



**Hanson Academy**

# Options Booklet

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# Option Choices

**The following booklet will outline the study choices available to you in Key Stage 4 for your continued studies at Hanson Academy.**

- All students are required to study a minimum of **8 subjects**
- All students have to study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science and Core PE
- All students study History or Geography
- Students can have a guided free choice beyond these subjects from the approved qualifications list.

Many BTECS and some GCSE's have been withdrawn from the list of recognised qualifications in order to ensure the qualifications are both academically challenging and meet with standard expectations across all Level 2 qualifications.

- All students are expected to achieve expected progress from the exams that they take.

**It is now very important for you to think carefully about your strengths, skills and possible career plans. At Hanson Academy we are committed to providing a balanced curriculum for all our students.**

**At Key Stage 4, all students study the following compulsory core subjects:**

- English Language / English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- History or Geography
- Core PE

In addition to the core subjects, you will have the chance to choose additional subjects to study. You can state a preference for other courses that will make up your timetable of 25 lessons each week. Some students will be recommended for EBacc pathway.





# Pathways

**Many of our students will be identified to follow the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) pathway but all pupils have the opportunity to study this.**

## English Baccalaureate

The following subjects make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc):

- English
- Maths
- Science
- History or Geography
- French or Spanish

The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and open up lots of career prospects. The EBacc is highly valued by the universities widely regarded as the top universities (Russell Group). We will be available on Options evening to discuss the advantages and opportunities of EBacc.

Pathway		Options
<b>EBacc Pathway</b>		Students on this pathway have an option choice of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History or Geography</li> <li>• French or Spanish</li> <li>• Two open options</li> </ul>
<b>Open Pathway</b>		Students on this pathway have an option choice of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History or Geography</li> <li>• Three open options</li> </ul>

Please note some students will be invited to study Triple Science as one of their options.

## Choices

The majority of students will receive their first-choice subjects. However please note some courses might be full and we can only run courses if enough students opt for them. You must include reserve choices just in case your first choice is not available.

# Key Questions

## Why have I got this booklet?

This booklet is to help you plan for the next steps in your education at Hanson Academy. It contains information, guidance and advice about how you can maximise your potential and help you to make the right decisions for your future.

**Key Stage 4 years are the foundation for the rest of your life.**

## Can I choose whatever subjects I want?

Not exactly – you **MUST** study English, Maths, Science, History or Geography and Core PE. You then have the opportunity to choose from different options to focus on subject areas you have a particular skill or interest in. You will be guided to the pathway most appropriate to you.

## Are some subjects more useful than others?

Not necessarily. The essential subjects are in the core. All aspects of life, particularly employment, are changing rapidly. It is best to study as broad a range of subjects as you can, developing employability skills are what matters most.

It is also important that you get the best grades you are capable of because these grades will be needed by employers, further education, and universities.

## Will I get my first choices?

We hope so, but sometimes it is impossible to ensure every student gains every one of their first choices; either because there may be too few or too many people interested in that subject. When making your choices you should make sure that your reserve choices really are subjects you are interested in and would like to study.

You will have time to think about your choices carefully, to make sure that you are certain about your decisions, and to use this time to speak to as many people as possible to ensure you make informed choices.





## Which route should I take?

### What you need to ask yourself now is:

- What do I want to do after Year 11?
- What subjects do I really like?
- What skills do I need to succeed at the subjects I want?
- What skills do I have and which subjects will improve them even more?
- What do I need to find out about the courses?
- What pathway have I been recommended for?

## If I have any questions?

Please speak to Mrs Welsh regarding options at break and lunch or email:  
**WelshS1@hanson.org.uk**

Please speak to Mr Swaine regarding careers at break and lunch or email:  
**SwaineA@hanson.org.uk**

# Do

- Find out as much as you can about each course for example, what will you be learning about? How will you be assessed? What will the skills you learn be useful for?
- Try to choose subjects that you are good at and enjoy, as these are the ones you are most likely to excel in.
- Make the final decision **YOURSELF**. You will be studying the subjects you choose throughout Key Stage 4; it is **YOUR** future you are considering.
- Get as much advice as possible. If you don't know something, just ask.
- Talk to your parents and carers, form tutor, subject teachers, careers advisors and senior staff.

# Don't

- Think you are expected to know what you want to do later in life; the curriculum is designed to allow you to keep as many open doors as possible.
- Choose a course because your friend is choosing it; you still might find yourself in different groups.
- Choose the course because you like the teacher you have now; you will probably have a different teacher in the next year.
- Rush to complete your choices. Places are not allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. All choices are guided and may require further discussion with you or your parents/carers.





