

Year 8 Curriculum Choices 2024



West Exe School
community • opportunity • success

Head of Year **Welcome**



Section A: **Core Subjects**

All students in Year 9 will study the following subjects as part of their compulsory 'core' entitlement:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Spanish
- Sport, Health and Nutrition
- West Exe Baccalaureate
- Geography and History (choice of GCSE to be made at end of Year 9)

Section B: **Open Choice**

Students choose **three subjects**; their preferred Choice and two others. You will be allocated **two** of these subjects.

Any course with an asterisk next to the title has specific entry criteria.

Section A: **Core Subjects**

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Spanish
- Sport, Health and Nutrition
- West Exe Baccalaureate
- Geography and History
(choice of GCSE to be made at the end of Year 9)

English Language GCSE

What will I be studying?

The English Language GCSE is split equally between reading skills and writing skills. The writing skills you will develop focus on using a range of sentence structures, punctuation and vocabulary choices. You will practise writing in different forms and for different purposes based on various stimuli. The reading skills focus on selecting quotations and textual details and analysing language and structure.

What other skills will I develop?

Alongside the essential reading and writing skills, you will develop your ability to communicate both orally and in the written form. Additionally, you will use your ability to empathise with others to explore texts and characters fully.

How will I be assessed?

There are two written exams. Paper one - Explorations in creative reading and writing - lasts for 1 hour 45 minutes and is worth 50% of your final grade. Paper two - Writers' viewpoints and perspectives - again, lasts for 1 hour 45 minutes and is worth 50% of your final grade. There is a separate certificate for Spoken Language which will be assessed in class during Year 10, Cycle 3 as a prepared oral presentation.

What could I study Post 16?

English Language is an essential qualification for all post 16 studies.

What work-related opportunities will I experience?

When applying for jobs, the formal and persuasive writing skills you have learnt will be critical in creating a successful letter of application and CV. Your Spoken Language component will also develop your confidence and presentation skills which will be crucial in any interview situation.

What possible careers could I have?

All employers and further education establishments will want to see English Language on your CV. It tells them you are fully literate and that you will be able to access all written materials. There are a huge range of jobs where English Language is essential: teacher, police officer, journalist, human resources manager, web designer etc.



English Literature GCSE

What will I be studying?

You will read and explore a range of texts including a nineteenth century novel, a Shakespeare play, a modern drama and a poetry collection. Lessons will focus on discussing and writing about characters, themes, attitudes and contexts. Your aim will be to create arguments about the writers' craft using language and structure analysis to support your points.

What other skills will I develop?

As with the English Language qualification, alongside the essential reading and writing skills, you will develop your ability to communicate both orally and in the written form. Additionally, you will use your ability to empathise with others to explore texts and characters fully. You will develop an understanding of the history and politics surrounding the texts and how these impact on our reading of works from another era.

How will I be assessed?

There are two 'closed book' written exams. Paper One - Shakespeare and the 19th century novel - lasts for 1-hour 45minutes and is worth 40% of your final grade. The second paper is called 'Modern texts and poetry'. This lasts for 2 hours 15 minutes and is worth 60% of your English literature GCSE. This is an exam only qualification and, as such, there is no coursework element.

What could I study Post 16?

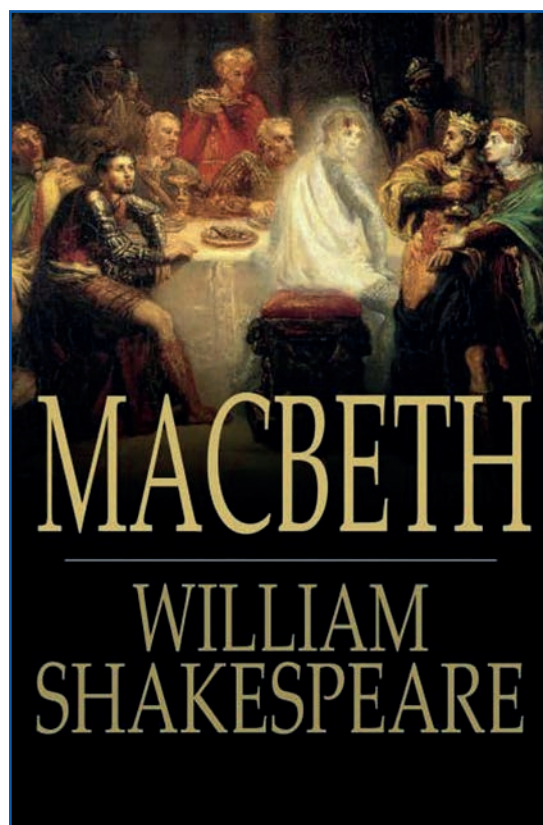
Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Level English Literature, English Language, Drama, Media Studies, History, Law etc. This is a respected course at university and will support any application for further academic study.

What work-related opportunities will I experience?

We are planning author visits, theatre trips and writers' workshops.

What possible careers could I have?

English Literature is a rigorous, well respected GCSE that will stand you in good stead for many future careers. The ability to read and write about a variety of texts will be useful for teaching, research-based careers, acting etc.



Mathematics GCSE

What will I be studying?

Maths is for everyone. It is diverse, engaging and essential in equipping you with the right skills to reach your future destination, whatever that may be. The course is designed to allow you to recognise the importance of mathematics in your own life and to society and has been organised into broad topic areas as follows: number; algebra; ratio, proportion and rates of change; geometry and measures; probability and statistics.

What other skills will I develop?

The course should enable you to develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts. You will acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems, reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions. You will learn to comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms in a range of different situations.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed entirely by examination. There are three separate exams each of 1½ hours duration: Paper 1 (non-calculator) and Papers 2 and 3 (calculator). Each paper counts as one third of the whole qualification.

What could I study Post 16?

Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Level Mathematics, Sciences, Electronics, Psychology, Environmental Studies or the International Baccalaureate. Level 3 Mathematical Studies (Core Maths) is a new qualification designed for students who have achieved a grade 4 or above at GCSE.

What possible careers could I have?

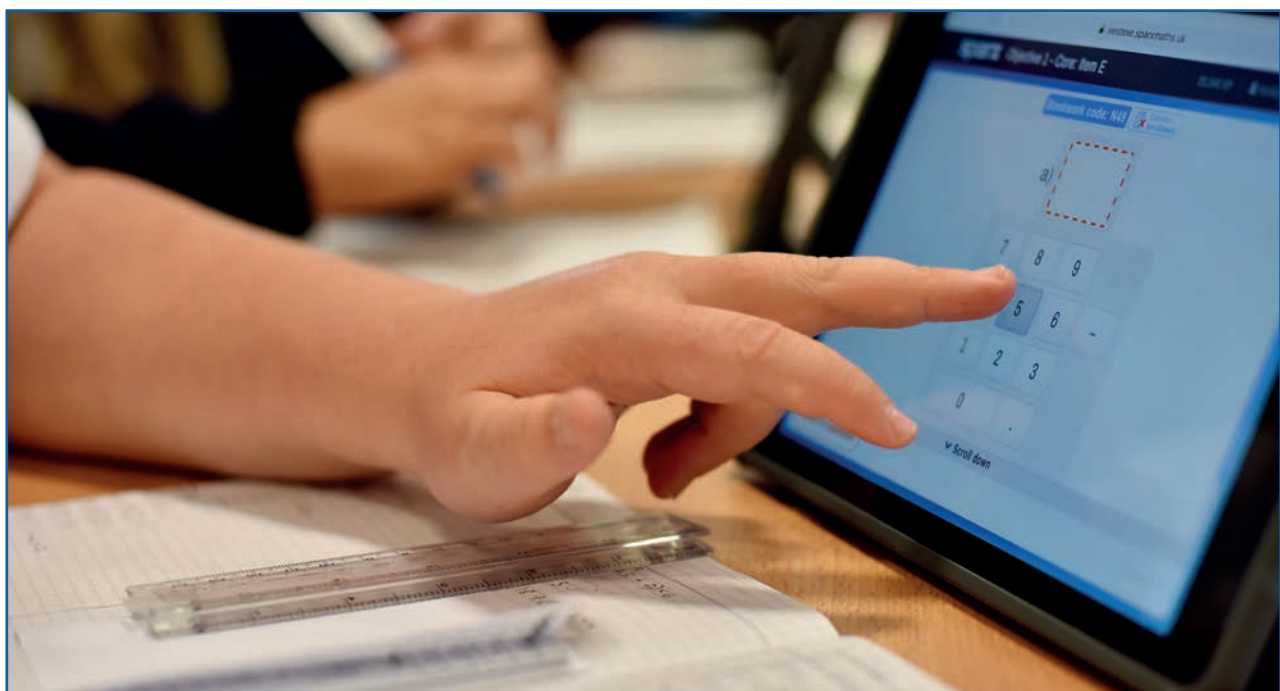
Every career you can think of will involve maths at some level. Careers where maths is used regularly include: financial management services; construction and engineering; scientific research and design.

