GCSE SUBJECT PROFILES



IGCSE English Language

COURSE CODE: 4EA1

Course Outline

English Language will enable you to confidently: communicate clearly, accurately and effectively when speaking and writing, using a wide range of vocabulary, and the correct grammar, spelling and punctuation both write and speak in a personal style with an awareness of the audience being addressed.

Course Details:

- **Reading:** demonstrate understanding of explicit and implicit attitudes; analyse, evaluate and develop facts, ideas and opinions, using appropriate support from the text; demonstrate understanding of how writers achieve effects and influence readers; select and use the information for specific purposes.
- **Writing:** articulate experience and express what is thought, felt and imagined; organise and structure ideas and opinions for deliberate effect; use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures appropriate to context; use register appropriate to context; make accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- **Speaking and Listening:** articulate experience and express what is thought, felt and imagined; present facts, ideas and opinions in a cohesive order which sustains the audience's interest; communicate clearly and purposefully using fluent language; use register appropriate to context; listen and respond appropriately in conversation.

Assessment

There is one examination that is 2 hours long in total. This paper is worth 60% of the qualification and will test your reading skills. There will be structured and extended writing questions that will be based on three reading texts.

Coursework portfolio: This will consist of two extended writing assignments (analysis of poetry and prose & creative writing). This coursework is worth 40% of the qualification and will test your writing skills.

Future Prospects

Journalism, Writer, Education,
Publishing, Marketing and Advertising.



IGCSE English Literature

COURSE CODE: 4ET1

Course Outline

Through the study of English Literature, you will be able to confidently: read, interpret and evaluate texts have an understanding of literal meaning, relevant contexts and of the deeper themes or attitudes that may be expressed recognise and appreciate the ways in which writers use English to achieve a range of effects present an informed, personal response to the material you have studied.

Course Details

Show detailed knowledge of the content of literary texts in the three main forms (drama, poetry and prose), supported by reference to the text. Understand the meanings of literary texts and their contexts, and explore texts beyond surface meanings to show deeper awareness of ideas and attitudes. Recognise and appreciate ways in which writers use language, structure and form to create and shape meanings and effects. Communicate a sensitive and informed personal response to literary texts.

Assessment

One examination: Paper 1 is one hour 30 minutes in total. This paper is worth 60% of the qualification and will focus on poetry and prose – there will be an extended question on each.

Coursework Portfolio: This will consist of two assignments (Modern Drama and Literary Heritage), each on a different text. This coursework is worth 40% of the qualification.

Future Prospects

Journalism, Writer, Education, Publishing, Marketing and Advertising.



Course Outline

The Mathematics course will help develop a wide variety of transferable skills. The course will develop cognitive and interpersonal skills that higher education institutions and employers require. It is vital for students to study Mathematics for the following reasons:

- Develop logical, critical & creative thinking processes and improve problem solving skills
- Pick up the mathematical skills necessary for everyday life
- Develop a skills base for further study of mathematics or for a career involving higher level mathematics
- To obtain qualifications which are vital for certain careers or further study

Course Details

The assessments will cover the following course headings:

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

The course has three assessment objectives:

- 1) AO1 – Use and apply standard techniques
- 2) AO2 – Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically
- 3) AO3 – Solve problems within mathematics and other contexts

Assessment

The course consists of three written exams at either the Foundation tier or the Higher tier.

- All three papers must be at the same tier of entry and must be completed in the same assessment series.
- Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment. A calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3.
- Each paper is one hour & 30 minutes and has 80 marks.
- The content outlined for each tier will be assessed across all three papers.
- Questions will be set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts.
- The qualification will be awarded on the nine-grade scale.
- Foundation tier: Grades 1 to 5; Higher tier: Grades 4 to 9.

Future Prospects

Students can progress from this qualification to Level 3 qualifications such as:

- Core Mathematics
- GCE Mathematics and GCE Further Mathematics
- GCEs in the sciences
- GCE Geography
- GCE Psychology
- GCE Economics
- Other qualifications require mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding.