# Options Process

Date	What will happen
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025	<b>Options information assembly</b>  Mr Sheedy and Mrs Welsh will launch the options process to students. Option subject specific assemblies will also take place the following week.
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 4.30–7pm	<b>Options Evening</b>  Option booklets will be handed out on arrival.  Each option subject staff will promote their subject and will be available to discuss course content throughout the evening. Mr Sheedy will present information to Parents/Carers during the evening at 5:00pm and repeated at 6:00pm.  Following Options Evening, an email will be issued to the student's school email address with a Microsoft link to the Options Form. The form can also be viewed via the MCAS app.  Our Careers Advisor, Mr Swaine, will also be available during the evening for careers advice.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	<b>Options choices deadline</b>  Options Forms <b>must</b> be completed and returned by 3pm on this date.
July 2025	<b>Options Choices confirmed</b>

# Art & Design

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?  
**Mr Bal**

What is the course I will be following?  
**GCSE Art and Design (Fine Art)**

## The course will allow students to learn:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Photography
- Printmaking
- Mixed Media

## Students will develop their awareness of:

Colour, composition, line, rhythm, form, scale, tone, structure, texture, surface, shape, contrast, creativity, and different ways of seeing. These are skills that employers in all fields of work find desirable as it makes a great problem solver. Art also teaches you to think outside of the box.

All the above will be taught through theme-based projects examples of themes: portraiture (identity), architecture, still life, natural forms, isolation and student choice. You will study the work of a variety of different photographers, artists, and visual sources.

## How is the course assessed?

**60%** Portfolio (coursework)  
**40%** Externally set assignment

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

To access an A level / Level 3 Vocational Art courses/ Apprenticeships.

Related careers range from art therapist, fashion designer, fine artist, graphic designer, illustrator, print maker and art teacher, game designer, architect, and product designer.



**OCR**

# Business Enterprise

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?  
**Miss Fretwell**

What is the course I will be following?  
**Cambridge National in Enterprise  
and Marketing**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

Enterprise is all about how to work as an entrepreneur and begin a new, successful business idea from nothing. It offers you the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of the world of business and enterprise through investigation of a range of business organisations and concepts. It is relevant to the world you live in and to your future. Students examine a range of real-life enterprises as well as planning and implementing their own entrepreneurial ideas.

## The course will allow students to learn:

The course is designed to encourage an investigative approach to some real-world questions. Skills used include data analysis and interpretation, group work, individual research, planning and report writing. Enthusiasm about the world of business and real-world entrepreneurs is key to success. It gives learners the opportunity to develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. This course is suitable for anyone with a genuine interest in business, enterprise and marketing. Everything around us is shaped by the world of business, whether it is a local shop to a global brand. This course is especially suited to those who are interested in how ideas become a business, how to start a business, how to promote and market a business and how to run and finance a business

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

Enterprise enables students to understand more about the business world and prepare them to make informed decisions about further study and career pathways. Students can go to study A Level or Level 3 Business Studies. The knowledge and skills gained from Enterprise support students' entry into employment or other training in specific aspects of business.

## How is the course assessed?

During this course you will be learning theory and practical skills about different enterprises. There are three components to this course:

### **RO67 Enterprise and marketing concepts 40% external exam**

- Characteristics of successful entrepreneurs
- Purpose of market research
- Finance for success
- Marketing mix
- Types of business ownership

### **RO68 Design a Business Proposal 30% internal assessment**

- Gain essential skills and knowledge needed to start a business, by using market research to create a viable business proposal

### **RO69 Market and Pitch a Business Proposal 30% internal assessment**

- Gain essential skills and knowledge needed to promote a business and present your ideas to an audience.

# Computer Science

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?  
**Mr Aswat**

What is the course I will be following?  
**GCSE Computer Science**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

In Year 10 you will study **Component 1** of the specification with some elements of **Component 2**. Lessons will be based on each topic area where class activities will support in the development of the students understanding. You will be introduced to programming concepts in Year 10 which will be developed further in Year 11.

## The course will allow students to learn:

You will start by gaining an understanding of the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation. You will analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs.

You will learn about the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems. You will understand the impact of digital technology to the individual and to wider society.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

GCSE Computer Science can lead onto Computer Science at A Level and Cambridge Technicals in ICT. It will also lead you onto a wide range of careers including Computer Technicians, Network Managers, Web Developers, Games Developers etc.