What do other students think about the course?

"It is fun working on challenging tasks in groups"

"I get stuck sometimes but I enjoy working through problems"

"I found out that I am better at maths than I first thought"



Combined Science GCSE

What is it about?

All students study combined science in year 9. Some students will be offered the option of studying separate science, which would start in year 10. This course results in 2 GCSEs in Combined Science.

It enables students to have a wide breadth of knowledge to continue to study Science at College, be that A-Level or BTEC courses. Biology includes Microbes, Photosynthesis; Cells; Respiration; Internal Conditions in Humans; Enzymes. Chemistry includes Atoms and Compounds; Structures of Compounds; Controlling Reactions; Energy of Reactions; Ions. Physics includes Linear Movement; Static and Current Electricity; Electrical Devices; Radioactivity; Light and Sound.

What other skills will I develop?

You will develop your knowledge and understanding of scientific theories, but also your ability to apply that knowledge, analyse and evaluate information in practical and everyday scenarios. Some of the materials studied are traditional, although there is a great emphasis on applying concepts and skills.

How will I be assessed?

There is a total of six 70-minute exams (two each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics). There are a series of required practical investigations completed during the course which are examined within the final assessments.

What is the course worth?

The course is worth two GCSE 9-1 grades.

What could I study Post 16?

Students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Level Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Forensic Science, Human Biology, Environmental Studies or Animal Care. University STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) courses include Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Ocean Sciences, Veterinary Science or Zoology.

What work-related opportunities will I experience?

You will meet and speak to a medical professional, a STEM Ambassador, and will complete a project looking at the recent developments in Science.

What possible careers could I have?

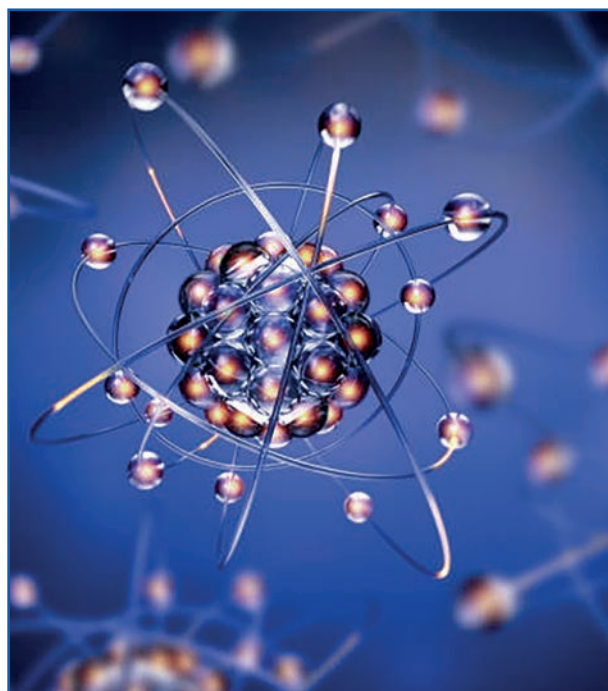
This course is a gateway into many different careers, be that within the STEM sector or Animal Care, Forensic Science, Sports Science, Cosmetic Science or Child Care to name but a few choices. It gives you good life skills, regardless of the path you follow, which can be directly applied to many careers.

What do other students think about the course?

"It's a great balance between practical and theory."

"It is interesting yet challenging at the same time."

"I now want to pursue a career in Experimental Physics"



Separate Science GCSE

This course starts in year 10 and is aimed at students who aspire to continue studying science at A-level. The course prepares students to study for three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This course is fast-paced to ensure that all the specified content is covered before the final exams in year 11. To be considered for this course students need to be performing strongly in maths, English and science and due to the large amount of content will need to commit to an additional period 6 lesson every week. Students are invited to study this course based on their academic performance and maybe advised to take exams for combined science in year 10 or year 11, if this is felt to be a more secure route to achieve a higher grade.

What is it about?

It is suitable for those who wish to study science beyond 16 and to pursue a career that will be predominantly scientific. Some of the materials studied are traditional, although there is a great emphasis on applying concepts and skills. You investigate subject content in greater depth and have greater opportunity to develop practical skills.

Biology includes Microbes, Photosynthesis and the food chain; Cells; Respiration; Internal Conditions in Humans; Enzymes. Chemistry includes Atoms and Compounds; Structures of Compounds; Controlling Reactions; Energy of Reactions; Ions; Chemical Analysis. Physics includes Linear Movement; Circular Movement; Static and Current Electricity; Electrical Devices; Radioactivity; Light and Sound.

What other skills will I develop?

You will develop the necessary problem solving, thinking and analytical skills through ICT-based research, hypothesis, discussion and experimentation.

How will I be assessed?

There is a total of six, 1¾ hour exams (two each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics), making 100% of the total marks.

What is the course worth?

The course results in 3 separate GCSE 9-1 grades, in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

What could I study Post 16?

Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Level Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Forensic Science, Human Biology, Environmental Studies or the International Baccalaureate. University STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) courses include Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Ocean Sciences, Veterinary Science, Zoology and Medicine.

What work-related opportunities will I experience?

You will meet and speak to a variety of people employed within the Science sector such as, medical professionals, STEM ambassadors, researchers etc.

What possible careers could I have?

This course is designed for those whose careers will be in the STEM areas such as medicine, engineering, forensic science, sport science, marine science, further maths or ecology.



Sport, Health and Nutrition

This subject incorporates both Core PE and regular sessions on Food and Nutrition including practical sessions in our food technology rooms. The PE modules keep students involved in physical exercise and educate them about the need to be active and healthy. The range of activities will include some or all of the following:

- Netball
- Volleyball
- Hockey
- Rounders
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Health and fitness

There is no examination at the end of this course.



West Exe Baccalaureate

As you move into Year 9, you will continue to study the West Exe Baccalaureate (WEB). As you know, this is a course specifically designed for students at West Exe School, and developed in the light

of student feedback. It includes Personal Social Health and Economic Education (to promote positive health, wellbeing and resilience), religious education and ethics, elements of Citizenship such as law and voting and also life skills. Key Stage 4 WEB is a very practical course which will help you to develop the skills you will need when you leave West Exe. It will also offer you lots of practical advice and guidance to help you succeed in your exams and coursework.

The West Exe Baccalaureate is not an examined course, but it has close links to many of the subjects you will choose to study. The skills

and knowledge you will gain in class will be transferable to these subjects; For example, your research skills will help you in History, and your knowledge of the world will help with in

Geography. In a similar way, the skills of debating and public speaking will support you in English.

Year 9 starts with a module on mental health as beginning GCSEs can be a very stressful time. You will also have a module on People Skills which examines the top skills employers are looking for.

The final module will be a human rights module that will develop your ability to research and communicate effectively.