IGCSE Double Award Science

COURSE CODE: 4SD0

Course Outline

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (IGCSE) in Double Award Science is part of a suite of International GCSE qualifications offered by Pearson. The table below shows an overview of what students can expect to be taught during their IGCSE Science. By the end of the course, students can expect to receive two IGCSE Science grades.

Course Details

Biology Topic Areas:

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

Physics Topic Areas:

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

Chemistry Topic Areas:

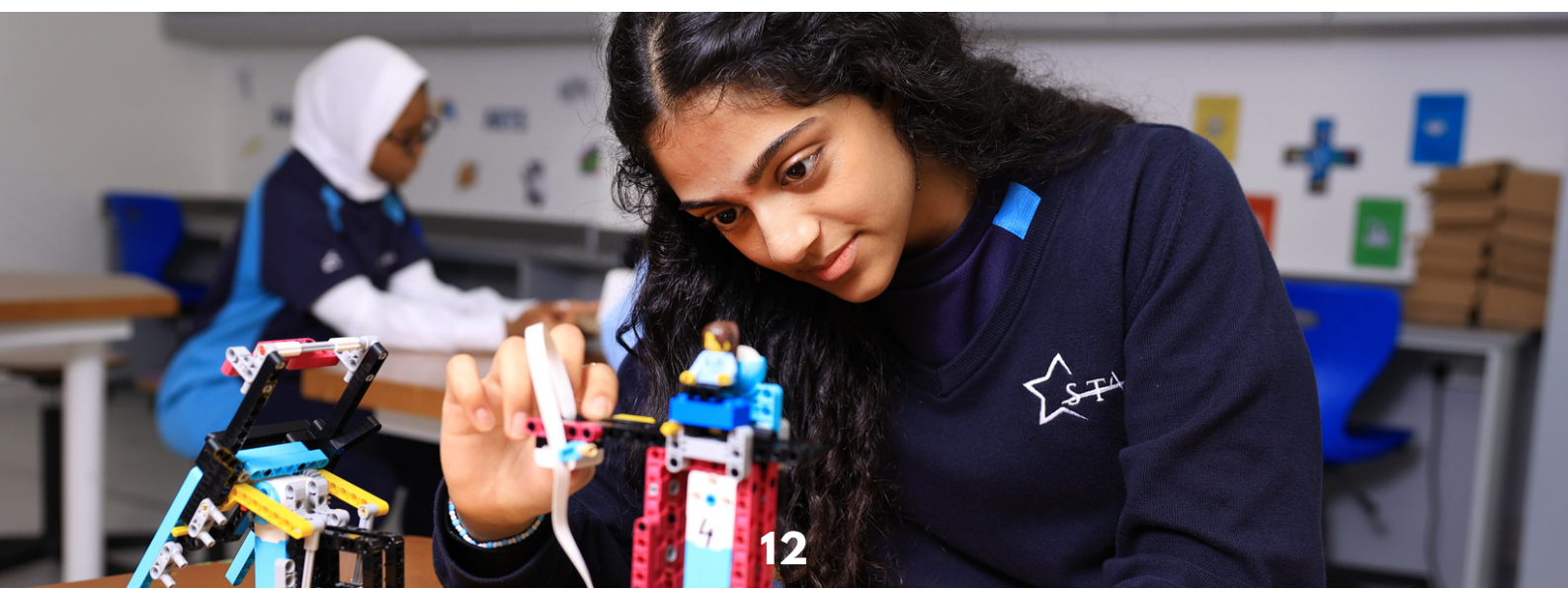
1. Principles of chemistry
2. Inorganic chemistry
3. Physical chemistry
4. Organic chemistry

Assessment

Students will sit three written exam papers in total: Biology Paper 1, Chemistry Paper 1, Physics Paper 1. Each paper is 2 hours long, with 110 marks.

Future Prospects

Some examples of careers in Science include: Teaching, Science, Engineering, Architecture, Healthcare Medicine (depending on University requirements), Nursing, Chiropractic.



IGCSE Triple Award Science - Biology

COURSE CODE: 4BI1

Course Outline

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Biology is part of a suite of International GCSE (IGCSE) qualifications offered by Pearson. The course gives students the opportunity to experience biology within the context of their general education, as well as providing the appropriate level of depth to access A-level Biology. By the end of the course, students can expect to receive one IGCSE grade from IGCSE Biology course.