## How is the course assessed?

Two written examinations:

**Paper 1:** 1 hour 30 minutes (50% of the qualification)

**Paper 2:** 1 hour 30 minutes (50% of the qualification)

These papers consist of multiple-choice questions, short response questions, extended response questions and elements of programming questions.





**OCR**

# Creative iMedia

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?  
**Mr Aswat**

What is the course I will be following?  
**Cambridge National in Creative iMedia**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

The course consists of 3 units which will be completed throughout the two-year course.

## The course will allow students to learn:

Creative iMedia allows you to gain knowledge in several key areas in the ICT/Media field. You study R094 (mandatory unit), plus 1 optional unit and you will sit a 1hr 30minute exam.

### R094 -

Visual identity and digital graphics – This is assessed by completing a set assignment. In this unit you will learn to how to develop visual identities for clients and use the concepts of graphic design to create original digital graphics to engage target audiences.

## The 5 optional units are:

Students choose 1 optional unit, each optional unit has the same structure to your learning, but the conventions and practical skills are tailored to the media product being studied.

- **R095:** Characters and comics
- **R096:** Animation and audio
- **R097:** Interactive digital media
- **R098:** Visual imaging
- **R099:** Digital games

## Students will develop their awareness of:

If you like to work independently and you like a practical based lesson, then you may find Creative iMedia a great option. Throughout the course you will use a variety of different software packages and develop useful skills:

- Use packages including the Adobe Suite (Photoshop, Animate, Dreamweaver – HTML code is an option), Gaming software, Microsoft Office including PowerPoint, Word, Excel, and Edge and more. This is useful in the real world.
- Plan, develop and create products to meet the requirements from an assignment brief.
- Project planning which models real life scenarios plus you will learn to manage your own time efficiently.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

To access further education qualifications such as the Cambridge Technicals – IT Level 3 or Digital Media Level 3 (both OCR) or you could consider moving into AS or A Level Computer Science.

## Career Opportunities in ICT or Computing:

Graphic Designer, Games Designer, Web Developer, Animator or Film Director are some career opportunities.

## How is the course assessed?

**60%** of the qualification is assessed through coursework which is set and marked by your teacher.

**40%** of the qualification is an external exam (1hr 30mins).

# Dance

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?  
**Mrs Keeton**

What is the course I will be following?  
**BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts  
– Dance Pathway**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

This is a practical based course focusing on producing and performing dance from a variety of different genres and disciplines.

## The course will allow students to learn:

- The role of a professional performer and how other roles contribute to the creation of theatre
- The role of a designer for set, lighting, costume and make-up
- How practitioners such as dancers, choreographers and designers work together to create and influence what is performed
- To choreograph dance
- How a designer develops their own ideas
- Perform and present dance
- Perform and respond to a brief

## Students will develop:

- Physical, interpretive and rehearsal skills
- Reflection
- Creating and developing dance
- Performance skills
- Movement skills
- Critical thinking
- Decision making

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

Go onto study Performing Arts at Sixth Form, college or university. This qualification prepares students for both practical and academic routes.

The BTEC Award is a practical introduction to the life and work within the Performing Arts. It gives students the opportunity to develop their understanding of the sector and the confidence to progress in whichever path they choose. Career opportunities include writing, choreographing, designing and performing, as well as careers in theatre education and research.

## How is the course assessed?

**30%** Exploring the Performing Arts  
**30%** Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts  
**40%** Performing to a Brief











**AQA**

# Design & Technology – RM

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Mrs Postings**

What is the course I will be following?

**GCSE Design & Technology – Resistant Materials**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

You will learn through a mixture of projects and theory-based lessons. You will undertake a range of different skills-based projects where you will design and make a range of products and furniture.

## The course will allow students to learn:

You will take part in one unit of coursework as well as a range of skills-based projects. The coursework is designed to develop your designing skills along with practical skills and your understanding of materials including the use of CAD/CAM.

This course gives you the opportunity to design and make products using wood, metal and plastic.

## How is the course assessed?

You will complete 2 Unit's of work:

### **50% Coursework**

**50% Exam** (2 hours, 100 marks made up from a range of multiple choice and extended answer questions) Made up of 3 sections; Section A–Core Technical Principles, Section B–Specialist Technical Principles, Section C–Design & Making Principles.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

GCSE D&T Resistant Materials is excellent preparation for a well-paid career in the Design or Engineering Industries including Architecture, Graphic Design, Product Design or Mechanical Engineering. Many students choose to develop skills further by going on to study Product Design A level at Hanson and further study at University or apprenticeship.