Within these, and the other three Year 9 modules, you will learn about issues ranging from human rights and what happens when these rights are denied to making moral decisions. You will also study a very important module on Relationships.

WEB plays an important role, alongside other aspects of the curriculum and school life, in helping you deal with difficult moral and social questions. Through studying the course, your knowledge and understanding of many important issues will be increased. You will also develop what are called '21st century future skills'. These are the skills that many employers, especially big, important companies, are looking for when they are deciding which people to give jobs to. As there will be lots of people competing for not many jobs in the future, if you can show you have these skills, you will be at an advantage.

In short, the West Exe Baccalaureate will provide you with many opportunities to develop these, and many other practical skills including the completion of a financial skills course.

Geography GCSE



What will I be studying?

You will learn about your place in your world and how it is changing - quickly. You will learn about the physical landscape, discovering how glaciers have shaped the UK and explore what is happening to our coastline. The built environment has a huge impact on our lives and understanding how it is changing can help us make decisions for our future. Geography is about place and you will learn about our interaction with it from deforestation in the rainforests to the impacts of climate change. Some people in our world have a better quality of life than others, you will investigate why and what others can do about it. You will also learn through practical experiences how fieldwork can help us understand our world.

What other skills will I develop?

Your organisational and planning skills will develop alongside your ability to interpret information, handle data and communicate your findings through writing. You will be involved in problem solving activities and geographical enquiries about people and place. The course will allow you to learn skills required for future academic study at A-Level and for university degrees in a range of subjects.

How will I be assessed?

There are 3 written exams:

- Paper 1: Living with the physical environment (1hour 30 minutes) 35%
- Paper 2: Challenge of the human environment (1hour 30 minutes) 35%
- Paper 3: Geographical applications with a pre-released booklet (1 hour 30 minutes) 30%

What could I study Post 16?

Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Level Geography, Geology, Sociology or World Development. University courses include Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Land Management, Leisure Management and Travel, Urban planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering.

What possible careers could I have?

Many employers like to see Geography on your CV. It tells them you can investigate issues, research problems and come up with evidence-based solutions. There are a huge range of jobs where Geography will help; expedition leader, travel agent, TV researcher, conservation officer, architect, urban planner, forestry manager, environmental engineer, aid worker, human rights officer, retail manager, insurance, surveyor, advertising and marketing.





What will I be studying?

This course looks at a wide range of events from history in several different ways. The course is geared to giving easier access at A-Level History. You will learn the history of Medicine in Britain from c.1250 to the present day and the story of Germany, 1918-1939. You will be reviewing the history of The Cold War (c.1941-c.1991), and Early Elizabethan England, 1558-1588.

What other skills will I develop?

You will develop the necessary problem solving, thinking and literacy skills through, discussion and extended writing. There will be some focus on ICT-based research skills. You will also have a greater awareness of different political systems and societies. You will be involved in your own historical enquiry and will be able to develop an understanding of your own role as a responsible citizen in society.

How will I be assessed?

GCSE History is assessed through 3 exam papers, all taken at the end of Year 11. They are:

- Paper 1: Medicine Through Time (1hr 15mins)
- Paper 2: The Cold War & Elizabethan England (1hr 45mins)
- Paper 3: Germany, 1918-1939(1hr 20mins)

Post 16 and future career pathways:

Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Level History, Sociology, Psychology, Politics, Law or World Development. University courses include History, Law, Journalism and Archaeology.

You will develop a broad range of skills that will help you in the world of work. These include independent study, analysing evidence, forming arguments, making cases for and against issues and developing a world-wide perspective of history and the world we live in today.

GCSE History will help with any job that requires an active mind and research skills which includes journalism, TV researching, teaching, politics, broadcasting, police work, detective work. It also supports careers in the law: solicitors and court clerks. Areas of work connected directly to the past also include tourism and conservation and archaeology.



Spanish GCSE

What will I be studying?

Learn the language of over 400 million people! This excellent GCSE course is as much an exploration of the Spanish speaking world as it is a rigorous training in how to learn and manipulate another language to communicate clearly and effectively.

The subject content is based on 3 themes divided into 3 topics:

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
 - Topic 1: Identity and relationships with others
 - Topic 2: Healthy living and lifestyle
 - Topic 3: Education and work
- Theme 2 Popular Culture
 - Topic 1: Free-time activities
 - Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations
 - Topic 3: Celebrity culture
- Theme 3 topics: Communication and the world around us
 - Topic 1: Travel, tourism and places of interest
 - Topic 2: Media and technology
 - Topic 3: The environment and where people live

What other skills will I develop?

The course will offer students the opportunity to develop the four language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing. You will develop the necessary aptitude in concentration, memorising, communicating clearly and working with others. With the new GCSE promoting a strong emphasis on grammar and structures, you will also expand your grammatical understanding of the English language which will help you in all subjects.

How will I be assessed?

You will take exams in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing, each worth 25% of the final grade. You will complete the exams at Foundation or Higher tier.

- Listening:
 - 1 exam of 35 minutes (Foundation) or 45 minutes (Higher)
- Speaking:
 - 1 speaking exam of 7-9 minutes (Foundation) or 10-12 minutes (Higher)

- Reading:
 - 1 exam of 45 minutes (Foundation) or 1 hour (Higher)
- Writing:
 - 1 exam of 1 hour 10 minutes (Foundation) or 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher)

Post 16 and future career pathways?

Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Level Spanish or the International Baccalaureate. University courses include Modern Foreign Languages and International Studies or a wide range of joint honours degrees, studying a language alongside History or Business, for example. Most non-language courses may also offer you a year studying abroad if you can show good achievement at GCSE or A-Level.

Employers love linguists and, being an optional subject, having a language will give you an advantage over other candidates. Language-specific careers include interpreter, international business manager, teacher and any role that requires contact with people who speak a language other than English. Languages are also invaluable for careers in a wide range of sectors including law, media, business and defence.

Spanish is the official language of 21 countries and is the second most spoken language in the world with 400 million speakers, even more than English. The United States of America, where Spanish is not even the official language, is still the second largest Spanish-speaking country in the world. As a linguist, you will be able to show that you are able to think and communicate on a global level and, with Spanish, the world will be able to communicate with you.



Section B: **Open Choice**

Students choose three subjects; their preferred Choice and two others. You will be allocated two of these subjects.

Like GCSEs, Technical qualifications are a level 2 award. They offer an introduction to work in a vocational sector. Combined with other qualifications, these can enable you to go on to further study, to an apprenticeship, or into employment.

Art & Design GCSE



What is it about?

The Art and Design course offers students the opportunity to develop their own visual language explored through sketchbook work and resolved pieces. Students complete a series of extended projects exploring a wide range of mediums such as drawing, painting, printing, and elements of three-dimensional work and textiles. Students will also have the opportunity to work on a variety of scales experimenting on surfaces such as canvas and board. In addition to practical outcomes students research and analyse artists work advancing their contextual understanding of both contemporary and historical Art. Students also complete written work reflecting and evaluating personal processes and outcomes to advance their personal Art practice.

What other skills will I develop?

Students will develop their ability to work both collaboratively and independently as the course progresses. Students will also be encouraged to take risks to advance their work in addition to time management, meeting coursework deadlines and showing ambition through their creative outcomes.

How will I be assessed?

The Art course is broken down into two components; a 60% coursework portfolio developed throughout years 9, 10 and 11 and a 40% final exam which comprises of a 10-hour supervised period following an initial preparatory stage. Both components are marked against four assessment objectives; develop, record, refine, present.

What Could I study Post 16?

Students on this course can go on to study, A Level Fine Art, Graphic Design, Photography, 3D Design or an Art & Design Foundation course. University courses include Fine Art, Sculpture, 3D Design, Fashion, Textiles, Architecture, engineering and Product Design.

What work related opportunities will I experience?

You will have the opportunity to participate in workshops relating to print making and mixed media techniques as part of the course. Trips to local galleries and meetings with local practitioners will support in class learning. Art work produced will also be displayed regularly in school.