Course Details

For Biology, there are 5 key topic areas that you will study over the two years:

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.

Assessment

You will sit two exam papers in total for Biology– paper 1 and paper 2.

Paper 1: A two-hour-long written exam paper that is set and marked by Pearson. The total number of marks available in paper 1 is 110 marks.

Paper 2: A one hour and 15 minutes long exam paper that is set and marked by Pearson. The total number of marks available in Paper 2 is 70 marks.

A mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.

Future Prospects

Teaching/ lecturing, Medicine, Nursing, Healthcare, Dentistry, Biomedical Science, Research Lab specialist.



IGCSE Triple Award Science - Chemistry

COURSE CODE: 4CH1



Course Outline

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (IGCSE) in Chemistry is part of a suite of International GCSE qualifications offered by Pearson. The course gives students the opportunity to experience Chemistry within the context of their general education, as well as providing the appropriate level of depth to access A-level Chemistry. By the end of the course, students can expect to receive one IGCSE grade from the IGCSE Chemistry course.

Course Details

There are four key units that will be covered over the course of the two years:

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

Assessment

You will sit two exam papers in total for Chemistry; paper 1 and paper 2.

Paper 1: A two-hour-long written exam paper that is set and marked by Pearson. The total number of marks available on paper 1 is 110 marks.

Paper 2: A one hour and 15 minutes long exam paper that is set and marked by Pearson. The total number of marks available on p

A mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.

Future Prospects:

Examples of future career prospects include: Teaching/lecturing, Chemical Engineering, Research Science, Medicine, Dentistry, Nanotechnologist, Analytical chemist.

IGCSE Triple Award Science - Physics

COURSE CODE: 4PH1

Course Outline

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (IGCSE) in Physics is part of a suite of International GCSE qualifications offered by Pearson. The course gives students the opportunity to experience Physics within the context of their general education, as well as providing the appropriate level of depth to access A-level Physics. By the end of the course, students can expect to receive one IGCSE grade from the IGCSE Physics course.

Course Details

There are eight key topics that will be covered over the course of the two years:

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

Assessment

You will sit two exam papers in total for Physics—paper 1 and paper 2.

Paper 1: A two-hour-long written exam paper that is set and marked by Pearson. The total number of marks available in paper 1 is 110 marks.

Paper 2: A one hour and 15 minutes long exam paper that is set and marked by Pearson. The total number of marks available in paper 2 is 70 marks.

A mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.

Future Prospects

Examples of career options include: Teaching/ lecturing, Physicist, Researcher, Astrophysicist, NASA Space Scientist, Medicine and Software Engineering.





OPTIONAL IGCSE/GCSE/BTEC SUBJECT PROFILES



IGCSE Business Studies

COURSE CODE: 4BS1

Course Outline

The IGCSE Business studies course will look at the fundamentals of starting a small business. In Year 10, students will learn about the key functions such as HR, Marketing and Finance. In Year 11, students will take that knowledge and apply it to large multinational businesses such as Amazon and Starbucks.

Course Details

Unit 1: Investigating Small Businesses

Unit 2: Investigating Large Businesses

Assessment

There will be two examination papers that students will sit at the end of Year 11. They will both be one hour and 30 mins long and contain a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and longer answer questions. The two papers will be:

Paper 1 (Investigating small businesses)

Paper 2 (Investigating Large Businesses)

Future Prospects

A business qualification can lead to many different pathways and career choices. Firstly, any business related field such as HR, Marketing and Finance in large multinational organisations. Other fields can include, Sports Management, ICT and Law.



IGCSE Computer Science

COURSE CODE:0417

Course Outline

Cambridge IGCSE (9–1) Computer Science provides an ideal foundation in computer science. Learners gain confidence in computational thinking and programming, an appreciation of automated and emerging technologies and the benefits of their use. They develop an understanding of the main principles of problem-solving by creating computer-based solutions using algorithms and a high-level programming language. Learners also develop a range of technical skills including the ability to test effectively and to evaluate solutions.

Course Details

The course builds upon the topics studied in Years 7–9 and is organised into two parts.