# Design & Technology – TX

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?  
**Mrs Postings**

What is the course I will be following?  
**GCSE Design & Technology – Textiles**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

You will learn through a mixture of projects and theory-based lessons. You will undertake a range of different skills-based projects where you will design and make a range of products including garments, educational toys and household textiles.

## The course will allow students to learn:

You will take part in one unit of coursework as well as a range of skills-based projects. The coursework will develop your designing skills along with practical skills and your understanding of materials including the use of CAD/CAM.

You will develop your knowledge of fabrics, smart materials, embellishments and various techniques used to decorate and assemble garments and other textiles products. There will also be an element of core subject knowledge which will draw on what you learnt in Key Stage 3.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

GCSE D&T with Textiles could lead to a well-paid job in the textile industry, A Levels and/or a degree course in Fashion, Interior Design or Technological/Scientific courses investigating smart materials or designing new fabrics. A good GCSE grade in Textiles could lead to entry to A Level Textiles at Hanson and further study at university or apprenticeship.

## How is the course assessed?

You will complete 2 Unit's of work:

### 50% Coursework

**50% Exam** (2 hours, 100 marks made up from a range of multiple choice and extended answer questions)

Pearson

# Drama

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Mrs Keeton**

What is the course I will be following?

**BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts  
– Drama Pathway**

## The course will allow students to learn:

- The role of a professional performer and how other roles contribute to the creation of theatre
- The role of a designer for set, lighting, costume and make-up
- How practitioners such as dancers, choreographers and designers work together to create and influence what is performed
- To devise drama
- How a designer develops their own ideas
- Perform and present texts or musical theatre
- Perform and respond to a brief

## Students will develop:

- Physical, interpretive and rehearsal skills
- Reflection
- Creating and developing drama or musical theatre
- Performance skills
- Movement skills
- Critical thinking
- Decision making

## How is the course assessed?

**30%** Exploring the Performing Arts  
**30%** Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts  
**40%** Performing to a Brief

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

Go onto study Performing Arts at Sixth Form, college or university. This qualification prepares students for both practical and academic routes.

The BTEC Award is a practical introduction to the life and work within the Performing Arts. It gives students the opportunity to develop their understanding of the sector and the confidence to progress in whichever path they choose. Career opportunities include writing, choreographing, designing and performing, as well as careers in theatre education and research.

# Engineering

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?  
**Mrs Postings**

What is the course I will be following?  
**WJEC Vocational Award in Engineering**

## The course will allow students to learn:

- Engineering sectors and
- Responding to an engineering design applications brief
- Instigating an engineering product

## Students will develop their awareness of:

- Research, observation,
- Identify problems, develop a recording, interpretation and hypothesis and investigate measuring skills solutions
- Planning manufacturing
- Record, analyse and evaluate testing data and outcomes

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

Access to an A Level Course or a career in the  
Engineering industry.

### Career Opportunities:

- Aerospace
- Electrical Engineering
- Civil Engineering

## How is the course assessed?

**Unit 1: Manufacturing Engineering Products**  
Controlled Assessment (40% of qualification)

**Unit 2: Designing Engineering Products**  
Controlled Assessment (20% of qualification)

**Unit 3: Solving Engineering Problems**  
Written Examination (40% of qualification)





**Edexcel**

# French

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Miss Bache**

What is the course I will be following?

**GCSE French**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

GCSE Topics and skills

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

## The course will allow students to learn:

The course explores geography, culture and traditions, giving you the chance to link your language studies with intercultural understanding. By studying another language, you will begin to understand and appreciate different countries, cultures, people and communities and learn how language can be manipulated and applied in different ways.

Studying a language to GCSE level will benefit you in lots of ways. More and more places of work are looking for students with a qualification which makes them stand out from the crowd and a foreign language GCSE does just that.

## How is the course assessed?

### Final Examination:

- Reading exam **(25%)**
- Listening exam **(25%)**
- Writing exam **(25%)**
- Speaking exam – internally assessed, externally marked **(25%)**



## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

Students can go on to study languages further at A Level. Language skills are highly regarded by universities and employers. A GCSE in Modern Foreign Languages can be useful in a wide range of careers. For some jobs, such as translating, interpreting and language teaching, language skills are one of the main requirements. Languages are sought-after in careers in law, IT, finance, tourism, engineering and sales. Language students often have strong communication and problem-solving skills and display good levels of intercultural awareness and adaptability.