What possible careers could I have?

Art and Design creates problem solvers with the confidence to explore ideas and find solutions. The course can lead to a diverse range of careers such in fields such as architecture, heritage, fashion, publishing, software and film in a rapidly growing market that is quickly changing and advancing to the needs of modern life.



What it is about?

This course will help you to understand and develop practical skills that apply knowledge to a business situation, learning what it takes to be an entrepreneur and market your product. We work on key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business and provide a framework for students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business. Students will be introduced to local and national business contexts and develop an understanding of how these contexts impact business behaviours and decisions.

Through studying real-life examples and issues, you will develop a good understanding of the world of finance and money. This is an ideal course for anyone who might one day want to run their own business as it gives guidance on what makes a company successful, and the things that cause businesses to fail. It is also a course that should be considered by students who are considering any career that involves working with finance.

What other skills will I develop?

You will use communication skills as you present your ideas for a new business and try to persuade your teacher to invest in your company. As you examine real-life case studies, you will develop your skills of analysis and evaluation. Maths and its application run through like a golden thread as you will calculate interest rates, profit margins and look at cash flow. Many companies are looking to employ students with what are known as '21st century future skills' such as listening, problem solving and resilience.

How will I be assessed?

Business is assessed through two exams, sat at the end of Year 11. Both exams are worth 50% of your final mark and include a range of questions including multiple choice, calculation questions and response questions.

Theme 1: Investigating small business

Content overview

- Topic 1.1 Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Topic 1.2 Spotting a business opportunity
- Topic 1.3 Putting a business idea into practice
- Topic 1.4 Making the business effective
- Topic 1.5 Understanding external influences on business

Theme 2: Building a business

Content overview

- Topic 2.1 Growing the business
- Topic 2.2 Making marketing decisions
- Topic 2.3 Making operational decisions
- Topic 2.4 Making financial decisions
- Topic 2.5 Making human resource decisions

What could I study Post 16?

Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Level Economics, BTEC Level 3 Business or an Apprenticeship in Business Administration. University courses include Accountancy, Business Studies and Marketing Management.

What work related opportunities will I experience?

We will investigate companies and brands such as Zoella, Gym Shark, Nike, Subway etc and dig into its interactions between business operations, finance, marketing and human resources, as well as the relationship between the business and the environment in which it operates. Students must understand how these interdependencies and relationships underpin business decisions.

What possible careers could I have?

You could follow a career path as an entrepreneur, office administrator, marketing assistant, personnel assistant, retail assistant or accountant.

Citizenship GCSE

What will I be studying?

Citizenship is the ideal course for students who are interested in a career in politics, law or the public services, such as a police officer. It is also the course for all students who are interested in current affairs and want to learn and understand more about the national and global issues that affect us all.

The course is divided into three main sections. The first is concerned with human rights and the law. This is an interesting area where you will learn about what human rights people should have and investigate what happens when these rights are taken away - you may even agree that some people should not have some rights. The law module examines crime and punishment and the English legal system.

Section two covers a wide range of topics from democracy through taxation to the rights of the media. Using real-life case studies, you will examine these issues and consider questions such as 'Should 16-year olds be allowed to vote?' and 'Should the Government be able to stop the media broadcasting certain stories?'

The final section looks at the role Britain plays in the world. In this section, you will learn more about the United Nations and NATO and have the opportunity to compete in conferences against other schools. You will also take part in a group Citizenship activity.

What other skills will I develop?

You will develop the important life skills that will help you in whatever career you choose in the future. You will use research and communication skills as you prepare for and taking part in debates on issues ranging from capital punishment to Britain's role in the world and abolishing the Human Rights Act! As you examine real-life case studies, you will develop your skills of analysis and evaluation.

You will work with other students on various projects, so your teamwork skills will also improve. Many leading and international companies, such as Barclays, are publicly stating that they are looking to employ students with 'future' skills such as listening, problem solving and resilience.

As it is a course that covers so many topics in such a variety of ways, Citizenship also helps you to develop the skills you will use in other subjects such as English and History.

How will I be assessed?

There are three exams which you will sit in Year 11. The first is multiple choice covering all three sections of the course and is worth 25% of your final mark. The second is longer and is worth 50%. It covers the first two sections and your Citizenship activity. In this paper you will use sources to answer some of the questions, but also need to show your own knowledge and understanding. The third covers sections 1 and 3 and is worth 25% of the final mark. It assesses your ability to use sources and to communicate your views on key issues.

Post 16 and future career pathways?

The knowledge, skills and understanding you will gain through studying Citizenship will help prepare you for virtually any course you will want to study when you leave West Exe. Exeter College run courses that are linked with the uniformed services, such as the police. Citizenship and its links with the law and the legal system will provide you with an excellent foundation for this course. In terms of A-Levels, Citizenship links to the Law, Philosophy and Politics courses. Studying the Media module will also benefit those students who are interested in joining the College's Journalism Academy. Citizenship also has strong links to popular degree courses such as History, Law and Politics. Career-wise, Citizenship can help with any career that involves the media, or the law; particularly if you have an interest in human rights law. The knowledge and understanding you will gain through studying democracy and politics means that one day you could be helping run the country as a Member of Parliament.





What is it about?

Classical Civilisation is the study of ancient Greece and Rome. Explore the story of Hercules and Theseus, the foundation of Rome and the great battles, beliefs and cultural artefacts of the ancient world. You will also study the gods, monsters and cannibals of the Odyssey as you consider themes of vengeance, love, justice and fate.

What other skills will I develop?

The majority of European art, architecture, literature, music, philosophy, government, politics, law and language traces its roots to ancient Greece or Rome. This GCSE course will enable you to understand how people lived in ancient times, through exploration of Classical literature, historical, and archaeological information. You will develop your critical thinking skills, as well as improving your communication and analytical skills.

How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1: Thematic Study 50% (90 Marks) through written examination - 1 hour 30mins (there are three sections to this paper, one on Greece, one on Rome, and one on both)
- Paper 2: Literature and Culture 50% (90 Marks) through written examination - 1 hour 30mins (There are two sections to this paper, one focusing on culture and sources, and the other on literature).



What could I study Post 16?

History, English Literature, Archaeology, Media Studies, Classical Studies, Politics.

What work-related opportunities will I experience?

Classical Civilisation encourages you to look at the big picture, to think analytically and to confidently communicate your own ideas and opinions - all skills that are great preparation for higher education. It is also interesting to note that GCHQ and MI5 seek to recruit Classicists because they develop an aptitude for code-breaking!

What possible careers could I have?

The University of Cambridge ranks Classicists as some of the most employable graduates due to the wide range of transferable skills they possess, and they pursue a wide range of inspiring career paths including law, journalism, politics, academia and the civil service.



Creative iMedia GCSE



What will I be studying?

This is an exciting course which is targeted at all students who have an interest in interactive media, design or animation. In addition, the course supports and develops students to be able to:

- select, use and apply a range of 2D techniques, processes, media and materials to interactive applications
- develop personal responses to artistic themes and design briefs
- determine areas of interest and skill for progression to further courses of study or employment.

What other skills will I develop?

The course provides students with a diverse skill and knowledge base together with a broad and comprehensive understanding of ICT and interactive media. Breaking this down into specific skill and knowledge areas, the course builds personal skills of communication, creativity, time management and problem-solving. ICT skills include:

- an understanding of interactive media software packages, platforms and hardware
- an understanding of image types and file types
- an understanding of internet technologies and capabilities
- an understanding of project management strategies.

How will I be studying?

In Creative iMedia, you can benefit from an entirely digitised curriculum experience. For coursework, you will have strict deadlines and work is marked efficiently using the VLE. Students who take advantage of this way of working have the potential to make exceptionally good progress.

The materials can be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days of the year, helping you to take greater ownership of your learning.

How will I be assessed?