- Computer systems covers how computers store, process and transmit information. The architecture of digital systems is explored including how data is transferred between systems along networks and the Internet. Students will examine how types of software are developed and managed. Lastly, cutting-edge technologies including digital currencies, cybersecurity, automation, robotics and artificial intelligence will be studied.
- Algorithms, programming and logic develops students' software-development skills, from planning data structures, writing algorithms, programming software and debugging their code. Students will learn how to interact with databases, the backbone of most large-scale systems, and the Boolean logic that is fundamental to all computer systems.

Assessment

The examinations for this course are at the end of Year 11. There are two written papers that are each worth 50% of the final grade and are one hour and 45 minutes long.

- Paper 1 covers Computer Systems where students will be asked a mixture of short-answer and longer-structured questions
- Paper 2 covers Algorithms, Programming and Logic where students will be asked a mixture of short-answer, longer-structured and scenario-based questions.

Future Prospects

Computer Scientists are in huge demand across the world, particularly in the UAE. The subject develops critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills which will benefit all subjects and careers. Thinking ahead to Sixth Form, Computer Science can support students' development towards many of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths related subjects.

GCSE Design & Technology

COURSE CODE: 1DT0

Course Outline

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. During this course, students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise. In GCSE Design and Technology students will study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

Course Details

3.1 Core technical principles

- new and emerging technologies
- energy generation and storage
- developments in new materials
- systems approach to designing
- mechanical devices
- materials and their working properties

3.2 Specialist technical principles

- selection of materials or components
- forces and stresses
- ecological and social footprint
- sources and origins
- using and working with materials
- stock forms, types and sizes
- scales of production

- specialist techniques and processes
- surface treatments and finishes

3.3 Designing and making principles

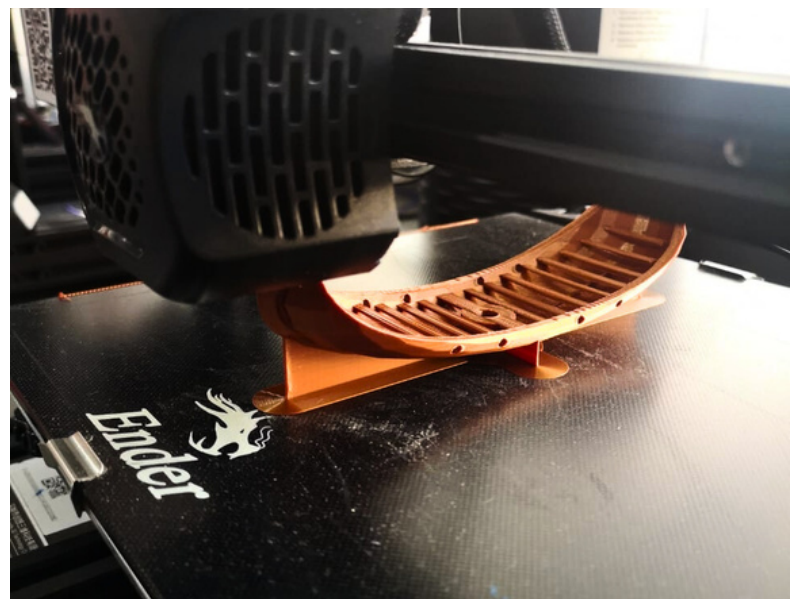
- investigation, primary and secondary data
- environmental, social and economic challenge
- the work of others
- design strategies
- communication of design ideas
- prototype development
- selection of materials and components
- tolerances
- material management
- specialist tools and equipment
- specialist techniques and processes

Assessment

There are two components of assessment in the GCSE Design and Technology course. 50% of marks are allocated to the end-of-course Examination. The other 50% of marks are allocated to the Design and Make task completed during the final year of the course.

Future Prospects

Engineering, Product Design, Architecture, Teaching, Interior Design, Video Game Designer and Web Developer



GCSE Drama

COURSE CODE: 1DR0

Course Outline

The course combines practical, creative and analytical skills. Students will learn the skills for independently developing their own drama for performance. Students will also be required to write about their performances, developing their ability to justify their choices and opinions. The course involves studying practitioners and plays in detail. The GCSE Drama course will allow students to study play texts, theatrical practitioners and dramatic theory, whilst utilising them within a performance context.