# Geography

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Miss Brierley and Mr Brooke-Smith**

What is the course I will be following?

**GCSE Geography**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

Geography aims to develop your awareness of the world around you. On this course, you will study both about human and physical geographical environments. This course is based around the interactions between humans and their environment and the problems we face in the future such as resource management.

The course will feature the following units:

- Living with the physical environment
- Challenges in the human environment
- Geographical applications
- Geographical skills

You will also go on at least two fieldtrips, including Hornsea and Bridlington.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

GCSE Geography feeds directly into A Level Geography at both AS and A2, as well as providing a good base of knowledge for more specialised Science subjects at A Level such as Geology. Other paths of progression include Travel & Tourism and other subjects regarding the Humanities.

Employers value Geography because it develops such a wide range of skills. Geographers are used to dealing with facts and figures, maps, ideas, views, values and increasingly computers, they are well prepared for making management decisions. Geography's wide range of topical content also helps to make Geography students flexible in the way they think and work. It therefore combines well with other subjects. Consequently, students of Geography go into a wide range of employment, such as:

Leisure, travel and tourism, travel agent, holiday rep, environmental management, National Trust, forestry, conservation officer, scientific services, hydrologist, surveyor, cartographer, education and social services, teaching, social services, law, information services, sports management, business and finance, insurance, market research, banking, management and administration, estate agent, civil service, census officer, geographical information systems, creating and analysing geographical computer databases (GIS).

## How is the course assessed?

The course is 100% assessed by examination with 3 papers

**Paper 1:** Living with the physical environment – 35% of GCSE

**Paper 2:** Challenges in the human environment – 35% of GCSE

**Paper 3:** Geographical applications – 30% of GCSE

**OCR**

# Health & Social Care

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Miss Sunderland**

What is the course I will be following?

**OCR Cambridge National in Health & Social Care**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

This course is designed for students who have a keen interest in working in the health and social care sector. Due to the pandemic, there has been an increase in demand for jobs in health and social care. This course has 3 Components: 1 exam and 2 coursework. The course is theory based but a number of practical learning tasks make the course relate to the health and social job sector as much as possible.

## The course will allow students to learn:

### **Component 1- (Coursework 30%): Supporting individuals through life events.**

In this unit you will learn about life stages and the factors that affect them. You will understand expected and unexpected life events and the impact they will have on physical, social/emotional and socio-economic aspects in an individual's life.

### **Component 2 - (Coursework 30%): Creative and Therapeutic Activities.**

In this unit you will learn about a range of creative activities and therapies that are available in health, and social care settings and understand the physical, intellectual, emotional and social benefits

of these. You will learn how to plan and deliver a creative activity with an individual or group and evaluate your planning and delivery.

**Component 3- (Exam 40%):** In this unit you will learn about the importance of the rights of service users, person-centred values and how to apply them. You will also learn about the importance of effective communication skills when providing care and support for service users in health and social care settings and the procedures and measures used to protect individuals such as safeguarding, hygiene and security.

## Students will develop their awareness of:

- The key skills that prove your aptitude in health and social care such as interpreting data to assess an individual's health to design a plan to improve an individual's health and wellbeing
- The knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in the sector such as human growth and development, health and social care services and factors affecting people's health and wellbeing.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

Access to study Level 3 Health and Social Care at Sixth Form or College. Approximately 3 million people work in health and social care. Health care roles include doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives and healthcare assistants, while social care roles include care assistants, occupational therapists, counsellors and administrators. Together, they account for nearly one in ten of all paid jobs in the UK. Demand for health and social care is likely to rise due to the pandemic, so they will continue to play a key role in UK society and the demand for people to carry out these vital roles will increase.

## How is the course assessed?

**One written examination and two internally assessed coursework units.**

**Exam unit** - Principles of care in HSC settings 1 hour 15 minutes

**Mandatory unit** - Supporting individuals through life events

Optional unit - Creative and therapeutic activities



# History

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Mrs Taylor**

What is the course I will be following?

**GCSE History**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

Students will study the following topics:

**Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment (30%)** - Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches.

**Paper 2: Period study and British depth study (40%)** - Early Elizabethan England, 1558–1588 and The American West, c1835–c1885.

**Paper 3: Modern depth study (30%)** - Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39

## The course will allow students to learn:

The Edexcel GCSE syllabus includes a thematic study, spanning medieval, early modern and modern history. You will also have the opportunity to study different eras in depth and analyse historic environments through source evidence. Questions encourage an issues-based and investigative approach. The course will give you the opportunity to investigate historical questions by evaluating sources and historical interpretations, using them to reach reasoned conclusions.