There are a total of four units. Three units are assessed using portfolios of coursework, which are built up from assignments completed during each unit. One unit

is assessed externally in an examination and builds upon the previous three coursework units. It will be an advantage if students have access to a computer at home. This is not essential, but they will need to make efforts to use school's computing facilities during lunchtimes or after school hours.

Post 16 and future career pathways?

There are a huge range of career choices available including multimedia, information systems, game design, advertising, graphic design, audio engineer, animator, project manager, compositor, web developer, production assistant, creative director, web content manager, computer science, computing and networking, and network security.



Design Technology GCSE



What is it about?

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare you to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. You will build an awareness through learning from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors through studying the work of leading designers, companies and design movements. You will learn to communicate ideas, manage complex projects, generate creative resolutions to unexpected problems and address social/environmental issues.

What other skills will I develop?

You will develop your problem solving, analytical, and evaluative skills, alongside an applied mathematical and scientific understanding. In addition, you will also develop sketching, technical drawing, model making and time management skills.

How will I be assessed?

- Written Examination -
2 hours - 100 marks - 50% of the GCSE
- Non-exam assessment (NEA) -
Approximately 30-35 hours
-100 marks - 50% of GCSE

What could I study Post 16?

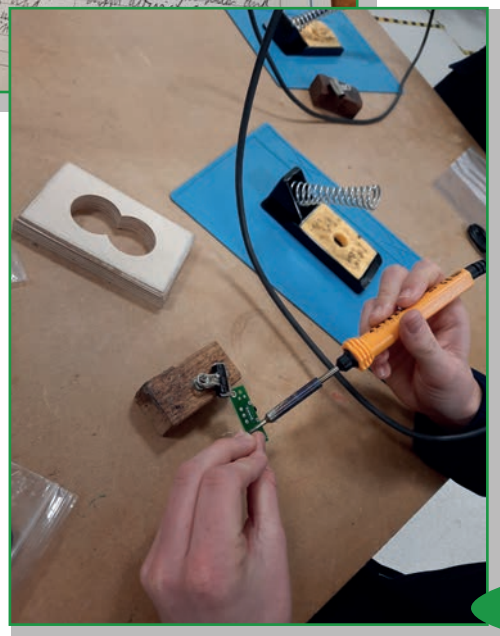
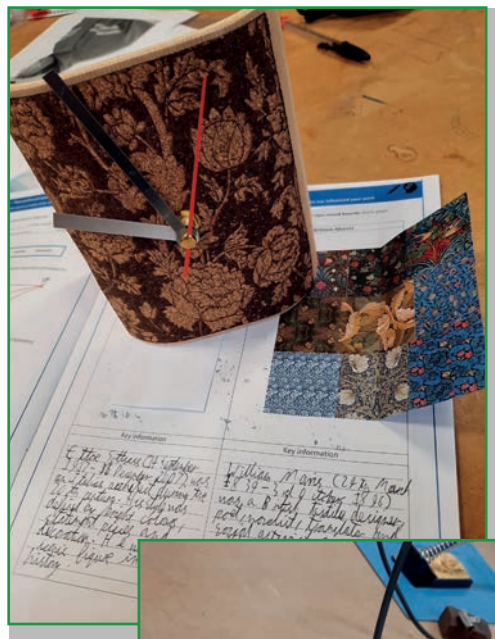
Studying Design Technology will equip you with the skills and knowledge to study a wide range of Post 16 opportunities. These include; A Level study in engineering, architecture, fashion, biomedical, product/industrial design, graphic design, illustration, advertising and interior design. Apprenticeships in carpentry, bricklaying and civil engineering are also potential pathways. Finally, you could opt for level 3 vocational study, which includes architectural joinery, construction and the built environment and design, surveying and planning.

What work-related opportunities will I experience?

You will study the work of local and national design companies/organisations, and the work of established designers. There will also be opportunities to work with local design companies and businesses to solve real-life design problems.

What possible careers could I have?

The range of careers that Design Technology can unlock includes architect, engineer, product designer, surveyor, carpenter, interior designer, furniture designer, industrial designer and automotive designer.





What is it about?

Engineering Design helps students understand the processes involved in a career in engineering and in particular the design of components and products. There is a focus on how user requirements (what customers need and want from a product) inform client briefs. Through practical activities students develop skills in computer modelling and model making and how to communicate design ideas effectively. Students taking this course must have an enthusiasm for the designing and manufacture of products and be confident in their creative approach to designing.

What other skills will I develop?

You will develop your problem solving, analytical, and evaluative skills, alongside an applied mathematical and scientific understanding.

In addition, you will also develop sketching, technical drawing, model making and time management skills.

How will I be assessed?

Exam - Principles of Engineering Design (75 minutes)

Coursework unit - Communicating Design

Coursework unit - Design Evaluation and Modelling

What could I study Post 16?

Following the successful completion of OCR Engineering Design, students can access a wide range of L2 and L3 engineering courses such as A Level Product Design, L3 Engineering and Aeronautical engineering to name just a few, available at local FE providers including Exeter College.

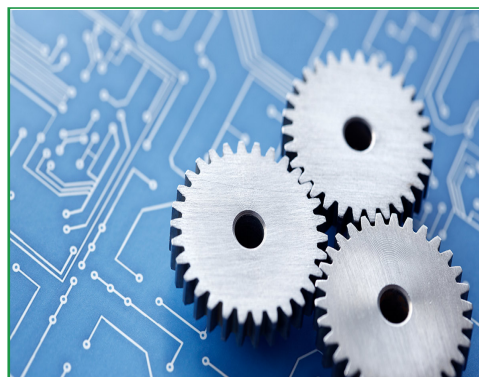
Many routes into strong local and national industry. Intermediate or advanced level apprenticeship with some exciting engineering businesses in and around Exeter and beyond.

What work-related opportunities will I experience?

Many routes into strong local and national industry. Intermediate or advanced level apprenticeship with some exciting engineering businesses in and around Exeter and beyond.

What possible careers could I have?

Possible career pathways include: Careers Mechanical engineer, civil engineer, marine engineer, automotive engineer, aerospace engineer, electrical engineer, Product Designer, Furniture Designer, Architect, Graphic Designer, Carpenter, Interior Designer, CAD technician. or many other STEM based exciting careers.



Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE

What is it about?

Food, Preparation and Nutrition is an exciting and creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills and the theory behind how different ingredients work. Students are able to learn about the choices we make around food, the importance of nutrition and also the science of cooking. Students have the chance to showcase their skills and develop different dishes in line with a brief, and to develop their understanding of food provenance and culture. At its heart, this qualification focuses on developing practical skills, whilst learning about the key ingredients used in every day foods and the importance of healthy lifestyles in a fun and inspiring way.



What other skills will I develop?

You will improve your problem solving and analytical skills. You will also improve your communication skills, organisational skills and increase your use of ICT.

How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1: Food preparation and nutrition 50% (100 Marks) through written examination -1hour 45mins
- Non-exam assessment (NEA)
50%: (100 marks) internally assessed, externally moderated.

What could I study Post 16?

Many students on this course have gone on to study Level 3 qualification in Professional Cookery or to the Michael Caines Academy. University courses include Food Technology, Nutrition, Food & Beverage Studies and Agriculture.

What work-related opportunities will I experience?

You will complete a research projects & work with taste of game to enhance your skills.

What possible careers could I have?

Careers that use skills in food preparation and nutrition could include being a chef, food technologist, nutritionist and dietetics, and catering management.



French GCSE



What will I be studying?

Learn a language spoken on all 5 continents! This excellent GCSE course is as much an exploration of the French speaking world as it is a rigorous training in how to learn and manipulate another language to communicate clearly and effectively.

The subject content is based on 3 themes divided into 4 topics:

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
 - Topic 1: Identity and relationships with others
 - Topic 2: Healthy living and lifestyle
 - Topic 3: Education and work
- Theme 2: Popular culture
 - Topic 1: Free-time activities
 - Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations
 - Topic 3: Celebrity culture
- Theme 3: Communication and the world around us
 - Topic 1: Travel, tourism and places of interest
 - Topic 2: Media and technology
 - Topic 3: The environment and where people live

What other skills will I develop?