Course Details

During this course you will explore:

Component 1: Devising

Non-examination assessment 40% of the qualification – 60 marks

- Create and develop a devised piece from a stimulus
- Performance of this devised piece or design realisation for this performance.
- Analyse and evaluate the devising process and performance.

Component 2: Performance from a text

Non-examination assessment 20% of the qualification – 48 marks

- Students will either perform in and/or design for two key extracts from a performance text.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice

Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes 40% of the qualification – 60 marks

- Practical exploration and study of one complete performance text.
- Choice of 12 performance texts.

Assessment

The course looks at a mix of both practical and written aspects. The assessment is broken down into three components. Students will create portfolios to document their process whilst also being recorded for their final performances. Students will complete one written examination during the course.

Future Prospects

Drama has many transferable skills, whether you prefer performing or being backstage Drama can develop your confidence, communication and teamwork skills. If you are involved in planning or organising a performance then these skills can be useful in many jobs. The skills you gain from studying Drama can lead to careers in performing arts, media, business, law, advertising, sales, hospitality, teaching and tourism.



Course Outline

You will start the course by learning about the basic economic problem and basic economic assumptions. Following on from this, the course will then focus on Microeconomics in Year 10. Microeconomics is the study of individual markets. You will learn about the supply and demand model, which will give you a toolkit to explore how changes in the economy will affect supply, demand, price and quantity. In Year 11, we will study Macroeconomics, which is the study of all the markets combined in a country. We will look at how governments use policy to achieve their key economic objectives.

Course Details

Students will study both Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, in Year 10 and Year 11 respectively.

Assessment

This is a modular GCSE and so pupils will complete one exam at the end of Year 10 and another at the end of Year 11. Each exam is worth 50% of the overall iGCSE grade.

Paper 1 completed at the end of Year 10: Microeconomics (1hr 30)

Paper 2 completed at the end of Year 11: Macroeconomics (1hr 30)

Future Prospects

Banking, Accountancy, Finance and Business Management.

IGCSE Fine Art

COURSE CODE: 4FA1

Course Outline

This course encourages an adventurous and enquiring approach to Art and Design. The focus is on Fine Art practice and the integration of theory, knowledge and understanding to reach a personal response that embraces a range of ideas. The course focuses on many avenues of fine art, including drawing, printmaking, textiles, sculpture, painting, as well as critical analysis and visual literacy. Creativity is rooted in critical thinking which is taught within the IGCSE Fine Art course. Throughout all projects, students are taught how to process their ideas from initial findings through to final fruition.

Course Details

The main focus of the IGCSE course builds on the students' practical artistic skills and abilities developed at KS3. These practical skills include drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture and mixed media skills. Students will also gain a very strong insight into the art world. Exploring relevant resources, analysing and evaluating images, objects and products, and making independent judgements as to their relevance in visual art. IGCSE Art reflects each student's direct and indirect understanding of society and studying the subject enables students to develop a critical and questioning approach to everything that happens around them. Art teaches students to question beyond what they know; skills they will keep for the rest of their lives. Students develop a portfolio of work, including a sketchbook. This contains evidence of the development of students' ideas, including reference to the work of others, showing understanding of meanings, contexts and the ability to make skilled judgements.

Assessment

The course is weighted as 50% coursework (Component 1) and 50% practical externally set exam (Component 2). As part of the coursework project, students will research, develop and complete a project from one area of study in the subject content from a theme set by their teacher.

There are two parts to the coursework: a portfolio and a final outcome, or a finished piece of art. For the external assessment, you will respond to one starting point that is externally set by the exam board. Again, there are two parts to the assignment: supporting studies and a final outcome, produced during a supervised assessment of 10 hours total duration.

Future Prospects

This is a gateway to A-Level in Art and Design. If students choose to seek employment, they will have a portfolio of work that evidences their ability to pursue a course in Art and Design, covering different projects and producing a range of work. There may be opportunities to work, for example, in local galleries, design offices, graphics companies, retail, local architects, interior designers, theatre production and set design.

IGCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

COURSE CODE:0648



Course Outline

IGCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course that focuses on practical cooking skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials. At its heart, this qualification focuses on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to give them a strong understanding of nutrition. Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to go on to further study, or embark on an apprenticeship or full-time career in the catering or food industries.

Course Details

During this course students will:

- Demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking using a variety of food commodities, cooking techniques and equipment.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and chemical processes as well as the nutritional content of food and drinks.
- Understand the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet and health.
- Understand the economic, environmental, ethical, and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, and diet and health choices.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food.
- Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional British and international), to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

Assessment

Students will complete both practical and theoretical exams for this course which will be assessed through two end of year exam papers and one practical skills exam.

Future Prospects

Nutritional Therapist, Food technologist, Product development scientists, Toxicologist, Chef, Sports Nutrition, Animal Nutrition and Process Development Scientists.

GCSE French

COURSE CODE: 1FR0

Course Outline

The GCSE French course aims to help students of all abilities progress and develop a passion for languages, through culturally engaging content. It allows students to develop their ability to communicate with French native speakers. They will study across a variety of contexts relevant to their interests and will also develop a greater awareness of the culture of French-speaking communities and countries.

Course Details

The content builds on the understanding developed at KS2 and KS3 while also providing a firm foundation for students to make a smooth transition to A-Level. The course follows six broad themes to provide a focus for vocabulary learning and grammar:

- My Personal world
- Lifestyle and Wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and Technology
- Studying and My Future
- Travel and Tourism

Grammar concepts and vocabulary will be taught within and across each topic

Assessment

The GCSE French Assessment consists of three externally examined papers based on the following skills: listening, reading, and writing, and one speaking assessment set by the exam board and conducted by the teacher. Learners achieve a grade 1–9 for overall performance across all skills. Students complete the Speaking Exam in April of Year 11 having chosen and prepared in advance their main topic of conversation from the 5 themes outlined above. Each paper is equally weighted (25% of overall grade).

Future Prospects

This qualification will teach you practical use of a language which can help in almost any career and open up opportunities at home and abroad. It could lead to a career in: Journalism, Education, Marketing, International Aid Work, Translating, Politics and Business Development.

IGCSE Geography

COURSE CODE: 4GE1



Course Outline

Geography allows you to learn about the world around you. Geography is a broad based academic subject which will open up options for you in your future. Employers and universities see geography as a robust academic subject rich in skills, knowledge and understanding. As a subject linking the arts and the sciences it is highly flexible in terms of what you can combine it with.

Course Details

Paper 1; Physical Geography

- Coastal environments
- Coastal Fieldwork
- Hazardous environments.

Paper 2; Human Geography

- Economic Activity and Energy
- Urban Environments
- Urban Environments Fieldwork
- Globalisation and Migration

Assessment

Paper 1 – Physical geography – 1 hr 10 minutes

Paper 2 – Human geography – 1 hr 45 minutes

Modular exams are offered during the summer exam series in which students are in Year 10; this allows for the opportunity to complete Paper 1 on Physical Geography.

Exam questions are a mixture of multiple-choice, short-answer, data-response and open-ended questions.

Future Prospects

Geography develops students to enable them to contribute to both scientific and political debates concerning the world we live in. The skillset gained from this course are highly transferrable and can lead to a number of careers, including:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Travel writer | • Geologist |
| • Environmental lawyer | • International aid worker |
| • Weather forecaster | • Climate change analyst |
| • Town Planner | |

IGCSE Graphic Communication

COURSE CODE: 4GC1

Course Outline

Graphic Communication introduces students to a visual way of conveying information, ideas and emotions, using a range of graphic media, processes, techniques and elements such as colour, icons, images, typography and photographs. Students should conduct primary and secondary investigations during their design development, and explore traditional and/or new technologies.

Course Details

Advertising Unit: The use of advertising to convey information for clients and audiences that promotes corporate identity. The use of traditional graphic media and current technology.

Communication Graphics Unit: The use of communication through graphics to develop solutions for worldwide identity. The exploration of traditional and digital graphic media in both two- and three dimensions.