### Students will:

The study of GCSE History at Hanson Academy inspires students to deepen their understanding of the people, periods and events studied. It allows you to think critically, weigh evidence, create arguments, make informed decisions and develop perspective and judgement. This prepares you for a role as an informed, thoughtful and active citizen. The study of history and a knowledge and understanding of the past also helps to understand your own identity and significant aspects of the world in which we live, while also providing you with the basis for further wider learning and study.

### How is the course assessed?

Students will be examined externally in three exam papers. All grades (1–9) are available to all students as these are not tiered exams.

### How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

Gaining a good grade in History will enable you to follow many AS and A level courses. History develops a number of skills, such as analysis, evaluation and discussion, which are useful in many careers. As a highly respected academic subject any of the major professions accept, if not encourage, students to study History, especially law, journalism and media.

Eduqas/WJEC

# Hospitality & Catering

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Mrs Simpson**

What is the course I will be following?

**Level 1/2 award in Hospitality & Catering**

## The course will allow students to learn:

- Understand the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate.
- Understand how hospitality and catering provisions operate.
- Understand how H&C provision meets health and safety requirements.
- Know how food can cause ill health.
- Be able to propose a hospitality and catering provision to meet specific requirements.

## Students will:

- Be required to **safely plan, prepare, cook and present nutritional dishes.**
- Propose four nutritional dishes for a given brief
- Plan for the production of two dishes that could be included on the menu
- Prepare, cook and present the two dishes that the apprentice will prepare and cook.



## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

### Careers in catering and hospitality industry:

Hotel managers, environmental health, event planner, journalism, marketing, chef, product development

### Careers in food and nutrition:

Dietitian, nutritionist, food science

Employment in hospitality and catering can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers and food technologists in food manufacturing.

## How is the course assessed?

### Unit 1: Written examination (40%)

- 1 hour 30 mins – Max 90 marks

### Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action

- This is your Non-Exam Assessment (NEA)
- Internally assessed by your teacher and externally moderated.
- Practical exam is to plan, cook and serve two complete dishes (with accompaniments) in Year 11

**9 hours, including a 3 hour practical exam (60%)**

# Music

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Mr Speight**

What is the course I will be following?

**BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice**

## The course will allow students to learn:

As an industry, music covers and includes a phenomenal amount of different jobs. This BTEC is successful as it appeals to a wide range of interests as some students have a passion in performing, others may prefer to learn how to become a composer/songwriter whereas some will want to focus on using computer software to create music.

### The course will allow students to learn about:

- Exploring Music Products through a series of workshops and practical tasks. You will create a portfolio exploring a variety of styles and genres of popular music (such as disco, punk, reggae, pop ballads, RnB, Rock), world music, music for film and games, western classical styles and blues. Through these practical workshops, listening and theory elements will also be developed. The aim of this component is to capitalise on, nurture and encourage your own musical interests.
- Music Skills Development where you will specialise in two different areas out of these three: Music Performance, Creating Original Music (song writing/composing) and Music Production (using computer software to produce music).
- Responding to a Commercial Music Brief which will allow you to work to your strengths and interests and apply the skills that you have learned throughout your course in a practical way. You will focus on a particular area of the music industry that excites and appeals to you and respond to a commercial music brief as a composer, performer or producer.

## Students will develop:

- Instrumental and performance skills
- Planning and development skills
- Research skills
- Individual and group-based work
- Practical skills

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

The BTEC Music qualification could lead to a career in performance, recording, music production, music business, band management, music journalism, music therapy, teaching etc. The BTEC Music qualification allows you to progress to Level 3 RSL and BTEC courses, A Level Music and Music Technology courses, and higher education courses such as degrees in Music, Popular Music, Music Technology and Music Business.

## How is the course assessed?

**Component 1:** Exploring Music Products (Internal)

**Component 2:** Music Skills Development

**Component 3:** Responding to a Commercial Music Brief

**The course has two internally assessed components and one externally assessed component (there is no written exam).**





# Photography

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?  
**Mr Bal**

What is the course I will be following?  
**GCSE Photography**

## The course will allow students to learn:

- Digital Photography
- Photoshop and Digital Manipulation
- Composition
- Lighting
- Editing & Post-Processing
- Experimental Photography
- Photomontage
- Mixed Media Photography

Photography explores key concepts like colour, composition, line, rhythm, form, scale, tone, structure, texture, surface, shape, contrast, and creativity. These skills are highly desirable to employers across all fields as they foster problem-solving and innovative thinking. Photography encourages you to think outside the box and see the world in different ways.