The course will offer students the opportunity to develop the four language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing. You will develop the necessary aptitude in concentration, memorising, communicating clearly and working with others. With over half of modern English coming directly from French, you will also expand your vocabulary and understanding of the English language which will help you in all subjects.

How will I be assessed?

You will take exams in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing, each worth 25% of the final grade. You will complete the exams at Foundation or Higher tier.

- Listening:
 - 1 exam of 35 minutes (Foundation) or 45 minutes (Higher)
- Speaking:
 - 1 speaking exam of 7-9 minutes (Foundation) or 10-12 minutes (Higher)

- Reading:
 - 1 exam of 45 minutes (Foundation) or 1 hour (Higher)
- Writing:
 - 1 exam of 1 hour 10 minutes (Foundation) or 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher)

Post 16 and future career pathways

Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Level French or the International Baccalaureate. University courses include Modern Foreign Languages and International Studies or a wide range of joint honours degrees, studying a language alongside History or Business, for example. Most non-language courses may also offer you a year studying abroad if you can show good achievement at GCSE or A-Level.

Employers love linguists and, being an optional subject, having a language will give you an advantage over other candidates. Language-specific careers include interpreter, international business manager, teacher and any role that requires contact with people who speak a language other than English. Languages are also invaluable for careers in a wide range of sectors including law, media, business and defence.

French is the official language of 29 countries and is spoken in all 5 continents of the world. It is the sixth most spoken language and, after English, is considered to be the second most influential language in terms of cultural dissemination. As a linguist, you will be able to show that you are able to think and communicate on a global level and, with French, the world will be able to communicate with you.



Health & Social Care *Technical*



What is it about?

The BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social course is designed to give our students the opportunity to develop their understanding of Health and Social care and what that means in day to day life. The course allows students to develop their understanding regardless of their previous study in a number of different areas such as human development and the care values. The course provides an overview that can deliver a basis for students wishing to pursue a career in the health and social care industry whilst also developing broader knowledge and understanding for those who are unsure which path they would like to take.

What other skills will I develop?

Students will learn how to apply the care values. Each of these values provide students with transferrable skills that can be used in any job sector. The knowledge students develop in component 1 and 2 will give them insight into the development of people and the NHS. The course presents students with the chance to learn about different case studies and the varying needs of individuals. Health and Social Care equips students with the knowledge to work in the Health and Social Care sector. Each of the components are designed to develop further understanding of Health and Social Care and what this looks like in society today. Component 1 provides a basis for students to develop their knowledge by covering human growth and development, and the factors that may affect this for an individual. Component 2 covers the different care sectors and how these services can help people. Component 1 and 2 provide the knowledge necessary for students to then complete health and wellbeing plans which form part of their component 3 assessment. The knowledge developed across the three components enables students to become confident in applying their understanding in a variety of different scenarios.

How will I be assessed?

The course consists of three units: two units of coursework which are internally assessed and one exam unit which is externally marked. You will carry out tasks for your coursework during year 10. Your teacher will mark these, which will give you an idea of how you are getting on. The coursework will then be externally moderated by the exam board. Towards the end of year 10 you will start to prepare for the exam unit. You will complete the exam at the end of year 11. The exam will use the knowledge and skills you have learnt throughout the two coursework units. All the work you do throughout the course prepares you for the exam at the end of year 11.

What could I study Post 16?

Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects. Or study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Health and Social Care, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in aspects of health or social care.

What possible careers could I have?

This could provide a suitable qualification, as well as others, that would open up the world of communication and people employment - in other words, if you choose a career in the health and social care industry, such as doctor, nurse, care assistant, midwife, social worker, youth worker, psychologist, healthcare assistant, occupational therapist, then this is a course that will be eminently useful as well as practical.



Music Tech Award*

Music in practice



What is it about?

This course gives students the opportunity to learn about the various music products, develop valuable musical skills and techniques in music creation, performance and production, and explore potential careers in the industry.

Music in practice is an introduction to life and work in the industry, students can explore the sector while:

- developing skills, including teamwork, leadership and communication
- developing and presenting music to a brief
- analysing, evaluating and enhancing their learning. The course has two internally assessed components, and one that's externally assessed:

Component 1: Exploring Musical Products

During this unit of coursework students will explore different styles and genres of music, as well as take part in practical workshops to understand the stylistic features of these different styles. Students will then apply these skills to develop their own piece of work based upon a brief.

Component 2: Music Skills Development

During this unit students will have the opportunity to develop two musical disciplines through engagement in practical tasks, while documenting their progress and planning for further improvement. This could include developing instrumental and performance skills.

Component 3: Responding to a Music Brief

This final unit is externally assessed and you will be given the opportunity to develop and present music in response to a given commercial music brief. You will focus on a particular area of the music industry that excites and appeals to you and respond to the brief as a composer, performer or producer.

How will I be assessed?

This course is completely coursework based where you prepare and improve your musical skills in year 9 and complete the 3 different components of work in year 10 & 11. Component 3 is the only externally assessment which will be completed under exam conditions in school.

What Could I study Post 16?

Students in this course could go on to study level 3 extended diploma in music, music technology or performing arts. University courses include music, music technology or performing arts.

What possible careers could I have?

You could choose to study music purely because you enjoy it and there is research supporting the benefits of studying music and the impact on overall success in outcomes across multiple subjects and can offer a nice practical contrast to other subjects chosen to study. The skills developed would help in careers in performing, recording, sound engineering, media, entertainment, teaching, music therapy and many more.

***This course has specific entry criteria**

An excellent attendance and a real interest in the subject is required, a long with the willingness to develop your musical skills. Being able to play an instrument isn't essential but having the commitment to develop some skills on an instrument over time is.



Performing Arts*

Technical (Acting or Dance Pathways)



What is it about?

This is a highly practical course, which gives you opportunities to develop your performing skills, watch, explore, create and devise performances. It is essentially an active course, which provides many opportunities to explore relationships, ideas and themes, but you will be expected to create PowerPoint presentations as a record of what you have learnt and keep reflection logs to reflect on the work you have done and the choices that you have made. You will also write reviews of performances that you have seen. If you are creative, enjoy working with others, and are willing to perform in front of others; are committed to rehearsing after school and are willing to work as part of a production team, this is the course for you.

What other skills will I develop?

The Performing Arts are noted for improving confidence, concentration and communication. This course will help you develop into a well-rounded individual with good interpersonal skills, and to be able to work well with others.

How will I be assessed?

There are three components:

1. Exploring the Performing Arts which is internally assessed through a logbook and PowerPoint presentation (30% of total qualification)
2. Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts which is internally assessed through research, rehearsal and performance evidence (30% of total qualification)
3. Performing to a Brief, which is externally assessed through research, rehearsal, performance and evaluation. (40% of total qualification).

What could I study Post 16?

Many students successful in this course have gone on to study A-Levels, or BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts. University courses include Drama, Film Studies. You could progress to Drama or Dance specific Academies.

What work-related opportunities will I experience?

There are many work related opportunities available: performing at and visiting theatres such as TR2, the Theatre Royal, Plymouth's rehearsal, set and costume making place, as well as the theatre itself. You will work with a variety of Professional artists such as The Paper Birds, Rhum and Clay, Richard Alston Dance Company. While receiving workshops from professionals, you can ask the about their roles etc. Dancers also receive workshops from professional dance teachers to enable success for Component 2.

What possible careers could I have?

You could study Performing Arts just because you enjoy it, with no thought of taking it further. Being very physical, it is certainly a good contrast for those students with a very full academic curriculum. This could then lead on to University and a Degree, or to Stage School and then, for the very fortunate/committed, to a career on the stage. The caring/service professions, such as nursing, teaching, Police force also favour it, as it encourages the ability to empathise with others.