Illustration Unit: The use of illustration and narrative to communicate factual, fictional and/ or technical ideas for a particular purpose or audience. The use of a range of illustration materials, tools and techniques such as digital applications, wet and dry processes, drawing, painting and printing techniques. All of these units will be a combination of multi-media processes. Combining the use of traditional and non-traditional media to communicate ideas for a range of purposes and audiences.

Assessment

The course is weighted as:

50% coursework (Component 1)

50% practical externally set exam (Component 2).

As part of the coursework project, students will research, develop and complete a project from one area of study from a theme set by their teacher. There are two parts to the coursework: a portfolio and a final outcome. For the external assessment, you will respond to one starting point that is externally set by the exam board. Again, there are two parts to the assignment: supporting studies and a final outcome, produced during a supervised assessment of 10 hours total duration.

Future Prospects

This is a gateway to A-Level in Art and Design and BTEC Level 3 Graphic Design. From this course, students can go on to specialise in a range of creative industries including film and television, fashion, architecture, advertising, graphic design and illustration

IGCSE History

COURSE CODE: 4HI1

Course Outline

The Edexcel course is designed to enable students to acquire knowledge and understanding of periods and aspects of history, exploring the significance of historical events, people, changes and issues; using historical sources critically, recording significant information and reaching conclusions. Students will learn to organise and communicate their knowledge and understanding of history to draw conclusions and make historical judgements.

Course Details

Paper 1 – Depth Studies

Students will study two depth studies over the course.

These studies will be the following:

- Germany: development of dictatorship, 1918–45
- A divided union: civil rights in the USA, 1945–74

Paper 2 – Investigation and Breadth Studies

Students must study one historical investigation and one breadth study over the course.

The investigation study will look at:

- Russia and the Soviet Union, 1905–24.

The breadth study will look at:

- Changes in medicine, c1848–c1948.

Assessment

Paper 1 – Depth studies – 1hr 30 written exam

Paper 2 – Investigation and breadth studies – 1hr 30 written exam

Future Prospects

- The course allows students to become independent thinkers, who are great communicators and confident in articulating sound judgment, which provides a strong foundation for a number of careers including; Archaeology, Working in a museum, Historian, Teacher, Documentary filmmaker, Academic researcher and Law

GCSE Psychology

COURSE CODE: 1PSO

Course Outline

GCSE Psychology engages students in many areas of study such as cognitive development, clinical and social behaviour. Students will develop their scientific skills and acquire knowledge and understanding of how the human mind works. This will allow them to develop an understanding of self and others, and how psychological understanding can help to explain everyday social phenomena.

Course Details

Students will gain knowledge and understanding of key features of the following core areas of psychology through the study of the compulsory and optional topics in this specification, including research methods:

- biological – an understanding of biological concepts in psychology, including neuroscience and genetics as contributors to behaviour
- cognitive – an understanding of thought, information and mental processing as contributors to behaviour
- social – an understanding of the social area of psychology, the impact of social and environmental factors on behaviour and the influence of groups
- developmental – an understanding of how individuals change throughout their lives, with a particular focus on childhood and how both nature and nurture can affect individuals
- individual differences – an understanding of the complex nature of human behaviour and experiences and why and how people are different.

Assessment

The examinations for this course are at the end of Year 11. There are two examinations both worth 50% of the final grade.

- Paper 1 is a one-hour and 45 minutes written examination covering five core topics: Development, Memory, Psychological problems, The brain and neuropsychology, and Social influence.
- Paper 2 is a one-hour and 20 minutes written assessment covering psychological research methods and two topics chosen by students. It will also cover mathematical questions.

Future Prospects

- Clinical Psychologist, Counselling Psychologist, Educational Psychologist, Forensic Psychologist, Further Education Teacher, Health Psychologist, High Intensity Therapist, Occupational Psychologist, Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner, Sport and Exercise Psychologist, Human Resources Officer, Life Coach, Market Researcher, Mediator, Neuroscientist, Play Therapist, Policy Officer, Psychotherapist and Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO)

BTEC International Business and Enterprise

Course Outline

BTEC Business is a 'hands on' practical qualification which will allow students to apply business theory to real world practical situations. In Year 10, students will learn how a small business is set up and how it operates.