These concepts will be taught through theme-based projects. Example themes include portraiture, Structure, still life, natural forms, Culture, Zoomed in, Climate and student choice. You will study the work of a variety of photographers, visual artists, and other sources of creative inspiration.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

This course provides access to A Level / Level 3 Vocational Photography courses or apprenticeships.

Related careers include photographer, photojournalist, events, fashion photographer, graphic designer, fine art photographer, editor, visual content creator, film editor, direction, camera operator, architectural photographer, and product photographer.

## How is the course assessed?

**60%** Portfolio (coursework)

**40%** Externally set assignment



**Pearson Edexcel**

# Religious Studies

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Mrs Hawkins**

What is the course I will be following?

**Edexcel Religious Studies Specification B**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

RS will greatly enhance your ability to argue your own viewpoints clearly and concisely, but also learn to understand the viewpoints of others.

The course is the study of two units, Christianity and Islam.

### Paper 1: Christianity

Christian Beliefs  
Marriage and Family Life  
Living the Christian Life  
Matters of Life after Death

### Paper 1: Islam

Muslim Beliefs  
Crime and Punishment  
Living the Muslim Life  
Peace and Conflict

## The course will allow students to learn:

RS teaches the importance of tolerance within the community and that there are many ways to approach any issue. Also, that different people can believe the same things for completely different reasons, and that within religions, or even within denominations, there are often many contrasting beliefs and opinions. RS is research-based tasks, group work, discussions and debates. External speakers will also be invited, and trips organised as appropriate.

## How is the course assessed?

This GCSE is 100% exam based.

Students will sit two exam papers based on each of the two units they will have studied.

**Paper 1: 1 hour 45 minutes worth 50% of the final grade**

**Paper 2: 1 hour 45 minutes worth 50% of the final grade**

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

The main advantage of GCSE Religious Studies is that it prepares you for life and gives you the skills you will need to make the decisions in adult life. It is also an excellent preparation for:

A Level Social Sciences (Law, Sociology and Psychology), A Level Philosophy, Religion and Ethics, History and English. Jobs that will appreciate the skills GCSE Religious Studies will give you include medicine, law, the police, the armed forces and the caring professions (social work, teaching, nursing and probation service).

# Sociology

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Miss Musa**

What is the course I will be following?

**GCSE Sociology**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

Lessons will be topical; teachers will deliver using a more kinesthetic approach and flipped learning strategies. Wider links will be made to current affairs and news headlines will be used to stimulate discussion. You will work independently and will undertake research using Sociological methodology. Booklets will also be provided for support.

## The course will allow students to learn:

Sociology is a rigorous academic subject that is also rooted in the real world. It is the study of how society is organised and how we experience life. Studying GCSE Sociology enables you to develop critical thinking skills, to analyse and interpret the world around you. Topic areas we cover are Family, Education, Social Stratification and Crime and Deviance.

Some of the issues we have looked at over the last year include sexism in the family and pop music; the London riots and the impact of media on committing a crime. By taking the subject, you become a much more insightful individual.

## How is the course assessed?

Two written examinations:

**Paper 1: 1 hour 45 minutes (50% of the qualification)**

**Paper 2: 1 hour 45 minutes (50% of the qualification)**

The paper will consist of multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

GCSE Sociology can lead onto advanced courses in Sociology, Psychology, Politics, Law, Criminology and onto a wide range of careers including the Police, Social Work, Law, Counselling and Journalism.





**Edexcel**

# Spanish

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Miss Bache**

What is the course I will be following?

**GCSE Spanish**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

GCSE Topics and skills

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

## The course will allow students to learn:

The course explores geography, culture and traditions, giving you the chance to link your language studies with intercultural understanding. By studying another language, you will begin to understand and appreciate different countries, cultures, people and communities and learn how language can be manipulated and applied in different ways.

Studying a language to GCSE level will benefit you in lots of ways. More and more places of work are looking for students with a qualification which makes them stand out from the crowd and a foreign language GCSE does just that.

## How is the course assessed?

### Final Examination:

- Reading exam **(25%)**
- Listening exam **(25%)**
- Writing exam **(25%)**
- Speaking exam – internally assessed, externally marked **(25%)**

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

Students can go on to study languages further at A Level. Language skills are highly regarded by universities and employers. A GCSE in Modern Foreign Languages can be useful in a wide range of careers. For some jobs, such as translating, interpreting and language teaching, language skills are one of the main requirements. Languages are sought-after in careers in law, IT, finance, tourism, engineering and sales. Language students often have strong communication and problem-solving skills and display good levels of intercultural awareness and adaptability.