***This course has specific entry criteria**

An excellent attendance and additional commitment is required for this subject as there are many after school rehearsals for some projects.



Photography GCSE



What is it about?

Photography is about looking, learning, thinking and communicating ideas. It inspires creative thinkers. Photography means 'drawing with light' and that is what photographers do when they take a picture. The most exciting aspect of photography is that you are capturing the world as you see it. You will explore relevant artists and photographers throughout your projects and this will be integral to the investigating and making processes. You will be introduced to a variety of topics and experiences that explore a range of photographic media, techniques and processes - both traditional and contemporary.

What other skills will I develop?

GCSE Photography will help you to develop your creative, technical, communication, analytical and problem-solving skills - skills that are essential in a range of other career opportunities. You will develop your ability to work both independently and collaboratively, and begin to take more risks as you discover your creative voice. You will manage your time effectively to meet deadlines.

How will I be assessed?

The Photography course is broken down into two components; a 60% coursework portfolio developed throughout years 9, 10 and 11 and a 40% final exam which comprises of a 10-hour supervised period following an initial preparatory stage. Both components are marked against four assessment objectives; develop, record, refine, present.

What Could I study Post 16?

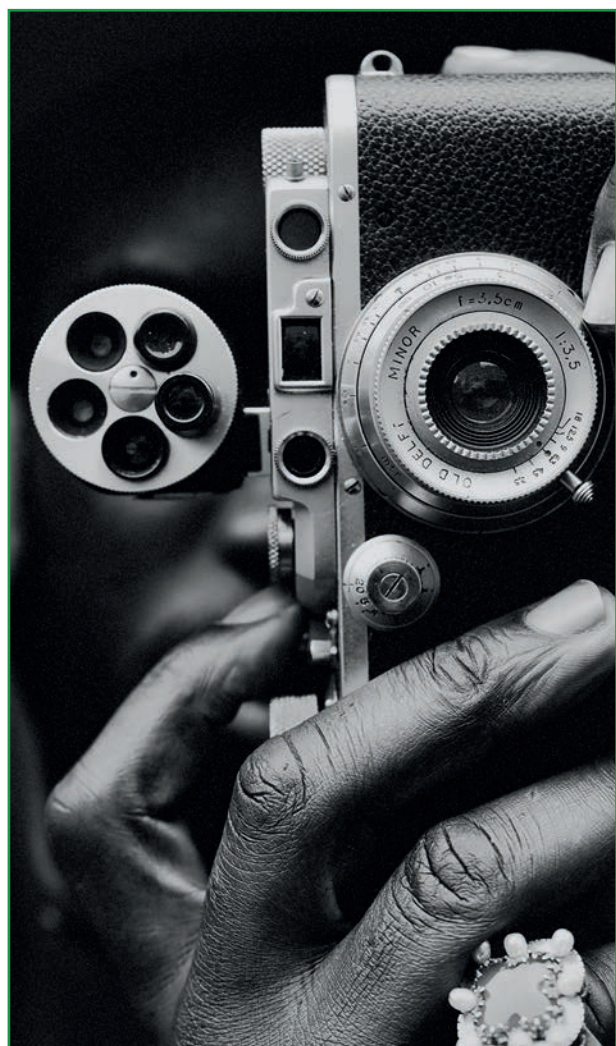
You can continue your Photography studies at AS, A-level and at university, where you will be able to choose areas of study to specialise in within a particular title. If you don't want to take your photography studies any further, the transferable skills you gain will still be valuable.

What work related opportunities will I experience?

You will have the opportunity to go on local trips and visit galleries. You will also meet with local practitioners who will support in class learning through workshops. Photography work produced by students will be displayed regularly around school.

What possible careers could I have?

Photography can be great preparation for any career that require fine motor skills, presentation skills, an eye for aesthetics and creative thinking. Career options include: professional photographer, advertising art director, film/video editor, graphic designer, magazine features editor, medical illustrator, cinematographer, art director, television camera operator and game design.





What will I be studying?

- Students explore how parts of the human body function during physical activity and the physiological adaptations that can occur due to diet and training. You will also develop skills in data analysis, and an understanding of the principles of training, why we train in different ways and how training plans can be made to optimise results.
- Students develop their knowledge of the social-cultural and psychological influences on levels of participation in sport, and also how sport impacts on society more broadly. This includes the individual benefits to health, fitness and well-being of participating in physical activity, as well as the influences of commercialisation, sponsorship and the media.
- Students are assessed in performing 3 practical activities and one performance analysis task. In the practical performance, they demonstrate effective performance, the use of tactics or techniques and the ability to observe the rules and conventions under applied conditions. You are also required to demonstrate their ability to analyse and evaluate their own performance to produce an action plan for improvement.

What other skills will I develop?

The GCSE in Physical Education equips students with the knowledge, understanding and skills to develop their own performance in sport. They develop their understanding of socio-cultural influences on participation in sport, and the benefits of physical activity to health, fitness and well-being.

How will I be assessed?

The qualification is assessed by two 75 minute exams (60% of qualification) at the end of Year 11, a piece of written coursework (10%) and your performance in 3 sports (30%) (1 individual, 1 team and 1 other or 2 individual and 1 team sport).

What could I study Post 16?

There are a range of post 16 courses at Exeter College such as A Level Physical Education, Level 3 BTEC Nationals in Sport and Sport & Exercise Sciences or Advanced VCE in Leisure and Recreation. Some possible University courses include Sports Science, Leisure and Tourism, and Teaching Degrees.

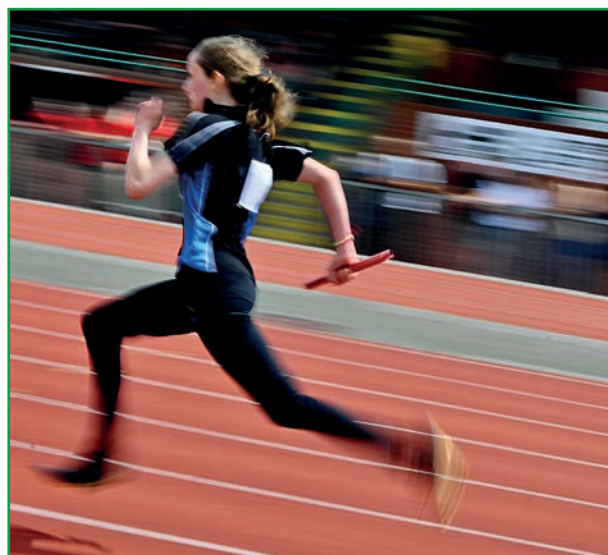
What possible careers could I have?

The course develops the transferable skills and key skills that employers are looking for and can lead to a wide variety of employment opportunities. Students could use this course as good preparation for teaching, coaching, professional sport, leisure centre work, youth work, physiotherapy, sports management and outdoor education.

***This course has specific entry criteria**

The course constantly draws on sporting ability and knowledge, so you must:

- Compete in/out of school
- Perform at a good level of the school
- Have a predicted grade 6 or above in English and Science
- Strong grasp on literacy and scientific topics
- Enjoy the analysis of sport and completing extended pieces of writing on topics connected to the world of sport and performance



Religious Studies GCSE



What will I be studying?

The Religious Studies GCSE comprises of two components. In the first component you will study the beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam. This will give you a unique insight into understanding the lives of almost half the people living in the world today.

In the second component, you will study a number of ethical issues within the themes of Life; Peace and Conflict; Crime and Punishment and Human Rights and Social Justice. These issues range from animal rights to capital punishment to abortion and euthanasia to nuclear weapons. It is this element of the GCSE that makes Religious Studies so popular nationally, the chance to debate real-life global issues.

What other skills will I develop?