They will study what impacts the set up of a business such as laws and regulations. Other units of study will be Human Resource Management as well as Business Finance. Following on from this, students will also be expected to carry out work experience in Year 11 as well as set up their own business as part of the Tycoon Enterprise competition.

Course Details: Mandatory Units

Unit 1: Business Purposes

Unit 2: Business Organisation

Unit 3: Financial Forecasting

Plus one optional unit.

Assessment

100% coursework which will be internally assessed and then externally assessed by Edexcel once a year.

Future Prospects

You will be able to work in any business-related field such as advertising, finance and human resource management. A business qualification would also help with careers in law, journalism and sports management. A business qualification could take you in any direction!



BTEC International Information Technology

Course Outline

In BTEC IT, students will develop an understanding of the practical importance of IT in different businesses and organisations. Students will learn the different uses of IT in organisations, and how its effective use can contribute to an organisation's success and improvement. Students will gain a practical understanding of how IT is used by different parts of an organisation and how it can improve engagement and add value. Students will focus on a specific business and plan and develop an information campaign aimed at marketing the business.

Alongside this, students will develop their technical skills through the Website Development unit. They will explore how websites can play a crucial role in the profitability of an organisation and the importance of the design and functionality of the website to maximise this. Students will research, plan, design and build a website for a business as well as perform industry-standard testing and evaluation.

Students will finish the course with a broad understanding of the role of IT across businesses and have developed their project management and technical development skills.

Course Details

- Unit 1: Using IT to Support Information and Communication in Organisations
- Unit 7: Introduction to Website Development

Assessment

All assessments for BTEC IT are coursework-based. For Unit 1, students will produce a report analysing how a business uses IT. Following this, students will produce a media campaign to market the business. For Unit 7, students will produce a report analysing the design and effectiveness of a business website. Students will research and produce a plan for a new business website and then build, test and evaluate the planned website.

Future Prospects

BTEC IT teaches students the knowledge and skills that are essential for future IT courses and any career they may have. The course also prepares students for a wide variety of IT-related careers, including web designer, systems analyst, computer games developer, user experience developer and many other specialisms.

BTEC International Sports Studies

COURSE CODE:19342

Course Outline

The BTEC Level 2 Award in Sport is an excellent choice for students who wish to learn more about training for personal fitness, practical sport and delivering a leadership session in sport. The course is a vocationally delivered qualification, designed to help learners understand and develop the skills/knowledge needed to work within the sport sector. The practical element of the course aims to improve performances in different physical activities by developing skills, techniques, tactics and strategies. Students will also become equipped to analyse and evaluate to improve performances in physical activity and sport.

Course Details

Principles of Fitness & Fitness Testing: In this unit, you will examine components of fitness and how they link to fitness testing and training. You will learn to carry out a range of laboratory and field-based fitness tests, and the administration process of each fitness test. You will investigate the process of evaluating and comparing fitness test results to draw meaningful conclusions about a specific person's fitness.

Training for Personal Fitness: During this unit of work you will design and implement a four-week training programme, aimed to improve a particular area of fitness. You will select appropriate training methods that are tailored to your training goals, aspirations and needs. Upon completion of your training programme you will review your training, looking at strengths, areas of improvement and suggesting recommendations for future training.

Practical Sport: In this unit, you will explore the rules, laws and regulations, and the roles and responsibilities of officials in selected sports. You will also develop your practical performance in a range of sports by developing a greater understanding of the application of the relevant skills, techniques and tactics. Finally, you will review your performance and the performance of others in selected sports.

Assessment

Students complete a series of projects and assignments based upon real-life sporting scenarios. All units in the Pearson BTEC International Level 2 qualifications are assessed through internal assessment. Learners can achieve a 'pass', 'merit' or 'distinction' for each unit and then overall. Assessment is designed to fit the purpose and objective of the qualification and unit which includes coursework assignments. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector ranging from written booklets, posters, presentations and practical performances. There are no traditional style exams in the BTEC International Sport Award.

Future Prospects

PE Teaching , Sports Science , Sports coaching , Sports nutrition, Planning and leading sports events, Personal Training and Healthcare.

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