# Sports Studies

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Mr Hastie**

What is the course I will be following?

**Cambridge National in Sports Science**

## What will I study and how is this course organised?

Sport students will gain an understanding around the fundamental principles and concepts of sport studies. They will increase their learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations. Learners will be required to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically when faced with diverse sporting situations. They will develop independence and confidence in using skills that are relevant to the Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and Health sector and more widely.

## The course will allow students to learn:

**R184:** Contemporary issues in sport.

**R185:** Performance and leadership in sports activities.

**R187:** Increasing awareness of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

This can remain the same in terms of careers.

## Students will develop their awareness of:

Ahead of the R184 exam, learner need to understand topical and contemporary issues in sport, including why people do and do not participate in sport, the promotion of ethics and values, the roles of National Governing Bodies and high-profile events have in sport, as well as how technology is used within sport. Start aware, at the start of their Key Stage 4 studies, pupils will have additional practical sport lessons to

develop skills as a performer and be practically assessed in two different sporting activities and learn how to plan and lead their very own sporting activity session. Beyond this, pupils will also attend an OAA Activity Centre and perform different Outdoor and Adventurous Activities, to increase their awareness and practical skills within these alternative sports.

## How is the course assessed?

**40% Exam** – Externally

**60% Coursework** – Internally











**AQA**

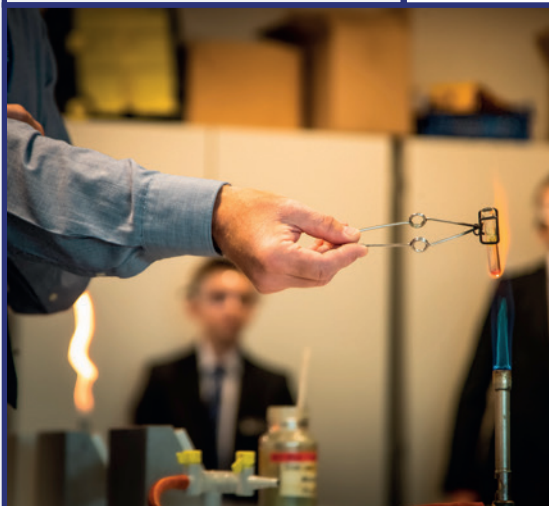
# Triple Science

Who is the Subject  
Leader for the course?

**Mr Todd**

What is the course I will be following?

**GCSE Biology, Chemistry & Physics**



## Students will develop their awareness of:

- How scientific advances change rapidly over time
- How questioning existing theories is crucial in promoting advances in technology & medicine.
- The importance of critical thinking and application of knowledge
- The importance of handling and manipulating data
- Their own bodies, the world around them and the universe beyond that
- The vast depth of opportunity afforded to them by studying sciences, just a taste of the next level, be it A levels, apprenticeships or BTEC science courses.

## The course will allow students to learn:

You will learn content in line with combined science, but with the advantage of being exposed to additional content including 7 more required practicals (28 total) and additional scientific content including 'microbiology, food security, the kidneys, eye and brain, alcohols & other organic compounds, nanotechnology, nuclear fission & fusion and space physics.

You will also strengthen your mathematical skills, as science is often reliant on a strong grasp of key mathematical concepts.

## How is the course assessed?

**Each of the 3 science is assessed separately.**

You will sit two 1 hour 45-minute papers for Biology, Chemistry & Physics respectively worth 50% each.

## How can I use this course when I leave the Academy?

This course will provide an especially strong basis for A level sciences, BTEC sciences and engineering apprenticeships. Science qualifications are essential for those who wish to pursue a career in a medical field, such as nursing, midwifery, or dentistry. If you wish to enter the field of engineering, sciences too are essential for you, with many local providers of apprenticeships for companies such as Siemens & HETA becoming more and more competitive to join.

The course will also equip you with a wide understanding of the world around you, of how people develop and change opinions and theories over time and how to problem solve. You will gain a huge array of transferrable skills by studying separate sciences

## Notes





## Notes





**HANSON ACADEMY  
SUTTON AVENUE  
BRADFORD  
BD2 1JP**

**WWW.HANSON.ORG.UK  
01274 987008**



**info@hanson.org.uk**



**@HansonAcademy**