One of the main skills you will develop will be debating skills as during the Thematic part of the course there will be many discussions about

ethical and controversial issues - everything from animal rights to euthanasia to nuclear weapons. Linked to this, you will also develop your

research and public speaking skills. Preparing for the debates will improve your ability to

write persuasive speeches. Teamwork is another important skill that you will need as you will be working with others on several mini projects.

How will I be assessed?

Each component is assessed by a 1 hour and 45-minute exam. Each exam is worth 50% of the final mark. The first exam focuses on the beliefs and practices element of the course. The second on the themes.

Most of the questions will require short, or relatively short, answers and will be worth between 1 and 5 marks. Each exam paper will also contain a number of 12-mark questions which will require you to show a higher level of knowledge and understanding. These questions require you to evaluate statements, which means that you get marks for expressing your opinion.

What could I study Post 16?

The Religious Studies A Level is an obvious pathway from the GCSE, however, many students also opt for the Philosophy A Level. There is also the possibility of participating in the Philosopher's Toolkit, which is of the College's Extend options.

What possible careers could I have?

It is important to appreciate that Religious Studies is not a subject that should only be taken by someone who wants to become a vicar. Religious Studies is an ideal choice for any student considering a career in any profession that requires an understanding of ethics and moral issues, such as the medical or teaching professions. The topics studied will also be useful for careers to do with the Law, such as a lawyer. The skills you will acquire through studying the course will be transferable to almost any career.



Sport Studies* Technical



What will I be studying?

The Sport Studies course looks at topics connected to the different types of sporting and physical activity. This includes how sports are organised and also the different roles available in them. There are two compulsory units on Contemporary Issues in Sport and Performance and Leadership in Sports Activities. Students will also study an additional unit looking at outdoor and adventurous activities. This will involve a parental contribution so students can engage in practical opportunities outside of school.

What other skills will I develop?

If you like playing sport and you are interested in all aspects of sports preparation and performance

- then this will appeal to you. It develops the knowledge, skills and understanding that underpin many other subjects. It develops your own health and fitness understanding as well as key skills, especially working as a team. It provides a progressive route to further study.

How will I be assessed?

You will be completing a range of tasks from a written examination (40%), assignments, leading coaching sessions and performing in practical sport sessions (60%).

What could I study Post 16?

There are a range of post 16 courses at Exeter College such as Level 3 BTEC Nationals in Sport and Sport & Exercise Sciences or Advanced VCE in Leisure and Recreation. Some possible University courses include Sports Science, Leisure and Tourism, and Teaching Degrees.

What possible careers could I have?

The course develops the transferable skills and key skills that employers are looking for and can lead to a wide variety of employment opportunities. This can include further training in areas such as recreational management, leisure activities, coaching, officiating, the fitness industry, the armed forces and the Civil Service.

Students could use this programme as good preparation for teaching, coaching, professional sport, leisure centre work, youth work, physiotherapy, sports management and outdoor education.

***This course has specific entry criteria**

The course constantly draws on sporting ability and knowledge, so you must have an interest and passion for sport and look forward to your PE lessons. You must compete in/out of school, not just in PE.

You must also enjoy the analysis of sport and completing extended pieces of writing on topics connected to the world of sport.



Statistics & Further Maths* GCSE



What will I be studying?

You have the opportunity to gain 2 GCSEs - Further Mathematics GCSE and Statistics GCSE. The Further Mathematics Qualification is an exciting opportunity to study mathematics beyond the normal curriculum. One third of the content reflects GCSE grade 8 topics with the remainder of the course introducing new material such as calculus, differentiation and matrices. The qualification itself demands real determination and commitment to mathematics. The Statistics GCSE will be run alongside the Further Mathematics course. This course emphasises the theoretical, practical and applied nature of the subject; it provides an excellent platform for cross-curricular studies and activities. It gives a great background for the study of statistics beyond GCSE level. This option is an excellent choice for anyone looking at taking A-Level Mathematics.

What other skills will I develop?

Further mathematics will help you to develop a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts and mathematical modelling. You will become mathematically fluent to an A-level standard and develop an exceptional level of problem-solving skills that can be transferred across other subject areas. Statistics will provide you with a critical appreciation of statistics and its place in everyday life. It encourages you to develop an enquiring mind and to become an effective and independent learner. You will take part in a series of projects in conjunction with the Exeter Maths School to develop your independent learning skills and your technology skills including the use of Microsoft Excel.

How will I be assessed?

- Within the Further mathematics qualification, there are two formal exams at the end of the 3-year period: one calculator and one non-calculator paper. They carry equal weighting.
- The statistics GCSE has two formal exams. They carry equal weighting. Students will be examined in the statistics element of the course in Year 10.

What could I study Post 16?

Maths, psychology, geography, philosophy, and any science subject. Statistics will also help you to analyse data within any other subject.

What work-related opportunities will I experience? You will learn how to plan a strategy and investigation, how to conduct experiments and surveys with an appreciation of their constraints. You will also learn how to effectively collect data and present that data in a meaningful way.

What possible careers could I have?

All of us use maths in our lives to some extent. However, a particular skill in maths can open the doors to some wonderful careers. For example, accountant, architect, videogame designer, rollercoaster design, maths teacher (!), scientist, lawyer, statistician, meteorologist.

***This course has specific entry criteria**

Due to the mathematical demands of this course, you will need to ensure you are target for at least a grade 6 in GCSE maths in order to select this subject.





What will I be studying?

Sociology explores the social world around us. It is the study of society and human behaviour. You will study different social groups and the characteristics that make people different to each other.

You will examine patterns of attitudes and behaviours over time and how societies can change from one culture to the next.

Sociology looks at areas of ordinary social life such as families, work and education to see how these systems work. It is also concerned with social issues such as power, poverty, crime and inequality.

What other skills will I develop?

Through studying sociology, you will develop transferable skills including how to:

- investigate facts and make deductions
- develop opinions and new ideas on social issues
- analyse and better understand the social world

Through studying Sociology you will also develop these skills:

- **Research.** This is a skill that becomes more and more important as you progress through the education system. Studying Sociology will teach you how to research effectively and give you a skill that many students your age will not have.
- **Communication.** This is regarded as one of the most important employability skills. Sociology will develop your communication skills in many different ways; from writing factual or persuasive reports and creating infographics, to taking part in debates and expressing your opinions verbally.
- **Critical thinking.** This is another skill that employers are looking for when they recruit to their company. They want dynamic people who critically analyse issues and situations and make creative and realistic suggestions for improvement. This is at the core of Sociology.

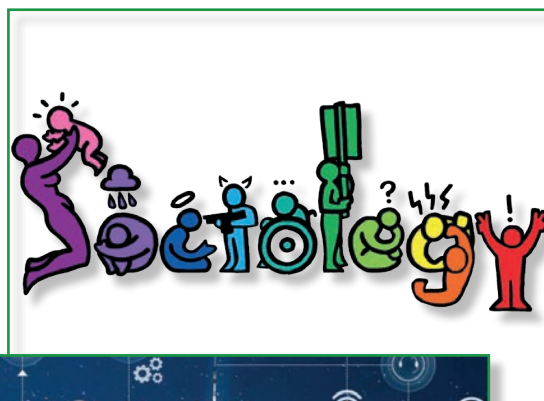
How will I be assessed?

Sociology is assessed through two exams, which are each worth 50% of the GCSE. Paper 1 focuses on families and education, and the second paper on crime and social stratification. This is really helpful because once you have completed paper 1, you can focus on the other topics for paper 2. The exam structure is also helpful because each section starts with multiple choice questions, then some short-answer ones before the extended writing questions. This gives you a chance to 'grow' into the questions.

Post 16 and future career pathways?

One of the many great things about Sociology is that it has links to so many subjects that you may want to study after you leave West Exe; particularly Humanities subjects but also the social sciences such as Philosophy and Psychology. It also links to other subjects such as Law and Business.

Likewise, when it comes to future careers, Sociology has connections with many areas of work, including teaching; business and management; medicine/care; law; crime prevention; government; politics and psychology.



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West Exe School

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